

Monthly Panorama of European Business

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EUROPEAN
COMMISSION



THEME 4
Industry, Trade
and Services

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It can be accessed through the Europa server (<http://europa.eu.int>)

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This sixth issue of the Monthly Panorama of European Business concentrates on two key industrial activities within the European economy. The activities of machinery and equipment (NACE Rev. 1 29) and electrical machinery and apparatus (NACE Rev. 1 31). They are both industries that generally provide capital goods to other areas of manufacturing.

Mechanical engineering is dominated to an even larger degree by companies supplying capital goods to other downstream activities. Output ranges from small miniature precision components to almost full-scale production plants. Its performance is therefore strongly related to general manufacturing activity and displays cyclical patterns of growth. European industry has faced the challenge of competition by investing in computer-aided production facilities and trying to specialise in high value products such as environmental technologies. Whilst the industry is not considered “leading-edge”, it does use innovative technologies in its production process, for example, micro-electronics, optics and sensors. The machinery and equipment activity accounted for approximately 9.3% of total European manufacturing.

Extra-EU competition in this activity has increased in recent years, especially in areas such as mass-produced, standardised equipment. Technical harmonisation in the two industries has taken place to some degree and this has allowed EU producers to develop economies of scale in what used to be areas dominated by small and medium-sized craft workshops. In the electrical machinery and apparatus industry, this trend has been further enhanced in large-scale activities that require a high level of capital investment (for example, high voltage equipment and motors). The electrical machinery and apparatus industry accounted for approximately 4.3% of EU manufacturing output.

Pedro Díaz Muñoz,
Luxembourg



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Latest outlook - the most recent short-term indicators for European construction, page 45



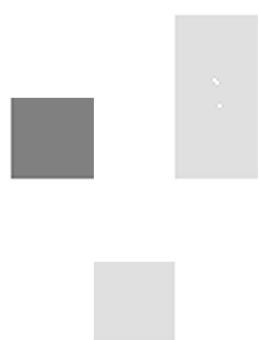
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The Monthly Panorama of European Business has the objective of furnishing readers with an instrument which will allow them to follow the evolution of short-term trends and also show the structure and activity of European business. The publication appears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

Non-metallic mineral products
Wearing apparel, leather and leather products

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1. Industrial commentary

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current situation in the EU, Japan and United States

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index of production
producer price index
new orders
trade balance



1. Industrial commentary

European industrial output falls in the first quarter of 1999

EU industrial production fell by 0.1% in the first quarter of 1999 (when compared to the final quarter of 1998 - this growth rate is not annualised). The figure for March 1999 showed an improvement on that recorded in February 1999, when EU output was down by 0.4%. The euro-zone¹ aggregate reported the same trend as the data for the EU-15. The short-term growth rate that compares figures for a three month moving average with those of the previous three months turned negative in October 1998. After falling to -0.4% by January 1999 there has been a stabilisation of the rate of change, with no further reductions during the first quarter of 1999 and an improvement in data for March 1999.

If we look at the growth of the individual industrial groupings that make up the EU industry aggregate we find positive rates for consumer durables, where growth of 0.3% in March 1999 was recorded (again compared to the final quarter of 1998). The other EU-15 growth rates for the remaining three industrial groupings were as follows: intermediate goods (-0.4%), capital goods (-0.1%), consumer non-durables (no change).

Performance across the Member States

If we look at the business cycle across the Member States we can see that for the majority of the Member States there was a downward trend observed for most indicators. Capacity utilisation was either down or stable in every country, except for Ireland. Production trends were showing signs of growth in a number of countries: for example, in Finland and Ireland there was growth above the level of one per cent. There was also positive growth in output in France, Luxembourg, Spain and Sweden. Hence, the negative European values were essentially caused by the negative output experienced in Germany (-1.2% to April 1999), Italy (-0.5% to March 1999) and the United Kingdom (-1.0% to April 1999).

(1) Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland make up the EUR-11 aggregate, otherwise known as the euro-zone.

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EU output down by 0.1% in the first quarter of 1999 compared to the last quarter of 1998

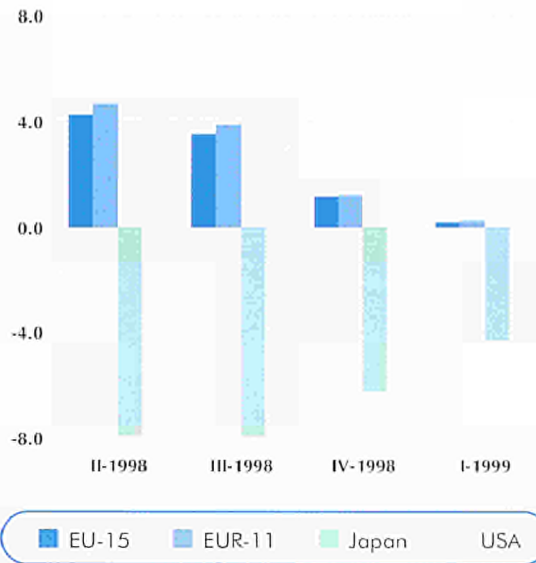


Figure 1.1

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

Source: eurostat

In France production started to take a positive trend. All four industrial groupings reported increasing output for the fifth consecutive month in March 1999. Growth was somewhat subdued in intermediate goods (+0.3%) and capital goods (+0.2%), whilst growth in the remaining two industrial groupings was higher, consumer durables (+1.2%) and consumer non-durables (+0.5%).

Italian output was also following a declining trend, which was evident in three of the four industrial groupings in March 1999: intermediate goods (-0.6%), capital goods (-0.4%), consumer durables (-1.2%) and consumer non-durables (no change).

There was a mixed set of data recorded in the United Kingdom, with negative rates of change for all four industrial groupings. February 1999 was the seventh consecutive month that capital goods reported growth in excess of one per cent in the United Kingdom (since when rates turned negative, down by 3.8% by April 1999). Rates of change for the other industrial groupings in the United Kingdom were as follows: intermediate goods (-1.1%), consumer durables (-4.0%), consumer non-durables (-3.5%).

In Germany industrial production fell by 1.2% in the three months to April 1999, this reduction was more pronounced than those seen for German industry since the start of 1999, when rates of between -0.7% and -0.9% were recorded. The main reason for a decline in the German index was the performance of capital goods, where the latest figure recorded a loss of some 2.1% for April 1999.

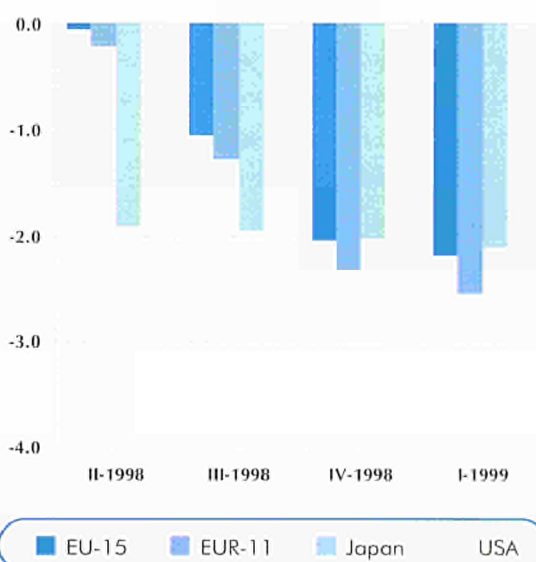


Figure 1.2

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

Source: eurostat

Annual changes in production show moderate gains

If we look at growth in output between the first quarter of 1999 and the same quarter of 1998 we find that EU output had progressed by 0.2%, whilst the euro-zone also recorded growth of 0.2%. These figures showed that the slow down in industrial activity in the EU was continuing its trend. Data for the EU for the third and final quarters of 1998 reported growth rates of the magnitude of 3.5% and 1.1% respectively. For the EUR-11 aggregate the corresponding figures for the third and fourth quarters of 1998 were 3.9% and 1.2% respectively.

Annual changes that were recorded in the Member States showed a wide disparity in their levels, ranging from growth of over 3% in Greece, Finland and Ireland to reductions of more than one per cent in Austria, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom.

Producer prices declined

by 1.3% in April 1999

Industrial producer prices continue to decline

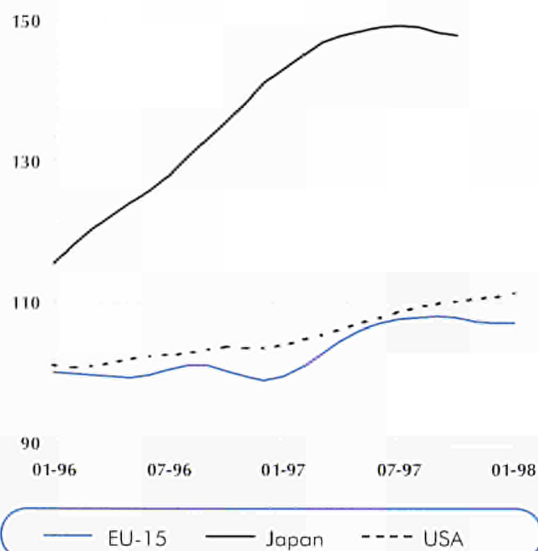
The negative trend of industrial producer prices seen since the month of May 1998 continued into the second quarter of 1999, with falling prices in Europe for twelve consecutive months. Latest figures for the EU showed that European producer prices fell by 1.3% during the year to April 1999. Data for the euro-zone was also available until April 1999, when domestic prices were down by 1.6%.

If we compare the price reductions for the latest month with those reported at the start of 1999, we see that there has been a slow down in the negative trends reported. European industrial producer prices had fallen by 2.3% in February 1999, then by 1.9% in March 1999. Euro-zone figures also showed a declining trend from 2.7% in February 1999.

In Germany producer prices declined by 1.7% in April 1999 for the industry aggregate. This decline was largely concentrated in the grouping of intermediate goods, where a reduction of 3.2% was recorded. In contrast, two of the other main industrial groupings in Germany reported that their prices were on the increase. Producer prices rose by 0.6% and 0.5% for capital goods and consumer durables.

Figure 1.3

New orders index
(1995 = 100)



Source: eurostat

In France, there has been a fairly rapid reduction in the rate of decrease of industrial producer prices from -4.1% in February 1999 to -2.7% in March 1999 and a subsequent slow down to 1.4% in April 1999. Whilst consumer goods reported little or no change in the rate of decrease of prices (-1.2% for consumer durables and -0.9% for consumer non-durables), there was a marked slow down in the rate of decrease for intermediate goods (latest data -3.1% compared to -6.7% in January 1999) and a more moderate decrease for capital goods (-1.9% in January 1999 to -1.2% in April 1999).

In Italy a similar picture was seen, with the rate of decrease in prices most pronounced in intermediate goods (down by 3.9% in April 1999). Indeed, the three remaining main industrial groupings all reported that prices were increasing or stable, they rose by 0.9% for capital goods, 0.8% for consumer durables and reported no change for consumer non-durables.

In the United Kingdom there were signs of positive growth again in producer prices. Data for April 1999 reported that industrial producer prices rose by 0.1%, largely due to an expansion in prices within consumer non-durables (up by 0.8% in the same month). Consumer durables also reported no change with prices stable in April 1999.

Latest trends in Japan and the USA

Industrial output in Japan declined by 0.1% in the first quarter of 1999 (compared to the final quarter of 1998). The rate of change was equal to -0.6% in March 1999, which could be compared to reductions of 0.6% and 0.5% in January and February 1999. There were some positive signs starting to appear in the Japanese industrial economy, intermediate goods recorded growth of 0.5% in February 1999, the third consecutive month that this main industrial grouping registered a positive value. Consumer durables also reported positive values, growth of 0.6% in March 1999. The other main industrial groupings in the Japanese economy

	EU-15	EUR-11	Japan	USA
04-98	3.2	3.6	-6.3	3.9
05-98	6.0	7.0	-9.2	5.3
06-98	3.5	3.6	-8.3	3.5
07-98	3.9	4.2	-8.8	3.3
08-98	4.0	4.2	-8.3	3.7
09-98	2.8	3.3	-6.8	2.5
10-98	2.0	2.4	-7.0	2.6
11-98	1.8	1.9	-6.0	1.7
12-98	-0.6	-0.9	-5.8	1.6
01-99	1.1	1.4	-6.2	1.8
02-99	-0.4	-0.4	-4.7	2.2
03-99	-0.2	-0.2	-2.3	1.5

Table 1.1

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

Source:  eurostat

continued to report declining trends, in order of magnitude they were: consumer non-durables (-0.3%) and capital goods (-1.0%). Producer prices continued on a negative trend with a reduction of around 2%. Indeed, from April 1998 through until March 1999 each month has seen a decline of between -1.9% and -2.2% in the Japanese data.

In the USA, industrial output continued to expand, rising by 0.4% in March 1999. There were two industrial groupings that contributed to the expansion observed in the American economy, they were intermediate goods and consumer durables where growth of 1.3% and 1.1% was posted in the first quarter of 1999 (again compared to the final quarter of 1998). American producer prices had been falling by as much as 3.4% in November 1998 - however, this rate has been reduced somewhat in recent months, with the latest figure for March 1999 showing a decline of 1.5% in the industrial producer prices. It is now two years that American producer prices have been falling.



2. Latest outlook: industry

Business cycle at a glance 14

Short-term indicators 15

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	Retail trade
EU-15	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	→	↘	:	↗
EUR-11	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	↘	:	:	↗
B	10-98 ⇌ 12-98	:	→	:	↘	:	→
DK	02-99 ⇌ 04-99	:	→	→	↘	↗	:
D	02-99 ⇌ 04-99	:	↘	→	→	↗	:
EL	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	↗	:	↘	:	:
E	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	↗	→	→	:	↗
F	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	→	→	:	↗
IRL	12-98 ⇌ 02-99	:	↗	:	↘↘	:	↗
I	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	↘	↘	:	↗
L	10-98 ⇌ 12-98	↗	↗	↘	↘	:	↗
NL	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	→	↘	:	↗
A	10-98 ⇌ 12-98	:	→	:	↘	↘	→
P	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	↘↘	→	:	:
FIN	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	↗	↘	↘↘	:	:
S	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	→	↘	:	:
UK	02-99 ⇌ 04-99	:	↘	→	→	↘↘	↗
NO	12-98 ⇌ 02-99	:	→	:	:	:	:
Japan	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	↘	:	:	:
USA	01-99 ⇌ 03-99	:	→	↘	:	:	:

Key:

↗↗	>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.

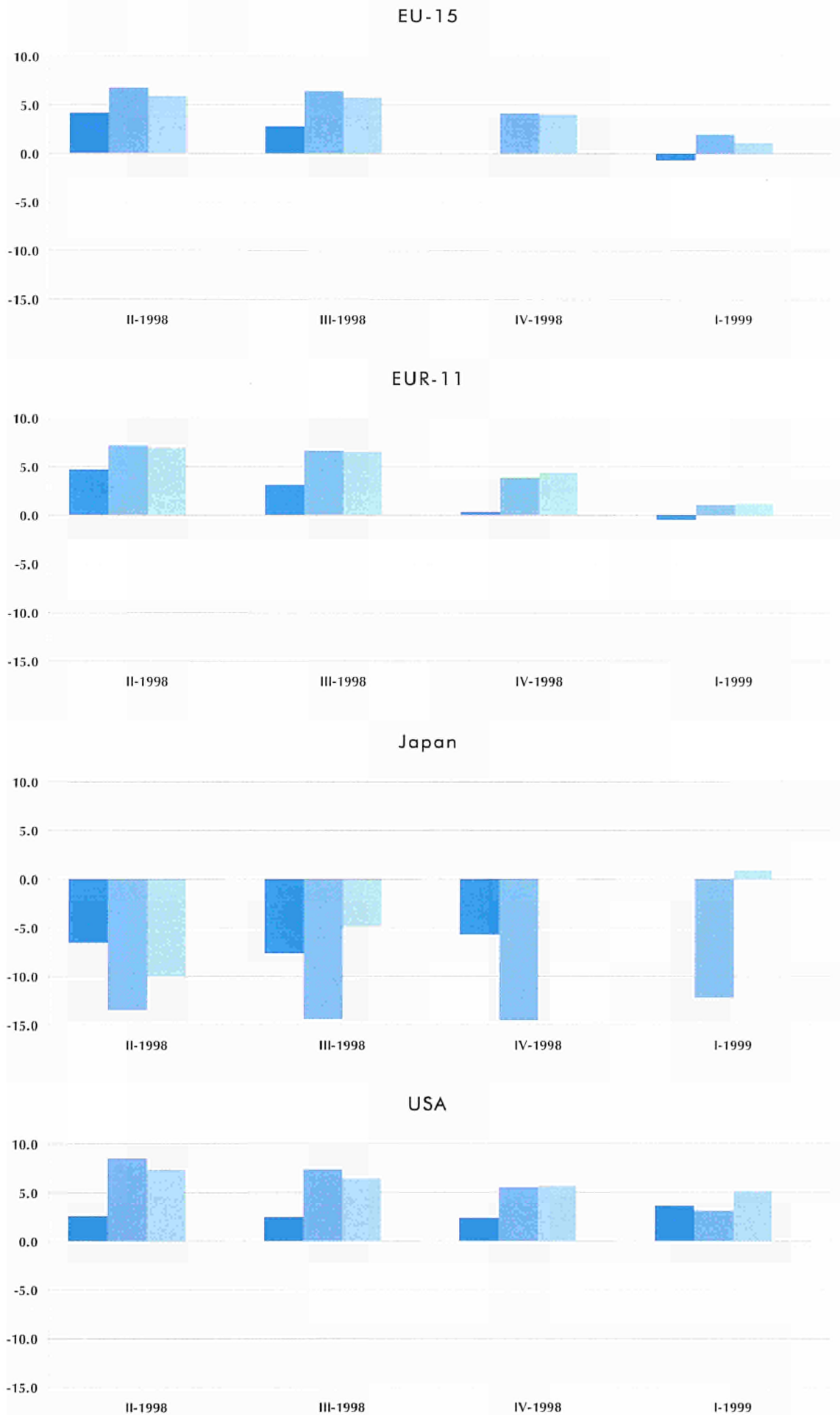
2) Capacity utilisation is fixed on the first month of the quarter of the period given.

Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

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

Table 2.2

Industrial production:
indices
(1995 = 100)

	1996	1997	1998	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99
EU-15	100.6	104.6	108.3	108.7	107.4	108.3	107.9	108.6	:
EUR-11	100.4	104.8	109.0	109.3	107.7	109.1	108.6	109.0	:
B	100.8	105.6	109.1	110.8	107.1	:	:	:	:
DK	101.6	107.0	109.3	111.3	107.8	111.0	110.7	113.5	108.3
D	100.6	104.2	108.9	109.6	108.0	108.0	107.5	107.2	107.1
EL	101.0	102.7	111.3	113.0	113.5	113.9	113.8	112.7	:
E	99.0	105.9	111.5	113.0	113.0	113.7	112.6	114.3	:
F	99.9	103.9	108.6	109.2	108.5	108.4	107.9	108.8	:
IRL	108.0	124.5	144.0	146.5	152.1	153.6	152.4	:	:
I	98.1	101.8	102.9	103.2	100.1	102.3	101.6	101.9	:
L	99.6	106.3	111.0	113.3	108.1	:	:	:	:
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
A	100.6	106.7	109.3	110.3	105.8	:	:	:	:
P	105.6	108.5	114.0	113.9	112.6	115.0	114.0	113.7	:
FIN	103.8	113.2	121.8	123.4	122.5	127.0	126.4	125.8	:
S	101.7	108.9	113.4	115.2	113.7	111.6	114.1	115.5	:
UK	101.2	102.4	103.5	102.5	101.7	101.2	101.2	101.6	101.7
NO	105.4	109.0	108.3	106.8	106.2	108.0	107.4	:	:
Japan	102.0	105.9	99.0	96.6	97.6	98.2	97.4	99.5	:
USA	104.4	110.7	114.8	115.5	115.7	115.6	115.8	116.0	:


Source:  eurostat

Table 2.3

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

	1996	1997	1998	10-98	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99
Total industry									
EU-15	100.6	104.6	108.3	108.9	108.7	107.4	108.3	107.9	108.6
Japan	102.0	105.9	99.0	98.6	96.6	97.6	98.2	97.4	99.5
USA	104.4	110.7	114.8	115.7	115.5	115.7	115.6	115.8	116.0
Intermediate goods									
EU-15	100.1	105.0	108.5	108.5	108.4	107.3	107.9	107.6	107.9
Japan	100.0	104.5	98.6	98.6	97.1	98.2	99.7	98.5	101.5
USA	102.5	106.6	109.1	110.1	110.4	110.8	111.5	111.7	111.4
Capital goods									
EU-15	101.8	106.5	113.1	114.3	114.0	113.9	114.1	113.7	113.5
Japan	106.4	109.8	96.5	92.1	89.4	90.6	88.2	89.3	96.5
USA	106.8	116.6	125.5	128.4	127.6	126.8	126.1	126.1	126.3
Consumer durables									
EU-15	100.6	103.8	109.5	111.1	110.4	109.6	110.3	110.1	110.4
Japan	102.6	111.0	105.5	110.1	103.8	105.7	107.4	106.8	110.5
USA	108.2	118.6	127.1	129.9	129.9	130.3	130.3	130.6	130.7
Consumer non-durables									
EU-15	100.1	102.4	103.6	103.6	103.3	102.9	103.9	103.2	103.3
Japan	100.1	101.0	97.9	98.7	98.8	99.8	98.9	97.7	97.5
USA	100.8	103.9	104.5	103.5	104.2	104.3	104.0	104.4	104.3

Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

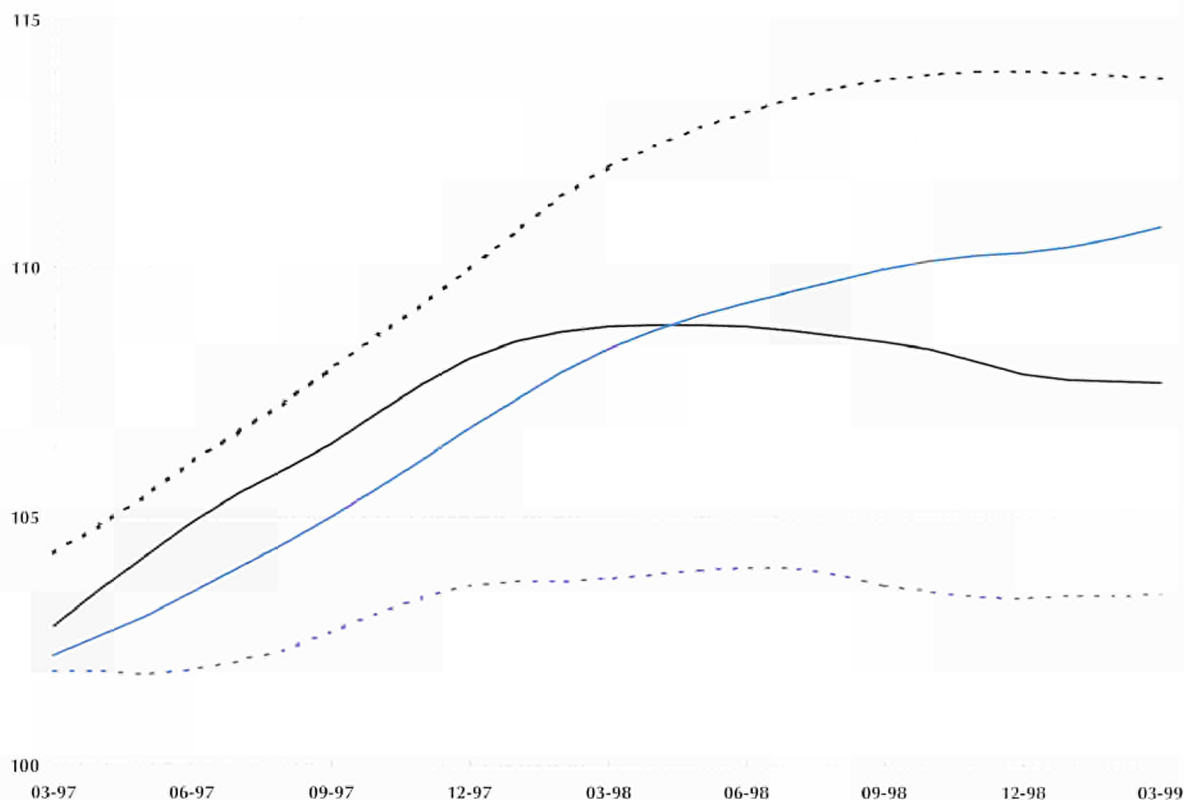


Figure 2.2

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

Table 2.4

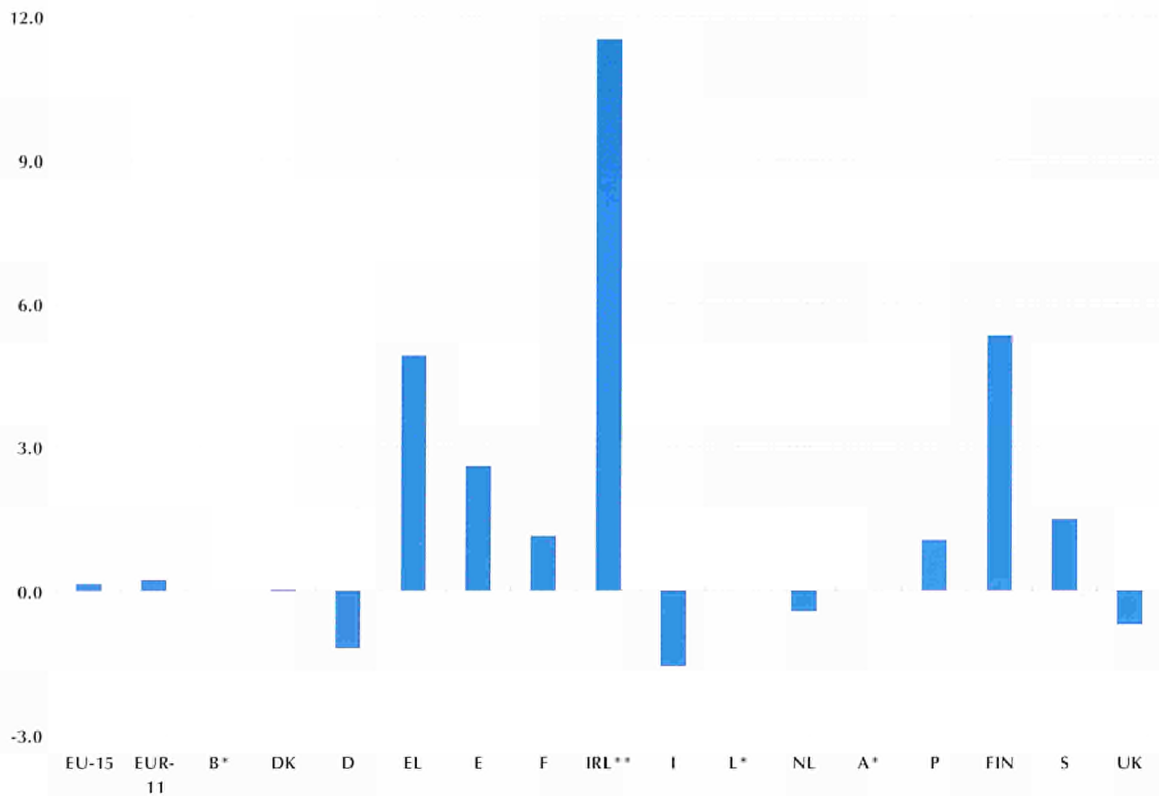
	Latest 3 months available	Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.0
EUR-11	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	-0.2	-0.2	-0.5	0.3	0.1
B	10-98 ⇄ 12-98	-0.2	0.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.0
DK	02-99 ⇄ 04-99	-0.2	-1.0	1.4	0.8	0.8
D	02-99 ⇄ 04-99	-1.2	-1.0	-2.1	-1.3	-0.7
EL	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	0.8	-0.4	0.7	0.6	0.4
E	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	0.8	0.5	1.9	1.0	0.3
F	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	0.2	0.3	0.2	1.2	0.5
IRL	12-98 ⇄ 02-99	2.4	4.4	1.5	:	0.5
I	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	-0.5	-0.6	-0.2	-1.2	0.0
L	10-98 ⇄ 12-98	0.6	1.4	0.1	4.8	0.4
NL	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	-0.2	-0.8	0.5	0.8	-0.1
A	10-98 ⇄ 12-98	-0.3	-1.8	0.4	-5.0	-1.1
P	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	0.0	0.7	-1.0	-0.2	-0.9
FIN	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	1.3	0.4	5.0	-5.0	-0.5
S	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	0.4	-0.8	1.6	1.1	0.7
UK	02-99 ⇄ 04-99	-1.0	-1.1	-3.8	-4.0	-3.5
NO	12-98 ⇄ 02-99	0.0	-0.5	1.0	-0.3	-0.1
Japan	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	-0.1	:	-1.0	0.6	-0.3
USA	01-99 ⇄ 03-99	0.4	1.3	-0.2	1.1	0.3

