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THEME 4
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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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This third edition of the Monthly Panorama of European Business covers two special articles: the food, drink and tobacco industry and the economic activity that links it to the consumer, namely the retail trade industry.

Food, drink and tobacco is one of the largest economic activities within the European Union. It accounts for almost 16% of European industrial activity within the manufacturing sector. The industry is characterised by a fairly stable level of output, rising by demand when looked at in its entirety. Nevertheless, there are a number of trends that have developed in recent years: such as the switch to convenience foods, the development of health foods and public awareness of issues relating to the production methods employed by the food industry.

The retail trade sector encompasses some 25 million persons employed within the European Union. It offers work to a large number of women within the European population. In addition, the industry offers a substantial amount of part-time work to both working mothers and other members of society who have difficulties in finding employment.

This industry is faced with a growing trend in technological developments - for example, the growth of e-commerce as an alternative to traditional forms of shopping. Consumer pressure and changing attitudes have also led to the extension of shopping hours within many countries of the European Union.

Retail trade has seen (especially in the northern Member States) an increasing trend towards concentration of its major retailers. This tendency has been re-enforced by the development of out-of-town shopping centres that have become extensively developed within many countries of the European Union.

Pedro Díaz Muñoz,
Luxembourg



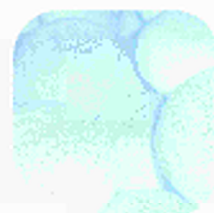
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The Monthly Panorama of European Business has the objective of furnishing readers with an instrument which will allow them to follow the evolution of short-term trends and also show the structure and activity of European business. The publication appears 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.

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Office machinery and computers
Computer and related activities

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1. Industrial commentary

Industrial production falls at an annual rate of 0.2% in December 1998

Industrial production within the European Union was showing a downward trend at the end of 1998. The latest data available through until December 1998 showed that EU industrial output fell by 0.2% when compared to the month of December 1997. The annual growth rate for the countries that form the euro-zone¹ was also -0.2% (again comparing the data for December 1997 with December 1998).

The rates for the main industrial groupings showed that in December 1998 EU-15 production growth was above the level of 1% in both the capital and consumer durables industrial groupings. Higher rates of growth had been evident for some time when looking at rates of change over the previous twelve-month period. Both of these industrial groupings recorded growth in excess of the 4% level throughout the whole of 1998, until December 1998 (with the exception of consumer durables in April 1998).

On the other hand, results were mixed for both the intermediate goods industries and consumer non-durables. Data for December 1998 showed that there was a reduction of 1.9% in the output of consumer non-durables across the European Union (compared to December 1997). Intermediate goods output fell by 2.2% during the year to December 1998, with a marked slowdown in the level of activity when compared to the growth rates that were being recorded during the spring and summer of 1998.

Recent developments in the European industrial economy

To study the more recent developments of the production index, it is more useful to look at the growth rates for a moving average of the last three months and to compare this to the three-month period before. Such a growth rate allows a more detailed study of the most recent trends to be observed within the European industrial economy. Data for the last quarter of 1998 (compared to the third quarter of 1998) showed that EU industrial activity was declining by 0.3%. This marked a continuation of the recent trend of rather sluggish and even negative growth within the EU. Growth had been expanding by at least 1.0% a quarter up until May 1998, since when there has been a reduction through to the winter of 1998 (the months of August through to December 1998 all recording growth of between 0.3% and -0.3% using this indicator).

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(1) Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland.

Industrial production and producer prices

In December 1998, EU-15 production growth was above the level of 1% in both the capital and consumer durables industrial groupings

Trends observed in the most recent polls of business confidence (as conducted by DGII) show that industrialists are not confident about the prospects of economic activity improving in the short-term. The feelings of the business community are supported by the latest data on the output of capital goods. The three-month on three-month growth rate for capital goods stood at 1.4% in August 1998, but has since slowed considerably to 0.2% by the final quarter of 1998. Further evidence of why industrialists were not confident in the industrial economy was provided by the latest trends for the intermediate goods industry. Both consumer non-durables and intermediate goods have been reporting no change or even negative rates of change in their production index for the last four months (when comparing the latest three months data with that of the three-month period before).

The latest data for consumer non-durables was negative, down by 0.4% in December 1998 (compared to figures of -0.2% and -0.3% in October and November 1998). Intermediate goods fared no better, with a reduction of 0.9% in the final quarter of 1998, compared to changes of -0.4% and -0.6% (again in October and November 1998).

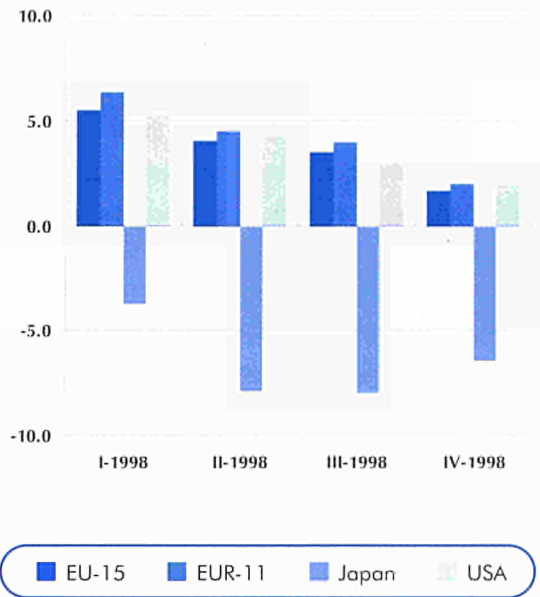


Figure 1.1

Industrial production: growth rate, year on year (%)

Source: eurostat

The low levels of business confidence may be contrasted with the continued growth of consumer confidence in the European economy: This sentiment was reflected in the data available for consumer durables up to November 1998 (when growth was 0.5%). However, there was a sizeable reduction in the level of growth in December 1998, with the output of consumer durables rising by 0.2% in the final quarter of 1998 (when compared to the third quarter). Indeed, to further re-enforce the slow down in activity, the rate was well below those that were being recorded during the summer of 1998, for example 1.4% in June 1998.

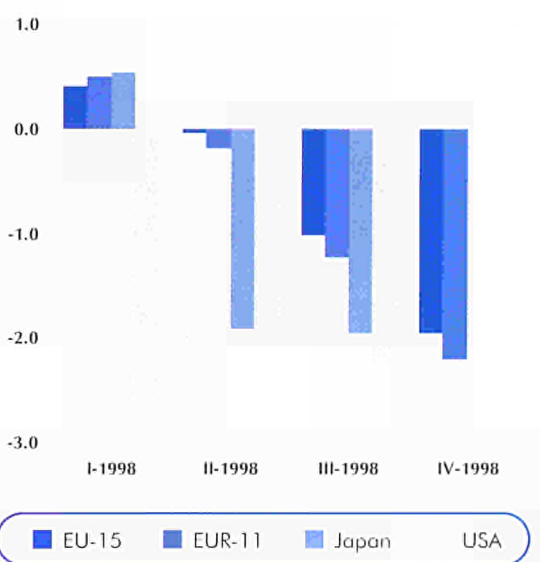


Figure 1.2

Producer prices: growth rate, year on year (%)

Source: eurostat

Performance within the Member States

Turning attention to the latest trends seen for industrial output in the Member States there is a wide variation in the latest data being reported. On the one hand, countries such as Denmark, Italy and the United Kingdom were reporting negative trends for the latest rates of growth. In Denmark industrial output declined by 1.7% in the last quarter of 1998 compared to the third quarter. There was a large reduction in the data for Italy, where the industrial economy saw output decline by 0.8% in the final quarter of 1998, compared to the quarter before (following reductions of -0.2% and -0.5% in the months of October and November 1998). The United Kingdom posted a negative trend for the fourth consecutive month, with output down by 0.3% in the final quarter of 1998.

There was still vigour in the industrial economies of Greece and Ireland. Both of these countries reported output up by more than one per cent (although data only went as far as November 1998).

As regards the major European industrial economies, there was almost no change in the level of industrial production in Germany. The latest figure for December 1998 showed that output rose by 0.1%. This marked a continuation of the slow down in activity seen in the trend of the German produc-

1998 annual growth rates

for the two European aggregates:

EU-15, up by 3.7% whilst the

EUR-11 figure gained 4.2%

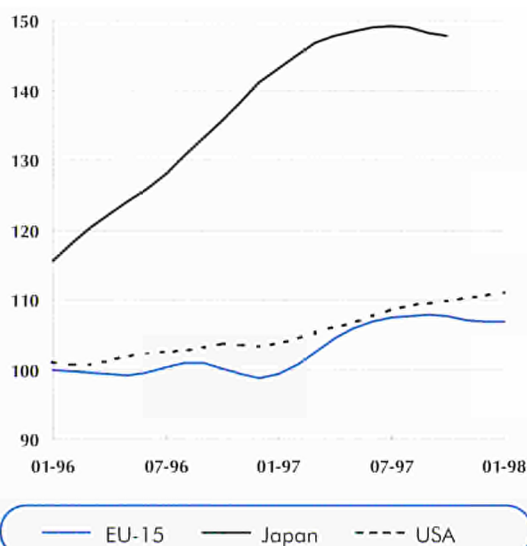
tion index, visible for the last eleven months (growth down from 1.4% in February 1998 to 0.1% by December 1998). In France there were modest signs that industrial output was recovering. Having recorded almost no growth in August and September 1998, the latest figures show that French industrial production was expanding by 0.4% in the final quarter of 1998. Spanish industrial output continued to show signs of slowing down from the peak reached in August 1998 (1.2% growth). Latest data for the final quarter of 1998 showed that output was rising by 0.4% (compared to the third quarter).


Conflicting messages from the data

With data now available for December 1998 it is possible to calculate an annual figure for the whole of 1998. Annual growth rates for the two European aggregates were: EU-15, up by 3.7% (whilst the EUR-11 figure gained 4.2%). All Member States reported gains using this annual measure of 1997 compared to 1998.

Figure 1.3

New orders index
(1995 = 100)



Source:  eurostat

Industrial production

Readers should be aware that there are at present mixed signs being given by data. Whilst the annual growth rates still show strong positive growth, the most recent three-month on three-month growth rate shows that for many of the Member States output was declining.

In some of the countries there appears to have been a marked reduction only for the month of December 1998, which may be just a one-off fluctuation, rather than any inherent trend in the data (this could well be the case for example for Italy).

Furthermore, countries such as Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg and Sweden all showed some signs that the latest rates of growth were improving (based on the last three figures for the three-month on three-month growth rate).

Development of producer prices

Annual changes in producer prices at the end of 1998 reported that European industrial prices had fallen by 2.2% during the twelve months between December 1997 and December 1998. Data for November 1998 (again compared to twelve months before) showed that European producer prices had been falling at an annual rate of 2.0%. Hence, the EU-15 figure recorded its second consecutive month of price reductions at or below the -2.0% level and the trend indicated that this reduction would continue, rates first turning negative in May 1998.

The slowdown of producer prices at a European level has been almost totally concentrated in the intermediate goods grouping. The reduction in domestic output prices of intermediate goods was equal to 4.2% in December 1998. Corresponding rates of change for the other main industrial groupings were as follows: capital goods (0.1%), consumer durables (0.1%), consumer non-durables (-0.3%).

EU-15 EUR-11 Japan USA

Table 1.1

	EU-15	EUR-11	Japan	USA
01-98	4.7	5.8	-1.9	5.6
02-98	5.3	6.2	-3.8	4.9
03-98	6.4	6.9	-5.1	5.5
04-98	3.0	3.4	-6.2	3.9
05-98	5.9	6.9	-9.3	5.3
06-98	3.3	3.4	-8.3	3.5
07-98	3.9	4.3	-8.8	3.3
08-98	4.1	4.6	-8.3	3.5
09-98	2.7	3.3	-6.8	2.2
10-98	2.7	3.3	-7.4	2.4
11-98	2.4	2.8	-5.9	1.4
12-98	-0.2	-0.2	-6.0	1.9

Industrial production:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

Source:  eurostat

Producer price changes within the Member States

There were only two of the fifteen Member States reporting that domestic output prices were rising for total industry, namely Greece and Luxembourg. All the other Member States recorded declining rates of change for producer prices, including Germany (-1.7%, December 1998), France (-4.1%, January 1999), Italy (-1.3%, December 1998) and the United Kingdom (-0.7%, January 1999). However, the largest reduction in output prices was recorded in Portugal. This was the twelfth consecutive month that Portugal posted the largest reduction in producer prices across the European industrial economies.

The rate of change in output prices of intermediate goods was negative across all countries within the European Union when looking at the latest data available. Reductions of the magnitude of 9.0% were recorded in Portugal. There were two other countries to report a decline in prices of intermediate goods below -5%, they were France and Sweden.

2. Latest outlook: industry

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production index

expected output index

producer price index

employment index

capacity utilisation

foreign trade indices

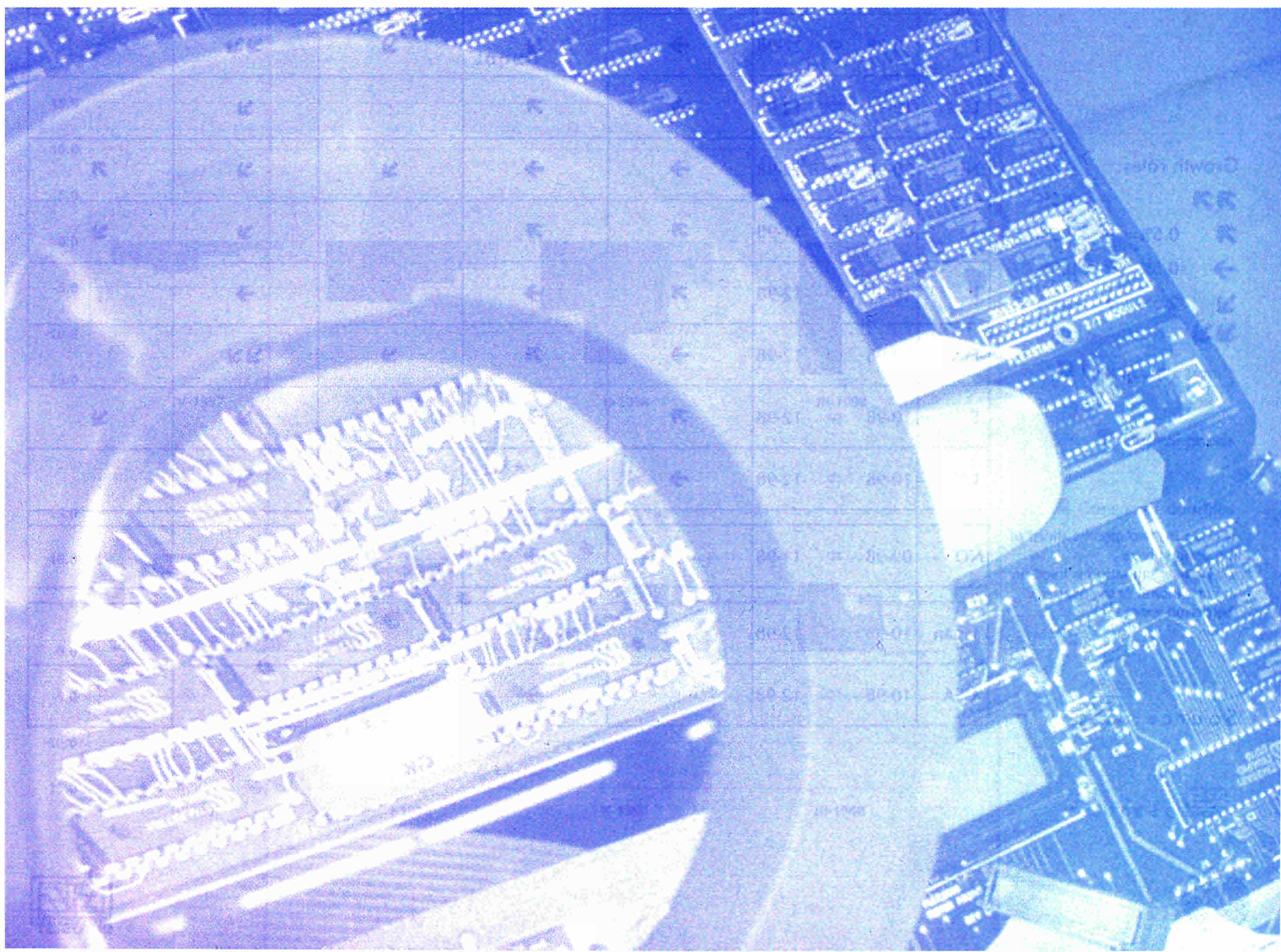


Table 2.1

Business cycle at a glance: growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

	Latest 3 months available	Estimated output index (1)	Production	Producer prices	Capacity utilisation (2)	New orders
EU-15	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	↘	→	↘	↘	:
EUR-11	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	:	→	↘	:	:
B	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	:	→	:	↘	:
DK	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	:	↘	↘	↘	↘
D	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	→	→	↘	↘	↘
EL	09-98 ⇔ 11-98	:	↗	→	↘	:
E	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	↗	→	↘	→	:
F	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	→	→	↘	↘	:
IRL	09-98 ⇔ 11-98	↗	↗↗	↘	↗↗	:
I	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	→	↘	↘	↘↘	:
L	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	→	↗	:	↘	:
NL	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	→	→	↘	↘	↗
A	09-98 ⇔ 11-98	↗	↗	:	↘	↘
P	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	↗	→	↘	→	:
FIN	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	→	↗	↘	↘↘	:
S	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	↗	→	↘	↘	↘
UK	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	→	→	↗	↘	:
NO	09-98 ⇔ 11-98	:	→	:	:	:
Japan	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	:	↘	:	:	:
USA	10-98 ⇔ 12-98	:	→	:	:	:

Growth rates:

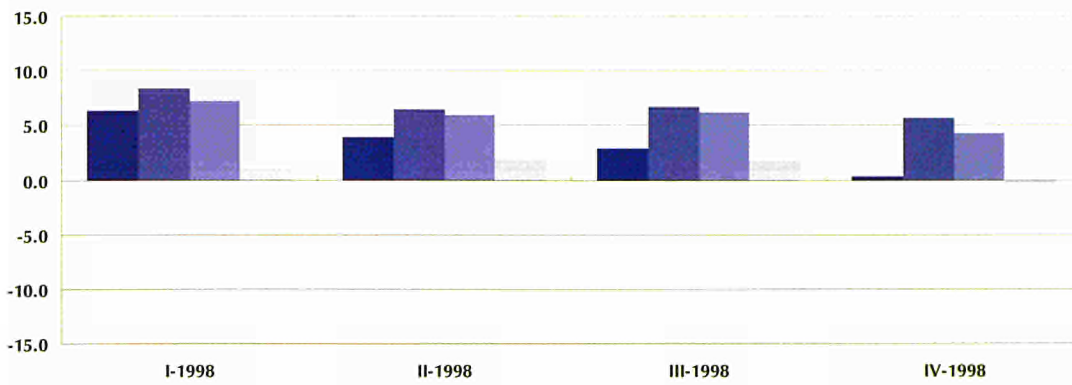
- ↗↗ >2.5%
- ↗ 0.5% → 2.5%
- -0.5% → 0.5%
- ↘ -2.5% → -0.5%
- ↘↘ <-2.5%

1) EOI runs two months ahead of the period given.
2) Capacity utilisation is fixed on the first month of the quarter of the period given.

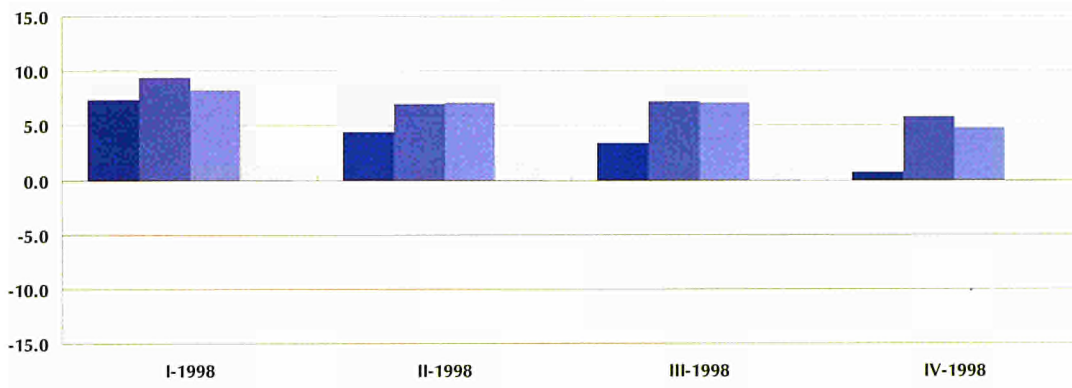
Source:  eurostat

Production index (working day adjusted)

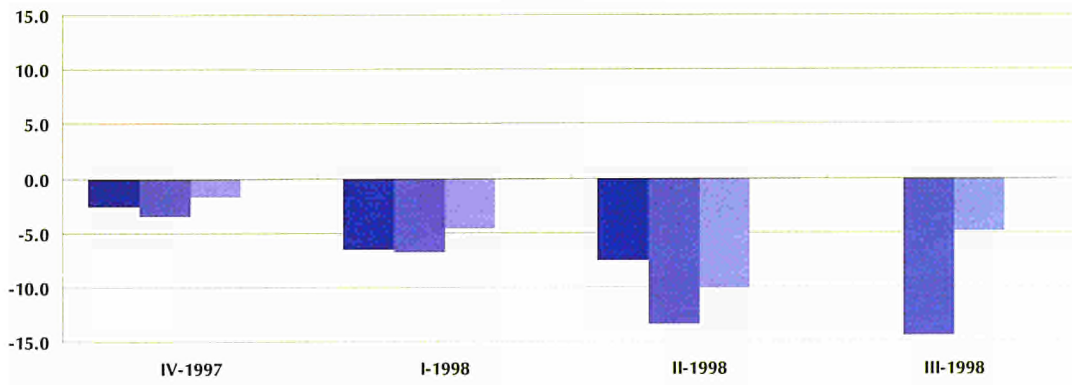
EU-15



EUR-11



Japan



USA

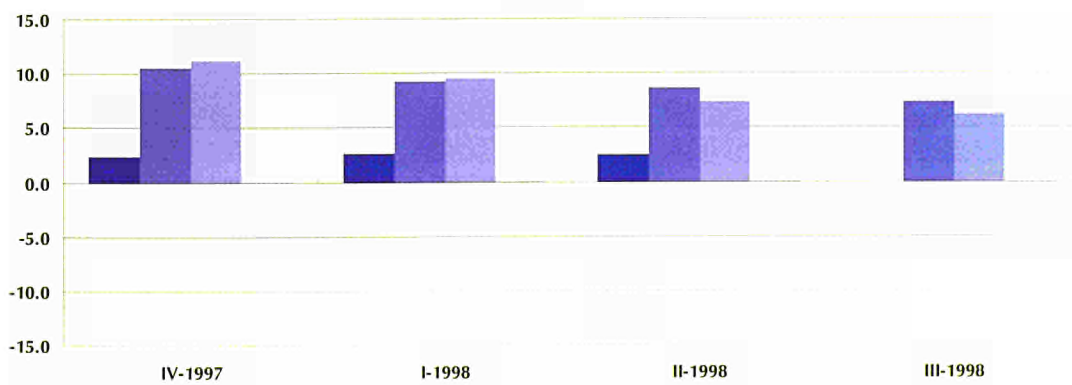


Figure 2.1

Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, year on year (%)

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

Source: eurostat

Production index (seasonally adjusted)

Table 2.2

Industrial production:
indices
(1995 = 100)

	1996	1997	1998	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98
EU-15	100.3	104.1	108.0	108.8	108.0	108.2	108.8	108.5	107.0
EUR-11	100.0	104.2	108.5	109.1	108.7	109.1	109.2	108.9	108.0
B	100.8	105.6	109.1	111.9	107.1	107.9	109.8	110.8	107.1
DK	101.1	105.5	106.9	108.7	108.9	106.9	109.4	108.7	105.0
D	100.4	103.8	108.9	109.7	110.4	109.3	110.1	110.0	108.4
EL	101.0	102.7	:	114.3	111.6	110.7	112.7	113.6	:
E	99.0	105.9	111.5	112.6	114.7	111.9	111.6	113.4	113.2
F	99.9	103.9	108.6	109.4	109.4	109.2	109.8	109.9	108.2
IRL	108.0	124.5	:	142.1	150.9	149.8	152.7	146.7	:
I	97.2	99.8	100.6	101.0	101.8	100.9	102.0	101.4	96.7
L	99.6	106.3	111.0	113.3	107.7	111.9	114.3	113.3	108.1
NL	102.7	104.7	105.9	107.7	104.5	105.4	107.1	108.1	104.1
A	100.6	106.7	:	110.0	106.6	109.4	111.8	110.4	:
P	101.3	103.9	108.0	108.2	111.5	106.3	109.6	107.9	106.7
FIN	103.8	113.2	121.8	124.8	121.8	121.9	122.3	122.9	121.7
S	103.1	111.2	116.0	116.7	116.8	115.9	117.7	119.4	117.9
UK	101.2	102.4	103.3	103.6	103.3	102.5	102.5	102.5	101.7
NO	105.4	109.0	:	106.9	106.1	110.0	107.5	107.2	:
Japan	102.1	105.9	99.0	97.9	96.7	99.8	98.6	96.6	97.5
USA	104.4	110.7	:	114.0	115.7	115.2	115.5	115.1	116.0

Source:  eurostat

Table 2.3

Industrial production
for the main
industrial groupings:
indices
(1995 = 100)

	1996	1997	1998	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98
Total industry									
EU-15	100.3	104.1	108.0	108.8	108.0	108.2	108.8	108.5	107.0
Japan	102.1	105.9	99.0	97.9	96.7	99.8	98.6	96.6	97.5
USA	104.4	110.7	:	114.0	115.7	115.2	115.5	115.1	116.0
Intermediate goods									
EU-15	99.7	104.5	107.9	108.6	107.9	108.1	107.9	107.7	106.2
Japan	100.1	104.5	:	97.6	96.3	98.3	98.7	97.4	:
USA	102.6	106.7	:	110.3	110.2	109.5	110.0	109.6	:
Capital goods									
EU-15	101.8	106.0	113.2	115.8	114.4	112.6	115.8	114.5	113.2
Japan	106.3	109.8	:	94.4	92.9	98.9	92.2	89.7	:
USA	106.8	116.6	:	125.4	127.6	127.3	128.5	127.2	:
Consumer durables									
EU-15	100.6	103.0	109.0	110.9	107.5	110.2	111.9	110.3	107.7
Japan	102.7	111.0	:	107.8	102.4	106.3	110.1	103.9	:
USA	108.2	118.6	:	124.5	128.9	128.6	129.6	129.4	:
Consumer non-durables									
EU-15	99.7	101.7	102.7	103.3	103.1	102.5	102.7	102.8	101.9
Japan	100.0	101.0	:	97.3	97.7	97.9	98.7	98.2	:
USA	100.8	104.0	:	104.7	103.9	103.3	103.7	103.8	:

Source:  eurostat

Production index (trend cycle)

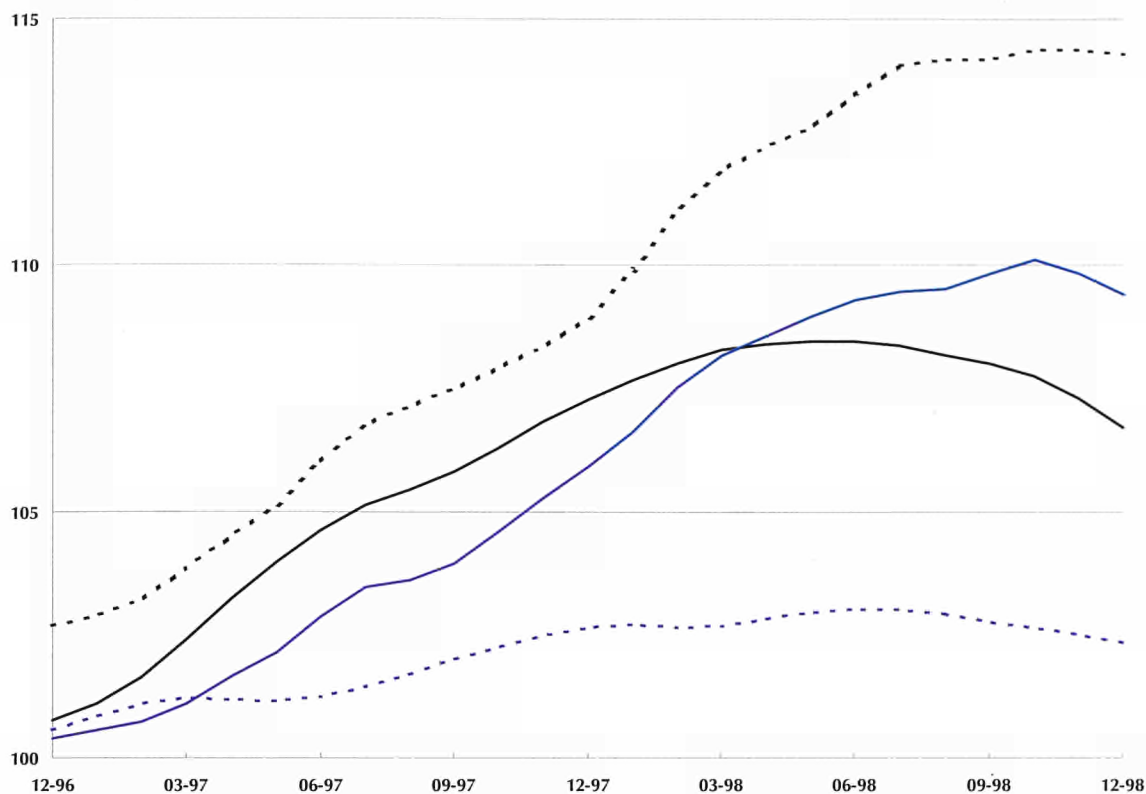


Figure 2.2

EU-15 industrial production for the main industrial groupings: indices (1995 = 100)

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

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
EU-15	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		-0.3	-0.9	0.2	0.2	-0.4
EUR-11	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		-0.3	-0.6	0.2	-0.3	-0.1
B	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		-0.2	0.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.0
DK	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		-1.7	-3.1	-1.0	-1.2	-0.3
D	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		0.1	-0.7	1.6	1.0	-0.3
EL	09-98 ⇨ 11-98		1.3	2.6	0.5	0.3	-0.1
E	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		0.4	0.2	1.1	-0.2	0.3
F	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		0.4	0.3	1.0	1.5	0.3
IRL	09-98 ⇨ 11-98		3.6	5.2	3.8	:	1.6
I	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		-0.8	-1.4	-1.2	-0.6	-0.1
L	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		0.6	1.4	0.1	4.8	0.4
NL	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.1
A	09-98 ⇨ 11-98		0.5	:	1.9	-1.0	-0.9
P	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		-0.3	-1.7	0.0	3.8	0.2
FIN	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		0.5	-2.3	4.3	2.4	-1.4
S	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		0.4	-1.9	1.5	2.5	0.7
UK	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		-0.3	-0.9	0.8	0.3	-0.9
NO	09-98 ⇨ 11-98		-0.1	:	:	:	:
Japan	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		-0.8	:	:	:	:
USA	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		0.3	:	:	:	:

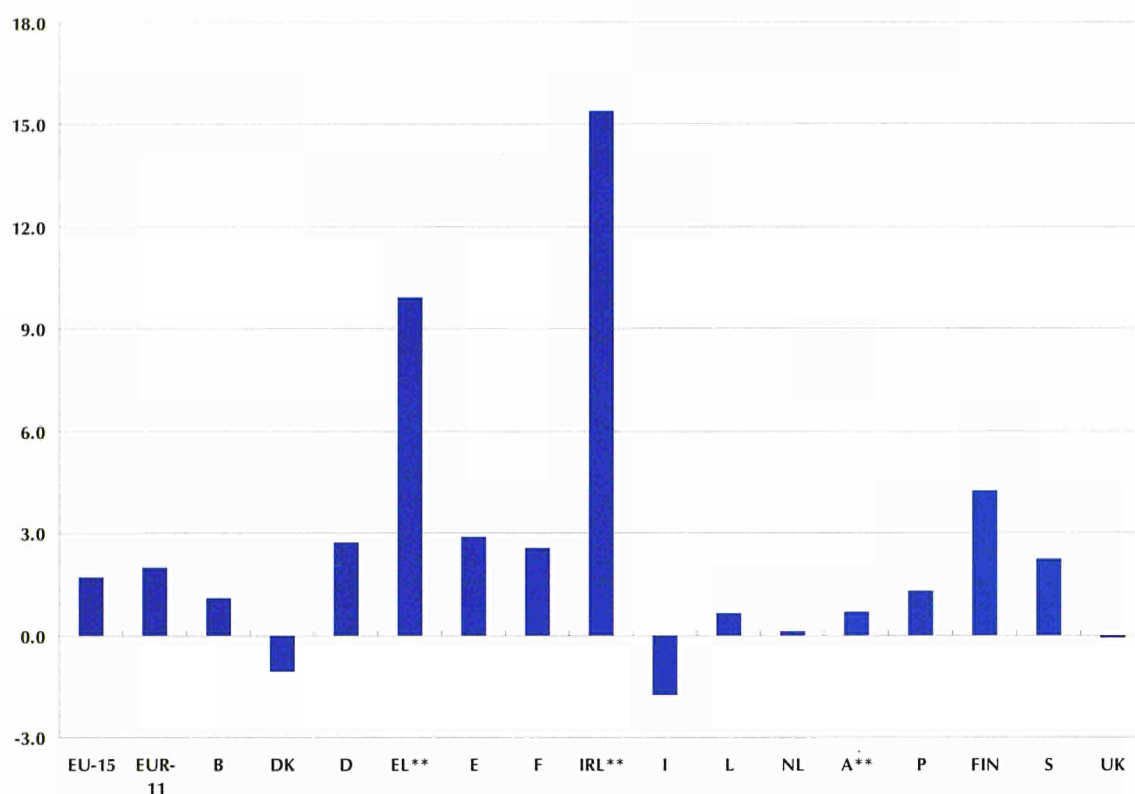
Table 2.4

Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.3

Industrial production for total industry: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 10-98 to 12-98 (%)



Source: eurostat

Table 2.5

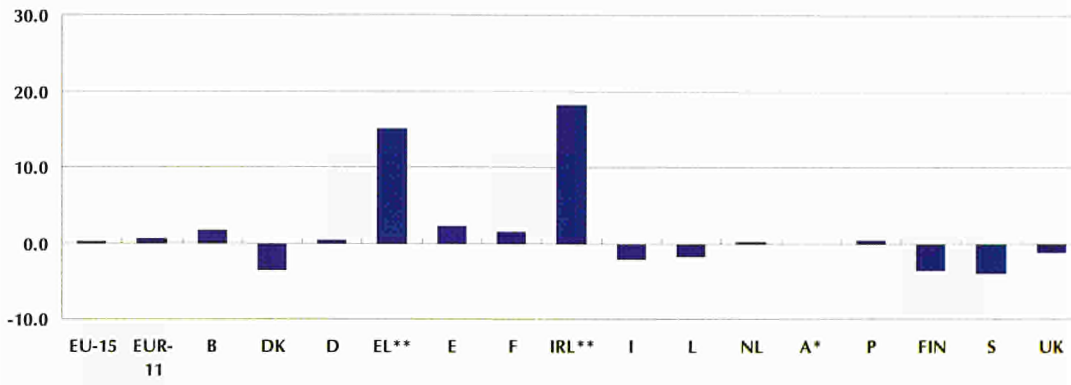
Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

	Latest 3 months available			Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	10-98	⇒	12-98	1.7	0.3	5.7	4.3	-0.4
EUR-11	10-98	⇒	12-98	2.0	0.7	5.8	4.8	-0.1
B	10-98	⇒	12-98	1.1	1.8	3.3	0.5	-3.8
DK	10-98	⇒	12-98	-1.1	-3.5	0.9	4.6	-1.7
D	10-98	⇒	12-98	2.7	0.5	7.4	7.1	-0.6
EL	09-98	⇒	11-98	8.8	14.0	15.0	1.7	-1.5
E	10-98	⇒	12-98	2.9	2.2	4.1	4.6	2.7
F	10-98	⇒	12-98	2.5	1.6	5.8	7.2	1.4
IRL	09-98	⇒	11-98	15.0	19.7	21.1	:	4.3
I	10-98	⇒	12-98	-1.8	-2.2	-2.1	-4.4	-0.1
L	10-98	⇒	12-98	0.6	-1.7	7.2	18.5	0.8
NL	10-98	⇒	12-98	0.1	0.3	1.0	1.4	-1.0
A	09-98	⇒	11-98	1.5	:	4.6	3.2	-6.9
P	10-98	⇒	12-98	1.3	0.5	7.0	14.4	1.2
FIN	10-98	⇒	12-98	4.2	-3.6	21.3	2.0	-4.9
S	10-98	⇒	12-98	2.2	-3.9	8.7	12.0	-1.8
UK	10-98	⇒	12-98	-0.1	-1.1	4.1	-1.5	-1.7
NO	09-98	⇒	11-98	-2.1	:	:	:	:
Japan	10-98	⇒	12-98	-6.5	:	:	:	:
USA	10-98	⇒	12-98	1.9	:	:	:	:

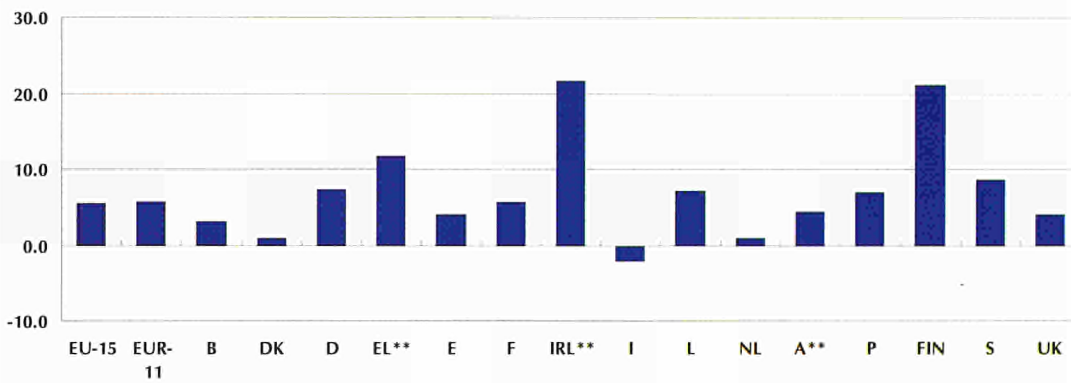
Source: eurostat

Production index (working day adjusted)

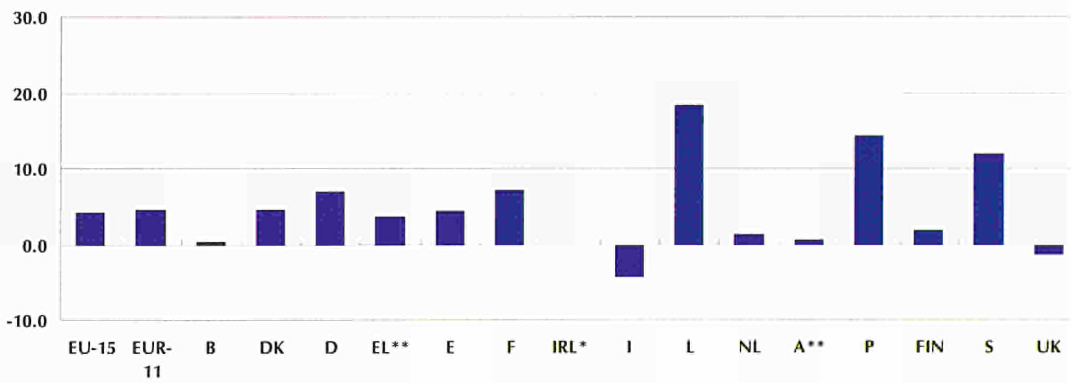
Intermediate goods



Capital goods



Consumer durables goods



Consumer non-durables goods

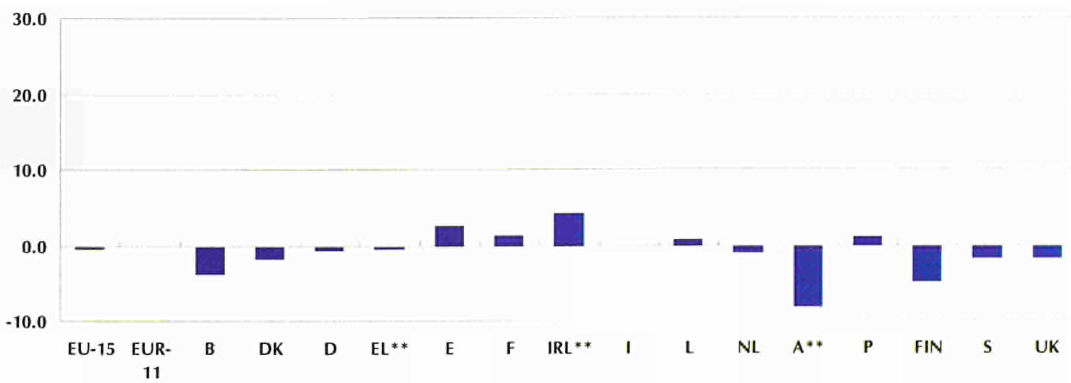


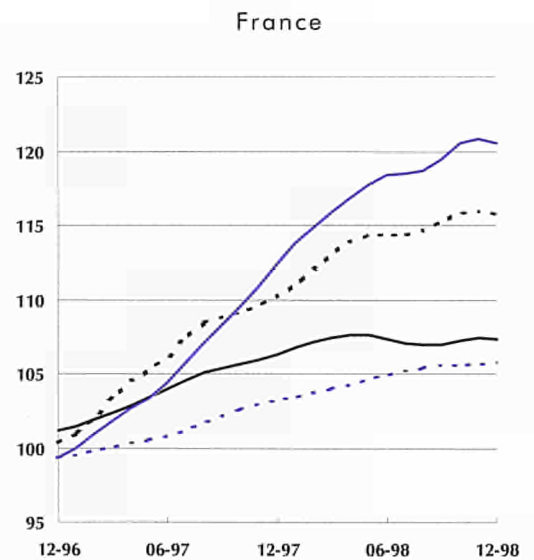
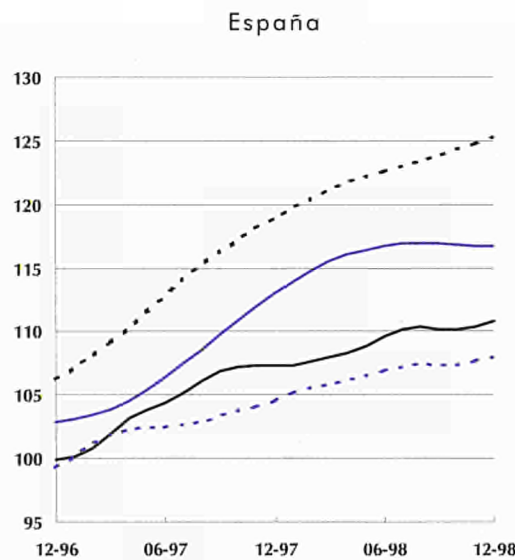
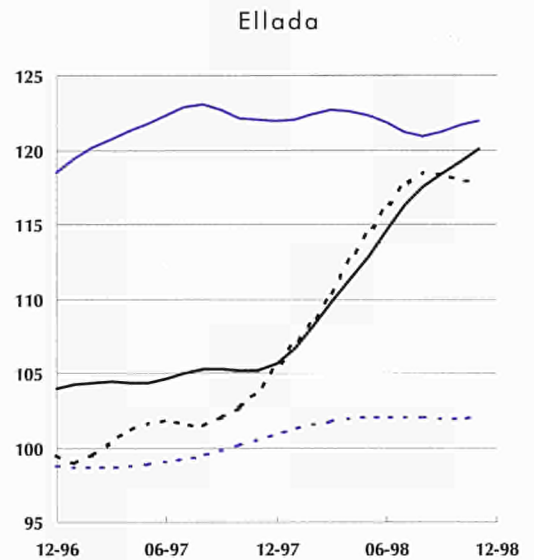
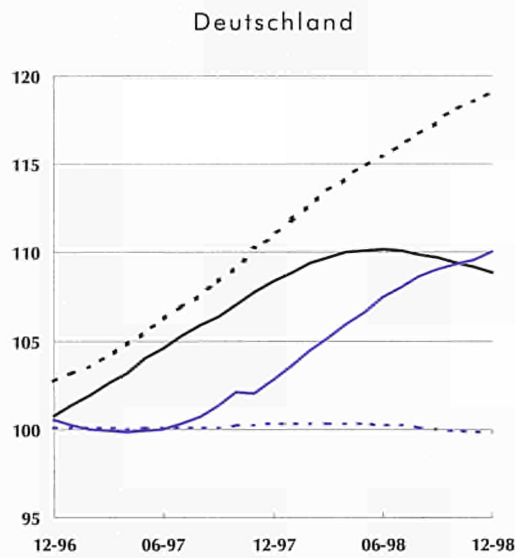
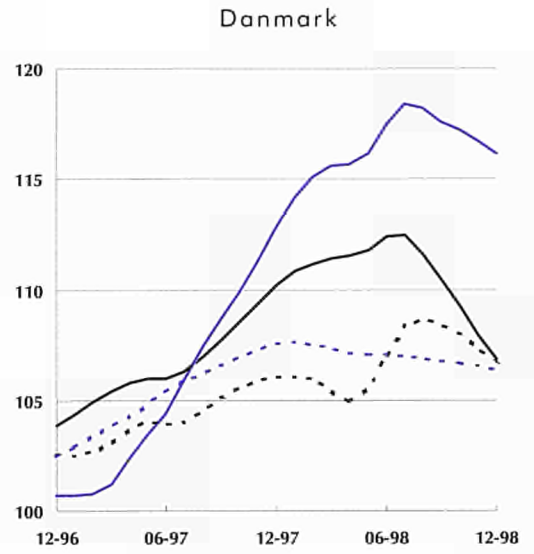
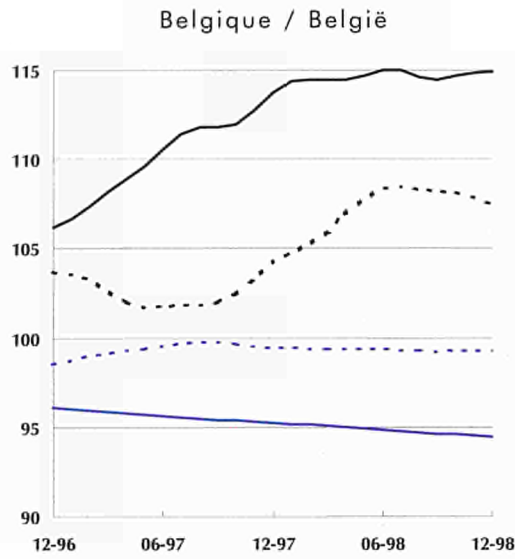
Figure 2.4

Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 10-98 to 12-98 (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.5

Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: indices (1995 = 100)



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

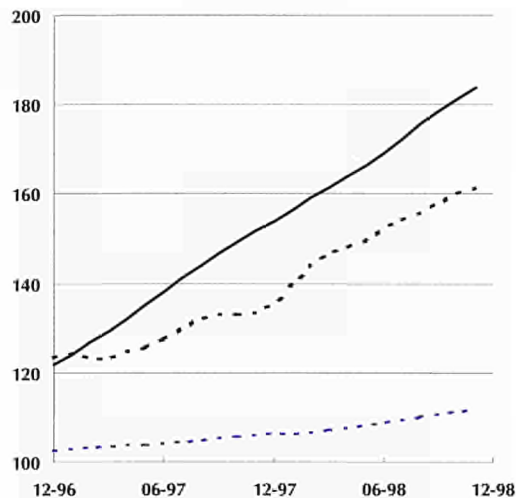
Source: eurostat

Production index (trend cycle)

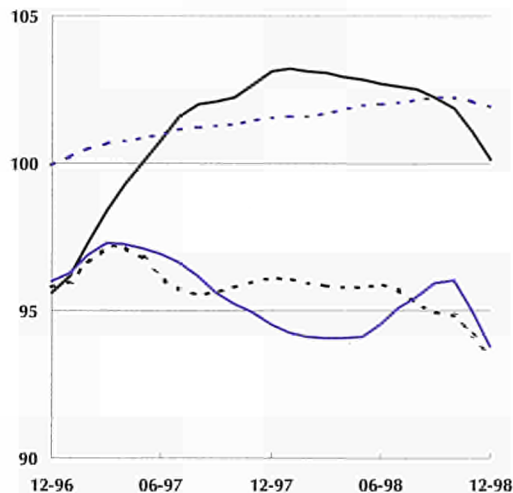
Figure 2.5

Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: indices (1995 = 100)

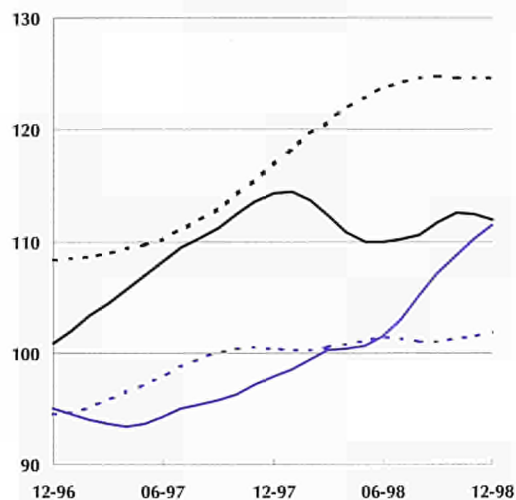
Ireland



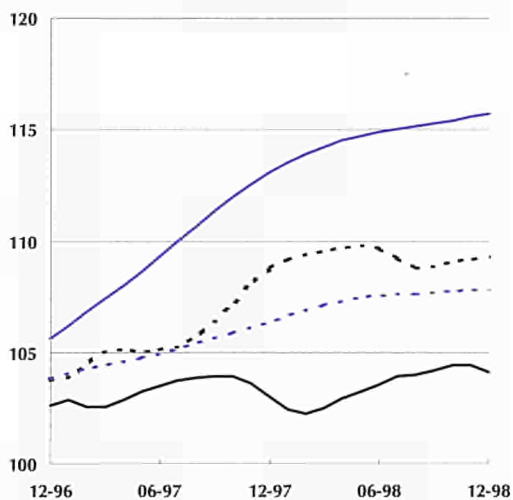
Italia



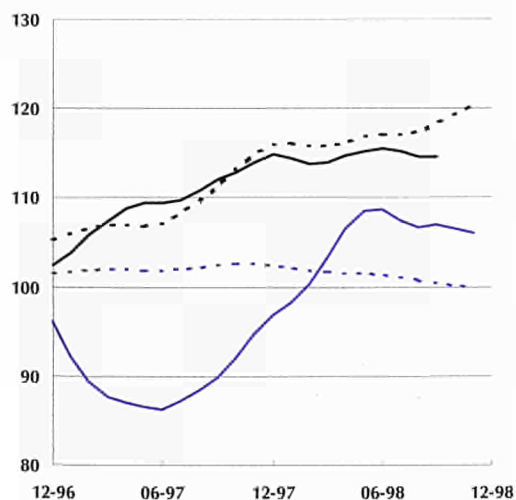
Luxembourg



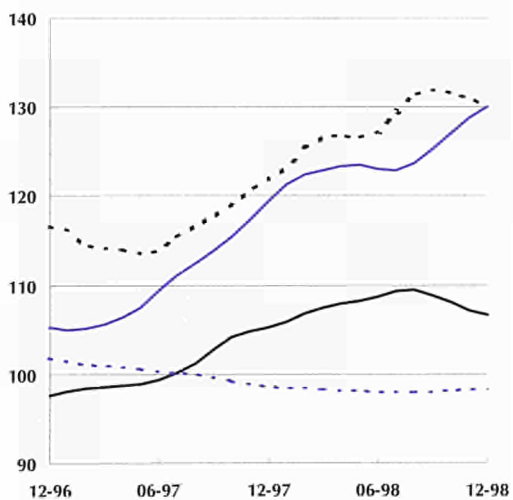
Nederland



Österreich



Portugal

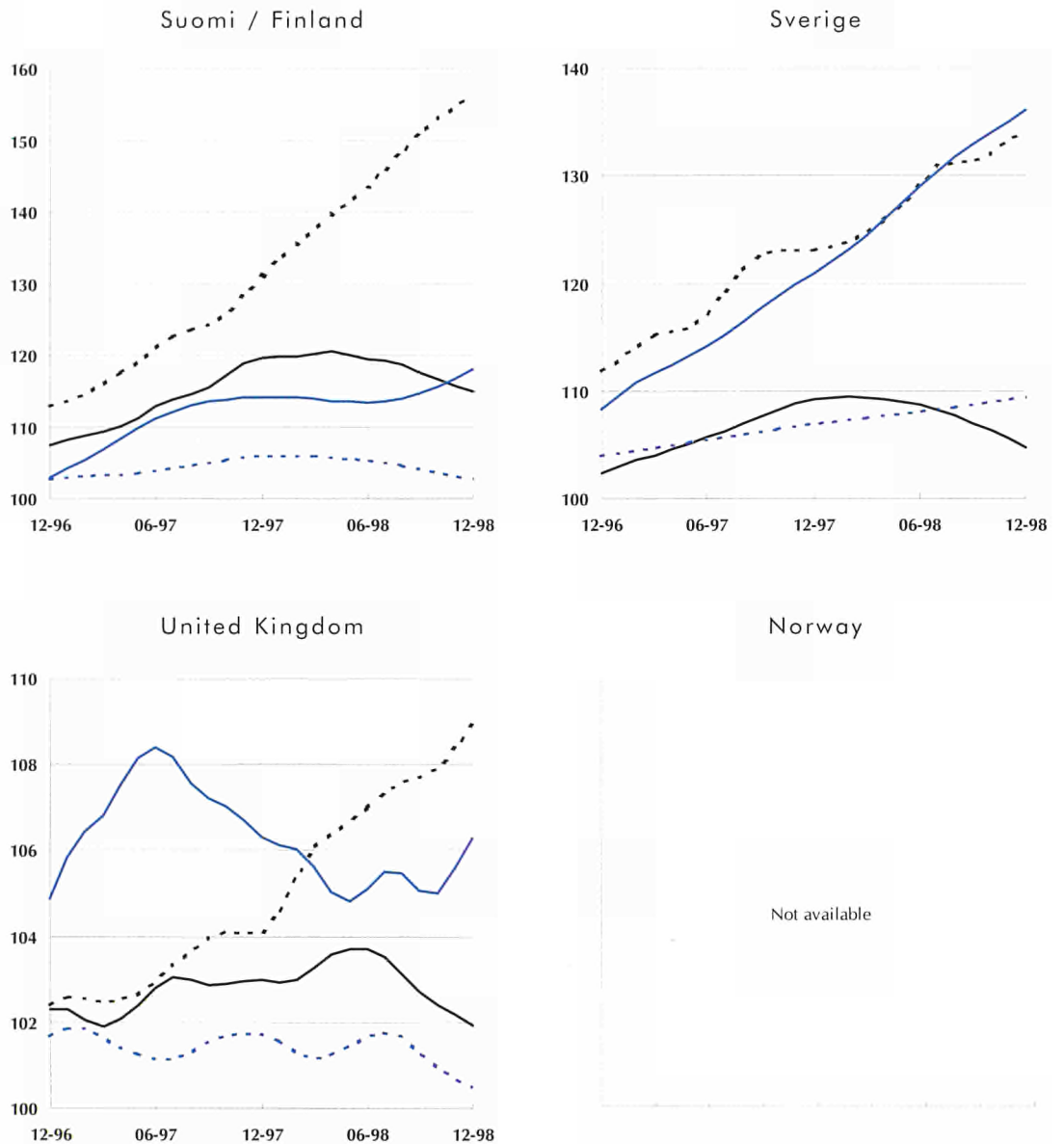


- Intermediate goods
- - - Capital goods
- Consumer durables
- Consumer non-durables

Source: Eurostat

Figure 2.5

Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: indices (1995 = 100)



Intermediate goods ———

Capital goods - - - - -

Consumer durables ———

Consumer non-durables - - - - -

Further information - production index:

The index of production aims to measure 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. Since the monthly evolution of value added can not be measured, as an approximation, product output or deflated turnover is used.

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 and Spain). Secondly, for EU-15 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, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the indices are adjusted by the national statistical offices themselves. For Germany, the trend and seasonally adjusted figures are calculated by the German NSO. Full methodological notes may be found on page 107.

Source: eurostat

Production index (expected output index)

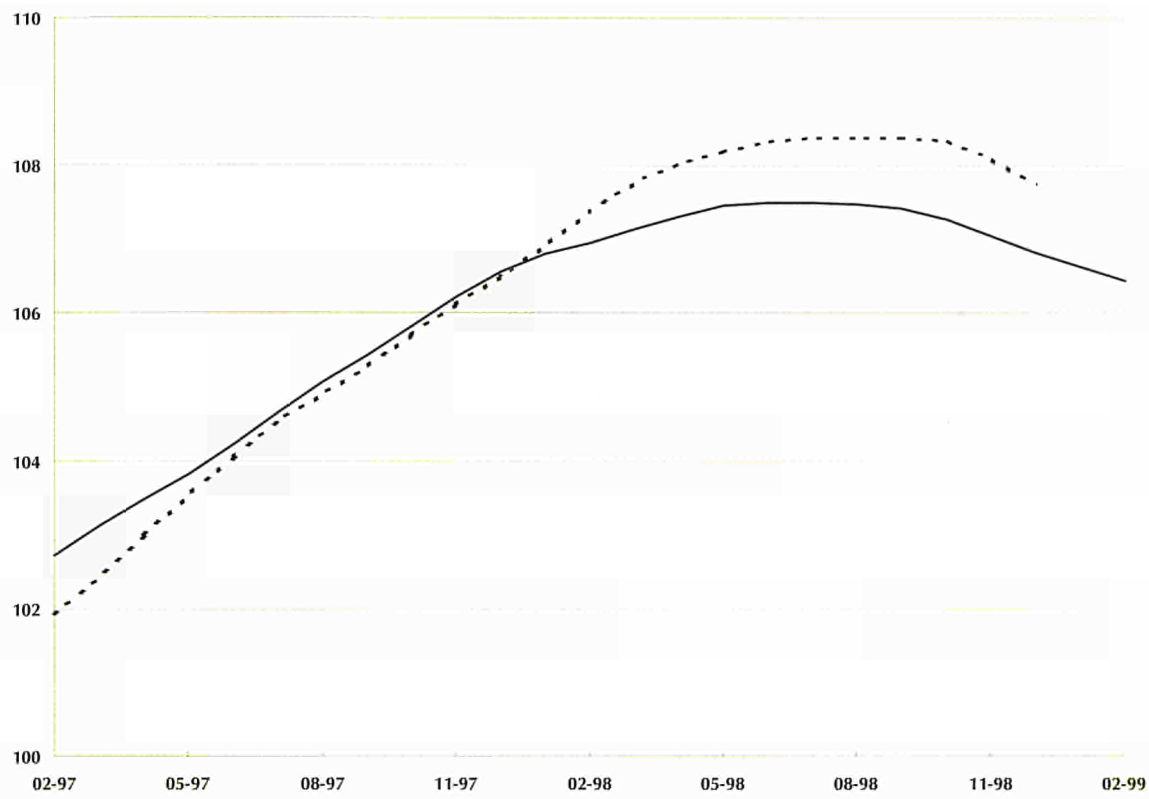


Figure 2.6

EU-15 expected output index for industry (1995 = 100)

----- Production index
 ——— Expected output index

Source: eurostat

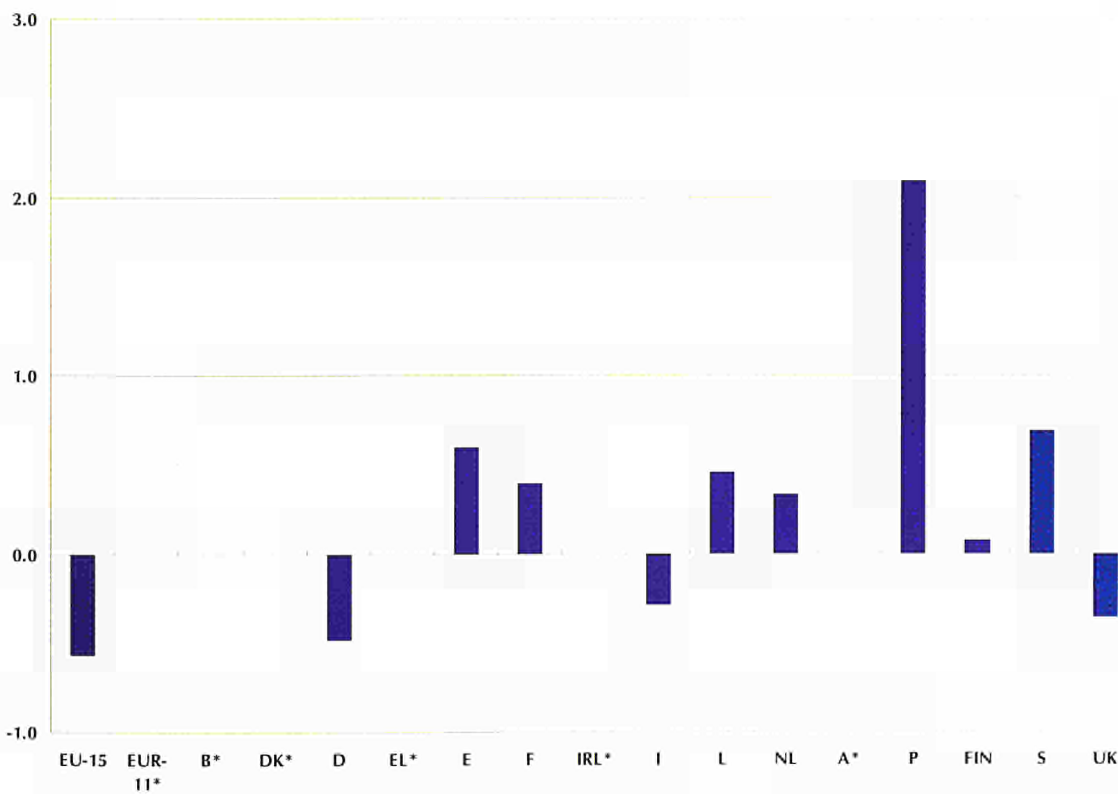


Figure 2.7

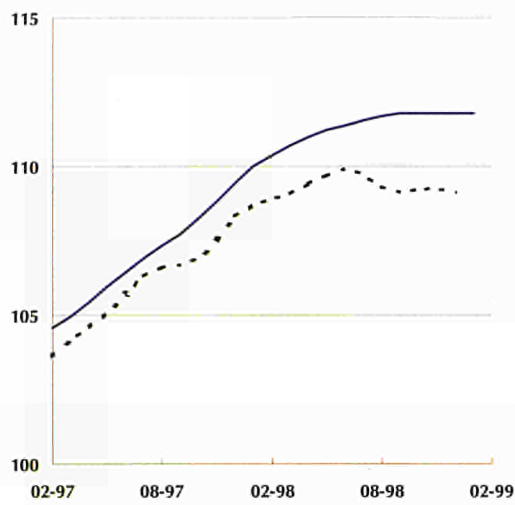
Expected output index for industry, three months compared to the previous three months, 12-98 to 02-99 (%)

Source: eurostat

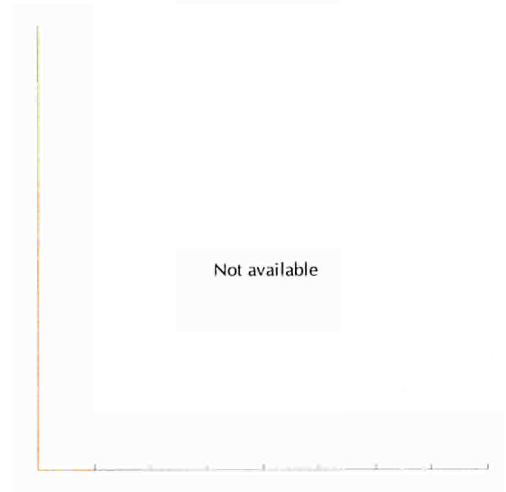
Figure 2.8

Expected output index for industry (1995 = 100)

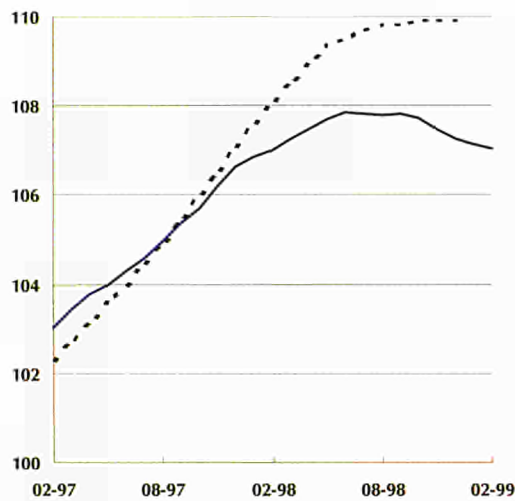
Belgique / België



Danmark



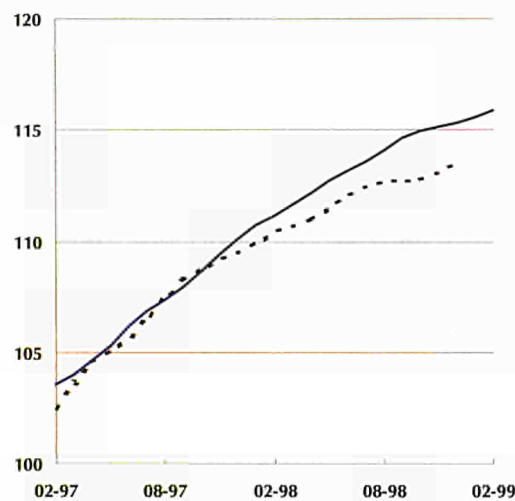
Deutschland



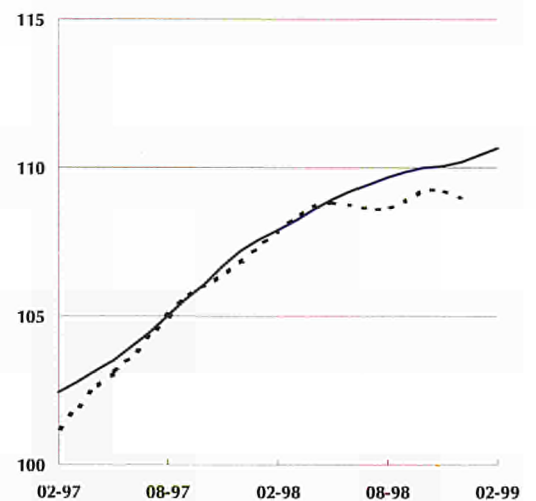
Ellada




España



France



Production index - - - -
Expected output index —

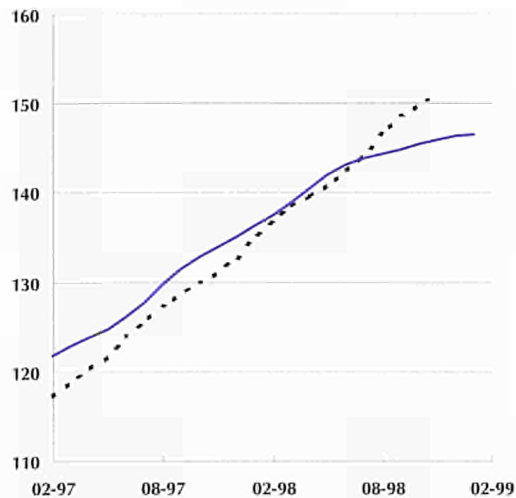
Source:  eurostat

Production index (expected output index)

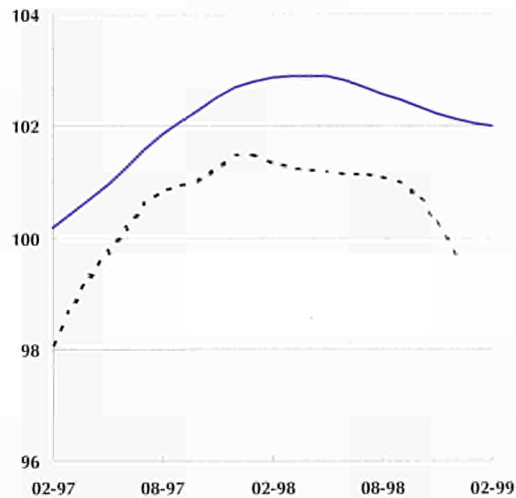
Figure 2.8

Expected output index
for industry
(1995 = 100)

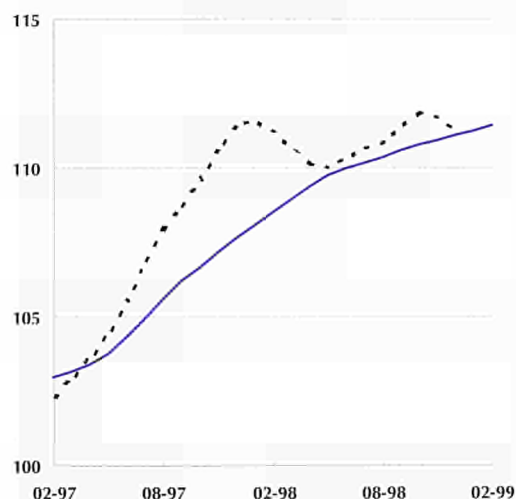
Ireland



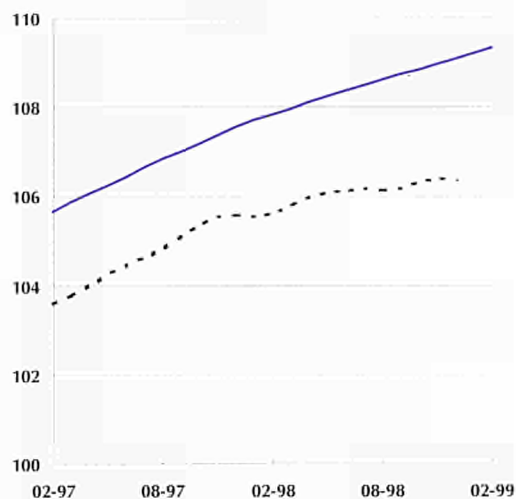
Italia



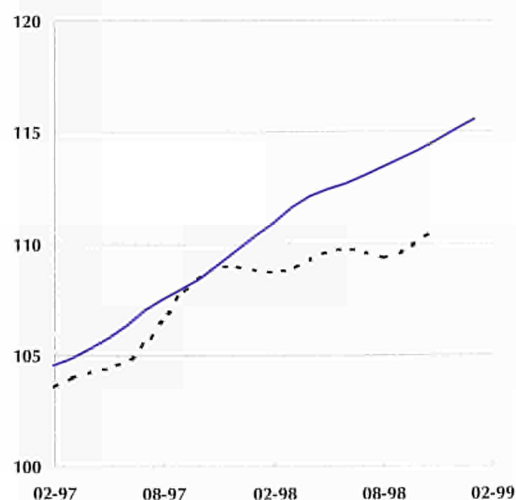
Luxembourg



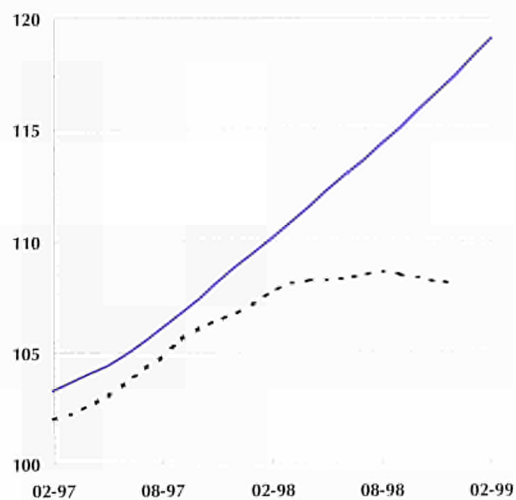
Nederland



Österreich



Portugal

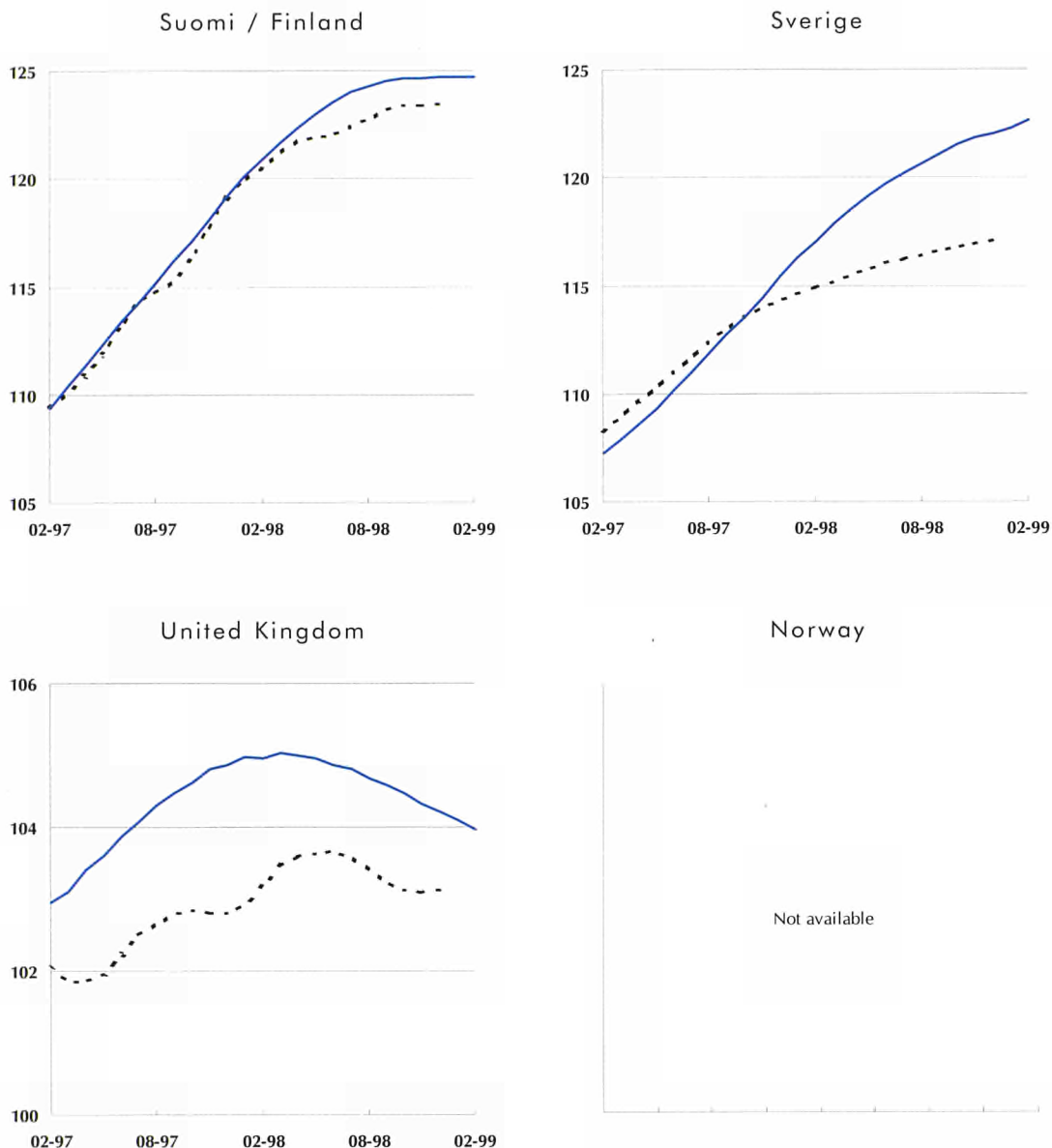


----- Production index
——— Expected output index

Source:  eurostat

Figure 2.8

Expected output index for industry (1995 = 100)



Production index -----
 Expected output index —————

Further information - expected output index:

The Expected Output Index (EOI) links several aspects of information from qualitative business opinion surveys (questions on order books and questions on production expectations) with the index of industrial production. As the data from the business opinion surveys are available earlier and lead the evolution of industrial production, they can be used to compute a short-term estimate of the production index.

A multiple regression is run, using the growth rate of the industrial production lagged with values of the business opinion survey data. The result of this regression is "integrated" from a growth rate to an evolution, and after that the trend cycle is calculated for a clearer interpretation of the results.

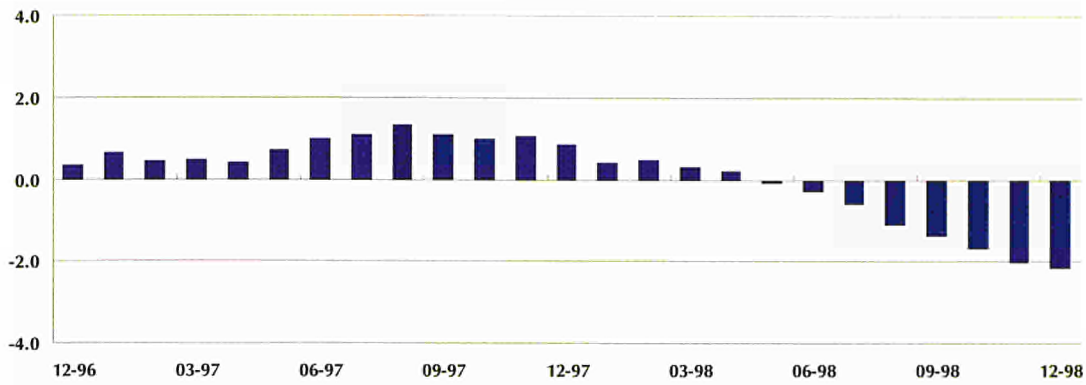
Details of the estimation method can be found in a more thorough article that was published in Special Edition 5/97 of the Monthly Panorama of the European Industry.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 107.

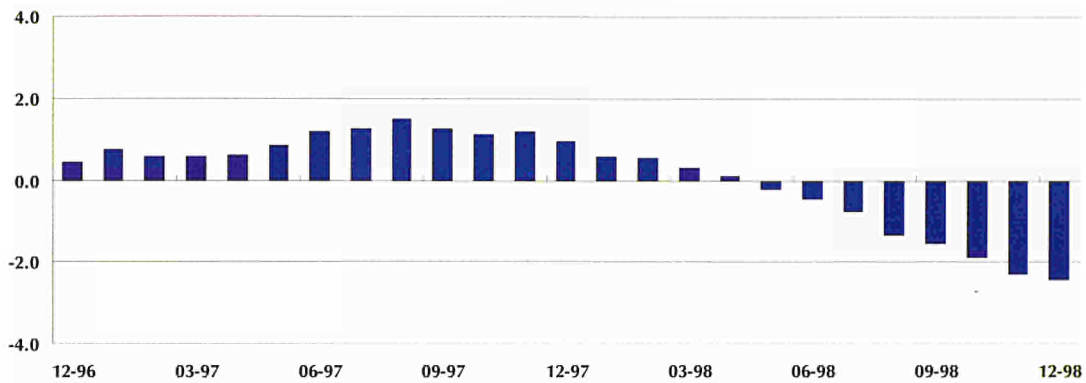
Source: eurostat

Domestic producer price index

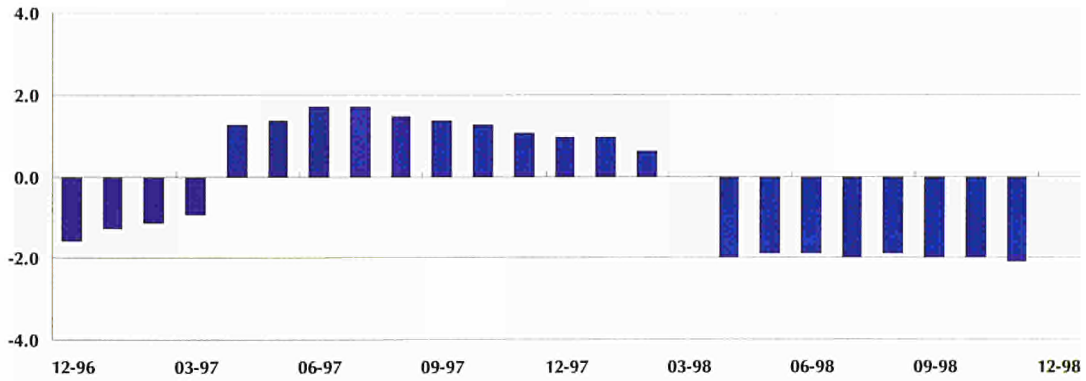
EU-15



EUR-11



Japan



USA

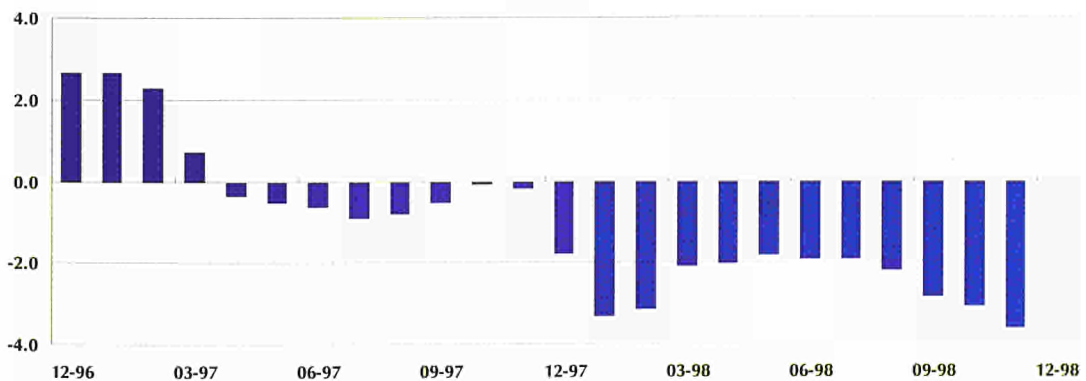


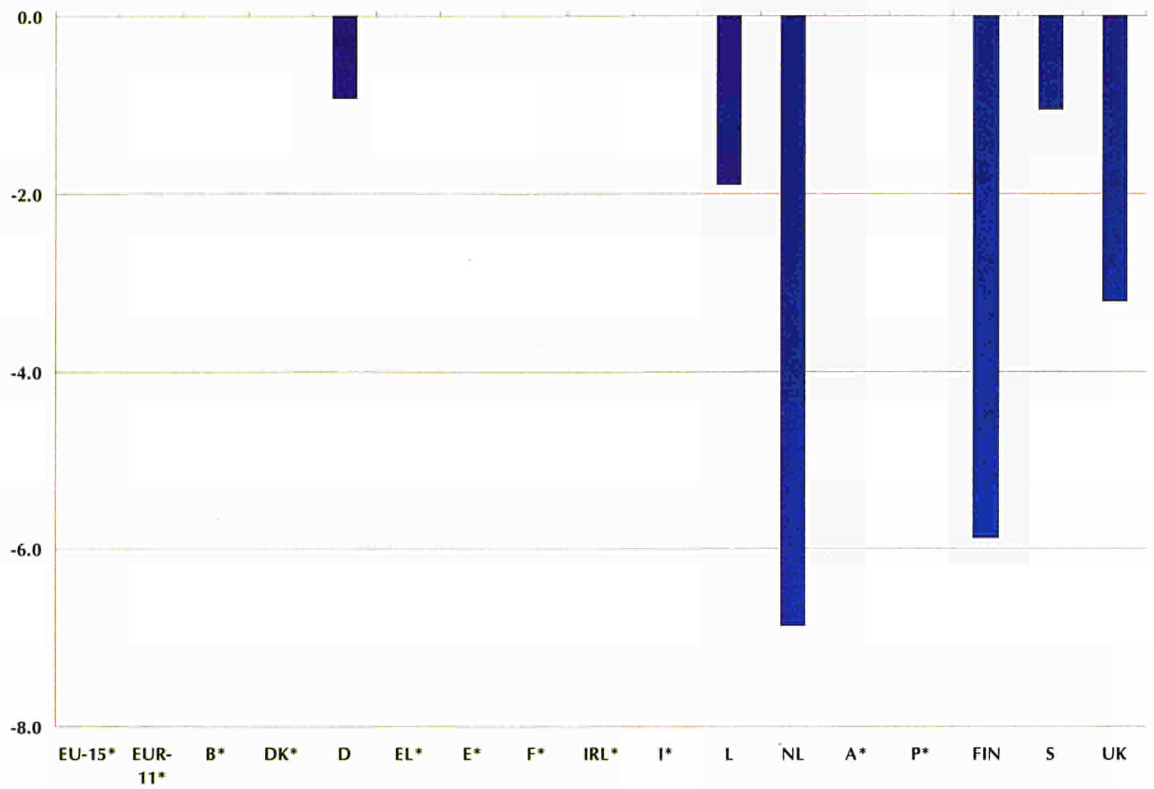
Figure 2.9

Domestic producer price index: growth rate, year on year (%)

Export price index and domestic producer price index

Figure 2.10

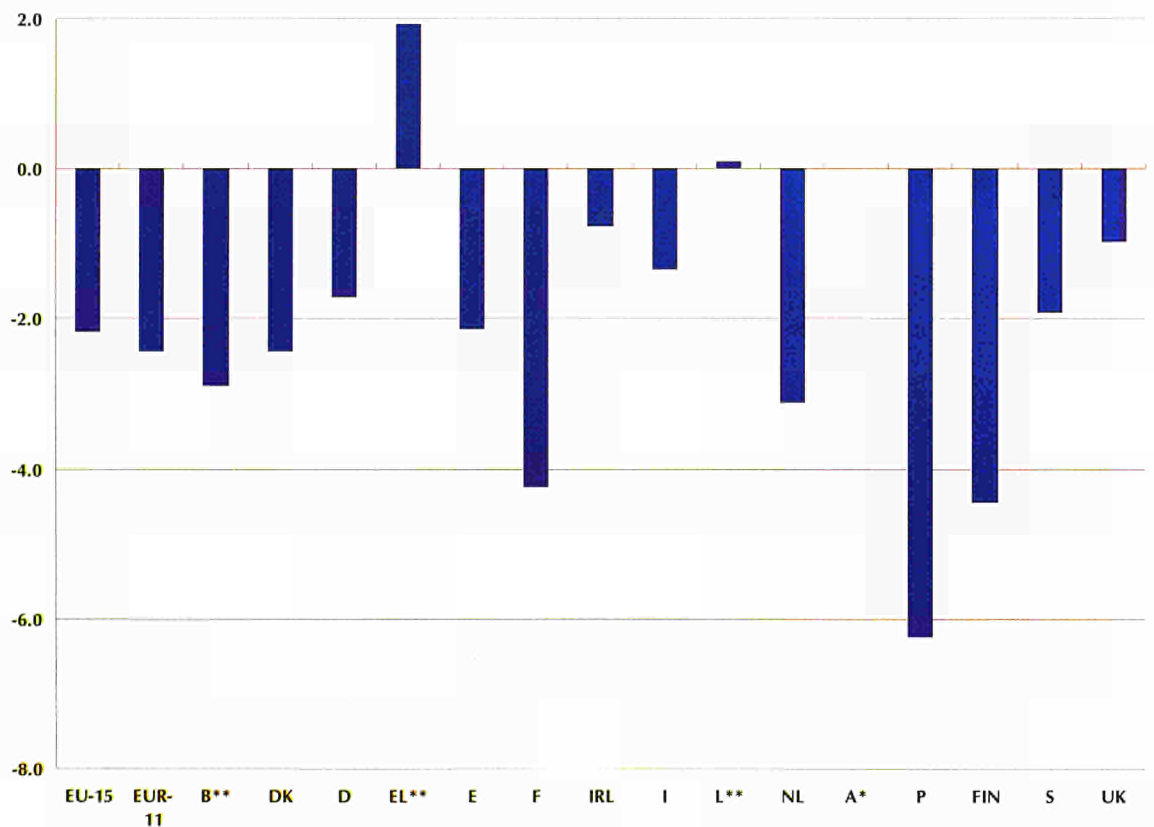
Export prices for manufacturing industry: growth rate, year on year, 11-98 (%)



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.11

Domestic producer price index: growth rate, year on year, 12-98 (%)



Source: eurostat

Export price index and domestic producer price index

Table 2.6

	1996	1997	1998	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
D	100.2	101.7	101.8	101.8	101.5	101.2	101.1	100.9	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	96.2	97.6	:	99.7	98.9	98.1	97.1	:	:
NL	101.0	104.5	101.2	100.4	100.0	98.7	98.3	97.7	:
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	100.3	99.0	98.0	98.0	97.5	96.2	94.4	93.9	93.4
S	95.1	95.8	95.3	95.1	95.1	95.1	95.0	94.9	:
UK	99.5	94.2	91.0	91.0	91.0	90.0	90.0	90.0	:
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Export prices indices
for manufacturing
industry
(1995 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

Table 2.7

	1996	1997	1998	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99
EU-15	100.6	101.5	100.8	100.5	100.4	100.1	99.9	99.7	:
EUR-11	100.6	101.6	100.8	100.6	100.4	100.1	99.7	99.4	:
B	100.6	102.3	:	101.0	100.5	100.0	99.5	:	:
DK	101.6	103.7	102.1	102.1	102.2	101.0	100.6	100.7	:
D	99.6	100.7	100.3	100.2	100.1	99.7	99.4	99.2	:
EL	107.4	111.0	:	114.4	115.0	115.0	114.4	:	:
E	101.7	102.7	102.0	102.0	101.6	101.4	101.2	100.9	:
F	100.5	100.7	98.6	98.0	97.8	97.6	97.1	96.4	96.4
IRL	101.8	101.9	101.9	102.2	101.8	101.5	101.3	101.3	101.3
I	101.9	103.2	103.3	103.1	103.0	102.8	102.6	102.4	:
L	99.6	101.4	:	103.6	103.3	103.1	102.5	:	:
NL	101.8	104.5	103.1	102.4	102.3	101.8	101.5	101.3	:
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	103.8	106.1	102.2	102.0	101.7	101.2	99.8	99.2	:
FIN	99.1	100.4	99.0	99.0	98.6	97.8	97.0	96.5	96.0
S	100.6	101.7	101.3	101.2	100.9	100.5	100.1	100.2	:
UK	100.6	100.3	100.2	99.5	99.3	99.5	100.4	100.9	101.0
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	98.1	98.8	:	97.3	97.1	96.9	96.7	:	:
USA	102.4	102.4	:	99.8	99.3	99.4	98.8	:	:

Domestic producer
price index
(1995 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

Figure 2.12

EU-15 domestic producer price index for the main industrial groupings (1995 = 100)

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

Source:  eurostat

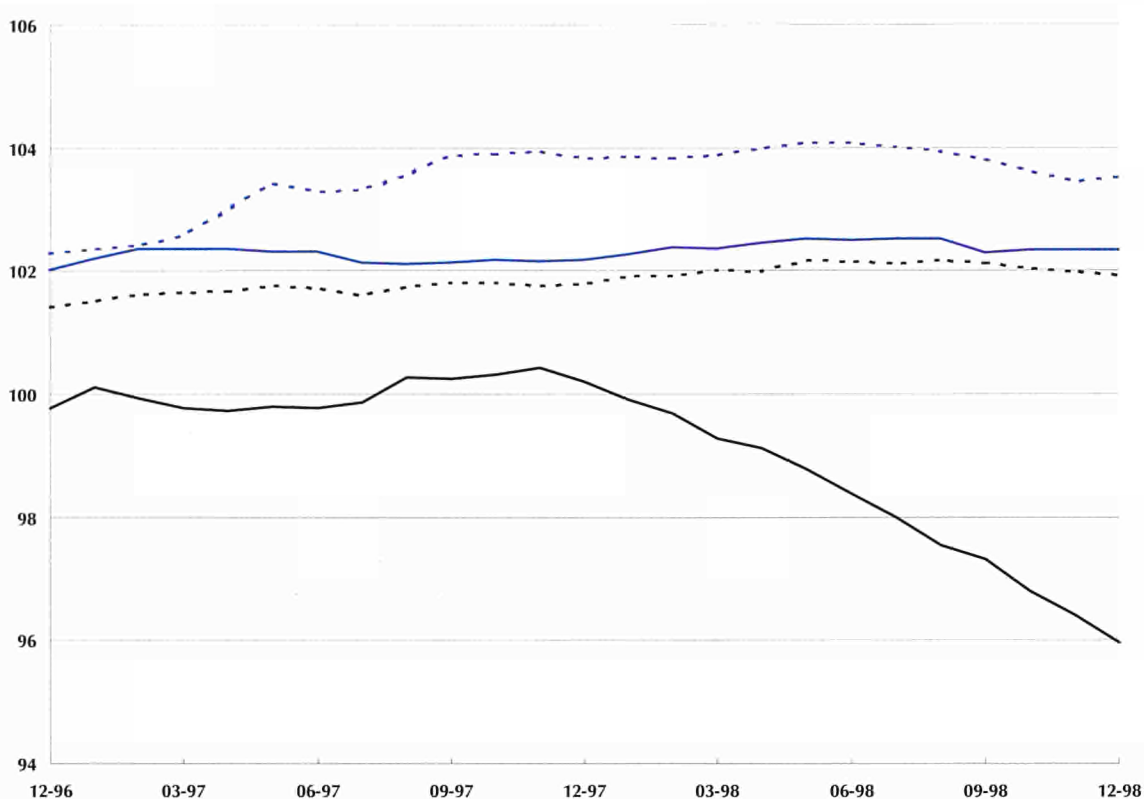


Table 2.8

Domestic producer price index for the main industrial groupings (1995 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