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, 01-99 to 03-99 (%)



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	01-99	⇔	03-99	0.2	-0.8	1.9	1.0	0.3
EUR-11	01-99	⇔	03-99	0.2	-0.6	1.0	1.2	1.0
B	10-98	⇔	12-98	1.1	1.8	3.3	0.5	-3.8
DK	02-99	⇔	04-99	2.3	0.6	3.6	3.8	3.1
D	02-99	⇔	04-99	-1.6	-2.2	-3.1	-0.7	0.6
EL	01-99	⇔	03-99	4.9	6.7	9.5	-6.1	0.5
E	01-99	⇔	03-99	2.6	2.8	5.6	2.8	0.2
F	01-99	⇔	03-99	1.2	0.3	3.3	6.4	2.5
IRL	12-98	⇔	02-99	13.0	18.9	15.1	:	2.5
I	01-99	⇔	03-99	-1.6	-2.1	-1.8	-0.4	1.7
L	10-98	⇔	12-98	0.6	-1.7	7.2	18.5	0.8
NL	01-99	⇔	03-99	-0.4	-1.1	1.1	2.0	-0.1
A	10-98	⇔	12-98	-1.9	-2.1	-2.1	-3.5	-8.8
P	01-99	⇔	03-99	1.1	2.1	2.0	3.3	-1.8
FIN	01-99	⇔	03-99	5.3	-1.6	23.1	-15.1	-1.8
S	01-99	⇔	03-99	1.5	-2.7	6.4	7.6	2.2
UK	02-99	⇔	04-99	-1.4	-2.7	3.6	-0.4	-3.4
NO	12-98	⇔	02-99	-2.2	-0.6	5.2	-3.0	-1.2
Japan	01-99	⇔	03-99	-4.3	:	-12.3	0.8	-0.4
USA	01-99	⇔	03-99	1.8	3.6	3.1	5.1	-0.9

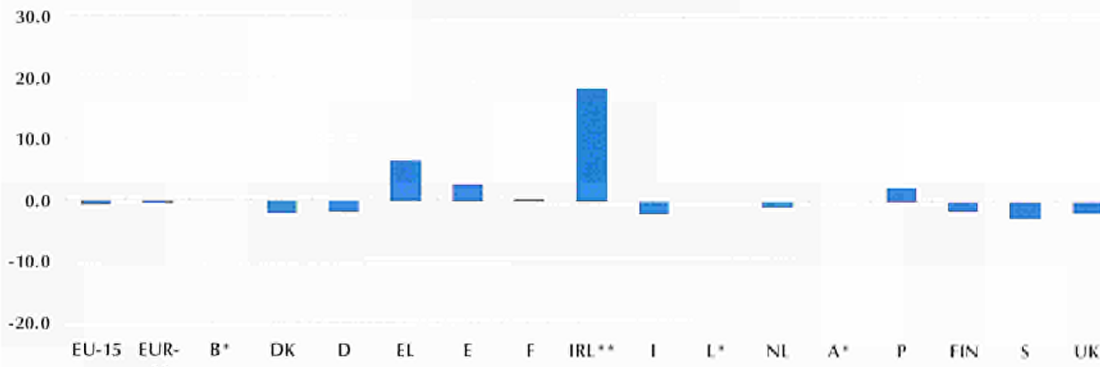
Source: eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

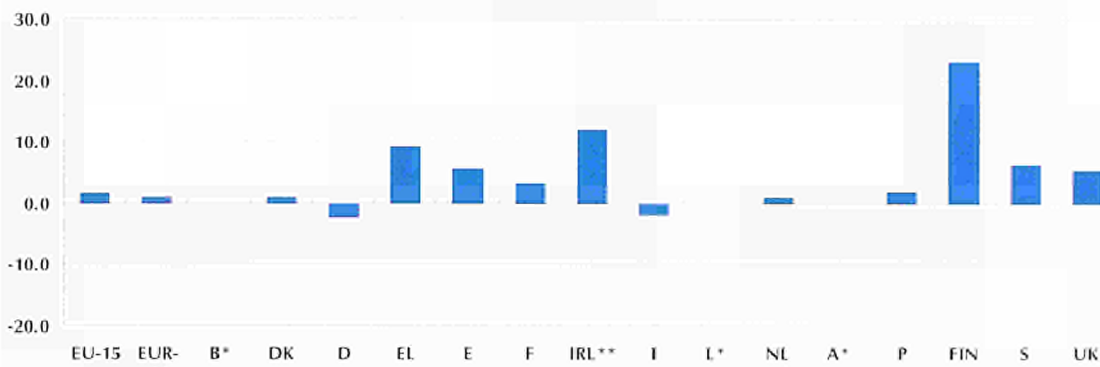
Figure 2.4

Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 01-99 to 03-99 (%)

Intermediate goods



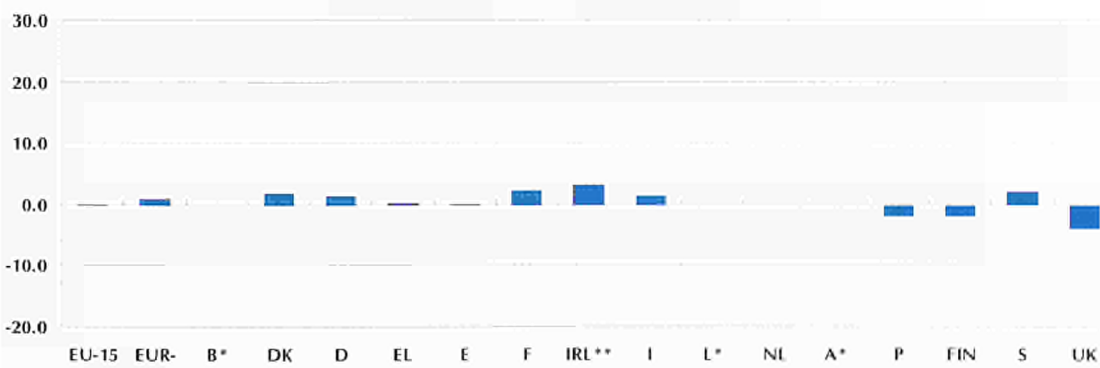
Capital goods



Consumer durables goods



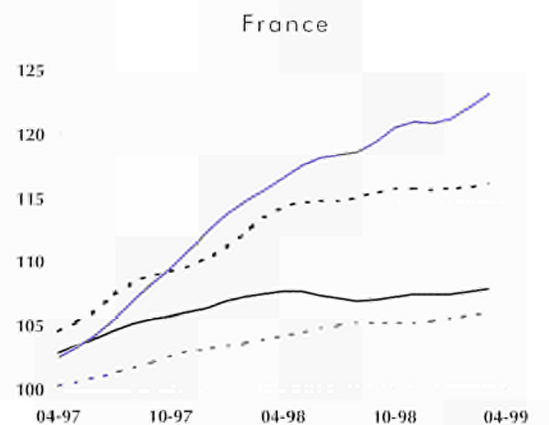
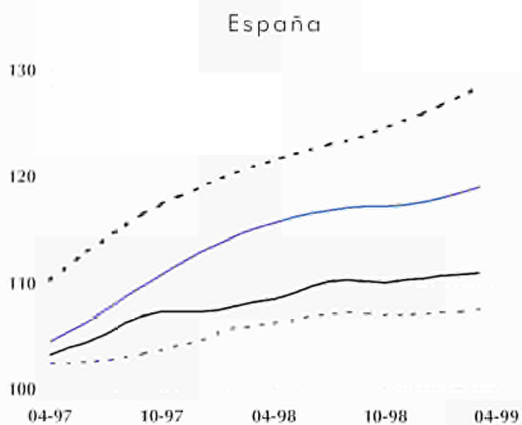
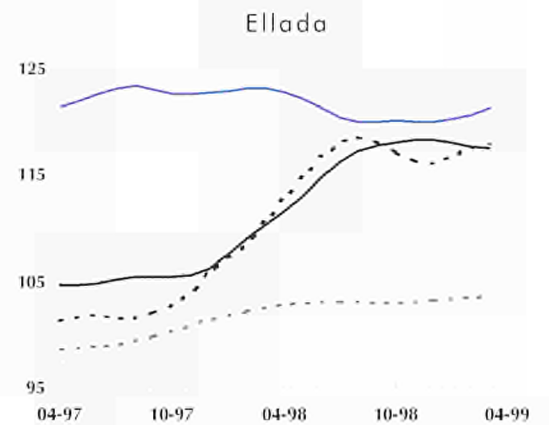
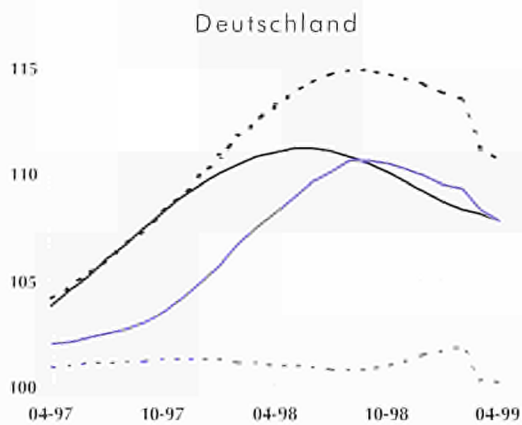
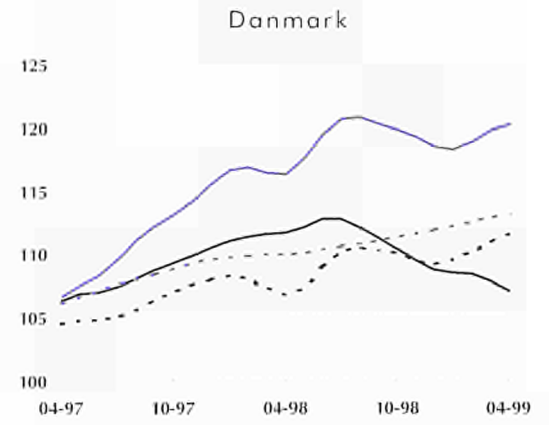
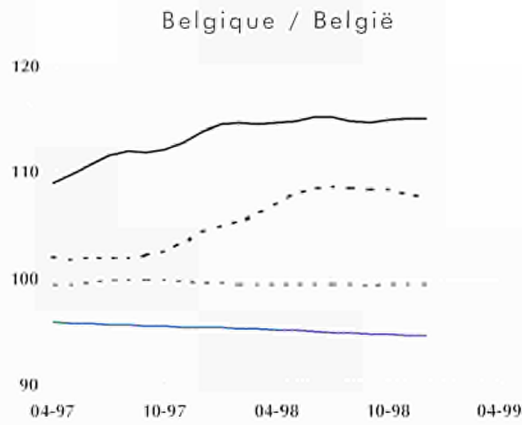
Consumer non-durables goods



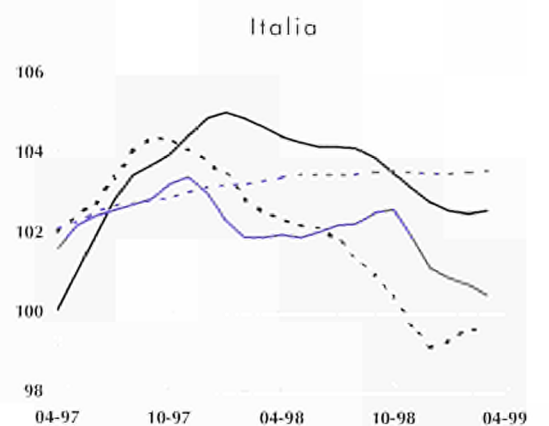
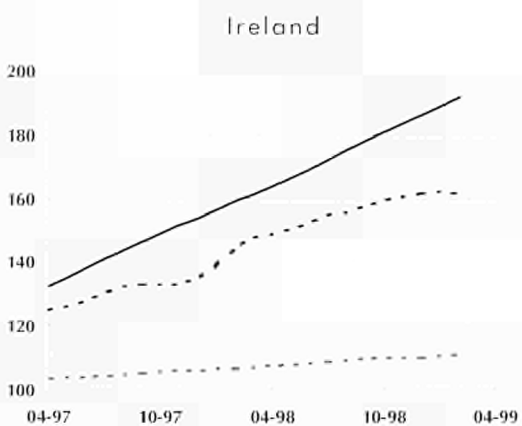
Source: eurostat

Figure 2.5

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



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

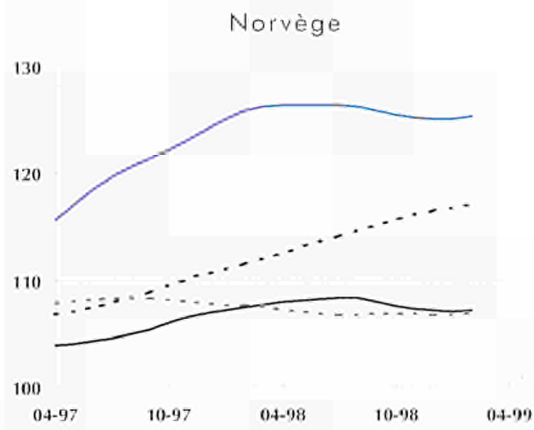
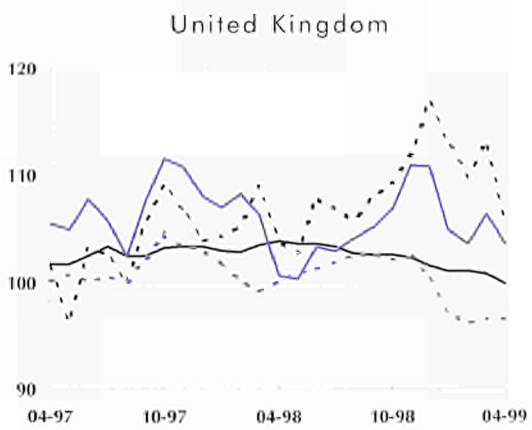
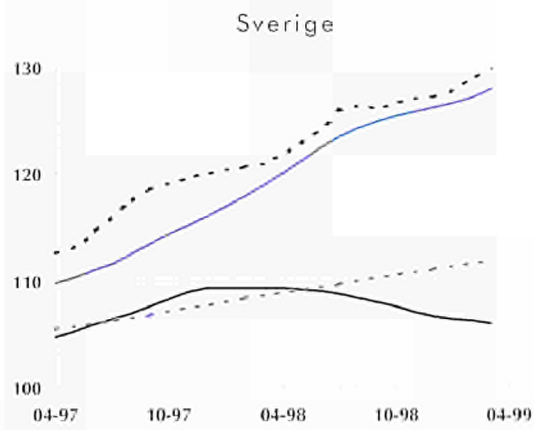
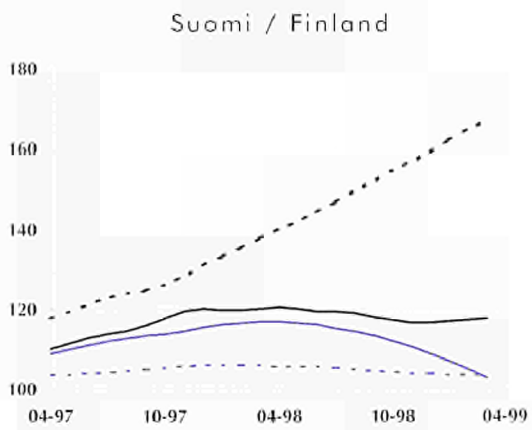
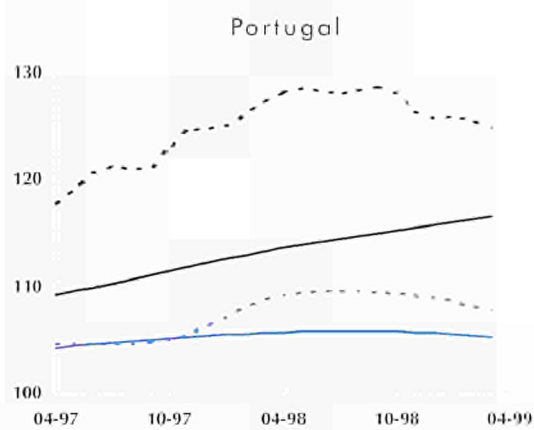
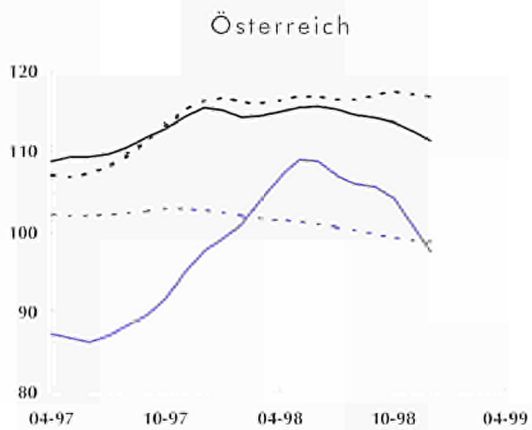
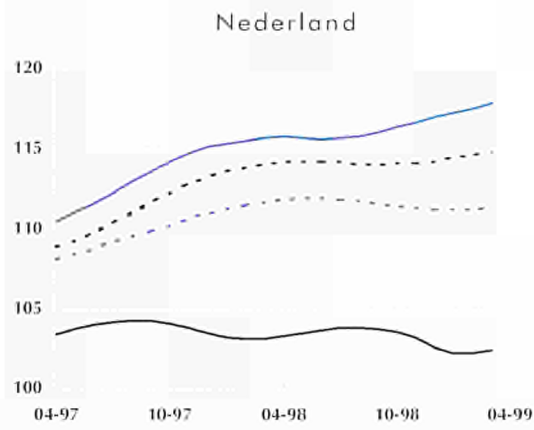
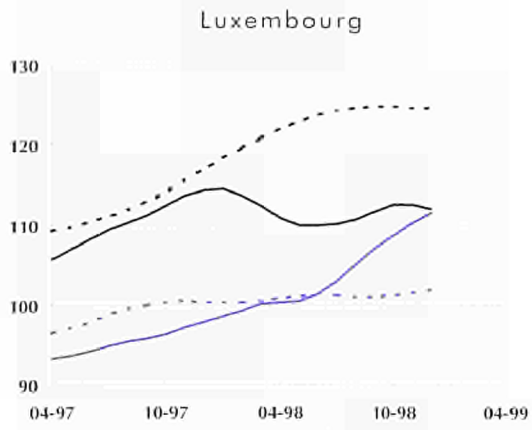


Source: eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

Figure 2.5

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



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

Source: eurostat

**Further information -
production index**

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 is base year 1995. The indices are adjusted to take account of the varying number of working days in the month.

If the National Statistical Office does the seasonal adjustment, these series are used. This is currently the case for Belgium, Denmark, Greece, France, Italy, Finland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Norway (although not necessarily for all variables). If no seasonally adjusted series are supplied, Eurostat perform the seasonal adjustment with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V. Gomez. Otherwise, Eurostat calculates the trend cycle (except for Germany) seasonally adjusted series, where additionally the irregular fluctuations have been excluded (using the program TRAMO / SEATS).

Full methodological notes may be found on page 109.

Latest outlook: industry

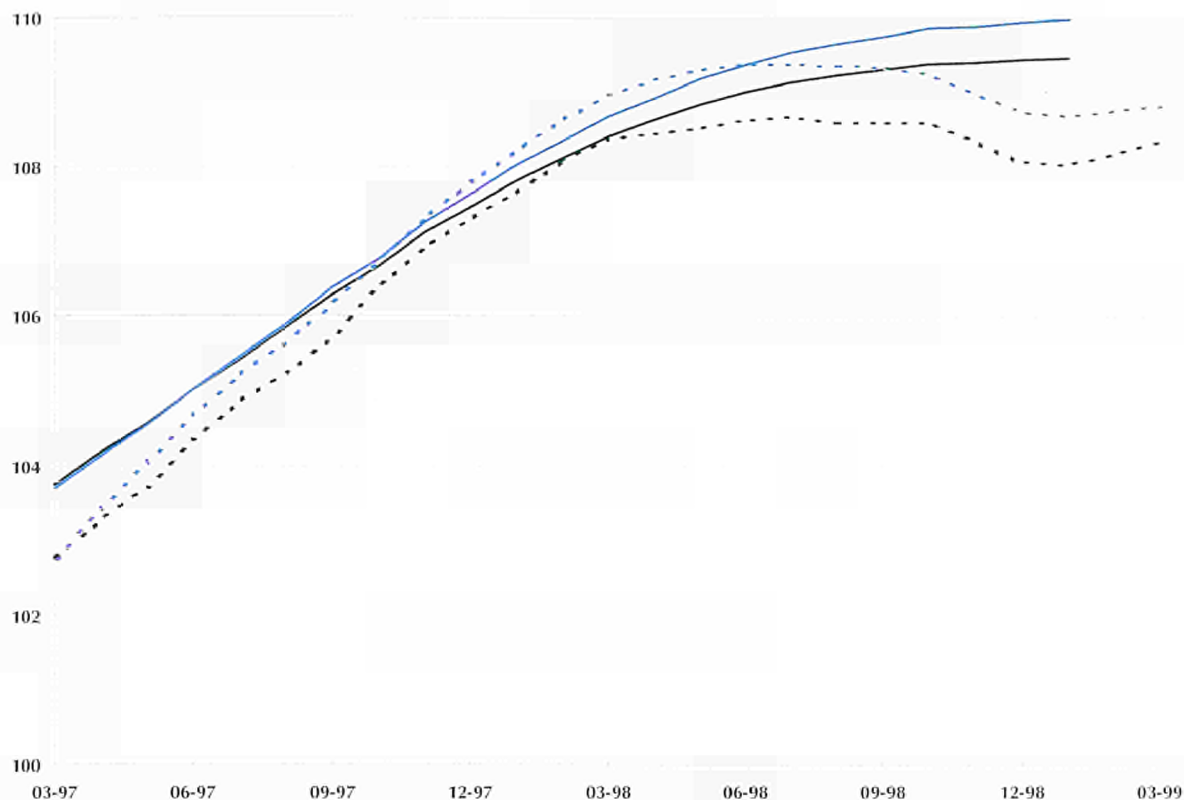


Figure 2.6

Expected output index for industry (1995 = 100)

- EU-15: production index
- EU-15: expected output index
- EUR-11: production index
- EUR-11: expected output index

Source: eurostat

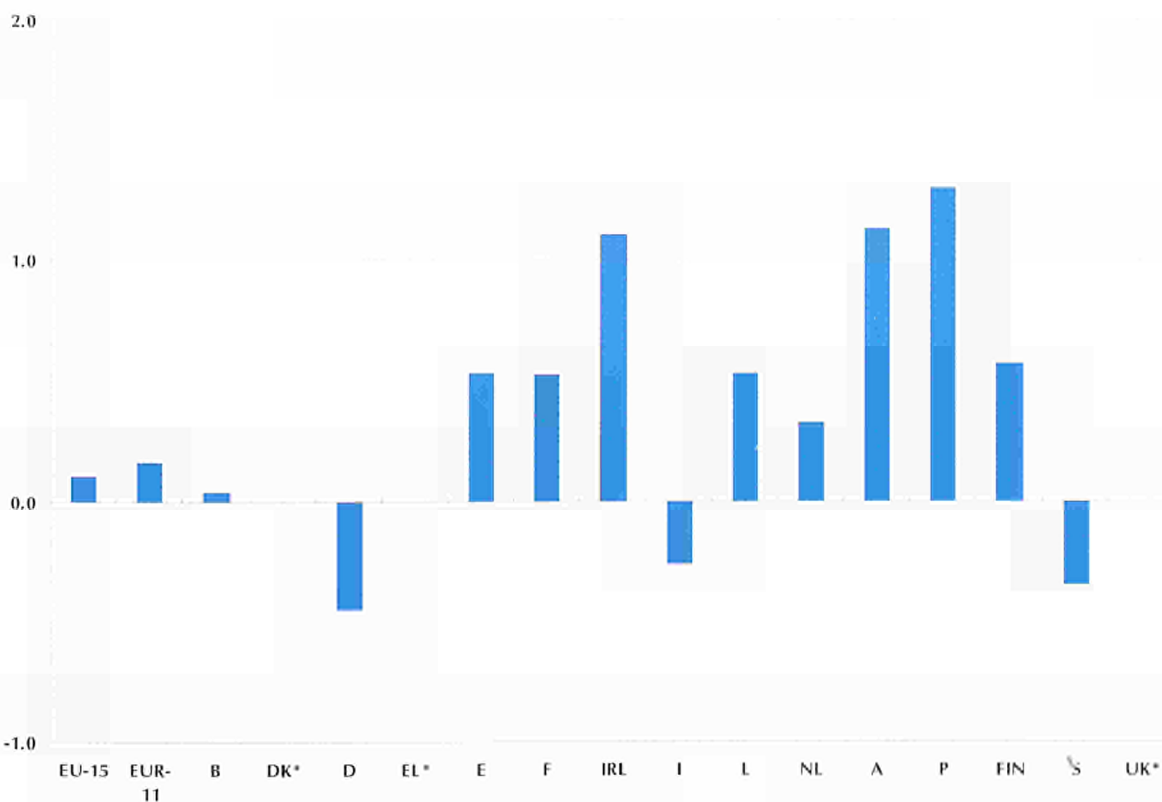


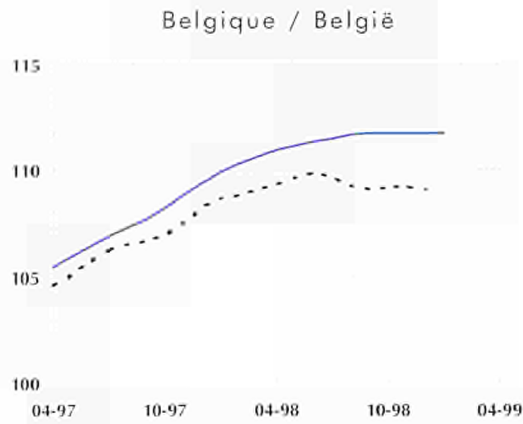
Figure 2.7

Expected output index for industry, three months compared to the previous three months, 11-98 to 01-99 (%)