	1996	1997	1998	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98
Total industry									
EU-15	100.6	101.5	100.8	100.8	100.5	100.4	100.1	99.9	99.7
Japan	98.1	98.8	:	97.4	97.3	97.1	96.9	96.7	:
USA	102.4	102.4	:	99.8	99.8	99.3	99.4	98.8	:
Intermediate goods									
EU-15	99.5	100.0	98.1	98.0	97.5	97.3	96.8	96.4	96.0
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Capital goods									
EU-15	101.4	101.7	102.0	102.1	102.2	102.1	102.0	102.0	101.9
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Consumer durables									
EU-15	102.0	102.2	102.4	102.5	102.5	102.3	102.3	102.3	102.3
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Consumer non-durables									
EU-15	102.0	103.3	103.8	104.0	103.9	103.8	103.6	103.4	103.5
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Domestic producer price index

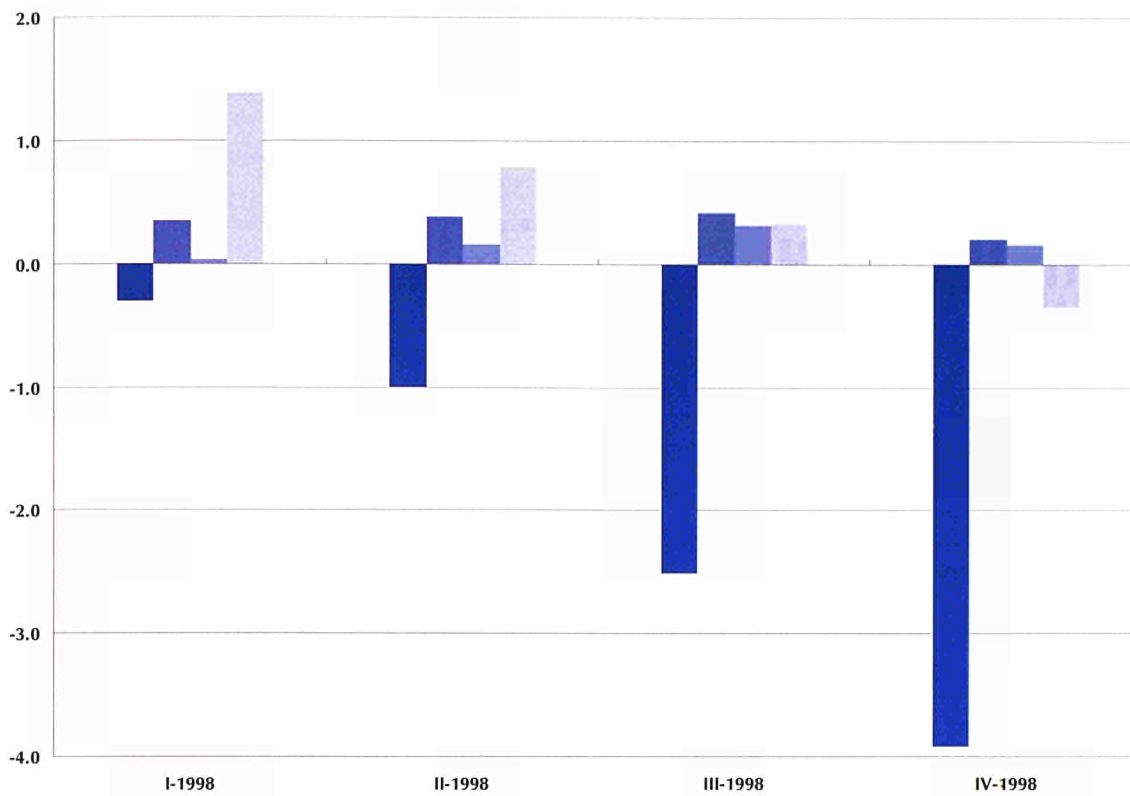


Figure 2.13

EU-15 domestic producer price index for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, year on year (%)

- 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
EU-15	12-98	-2.2	-4.2	0.1	0.1	-0.3
EUR-11	12-98	-2.4	-4.3	0.1	0.0	-0.5
B	11-98	-3.5	-4.6	-0.1	:	:
DK	12-98	-2.4	-2.5	1.5	1.8	-4.8
D	12-98	-1.7	-3.4	0.5	0.4	-0.6
EL	11-98	1.5	-1.4	8.8	4.4	3.8
E	12-98	-2.1	-4.9	0.3	1.7	-0.3
F	01-99	-4.1	-6.4	-2.2	-1.2	:
IRL	01-99	-0.6	:	:	:	:
I	12-98	-1.3	-4.0	1.8	0.7	0.9
L	11-98	0.2	-2.7	1.5	-3.1	-0.3
NL	12-98	-3.1	-4.0	1.5	1.3	-2.4
A		:	:	:	:	:
P	12-98	-6.2	-9.0	:	1.5	0.3
FIN	01-99	-4.3	:	-2.6	3.1	-1.2
S	12-98	-1.9	-5.9	1.8	1.5	-1.0
UK	01-99	-0.7	-3.7	-0.5	0.2	0.9
NO		:	:	:	:	:
Japan	11-98	-2.1	:	:	:	:
USA	11-98	-3.6	:	:	:	:

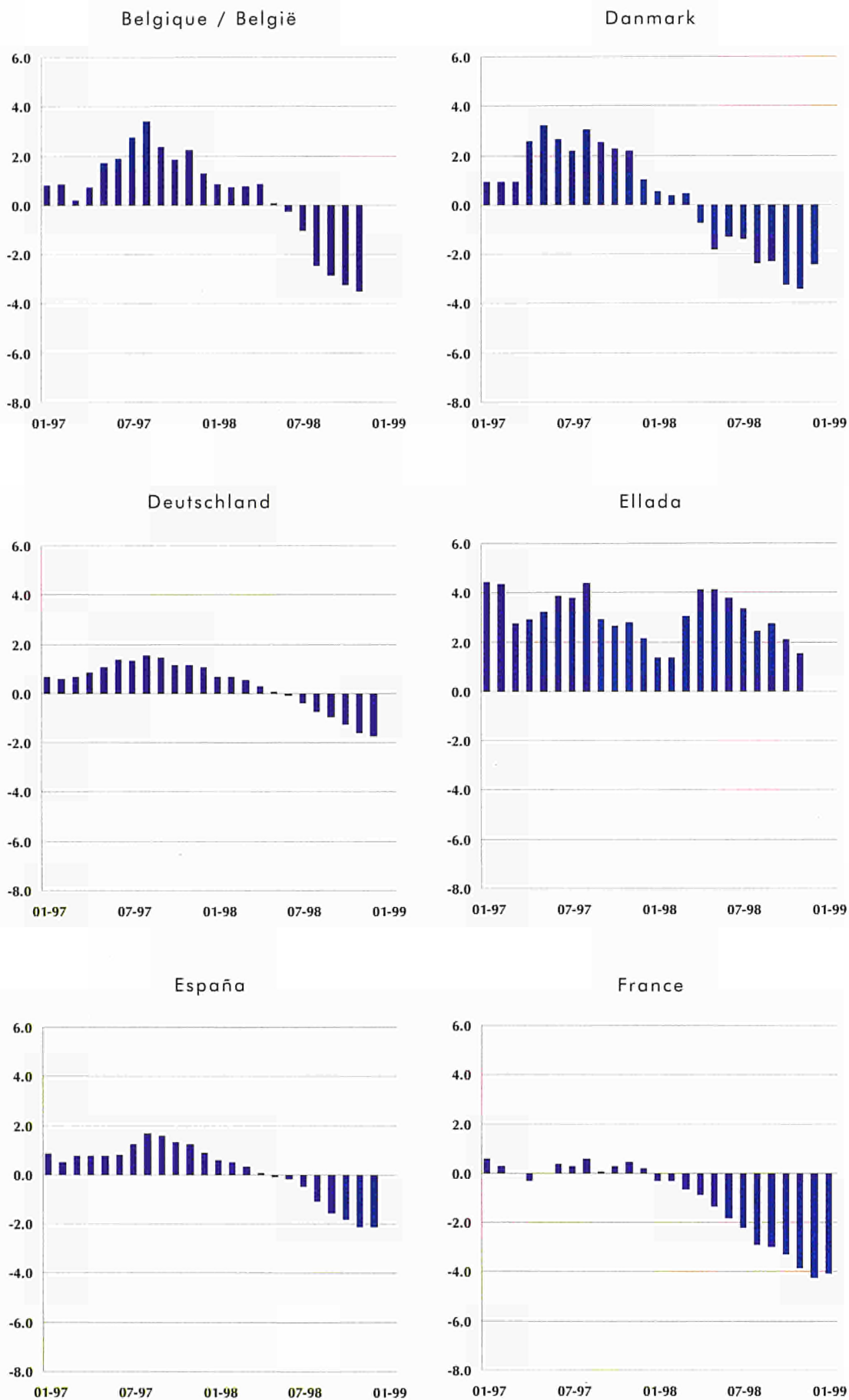
Table 2.9

Domestic producer price index for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, year on year (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.14

Domestic producer price index: growth rate, year on year (%)

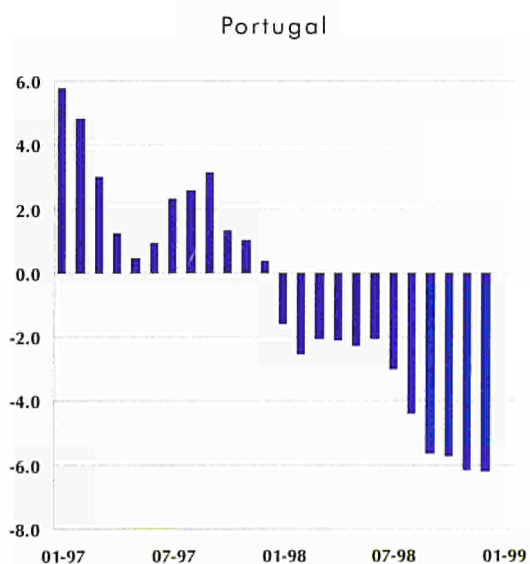
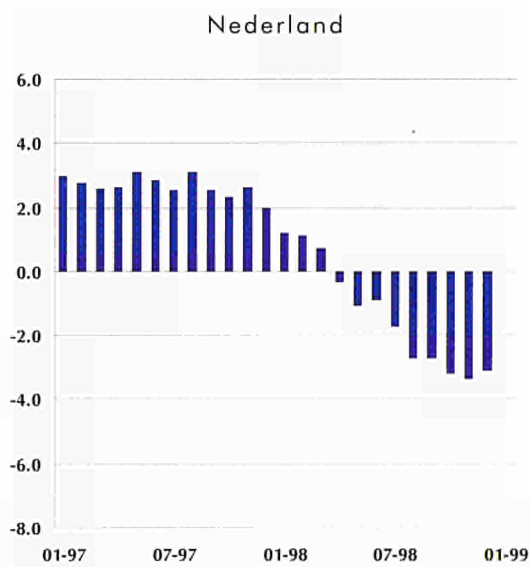
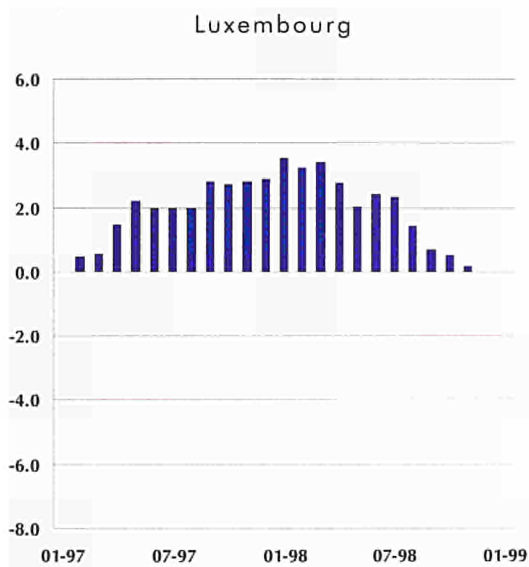
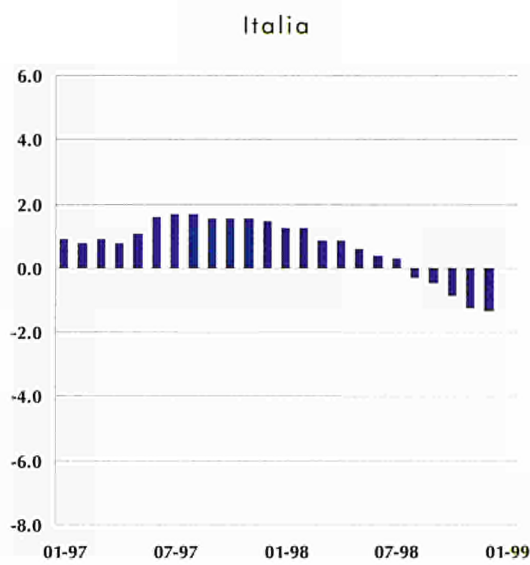
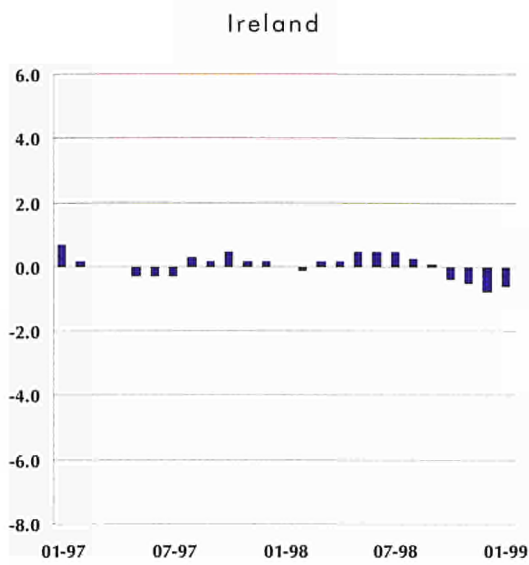


Source: eurostat

Domestic producer price index

Figure 2.14

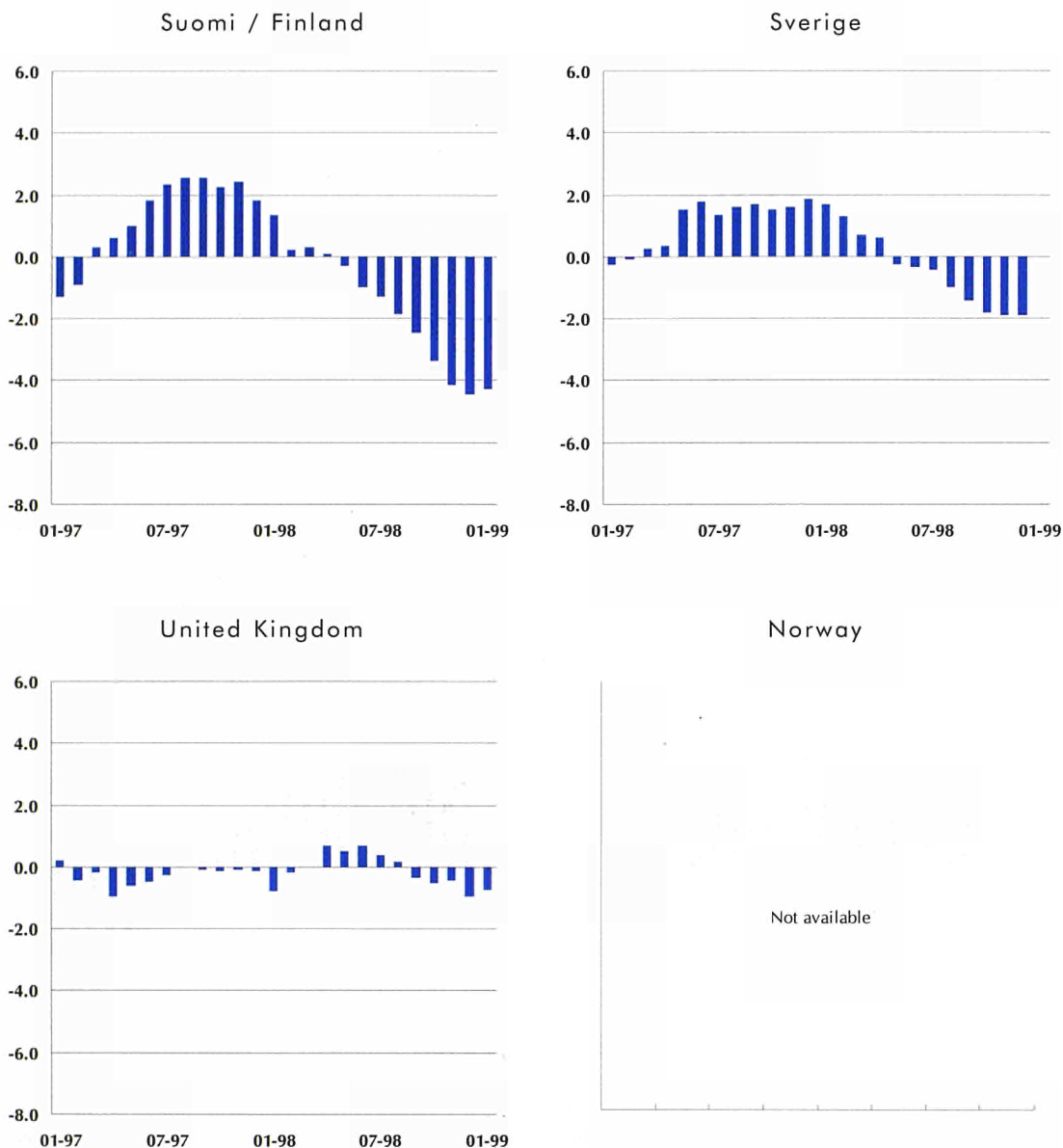
Domestic producer price index: growth rate, year on year (%)



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.14

Domestic producer price index: growth rate, year on year (%)



Further information - price indices:

The index of domestic 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 (EU-14, since there are no producer price indices for Austria yet) 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.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 107.

Source: eurostat

Employment index

EU-15

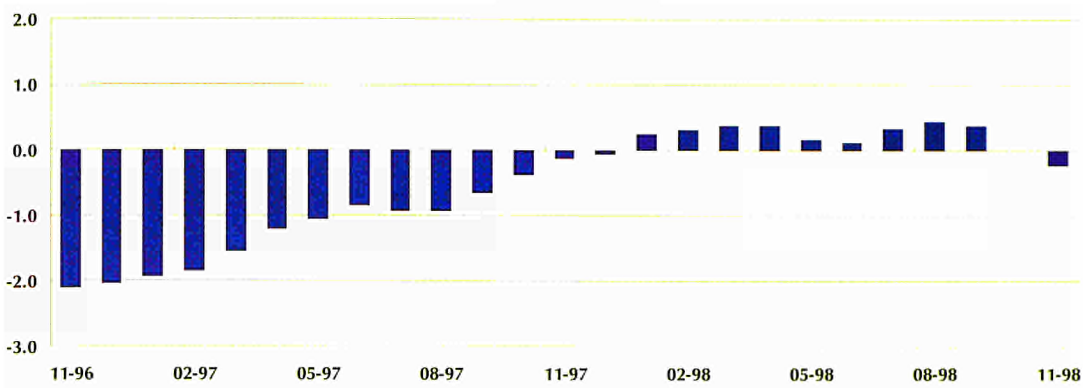
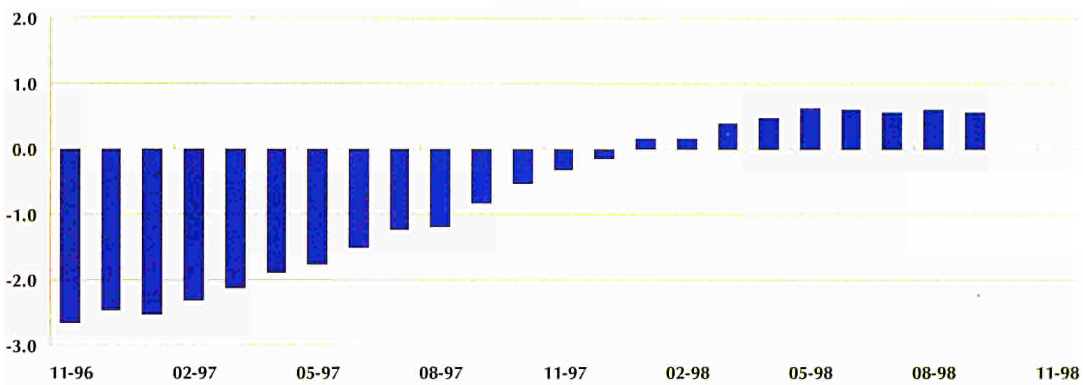


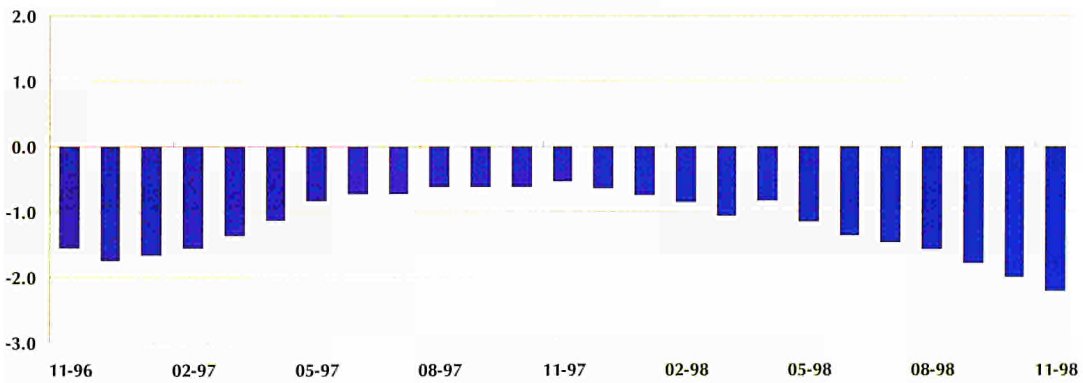
Figure 2.15

Employment index:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

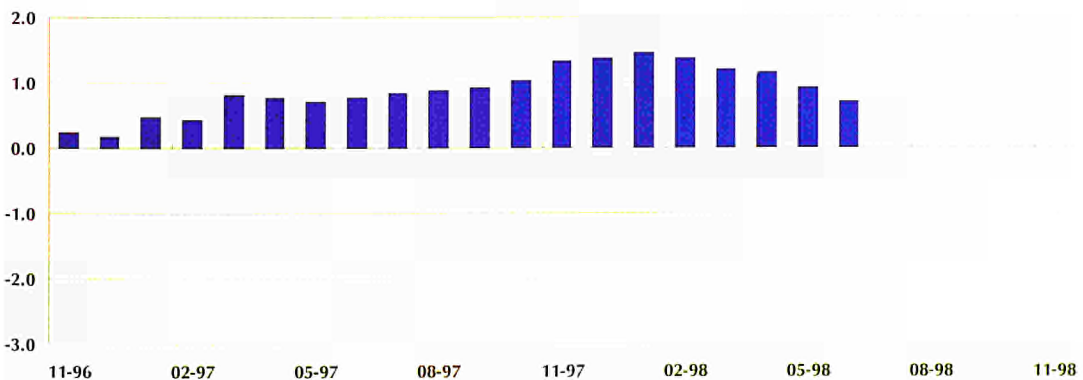
EUR-11



Japan



USA



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.16

EU-15 employment index for the main industrial groupings (1995 = 100)

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

Source: 

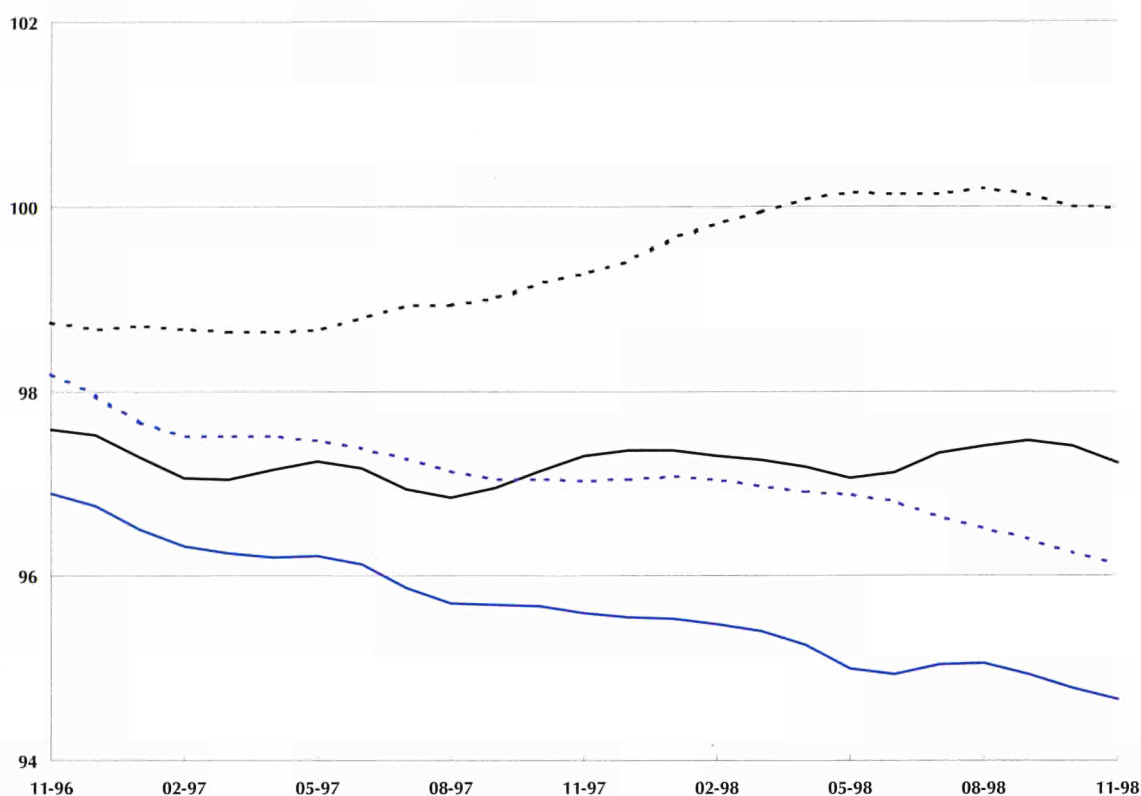



Table 2.10

Employment index for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

Source: 

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	09-98	⇨ 11-98	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4
EUR-11	09-98	⇨ 11-98	:	:	0.1	-0.3	:
B	09-98	⇨ 11-98	-1.5	:	:	0.3	0.4
DK	10-98	⇨ 12-98	-0.4	:	-2.2	-0.8	0.8
D	10-98	⇨ 12-98	-0.2	-0.2	0.3	-0.9	-0.4
EL	01-98	⇨ 03-98	-0.1	-1.1	-0.3	0.5	0.9
E	07-98	⇨ 09-98	1.1	3.7	1.1	-0.4	-0.5
F	07-98	⇨ 09-98	0.0	:	:	:	:
IRL	04-98	⇨ 06-98	1.0	0.1	2.3	:	0.7
I	09-98	⇨ 11-98	-0.6	-0.6	-1.1	0.3	0.3
L	10-98	⇨ 12-98	-0.1	-0.6	0.8	0.5	0.3
NL	07-98	⇨ 09-98	0.2	-0.2	0.8	0.0	0.4
A	09-98	⇨ 11-98	-0.4	:	-1.1	0.5	-0.5
P	10-98	⇨ 12-98	0.3	0.2	0.4	-0.1	0.4
FIN	10-98	⇨ 12-98	-2.2	:	:	:	:
S	10-98	⇨ 12-98	0.0	:	:	:	:
UK	10-98	⇨ 12-98	-1.4	-1.3	-1.3	-2.4	-1.3
NO		⇨	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	09-98	⇨ 11-98	-0.7	:	:	:	:
USA	04-98	⇨ 06-98	-0.1	:	:	:	:

Employment index

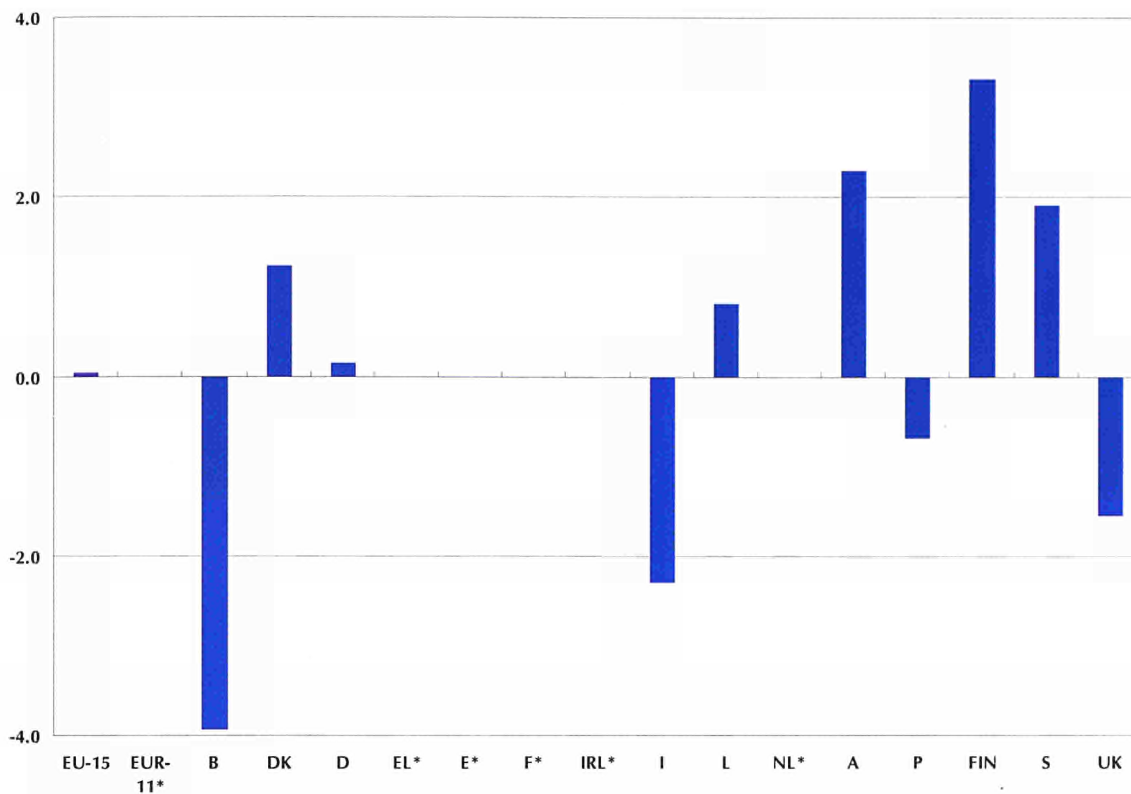


Figure 2.17

Employment index: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 09-98 to 11-98 (%)

Source: eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	09-98	⇒ 11-98	0.0	0.3	0.9	-0.9	-0.9
EUR-11	09-98	⇒ 11-98	:	:	1.3	-0.8	:
B	09-98	⇒ 11-98	-3.9	:	:	1.1	1.5
DK	10-98	⇒ 12-98	2.6	7.4	1.3	4.0	-0.9
D	10-98	⇒ 12-98	0.1	0.2	1.5	-2.2	-1.2
EL	01-98	⇒ 03-98	-1.2	-1.4	-6.6	3.1	0.1
E	07-98	⇒ 09-98	4.9	8.3	7.1	-0.4	2.0
F	07-98	⇒ 09-98	0.1	:	:	:	:
IRL	04-98	⇒ 06-98	3.6	2.3	6.2	:	1.5
I	09-98	⇒ 11-98	-2.3	-2.2	-3.1	-0.6	-0.6
L	10-98	⇒ 12-98	0.9	-1.1	7.4	5.9	-0.5
NL	07-98	⇒ 09-98	1.2	0.2	2.3	0.8	1.5
A	09-98	⇒ 11-98	2.3	:	4.2	-0.9	1.5
P	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-0.8	-0.8	3.4	1.8	-2.1
FIN	10-98	⇒ 12-98	2.2	:	:	:	:
S	10-98	⇒ 12-98	1.8	:	:	:	:
UK	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-2.1	-2.2	-1.8	-2.2	-2.3
NO	⇒		:	:	:	:	:
Japan	09-98	⇒ 11-98	-2.0	:	:	:	:
USA	04-98	⇒ 06-98	0.9	:	:	:	:

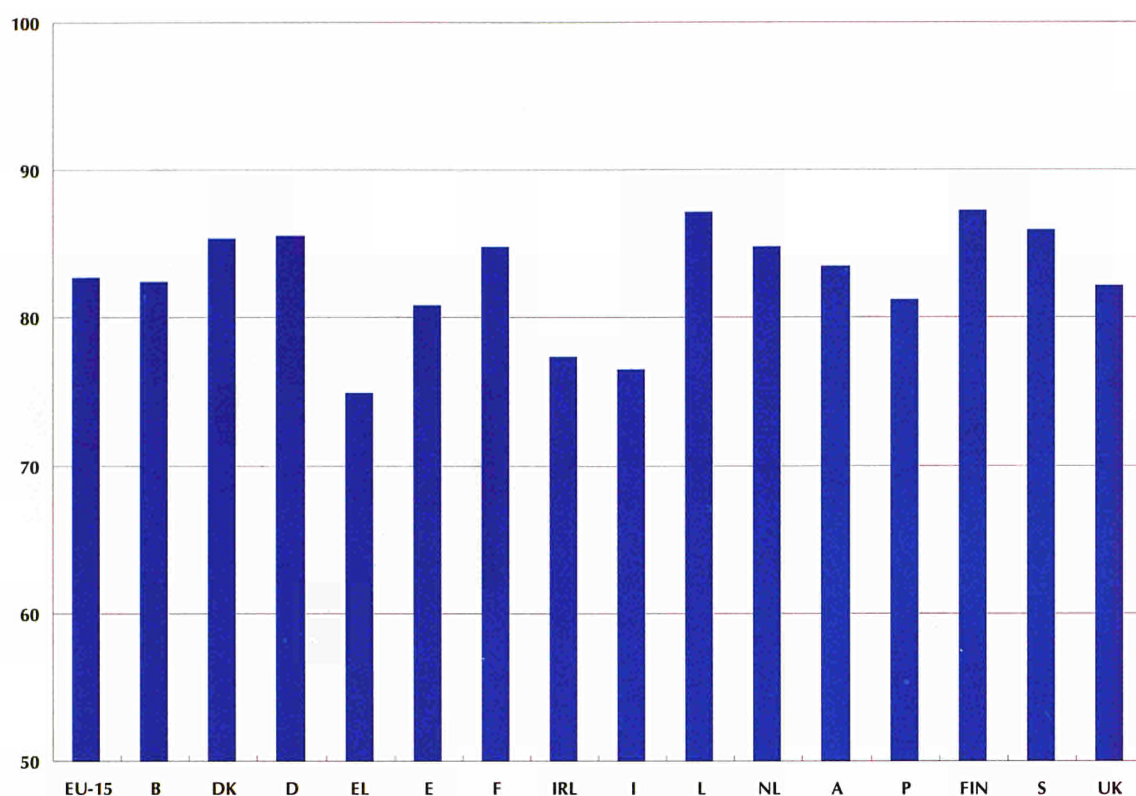
Table 2.11

Employment index for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.18

Capacity utilisation rates:
10-98
(%)



Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Table 2.12

Capacity utilisation rates
(%)

	Growth rate: latest month, t / t-12 (%)	01-98	04-98	07-98	10-98
EU-15	-0.5	83.2	83.3	83.8	82.8
B	-0.8	81.9	82.6	83.5	82.5
DK	1.7	85.4	83.9	86.8	85.4
D	0.8	84.7	85.3	86.1	85.6
EL	0.9	75.0	77.0	76.0	75.0
E	0.5	79.4	80.0	81.1	80.9
F	0.0	84.0	85.2	85.6	84.8
IRL	4.3	76.6	77.5	74.8	77.4
I	-1.4	79.0	78.2	79.5	76.6
L	2.8	87.5	87.9	88.3	87.2
NL	-0.5	85.3	85.6	85.5	84.8
A	-0.6	83.1	83.3	84.7	83.5
P	-0.7	80.5	82.6	81.0	81.3
FIN	-1.9	89.0	88.0	89.8	87.3
S	1.2	87.0	86.0	87.0	86.0
UK	-3.4	84.7	84.1	83.0	82.2

Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Capacity utilisation rates

Intermediate goods

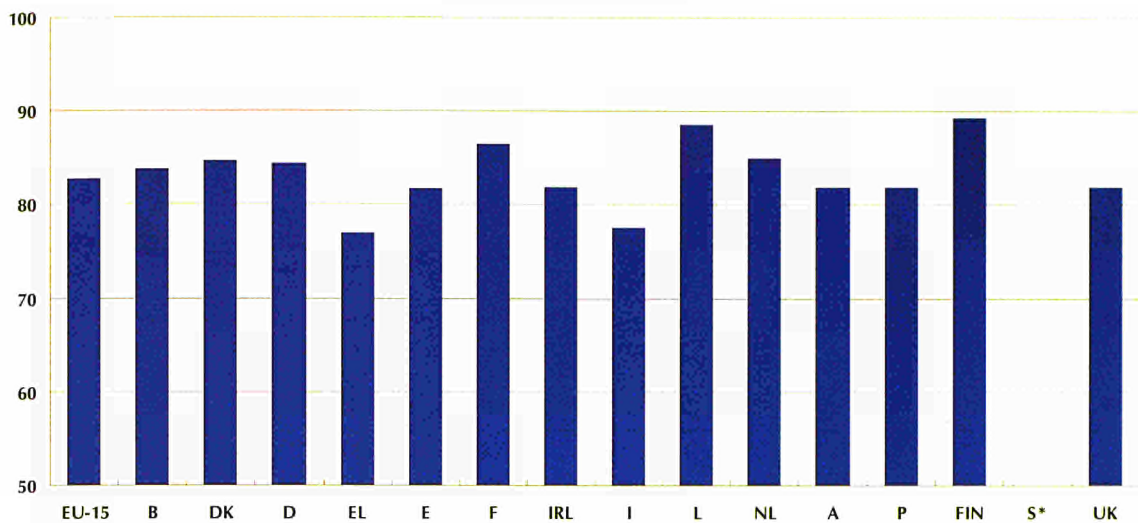
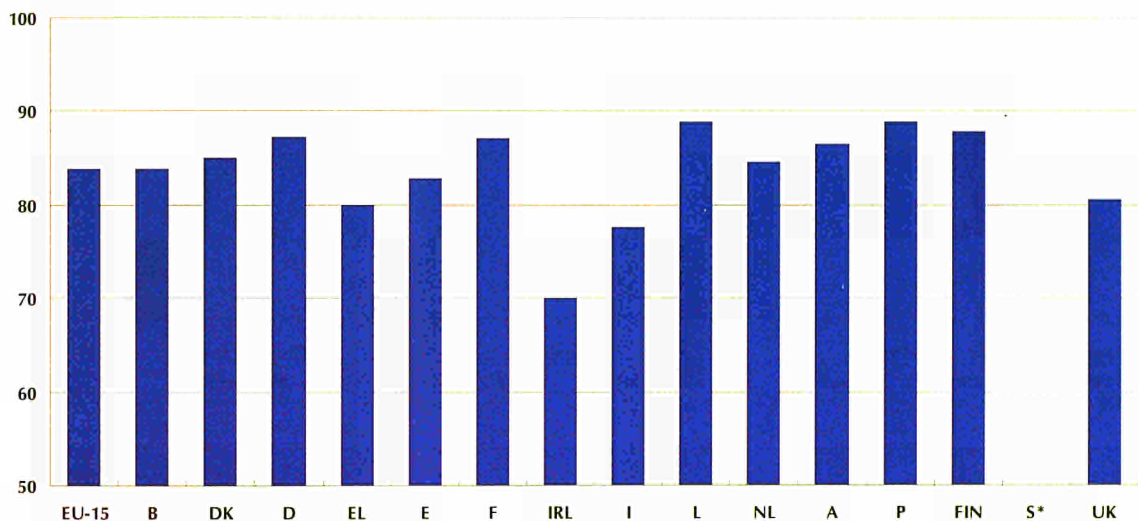


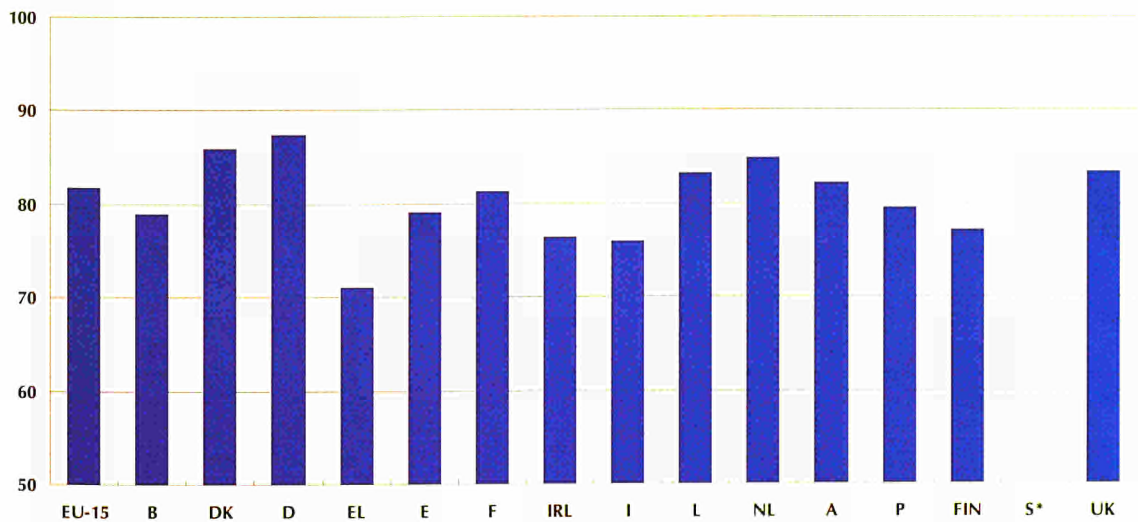
Figure 2.19

Capacity utilisation rates for the main industrial groupings, 10-98 (%)