Source: eurostat

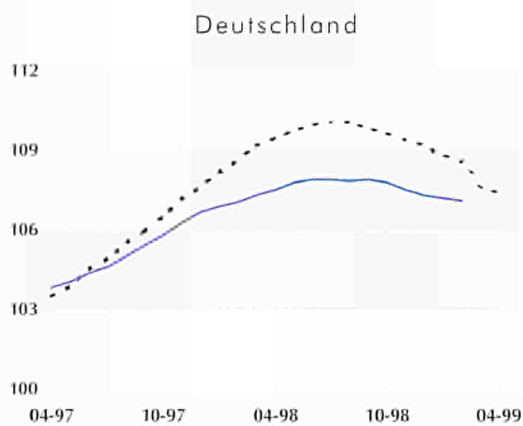
Figure 2.8

Expected output index for industry (1995 = 100)



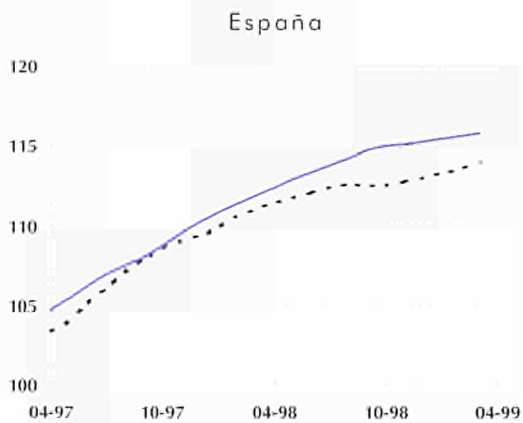
Danmark

Not available

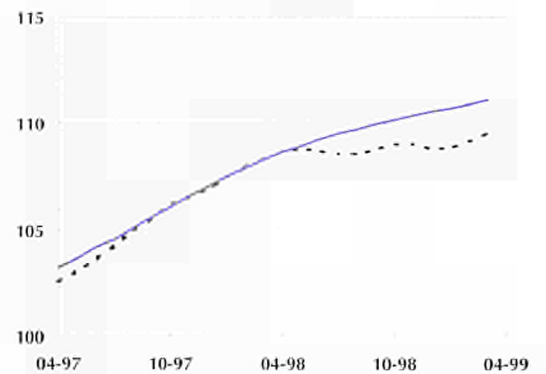


Ellada

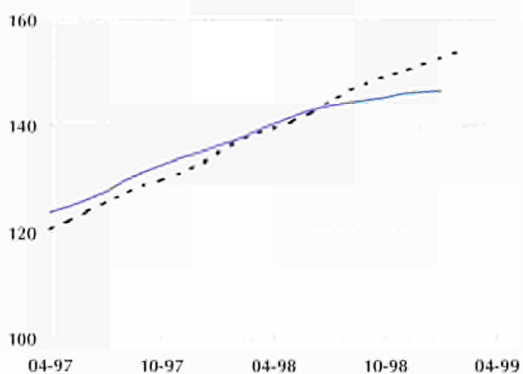
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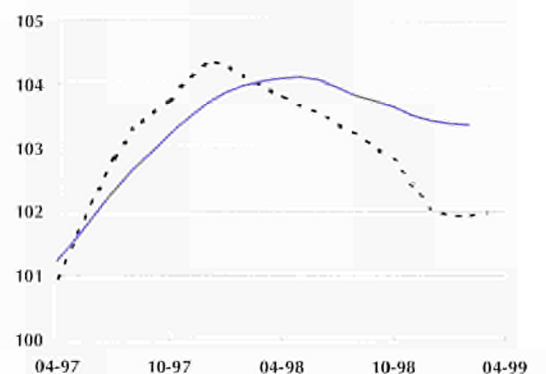
France



Ireland



Italia



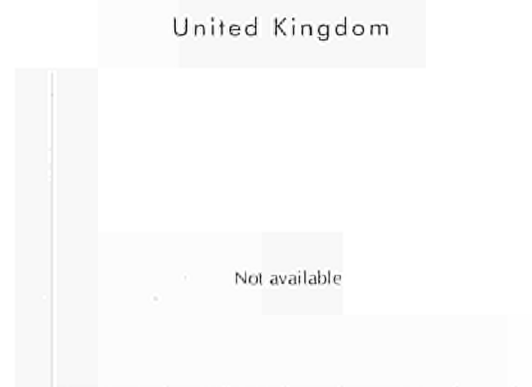
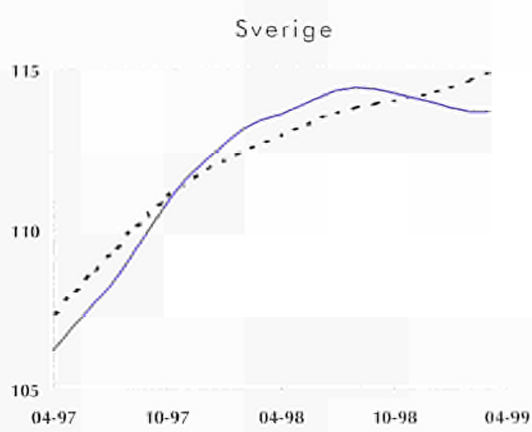
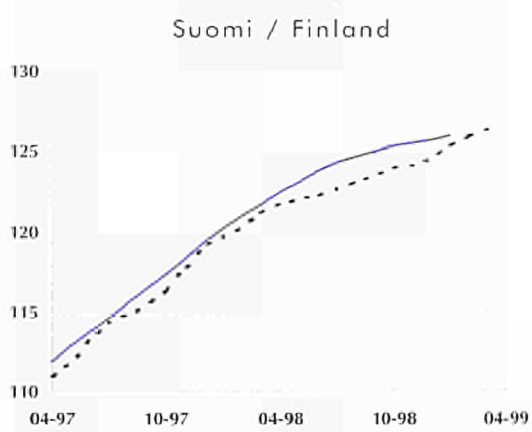
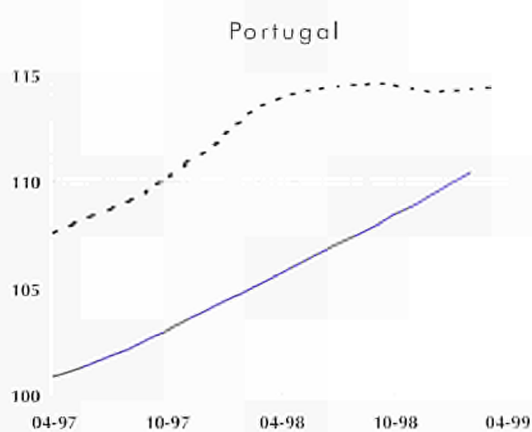
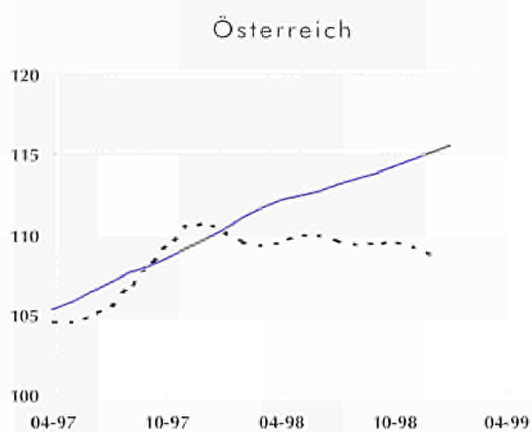
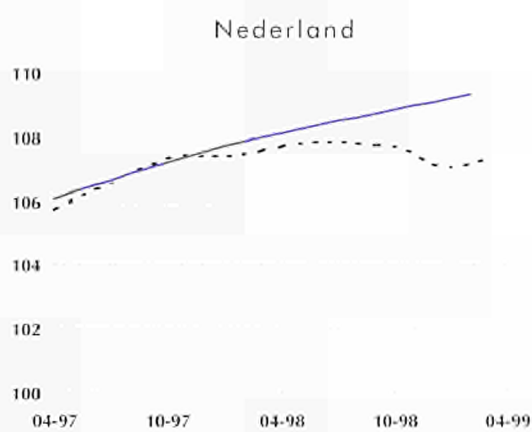
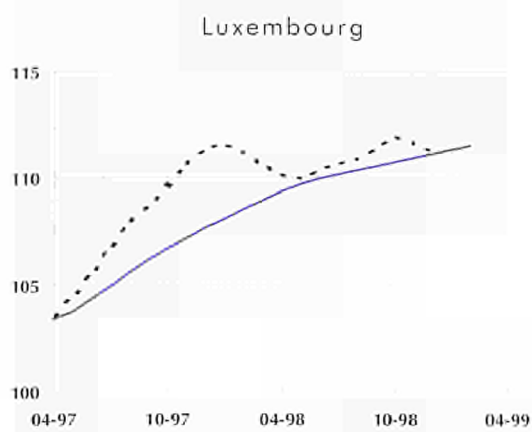
Production index - - - -
Expected output index ———

Source: eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

Figure 2.8

Expected output index
for industry
(1995 = 100)



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

Source: eurostat

**Further information -
expected output index**

The Expected Output Index (EOI) links several aspects of information from qualitative business opinion surveys conducted by DG II (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.

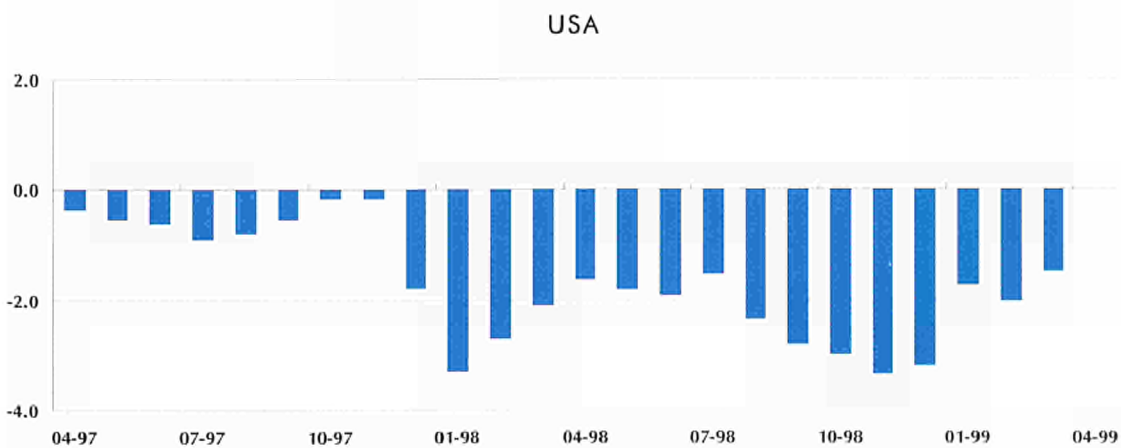
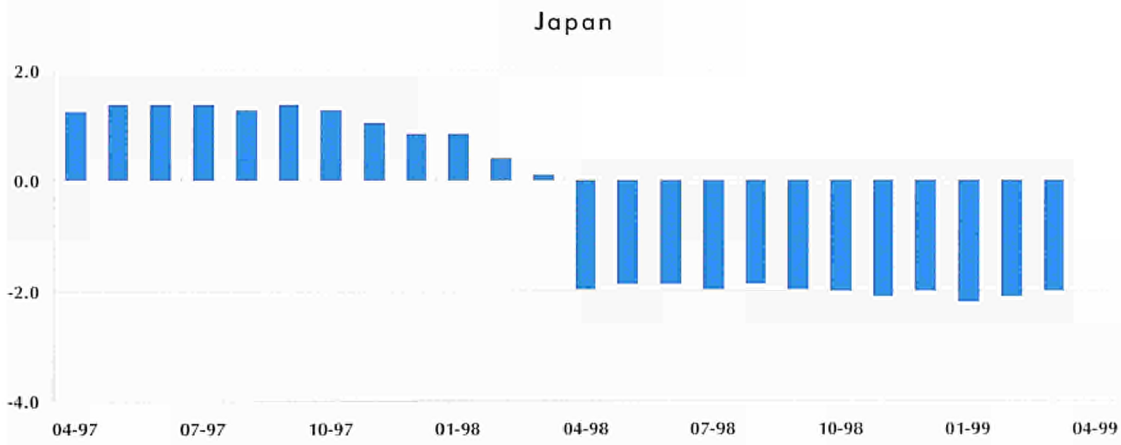
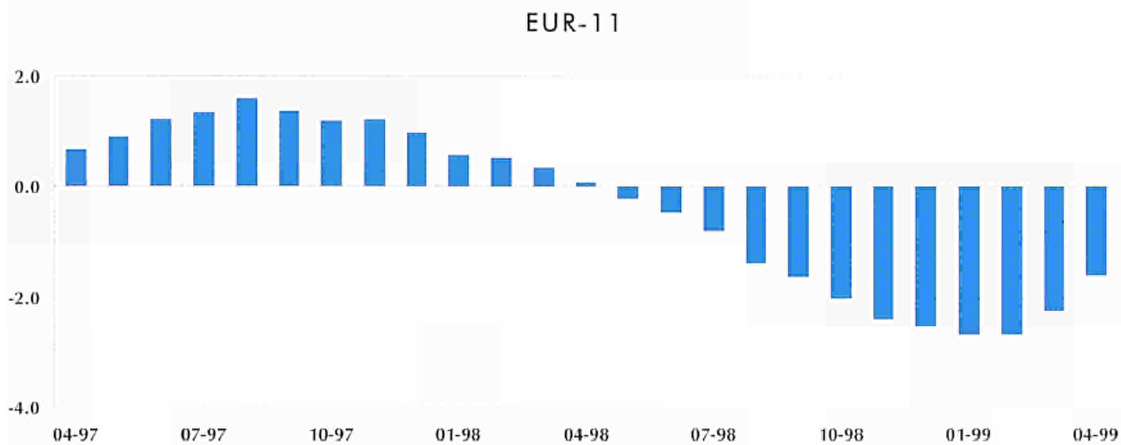
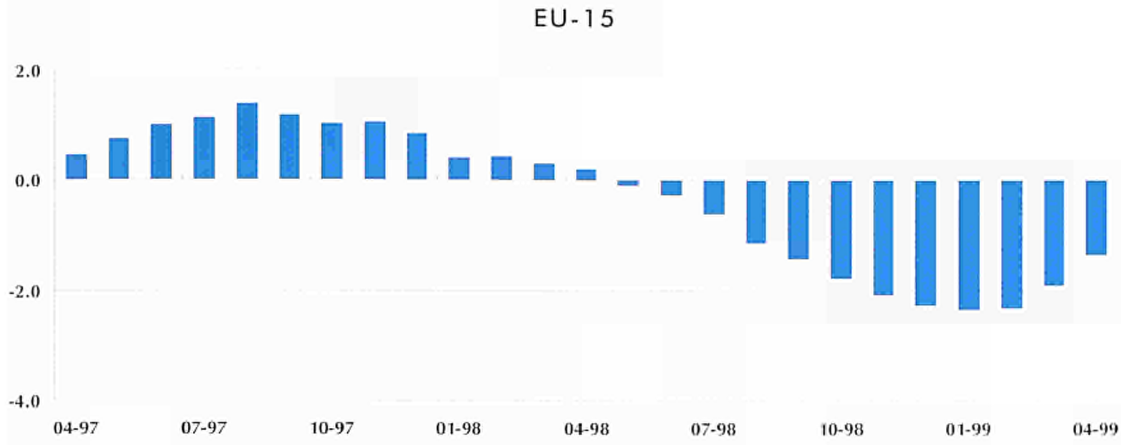
Details of the estimation method can be found in a more thorough article that was published in Special Edition 5/97 of the Monthly Panorama of the European Industry.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 109.

Latest outlook: industry

Figure 2.9

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




Source: eurostat

Figure 2.10

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

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

Source:  eurostat

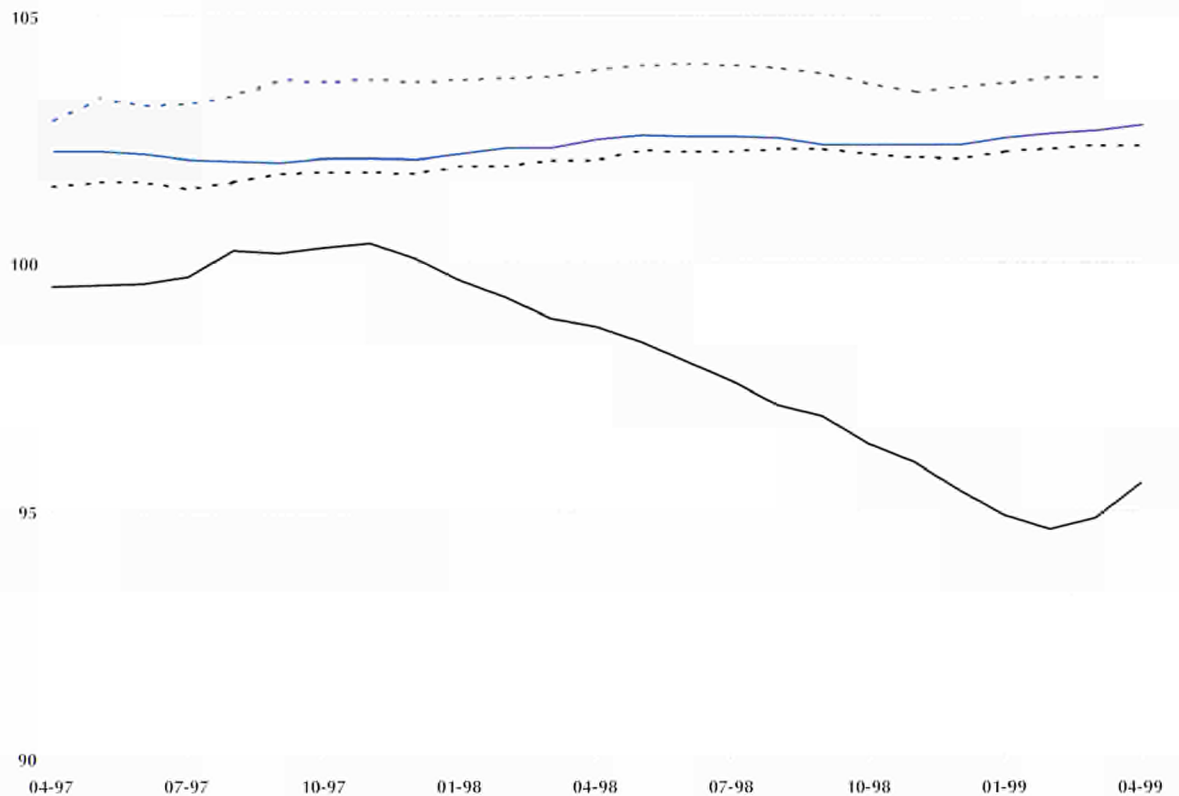


Table 2.6

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

1996 1997 1998 11-98 12-98 01-99 02-99 03-99 04-99

	1996	1997	1998	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99
Total industry									
EU-15	100.5	101.4	100.7	99.7	99.5	99.3	99.2	99.3	99.8
Japan	98.2	98.9	97.6	96.8	96.8	96.5	96.3	96.1	:
USA	102.3	102.3	99.7	99.1	98.3	98.7	98.1	98.4	:
Intermediate goods									
EU-15	99.1	99.9	97.7	96.0	95.4	94.9	94.6	94.8	95.6
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Capital goods									
EU-15	101.3	101.7	102.1	102.1	102.1	102.2	102.3	102.3	102.3
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Consumer durables									
EU-15	102.0	102.2	102.4	102.4	102.4	102.5	102.6	102.7	102.8
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Consumer non-durables									
EU-15	102.0	103.2	103.8	103.5	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.7	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

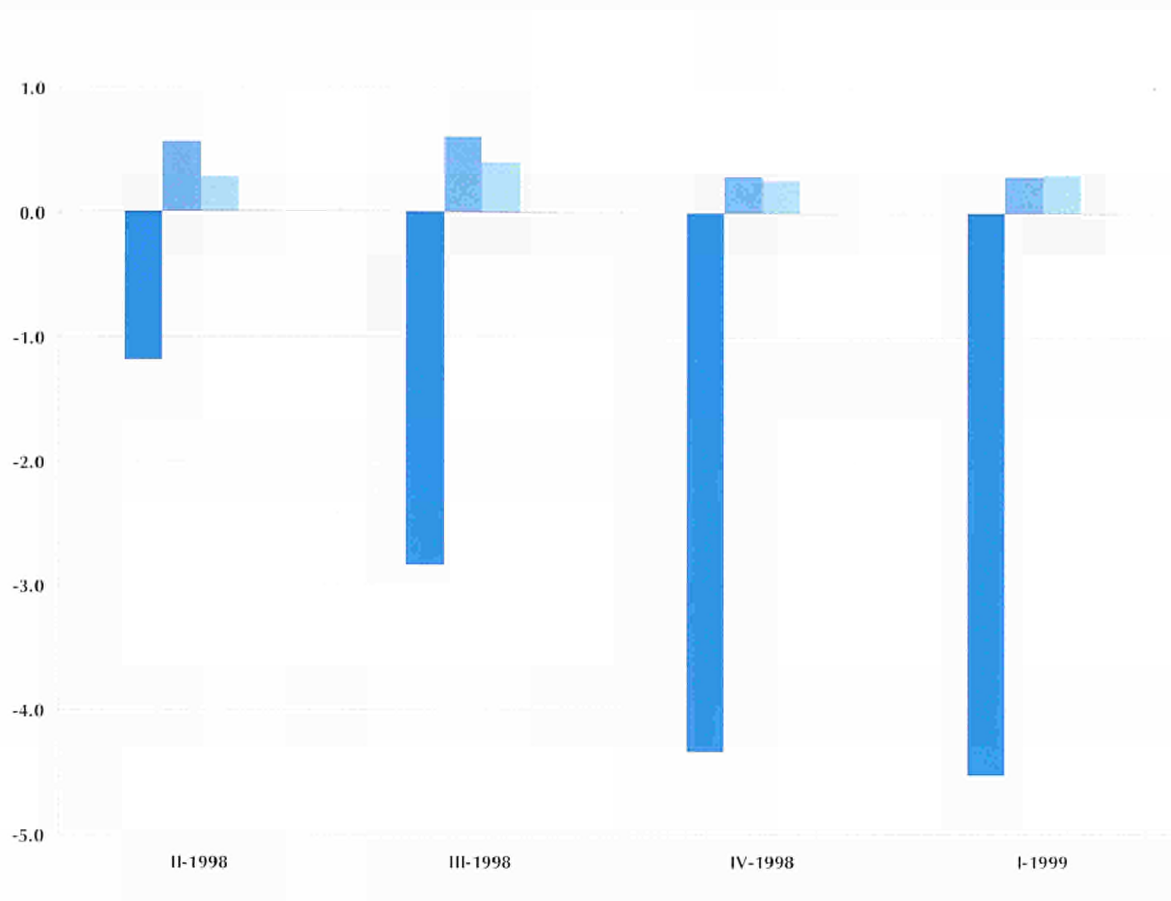


Figure 2.11

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	04-99	-1.3	-3.2	0.3	0.3	:
EUR-11	04-99	-1.6	-3.4	0.3	0.2	:
B	11-98	-3.5	-4.6	-0.1	:	:
DK	04-99	-0.9	0.1	-0.9	2.5	-2.3
D	04-99	-1.7	-3.2	0.6	0.5	-1.3
EL	12-98	1.8	-1.0	9.0	4.2	4.0
E	04-99	-0.8	-3.4	0.5	1.2	1.9
F	04-99	-1.4	-3.1	-1.2	-1.2	:
IRL	01-99	-0.6	:	:	:	1.3
I	04-99	-1.6	-3.9	0.9	0.8	0.0
L	12-98	0.3	-6.4	0.7	-3.1	-0.6
NL	03-99	-2.8	-5.1	2.4	1.4	-2.3
A		:	:	:	:	:
P	03-99	-5.0	-7.3	:	1.3	0.1
FIN	04-99	-3.2	:	-0.5	3.7	-0.9
S	04-99	-1.3	-3.2	0.1	1.6	-0.1
UK	04-99	0.1	-2.5	-0.1	0.0	0.8
NO		:	:	:	:	:
Japan	03-99	-2.0	:	:	:	:
USA	03-99	-1.5	:	:	:	:

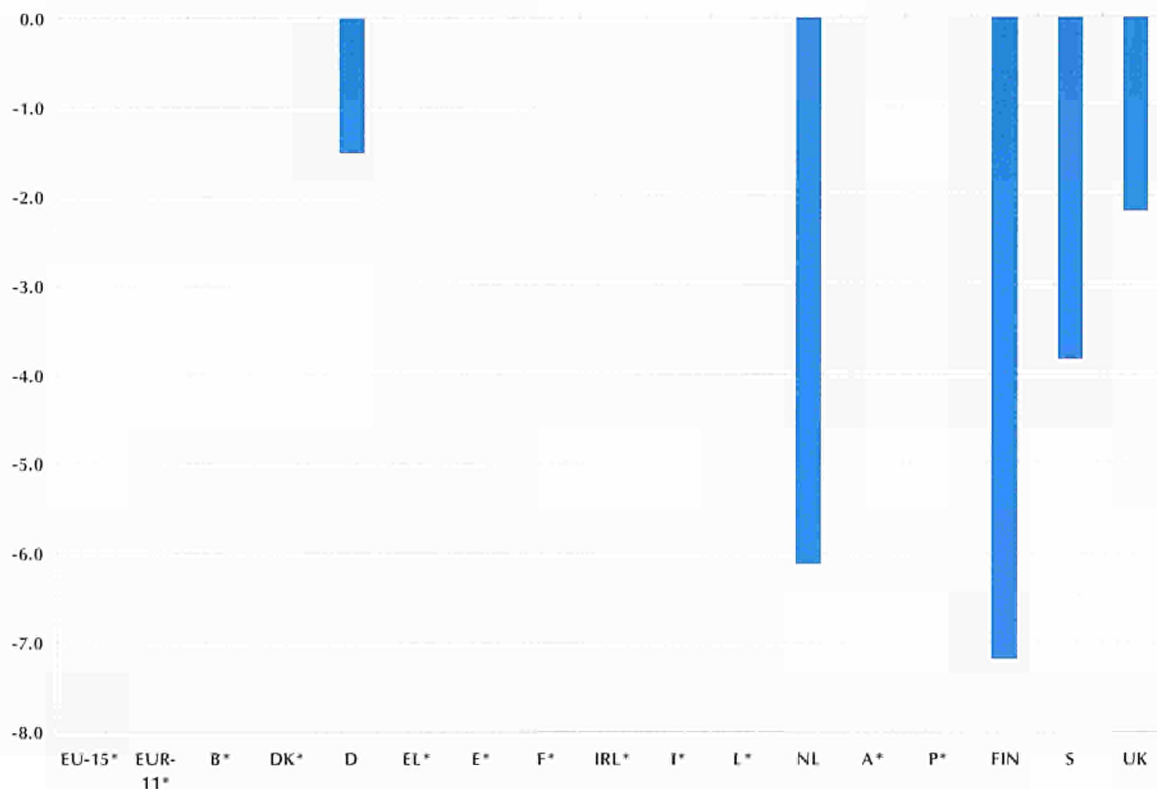
Table 2.7

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

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.12

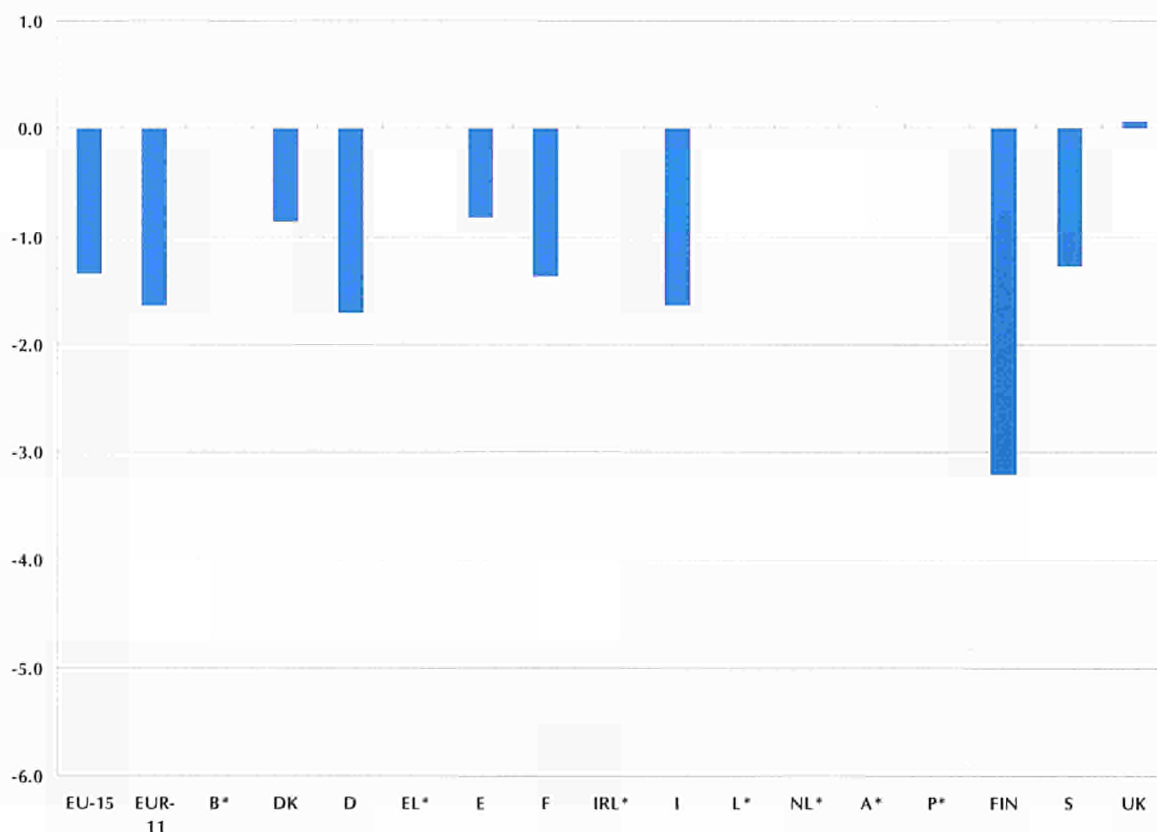
Export prices for manufacturing industry: growth rate, year on year, 02-99 (%)



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.13

Domestic producer price index: growth rate, year on year, 04-99 (%)



Source: eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

Table 2.8

	1996	1997	1998	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
D	100.2	101.7	101.8	101.1	100.9	100.7	100.7	100.8	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
L	96.2	97.6	99.3	97.1	95.0	:	:	:	:
NL	101.3	104.8	102.3	99.9	99.1	98.6	98.2	99.5	:
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	100.3	99.0	98.0	94.4	93.9	93.4	93.1	93.2	93.9
S	95.0	95.7	95.3	94.9	94.9	94.5	92.7	92.8	93.4
UK	99.5	94.2	91.0	90.0	90.0	90.0	90.0	89.0	:
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japon	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Export prices indices
for manufacturing
industry
(1995 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

Table 2.9

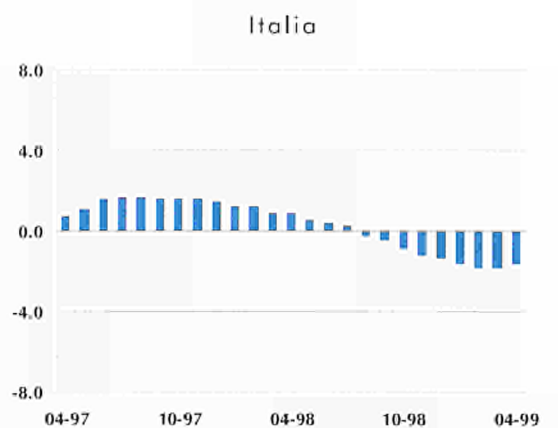
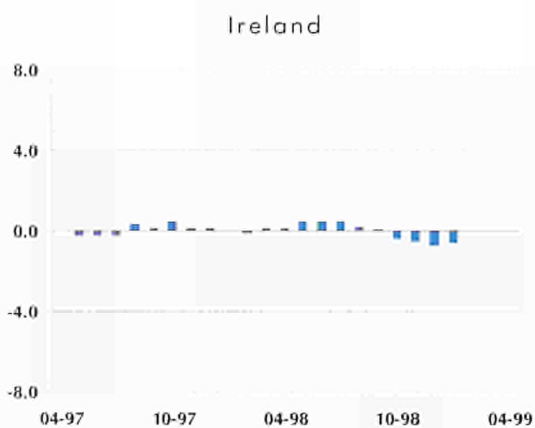
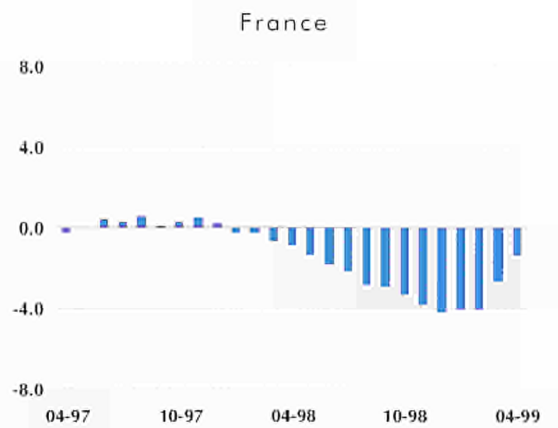
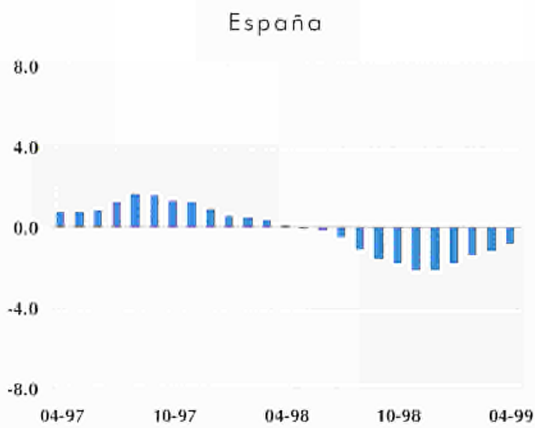
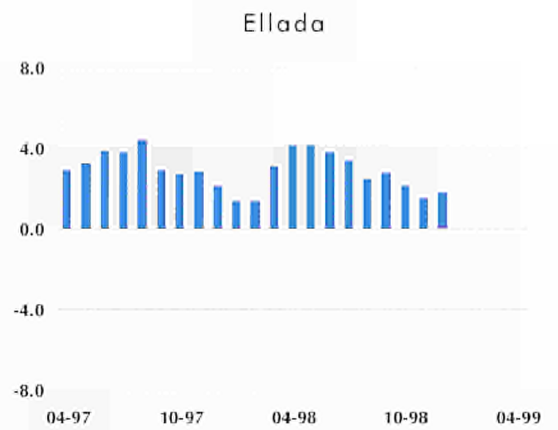
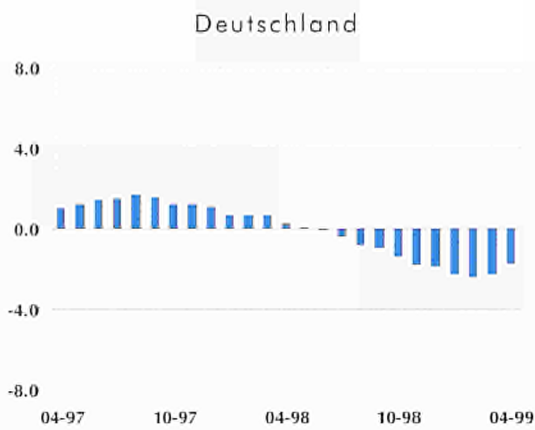
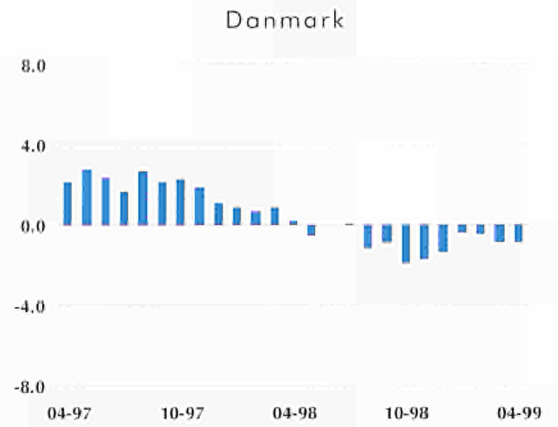
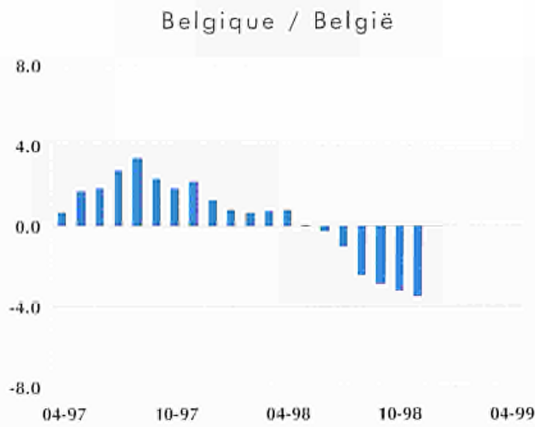
	1996	1997	1998	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99
EU-15	100.5	101.4	100.7	99.7	99.5	99.3	99.2	99.3	99.8
EUR-11	100.4	101.4	100.6	99.4	99.1	98.8	98.8	99.0	99.5
B	100.6	102.3	:	99.5	:	:	:	:	:
DK	101.5	103.3	102.9	102.0	101.9	102.3	102.2	102.2	102.9
D	98.8	99.9	99.5	98.5	98.3	97.8	97.7	97.7	98.3
EL	107.4	111.0	114.0	114.4	114.1	:	:	:	:
E	101.7	102.7	102.0	101.2	100.9	100.9	101.2	101.4	101.6
F	100.5	100.7	98.6	97.1	96.4	96.4	96.3	97.1	98.2
IRL	101.8	101.9	101.9	101.3	101.3	101.3	:	:	:
I	101.9	103.2	103.3	102.6	102.4	102.2	102.0	101.9	102.1
L	99.6	101.4	103.4	102.5	102.6	:	:	:	:
NL	101.6	104.3	103.0	101.5	101.3	100.9	100.9	101.3	:
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	103.8	106.1	102.2	99.8	99.2	97.0	97.0	97.8	:
FIN	99.1	100.4	99.0	97.0	96.5	96.0	95.8	96.0	96.6
S	100.6	101.7	101.3	100.1	100.2	100.2	99.7	99.8	100.4
UK	100.6	100.3	100.2	100.4	100.9	100.8	100.5	100.2	100.3
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japon	98.2	98.9	97.6	96.8	96.8	96.5	96.3	96.1	:
USA	102.3	102.3	99.7	99.1	98.3	98.7	98.1	98.4	:

Domestic producer
price index
(1995 = 100)

Source:  eurostat

Figure 2.14

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

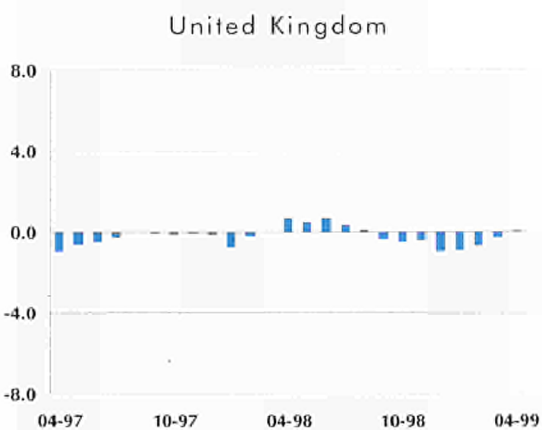
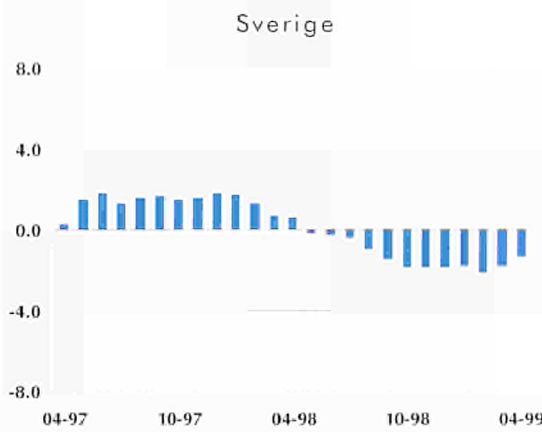
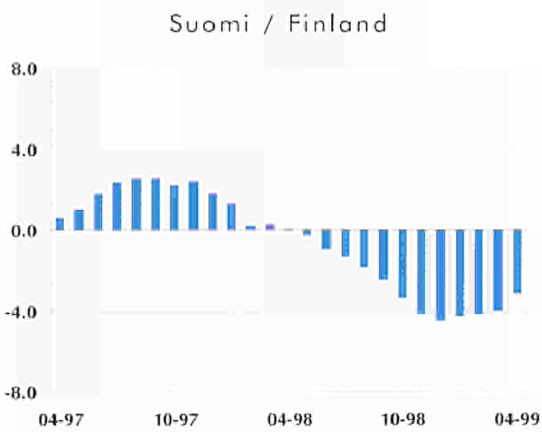
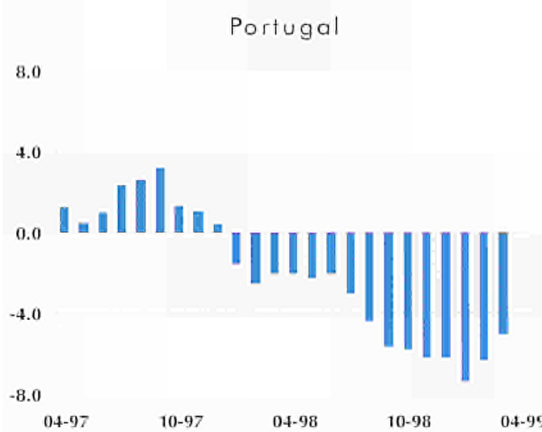
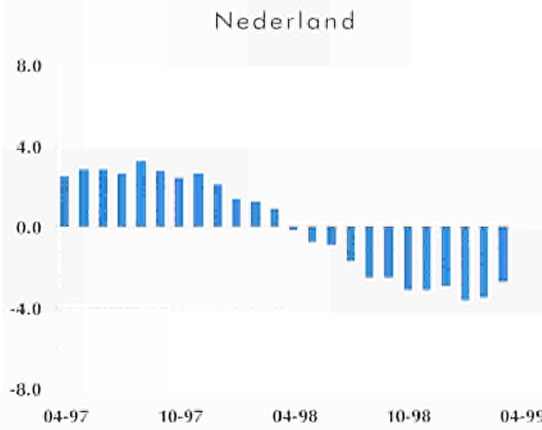
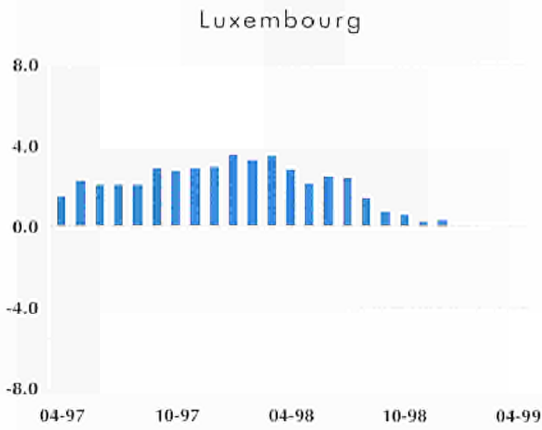


Source: eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

Figure 2.14

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



Source:  eurostat

**Further information -
price indices**

The index of producer prices shows the changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on domestic markets of the various countries, excluding VAT and other taxes. 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.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 109.

Latest outlook: industry

EU-15

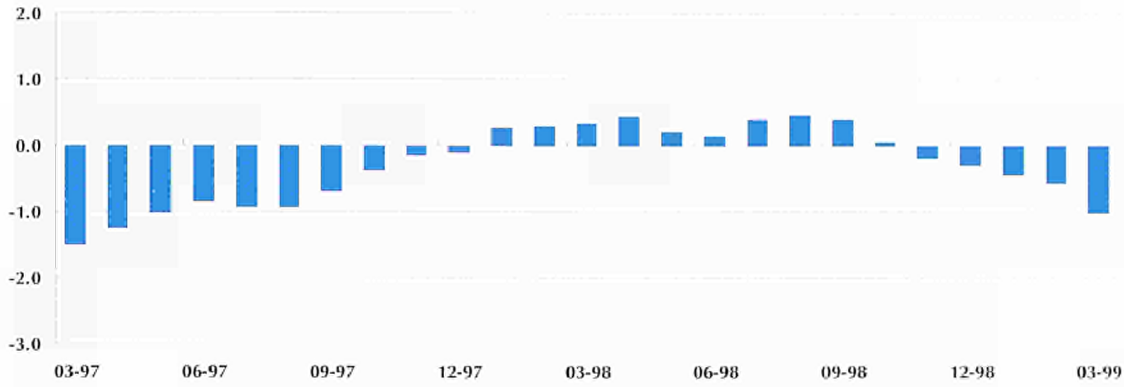
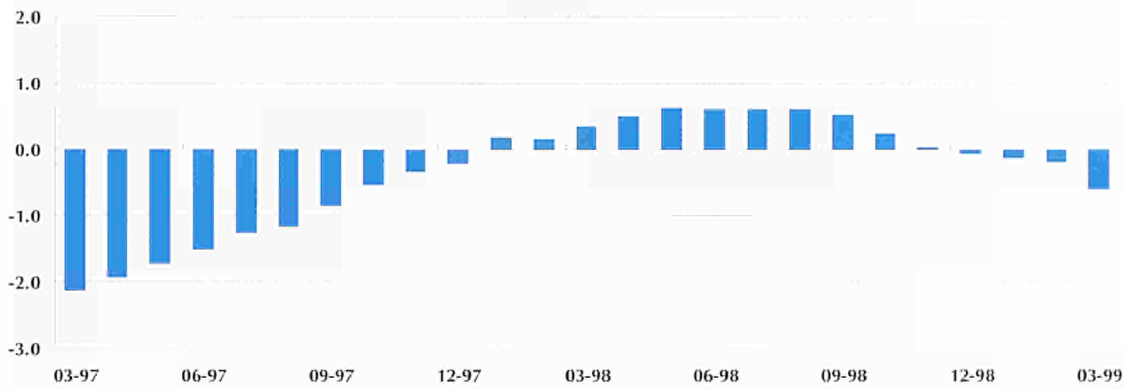


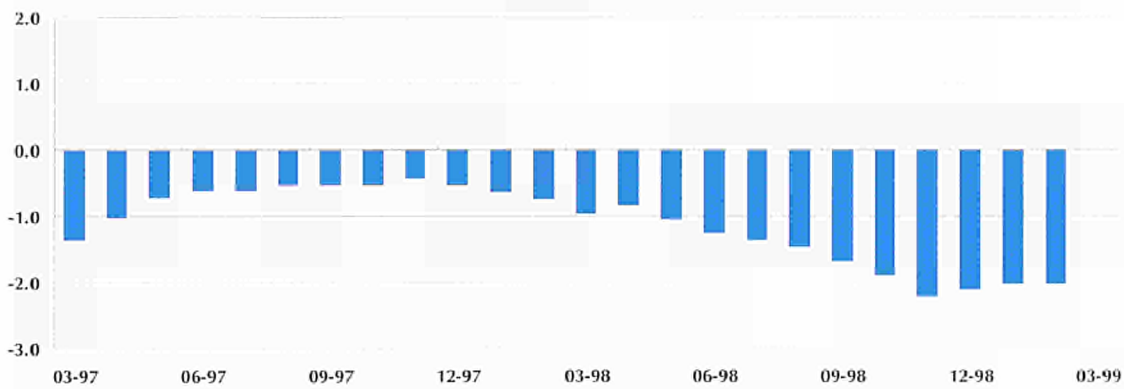
Figure 2.15

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

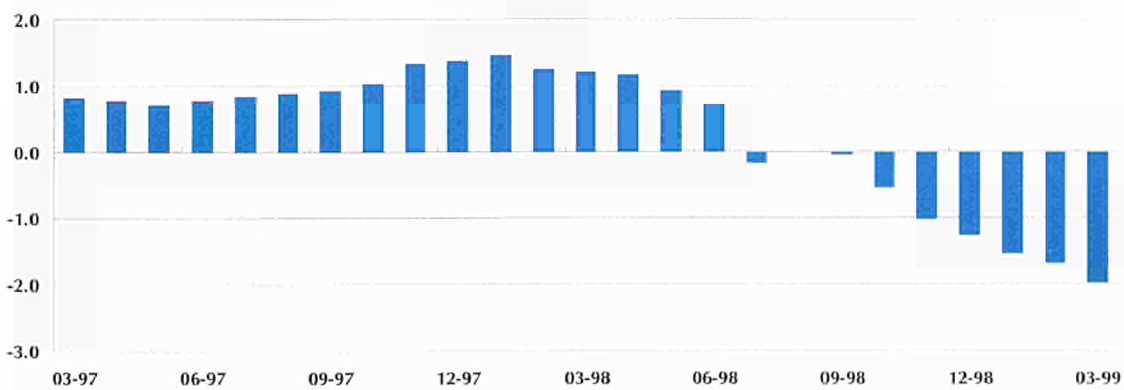
EUR-11



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:  eurostat

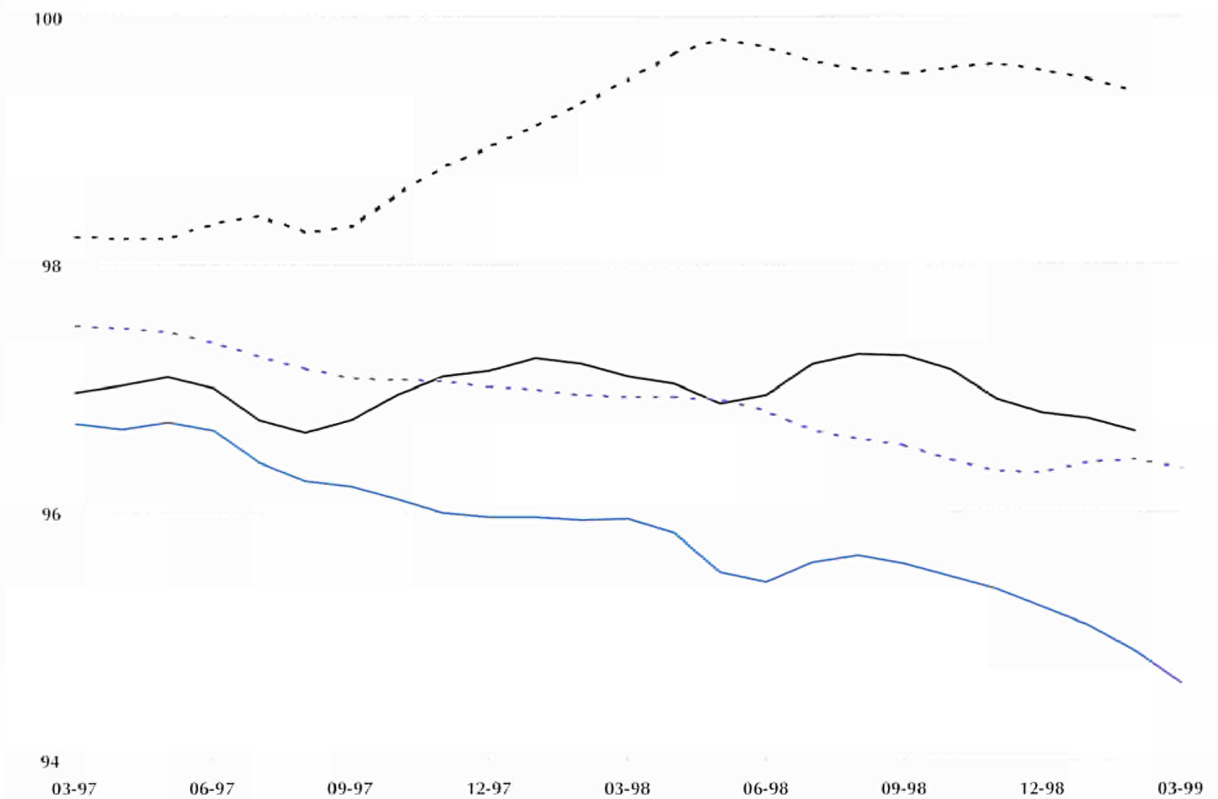


Table 2.10

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

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-0.4	:	:	-0.5	0.0
EUR-11	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-0.3	:	:	:	:
B	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-2.3	:	:	-0.6	-0.7
DK	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-0.4	-2.2	-2.1	1.7	1.2
D	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.8	0.2
EL	07-98	⇔ 09-98	-0.2	0.6	2.2	1.3	-1.6
E	01-99	⇔ 03-99	0.7	:	-0.4	-2.7	3.4
F	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-0.4	:	:	:	:
IRL	07-98	⇔ 09-98	0.4	0.7	-1.0	:	0.1
I	12-98	⇔ 02-99	-1.5	-1.6	-1.2	-0.1	-0.1
L	10-98	⇔ 12-98	-0.1	-0.6	0.8	0.5	0.3
NL	10-98	⇔ 12-98	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.9	0.1
A	11-98	⇔ 01-99	-0.7	:	-1.0	-0.8	-1.3
P	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-1.0	-0.8	-1.8	-0.7	-1.7
FIN	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-0.3	:	:	:	:
S	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-0.8	:	:	:	:
UK	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-1.1	-0.9	-1.1	-1.3	-0.8
NO		⇔	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	12-98	⇔ 02-99	-0.5	:	:	:	:
USA	01-99	⇔ 03-99	-0.7	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