Capital goods



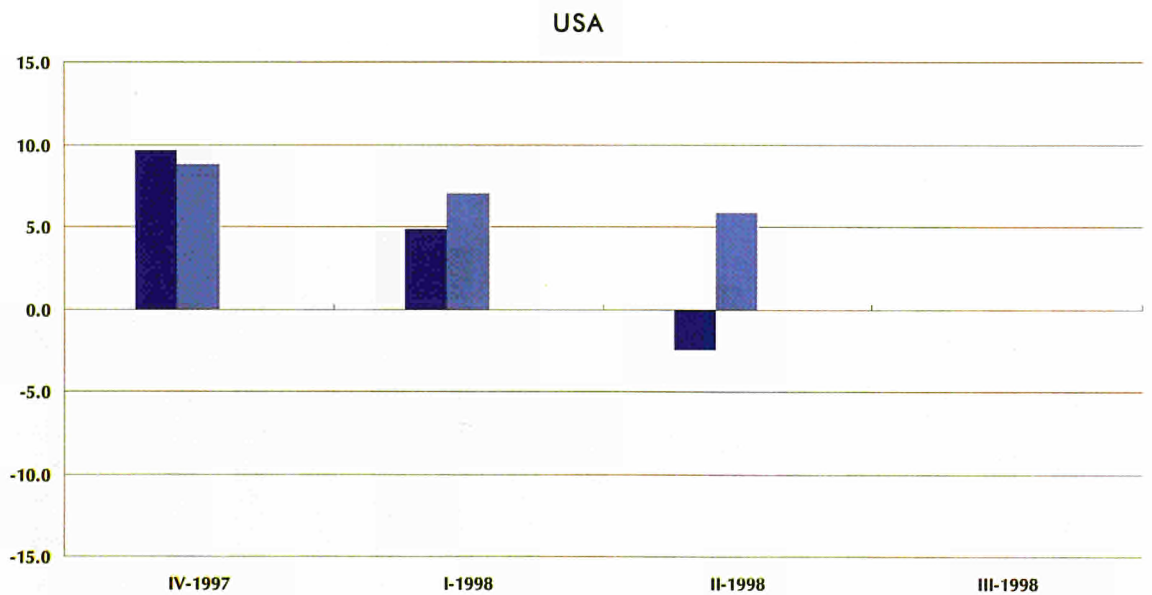
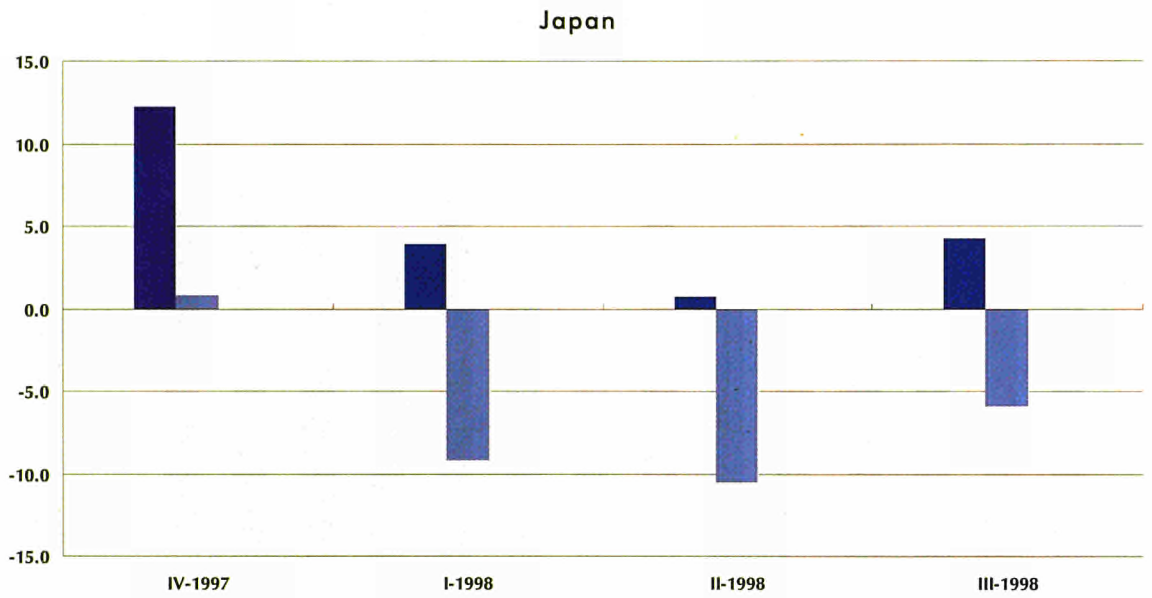
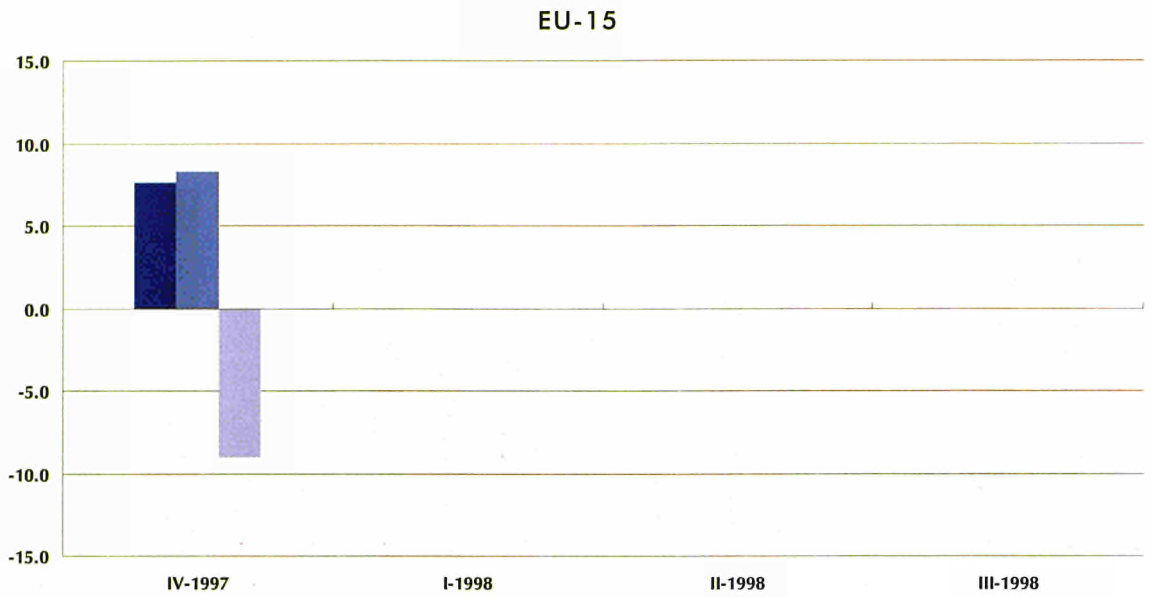
Consumer goods



Source: DG II, Business Survey

Figure 2.20

Foreign trade indices: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)



Export value ■
 Import value ■
 Terms of trade ■

Source: eurostat

Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

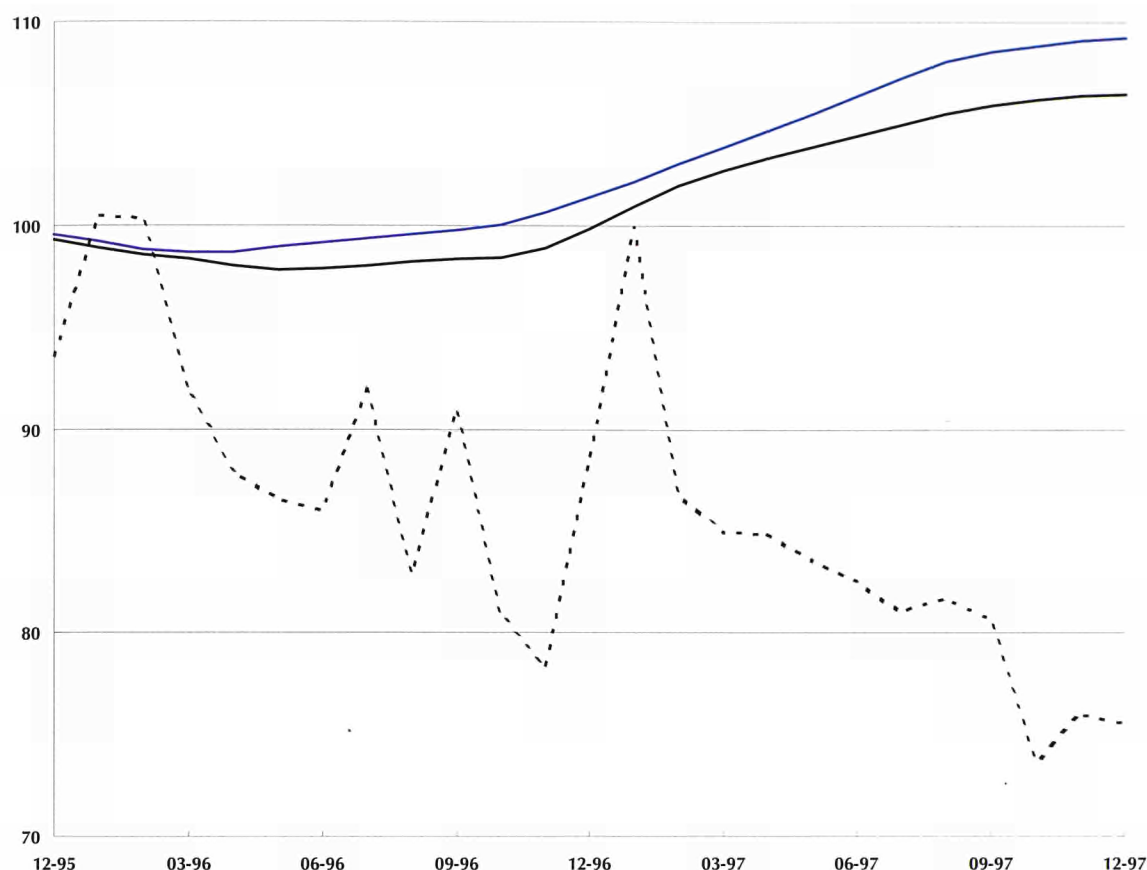


Figure 2.21

EU-15 foreign trade indices in ECU terms (1995 = 100)

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

Source: eurostat

	Latest 3 months available			Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume		
EU-15	10-97	⇨	12-97	0.8	0.2	1.0	-2.4	-7.5
B/L	09-97	⇨	11-97	-3.7	0.6	-2.4	-3.3	-0.5
DK	10-97	⇨	12-97	1.4	2.7	0.5	0.0	-9.0
D	10-97	⇨	12-97	0.9	0.0	0.9	-4.2	-3.1
EL	10-97	⇨	12-97	-2.4	-2.6	0.6	-16.3	-11.8
E	10-97	⇨	12-97	0.6	2.5	3.2	1.9	-7.8
F	10-97	⇨	12-97	0.8	1.9	1.4	-0.2	-4.9
IRL	08-97	⇨	10-97	7.1	5.6	4.1	3.0	1.5
I	10-97	⇨	12-97	1.4	-0.1	:	-14.3	-2.6
NL	10-97	⇨	12-97	-0.6	1.2	0.5	-1.9	3.3
A		⇨		:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97	⇨	10-97	2.3	0.4	3.5	0.9	-0.9
FIN		⇨		:	:	:	:	:
S		⇨		:	:	:	:	:
UK	10-97	⇨	12-97	-1.9	4.7	-1.8	-2.5	-14.1

Table 2.13

Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.22

Foreign trade indices (in ECU terms): growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 10-97 to 12-97 (%)

Export value ■
Import value ■

Source:  eurostat

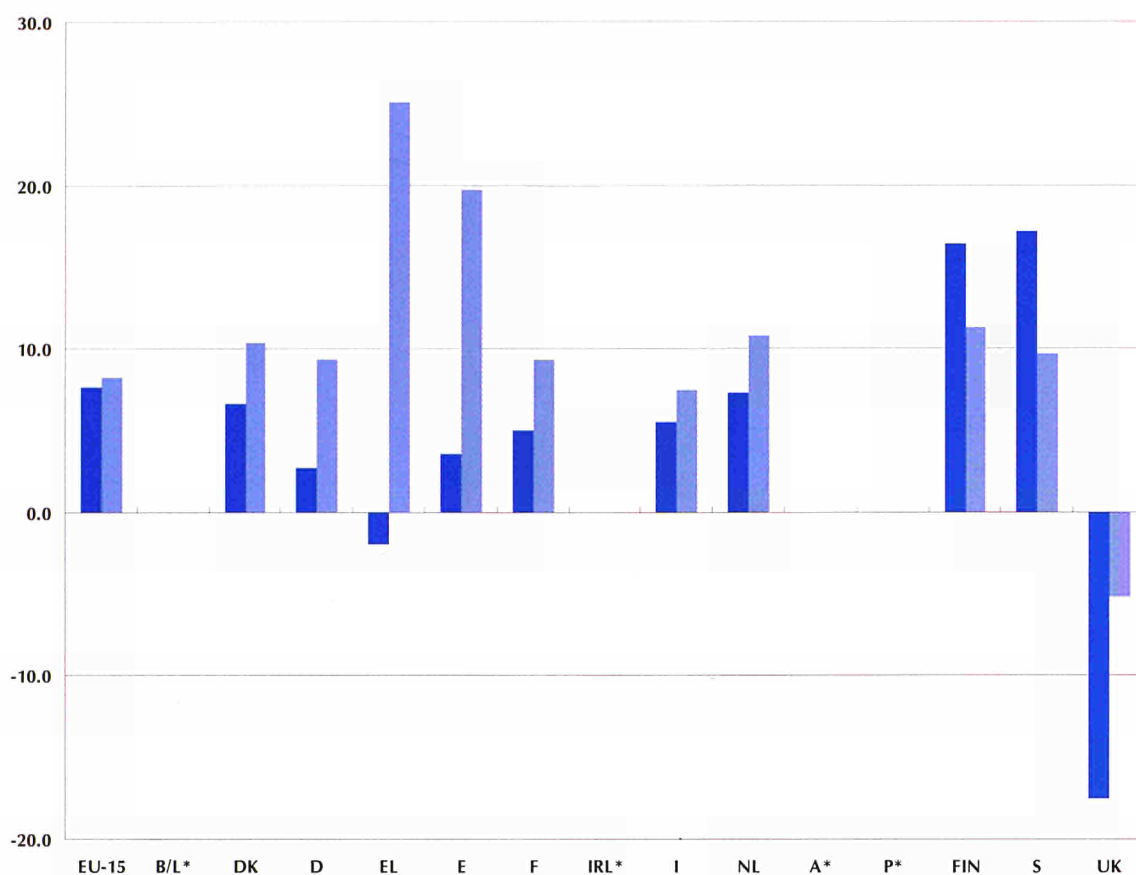


Table 2.14

Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

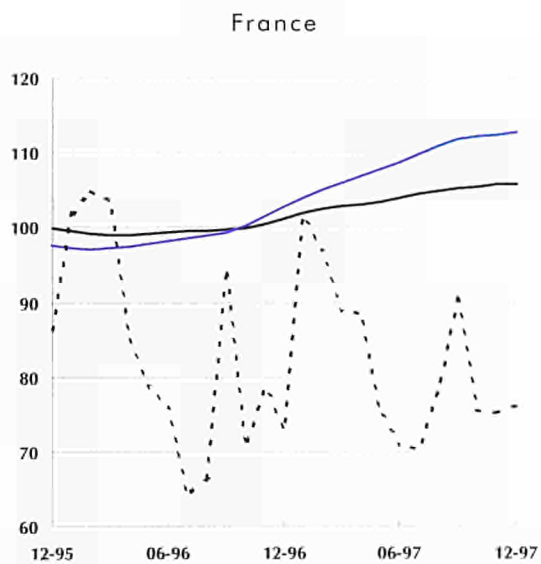
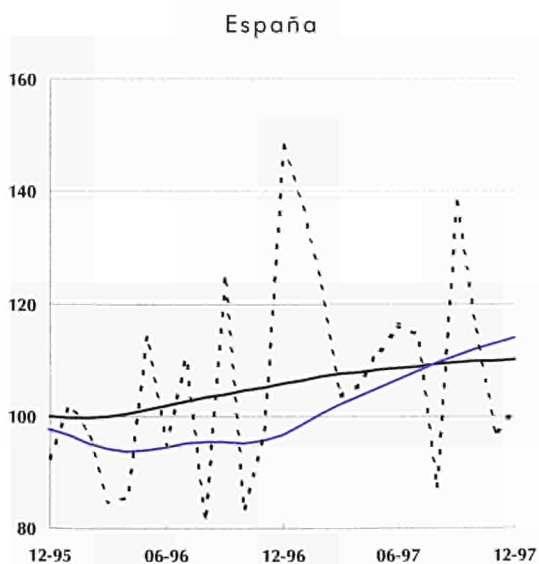
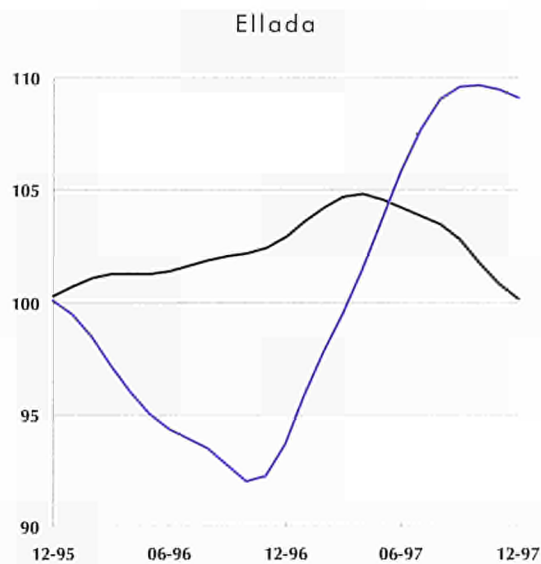
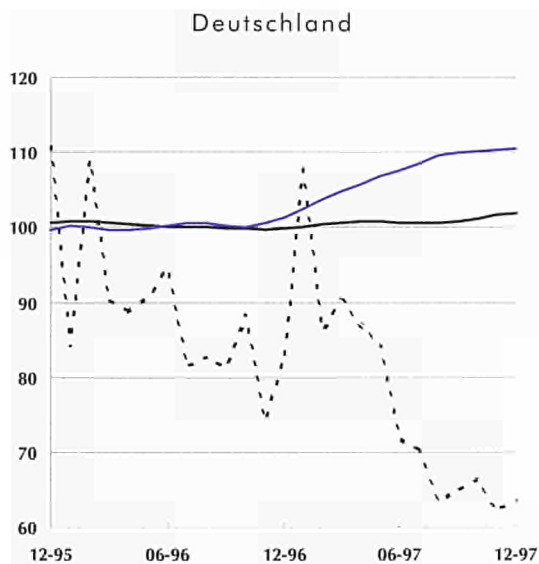
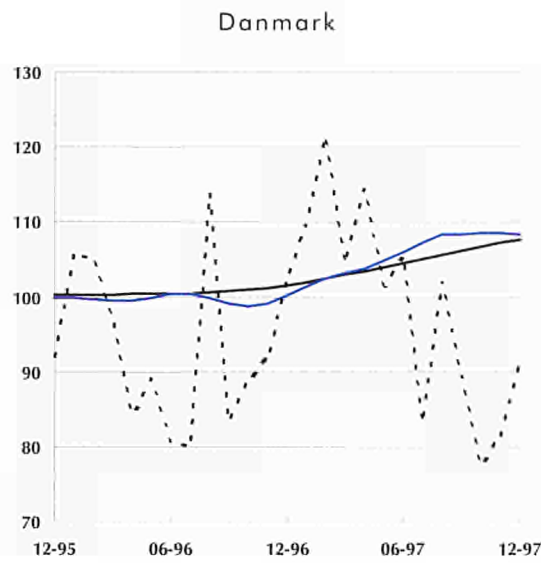
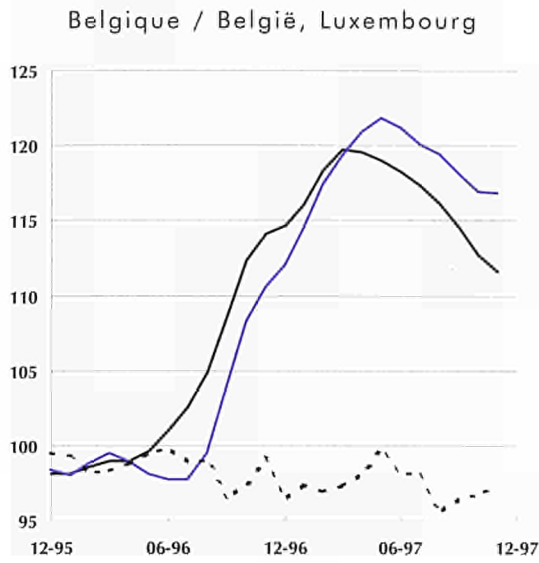
Source:  eurostat

	Latest 3 months available	Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
		Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	7.6	2.4	8.2	-6.0	-9.1
B/L	09-97 ⇒ 11-97	3.8	-1.5	6.7	0.5	-0.8
DK	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	6.6	15.1	10.4	4.8	-12.0
D	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	2.7	5.2	9.4	-11.7	-21.7
EL	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	-2.0	1.5	25.1	-7.4	-29.0
E	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	3.5	5.1	19.7	20.4	-4.4
F	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	5.0	9.2	9.4	17.6	2.3
IRL	08-97 ⇒ 10-97	28.3	31.3	20.2	17.1	-5.3
I	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	5.5	-0.3	7.5	-31.9	-33.6
NL	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	7.3	27.9	10.8	-6.1	-28.0
A	⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97 ⇒ 10-97	8.6	1.9	9.6	2.7	-0.6
FIN	⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S	⇒	:	:	:	:	:
UK	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	-17.5	20.9	-5.2	-2.2	-30.4

Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

Figure 2.23

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

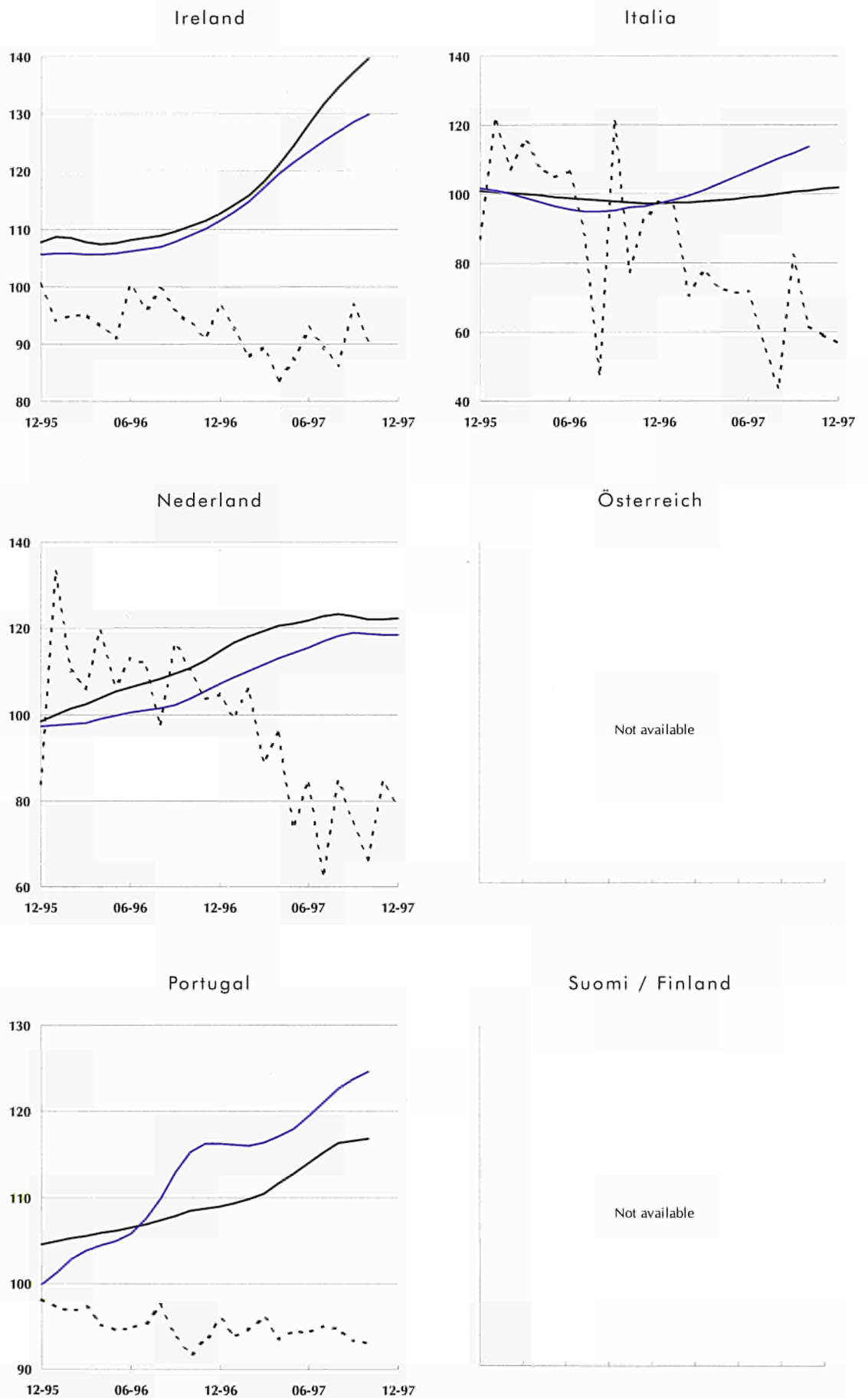


— Export value index
— Import value index
- - - Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.23

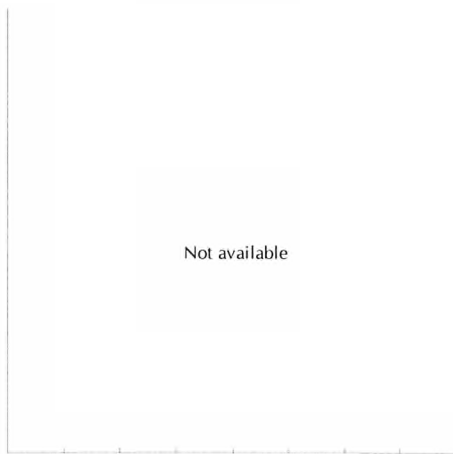
Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)



Source: eurostat

Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

Sverige



United Kingdom

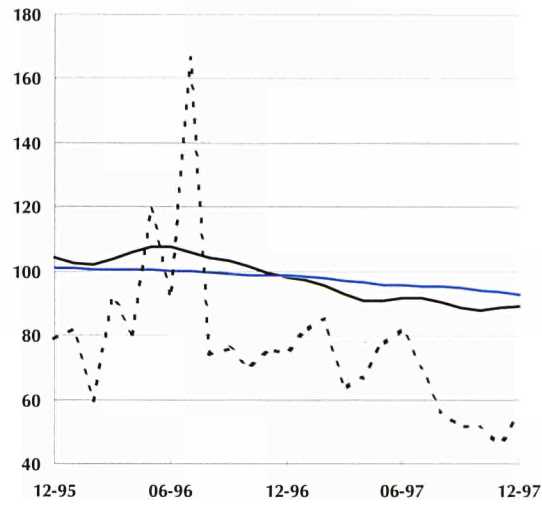


Figure 2.23

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

Further information - employment and trade indices:

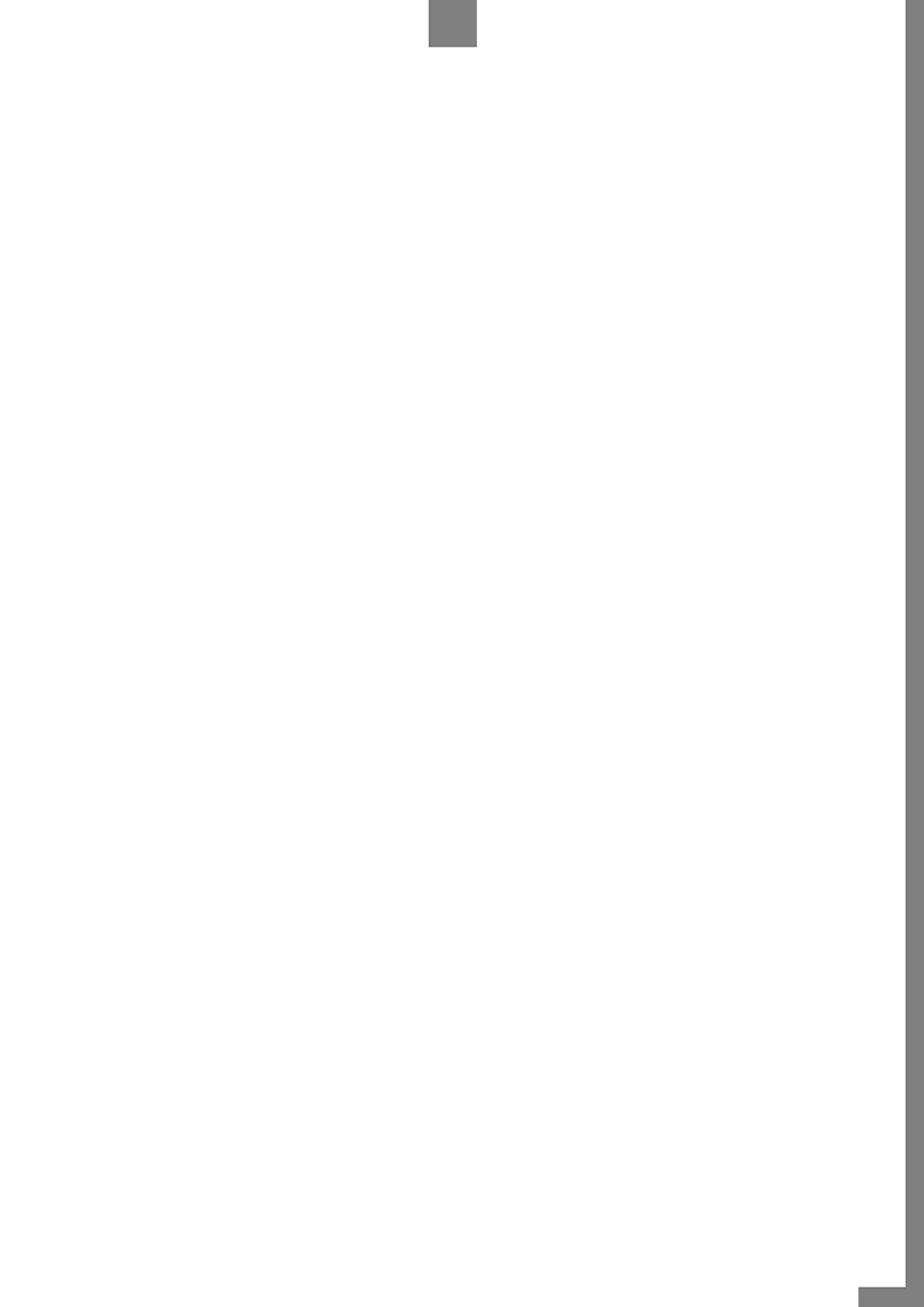
Figures showing the number of persons employed include all persons employed by the firm (manual workers and salaried employees on the firm's payroll) plus the self-employed.

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 EU-15 refer only to extra-Union trade, the indices for Member States reflect also intra-Union trade.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 107.

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

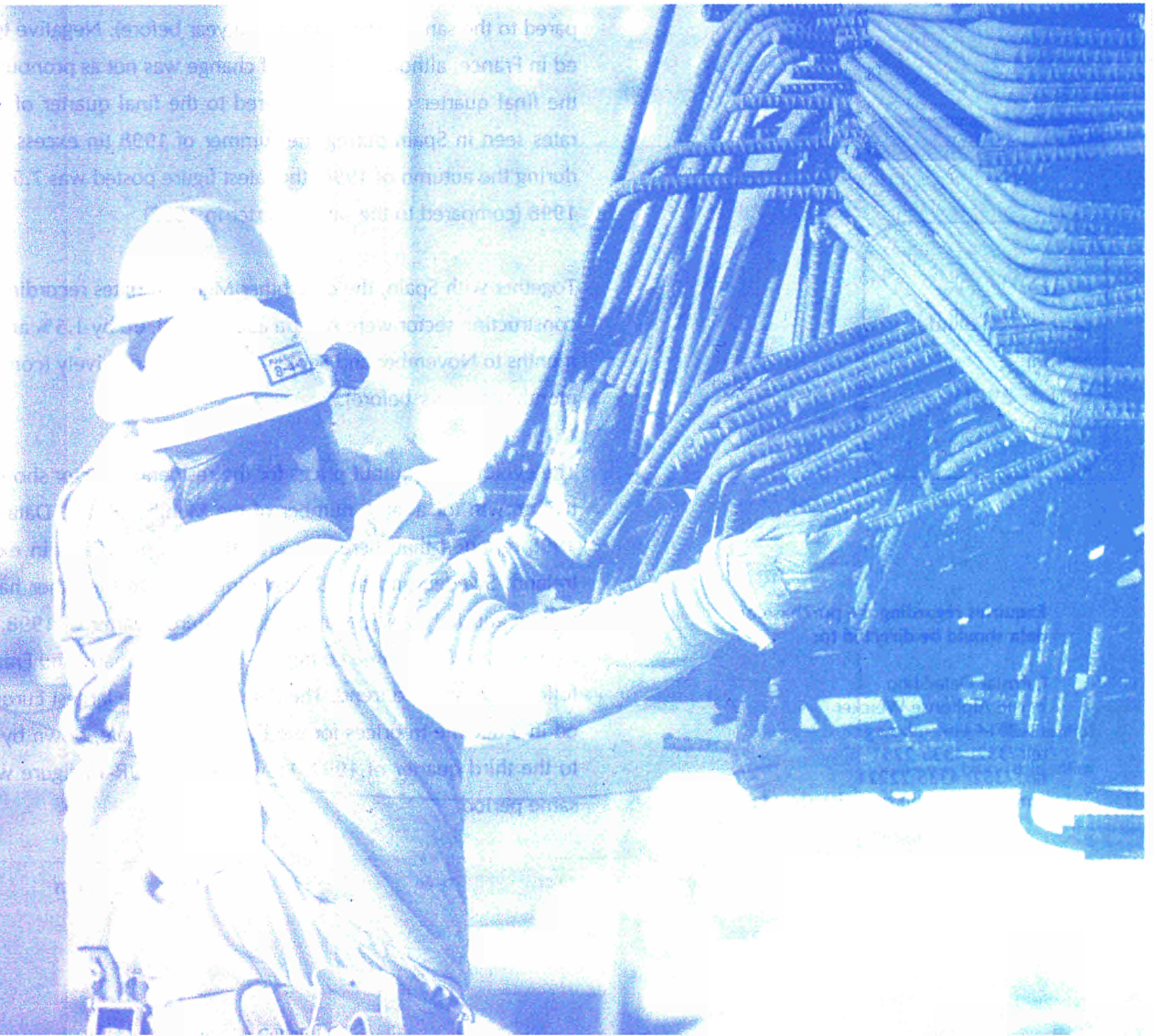
Source:  eurostat



3.

Latest outlook: construction

Commentary	48
Production index	49
Price indices	51
Building permits	52



3. Latest outlook: construction

Activity within the European construction industry fell by 0.4% in the third quarter of 1998, when compared to the third quarter of 1997. The rate of change had displayed positive trends during the summer of 1998 for both the EU-15 and EUR-11 aggregates. However, in August 1998 output within the construction sector fell. This was the first time during calendar year 1998 that there had been a reduction in the level of activity recorded for the EU as a whole. Output within the European Union was generally higher than the corresponding rates that were recorded for the EUR-11 aggregate through 1998. The latest data available for EUR-11 runs to November 1998, with a reduction of 3.0% in activity.

Within the Member States there were wide-ranging differences in the latest growth rates available. In Germany there was a fairly sharp contraction in construction activity, with a decline of 6.6% observed in the three months to December 1998 (compared to the same three months of a year before). Negative trends were also recorded in France, although the rate of change was not as pronounced, down by 1.0% in the final quarter of 1998 compared to the final quarter of 1997. The high growth rates seen in Spain during the summer of 1998 (in excess of 30%) slowed rapidly during the autumn of 1998, the latest figure posted was 7.5% in the third quarter of 1998 (compared to the same quarter in 1997).

Together with Spain, the only other Member States recording positive growth in the construction sector were Austria and Finland, up by 1.5% and 7.8% during the three months to November and September 1998 respectively (compared to the same three months of a year before).

The evolution of output prices for the residential sector showed that there was positive growth for a large number of the Member States. Data for the third quarter of 1998 reported that there was growth in output prices in excess of 3% in Greece, Ireland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. On the other hand, data for Germany, France and Italy was negative for the third quarter of 1998. More recent data was available for these three countries - in both Germany and France prices continued to follow a downward trend. The data for the three largest European economies resulted in a decline in prices for the EUR-11 aggregate, down by 0.3% when compared to the third quarter of 1997. However, the EUR-15 figure was up by 1.1% for the same period.

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L - 2014 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 22221
e-mail: dslux@eurostat.datashop.lu

Production index (trend cycle)

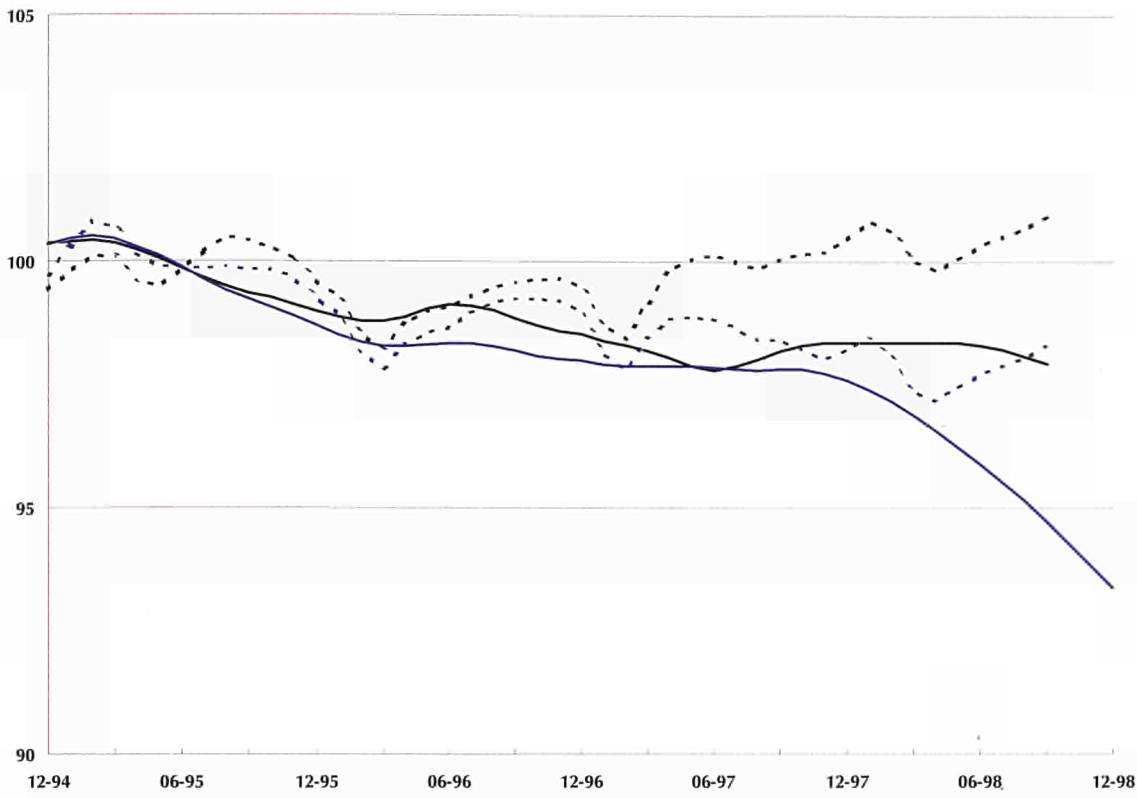


Figure 3.1

Production and employment trends in construction: indices (1995 = 100)

- EU-15 construction: — production index
- EU-15 construction: - - - employment index
- EUR-11 construction: — production index
- EUR-11 construction: - - - employment index

Source: eurostat

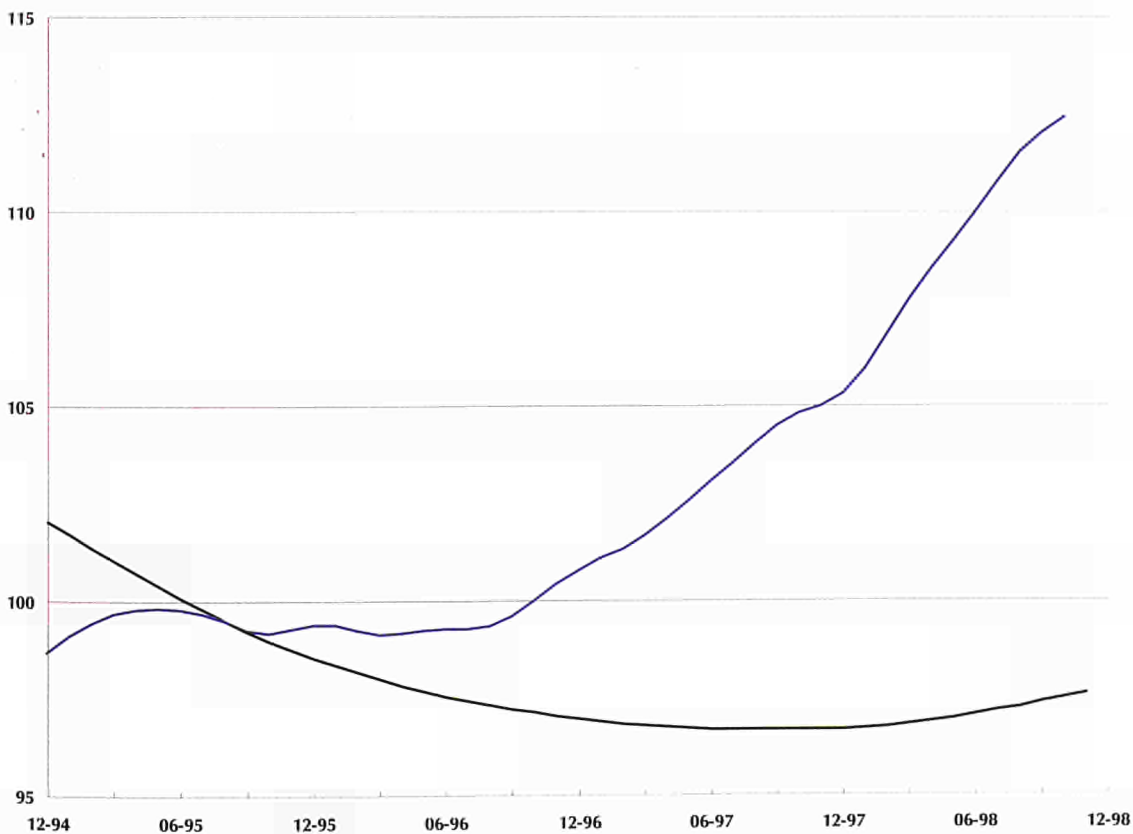


Figure 3.2

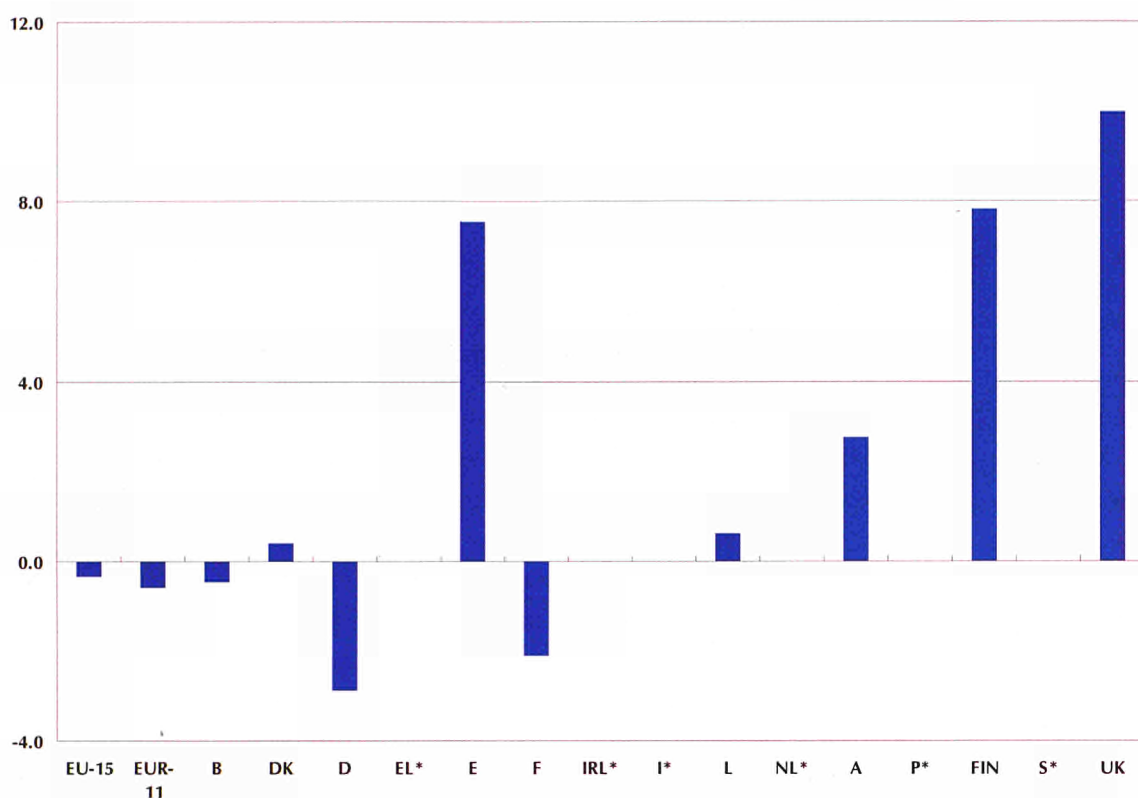
EU-15 building permits: indices (1995 = 100)

- Residential
- Non-residential

Source: eurostat

Figure 3.3

Production index for construction: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 07-98 to 09-98 (%)



Source: eurostat

Table 3.1

Production index of building and civil engineering: growth rates (%)

	Latest 3 months available			Building		Latest 3 months available			Civil engineering	
				t / t-1	t / t-4				t / t-1	t / t-4
EU-15	04-98	⇒	06-98	-1.2	-1.9	07-98	⇒	09-98	0.7	0.9
EUR-11	04-98	⇒	06-98	-1.5	-3.2	07-98	⇒	09-98	1.1	1.7
B		⇒		:	:		⇒		:	:
DK	10-98	⇒	12-98	-4.2	-7.4	10-98	⇒	12-98	1.3	-0.4
D	10-98	⇒	12-98	-2.6	-5.4	10-98	⇒	12-98	-1.8	-8.8
EL		⇒		:	:		⇒		:	:
E	07-98	⇒	09-98	1.2	7.2	07-98	⇒	09-98	4.3	9.2
F	10-98	⇒	12-98	-0.9	-3.8	10-98	⇒	12-98	0.1	0.3
IRL		⇒		:	:		⇒		:	:
I	04-98	⇒	06-98	-1.5	-9.1	01-98	⇒	03-98	-1.8	12.5
L	10-98	⇒	12-98	-2.8	-6.3	10-98	⇒	12-98	-5.1	-9.4
NL	01-98	⇒	03-98	8.3	15.8		⇒		:	:
A	09-98	⇒	11-98	3.2	3.7	09-98	⇒	11-98	-1.3	-5.3
P		⇒		:	:		⇒		:	:
FIN	07-98	⇒	09-98	4.3	7.8	07-98	⇒	09-98	2.5	7.5
S		⇒		:	:		⇒		:	:
UK	04-98	⇒	06-98	-2.7	1.7	04-98	⇒	06-98	-10.6	-12.6
NO	07-98	⇒	09-98	-4.3	:	07-98	⇒	09-98	0.8	:

Source: eurostat

Price indices for new residential buildings

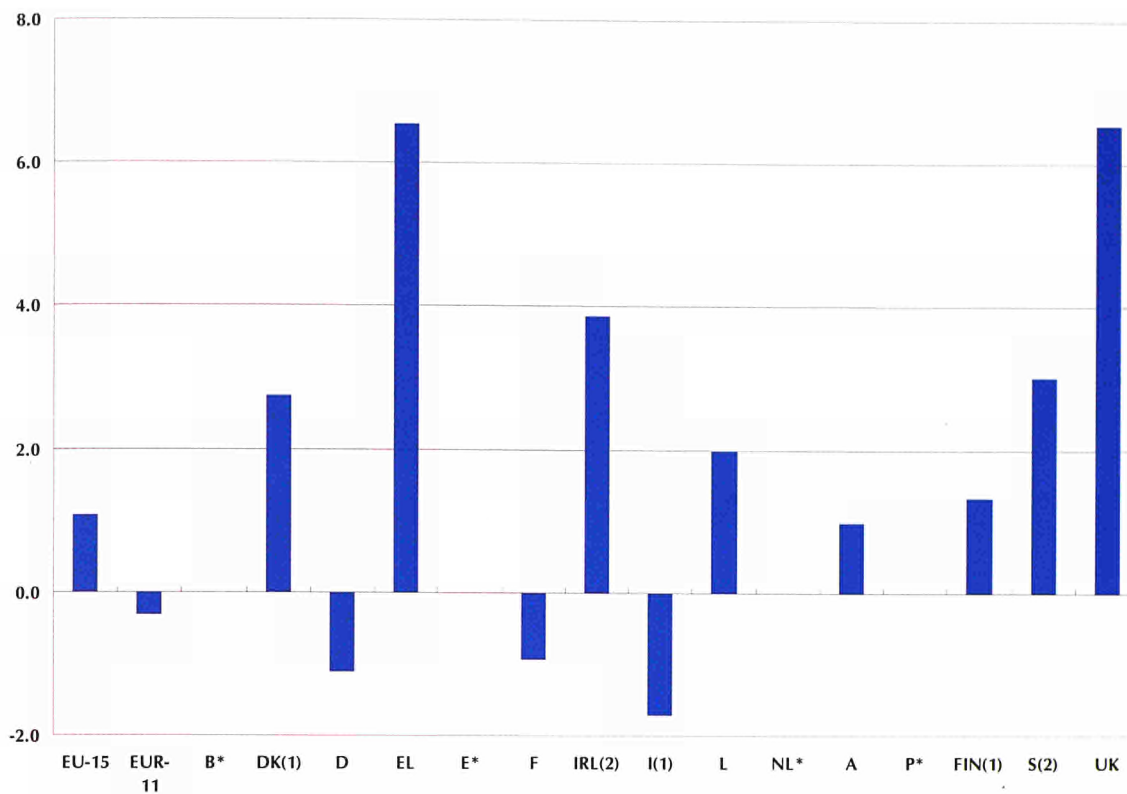


Figure 3.4

Output prices for new residential buildings: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 07-98 to 09-98 (%)

1) Input prices.
2) Input prices and one-dwelling buildings.

Source: eurostat

II-1997 III-1997 IV-1997 I-1998 II-1998 III-1998 IV-1998 I-1999

	II-1997	III-1997	IV-1997	I-1998	II-1998	III-1998	IV-1998	I-1999
EU-15	103.3	104.6	104.8	104.4	104.7	105.7	:	:
EUR-11	102.4	102.9	103.0	102.3	102.5	102.6	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK (1)	105.6	106.4	107.1	107.8	107.8	109.3	110.7	111.5
D	99.1	99.1	98.7	98.3	98.1	98.0	97.7	:
EL	110.7	111.9	113.2	115.8	117.2	119.2	119.6	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	104.2	104.8	104.9	104.0	104.0	103.9	:	:
IRL (2)	104.5	105.6	106.7	107.5	108.3	109.7	:	:
I (1)	103.5	105.0	105.3	102.1	102.6	103.2	103.6	:
L	102.1	102.7	102.7	103.9	103.9	104.7	104.7	:
NL	105.5	106.3	108.0	108.0	108.9	:	:	:
A	102.8	103.1	103.1	103.7	104.0	104.1	104.1	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN (1)	102.5	103.7	103.7	103.9	104.6	105.1	105.3	:
S (2)	105.5	106.3	106.9	107.2	108.6	109.5	109.9	:
UK	106.0	107.0	109.0	110.0	112.0	114.0	:	:
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 3.2

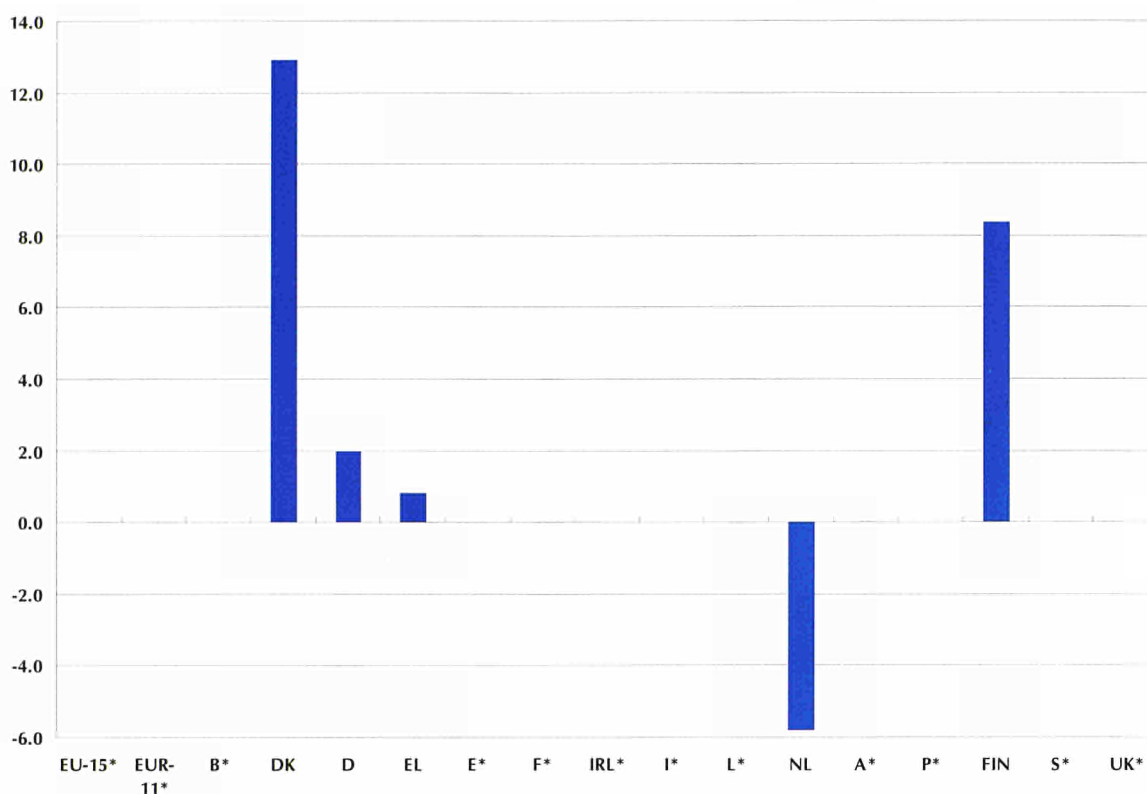
Output prices for new residential buildings: indices (1995 = 100)

1) Input prices.
2) Input prices and one-dwelling buildings.

Source: eurostat

Figure 3.5

Building permits - useful floor area: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 08-98 to 10-98 (%)



Source: eurostat

Table 3.3

Building permits - useful floor area: actual values and indices

	Latest 3 months available		Residential '000m ² 1995=100		Latest 3 months available		Non-residential '000m ² 1995=100	
EU-15	⇨		:	:	08-98 ⇨ 10-98	:	116.4	
EUR-11	⇨		:	:	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	:	111.2	
B	07-98 ⇨ 09-98		2,287	103.6	07-98 ⇨ 09-98	2,011	125.9	
DK	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		535	139.9	10-98 ⇨ 12-98	1,117	105.4	
D	09-98 ⇨ 11-98		11,880	86.1	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	10,572	98.1	
EL	06-98 ⇨ 08-98		4,428	209.2	06-98 ⇨ 08-98	1,539	157.9	
E	07-98 ⇨ 09-98		14,136	125.6	07-98 ⇨ 09-98	3,080	150.9	
F	⇨		:	:	11-98 ⇨ 01-99	9,897	110.4	
IRL	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		1,547	164.4	10-98 ⇨ 12-98	830	127.6	
I	04-98 ⇨ 06-98		2,598	69.0	04-98 ⇨ 06-98	3,873	66.6	
L	07-98 ⇨ 09-98		:	215.7	07-98 ⇨ 09-98	:	167.7	
NL	08-98 ⇨ 10-98		3,965	100.4	08-98 ⇨ 10-98	6,087	172.1	
A	⇨		:	:	⇨	:	:	
P	⇨		:	:	⇨	:	:	
FIN	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		591	127.0	10-98 ⇨ 12-98	593	100.8	
S	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		465	:	10-98 ⇨ 12-98	625	:	
UK	⇨		:	:	⇨	:	:	
NO	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		830	105.7	10-98 ⇨ 12-98	961	96.4	

Source: eurostat

Building permits - number of dwellings

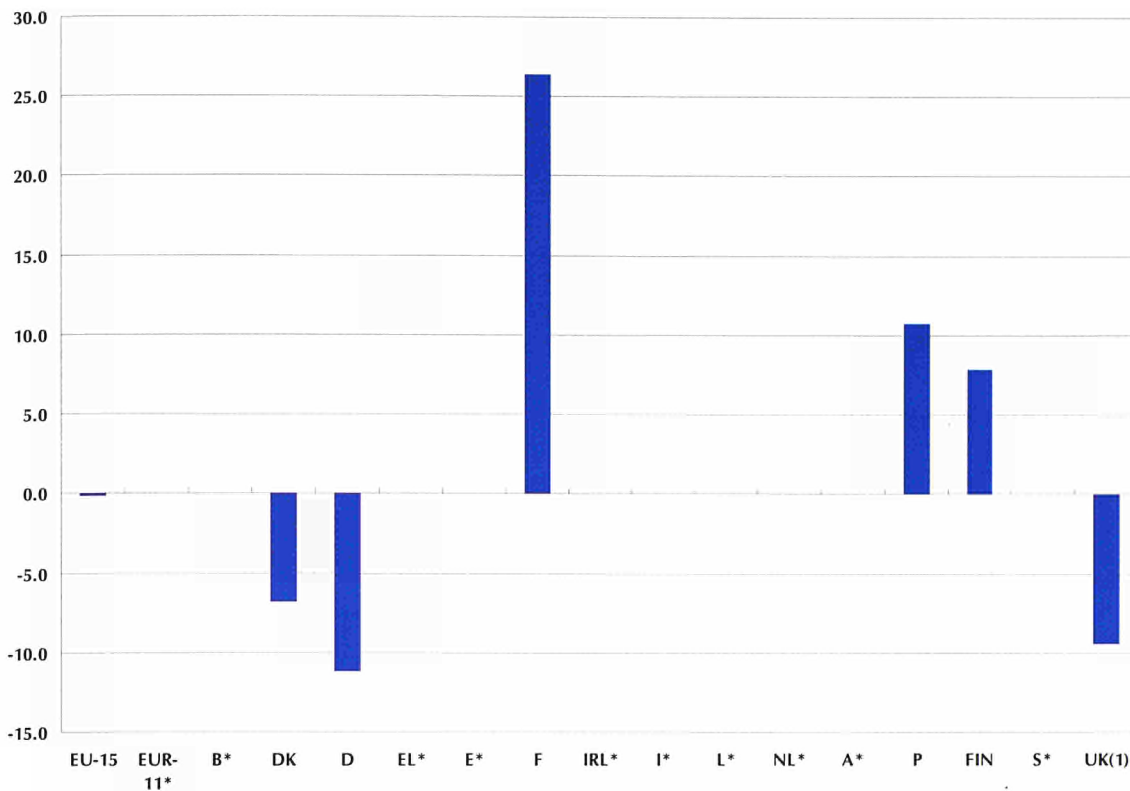


Figure 3.6

Building permits - no. of dwellings: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 09-98 to 11-98 (%)

1) Buildings starts.

Source: eurostat

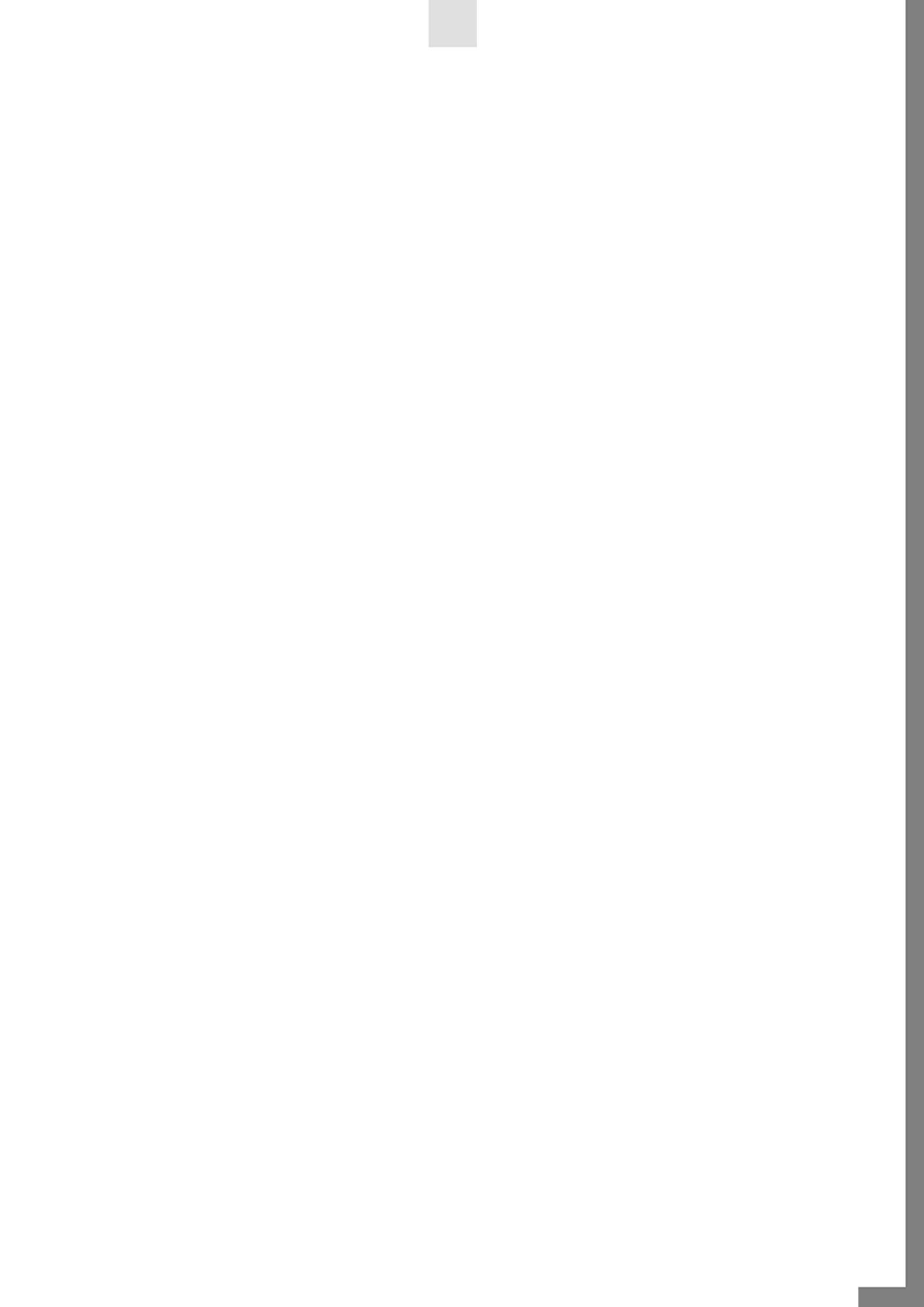
	Latest year available	no. of dwellings	Latest month available	no. of dwellings	no. of dwellings per 1,000 inhabitants	Index, 1995 = 100
EU-15		:	11-98	:	:	100.4
EUR-11		:	10-98	:	:	97.9
B	1997	50,847	09-98	4,057	:	108.3
DK	1998	16,349	12-98	1,030	:	107.0
D	1997	530,263	11-98	34,903	:	65.5
EL	1997	89,553	08-98	3,854	:	65.3
E	1997	304,763	09-98	28,041	:	119.1
F	1998	377,658	01-99	40,022	:	155.8
IRL (1)	1998	47,389	12-98	:	:	153.9
I	1997	145,435	06-98	10,721	:	74.1
L	1997	3,411	09-98	144	:	64.6
NL	1997	101,501	10-98	8,319	:	101.4
A		:		:	:	:
P	1998	107,221	12-98	8,860	:	138.2
FIN	1998	31,953	12-98	1,512	:	96.3
S	1998	11,564	12-98	1,184	:	:
UK (2)	1998	176,600	12-98	10,300	:	73.7
NO	1998	22,017	12-98	1,664	:	92.9

Table 3.4

Number of dwellings authorised (units)

1) Quarterly data.
2) Buildings starts.

Source: eurostat



4.

Latest outlook: services

Commentary	56
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Tourism	66



4. Latest outlook: services

New vehicle registrations

In the three months to December 1998 the number of new vehicle registrations was increasing by 5.6% in EU-15 and by 7.1% in EUR-11 (compared to the same period of a year before). Only three of the Member States recorded a falling number of registrations: Ireland, Italy and the United Kingdom (down by 39.3%, 15.1% and 4.1% respectively, all for December 1998). In Italy this was a continuation of a general trend observed since the early part of 1998, whilst in Ireland the latest rate was perhaps not representative of recent developments as vehicle registrations were up by 22.2% during the late summer.

Looking at the 1998 rates of change, in Germany the index of new vehicle registrations displayed lower growth rates than those in many other Member States. Nevertheless, new vehicle registrations recovered somewhat and were by the end of 1998 growing at a faster pace (up 11.0%, December 1998). In France and Spain the latest data recorded a continuation of the observed upward trend seen progressively through 1998 (increases of 12.4% and 17.3% were recorded, again both for December 1998). The highest rates of growth were registered in Greece (35.7%, January 1999) and Finland (32.4%, December 1998). In Finland, growth rates have been increasing since 1996, whilst in Greece the latest rate is an increase of more than eight-fold when compared to the figure for December 1998 (4.1%).

Retail trade

In the three months to November 1998 retail sales volumes in EU-15 were growing by 1.9% (compared to the three-month period before). In the euro-zone, retail sales evolved in a similar fashion (an increase of 1.5% was recorded - although data were only available to September 1998). The growth rates varied widely between the different retail sales activities within the Member States. On the one hand, positive growth was recorded for the retail sale of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods (up 1.8% in EU-15 and 1.6% in EUR-11, both for July 1998). On the other hand, in the activity of food, beverages and tobacco sales volumes were virtually unchanged (up by 0.3% and 0.2% respectively, both for March 1998).

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L - 2014 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 22221
e-mail: dslux@eurostat.datashop.lu

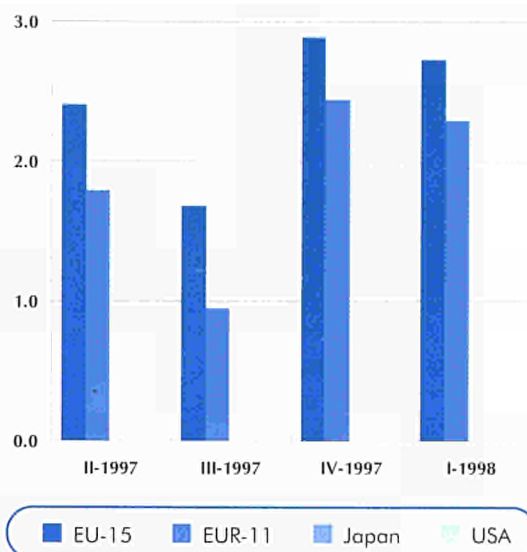
Within the larger Member States there was a moderate decline observed for the retail trade total for Germany (down by 0.4%, December 1998). In the United Kingdom there was a moderate level of growth (up by 0.5%, January 1999). In Italy sales volumes were growing at a faster pace, improving on the situation in the early part of 1998. Latest data in Italy reported that retail sales volumes grew by 3.8% in September 1998.

Within the smaller Member States there was no country reporting higher rates of growth for total retail sales than the EU-15 aggregate. In Sweden there were diminishing rates of growth from August 1998 onwards, with the latest figure equal to 0.2% for December 1998. This tendency was even more pronounced in the retail sale of household equipment, where the rate of growth fell by 4.3 percentage points to -0.3% during the four months to December 1998.

In the retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco rates of growth were moderate throughout most of Europe, ranging from -0.2% in Austria to 1.3% in Ireland (for October and November 1998 respectively). In France and Italy sales evolved contrary to this trend reporting much higher rates of 2.0% (November 1998) and 3.5% (September 1998).

Italian retail sales of household equipment were also increasing at a fast pace, with growth of 3.8% in September 1998. This activity in the United Kingdom reported a growth rate that was five times higher than that of total retail sales (at 2.7% for January 1999).

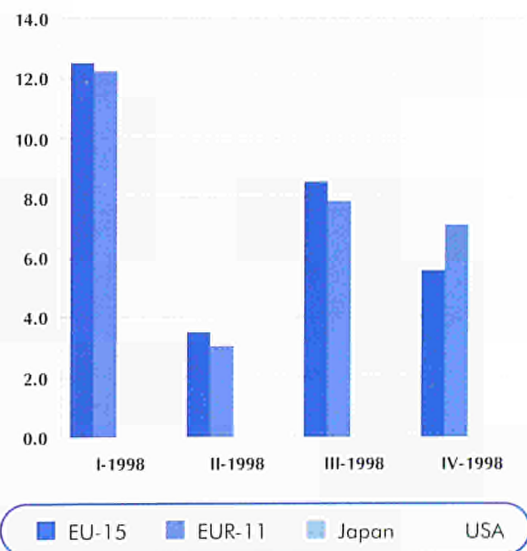
Retail sales of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods was down by 1.2% (July 1998) in Germany. In Italy retail sales in this activity were also below the total retail sales average (up 1.3%,



Volume of retail sales: growth rate, year on year (%)

Source: eurostat

September 1998). The higher growth rate observed for the European figure for textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods was mainly due to retailers in the smaller Member States: for example, Ireland (4.0%, November 1998). Austria, Spain and Sweden also reported falling sales volumes for this activity, down by 0.5% (October 1998), -0.1% (December 1998) and -0.9% (November 1998).



First registration of private and commercial cars: growth rate, year on year (%)

Source: eurostat

Table 4.1

Volume of
retail sales:
indices,
gross data
(1995 = 100)

	1996	1997	1998	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99
EU-15	101.4	103.6	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	101.2	102.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	108.2	111.0	:	108.2	116.6	121.3	:	:	:
DK	101.5	103.6	105.9	105.9	99.6	109.1	102.1	137.9	:
D	99.2	97.7	97.8	89.9	96.2	102.3	104.5	123.0	:
EL	101.4	102.4	:	91.3	100.2	107.9	:	:	:
E	98.7	100.6	106.6	98.3	107.0	112.7	102.0	138.0	:
F	101.5	104.4	:	102.7	107.3	117.3	110.8	:	:
IRL	106.6	114.9	:	125.0	119.0	121.0	125.7	:	:
I	100.6	101.7	:	102.1	122.7	:	:	:	:
L	98.6	104.2	:	97.3	105.4	:	:	:	:
NL	103.1	107.2	112.8	107.0	112.0	121.0	111.0	136.0	:
A	101.8	102.9	:	96.8	106.5	110.7	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	104.4	108.5	:	116.2	109.8	114.3	112.7	:	:
S	100.4	103.9	107.7	110.1	104.4	108.8	108.9	141.4	:
UK	102.9	108.1	111.4	108.0	105.9	111.0	122.4	146.3	105.4
NO	103.1	106.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:


Source:  eurostat

Table 4.2

Volume of
retail sales:
indices, seasonally
adjusted data
(1995 = 100)

	1996	1997	1998	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99
EU-15	101.4	103.6	:	109.9	109.5	110.3	111.5	:	:
EUR-11	101.2	102.8	:	110.4	109.9	:	:	:	:
B	108.2	111.0	:	120.7	116.6	117.6	:	:	:
DK	101.5	103.6	105.9	108.2	105.8	107.4	107.1	107.5	:
D	99.2	97.7	97.8	98.7	97.9	96.0	98.8	94.2	:
EL	101.4	102.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	98.7	100.6	106.6	106.8	107.8	108.6	108.5	108.8	:
F	101.5	104.4	:	109.9	109.2	110.8	115.1	:	:
IRL	106.6	114.9	:	124.4	124.7	125.0	129.5	127.5	:
I	100.6	101.7	:	122.4	119.9	:	:	:	:
L	98.6	104.2	:	107.5	106.3	:	:	:	:
NL	103.1	107.2	112.8	111.8	112.6	113.5	114.4	115.5	:
A	101.8	102.9	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	104.4	108.5	:	115.6	114.5	114.1	117.3	:	:
S	100.4	103.9	107.7	109.7	107.1	108.0	108.4	107.9	:
UK	102.9	108.1	111.4	112.5	112.2	111.8	112.9	112.0	113.3
NO	103.1	106.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Retail sales

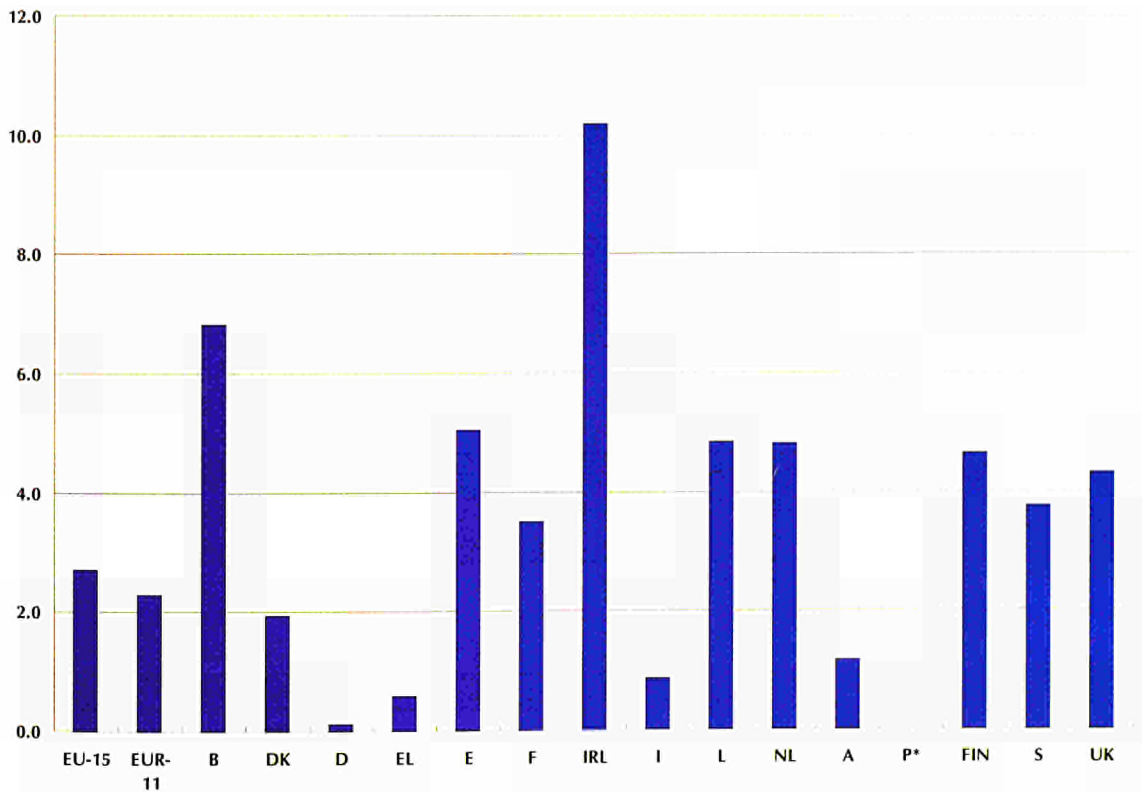
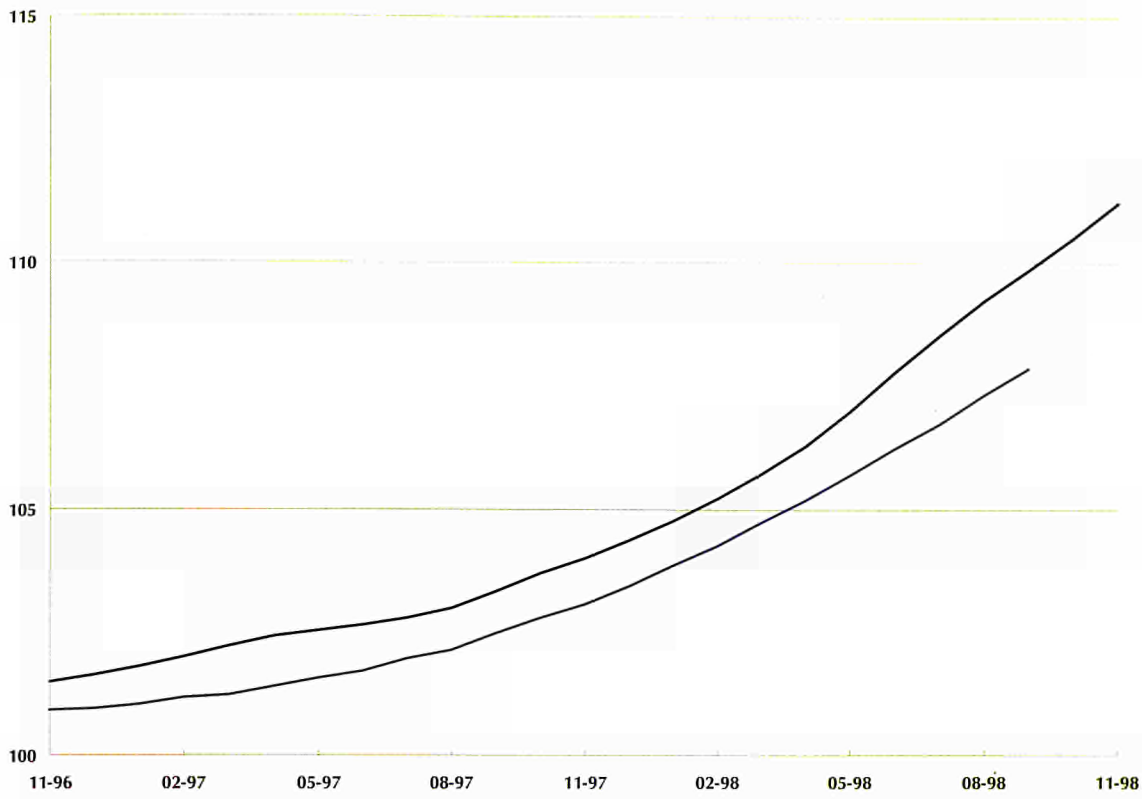


Table 4.3

Volume of retail sales for food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores: indices and latest growth rates (1995 = 100)

	1998	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99	Latest 3 months available		t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)	
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	01-98	⇔	03-98	0.3	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	01-98	⇔	03-98	0.2	:
B	:	112.3	112.0	119.6	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	0.9	2.2
DK	101.9	103.1	95.8	103.7	98.0	121.5	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	0.2	1.3
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇔	07-98	-0.1	0.1
EL	:	94.3	101.8	111.3	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	:	3.1
E	101.5	99.6	102.3	106.0	96.9	129.4	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	1.0	5.7
F	:	108.2	103.3	117.3	111.9	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	2.0	4.8
IRL	:	113.9	109.4	110.3	112.5	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	1.3	4.7
I	:	110.2	124.8	:	:	:	:	07-98	⇔	09-98	3.5	22.4
L	:	95.8	98.0	:	:	:	:	07-98	⇔	09-98	0.1	-1.3
NL	103.8	100.0	99.0	110.0	98.0	118.0	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	:	0.2
A	:	98.3	96.3	102.3	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	-0.2	-0.8
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:
FIN	:	109.9	102.8	107.5	99.5	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	1.1	5.2
S	103.3	106.1	98.4	102.0	101.2	118.3	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	0.1	0.7
UK	108.7	107.9	105.1	106.9	111.6	121.9	102.9	11-98	⇔	01-99	0.1	1.1
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔	12-97	0.0	-0.9
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:

Source:  eurostat

Table 4.4

Volume of retail sales for textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods in specialised stores: indices and latest growth rates (1995 = 100)

	1998	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99	Latest 3 months available		t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)	
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇔	07-98	1.8	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇔	07-98	1.6	:
B	:	119.8	142.7	140.7	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	1.1	9.1
DK	108.2	97.9	103.3	126.0	104.1	160.0	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	0.7	0.9
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇔	07-98	-1.2	-3.0
EL	:	87.9	73.0	98.3	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	:	-0.7
E	101.5	73.4	95.6	113.0	97.9	133.9	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	-0.1	2.2
F	:	90.5	114.8	122.7	100.6	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	1.0	6.1
IRL	:	158.2	133.6	133.7	148.8	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	4.0	15.8
I	:	95.7	120.7	:	:	:	:	07-98	⇔	09-98	1.3	23.1
L	:	93.6	112.6	:	:	:	:	07-98	⇔	09-98	0.3	9.3
NL	109.3	104.0	121.0	129.0	102.0	129.0	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	0.8	2.3
A	:	85.4	117.5	117.6	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	-0.5	0.4
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:
FIN	:	106.0	105.3	116.9	123.2	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	1.3	5.1
S	103.9	107.0	106.6	115.5	102.0	145.0	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	-0.9	1.8
UK	111.5	109.0	103.1	113.2	130.5	174.3	98.7	11-98	⇔	01-99	0.4	-0.3
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔	12-97	0.8	4.9
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:

Source:  eurostat

Retail sales and first registration of private and commercial cars

	1998	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99	Latest 3 months available			t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇔	07-98	2.2	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇔	07-98	2.3	:
B	:	88.9	99.6	106.8	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	0.2	3.0
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇔	07-98	0.1	0.3
EL	:	107.7	111.0	114.5	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	:	-3.0
E	114.5	101.9	109.2	118.1	114.1	146.4	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	2.0	9.6
F	:	106.4	116.9	120.7	115.1	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	1.5	7.1
IRL	:	129.0	122.7	133.4	152.8	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	3.0	13.0
I	:	92.5	111.3	:	:	:	:	07-98	⇔	09-98	3.8	22.3
L	:	104.9	118.9	:	:	:	:	07-98	⇔	09-98	0.8	3.9
NL	122.3	110.0	119.0	133.0	127.0	155.0	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	2.2	9.2
A	:	89.6	110.9	113.0	:	:	:	08-98	⇔	10-98	0.9	-1.3
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:
FIN	:	136.5	132.7	131.4	127.9	:	:	09-98	⇔	11-98	1.1	5.7
S	115.8	120.7	115.9	122.9	127.2	182.0	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	-0.3	8.0
UK	124.7	116.0	121.4	127.8	137.4	167.1	137.8	11-98	⇔	01-99	2.7	5.4
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔	12-97	1.6	5.7
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:

Table 4.5

Volume of retail sales of household equipment in specialised stores: indices and latest growth rates (1995 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

	1998	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99	Latest 3 months available			t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	14,306	1,246	1,083	1,157	1,090	944	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	2.3	5.6
EUR-11	11,270	697	872	951	893	793	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	:	7.1
B	464	30	33	40	32	22	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	-0.8	17.2
DK	162	12	12	12	12	12	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	8.2	8.5
D	3,736	256	303	327	297	291	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	2.8	11.0
EL	180	12	11	13	8	18	31	11-98	⇔	01-99	9.0	35.7
E	1,263	72	79	111	103	120	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	3.4	17.3
F	1,944	144	173	174	179	170	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	2.3	12.4
IRL	131	9	7	7	3	2	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	3.1	-39.3
I	2,364	96	171	176	173	115	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	-5.4	-15.1
L	36	2	2	3	2	2	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	5.3	19.0
NL	543	35	44	48	41	13	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	-1.6	21.7
A	296	21	24	25	21	13	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	0.1	22.3
P	368	23	26	30	34	37	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	7.3	21.5
FIN	126	9	10	10	9	8	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	11.3	32.4
S	287	20	24	27	25	25	20	11-98	⇔	01-99	-2.4	7.1
UK	2,406	519	177	155	152	96	:	10-98	⇔	12-98	-0.5	-4.1
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔	12-97	4.6	3.2
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇔		:	:

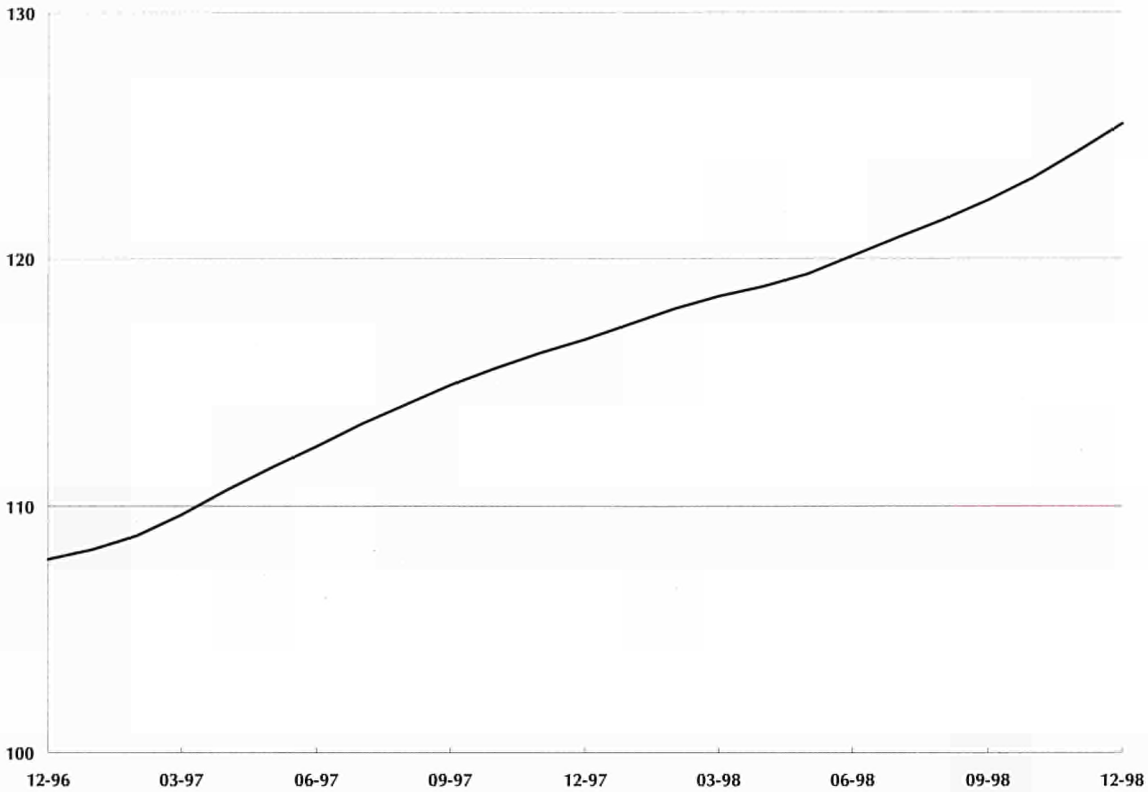
Table 4.6

First registration of private and commercial cars: units and latest growth rates (thousands)

Source:  eurostat

Figure 4.5

First registration of private and commercial cars (1995 = 100)

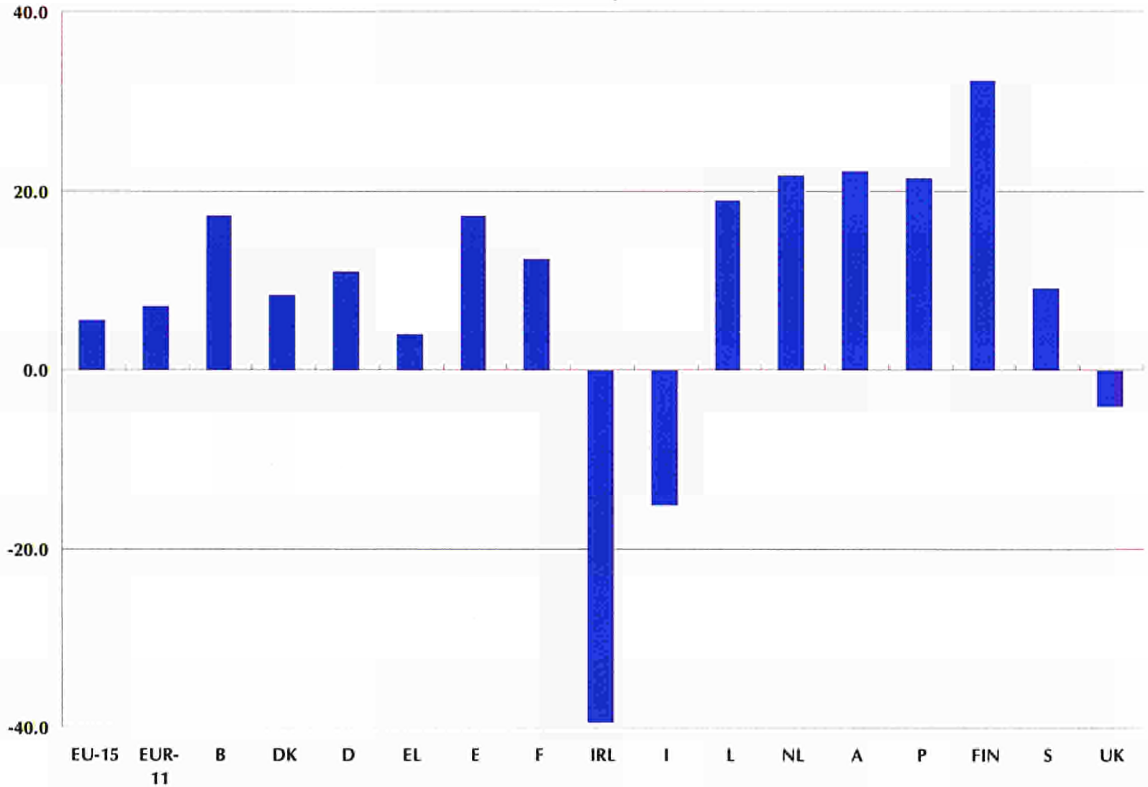


EU-15 —
EUR-11 —

Source: eurostat

Figure 4.6

First registration of private and commercial cars: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 10-98 to 12-98 (%)

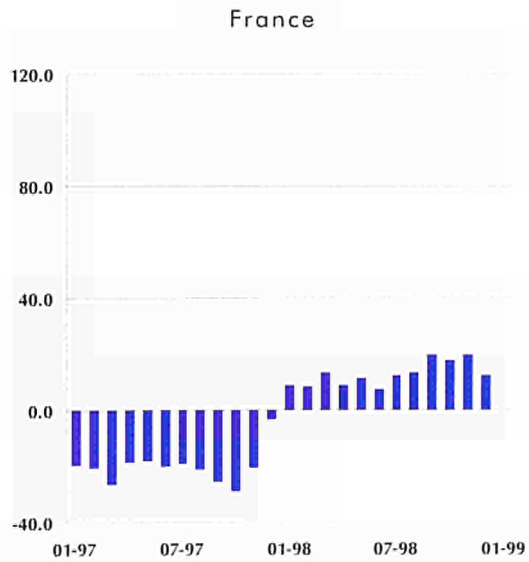
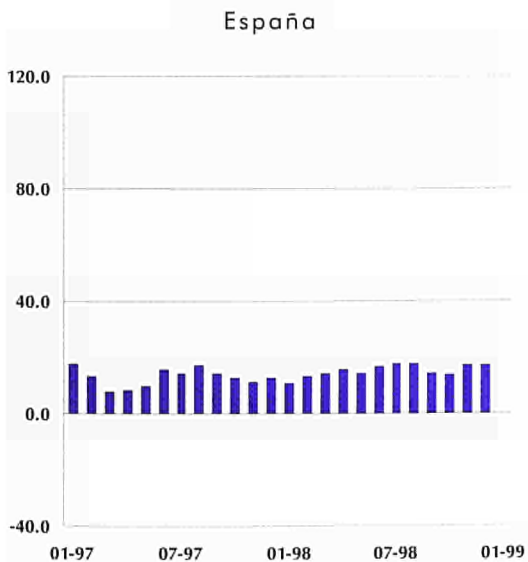
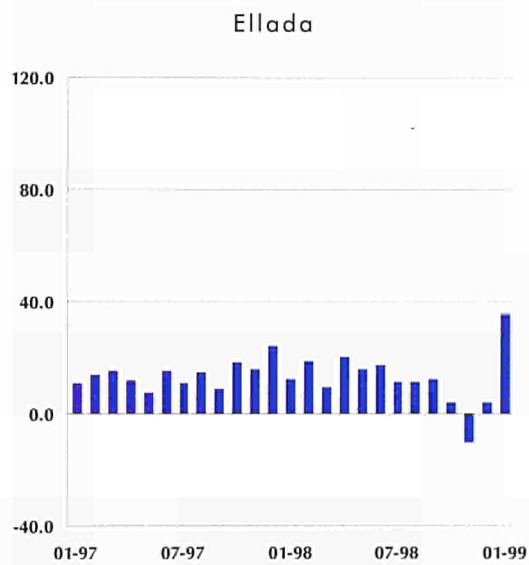
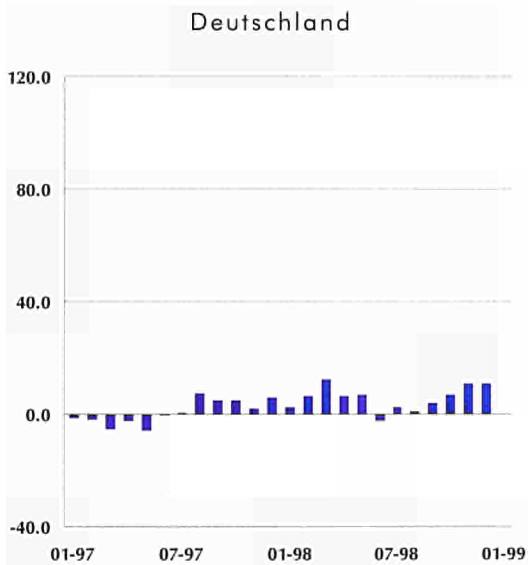
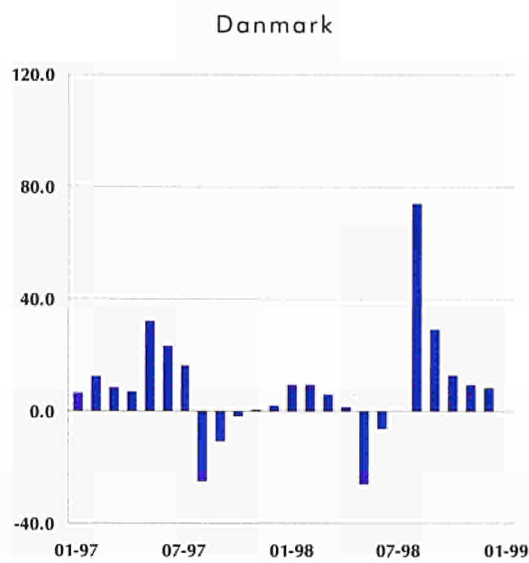
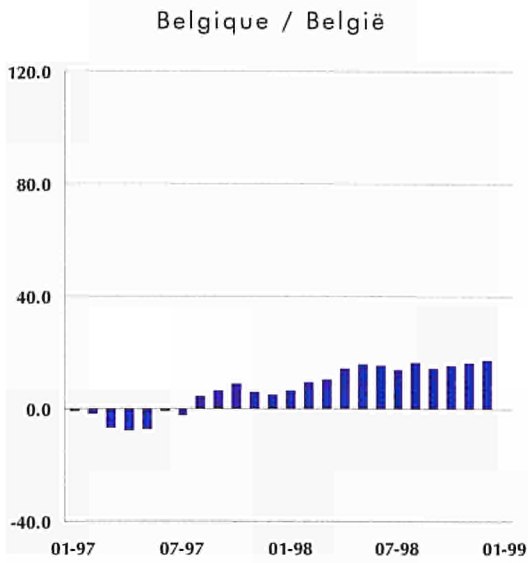