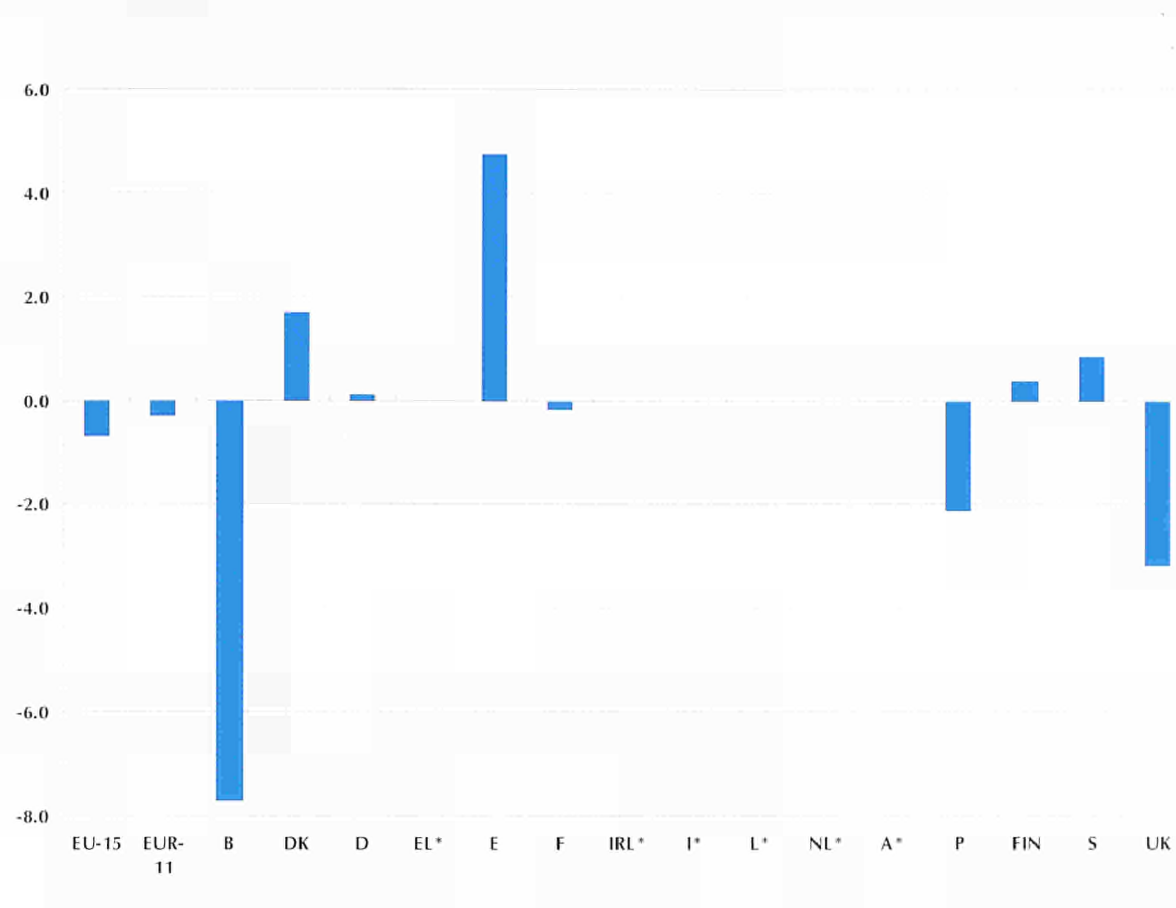



Figure 2.17

Employment index: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 01-99 to 03-99 (%)

Source:  eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	01-99	⇨ 03-99	-0.7	:	:	-1.1	-0.5
EUR-11	01-99	⇨ 03-99	-0.3	:	:	:	:
B	01-99	⇨ 03-99	-7.7	:	:	-0.2	-2.0
DK	01-99	⇨ 03-99	1.7	2.4	-1.1	4.2	3.3
D	01-99	⇨ 03-99	0.1	0.1	1.3	-2.6	-0.3
EL	07-98	⇨ 09-98	0.6	-0.6	7.0	1.3	-0.9
E	01-99	⇨ 03-99	4.7	:	5.9	0.9	4.3
F	01-99	⇨ 03-99	-0.2	:	:	:	:
IRL	07-98	⇨ 09-98	1.8	2.2	1.4	:	1.3
I	12-98	⇨ 02-99	-4.1	-4.3	-5.1	-0.5	-0.5
L	10-98	⇨ 12-98	0.9	-1.1	7.4	5.9	-0.5
NL	10-98	⇨ 12-98	0.9	0.2	2.2	-0.4	1.1
A	11-98	⇨ 01-99	1.5	:	2.8	-0.6	1.3
P	01-99	⇨ 03-99	-2.1	-1.7	-0.7	0.6	-3.3
FIN	01-99	⇨ 03-99	0.4	:	:	:	:
S	01-99	⇨ 03-99	0.9	:	:	:	:
UK	01-99	⇨ 03-99	-3.2	-3.3	-3.1	-2.8	-3.3
NO		⇨	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	12-98	⇨ 02-99	-2.1	:	:	:	:
USA	01-99	⇨ 03-99	-1.7	:	:	:	:

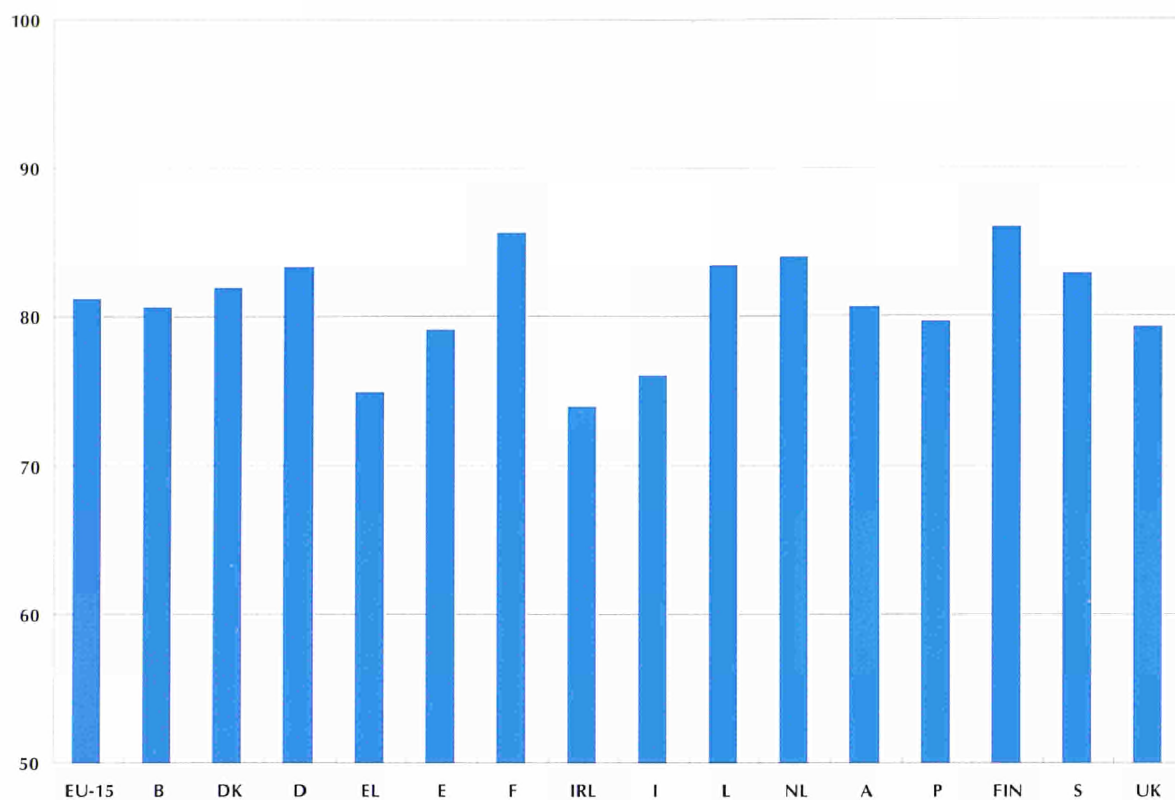
Table 2.11

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:
04-99
(%)



Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Table 2.12

Capacity utilisation
rates
(%)

	Growth rate: latest month, t / t-12 (%)	07-98	10-98	01-99	04-99
EU-15	-2.4	83.8	82.8	81.3	81.3
B	-2.3	83.5	82.5	78.7	80.7
DK	-2.3	86.8	85.4	82.7	82.0
D	-2.2	86.1	85.6	83.5	83.4
EL	-2.6	76.0	75.0	74.0	75.0
E	-1.0	81.1	80.9	80.6	79.2
F	0.6	85.6	84.8	84.9	85.7
IRL	-4.5	74.8	77.4	73.6	74.0
I	-2.7	79.5	76.6	76.0	76.1
L	-5.0	87.7	87.2	84.5	83.5
NL	-1.8	85.5	84.8	83.6	84.1
A	-3.1	84.7	83.5	81.4	80.7
P	-3.4	81.0	81.3	81.5	79.8
FIN	-2.2	89.8	87.3	84.7	86.1
S	-3.5	87.0	86.0	85.0	83.0
UK	-5.6	83.0	82.2	79.3	79.4

Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Latest outlook: industry

Intermediate goods

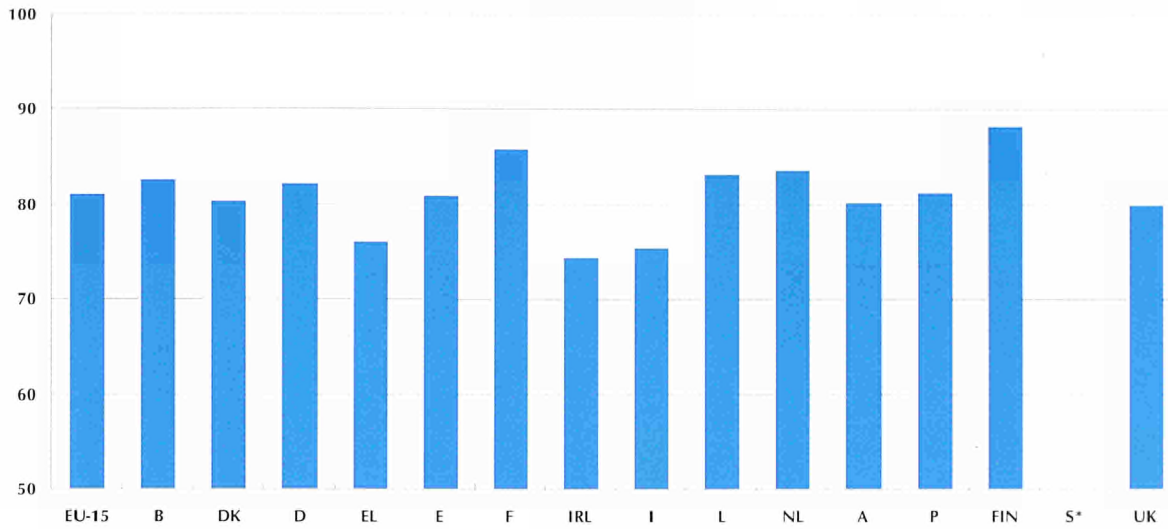
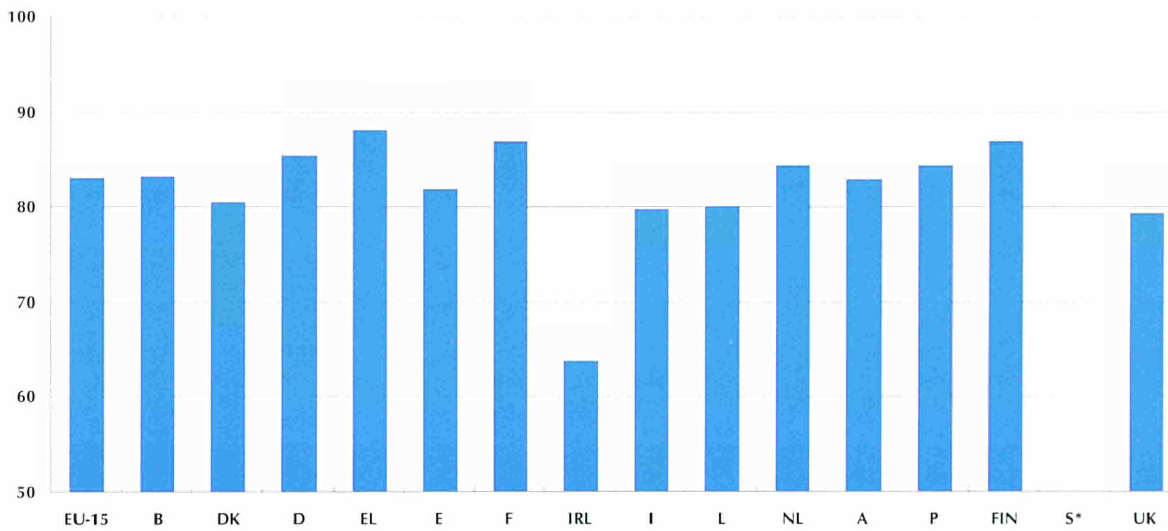


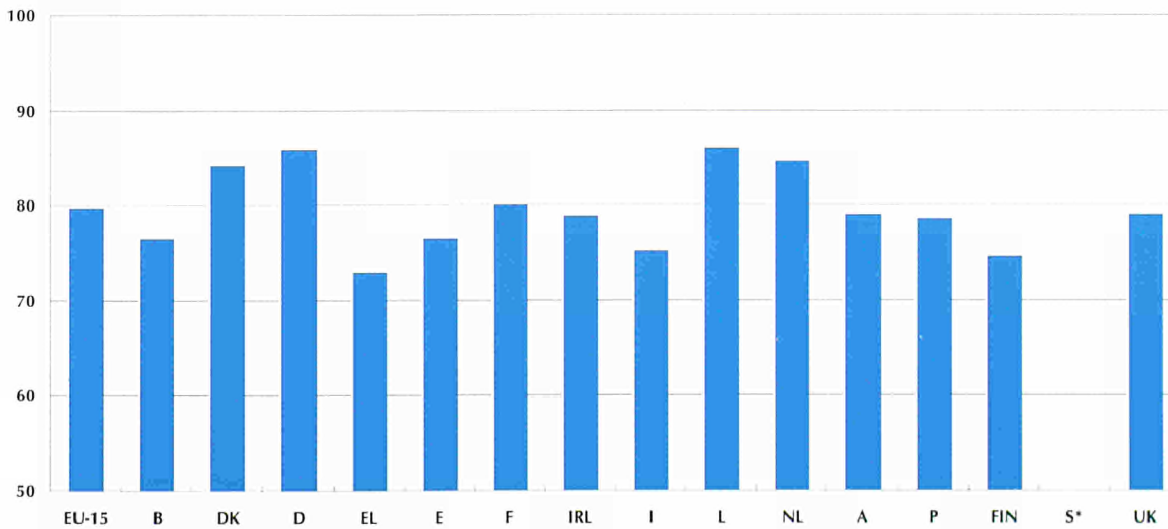
Figure 2.19

Capacity utilisation rates for the main industrial groupings, 04-99 (%)

Capital goods



Consumer goods

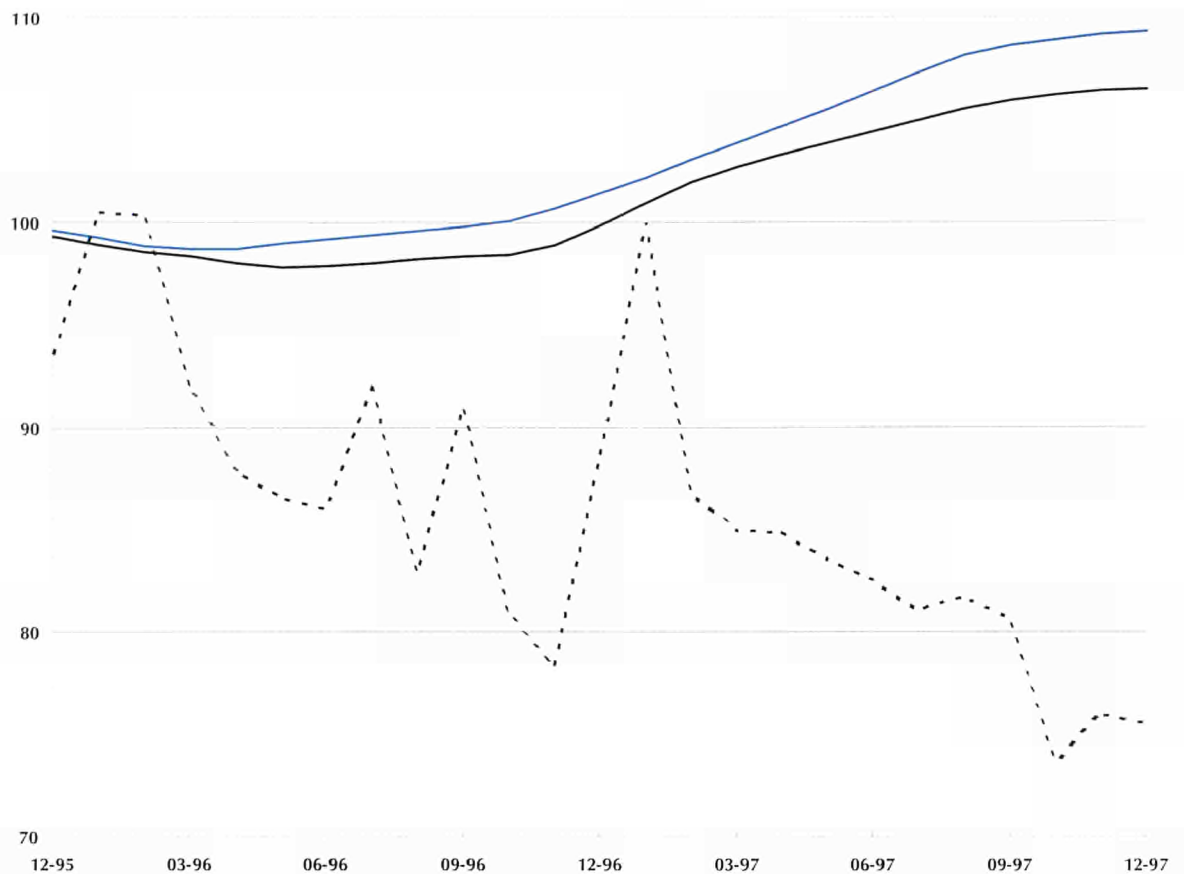


Source: DG II, Business Survey

Figure 2.20

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

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



Source: eurostat

Table 2.13

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

	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	1.9	-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

Source: eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

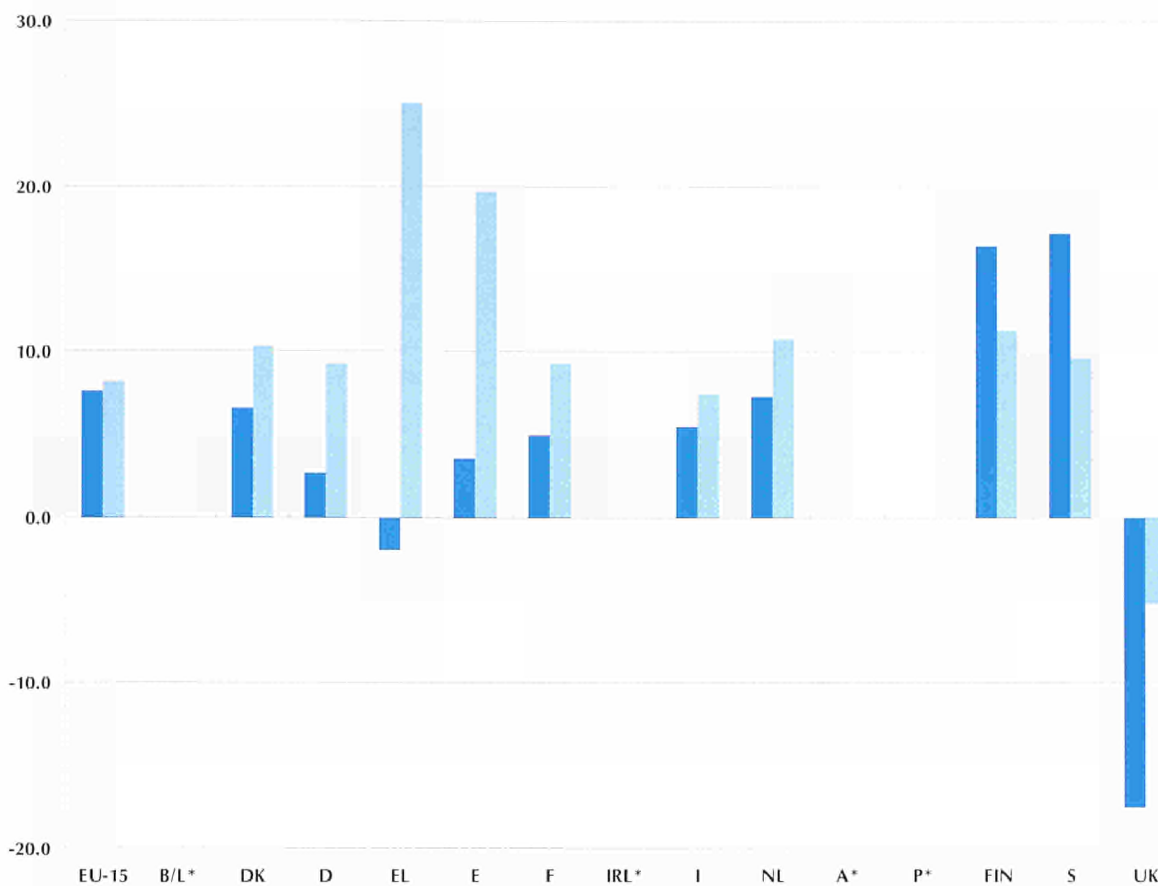


Figure 2.21

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

	Latest 3 months available			Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	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	10-97	⇨	12-97	16.4	7.8	11.3	19.2	:
S	10-97	⇨	12-97	17.2	-1.6	9.7	10.1	:
UK	10-97	⇨	12-97	-17.5	20.9	-5.2	-2.2	-30.4

Table 2.14

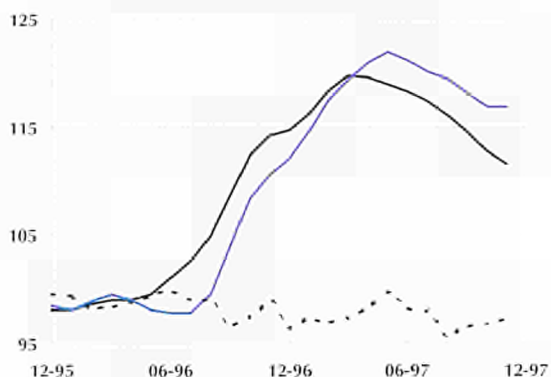
Foreign trade indices
(value indices are in
ECU terms):
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year
(%)

Source: eurostat

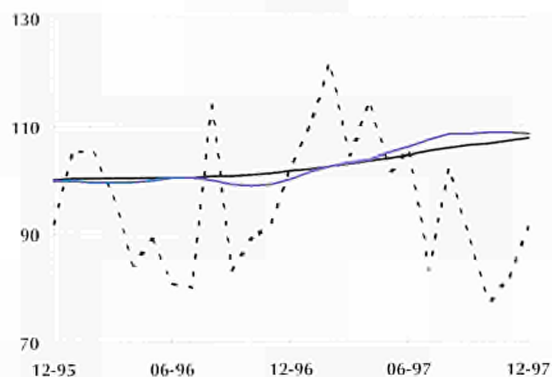
Figure 2.22

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

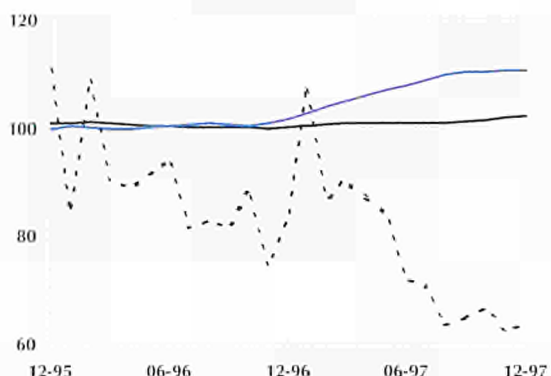
Belgique / België, Luxembourg



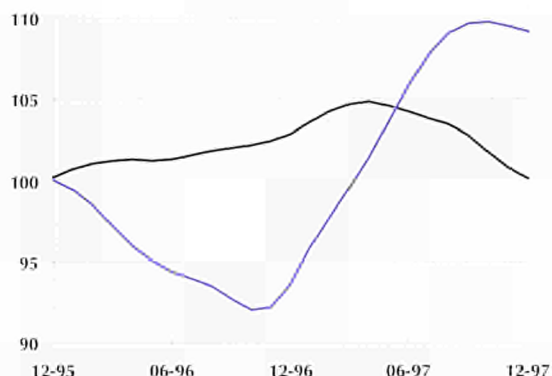
Danmark



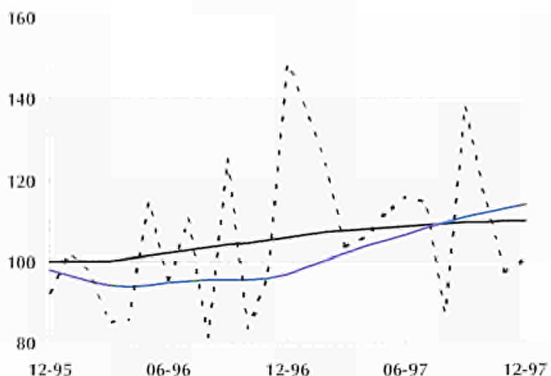
Deutschland



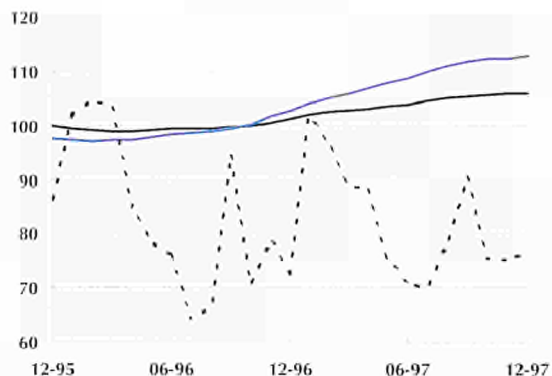
Ellada



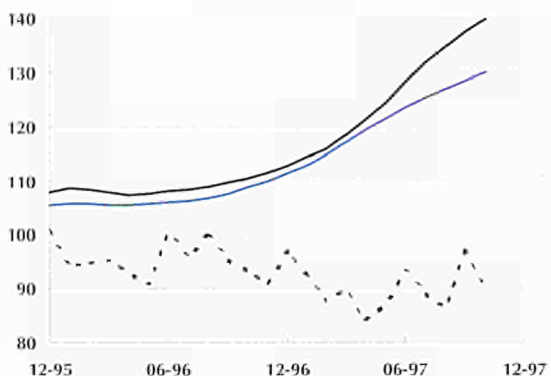
España



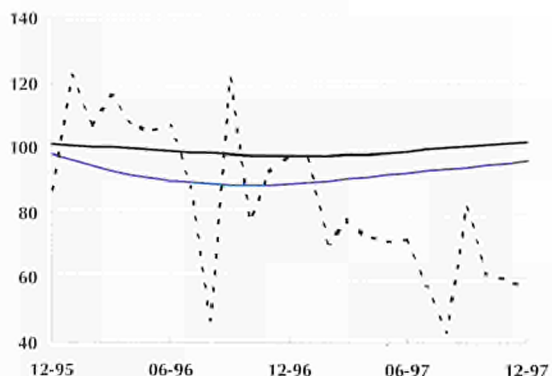
France



Ireland



Italia

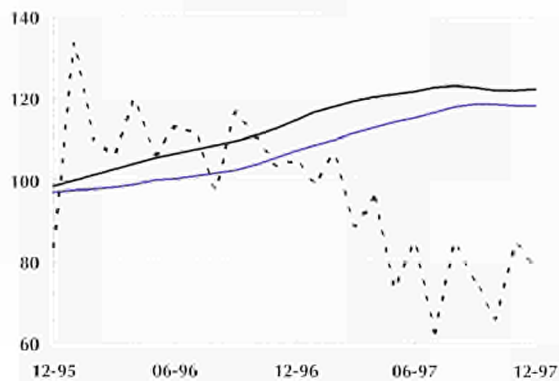


Export value index —
Import value index —
Terms of trade - - -

Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: industry

Nederland



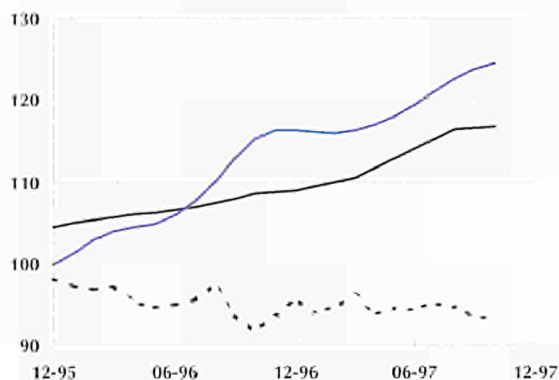
Österreich



Figure 2.22

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

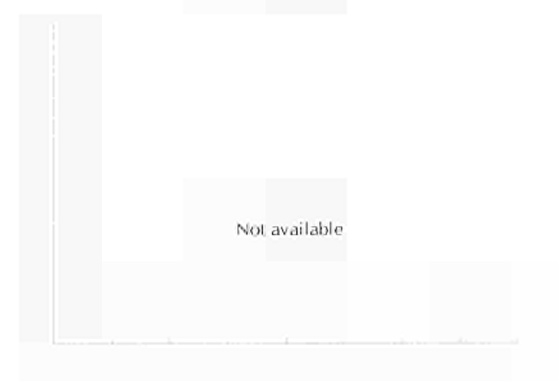
Portugal



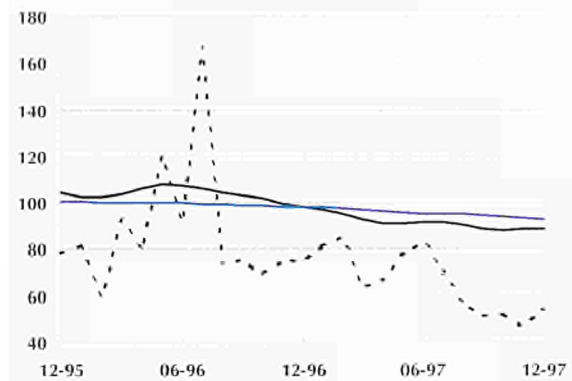
Suomi / Finland




Sverige



United Kingdom



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

Source:  eurostat

**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 109.

3. Latest outlook: construction

Commentary	46
Production index	47
Price indices	49
Building permits	50



3. Latest outlook: construction

Construction activity

European construction activity declined by 3.1% during the final quarter of 1998, when compared to the final quarter of 1997. This decline in activity was the fifth consecutive month that activity in the EU construction industry reported negative values. Corresponding data for the EUR-11 aggregate¹ showed that production was falling by 3.8% during the same period, also the fifth consecutive month that a negative figure had been posted.