Source: eurostat

First registration of private and commercial cars

Figure 4.7

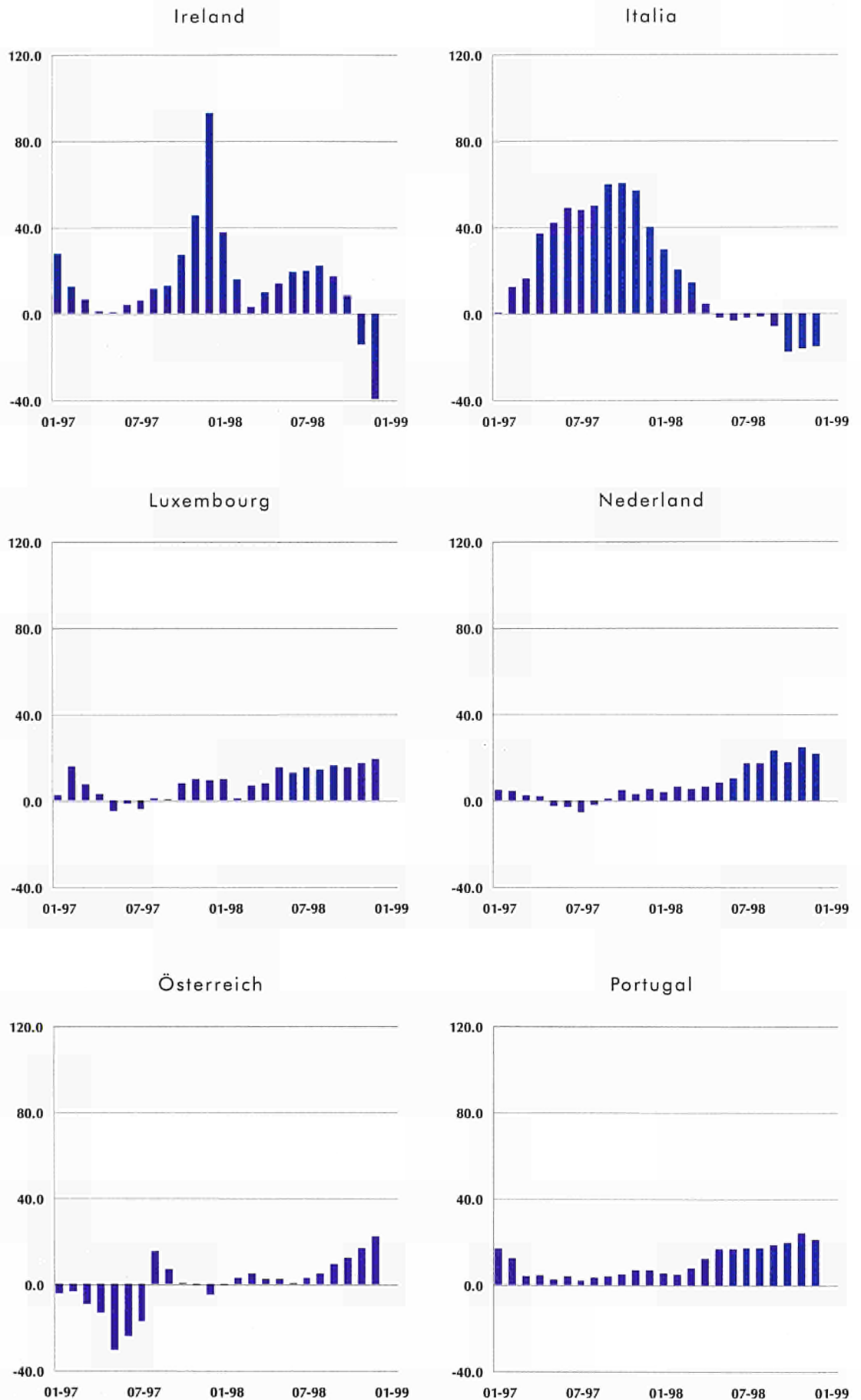
First registration of private and commercial cars: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)



Source: eurostat

Figure 4.7

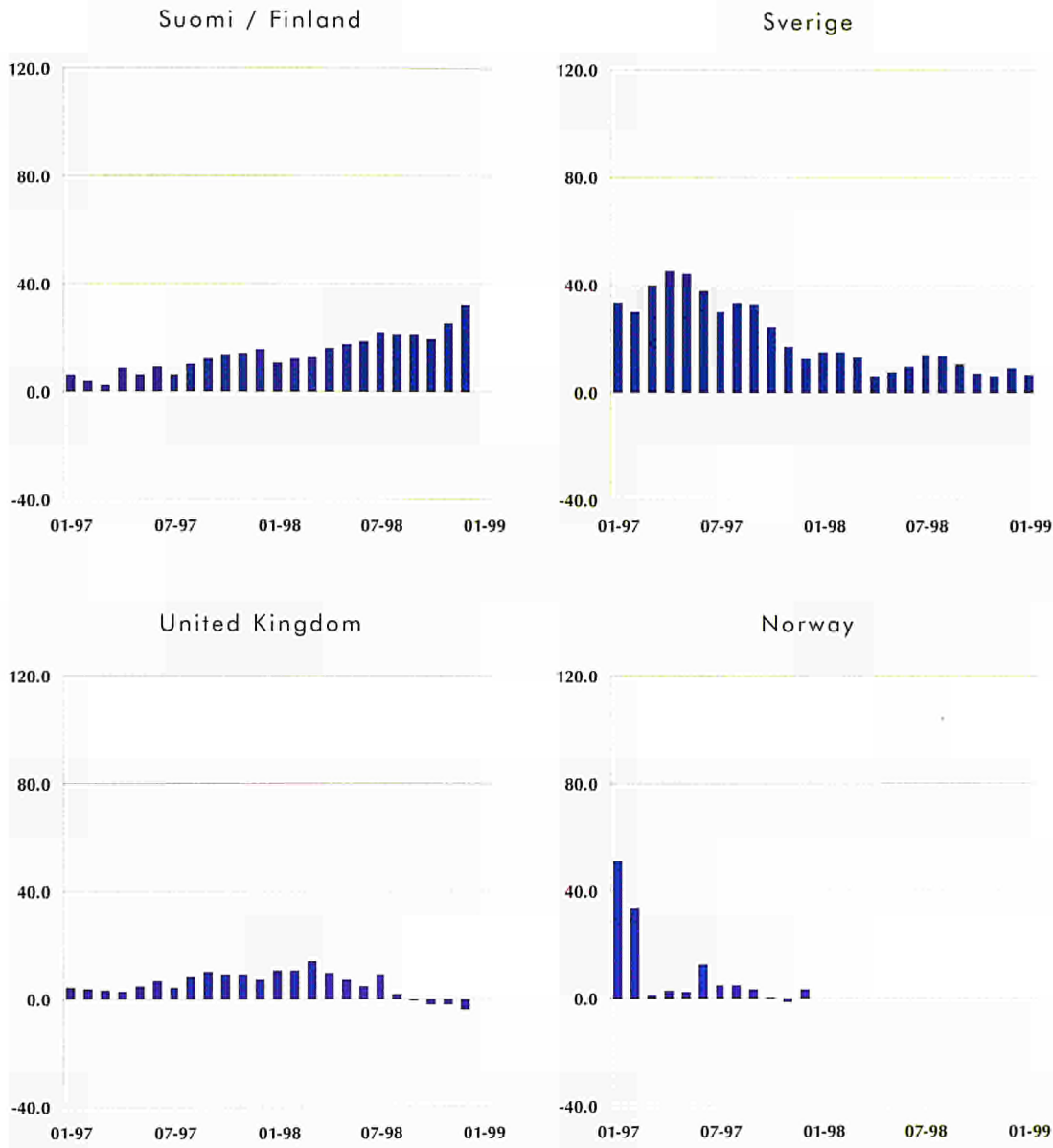
First registration of private and commercial cars: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)



Source: eurostat

First registration of private and commercial cars

Figure 4.7



First registration of private and commercial cars: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

Table 4.7

Guest flows in hotels and similar establishments, residents in the country: units and latest growth rates (thousands)

	1997	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	Latest 3 months available		t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	599,173	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
EUR-11	471,915	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
B	3,338	441	465	303	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	-1.8
DK	4,171	444	457	451	417	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	-21.4
D	144,469	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	-0.6
EL	13,373	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	21.1
E	61,298	7,869	10,228	7,394	5,402	3,998	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	9.8
F	92,666	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	1.3
IRL	5,583	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
I	120,920	:	:	:	:	:	:	11-97	⇔ 01-98	-0.9
L	83	7	8	:	:	:	:	06-98	⇔ 08-98	-8.3
NL	9,861	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	13.7
A	16,088	1,810	2,186	1,531	1,110	800	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	4.6
P	8,499	935	1,399	854	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	-3.1
FIN	9,115	990	816	769	759	720	567	10-98	⇔ 12-98	3.3
S	14,815	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	4.5
UK	94,900	8,740	11,600	8,900	7,700	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	-16.6
NO	10,680	:	:	:	:	:	:	12-97	⇔ 02-98	6.2

Source:  eurostat

Table 4.8

Guest flows in hotels and similar establishments, non-residents in the country: units and latest growth rates (thousands)

	1997	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	Latest 3 months available		t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	528,103	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
EUR-11	391,356	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
B	9,267	871	793	890	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	-4.8
DK	4,505	879	646	385	317	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	-0.8
D	28,576	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	2.6
EL	39,992	:	:	:	:	:	:	04-98	⇔ 06-98	5.8
E	105,435	14,484	15,440	13,840	10,837	4,903	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	7.9
F	60,624	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	9.5
IRL	13,220	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
I	84,565	:	:	:	:	:	:	11-97	⇔ 01-98	-0.5
L	1,026	115	116	:	:	:	:	06-98	⇔ 08-98	4.4
NL	11,245	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	18.8
A	53,393	5,848	7,938	4,957	2,708	1,153	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	1.3
P	20,851	2,586	2,934	2,579	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	9.8
FIN	3,171	430	406	263	181	200	214	10-98	⇔ 12-98	-3.0
S	4,051	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	7.2
UK	86	12,660	15,870	8,760	7,900	4,370	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	1.6
NO	5,039	:	:	:	:	:	:	12-97	⇔ 02-98	-2.7

Source:  eurostat

Tourism

	1997	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	Latest 3 months available		t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:
B	10,394	2,417	1,562	451	:	:	:	07-98	⇒ 09-98	-12.6
DK	10,937	3,578	1,460	704	330	:	:	08-98	⇒ 10-98	4.1
D	127,263	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97	-12.3
EL	461	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97	-23.3
E	19,367	2,953	5,762	1,092	269	:	:	08-98	⇒ 10-98	9.8
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:
IRL	3,076	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:
I	51,418	:	:	:	:	:	:	11-97	⇒ 01-98	-2.0
L	117	26	16	:	:	:	:	06-98	⇒ 08-98	22.0
NL	32,492	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97	-4.8
A	5,982	1,265	1,357	630	423	315	:	09-98	⇒ 11-98	1.9
P	6,208	984	1,852	462	:	:	:	07-98	⇒ 09-98	-14.0
FIN	2,165	718	248	69	34	25	34	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-6.7
S	14,454	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97	-16.5
UK	90,700	17,300	24,470	6,750	5,260	:	:	08-98	⇒ 10-98	-5.0
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:

Table 4.9

Guest flows in other collective accommodation establishments, residents in the country: units and latest growth rates (thousands)

Source:  eurostat

	1997	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	Latest 3 months available		t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:
B	5,495	1,050	866	230	:	:	:	07-98	⇒ 09-98	-12.1
DK	6,414	1,886	1,848	279	166	:	:	08-98	⇒ 10-98	-4.7
D	7,672	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97	-5.9
EL	676	:	:	:	:	:	:	04-98	⇒ 06-98	12.9
E	7,767	2,420	3,238	650	321	:	:	08-98	⇒ 10-98	27.2
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:
IRL	4,200	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:
I	32,636	:	:	:	:	:	:	11-97	⇒ 01-98	5.5
L	1,249	354	369	:	:	:	:	06-98	⇒ 08-98	-8.1
NL	9,608	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97	12.9
A	6,606	1,874	2,305	609	283	77	:	09-98	⇒ 11-98	23.0
P	1,615	434	565	169	:	:	:	07-98	⇒ 09-98	2.3
FIN	475	125	83	13	5	6	11	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-2.6
S	814	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97	-19.3
UK	38	5,500	6,850	2,840	1,720	2,170	:	09-98	⇒ 11-98	0.3
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒		:

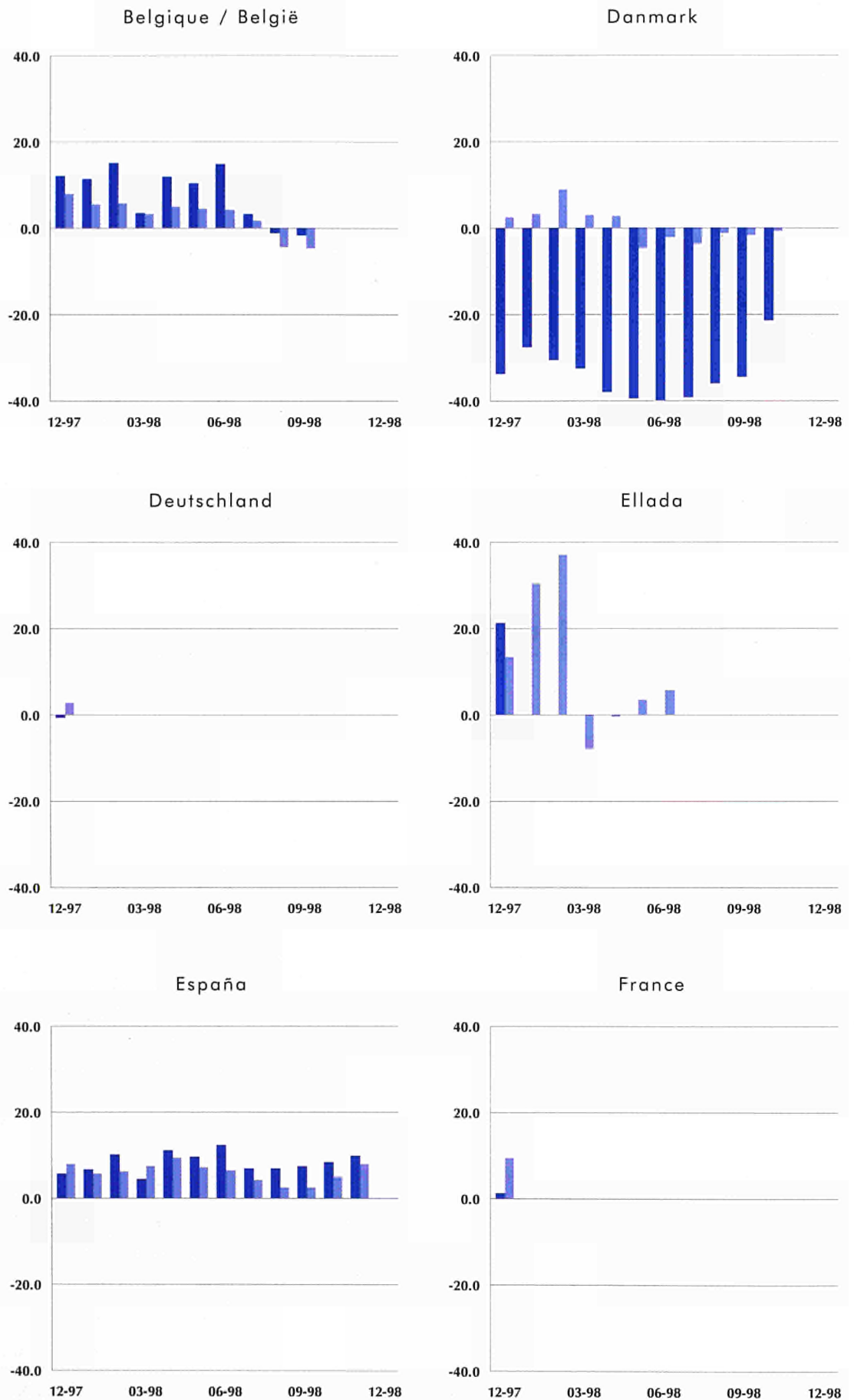
Table 4.10

Guest flows in other collective accommodation establishments, non-residents in the country: units and latest growth rates (thousands)

Source:  eurostat

Figure 4.8

Nights spent in hotels and similar establishments: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

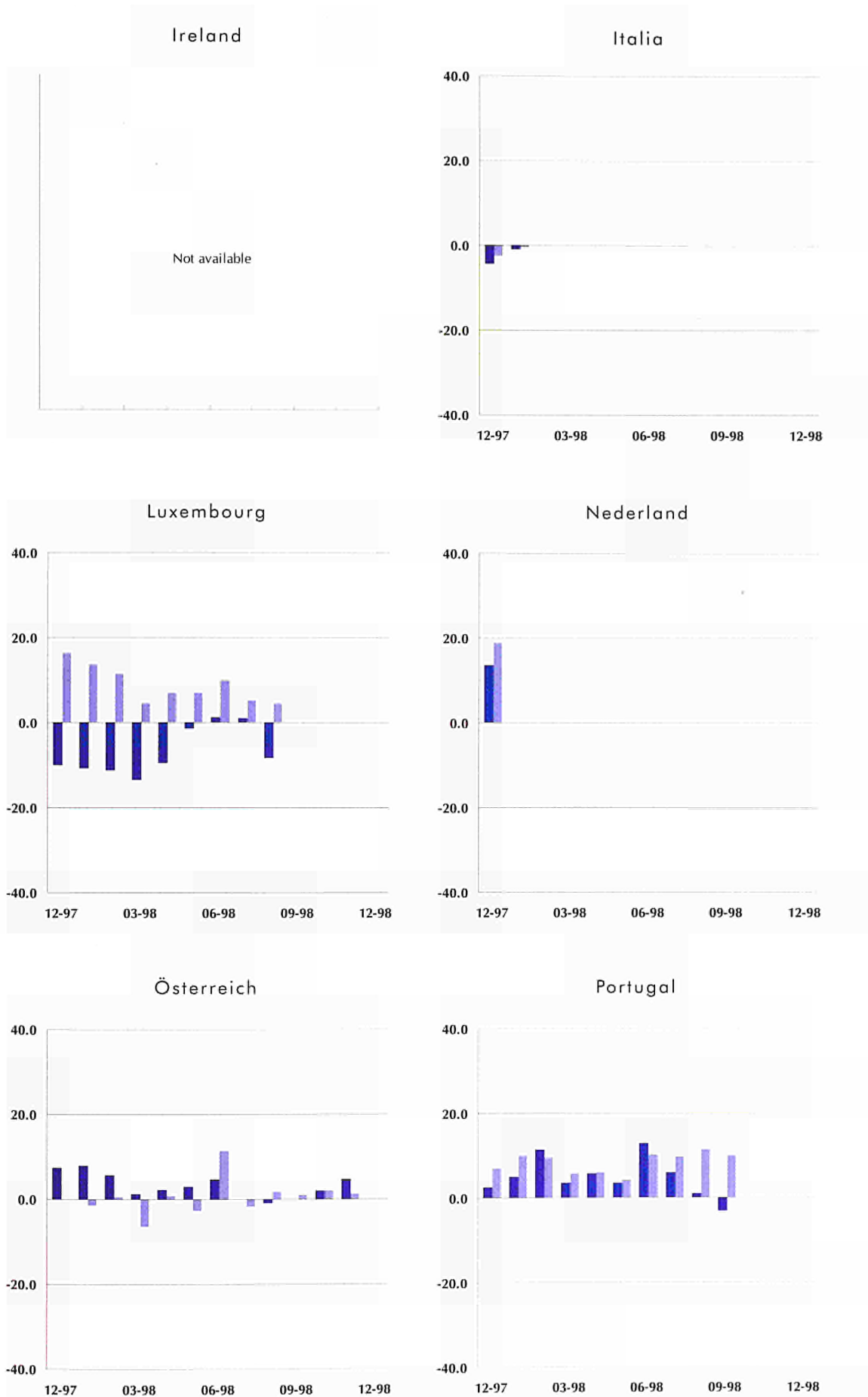


Source: eurostat

Tourism

Figure 4.8

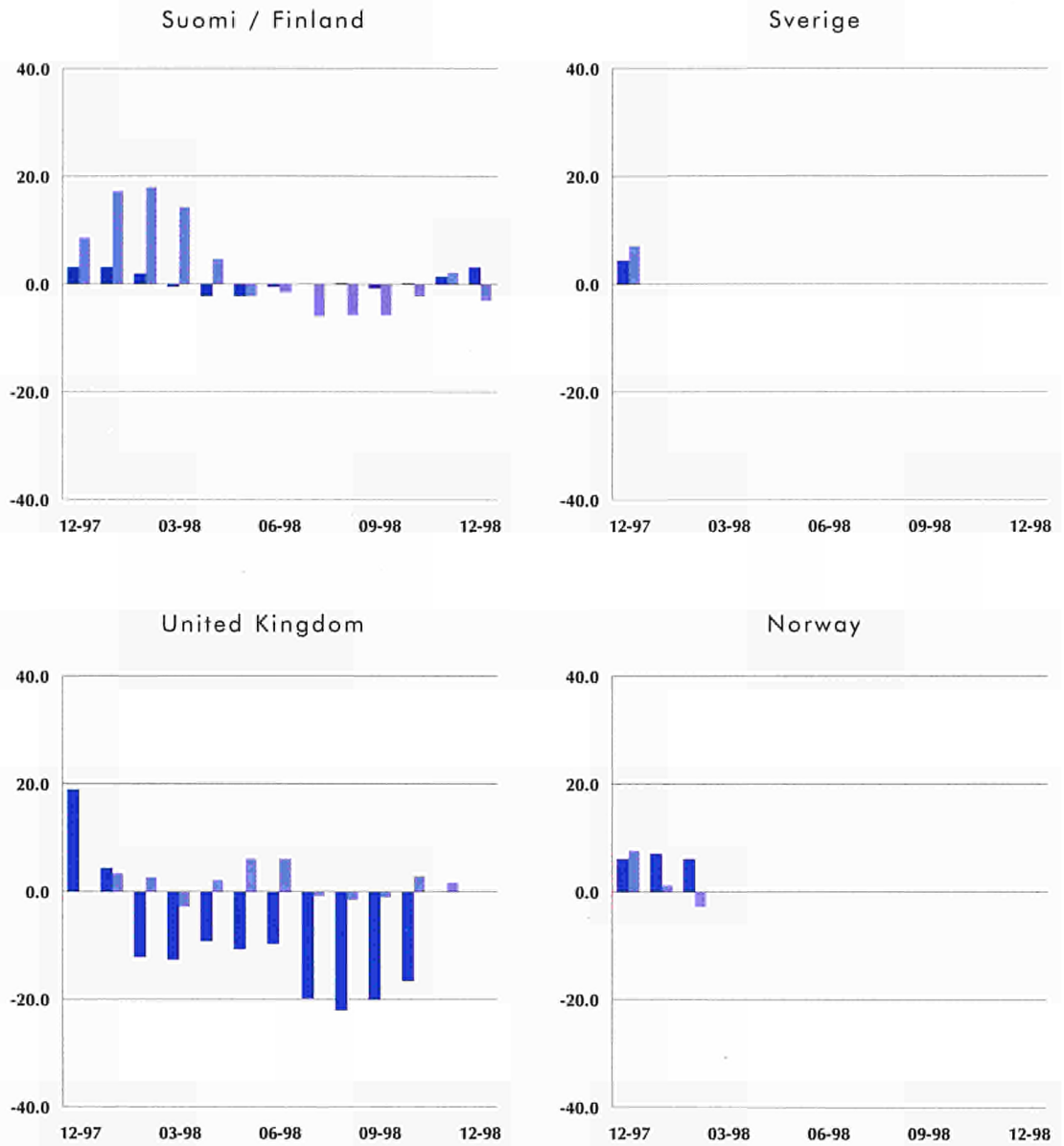
Nights spent in hotels and similar establishments: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)



Source: eurostat

Figure 4.8

Nights spent in hotels and similar establishments: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)



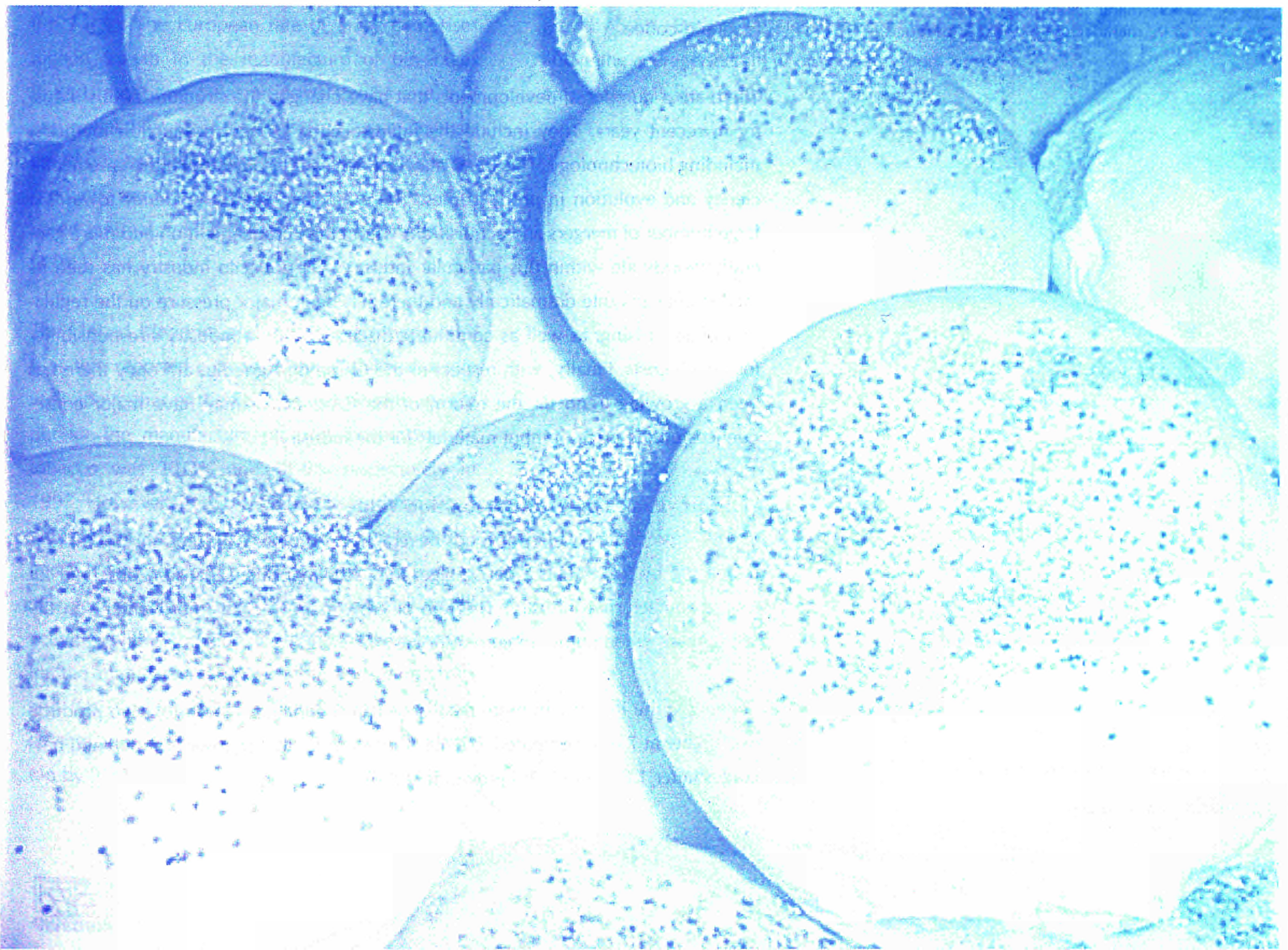
Residents ■
Non-residents ■

Source: eurostat

5.

Food products, beverages and tobacco

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5. Food products, beverages and tobacco

Description of the NACE Rev. 1 Groups in Divisions 15 and 16:

- 15.1: production, processing and preserving of meat and meat products;
- 15.2: processing and preserving of fish and fish products;
- 15.3: processing and preserving of fruit and vegetables;
- 15.4: manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats;
- 15.5: manufacture of dairy products;
- 15.6: manufacture of grain mill products, starches and starch products;
- 15.7: manufacture of prepared animal feeds;
- 15.8: manufacture of other food products;
- 15.9: manufacture of beverages;
- 16.0: manufacture of tobacco products.

Description of the industry

The manufacture of food, beverages and tobacco is the largest industry in Europe in terms of production value with 15.8% of total manufacturing. The vast majority is found within the activity of food products and beverages, which account for 14.6% of European manufacturing output.

The manufacture of food and beverages comprises a wide range of products: from the processing of meat, fish and vegetables to grain milling, sugar and pasta, as well as starches and animal feeds. One of the largest sub-activities is the manufacture of beverages, which includes alcoholic and soft drinks. This industry contributes 16.0% of the production value of the European food and beverage industry. There are higher shares for the manufacture of dairy products (16.5%), the production, processing and preserving of meat and meat products (20.3%) and the manufacture of other food products (22.8%). The latter encompasses products such as bread, sugar, baby food and coffee.

There are a number of developments that have changed the structure of this industry in recent years. They include the intensification of new production methods, including biotechnology. This trend may well have contributed to an increase in efficiency and evolution in product lines. There has also been a tendency towards a large number of mergers and acquisitions within the European Union and more generally worldwide within this particular industry. The tobacco industry has seen its market change quite dramatically and there has been major pressure on the regulation of advertising, as well as continuing discussion of the industry's responsibility for health costs. Finally, with respect to the Common Agricultural Policy there has been a growing trend for the reform of the CAP, which may have major consequences on the price of input materials for the industry.

Year on year changes in production value

In 1997, production value of food, beverages and tobacco (in current prices) was increasing by 5.3%, half a percentage point less than the expansion observed for total manufacturing industry. The rate of growth showed an improvement on the 1996 figure when output in current prices rose by 2.8%.

Looking at the industry in more detail, we can see that growth in tobacco products was higher at 7.4%, compared to a 5.1% increase for the aggregate of food and beverages (after 1.8% and 2.9% growth in 1996).

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L - 2014 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 22221
e-mail: dslux@eurostat.datashop.lu

Production & activity breakdown

The output of food, beverages and tobacco was on an upward trend throughout the nineties, except in 1993 when production fell by 1.8%. From 1994 onwards output has risen at a slower pace than that seen for total industry, resulting in a diminished share for the food, beverages and tobacco industry, down by almost two percentage points (17.6% in 1993 to 15.8% by 1997).

Between 1990 and 1997 production value of food, beverages and tobacco (at constant prices) grew on average by 1.7% per annum in EU-15 (compared to 1.9% in total manufacturing industry). This rate is lower than the corresponding rate in the USA (2.2%), whilst Japanese production increased at a much slower pace (0.1% on average during the same period).

The latest rates of change for 1997 show that production value grew at a rapid pace in the USA (up by 17.2% in 1997) and more moderately in Japan (up 2.8%). The European rate of 5.3% comprises higher growth in the manufacture of beverages (6.8%), meat and meat products (5.6%) and fruit and vegetables (5.5%), whilst moderate changes could be observed in the manufacture of grain mill products, starches and starch products (1.7%), prepared animal feeds (1.9%) and dairy products (2.0%).

The United Kingdom and Ireland were two countries that reported growth in this activity at a rate well above that of the EU average. Growth in output for the manufacture of food, beverages and tobacco was 20.2% and 11.9% respectively in 1997. However, in two Member States there was a decrease in production: Germany (down by 0.8%) and Greece (down by 0.4%). Output in Germany was generally following a downward trend for all activities within the food and drink industry, except for the manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats (up by 11.2%) and the production, processing and preserving of meat and meat products (up by 3.1%).

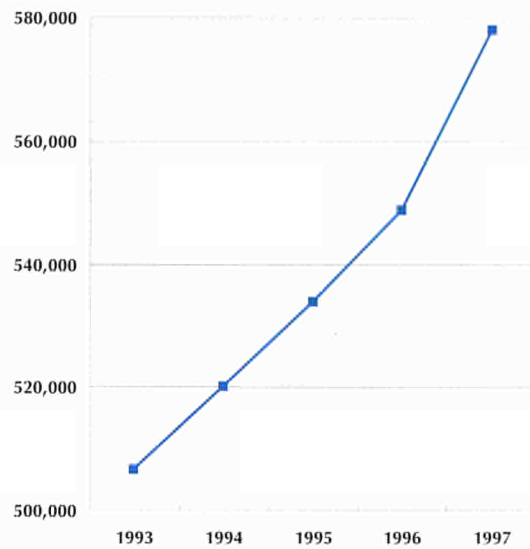


Figure 5.1

EU-15 production in constant prices (million ECU)

Source: eurostat

In France the processing and preserving of fish and fish products industry reported an expansion of 9.1%, whilst the meat and meat products industry grew by 5.8%. Both of these growth rates were well above the average seen in France for the food, beverages and tobacco industry of 2.1% in 1997.

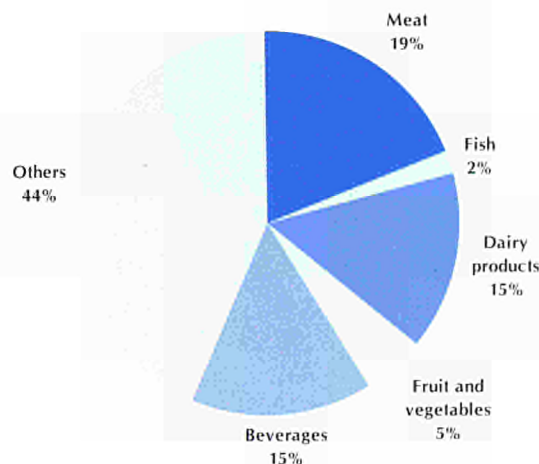


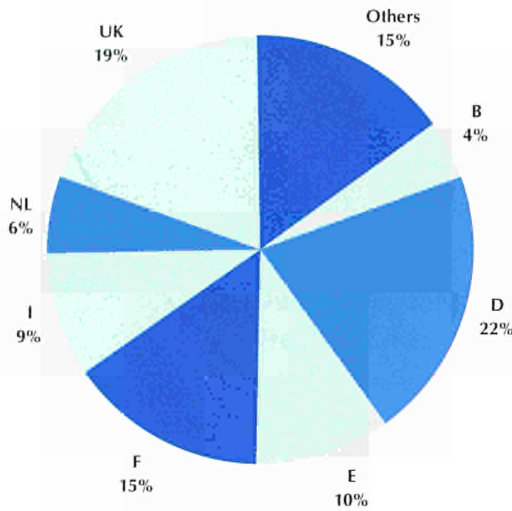
Figure 5.2

EU-15 share of production by industrial group, 1997

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.3

Share of EU-15 value-added at factor cost, 1997



Source: eurostat

In Spain a number of different trends could be observed: whilst there was high growth in the manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats, as well as fish and fish products (up by 70.8% and 21.5% respectively), there was also a considerable reduction in activity for the manufacture of fruit and vegetables and other food products (down by 7.3% and 7.1% respectively).

Trends in employment

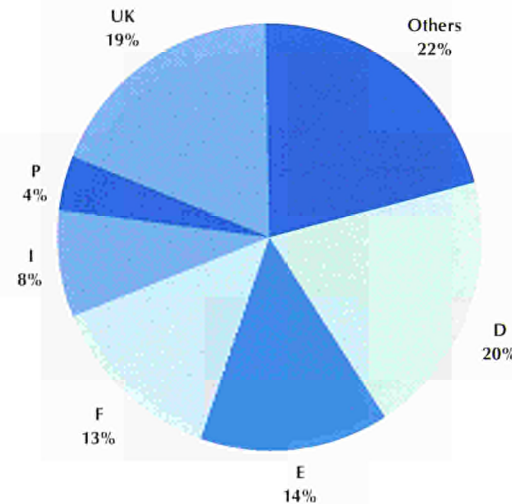
In 1997 employment in the manufacture of food, beverages and tobacco increased by 15 thousand persons to 2.7 million persons employed (up by 0.6%). In the USA employment rose at a more moderate pace (up 0.2%), whilst in Japan the increase was 3.6%. EU-15 figures show that the industry accounts for 10.5% of the total number of persons employed in European manufacturing. This share was a slight increase on that observed in the previous two years, whilst remaining well below the industry's share in total production value (15.8%).

A breakdown shows negative trends in the processing and preserving of fish and fish products (down by 1.8%) and grain mill products, starches and starch products (down by 1.5%). Large fish producing countries recorded a sharp decline in employment: for example, in the United Kingdom and Germany there were reductions of 20.3% and 5.1% respectively, whilst in Spain a decline of 1.2% was recorded.

Personnel costs per head were rising by seven thousand ECU between 1988 and 1997, whilst the number of persons employed fell by 29 thousand during the same period. In 1997 the highest personnel costs per head were found in the manufacture of tobacco products (40.6 thousand ECU), followed by the manufacture of grain mill products, starches and beverages (36.0 and 34.8 thousand ECU respectively). A comparison of the rate of change of personnel costs per head and the rate of change for producer prices may give additional information on competitiveness. In 1997 the manufacture of food products and beverages saw average personnel costs increasing at a rate of 1.2%, whilst the producer price index rose nearly twice as fast, up by 2.4%. In several countries average personnel costs decreased at a faster pace than the price index, amongst them were Germany (personnel costs down by 1.4% compared to a reduction of 1.2% for producer prices) and France (-1.8% and -0.6%). In

Figure 5.4

Share of EU-15 number of persons employed, 1997



Source: eurostat

Labour costs & production

the United Kingdom where the production of food and beverages was growing at a fast pace, average personnel costs increased by 17.9% and producer prices by 17.7% (this may at least in part be due to exchange rate fluctuations).

In 1997 labour productivity reached some 48 thousand ECU per person employed in the manufacture of food, beverages and tobacco in EU-15, lower than in total manufacturing industry (49.7 thousand ECU). European productivity increased by 4.1%, a fifth of the USA productivity increase (up by 20.7%).

Foreign trade

The EU food products and beverages industry has a structural trade surplus, which has been rising over the last decade. The trade balance of the USA turned negative in 1997, after a small surplus had been recorded during a number of years in the mid-nineties. The Japanese trade deficit continued throughout the period considered. In the manufacture of tobacco products, the European trade surplus started to rise again, after a decrease in the middle of the nineties, whilst the USA registered a positive trade balance continuously.

The European export ratio of food products and beverages was 7.8% in 1997, it increased by 1.9 percentage points from its 1988 level. The import penetration ratio stayed stable at 5.9% over the same period. In the Netherlands, this industry has a high level of trade: for example, in 1997, 61.5% of the production of food and beverages was destined for export markets, whilst 44.6% of consumption was satisfied by imports.

The main activities in terms of imports of food and beverages were the processing and preserving of fish and fish products and the manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats, with a 25.6% and 17.2% share of the total.

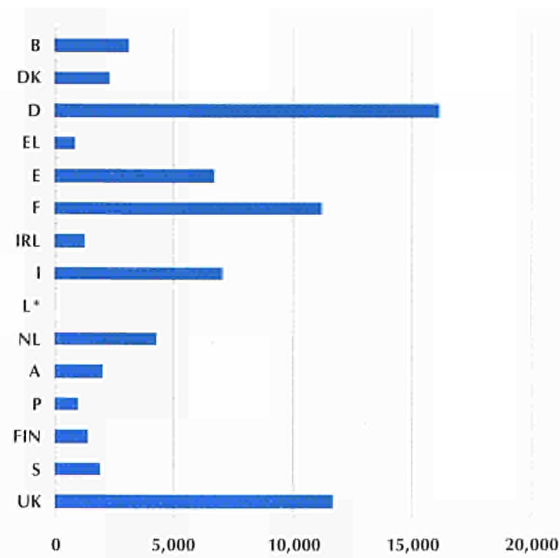


Figure 5.5

Labour costs, 1997 (million ECU)

Source: eurostat

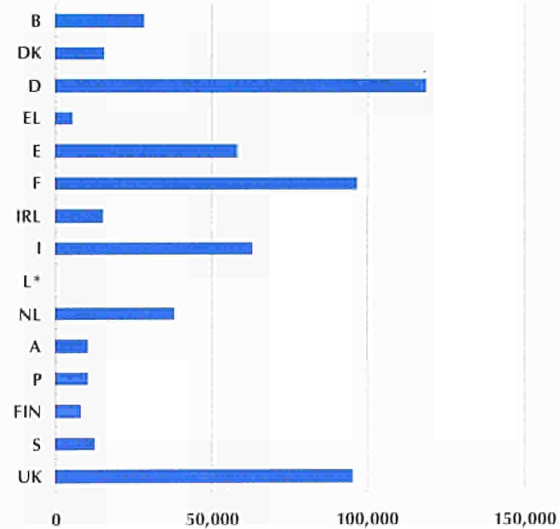


Figure 5.6

Production in constant prices, 1997 (million ECU)

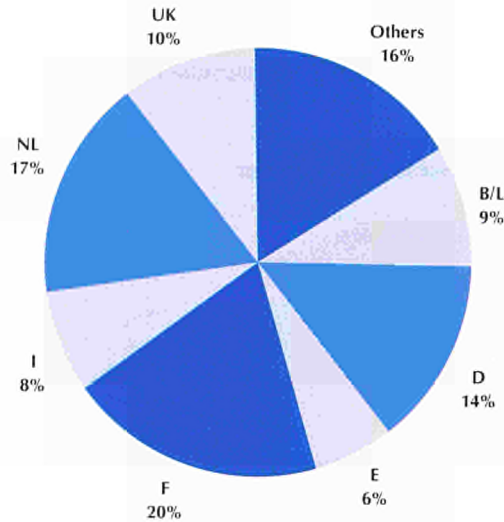
Source: eurostat

Production level slightly decreasing

In the three months to December 1998 the production index of food, beverages and tobacco was down by 0.6% in EU-15 (compared to the three months before). It continued its downward trend that started in April 1998. Comparing the evolution of the food and beverages industry to that of total industry, we see that the index for total industry was always expanding faster throughout 1998.

Figure 5.7

Share of European exports to the rest of the world, 1997



Source: eurostat

A breakdown of the activity displays differences between EU-15 and the euro-zone: whilst EU-15 production of food and beverages and of tobacco were both going down by 0.6%, in EUR-11 only the output of food and beverages decreased (down by 0.5%), with the production index of tobacco products increasing by 0.2%.

The latest production indices in the Member States showed that the production of food, beverages and tobacco was increasing in Spain (up by 1.6%, December 1998) and remained unchanged in France.

There had been higher growth in Luxembourg (2.2%) and Portugal (1.2%, both December 1998), whilst on the other hand production was down in Germany by 0.1% (December 1998), the United Kingdom by 0.9% and Italy by 0.4% (both December 1998). An even more pronounced decrease was observed in Denmark (1.9% again in December 1998) due largely to a decrease of 9.4% for dairy products and 5.8% for meat and meat products.

In Germany and the United Kingdom there was an increase in output for the manufacture of tobacco (up by 0.9% and 3.9%, December 1998). There was also moderate growth in the dairy products, meat and meat products and vegetables and oils industries in the United Kingdom (up by 0.2%, 0.7% and 1.0% respectively). In France there was a sharp decline observed in the manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats (down 1.9%, December 1998).

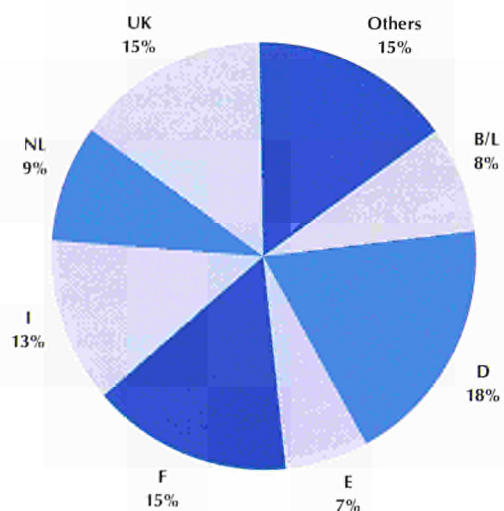
Falling producer prices in the manufacture of food and beverages

In EU-15 there are different trends in the producer price indices for food and beverages and tobacco. Since May 1998 producer prices of food and beverages were seen to be falling. The latest data available show that they retracted by 1.9% (December 1998, compared to the same month of the year before). The producer price index for tobacco was still on an upward trend (3.6% in December 1998), even though the rate of growth was seen to be slowing down. The same was true for prices within the euro-zone, where the latest figures were -2.2% (December 1998) and 3.4% (also December 1998).

The same tendencies could be observed in the larger Member States, except in France, where producer prices of tobacco were also going down, with a reduction of 0.4% (December 1998). In Germany there was a sharp fall in producer prices for food and beverages (down by 2.5%, December 1998), also observed in Spain (down 2.0%, December 1998).

Figure 5.8

Share of European imports from the rest of the world, 1997



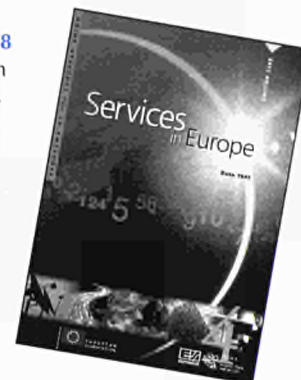
Source: eurostat

SERVICES IN EUROPE 98

There are more than four million enterprises in the area of distributive trades. German enterprises generate on average three times more turnover than their European counterparts. Financial services account for some 3% of total employment in the EU. In Luxembourg this rises to 8.8%, but in Portugal the sector employs only 1.8%.

Small family businesses predominate in transport services, especially in southern Member States. In Greece and Spain there are, on average, only 3.6 and 3.7 employees per enterprise.

Some six million people work in hotels and restaurants, 94% of which have between 0-9 employees. In Belgium, for each person employed in an hotel there are six employed in a restaurant or bar - well above the European average.



The publication says that services now account for 65% of the wealth created in the EU and have transformed the working environment. In the foreword, Eurostat Director-General Yves Franchet says: "One of the major success stories of the services economy is the considerable number of new jobs that have been created. Women have taken many of these jobs and many posts offer employment opportunities to those members of society who choose or need to work part-time". "Such a flexible system contrasts with the constraints of shift work that are still found in many industrial enterprises. It would appear that these trends will continue: with even leaner, more specialised workforces on the productive-side of the economy and more jobs and value-added in the services economy".

Mr Franchet said of the electronic publication, with its thematic, sectoral and country analyses of the EU service sector that it is "representative of an evolving dissemination policy within Eurostat, as it is one of the first examples of what

I hope will be a succession of electronic information tools that combine a variety of different sources of data and information in a seamless manner".

"It is hoped that this comprehensive survey of the state of European services is of interest to a broad spectrum of users and that it marks the start of a more extensive coverage of services by official statistics".

The data come in a new publication "Services in Europe", also available on CD-ROM. It gives an overview of employment, value-added and household consumption, and an in-depth look at the industries that make up the European services economy. This is the first major review of the service sector from Eurostat.

Services in Europe, 200 pages or CD-ROM, available through Eurostat Data Shops and European Commission sales agents. The CD-ROM contains more data, a glossary, information on the data sources and other general information (not included in the paper publication).



Table 5.1

Value-added at
factor cost
(million ECU)

	1993 t/t-1 (%)		1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	122,464	3.9	124,435	1.6	118,733	-4.6	122,544	3.2	128,967	5.2
EUR-11	:	:	95,821	:	91,699	-4.3	94,011	2.5	96,095	2.2
B	:	:	:	:	5,423	:	5,666	4.5	5,544	-2.2
DK	3,544	4.0	3,775	6.5	3,636	-3.7	3,648	0.3	3,762	3.1
D	26,047	4.2	26,481	1.7	27,022	2.0	27,011	0.0	26,813	-0.7
EL	900	11.0	1,005	11.6	1,111	10.6	1,169	5.3	1,201	2.7
E	12,086	-7.2	11,988	-0.8	11,804	-1.5	12,408	5.1	12,809	3.2
F	17,875	3.1	18,105	1.3	18,422	1.8	18,776	1.9	19,104	1.8
IRL	3,927	5.7	3,095	-21.2	3,152	1.8	3,402	7.9	3,671	7.9
I	16,723	29.5	16,360	-2.2	10,627	-35.0	11,569	8.9	12,237	5.8
L	151	3.1	161	6.4	163	1.4	:	:	:	:
NL	8,082	5.8	7,640	-5.5	7,808	2.2	8,002	2.5	7,979	-0.3
A	4,384	6.1	4,416	0.7	2,902	-34.3	2,958	1.9	3,014	1.9
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	2,004	-11.0	2,009	0.2	2,010	0.1	2,024	0.7	2,090	3.3
S	2,433	-19.1	2,539	4.4	2,435	-4.1	2,808	15.3	2,812	0.1
UK	:	:	21,295	:	19,853	-6.8	20,908	5.3	25,098	20.0
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Table 5.2

Production in
constant prices
(million ECU)

	1993 t/t-1 (%)		1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	506,746	-1.8	520,184	2.7	534,085	2.7	548,897	2.8	578,207	5.3
EUR-11	:	:	422,745	:	427,276	1.1	436,535	2.2	449,049	2.9
B	15,495	0.2	15,589	0.6	27,891	78.9	28,463	2.0	28,480	0.1
DK	13,225	-2.3	14,209	7.4	15,128	6.5	14,889	-1.6	15,650	5.1
D	102,702	-8.4	106,344	3.5	120,575	13.4	119,900	-0.6	118,966	-0.8
EL	4,917	10.7	5,075	3.2	5,294	4.3	5,541	4.7	5,517	-0.4
E	47,840	-6.5	49,462	3.4	52,151	5.4	54,897	5.3	58,432	6.4
F	87,002	-0.5	89,288	2.6	92,271	3.3	94,626	2.6	96,654	2.1
IRL	:	:	12,551	:	13,191	5.1	13,693	3.8	15,318	11.9
I	57,724	-3.9	58,430	1.2	55,559	-4.9	60,232	8.4	63,342	5.2
L	486	3.1	508	4.5	522	2.7	:	:	:	:
NL	38,107	3.0	35,549	-6.7	37,174	4.6	37,512	0.9	38,420	2.4
A	12,804	5.5	12,884	0.6	10,269	-20.3	10,447	1.7	10,641	1.9
P	9,194	-5.5	9,780	6.4	9,830	0.5	10,546	7.3	10,598	0.5
FIN	7,389	-12.5	7,833	6.0	7,843	0.1	7,876	0.4	8,199	4.1
S	9,536	-13.9	10,270	7.7	10,944	6.6	12,630	15.4	12,703	0.6
UK	:	:	67,886	:	75,443	11.1	79,301	5.1	95,287	20.2
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Number of persons employed & labour costs

Table 5.3

	1993 t/t-1 (%)		1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	2,718,260	-3.0	2,678,350	-1.5	2,659,340	-0.7	2,675,440	0.6	2,690,980	0.6
EUR-11	:	:	1,997,644	:	1,998,642	0.0	1,999,746	0.1	1,995,252	-0.2
B	64,511	-3.2	63,091	-2.2	102,114	61.9	105,272	3.1	103,286	-1.9
DK	66,385	2.4	65,741	-1.0	67,068	2.0	67,345	0.4	70,970	5.4
D	588,568	-5.2	574,530	-2.4	562,068	-2.2	552,599	-1.7	535,650	-3.1
EL	48,947	0.0	48,896	-0.1	48,318	-1.2	46,687	-3.4	52,786	13.1
E	379,531	0.0	378,272	-0.3	372,879	-1.4	369,467	-0.9	385,194	4.3
F	360,819	-2.2	358,034	-0.8	361,535	1.0	360,088	-0.4	361,824	0.5
IRL	46,208	-0.8	46,471	0.6	47,277	1.7	47,495	0.5	48,292	1.7
I	233,356	-1.5	226,865	-2.8	219,403	-3.3	218,963	-0.2	227,863	4.1
L	3,858	0.1	3,902	1.1	4,036	3.4	:	:	:	:
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
A	62,921	-2.0	61,477	-2.3	60,492	-1.6	59,332	-1.9	57,468	-3.1
P	116,837	0.4	122,129	4.5	113,771	-6.8	107,701	-5.3	108,302	0.6
FIN	43,851	-8.2	41,638	-5.0	46,082	10.7	47,119	2.3	49,822	5.7
S	60,090	-1.9	58,056	-3.4	58,263	0.4	61,173	5.0	62,730	2.5
UK	:	:	508,013	:	487,049	-4.1	500,489	2.8	509,242	1.7
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Number of persons
employed
(units)

Source:  eurostat

Table 5.4

	1993 t/t-1 (%)		1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	68,104	0.0	69,025	1.4	69,403	0.5	69,983	0.8	71,235	1.8
EUR-11	:	:	54,384	:	55,342	1.8	55,198	-0.3	54,360	-1.5
B	:	:	:	:	3,243	:	3,279	1.1	3,120	-4.8
DK	2,009	3.2	2,103	4.7	2,261	7.5	2,239	-0.9	2,339	4.4
D	17,403	3.3	17,547	0.8	18,147	3.4	16,973	-6.5	16,199	-4.6
EL	715	6.0	787	10.0	813	3.4	854	5.0	873	2.3
E	6,940	-5.7	6,699	-3.5	6,491	-3.1	6,711	3.4	6,718	0.1
F	10,851	2.7	11,006	1.4	11,391	3.5	11,402	0.1	11,249	-1.3
IRL	:	:	1,098	:	1,115	1.5	1,168	4.8	1,250	7.0
I	6,796	-10.8	6,682	-1.7	6,196	-7.3	6,713	8.3	7,096	5.7
L	83	7.0	86	3.4	91	6.8	:	:	:	:
NL	4,422	10.2	4,177	-5.5	4,187	0.2	4,148	-0.9	4,307	3.8
A	1,996	7.7	2,000	0.2	2,100	5.0	2,146	2.2	2,045	-4.7
P	1,029	-1.3	1,065	3.4	1,051	-1.3	1,039	-1.2	976	-6.1
FIN	981	-17.1	1,051	7.1	1,331	26.6	1,341	0.8	1,401	4.5
S	1,573	-17.5	1,595	1.4	1,670	4.7	1,923	15.1	1,940	0.9
UK	:	:	10,157	:	9,317	-8.3	9,769	4.8	11,723	20.0
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Labour costs
(million ECU)

Source:  eurostat

Table 5.5

Extra-EU-15
exports
(million ECU)

	1993 t/t-1 (%)		1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	31,822	9.4	34,852	9.5	36,974	6.1	38,952	5.3	43,856	12.6
B/L	1,346	8.3	1,940	44.1	2,187	12.8	2,064	-5.6	2,292	11.0
DK	2,550	17.6	3,036	19.0	2,992	-1.5	3,105	3.8	3,306	6.5
D	4,529	15.8	5,151	13.7	5,499	6.8	5,539	0.7	6,309	13.9
EL	433	5.2	479	10.5	504	5.3	631	25.1	664	5.2
E	2,153	8.7	2,411	12.0	2,711	12.5	2,755	1.6	2,795	1.5
F	6,467	4.2	7,039	8.8	7,301	3.7	8,129	11.3	8,371	3.0
IRL	1,209	3.7	1,359	12.5	1,593	17.2	1,572	-1.3	1,621	3.1
I	2,795	-0.3	2,954	5.7	3,329	12.7	3,832	15.1	4,132	7.9
NL	4,522	20.9	4,663	3.1	5,224	12.0	4,986	-4.6	5,541	11.1
A	481	9.2	618	28.6	638	3.2	678	6.3	759	12.0
P	273	-19.6	304	11.2	373	22.7	422	13.2	431	2.1
FIN	341	40.2	447	31.0	395	-11.6	539	36.5	610	13.1
S	417	24.5	630	51.1	546	-13.4	610	11.8	737	20.8
UK	4,380	6.4	3,883	-11.3	3,727	-4.0	4,170	11.9	6,288	50.8


Source:  eurostat

Table 5.6

Extra EU-15
imports
(million ECU)

	1993 t/t-1 (%)		1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	25,252	-0.5	28,395	12.4	27,456	-3.3	29,690	8.1	31,104	4.8
B/L	1,057	10.0	1,350	27.7	1,461	8.2	1,511	3.4	1,553	2.8
DK	1,162	-0.8	1,365	17.5	1,314	-3.7	1,436	9.3	1,436	0.0
D	4,791	-4.6	5,184	8.2	5,126	-1.1	5,370	4.8	5,876	9.4
EL	211	-15.3	228	7.6	241	6.1	343	42.2	350	2.0
E	2,718	4.5	2,867	5.5	2,659	-7.3	2,781	4.6	2,952	6.2
F	3,388	-2.2	3,438	1.5	3,388	-1.4	3,608	6.5	3,736	3.5
IRL	234	14.7	279	19.0	254	-8.8	252	-0.8	263	4.2
I	2,469	-3.6	2,899	17.4	2,945	1.6	3,051	3.6	3,278	7.4
NL	2,630	-4.2	3,441	30.9	3,514	2.1	4,014	14.2	3,516	-12.4
A	498	4.4	598	20.1	336	-43.9	381	13.6	383	0.4
P	682	-8.3	699	2.5	681	-2.5	737	8.1	741	0.7
FIN	255	1.8	343	34.2	182	-46.8	248	36.1	237	-4.6
S	753	-4.7	1,010	34.0	602	-40.4	664	10.4	740	11.4
UK	4,404	6.1	4,696	6.6	4,753	1.2	5,293	11.4	6,043	14.2

Source:  eurostat

Production (trend cycle) & producer price indices

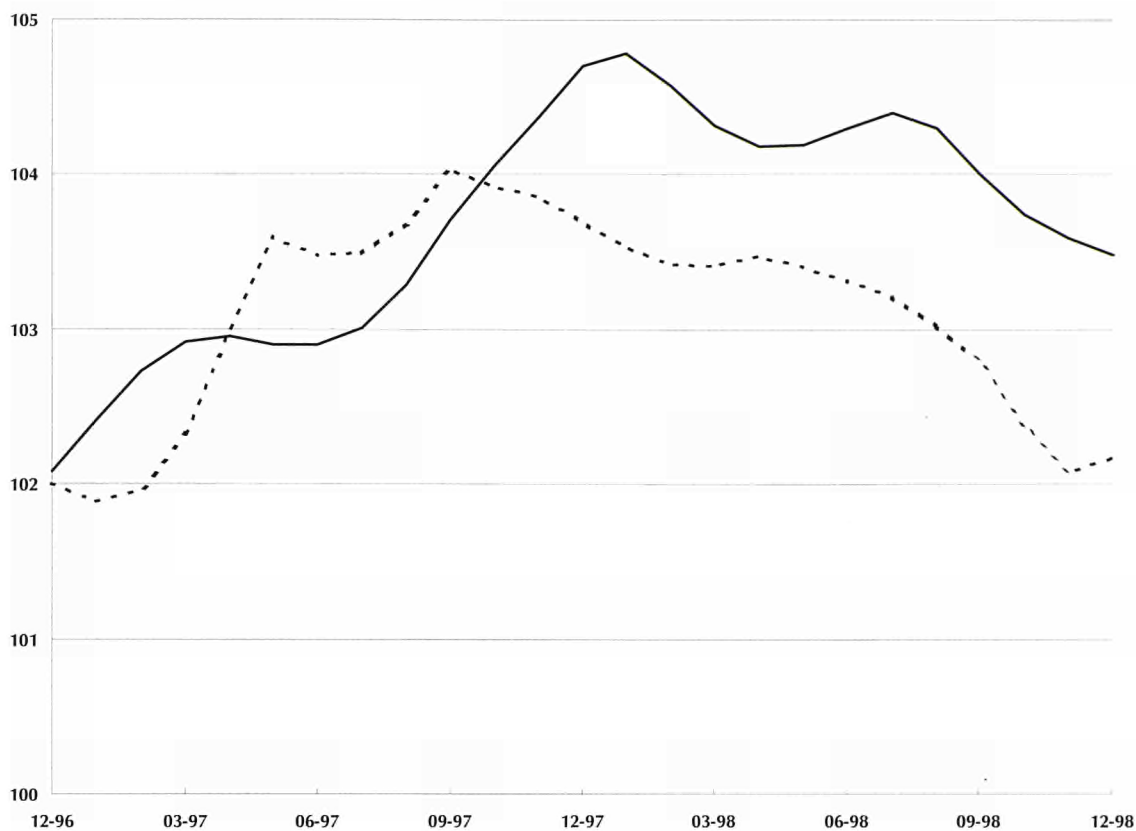


Figure 5.9

Production and producer price indices (1995 = 100)

EU-15 production index
 EU-15 producer price index
 EUR-11 production index
 EUR-11 producer price index

Source: eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Production index		Latest month available	Producer price index		
	t-3	t-2	t / t-1	t / t-4		t / t-3	t / t-12	
EU-15	10-98	⇒	12-98	-0.6	-1.0	12-98	-0.6	-1.5
EUR-11		⇒		:	:		:	:
B	10-98	⇒	12-98	0.1	-2.3	11-98	-1.8	-5.1
DK	10-98	⇒	12-98	-1.9	-5.2	12-98	-2.6	-7.1
D	10-98	⇒	12-98	-0.1	-0.8	12-98	-1.0	-1.9
EL	09-98	⇒	11-98	-0.7	-1.8	11-98	0.1	3.1
E	10-98	⇒	12-98	1.6	6.2	12-98	-0.2	-1.8
F	10-98	⇒	12-98	0.0	0.1	03-97	-0.1	1.2
IRL	09-98	⇒	11-98	0.1	1.0	09-97	-0.7	-1.3
I	10-98	⇒	12-98	-0.4	-1.3	12-98	-0.2	-0.1
L	10-98	⇒	12-98	2.2	2.2		:	:
NL	09-98	⇒	11-98	-1.1	-1.9	12-98	-1.1	-4.2
A	09-98	⇒	11-98	1.3	-4.7		:	:
P	10-98	⇒	12-98	1.2	5.6	12-98	0.1	-1.8
FIN		⇒		:	:	01-99	-0.3	-2.4
S	10-98	⇒	12-98	-0.4	-4.1	12-98	-0.3	-2.4
UK	10-98	⇒	12-98	-0.9	-3.1		:	:
NO	09-98	⇒	11-98	0.7	-0.3	07-97	1.0	1.9
Japan	07-97	⇒	09-97	0.1	0.3	10-97	-0.4	1.7
USA	11-97	⇒	01-98	1.2	2.3	01-98	-2.3	-10.1

Table 5.7

Production and producer price indices: growth rates (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.10

Production and producer price indices: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 10-98 to 12-98 (%)

Production ■
Producer price index ■

Source:  eurostat

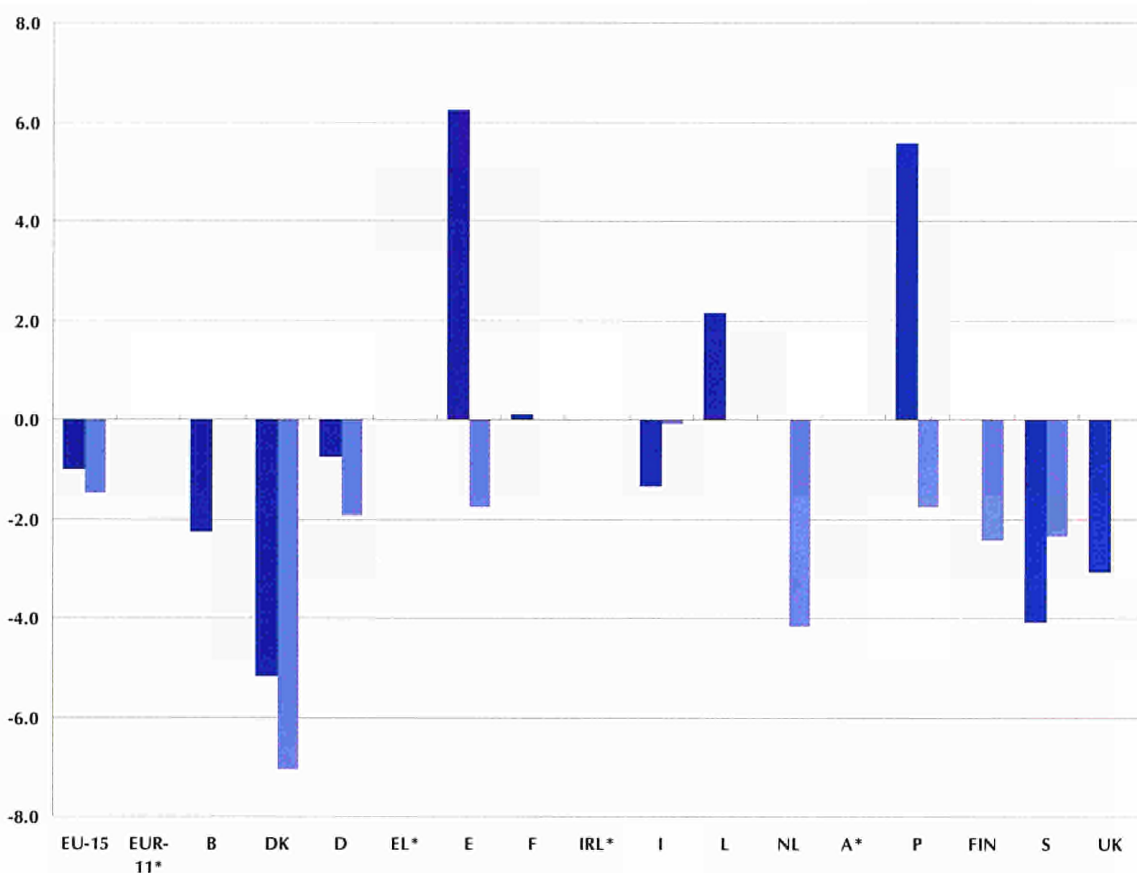
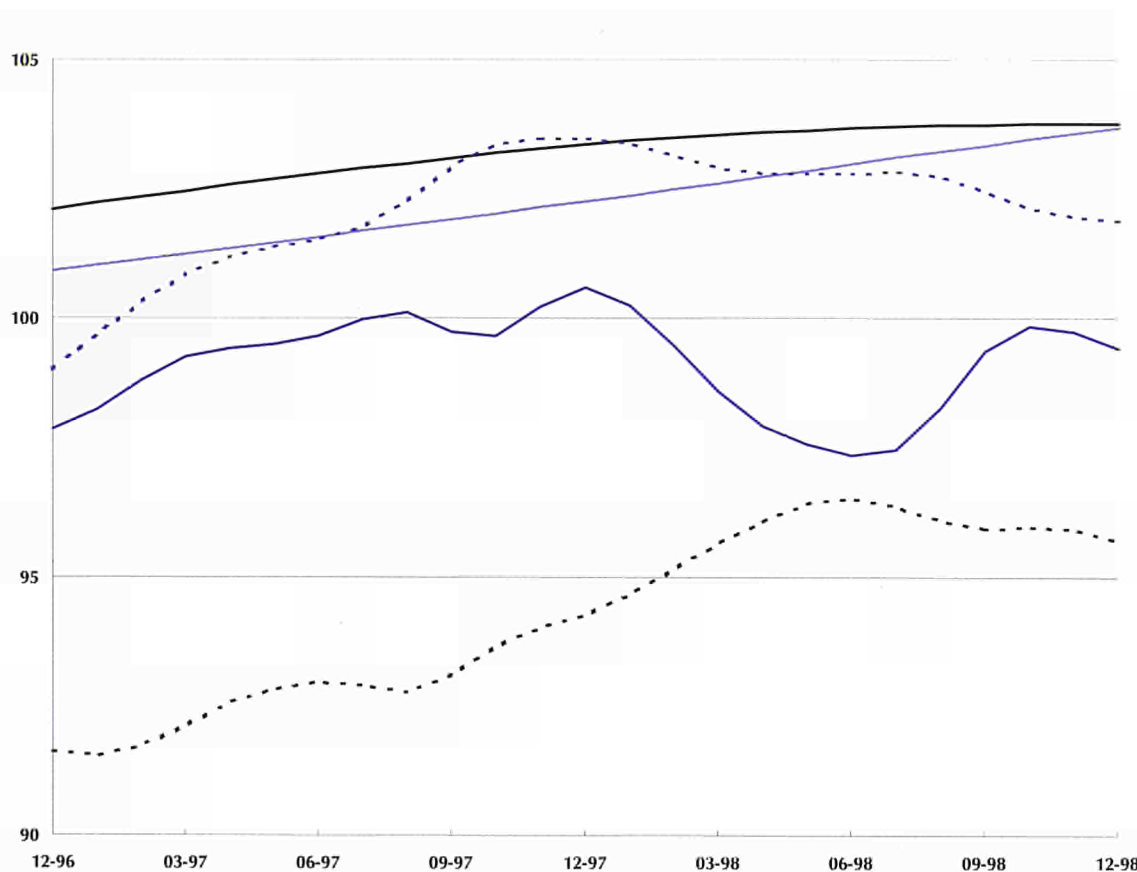


Figure 5.11

EU-15 production index for individual groups, trend cycle (1995 = 100)

Meat —
Fish - - -
Fruit and vegetables —
Dairy products —
Beverages - - -

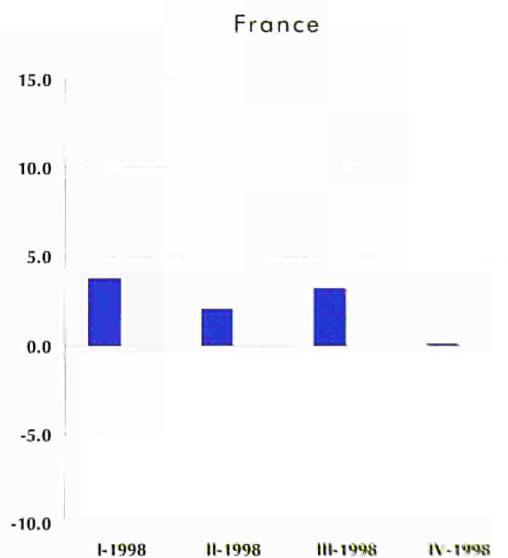
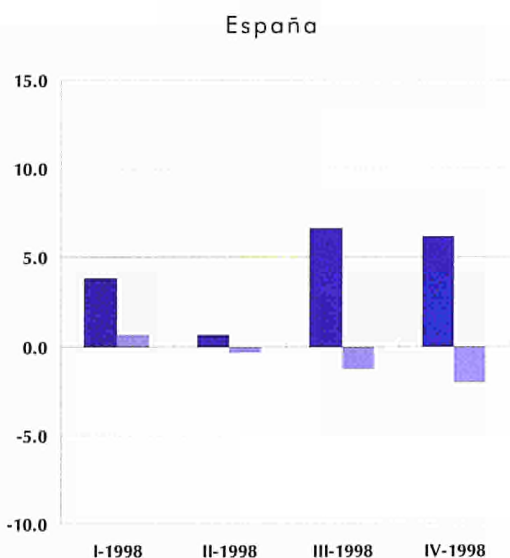
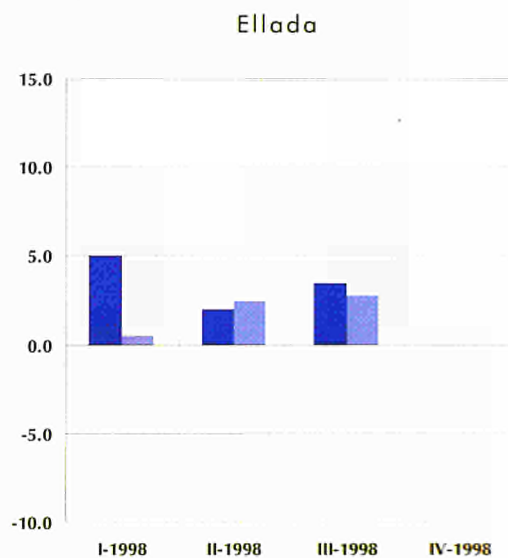
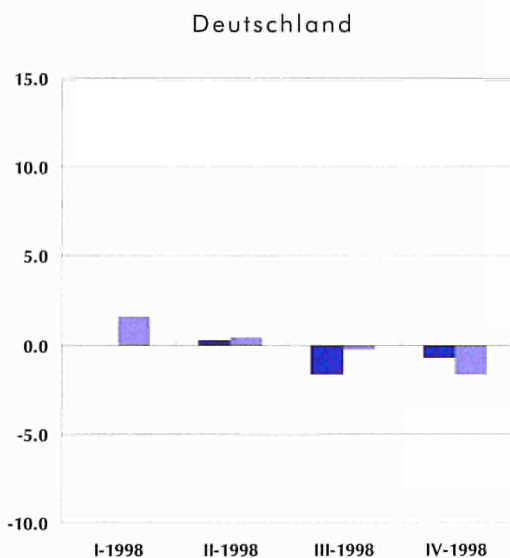
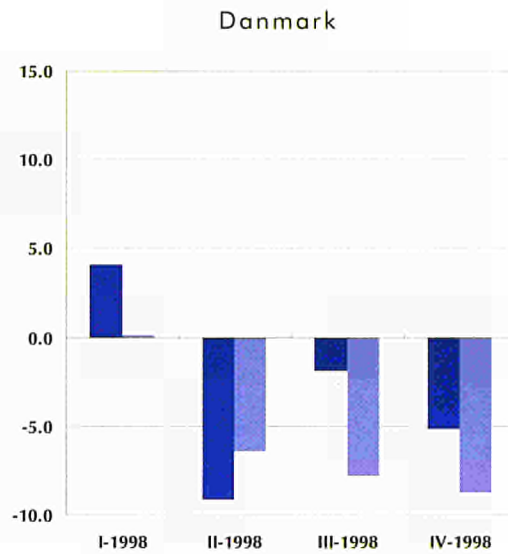
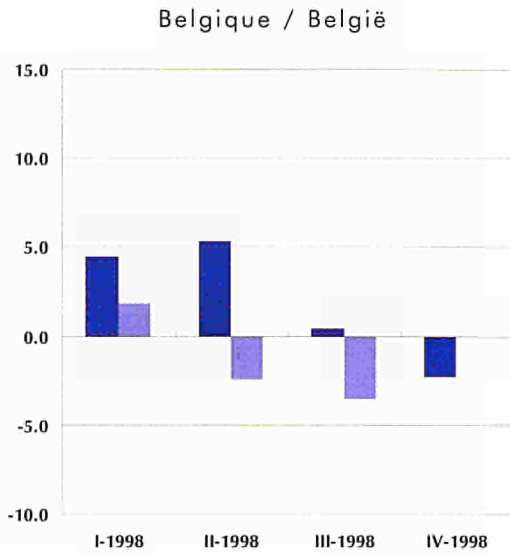
Source:  eurostat



Production & producer price indices

Figure 5.12

Production and producer price indices: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

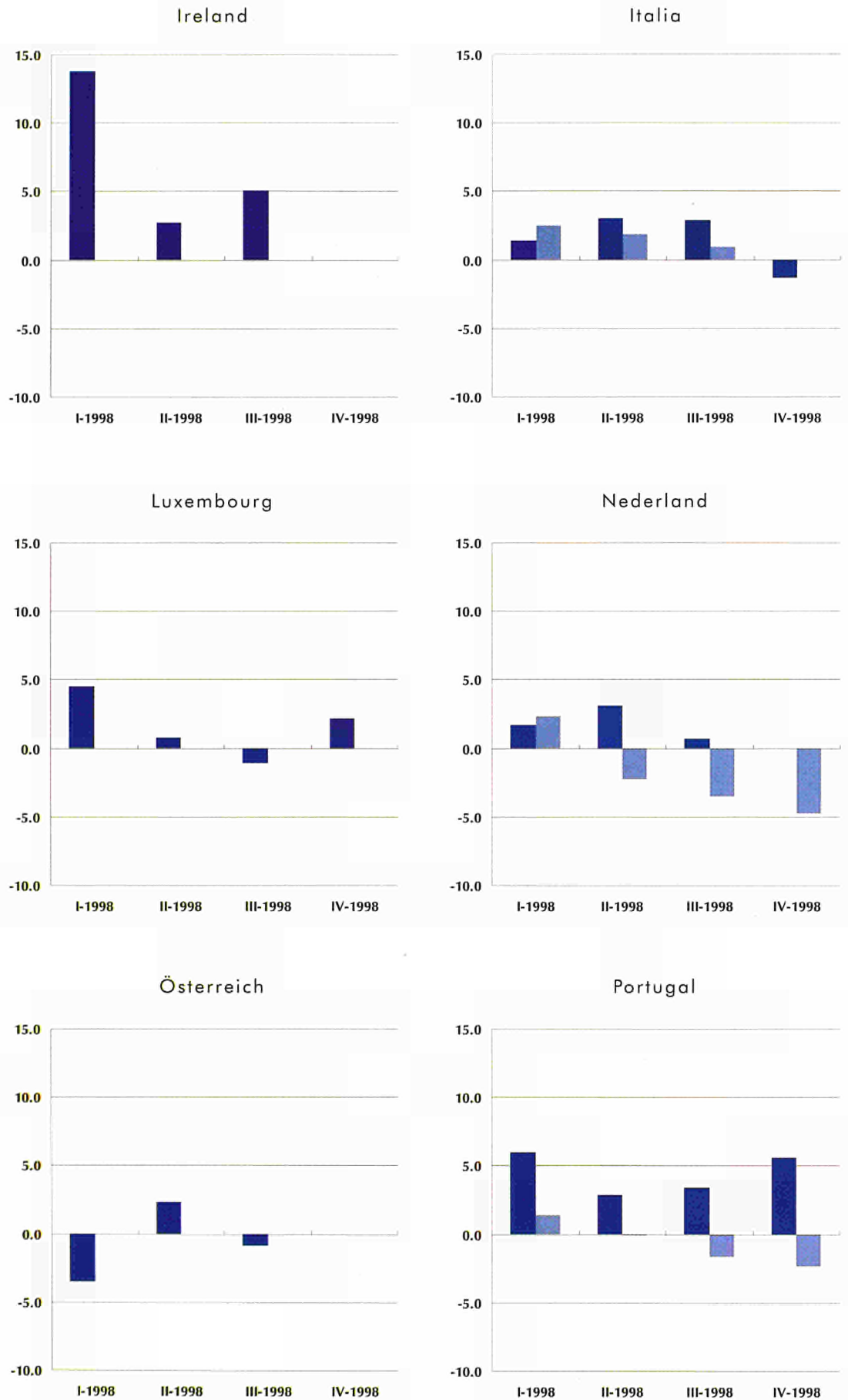


■ Production index
■ Producer price index

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.12

Production and producer price indices: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

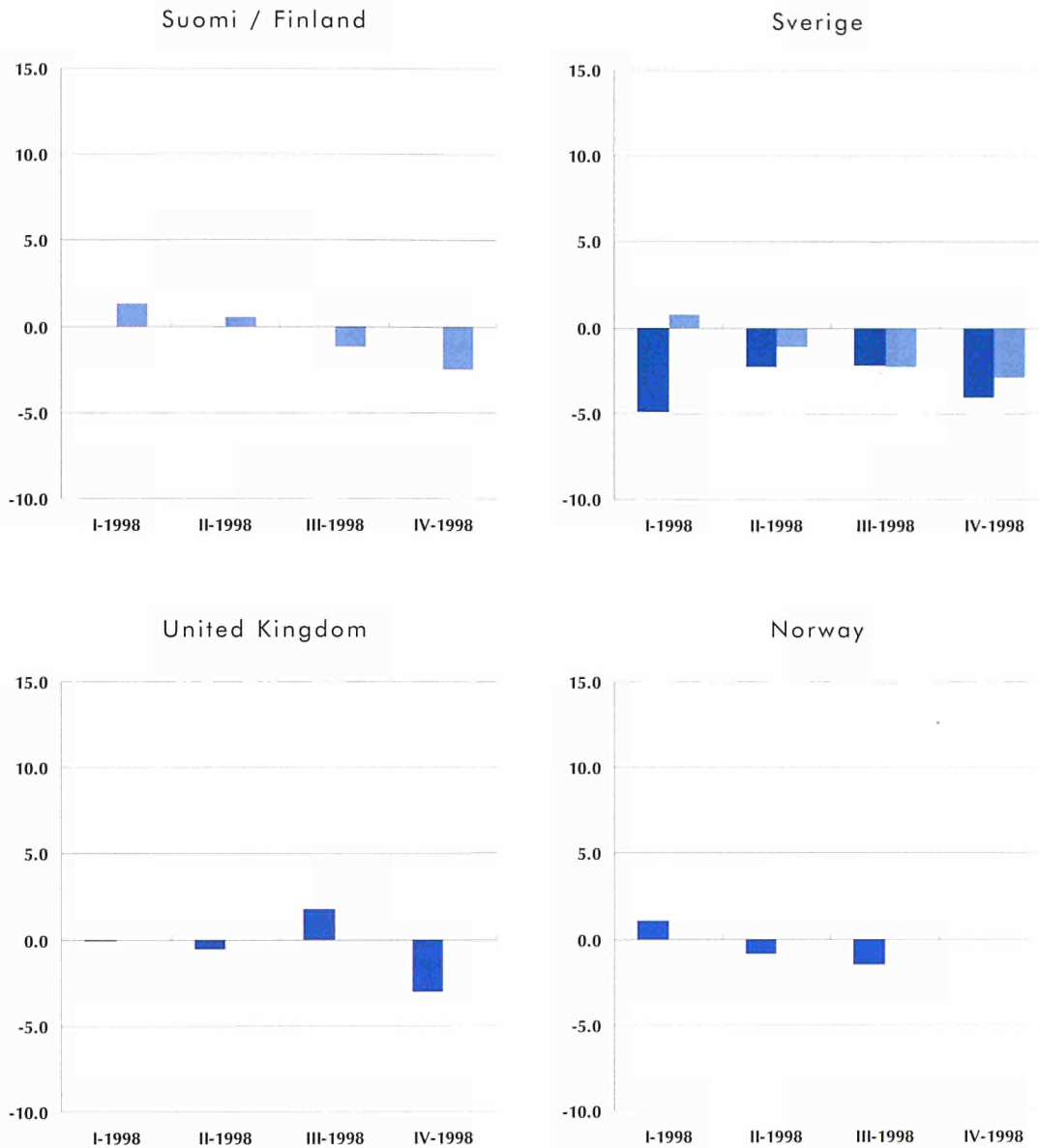


Production index ■
 Producer price index ■

Source: eurostat

Production & producer price indices

Figure 5.12



Production and producer price indices: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

■ Production index
■ Producer price index

Further information - 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 and Spain). Secondly, for EU-15 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, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the indices are adjusted by the national statistical offices themselves. For Germany, the trend and seasonally adjusted figures are calculated by the German NSO.

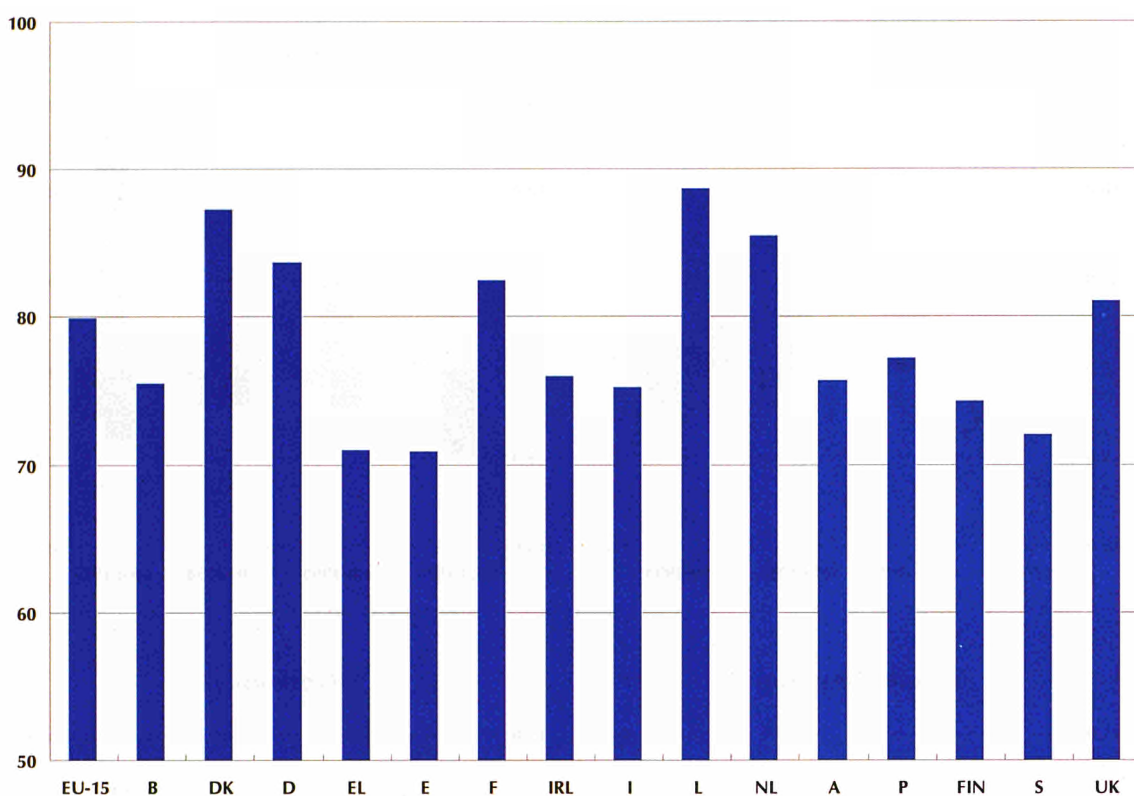
The index of producer prices shows (in the national currency of the Member State in question) changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on the domestic market. Since we deal with producer prices, imports are not included in these price indices. Producer price indices are not seasonally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

Full methodological notes may be found on page 107.