Of the Member States that were able to report data through to the end of 1998, Austria, Finland and Spain were the only countries reporting an expansion in activity for construction. Finish and Spanish growth rates were particularly pronounced (rising by 7.1% and 10.1% respectively during the final quarter of 1998 compared to the final quarter of 1997).

French and German growth rates were available to a much more recent date, however the trend in the figures was not as encouraging, construction activity declining by 1.4% in France and 3.5% in Germany. These figures were for the three month period to March and April 1999 respectively (compared to the same three months of a year before).

Civil engineering and building

Looking at the breakdown of construction activity it is possible to note that activity within civil engineering was less affected than general construction. The latest EU growth rates for the final quarter of 1998 reported that civil engineering activity was down by 1.5% in the EU and by 1.0% in the euro-zone.

Building activity on the other hand was more touched by the general slow down in economic activity. Data for the final quarter of 1998 showed that building activity in the euro-zone was reduced by 3.1% (compared to the final quarter of 1997). This reduction marked a continuation of the trend apparent since April 1998.

Building permits

In order to measure future activity in construction we may look at the actual number of building permits being granted. Data is available for the number of permits that were granted through until January 1999, when the EU-15 figure was rising by 8.1% (when compared to data from the same three months of a year before). December 1998 had been only the second month during the whole of 1998 that a positive value was returned and data for January 1999 confirmed the positive trend. Data for the euro-zone was available until December 1998, when the 5.1% decline recorded in November 1998 was reversed as the number of new building permits was positive again (4.3%).

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L-2721 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 43 35 22 51
fax: (352) 43 35 22 221
e-mail: dslux@eurostat.datashop.lu

(1) Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland make up the EUR-11 aggregate, otherwise known as the euro-zone.

Latest outlook: construction

Figure 3.1

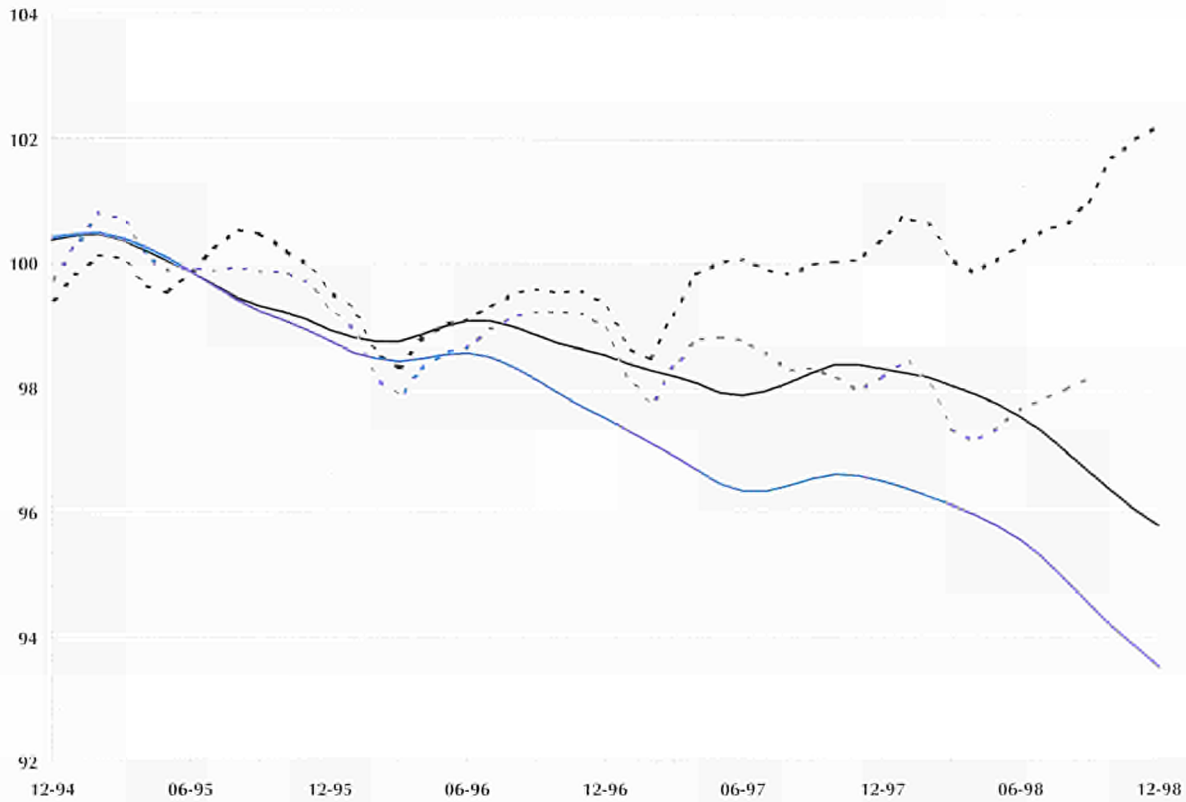


Figure 3.2

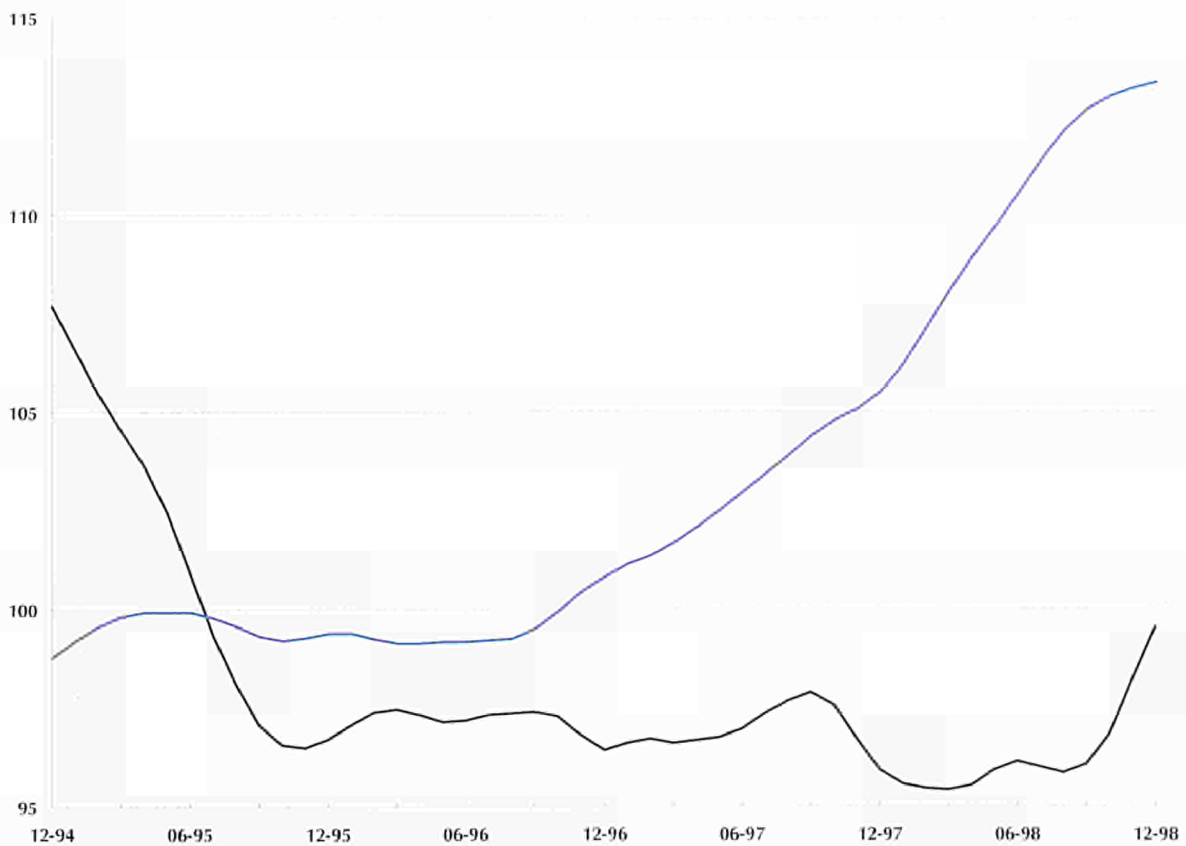
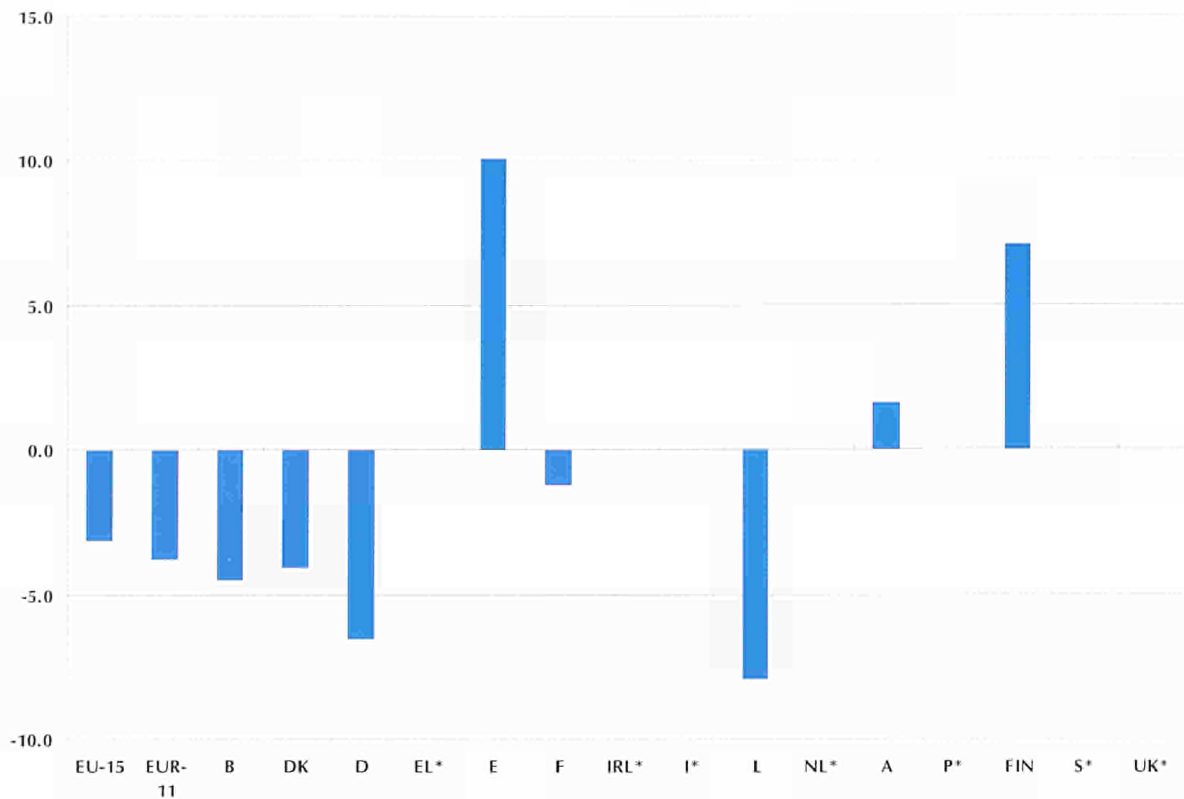


Figure 3.3

Production index for construction: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 10-98 to 12-98 (%)



Source: eurostat

Table 3.1

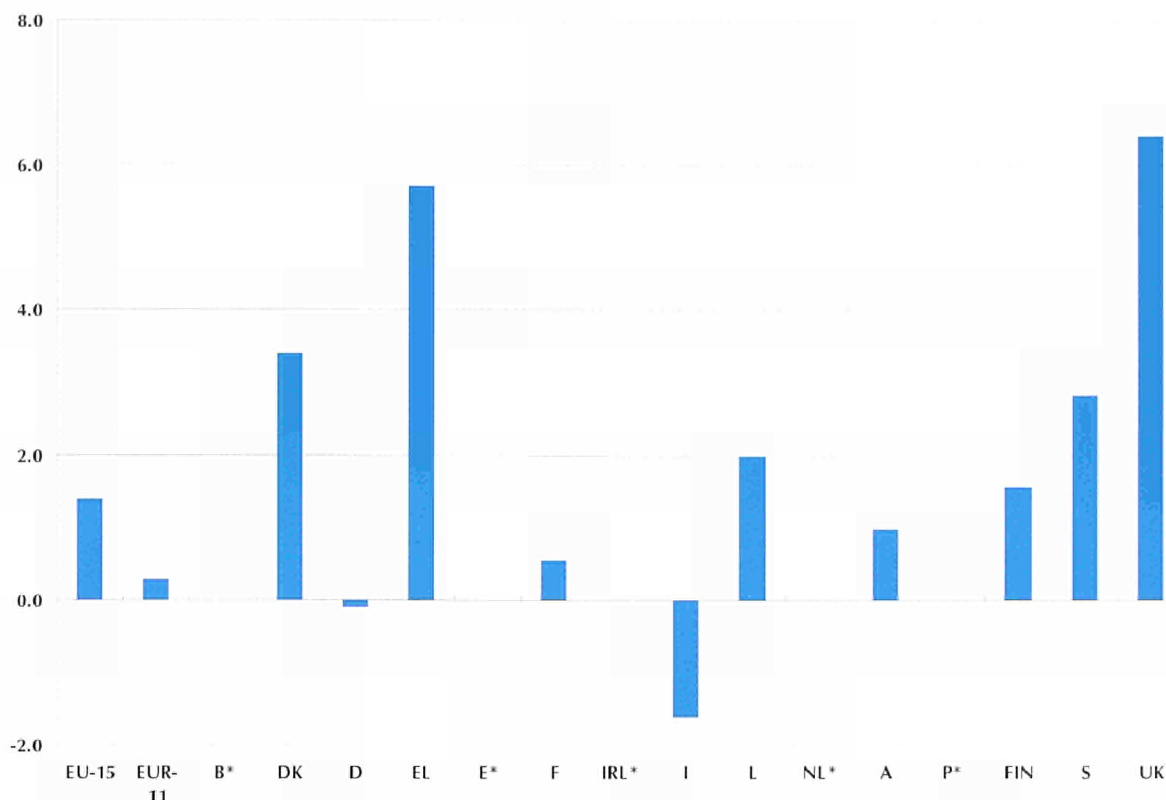
Production index of building and civil engineering: growth rates (%)

	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	-1.5	-1.8	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-0.5	-1.5
EUR-11	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-0.2	-3.1	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-0.3	-1.0
B		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
DK	11-98	⇒ 01-99	-5.5	-5.2	11-98	⇒ 01-99	2.5	-0.4
D	02-99	⇒ 04-99	-0.9	-5.2	02-99	⇒ 04-99	0.1	-0.5
EL		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
E	10-98	⇒ 12-98	1.7	11.1	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-1.2	10.1
F	01-99	⇒ 03-99	-2.0	-6.9	01-99	⇒ 03-99	0.2	0.9
IRL		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
I	10-98	⇒ 12-98	0.0	-15.5	07-98	⇒ 09-98	-1.5	-0.9
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	10-98	⇒ 12-98	1.7	4.0	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-4.5	-8.5
P		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
FIN	10-98	⇒ 12-98	1.5	8.5	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-0.5	2.8
S		⇒	:	:		⇒	:	:
UK	04-98	⇒ 06-98	-2.7	1.7	04-98	⇒ 06-98	-10.6	-12.6
NO	10-98	⇒ 12-98	-3.5	:	10-98	⇒ 12-98	6.1	:

Source: eurostat

Latest outlook: construction

Figure 3.4



Output prices for new residential buildings: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 10-98 to 12-98 (%)

Source: eurostat

Table 3.2

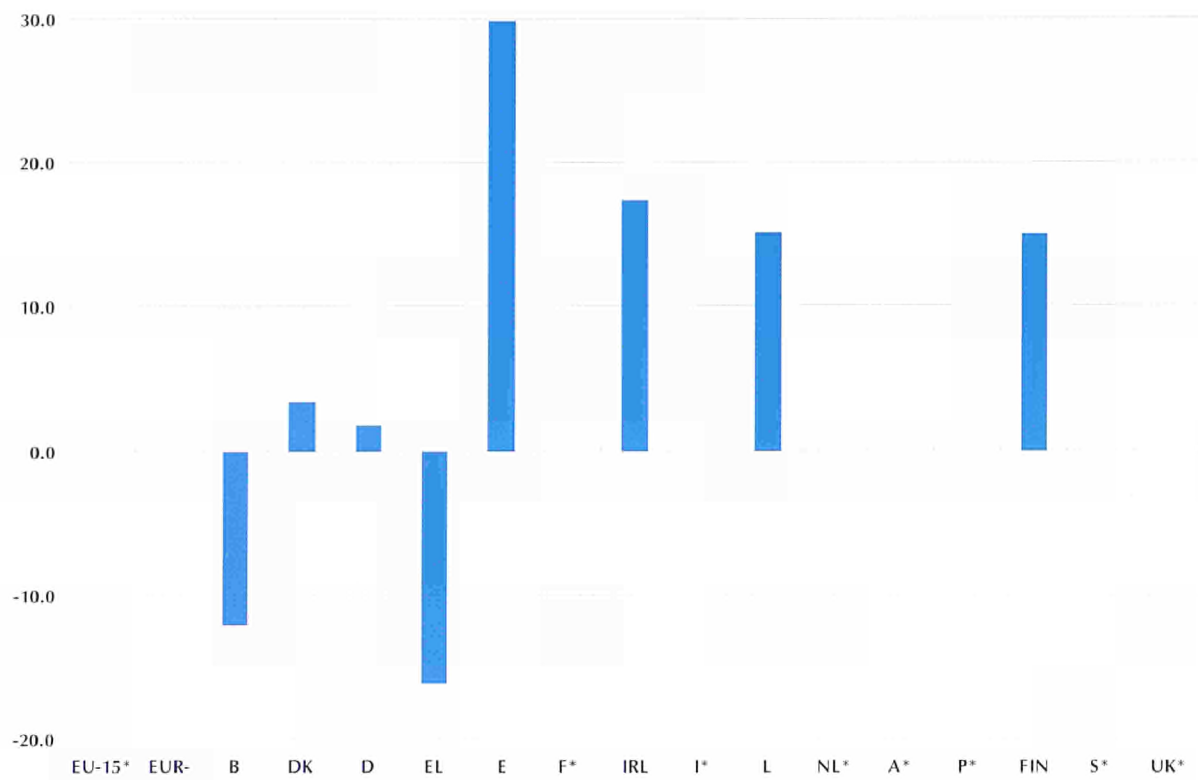
	III-1997	IV-1997	I-1998	II-1998	III-1998	IV-1998	I-1999	II-1999
EU-15	104.5	104.7	104.2	104.8	105.7	106.2	:	:
EUR-11	103.0	103.1	102.4	102.8	103.0	103.4	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	106.4	107.1	107.8	107.8	109.3	110.7	111.5	113.7
D	99.1	98.7	98.3	99.0	98.9	98.6	98.3	:
EL	111.9	113.2	115.8	117.2	119.2	119.6	121.1	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	104.8	104.9	104.0	104.0	103.9	105.5	:	:
IRL	105.6	106.7	107.5	108.3	109.7	:	:	:
I	105.0	105.3	102.1	102.6	103.2	103.6	103.7	:
L	102.7	102.7	103.9	103.9	104.7	104.7	:	:
NL	106.3	108.0	108.0	108.9	:	:	:	:
A	103.1	103.1	103.7	104.0	104.1	104.1	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	103.7	103.7	103.9	104.6	105.1	105.3	105.6	:
S	106.3	106.9	107.2	108.6	109.5	109.9	110.3	:
UK	107.0	109.0	110.0	112.0	114.0	116.0	:	:
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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

Source: eurostat

Figure 3.5

Building permits - useful floor area: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 10-98 to 12-98 (%)



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	⇨		:	:	11-98 ⇨ 01-99	:	103.9	
EUR-11	⇨		:	:	11-98 ⇨ 01-99	:	103.7	
B	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		1,866	84.5	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		2,086	130.6
DK	11-98 ⇨ 01-99		466	121.8	11-98 ⇨ 01-99		1,037	97.9
D	11-98 ⇨ 01-99		11,156	80.9	11-98 ⇨ 01-99		9,816	91.1
EL	11-98 ⇨ 01-99		2,817	133.1	11-98 ⇨ 01-99		1,084	111.2
E	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		17,157	152.5	10-98 ⇨ 12-98		4,006	196.3
F	⇨		:	:	02-99 ⇨ 04-99		9,958	111.1
IRL	01-99 ⇨ 03-99		1,761	187.2	01-99 ⇨ 03-99		1,002	154.0
I	07-98 ⇨ 09-98		2,334	62.0	07-98 ⇨ 09-98		4,003	68.8
L	12-98 ⇨ 02-99		:	64.2	12-98 ⇨ 02-99		:	97.6
NL	08-98 ⇨ 10-98		3,965	100.4	08-98 ⇨ 10-98		6,087	172.1
A	⇨		:	:	⇨		:	:
P	⇨		:	:	⇨		:	:
FIN	01-99 ⇨ 03-99		744	161.9	01-99 ⇨ 03-99		707	130.6
S	02-99 ⇨ 04-99		268	:	02-99 ⇨ 04-99		556	:
UK	⇨		:	:	⇨		:	:
NO	12-98 ⇨ 02-99		660	84.1	12-98 ⇨ 02-99		776	77.8

Source: eurostat

Latest outlook: construction

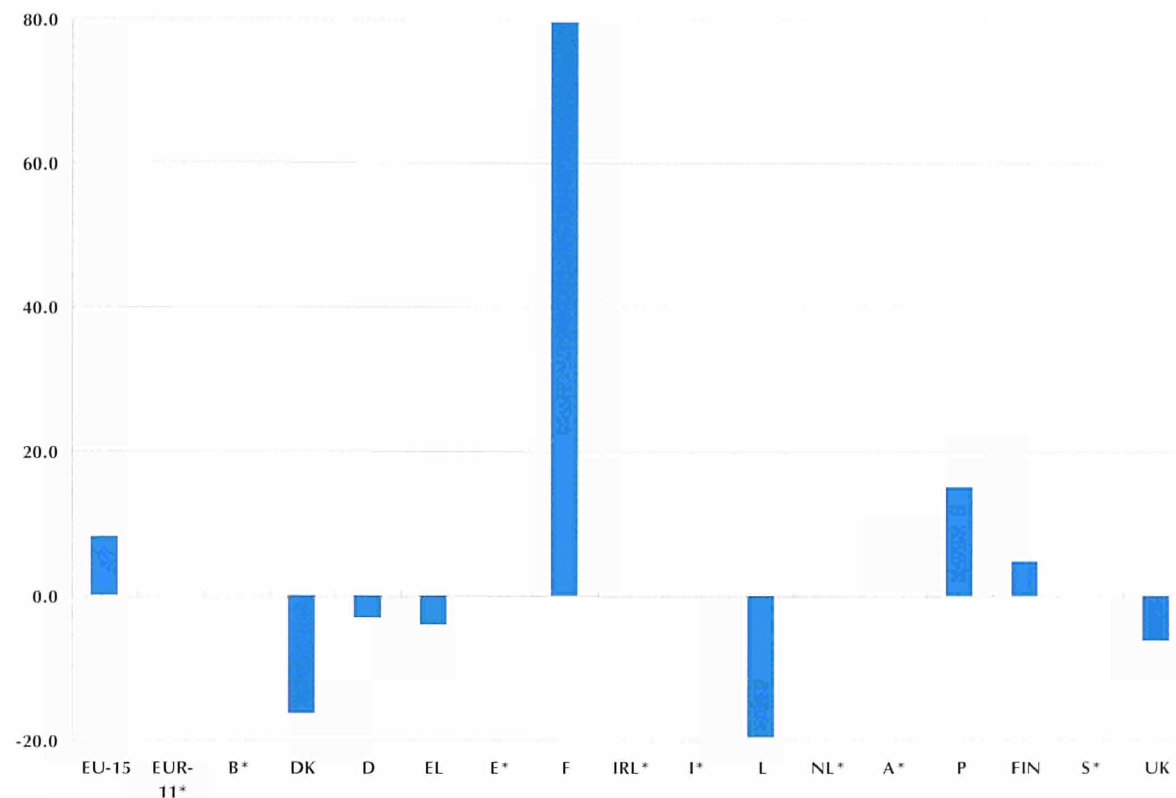


Figure 3.6

Building permits - no. of dwellings: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 11-98 to 01-99 (%)

Source:

	Latest year available	no. of dwellings	Latest month available	no. of dwellings	no. of dwellings per 1,000 inhabitants	Index, 1995 = 100
EU-15		:	01-99	:	:	86.3
EUR-11		:	12-98	:	:	121.9
B	1997	50,847	11-98	2,637	:	70.4
DK	1998	16,349	01-99	800	:	83.1
D	1998	477,707	01-99	31,749	:	59.6
EL	1998	97,259	01-99	5,897	:	99.9
E	1998	364,086	12-98	34,711	:	147.4
F	1998	377,658	04-99	25,181	:	98.0
IRL	1998	47,389	03-99	:	:	172.4
I	1997	145,435	09-98	405	:	2.8
L	1998	3,215	02-99	212	:	95.1
NL	1997	101,501	10-98	8,319	:	101.4
A		:		:	:	:
P	1998	107,221	03-99	11,515	:	179.6
FIN	1998	32,468	03-99	3,016	:	192.1
S	1998	12,004	04-99	610	:	:
UK	1998	176,700	03-99	15,700	:	112.3
NO	1998	22,017	02-99	1,215	:	67.8

Table 3.4

Number of dwellings authorised (units)

Source:

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

4.