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.13

Capacity
utilisation rates,
10-98
(%)



Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Table 5.8

Capacity
utilisation rates
(%)

Growth rate:
latest month, t / t-12 (%)

		01-98	04-98	07-98	10-98
EU-15	-1.1	79.3	78.9	80.2	79.9
B	-3.3	76.0	73.3	75.4	75.5
DK	5.2	85.4	84.7	87.3	87.3
D	-1.4	82.8	80.5	83.3	83.7
EL	-2.5	73.0	72.0	73.0	71.0
E	-1.1	72.3	70.4	72.3	70.9
F	0.4	81.0	81.9	82.4	82.5
IRL	9.8	66.4	69.5	71.4	76.0
I	-3.5	76.6	75.7	74.6	75.2
L	6.7	83.6	85.4	88.8	88.7
NL	0.4	84.8	85.2	85.5	85.5
A	0.8	75.5	73.3	75.8	75.7
P	0.3	74.7	76.7	73.6	77.2
FIN	-0.9	77.0	74.0	78.4	74.3
S	-3.7	78.0	77.0	78.0	72.0
UK	-1.9	79.8	80.9	82.5	81.1

Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

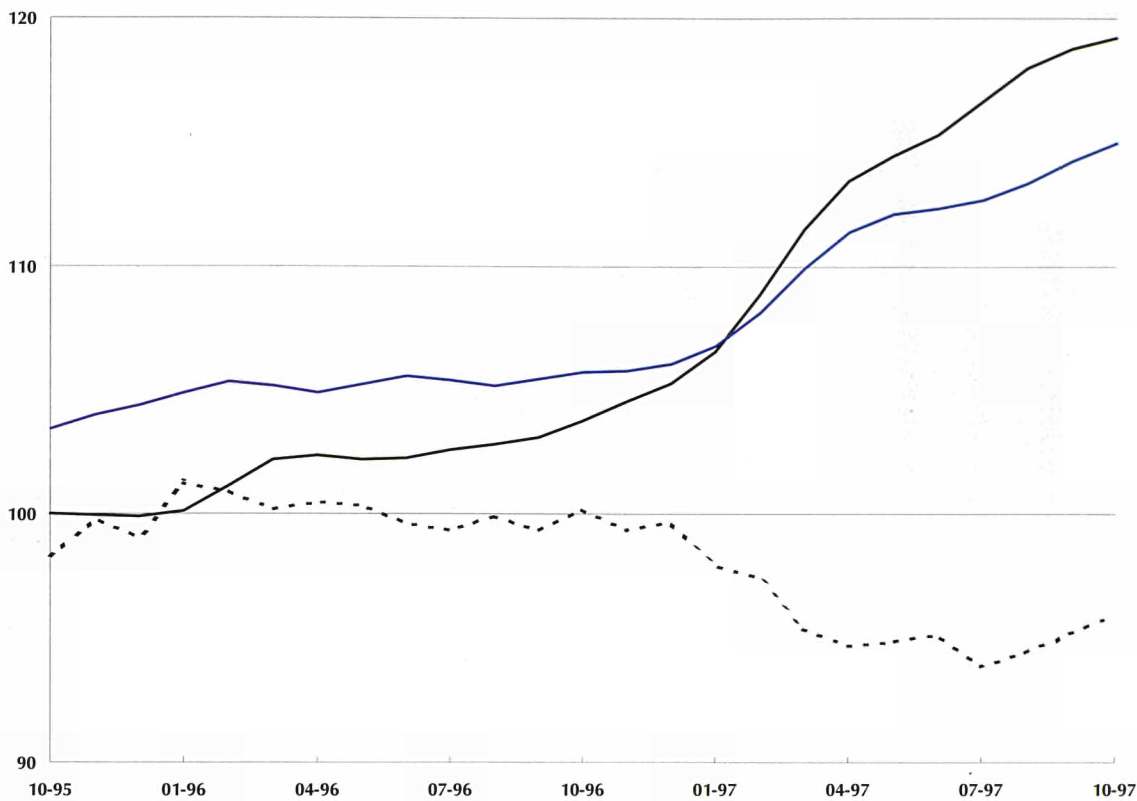


Figure 5.14

EU-15 foreign trade indices in ECU terms (1995 = 100)

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

Source: eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
			Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-97	⇒ 10-97	2.8	1.3	1.7	-0.6	0.6
B / L	09-97	⇒ 11-97	-2.6	-4.8	0.2	-2.2	-1.2
DK	09-97	⇒ 11-97	-4.0	-0.3	5.8	1.1	-1.7
D	07-97	⇒ 09-97	2.3	1.2	3.1	1.8	0.2
EL	07-97	⇒ 09-97	-5.0	-2.2	1.2	-3.1	1.0
E	09-97	⇒ 11-97	1.5	1.1	2.8	1.5	1.8
F	09-97	⇒ 11-97	1.0	0.7	1.7	0.2	0.4
IRL	08-97	⇒ 10-97	4.8	3.9	1.6	0.5	-1.8
I	08-97	⇒ 10-97	3.0	2.4	1.6	2.1	-1.4
NL	08-97	⇒ 10-97	0.4	-1.4	-1.9	-3.9	-0.3
A		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97	⇒ 10-97	1.9	1.1	0.2	0.0	1.3
FIN		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
UK	09-97	⇒ 11-97	-1.2	-1.0	-0.5	-0.8	0.6

Table 5.9


Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.15

Foreign trade indices in ECU terms: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 08-97 to 10-97 (%)

Export value ■
Import value ■

Source:  eurostat

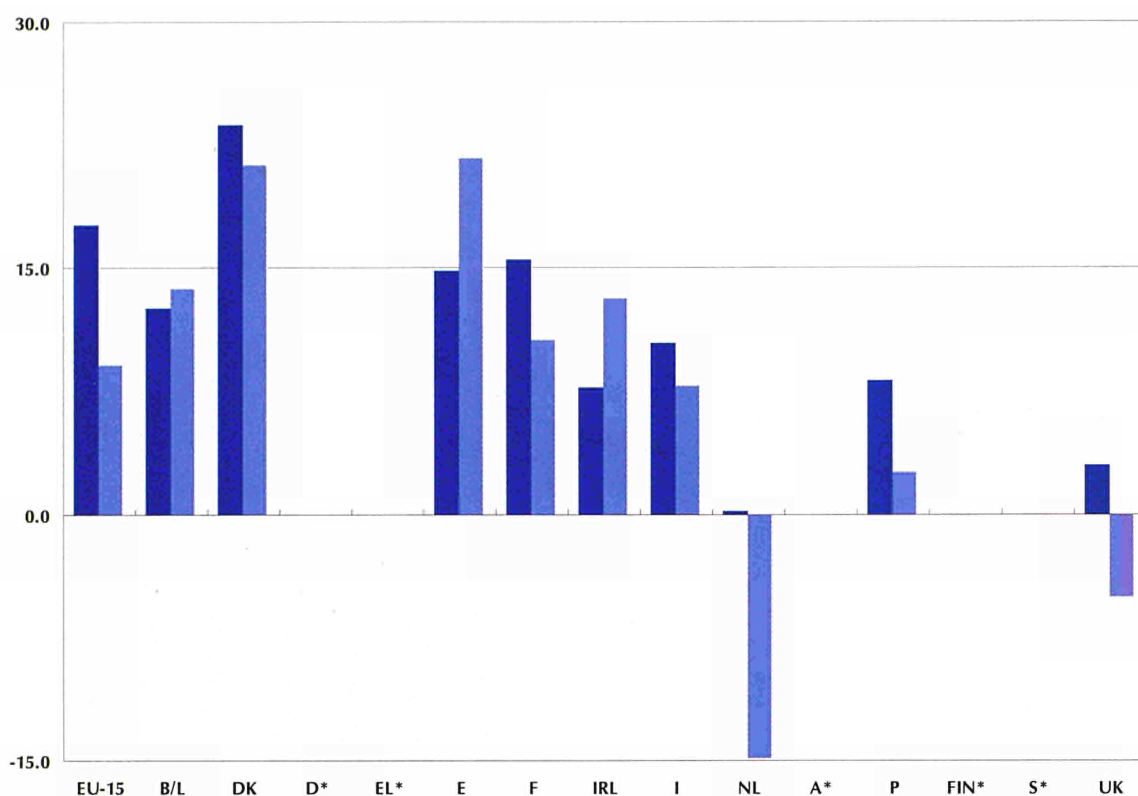


Table 5.10

Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): growth rates, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

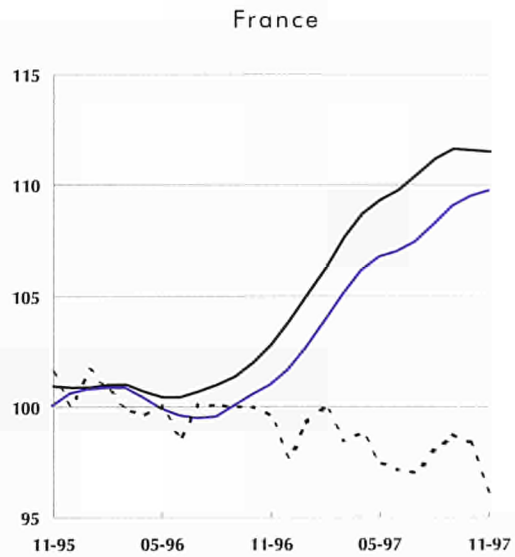
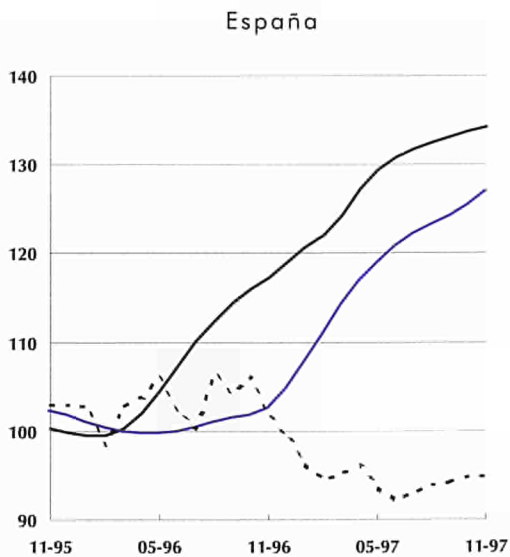
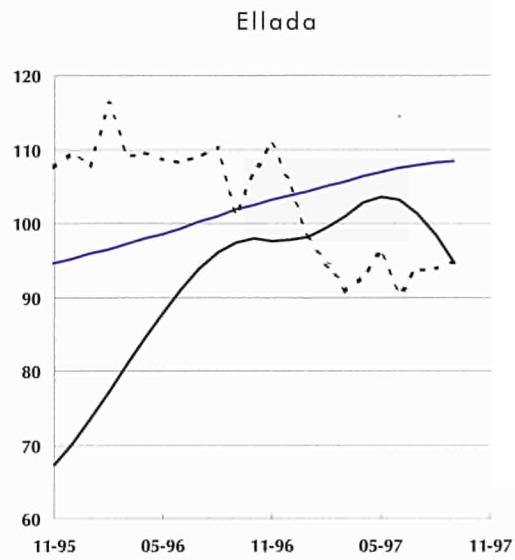
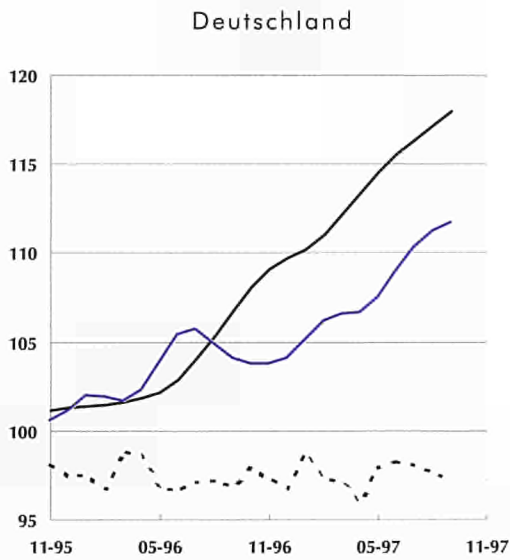
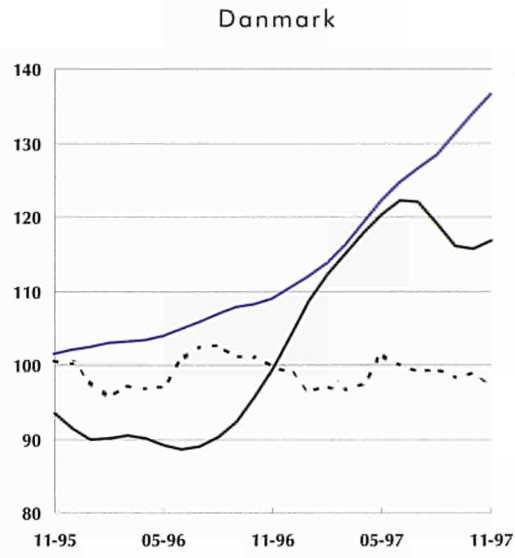
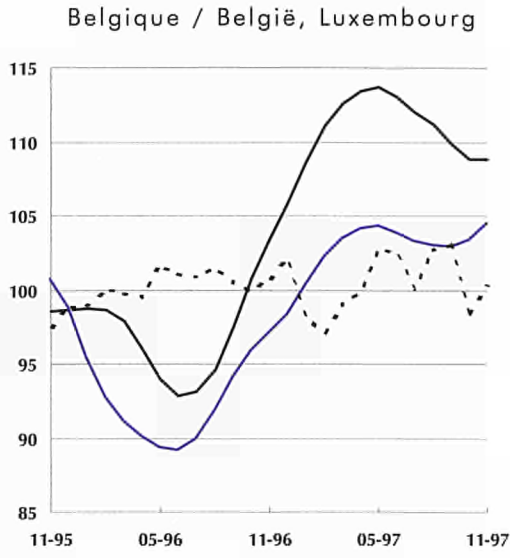
Source:  eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-97	⇒ 10-97	17.7	12.4	9.1	-0.5	-4.6
B / L	09-97	⇒ 11-97	5.8	-1.1	6.3	-0.5	0.2
DK	09-97	⇒ 11-97	18.3	12.9	27.3	18.2	-2.8
D	07-97	⇒ 09-97	10.2	5.5	5.8	1.8	0.6
EL	07-97	⇒ 09-97	-19.7	-20.3	8.7	-4.6	-11.8
E	09-97	⇒ 11-97	14.3	17.2	24.1	15.8	-8.9
F	09-97	⇒ 11-97	14.1	10.7	8.9	3.6	-2.1
IRL	08-97	⇒ 10-97	7.8	8.3	13.2	9.6	-3.6
I	08-97	⇒ 10-97	10.5	13.1	7.9	8.2	-2.0
NL	08-97	⇒ 10-97	0.2	-5.4	-14.9	-21.5	-2.5
A		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97	⇒ 10-97	8.2	4.5	2.6	-1.0	-0.8
FIN		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
UK	09-97	⇒ 11-97	2.9	10.8	-0.8	4.1	-2.5

Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

Figure 5.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

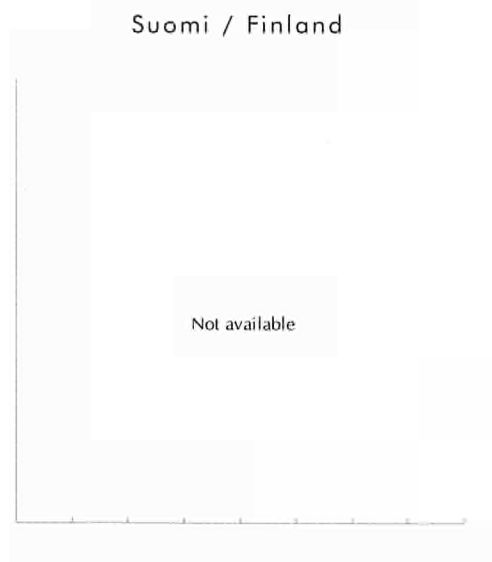
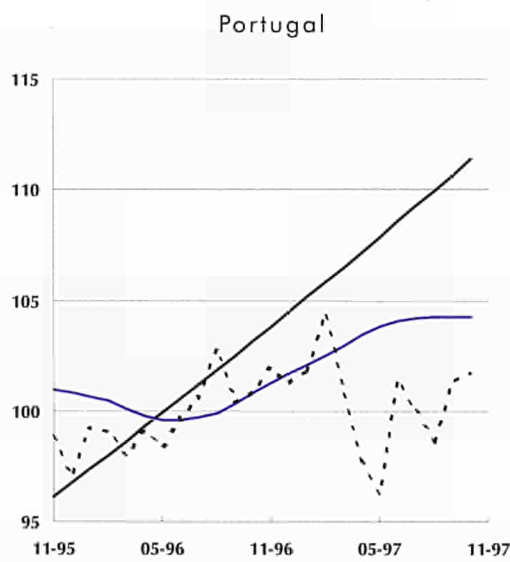
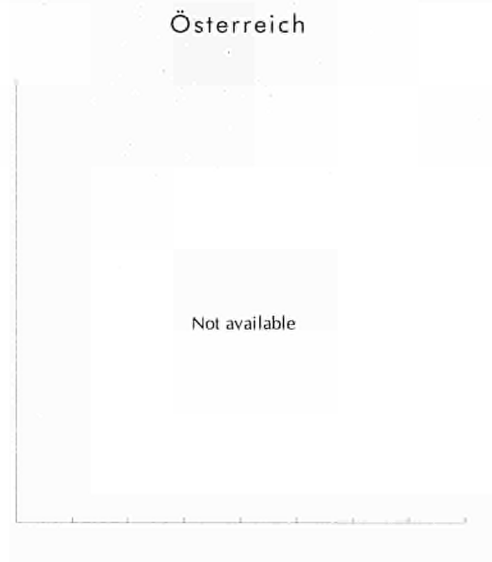
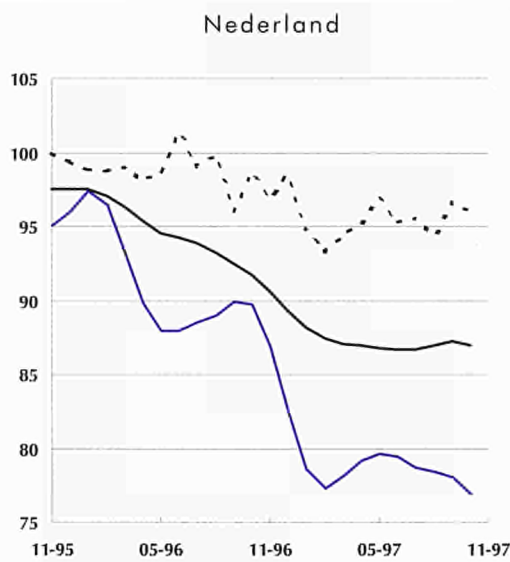
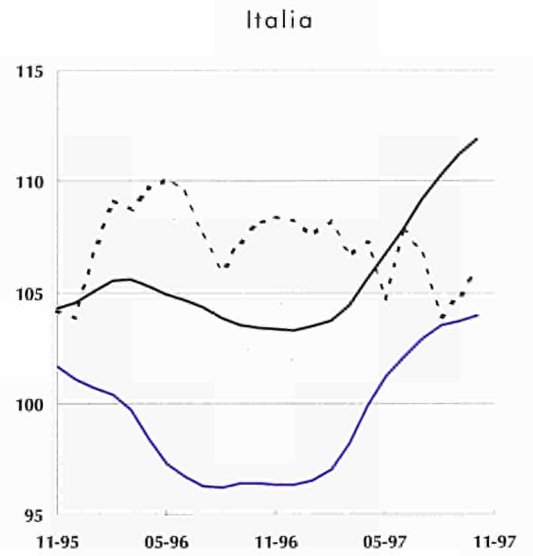
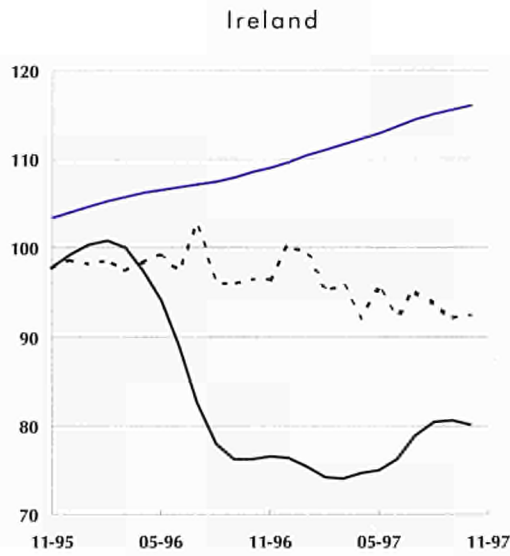


— Export value index
— Import value index
- - - Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)



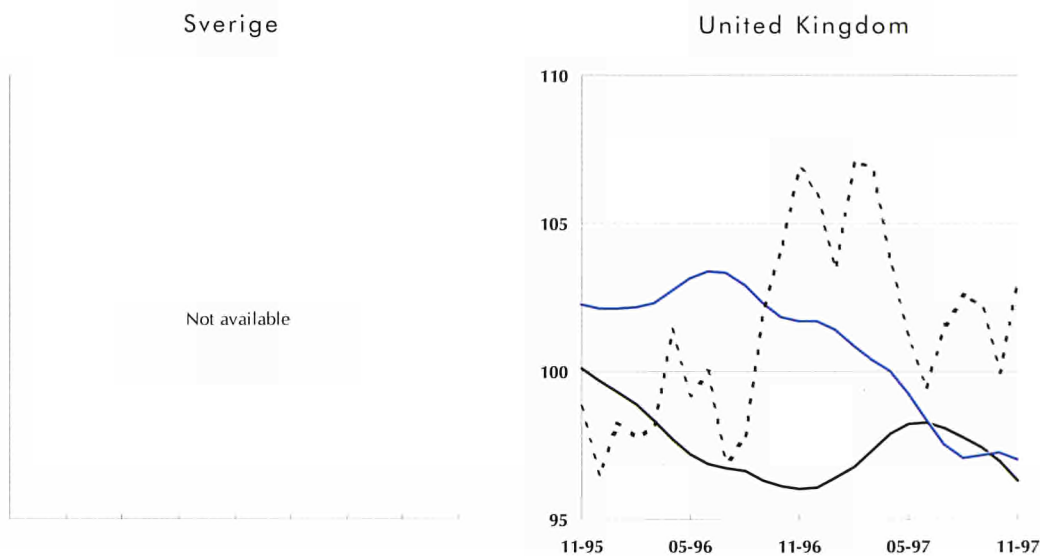
Export value index ———
Import value index ———
Terms of trade - - - - -

Source: eurostat

Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

Figure 5.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)



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

Further information - 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 EU-15 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 107.

Source: eurostat



6.

Retail trade; repair of personal and household goods

Commentary 94

Structural indicators 100

Number of enterprises, turnover, value-added, personnel costs,
number of persons employed, number of employees



6. Retail trade; repair of personal and household goods

Description of the NACE Rev. 1 Groups in Division 52:

- 52.1: retail sale in non-specialised stores;
- 52.2: retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores;
- 52.3: retail sale of pharmaceuticals and medical goods, cosmetic and toilet articles;
- 52.4: other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores;
- 52.5: retail sale of second-hand goods in stores;
- 52.6: retail sale not in stores;
- 52.7: repair of personal and household goods.

Introduction

Retail trade and repair services (NACE Rev. 1 Division 52) comprise of the resale of new and used goods, as well as the repair and installation of personal and household goods. It is a key activity within the economy as it provides retailers with a contact point for potential customers and allows consumers access to goods. In 1995 the largest NACE Rev. 1 Group within retail trade was retail trade in non-specialised stores and the other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores (when measured in terms of turnover as well as the number of enterprises). The latter includes goods such as textiles, leather goods, furniture and electrical household appliances. The remaining NACE Rev. 1 Groups make-up 15 to 20% of turnover within the whole of NACE Rev. 1 Division 52.

In France and Austria the retail sale of pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries contributed the third largest share in turnover, whilst in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark and Luxembourg the retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco in specialised stores occupied third place.

The retail sale of goods not through stores is gaining importance, as it offers new distribution channels and target groups to producers and retailers. One example of new trends is the phenomenon of direct sale.

Across Europe there has been much political debate as to how the retail sector can be stimulated. On-going discussions include subjects such as extending opening hours and the possibilities to raise disposable income of consumers through tax reductions.

Structure of European retail trade

The structure of retail trade has been changing in recent years, resulting in a higher degree of concentration and larger retail outlets. At the same time, increased competition has led to further rationalisation, as demonstrated through time saving cash-systems, improved logistics and electronic stock management.

Within the EU, the highest density of retail outlets was found in Portugal with 12.4 enterprises per thousand inhabitants in 1995 (for countries where data was available). That was nearly twice as many as in Luxembourg, which recorded the second highest enterprise density (6.9 enterprises per thousand inhabitants). In the United Kingdom each thousand inhabitants were served by only 3.6 enterprises on average.

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L - 2014 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 2221
e-mail: dslux@eurostat.datashop.lu

Number of enterprises

In 1995 the largest NACE Rev. 1 Group within retail trade was retail trade in non-specialised stores

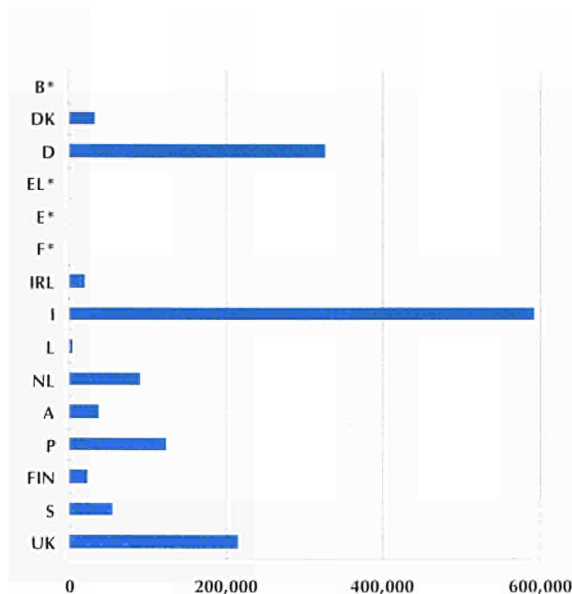


Figure 6.1

Number of enterprises, 1995 (units)

Source:  eurostat

Looking at retail trade in more detail, the highest number of enterprises were located in the activity of other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores in each of the Member States able to report data. The range of enterprise density was between 5.7 enterprises per thousand inhabitants in Italy and 1.5 per thousand in the United Kingdom (no data at this level of detail was available for Portugal).

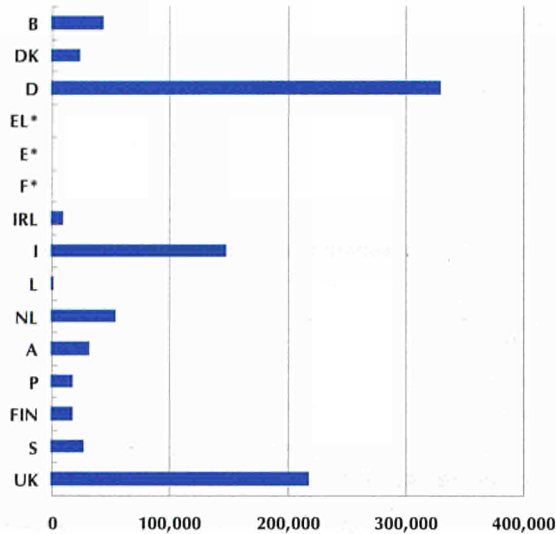
In the United Kingdom there is a low level of enterprise density seen throughout retail trade. This may be proof of the trend for concentration within the industry, rather than an inherent lack of retail trade outlets. Nevertheless, enterprise density in the United Kingdom is not always the lowest in Europe: for example, the Netherlands recorded the lowest density of non-specialised stores (NACE Rev. 1 52.1), Finland the lowest density of stores for food, beverages and tobacco (NACE Rev. 1 52.2) and Germany the lowest density of stores selling second-hand goods (NACE Rev. 1 52.5). It should be noted that in some activities governments still control the distribution of certain products, notably tobacco and alcohol, and hence can influence enterprise distribution directly.

Using the indicator turnover per enterprise allows us to look at another aspect of the structure of the retail trade industry. This indicator gives us an alternative measure for the concentration of retail trade within the European Union.

In the activity of retail sale in non-specialised stores, turnover per enterprise was highest in France (4.2 million ECU per enterprise) followed by Germany and Denmark (4.0 and 3.2 million ECU respectively). The lowest ratios were found in Italy and Ireland (0.6 and 1.0 million ECU respectively). The position of France is not repeated across other activities at the NACE Rev. 1 Group level. For example, the French ratio in the activity of other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores is low in comparison to other Member States. Throughout all the countries for which data is available at this level of detail we find that the ratio of turnover per enterprise at the 3-digit NACE Rev. 1 level is highest in the activity of retail sale in non-specialised stores. Enterprises engaged in retail sale in non-specialised stores show a high degree of concentration. For example, in France, 8.4% of the total number of enterprises in retail trade were found in the activity of retail trade in non-specialised stores. Together they accounted for 50.2% of turnover in the whole of the retail trade industry in France.

Figure 6.2

Turnover, 1995
(million ECU)

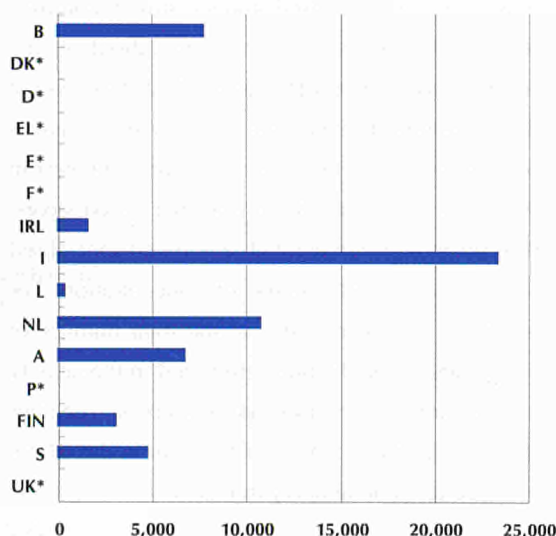


Source: eurostat

Using data from the Labour Force Survey it is possible to look at the share of the number of persons employed by NACE Rev. 1 activity. Retail trade employed between 5.1% of total employment in Denmark and 9.3% in Ireland (for the countries for which data is available). In Germany 3.5% of persons employed were working in the activity of other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores, compared to only 2.8% in France. The German figure is the third highest in Europe after Luxembourg (4.3%) and Austria (3.8%). In Ireland there is a high share for employment in the retail sale of non-

Figure 6.3

Value added at factor
cost, 1995
(million ECU)



Source: eurostat

The retail trade industry

offers a large number of

jobs to persons who wish to

find employment in temporary

work or part-time posts

specialised stores (4.5%), whilst in the same NACE Rev. 1 Group, Italian and French stores are seen to employ only 1.9% and 2.4% of the total labour force respectively.

Comparison of the number of persons employed and the number of employees per enterprise outlines the share of unpaid persons in an enterprise. Compared to other Member States the difference is very high in Italy, where 61.6% of persons employed in other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores are unpaid and 36.1% of those employed in retail sale in non-specialised stores are unpaid. The corresponding shares in France are 21.7% and 6.8%, whilst in Ireland the shares are also well below the Italian levels (20.6% and 15.2% respectively).

The retail trade industry offers a large number of jobs to persons who wish to find employment in temporary work or part-time posts.

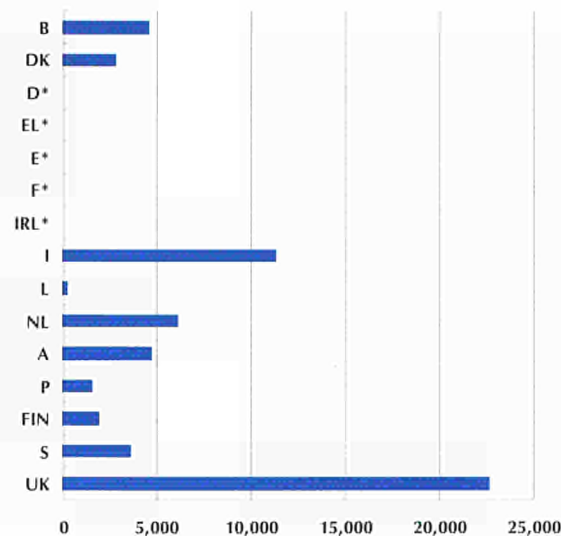
Personnel costs

Performance of retail trade

In 1995 turnover per enterprise in retail trade was highest in the United Kingdom with some 1.0 million ECU (amongst the countries for which data is available). In France there was an average turnover of 696 thousand ECU per enterprise registered. The picture differs if we look at retail sale in non-specialised stores, where French and German enterprises reported 4.2 and 4.0 million ECU of turnover on average and their counterparts in the United Kingdom 2.4 million ECU. In all the NACE Rev. 1 Groups of retail trade, Italy reported substantially lower turnover per enterprise figures, due to the dominance of small enterprises (for example, some 570 thousand ECU of turnover per enterprise in non-specialised stores).

Value added is perhaps a more reliable indicator of performance than turnover, measuring the added value to the product at every stage of the distribution chain. Unfortunately the data covers less of the Member States than that available for turnover. In retail trade in non-specialised stores, value added per enterprise is highest in France and Luxembourg with 463 and 402 thousand ECU per enterprise respectively, whilst Italy and Ireland again record the lowest figures (80 and 138 thousand ECU per enterprise). In the activity of other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores, Austrian retailers report the highest value added on average (181 thousand ECU per enterprise), followed by Luxembourg and the Netherlands (133 and 127 thousand ECU respectively). In the retail sale of pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries, Austria and Luxembourg again report the highest European figures with 321 and 287 thousand ECU of value added per enterprise on average.

Personnel costs per employee were low in the Netherlands compared to other Member States which may well be explained by the higher share of part-time workers in the Dutch labour force and the fact that the employment data is not adjusted to take account of the number of full-time equivalents. An employee in other retail sale of new goods in

**Figure 6.4**

Personnel costs,
1995
(million ECU)

Source:  eurostat

specialised stores accounted for average costs of 15.8 thousand ECU per annum. In France, an employer had to pay personnel costs per employee of 21.9 thousand ECU and in Belgium the highest amount of 25.0 thousand ECU was recorded. Looking in more detail at the sub-activities that make up retail trade we find that in Belgium there were even higher average personnel costs in the retail sale of pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries, with the average employee accounting for 29.9 thousand ECU.

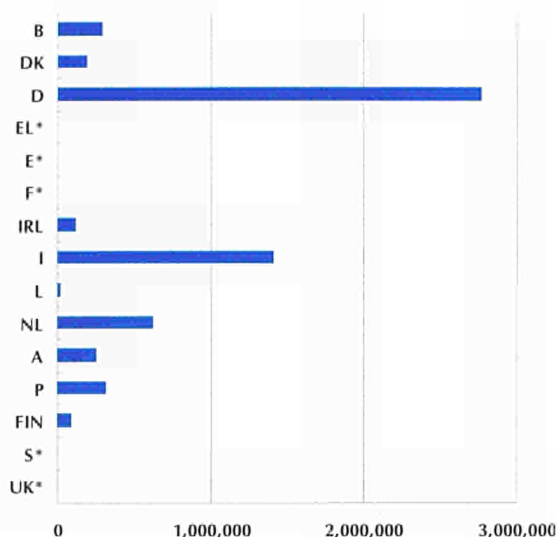
Labour productivity

Retail sale in non-specialised stores labour productivity varied amongst the countries for which data is available between 13.9 thousand ECU per head in Ireland and 35.5 thousand ECU in Finland. Ireland reported the lowest labour productivity in nearly all Groups of NACE Rev. 1 52, except for retail sale not in stores (76.7 thousand ECU).

France reported its highest labour productivity in the retail sale of pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries (38 thousand ECU per head), whilst the second highest productivity level was observed in other retail sale of new goods (26 thousand ECU).

Figure 6.5

Number of persons employed, 1995 (units)



Source: eurostat

Indeed, the retail sale of pharmaceutical and medical goods, cosmetics and toiletries recorded high productivity levels across most of the Member States: for example, Belgium, Luxembourg and Finland (43.9, 43.5 and 43.3 thousand ECU respectively). Across all reporting Member States there was the lowest value added per person employed in the retail sale of second-hand goods in stores.

We can use the indicator wage adjusted labour productivity to measure whether value added covers personnel costs. In retail trade and repair services this was true for all countries for which data was available. In the Netherlands there was value added in retail sale of second-hand goods in stores 4.2 times higher than personnel costs. Retail sale not in stores within the Netherlands also recorded a high ratio (351%), far above the second highest country which was Luxembourg (247%). Wage adjusted labour productivity was low for retail sale in non-specialised stores and other retail sale of new goods in specialised stores across all reporting countries. The ratios in these activities were ranging between 125% and 180%, except in other retail sale, where Italy reported a wage adjusted labour productivity of 242%.

Retail sale via mail order houses

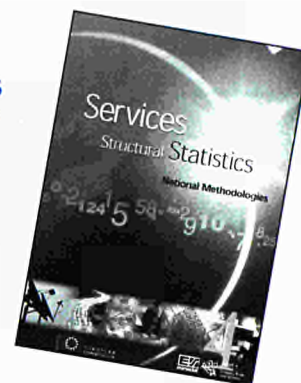
The "information society" has a major influence on retail trade and is a direct threat to traditional channels of commerce. The possibilities of new technologies (such as electronic commerce) will change rapidly the way that society consumes goods. A first example of this phenomenon is that of direct sales, which is growing in importance. Within the statistical classification of economic activities, this area of the economy is covered by NACE Rev. 1 52.61, retail sale via mail order houses.

In 1995 the share of unpaid persons in the total number of persons employed in this activity ranged from 18.5% in France to 0.3% in Austria. The average number of persons employed per enterprise varied widely across the Member States, with the lowest figure being found in Italy (6.3 persons per enterprise) and the highest in Austria (70.4 persons per enterprise). In Germany and France, 13.9 and 22.7 persons were employed on average per enterprise.

The highest labour productivity in terms of value added per person employed and personnel costs covered by value added was recorded in Sweden: 59 thousand ECU of value added per person employed, with value added covering personnel costs twice over.

MERCURE SOURCES

This publication aims to document current practice in each of the members of the European Union (EU) and of the European Free Trade Area (EFTA) in the field of structural business statistics in the service sectors. Each country report is structured in the same way. The first part of the report explains the statistical system and the second part provides details on each national data source. There is one report on the statistical system per country and 46 different sources in total for the 17 countries currently available.



Information is provided on the following areas for the statistical system: the institution responsible, the legal framework, classifications, units, the business register and a summary of data sources. This last item is an overview of the data sources used and it serves as an introduction for the second part of each national report, namely the data sources. These sources are classified as surveys or administrative sources. As with the statistical system, the part relating to sources also has a standard structure. Some of the elements are only relevant for statistical surveys and are not relevant for sources based directly on administrative returns. The information provided for each source is: administrative and legal information, summary of the types of questionnaires used, population coverage, lists of information collected on each unit, primary data collection method including information on sample sizes and response rates, methods for the production of results, information on national quality reports and dissemination.

The contents of the CD-ROM can be viewed using most recent web browsers that support frames and JavaScript (e.g. Netscape 3 or later, Internet Explorer 4 or later). Through the browser the user can access a tailor-made interface showing the detailed methodological information. The information can be selected either by reading through the publication screen by screen or by navigating using a hierarchical tree structure made up of the full list of methodological information. The interface also provides the possibility to view the information for two different countries or two different sources from the same country on screen at the same time, which makes comparisons of the information easier to do.

This product is available in two forms, an electronic version on CD-ROM and a paper publication.

The paper publication runs to slightly more than 400 pages structured country by country and then source by source. A full list of the methodological items presented for each statistical system and each source is annexed to the publication.



Table 6.1

Number of
enterprises, 1995
(units)

	5200	5210	(%)	5230	(%)	5240	(%)	5260	(%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	32,037	3,999	12.5	801	2.5	18,187	56.8	1,083	3.4
D	325,348	32,810	10.1	25,270	7.8	171,233	52.6	54,386	16.7
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	19,224	5,759	30.0	1,030	5.4	8,558	44.5	80	0.4
I	591,939	88,363	14.9	32,253	5.4	326,887	55.2	26,812	4.5
L	2,941	279	9.5	126	4.3	1,882	64.0	180	6.1
NL	90,173	4,411	4.9	2,058	2.3	46,350	51.4	16,689	18.5
A	37,506	5,237	14.0	1,951	5.2	21,261	56.7	1,744	4.6
P	123,464	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	22,265	4,854	21.8	1,171	5.3	12,478	56.0	534	2.4
S	54,472	7,138	13.1	907	1.7	33,543	61.6	1,620	3.0
UK	214,271	42,067	19.6	7,469	3.5	88,705	41.4	29,787	13.9

Source:  eurostat

Table 6.2

Turnover, 1995
(million ECU)

	5200	5210	(%)	5230	(%)	5240	(%)	5260	(%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	44,819	17,611	39.3	3,504	7.8	18,332	40.9	1,143	2.6
DK	24,424	12,638	51.7	1,280	5.2	8,609	35.2	191	0.8
D	330,570	129,691	39.2	28,500	8.6	121,939	36.9	34,713	10.5
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	10,344	5,615	54.3	538	5.2	3,310	32.0	66	0.6
I	149,443	50,354	33.7	11,538	7.7	67,752	45.3	3,610	2.4
L	2,462	874	35.5	160	6.5	1,114	45.3	57	2.3
NL	54,561	17,830	32.7	1,864	3.4	26,070	47.8	2,978	5.5
A	32,924	10,229	31.1	2,623	8.0	16,403	49.8	1,094	3.3
P	18,441	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	18,486	11,913	64.4	1,115	6.0	4,827	26.1	282	1.5
S	28,451	13,226	46.5	134	0.5	12,307	43.3	852	3.0
UK	219,094	100,851	46.0	7,930	3.6	80,525	36.8	10,225	4.7

Source:  eurostat

Value added and personnel costs

Table 6.3

	5200	5210	(%)	5230	(%)	5240	(%)	5260	(%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	7,820	2,620	33.5	874	11.2	3,190	40.8	195	2.5
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	1,669	797	47.8	125	7.5	584	35.0	17	1.0
I	23,452	7,050	30.1	2,091	8.9	11,408	48.6	505	2.2
L	473	112	23.7	36	7.7	251	53.0	11	2.2
NL	10,884	2,633	24.2	427	3.9	5,898	54.2	612	5.6
A	6,849	1,663	24.3	626	9.1	3,855	56.3	189	2.8
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	3,120	1,688	54.1	299	9.6	987	31.7	49	1.6
S	4,859	1,835	37.8	33	0.7	2,404	49.5	159	3.3
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Value added at
factor cost, 1995
(million ECU)


Source:  eurostat

Table 6.4

	5200	5210	(%)	5230	(%)	5240	(%)	5260	(%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	4,653	1,934	41.6	422	9.1	1,784	38.3	84	1.8
DK	2,882	1,208	41.9	209	7.3	1,215	42.1	20	0.7
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	11,371	4,726	41.6	958	8.4	4,715	41.5	201	1.8
L	291	74	25.6	17	5.7	161	55.3	4	1.5
NL	6,149	1,749	28.4	224	3.6	3,387	55.1	174	2.8
A	4,786	1,240	25.9	397	8.3	2,734	57.1	141	3.0
P	1,583	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	1,980	1,143	57.7	164	8.3	600	30.3	25	1.2
S	3,658	1,480	40.5	21	0.6	1,767	48.3	114	3.1
UK	22,697	9,753	43.0	819	3.6	9,500	41.9	1,014	4.5

Personnel costs,
1995
(million ECU)

Source:  eurostat

Table 6.5

Number of persons
employed, 1995
(units)

	5200	5210	(%)	5230	(%)	5240	(%)	5260	(%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	286,161	85,986	30.0	19,918	7.0	127,474	44.5	9,022	3.2
DK	189,632	78,053	41.2	8,838	4.7	78,985	41.7	1,574	0.8
D	2,761,400	874,800	31.7	243,200	8.8	1,226,700	44.4	225,000	8.1
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	117,049	57,363	49.0	5,905	5.0	40,861	34.9	227	0.2
I	1,406,990	372,620	26.5	91,441	6.5	698,224	49.6	39,278	2.8
L	16,939	4,159	24.6	833	4.9	9,226	54.5	411	2.4
NL	624,702	213,292	34.1	19,973	3.2	279,424	44.7	32,729	5.2
A	254,179	64,407	25.3	19,735	7.8	141,773	55.8	7,220	2.8
P	311,906	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	92,631	47,575	51.4	6,900	7.4	32,999	35.6	1,201	1.3
S	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:


Source:  eurostat

Table 6.6

Number of
employees, 1995
(units)

	5200	5210	(%)	5230	(%)	5240	(%)	5260	(%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	186,762	76,550	41.0	14,143	7.6	71,097	38.1	3,647	2.0
DK	163,573	74,410	45.5	8,154	5.0	64,962	39.7	861	0.5
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	94,142	48,609	51.6	4,962	5.3	32,425	34.4	211	0.2
I	603,979	238,040	39.4	43,576	7.2	268,085	44.4	8,724	1.4
L	14,054	3,894	27.7	692	4.9	7,403	52.7	209	1.5
NL	502,756	205,642	40.9	17,174	3.4	219,153	43.6	12,272	2.4
A	220,125	59,160	26.9	17,806	8.1	123,472	56.1	5,468	2.5
P	225,318	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	80,345	44,544	55.4	6,384	7.9	26,410	32.9	889	1.1
S	154,361	62,485	40.5	1,050	0.7	74,308	48.1	4,045	2.6
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Value added and number of persons employed

Table 6.7

	5200	5210	5230	5240	5260
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:
B	27.33	30.47	43.89	25.02	21.58
DK	:	:	:	:	:
D	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	14.26	13.90	21.17	14.28	76.56
I	16.67	18.92	22.86	16.34	12.87
L	27.95	26.96	43.51	27.18	25.84
NL	17.42	12.35	21.40	21.11	18.71
A	26.95	25.83	31.72	27.19	26.22
P	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	33.68	35.47	43.28	29.92	40.98
S	:	:	:	:	:
UK	:	:	:	:	:

Value added at
factor cost per
person employed,
1995
(thousand ECU)

Source:  eurostat

Table 6.8

	5200	5210	5230	5240	5260
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:
DK	5.92	19.52	11.03	4.34	1.45
D	8.49	26.66	9.62	7.16	4.14
EL	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	6.09	9.96	5.73	4.77	2.84
I	2.38	4.22	2.84	2.14	1.46
L	5.76	14.91	6.61	4.90	2.28
NL	6.93	48.35	9.71	6.03	1.96
A	6.78	12.30	10.12	6.67	4.14
P	2.53	:	:	:	:
FIN	4.16	9.80	5.89	2.64	2.25
S	:	:	:	:	:
UK	:	:	:	:	:

Number of
persons employed
per enterprise, 1995
(units)

Source:  eurostat

Table 6.9

Turnover per
enterprise, 1995
(million ECU)

	5200	5210	5230	5240	5260
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:
DK	0.76	3.16	1.60	0.47	0.18
D	1.02	3.95	1.13	0.71	0.64
EL	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	0.54	0.98	0.52	0.39	0.82
I	0.25	0.57	0.36	0.21	0.13
L	0.84	3.13	1.27	0.59	0.32
NL	0.61	4.04	0.91	0.56	0.18
A	0.88	1.95	1.34	0.77	0.63
P	0.15	:	:	:	:
FIN	0.83	2.45	0.95	0.39	0.53
S	0.52	1.85	0.15	0.37	0.53
UK	1.02	2.40	1.06	0.91	0.34

Source:  eurostat

Table 6.10

Share of the number
of employees in the
total number of
persons employed,
1995
(%)

	5200	5210	5230	5240	5260
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:
B	65.3	89.0	71.0	55.8	40.4
DK	86.3	95.3	92.3	82.2	54.7
D	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	80.4	84.7	84.0	79.4	93.0
I	42.9	63.9	47.7	38.4	22.2
L	83.0	93.6	83.1	80.2	50.9
NL	80.5	96.4	86.0	78.4	37.5
A	86.6	91.9	90.2	87.1	75.7
P	72.2	:	:	:	:
FIN	86.7	93.6	92.5	80.0	74.0
S	:	:	:	:	:
UK	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

MONTHLY PANORAMA OF EUROPEAN BUSINESS - CD-ROM

As well as being available as a paper publication it is also possible to purchase a CD-ROM of the Monthly Panorama of European Business. The CD-ROM is provided with Adobe Acrobat version 3.0 files of the three language versions of the paper publication. These files can be printed or alternatively the user can perform searches for a keyword within them.

The main added value of the electronic publication is that it includes a wide range of short-terms statistics from official national sources. The data are supplied by the national statistical offices of each Member State to Eurostat. Data are then harmonised so that comparisons can be carried out between the national data. Furthermore, European totals are generated for the EU as a whole (EU-15), as well as for the euro-zone (the eleven countries that have formed Monetary Union). Data are provided for lengthy time-series on a monthly basis (often back as far as 1990). The data are normally updated on a monthly basis on the CD-ROM, although some series are only provided every quarter.



Data are supplied for total industry and for the main industrial groupings, in other words intermediate goods, capital goods, consumer durables and consumer non-durables. Furthermore, the data is supplied each month for all NACE Rev. 1 industrial groupings at the 2-digit level of the Division - using the statistical classification of economic activities nomenclature.

The data is available in easily read text files (*.TXT) that can be read by almost all PC's using either a spreadsheet or a database software package. For users who wish to use a spreadsheet directly, the same data is also provided in MS Excel 5.0 format. Data is provided using a comma separator for decimal points (for mainland European users) and using a point separator for the decimal (for the United Kingdom and Ireland).

For more information on this product please contact a Eurostat Datashop, see below for details.

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7.

Methodological notes

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NACE Rev. 1 definitions

Statistical sources 108

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

Signs and abbreviations 109

specific to use in this publication

Activity 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. Data have been based on 1995 = 100, using weights from the annual surveys of 1995.

Main industrial groupings 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

If Member States dispose of more detailed data series at the 4 digit level of NACE Rev. 1, a more elaborate definition at this level of disaggregation is used.

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 made by Eurostat;
- 3) the data for the USA and Japan, which are supplied by the OECD.

Every effort has been made to include data for the EU-15 Member States. The data from 1991 onwards are on a post-unification basis and include East-Germany.

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 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.

Sometimes statistics are collected at the product level. This may be the case for prices, production, imports and exports. Thus, data is not strictly speaking following an activity classification (NACE Rev. 1) but a product classification (Classification of Products by Activity "CPA"). CPA, was laid down in a Council Regulation in 1993. It is a six digit classification which for the 2-digit, 3-digit and 4-digit level is identical to NACE Rev. 1 in its coding.

For the indices of imports and exports, external trade data of 9,000 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.

Statistical sources, signs & abbreviations

The value indices are all in ECU terms. The indices for the EU refer only to extra-Union trade, the indices for Member States reflect also intra-Union trade.

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.

Seasonal adjustment

All series, except prices and capacity utilisation, are seasonally adjusted with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V. Gomez. For France, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom the indices are seasonally adjusted by the national statistical office. For Germany, the trend and seasonally adjusted figures for the production index are calculated by the national statistical office. Otherwise, Eurostat calculates the trend cycle, i.e. seasonally adjusted series, where additionally the irregular fluctuations have been excluded (using the program TRAMO / SEATS).

Growth rates

The changes which are given in the tables and graphs show three different growth rates. The first being for the latest three months data compared to the previous three months data ($t/t-1$) - 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 ($t/t-4$) - here a series only adjusted for the number of working days is used. The third is a year on year growth rate for a particular month ($t/t-12$) - here gross data for prices is used. Estimates are sometimes made to create a EU-15 or EUR-11 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 (where available). Growth rates are either one month compared to the same month of the previous year or three months compared to the same three months of the previous year. For Member States where just one month is missing (and not more), this missing value is 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 5 or more persons). The employment data relates to the number of persons employed, excluding home workers.

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 the data have been filled by estimates made by Eurostat. Thus, EU-15 and EUR-11 totals often contain estimates for missing countries. Estimates are shown in bold. Attention should be drawn to the fact that the data has switched to the NACE Rev. 1 classification, this may result in revisions of data being made in the medium-term.

Annual foreign trade data comes from the COMEXT database. Statistical régime 4 (total trade) is used.

Signs and abbreviations

EUR-11	Monetary union participating countries
B / L	Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union
ECU	European currency unit
TRIAD	EU-15, Japan and the USA
Billion	thousand million
*	not available (in graphs)
:	not available (in tables)
**	estimation (in graphs)
data in bold	estimation (in tables)
1995 = 100	reference year

For more information on methodology, please contact Berthold Feldmann - tel: (352) 4301 34401 or e-mail: berthold.feldmann@eurostat.cec.be

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