Latest outlook: services

Commentary	54
Volume of retail sales	56
First registration of private and commercial cars	59
Tourism	62



4. Latest outlook: services

New vehicle registrations

In the EU new vehicle registrations increased by 5.7% in the three months to March 1999 (when compared with data for the same period a year earlier). The European index of new vehicle registrations has now registered positive growth for twenty four consecutive months.

Fresher data was available for several Member States. In the majority of the countries for which data was available the number of new vehicle registrations increased in the early part of 1999. Only Denmark reported a large decline of some 6.8% for April 1999, the decline was the third consecutive month that a negative figure was recorded. In Germany the number of registrations decreased by 0.3% (April 1999), after three positive rates of growth during the first quarter of 1999. In Italy, new vehicle registrations rose by 1.9% in the three months to April 1999, the first growth recorded since April 1998.

Several Member States recorded new vehicle registrations increasing by more than ten percent: including France (12.8%, for April 1999), Belgium, Sweden and Finland (15.8%, 14.5% and 14.3% respectively). Whilst in Sweden the growth rate was never above fifteen percent for the last twelve months, in France, Belgium and particularly in Finland the latest growth rates reported a slow down when compared to the late part of 1998. However, the highest rates of growth were recorded in Greece, Luxembourg and Portugal, where the number of new vehicle registrations increased by more than 20%.

Retail trade

In Europe the index of retail sales volumes reported an upward trend. If we look at the data reported by the larger Member States there were rates of growth between 1.8% in the United Kingdom (for the three months to April 1999) and 8.3% in Italy (for the three months to March 1999). These growth rates compare the index of sales volumes to the same period of a year before. In Germany, the largest market within Europe, the index of retail sales volumes growth increased to 2.1% in March 1999, following more moderate growth during the majority of 1998.

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L-2721 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 43 35 22 51
fax: (352) 43 35 22 221
e-mail: dslux@eurostat.datashop.lu

Latest outlook: services

Most of the smaller Member States also reported growth of retail sales volumes. In Sweden the index increased by 4.3% (for February 1999), similar rates of growth were observed from the summer of 1998 onwards. Data for Ireland and Finland reflected high consumer confidence in the economic situation as retail sales volumes increased by 7.4% and 4.6% respectively (both for February 1999). However, in Ireland there has been somewhat of a slowdown in the growth of the index, falling by some 3.5 percentage points since April 1998.

Amongst the countries for which data was available only Austria recorded a slight decline in retail sales, down by 1.6% for February 1999, following a slowdown in activity during the winter of 1998.

The breakdown of retail sales displayed a general upward tendency in the majority of the countries and activities. Retail sales of food, beverages and tobacco was increasing at a fast pace in France (up by 3.7%, March 1999), whilst in the United Kingdom there was only growth of 0.2% (for April 1999). Spanish figures for the same activity reported growth of 3.6% in March 1999, which was some 3.3 percentage points lower than two months earlier at the turn of the year. Within the smaller Member States there were lower growth rates for retail sales of food, beverages and tobacco: for example, in Denmark (0.9%) or Sweden (0.4%) in February 1999. In the Netherlands the activity reported a decrease of 2.9% in the first quarter of 1999.

Retail sales of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods were growing by 3.1% in the United Kingdom (April 1999). In France growth was at a similar level, rising by 3.0% in February 1999 and by 5.2% at the end of the first quarter of 1999. Sales volumes for the purchase of textiles, clothing, footwear and leather goods increased at positive rates in Denmark, Sweden and Greece (up by 1.9%, 3.1% and 5.6% respectively, for February 1999).

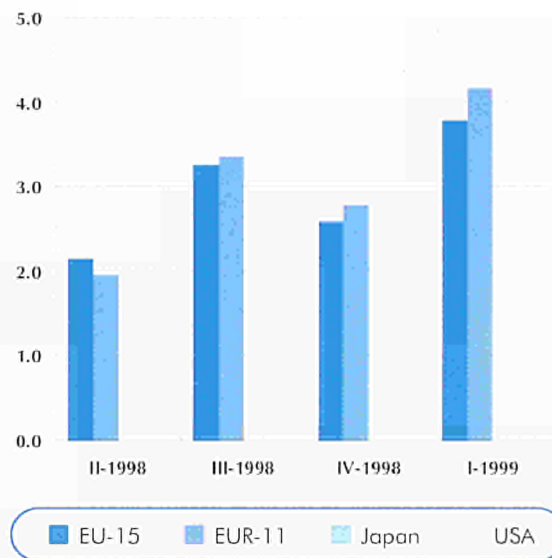


Figure 4.1

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

Source: eurostat

There was more rapid growth for many countries when studying retail sales of household equipment. In Italy the index increased by 9.3% in March 1999. In the United Kingdom and Spain retail sales of household equipment grew faster than in any other retail activity (up by 5.9%, for April 1999 and 6.1%, for March 1999 respectively). Swedish retailers reported an increase of some 13.9% for February 1999. Within the countries for which data was available at the start of 1999, only Austria and Greece saw retail sales of household equipment falling, down by some 3.7% and 4.4% in February 1999.

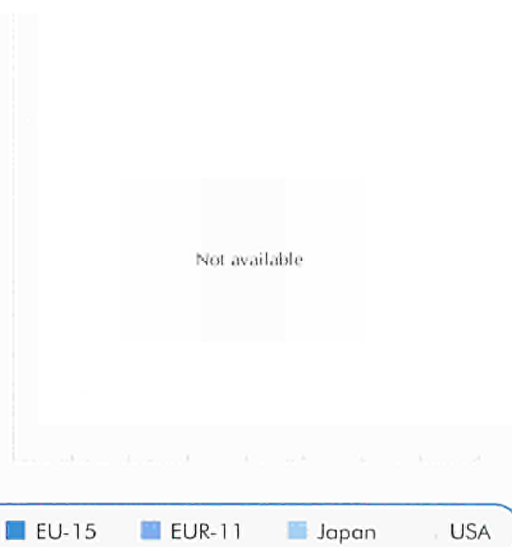


Figure 4.2

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	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99
EU-15	100.8	102.6	105.4	112.2	136.2	99.8	98.7	105.8	:
EUR-11	100.3	101.5	104.2	110.5	133.8	98.6	97.6	105.9	:
B	101.4	104.4	109.2	105.2	125.9	:	:	:	:
DK	101.3	103.3	105.5	105.4	135.7	101.9	94.6	:	:
D	98.9	97.1	97.8	107.7	121.5	91.2	90.7	102.9	:
EL	101.2	102.4	104.1	107.3	145.3	102.5	101.9	:	:
E	98.3	100.3	106.4	105.4	134.1	108.7	100.0	102.4	:
F	101.2	104.2	108.8	115.5	134.7	104.4	104.5	106.9	:
IRL	106.7	114.9	125.1	126.1	155.0	131.1	129.3	:	:
I	100.7	101.9	102.9	110.4	148.1	95.6	97.2	107.2	:
L	98.6	105.4	107.2	108.7	110.1	:	:	:	:
NL	103.0	107.0	111.5	113.8	130.5	101.6	96.2	112.2	:
A	101.4	102.6	105.0	114.8	137.0	92.6	96.2	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	104.1	108.3	113.9	114.4	150.6	101.5	98.9	:	:
S	100.8	103.0	106.7	107.7	141.8	99.6	95.6	:	:
UK	103.3	108.5	111.9	123.2	147.1	105.7	105.3	107.4	108.7
NO	102.7	106.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Table 4.2

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

	1996	1997	1998	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99
EU-15	100.8	102.6	105.4	107.1	106.8	107.7	108.0	108.7	:
EUR-11	100.3	101.5	104.2	106.0	105.7	106.5	106.9	107.6	:
B	101.4	104.4	109.2	109.5	107.4	:	:	:	:
DK	101.3	103.3	105.5	107.1	107.5	106.7	107.8	:	:
D	98.9	97.1	97.8	99.6	96.3	101.0	99.3	102.7	:
EL	101.2	102.4	104.1	105.3	106.6	106.9	106.3	:	:
E	98.3	100.3	106.4	108.3	107.2	107.3	107.8	110.7	:
F	101.2	104.2	108.8	115.5	108.1	111.0	111.6	113.4	:
IRL	106.7	114.9	125.1	129.5	127.6	133.4	133.6	:	:
I	100.7	101.9	102.9	105.7	105.1	108.3	108.3	108.5	:
L	98.6	105.4	107.2	108.1	108.8	:	:	:	:
NL	103.0	107.0	111.5	113.0	112.5	110.8	111.9	115.1	:
A	101.4	102.6	105.0	106.0	104.7	102.9	102.2	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	104.1	108.3	113.9	116.7	117.3	115.5	114.8	:	:
S	100.8	103.0	106.7	107.9	108.0	109.8	110.0	:	:
UK	103.3	108.5	111.9	112.9	111.8	113.3	113.0	113.7	113.1
NO	102.7	106.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: services

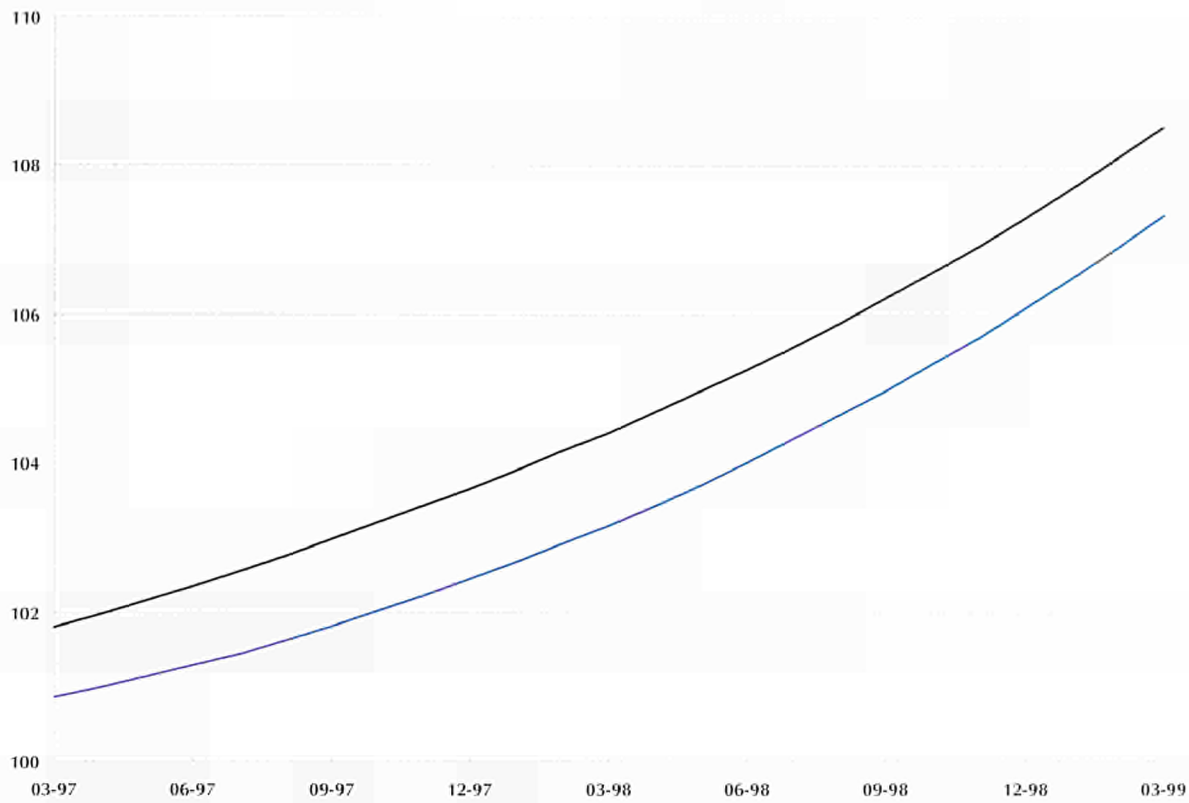


Figure 4.3

Volume of retail sales (1995 = 100)

— EU-15
— EUR-11

Source: eurostat

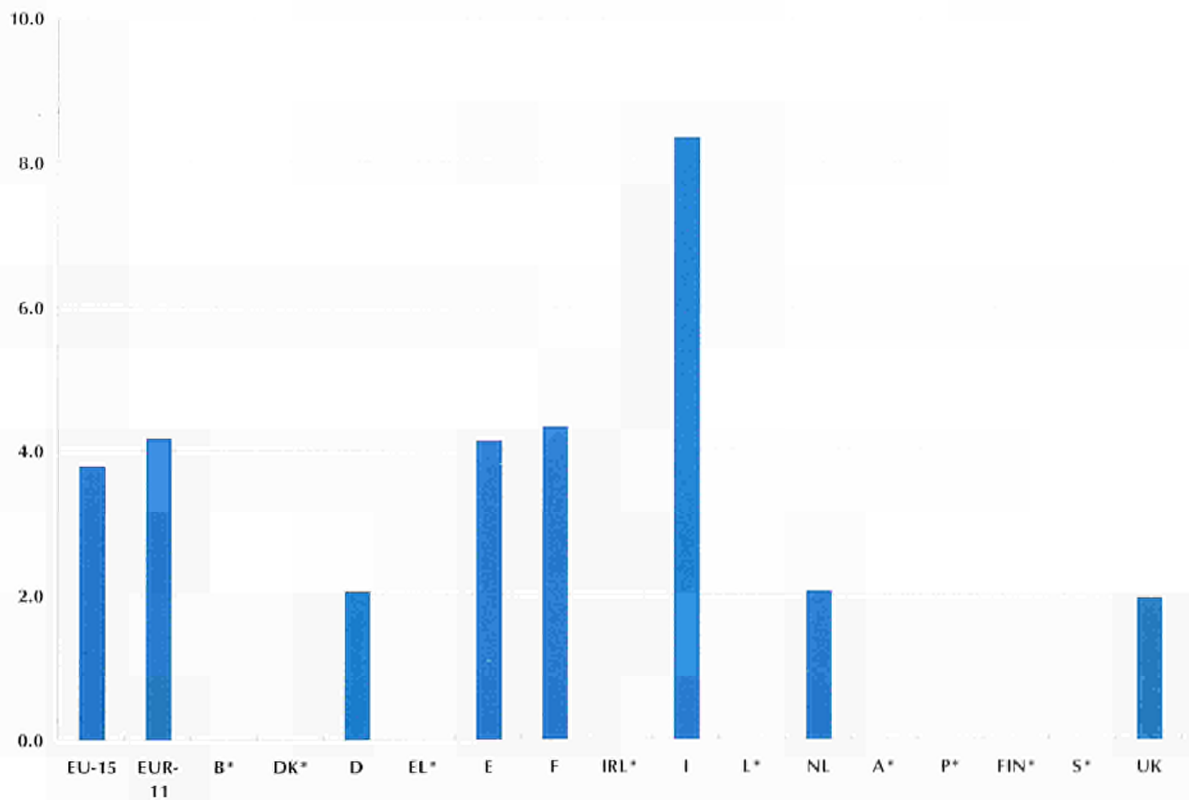


Figure 4.4

Volume of retail sales: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 01-99 to 03-99 (%)

Source: eurostat

Table 4.3

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

	1998	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99	Latest 3 months available			t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇄	07-98	0.6	1.9
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇄	07-98	0.7	1.7
B	109.2	107.2	126.1	:	:	:	:	10-98	⇄	12-98	0.2	0.6
DK	101.6	102.2	118.7	92.8	97.6	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	0.2	0.9
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇄	07-98	-0.1	-0.5
EL	104.9	106.8	138.4	100.8	102.3	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	1.0	3.1
E	101.4	102.4	126.3	92.5	101.0	95.9	:	01-99	⇄	03-99	0.4	3.6
F	108.1	116.9	132.6	98.7	105.5	104.7	:	01-99	⇄	03-99	0.8	3.7
IRL	111.5	112.5	134.8	105.1	107.0	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	1.0	3.0
I	107.2	108.7	155.3	106.0	100.3	114.1	:	01-99	⇄	03-99	1.4	5.9
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇄		:	:
NL	103.0	103.9	114.0	93.8	99.9	101.3	:	01-99	⇄	03-99	0.1	-2.9
A	99.1	99.0	113.7	91.0	99.4	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	0.0	0.1
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇄		:	:
FIN	107.3	102.1	129.3	96.0	98.9	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	0.9	4.5
S	101.5	98.9	122.9	93.8	90.3	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	0.1	0.4
UK	108.9	112.5	121.7	102.8	108.5	108.6	107.6	02-99	⇄	04-99	0.1	0.2
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	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99	Latest 3 months available			t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇄	07-98	0.4	2.6
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇄	07-98	0.8	3.0
B	105.8	94.9	118.1	:	:	:	:	10-98	⇄	12-98	0.8	2.3
DK	107.6	107.3	158.4	120.5	79.4	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	1.1	1.9
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇄	07-98	-1.2	-1.5
EL	97.5	95.9	143.7	104.2	107.7	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	0.3	5.6
E	101.1	101.9	127.6	124.8	86.4	91.3	:	01-99	⇄	03-99	-1.5	-1.0
F	109.1	107.6	140.0	131.7	79.8	98.8	:	01-99	⇄	03-99	1.0	5.2
IRL	144.2	153.1	273.0	153.0	119.7	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	4.0	13.0
I	100.4	124.0	153.8	91.1	79.6	100.4	:	01-99	⇄	03-99	1.3	10.0
L	105.7	109.3	100.9	:	:	:	:	10-98	⇄	12-98	-2.8	-0.2
NL	109.3	103.5	131.7	104.3	73.1	104.0	:	01-99	⇄	03-99	1.1	3.2
A	103.9	121.8	145.7	89.1	60.1	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	-2.0	-10.2
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇄		:	:
FIN	111.6	125.0	144.4	109.4	91.0	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	0.1	2.0
S	103.7	101.1	147.5	94.1	77.7	:	:	12-98	⇄	02-99	0.9	3.1
UK	112.5	132.2	177.7	99.8	90.4	97.0	105.4	02-99	⇄	04-99	1.0	3.1
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇄	12-97	0.8	4.8
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇄		:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇄		:	:

Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: services

	1998	11-98	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99	Latest 3 months available		t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇌ 07-98	0.4	4.6
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇌ 07-98	0.4	4.5
B	109.3	111.1	135.1	:	:	:	:	10-98	⇌ 12-98	0.6	5.3
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇌	:	:
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	05-98	⇌ 07-98	0.1	0.3
EL	113.7	118.9	157.4	100.8	96.7	:	:	12-98	⇌ 02-99	-1.4	-4.4
E	114.2	120.0	136.8	109.5	113.8	111.9	:	01-99	⇌ 03-99	2.0	6.1
F	112.9	117.9	149.2	106.8	110.0	113.7	:	01-99	⇌ 03-99	1.5	6.9
IRL	130.6	155.3	198.3	131.1	121.9	:	:	12-98	⇌ 02-99	3.1	11.2
I	97.8	113.9	128.0	85.7	108.4	99.7	:	01-99	⇌ 03-99	2.4	9.3
L	121.7	119.1	122.8	:	:	:	:	10-98	⇌ 12-98	1.9	4.1
NL	122.0	131.7	151.6	114.3	110.5	127.3	:	01-99	⇌ 03-99	2.0	7.3
A	104.0	124.7	150.0	85.5	89.6	:	:	12-98	⇌ 02-99	-1.5	-3.7
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇌	:	:
FIN	125.9	130.2	160.2	97.9	98.0	:	:	12-98	⇌ 02-99	-0.9	2.8
S	114.9	127.6	175.5	115.7	104.2	:	:	12-98	⇌ 02-99	4.5	13.9
UK	125.1	138.3	168.8	137.8	126.9	121.7	126.3	02-99	⇌ 04-99	2.0	5.9
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇌ 12-97	1.6	6.1
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	12-98	01-99	02-99	03-99	04-99	05-99	Latest 3 months available		t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	01-99	⇌ 03-99	2.8	:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇌	:	:
B	:	22	60	46	56	:	:	01-99	⇌ 03-99	1.6	15.8
DK	:	12	10	12	17	13	:	02-99	⇌ 04-99	-6.9	-6.8
D	:	291	273	269	430	:	:	01-99	⇌ 03-99	0.1	-0.5
EL	:	18	31	18	24	25	23	03-99	⇌ 05-99	10.4	39.3
E	:	120	82	:	:	:	:	11-98	⇌ 01-99	2.0	14.3
F	:	170	157	158	206	187	:	02-99	⇌ 04-99	1.1	12.8
IRL	:	3	14	:	:	:	:	11-98	⇌ 01-99	0.2	-20.1
I	:	115	235	226	248	217	:	02-99	⇌ 04-99	5.4	1.9
L	:	2	3	4	5	:	:	01-99	⇌ 03-99	5.0	24.3
NL	:	13	:	:	:	:	:	10-98	⇌ 12-98	-1.6	21.7
A	:	13	:	:	:	:	:	10-98	⇌ 12-98	0.1	22.3
P	:	37	31	:	:	:	:	11-98	⇌ 01-99	5.0	24.0
FIN	:	8	15	10	13	14	:	02-99	⇌ 04-99	2.4	14.3
S	:	25	20	23	31	27	29	03-99	⇌ 05-99	4.2	14.5
UK	:	108	:	:	:	:	:	10-98	⇌ 12-98	2.4	4.2
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇌ 12-97	4.6	3.2
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇌	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		⇌	:	:

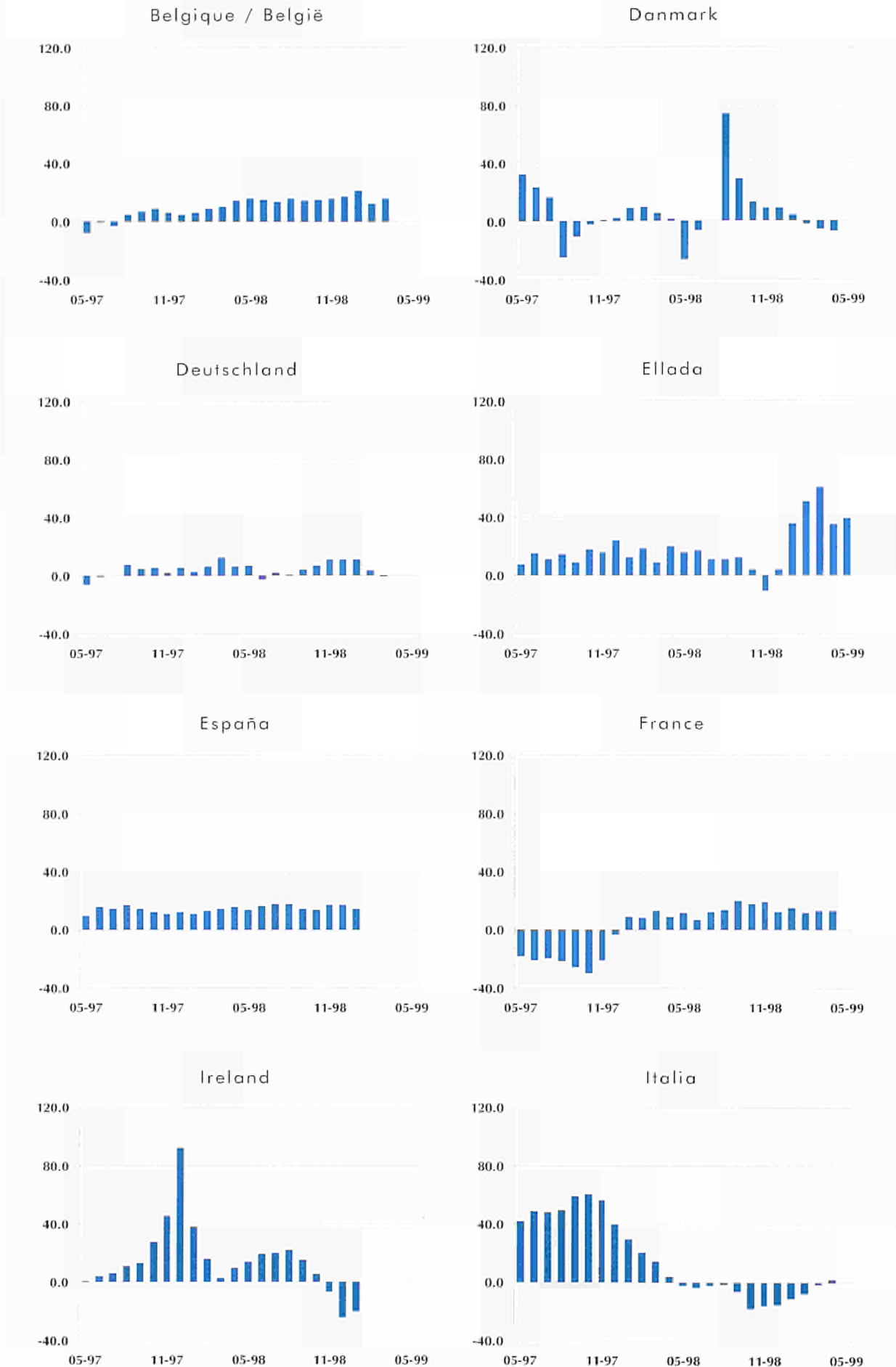
Table 4.6


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



Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: services

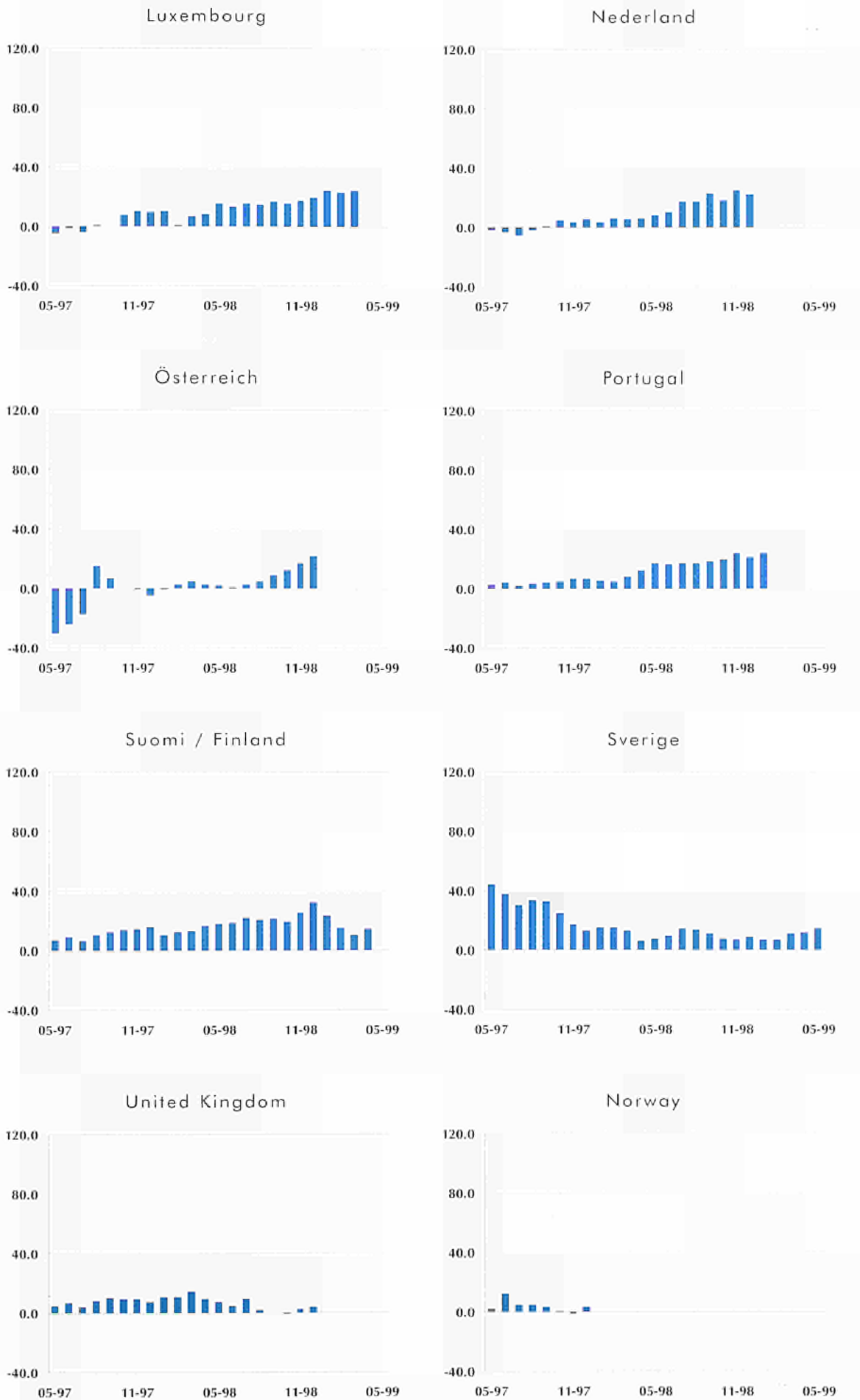


Figure 4.5

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)

	1998	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	Latest 3 months available		t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
B	:	441	465	303	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	-1.8
DK	:	444	457	451	417	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	-21.4
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	-0.6
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	21.1
E	:	7,869	10,228	7,394	5,402	3,998	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	9.8
F	:	10,228	12,050	9,657	7,970	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	2.9
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
I	:	19,602	27,377	12,360	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	3.3
L	:	7	8	:	:	:	:	06-98	⇔ 08-98	-8.3
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	13.7
A	:	1,810	2,186	1,531	1,110	800	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	4.6
P	8,857	1,010	1,474	932	600	492	509	10-98	⇔ 12-98	0.3
FIN	9,066	990	816	769	759	720	567	10-98	⇔ 12-98	3.3
S	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	4.5
UK	:	8,740	11,600	8,900	7,700	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	-16.6
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	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)

	1998	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	Latest 3 months available		t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
B	:	871	793	890	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	-4.8
DK	:	879	646	385	317	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	-0.8
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	2.6
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	04-98	⇔ 06-98	5.8
E	:	14,484	15,440	13,840	10,837	4,903	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	7.9
F	:	8,364	9,295	7,158	5,661	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	7.1
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
I	:	11,203	10,287	11,398	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	2.5
L	:	115	116	:	:	:	:	06-98	⇔ 08-98	4.4
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	18.8
A	:	5,848	7,938	4,957	2,708	1,153	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	1.3
P	22,830	2,725	3,037	2,728	1,972	1,174	944	10-98	⇔ 12-98	3.1
FIN	3,141	430	406	263	181	200	214	10-98	⇔ 12-98	-3.0
S	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	7.2
UK	:	12,660	15,870	8,760	7,900	4,370	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	1.6
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	12-97	⇔ 02-98	-2.7

Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: services

	1998	07-98	08-98	09-98	10-98	11-98	12-98	Latest 3 months available		t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
B	:	2,417	1,562	451	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	-12.6
DK	:	3,578	1,460	704	330	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	4.1
D	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	-12.3
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	-78.0
E	:	2,953	5,762	1,092	269	:	:	08-98	⇔ 10-98	9.8
F	:	22,930	31,233	2,585	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	0.5
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
I	:	12,941	21,357	3,832	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	3.0
L	:	26	16	:	:	:	:	06-98	⇔ 08-98	22.0
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	-4.8
A	:	1,265	1,357	630	423	315	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	1.9
P	5,276	1,255	1,852	575	180	114	78	10-98	⇔ 12-98	-3.3
FIN	1,768	718	248	69	34	25	34	10-98	⇔ 12-98	-6.7
S	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	-16.5
UK	:	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	155,702	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
EUR-11	109,529	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
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	31,972	12,587	12,898	2,316	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	4.6
IRL	4,200	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:
I	32,868	8,648	9,518	4,474	:	:	:	07-98	⇔ 09-98	3.7
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	462	565	188	55	38	26	10-98	⇔ 12-98	-1.7
FIN	475	125	83	13	5	6	11	10-98	⇔ 12-98	-2.6
S	814	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇔ 12-97	-19.3
UK	38,270	5,500	6,850	2,840	1,720	2,170	:	09-98	⇔ 11-98	0.3
NO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇔		:

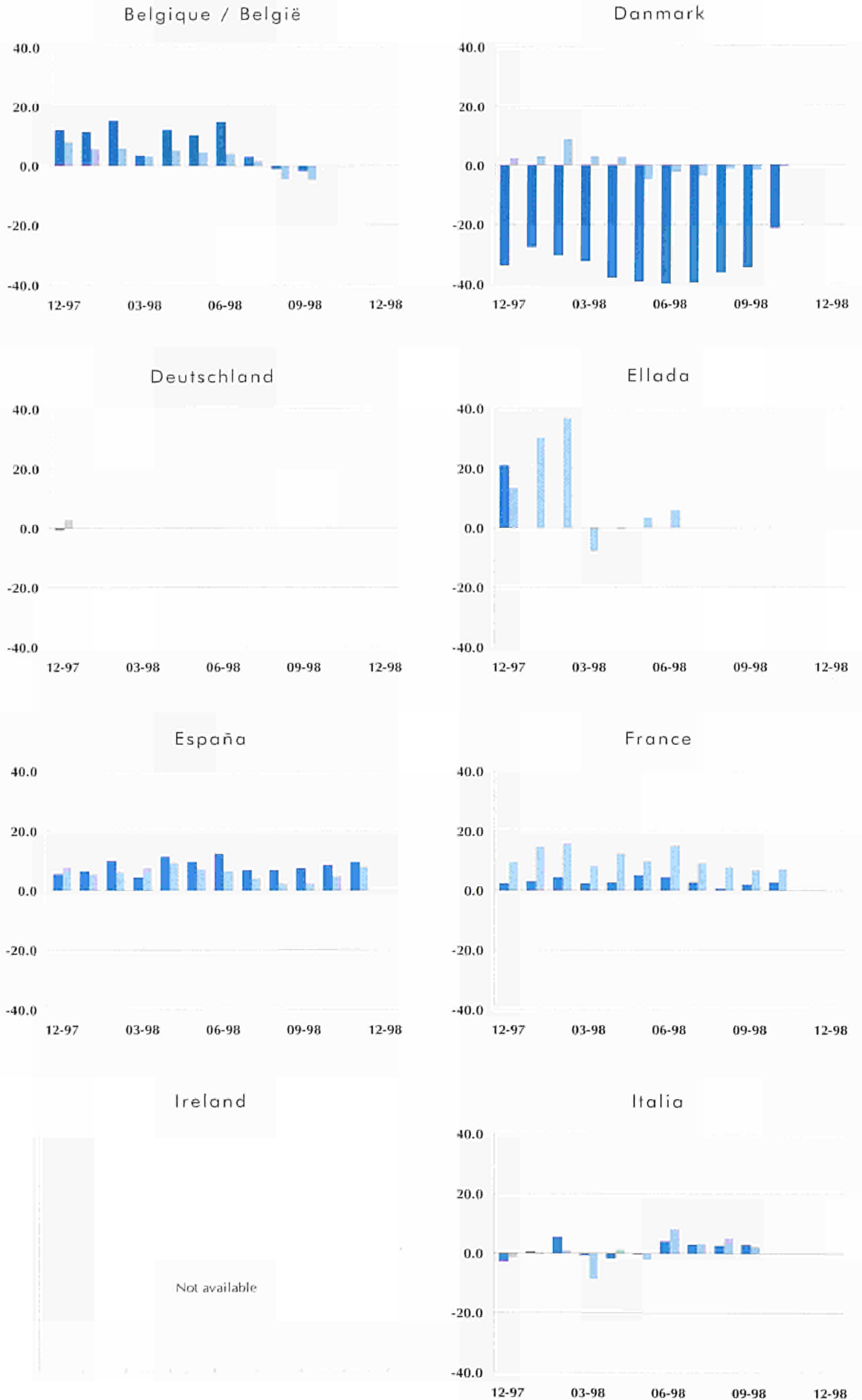
Table 4.10


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

Source:  eurostat

Figure 4.6

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

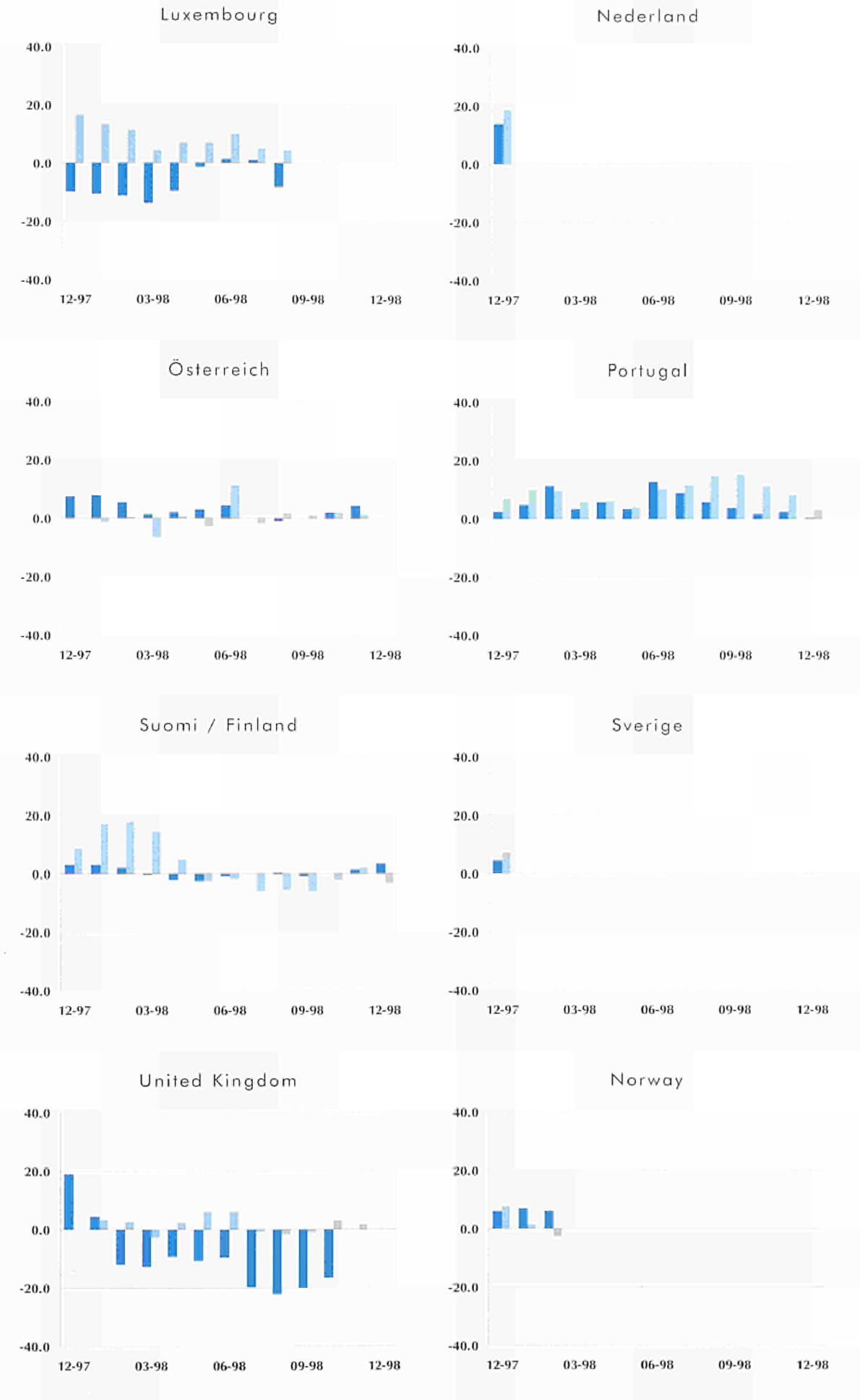


Source:  eurostat

Latest outlook: services

Figure 4.6

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



Source: eurostat



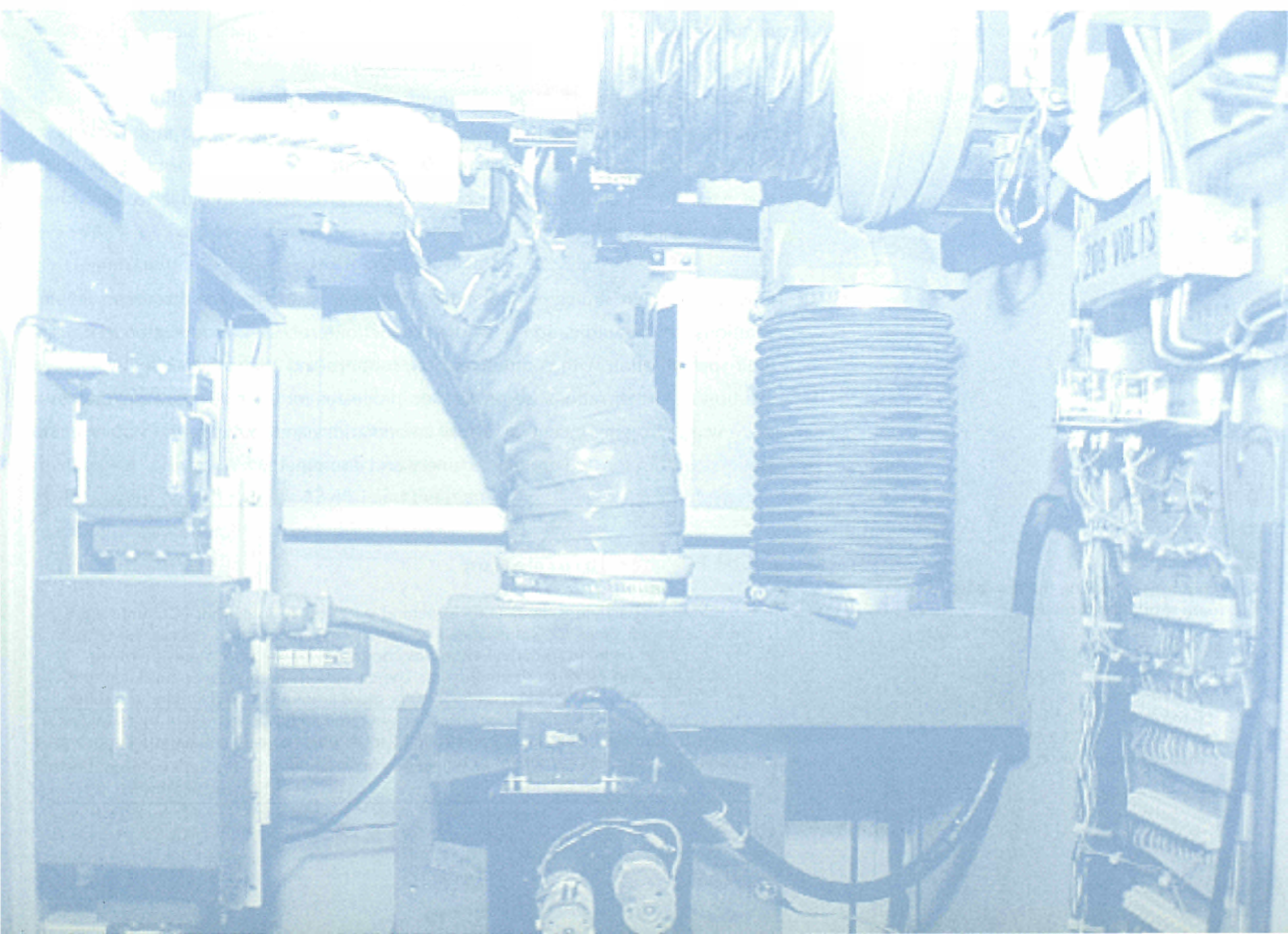
5. Machinery and equipment

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5. Machinery and equipment

Description of the NACE Rev. 1 Groups in Division 29:

- 29.1: manufacture of machinery for the production and use of mechanical power, except aircraft, vehicle and cycle engines;
- 29.2: manufacture of other general purpose machinery;
- 29.3: manufacture of agricultural and forestry machinery;
- 29.4: manufacture of machine-tools;
- 29.5: manufacture of other special purpose machinery;
- 29.6: manufacture of weapons and ammunition;
- 29.7: manufacture of domestic appliances n.e.c.

The manufacture of machinery and equipment provides capital goods for many other manufacturing activities, including machinery for general purposes (like engines and turbines or pumps and compressors), as well as machinery for special purposes (like agricultural tractors, machinery for metallurgy or for textile production) and also the manufacture of weapons. Furthermore, this Division of the NACE Rev. 1 classification of economic activities also encompasses domestic appliances, which are consumer durable goods. This activity contributed approximately 10% to the production value of the sector, whilst the manufacture of general purpose machinery accounted for about 45% and the manufacture of special purpose machinery about 40%.

Output of this industrial activity is determined largely by the industrial performance of the economy. This dependency is further reinforced by the fact that the industry has many mature markets. In order to increase sales, manufacturers have to take market share from competitors, improve their export markets or rely on an upturn in general economic activity.

From 1997 onwards, European manufacturers have faced a declining market in south-east Asia, due largely to the economic crisis. However, the industry expects that Eastern European markets will grow. Despite the international crises in south-east Asia, Russia and Latin America some enterprises were still able to report high rates of capacity utilisation.

One of the main strategies adopted by European manufacturers has been to offer solutions for the automation of whole production processes. Manufacturer combine their specialisation with computerisation, robotics and software to offer a complete solution to further rationalise production processes for their clients. For this reason there was a growing incentive to find co-operations and to merge with other manufacturers within the activity of machinery and equipment.

Further information

For industrial activities the 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). 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.

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L-2721 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 43 35 22 51
fax: (352) 43 35 22 221
e-mail: dslux@eurostat.datashop.lu

Machinery and equipment: NACE Rev. 1 Division 29

Within the Member States Denmark, Germany and Sweden reported a production specialisation in the activity of machinery and equipment that was relatively high in 1998. In Denmark the activity contributed one and a half times more to the country's production value of total manufacturing than in the EU as a whole. In Germany the corresponding ratio was equal to 1.4 and in Sweden 1.3. The Danish specialisation was particularly high in the manufacture of machinery for the production and use of mechanical power, except aircraft, vehicle and cycle engines (211.6%) and the manufacture of agricultural tractors (186.1%), whilst Germany was highly specialised in the manufacture of machine-tools 180.1%.

Trends in production

In 1998 production value in current prices in EU-15 increased by 3.8% (compared to a year before), following growth of 5.3% in 1997. The corresponding figure for the EUR-11¹ aggregate was somewhat faster, with output rising by 4.5%. This difference was explained by moderate growth rates in Denmark and the United Kingdom (2.3% and 0.4% respectively) and a slight decrease of 1.7% in Sweden. Besides Sweden, only Ireland and Finland recorded a negative evolution for production values in 1998, with losses of 6.5% and 0.3% respectively. Luxembourg and Greece also reported growth for the manufacture of machinery and equipment well above the EU average (at 11.2% and 11.1% respectively in 1998). Austria too reported growth rates well above the average, especially in the manufacture of machinery for the production and use of mechanical power, except aircraft, vehicle and cycle engines (which rose by 22.4%) and the manufacture of agricultural tractors (up by 24.7%).

(1) Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland make up the EUR-11 aggregate, otherwise known as the euro-zone.

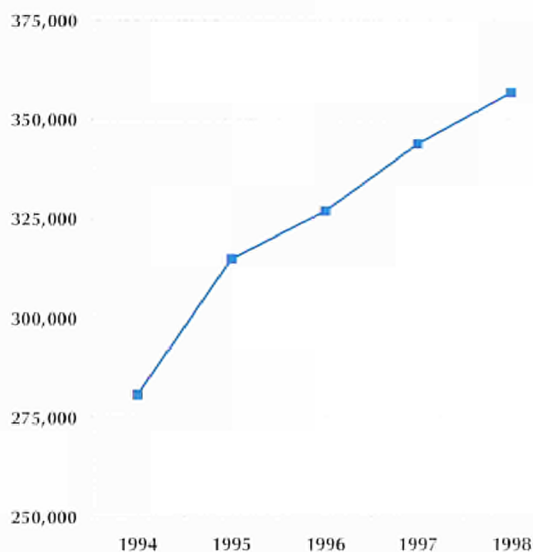


Figure 5.1

EU-15 production in constant prices (million ECU)

Source: eurostat

If we look at growth over a longer period, Swedish manufacture of machinery and equipment reported real annual increases equivalent to 10.1% per annum, during the period 1993 and 1998. In Finland the corresponding rate was even higher at 13.2% per annum. In Germany the manufacture of machine-tools increased by 5.3% per annum during the same period (1993-1998).

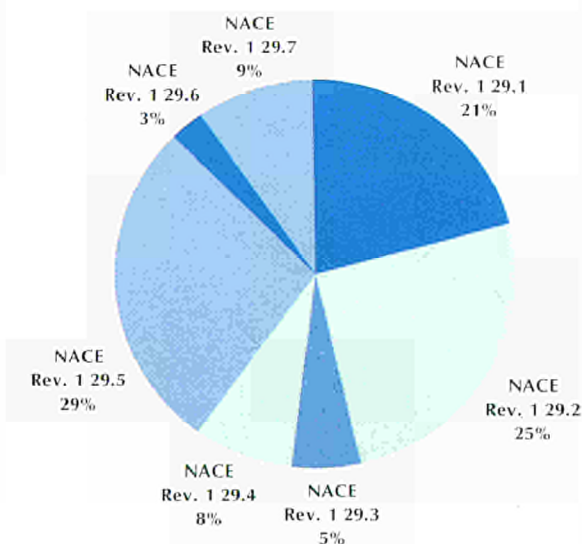


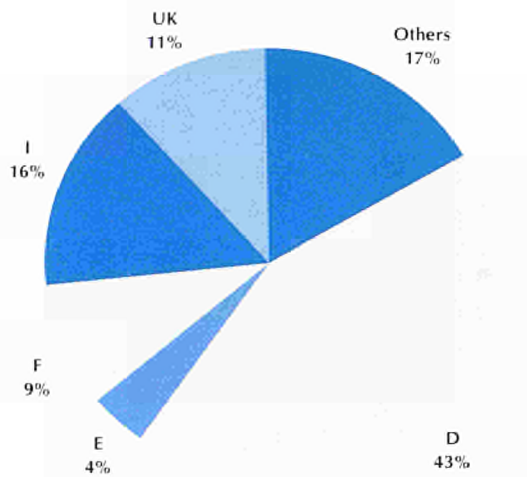
Figure 5.2

EU-15 share of production by industrial group, 1995

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.3

Share of EU-15 value-added at factor cost, 1998

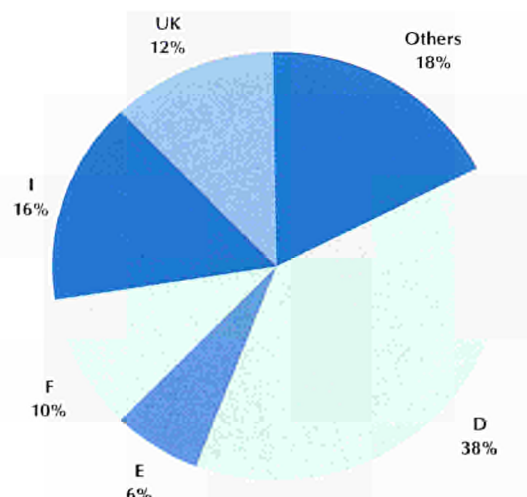


Source: eurostat

A comparison of the performance in the EU with that in the other two Triad countries showed that in 1997, the manufacture of machinery and equipment in the USA increased at a much faster pace than in the EU (18.7% growth compared to 5.3% respectively). Of particular note was the growth recorded in the activity of agricultural tractors, where output expanded by 34.3%. In Japan production values continued their downward trend (falling by 6.6%). Throughout all sub-activities, Japanese industry recorded negative rates of change in 1997. In the manufacture of other special purpose machinery (more than a quarter of Japanese output) the decline in production was equal to 10.5%.

Figure 5.4

Share of EU-15 number of persons employed, 1998



Source: eurostat

Trends in employment

Employment in the EU increased by 2.5% or some 63.7 thousand persons to 2.6 million in 1998. By doing so the industry reported a halt to the trend of falling employment that had been seen since 1990. Rates well above the European average were recorded in Austria and Italy (9.9% and 9.4% respectively). In the latter, employment has been on the increase since 1995.

Contrary to the general upward trend seen in 1998, the number of persons employed was decreasing in Finland, down by 4.0% and by somewhat less in the United Kingdom, Greece and Sweden (1.8%, 1.3% and 1.0% respectively). The reduction in employment in these countries matched a reduction in output levels in all countries except Greece (where production increased by 11.1%).

If we look at the activity in more detail there was in general the same evolution although changes in the manufacture of machinery for the production and use of mechanical power, except aircraft, vehicle and cycle engines showed higher growth in employment levels than other 3-digit NACE Rev. 1 activities.

In Spain employment evolved in a very different manner: whilst the manufacture of other general purpose machinery saw employment increase by 16.7%, the labour force was reduced in the manufacture of machine-tools by 20.8%.

Within the Triad employment trends were mixed in 1997. In Japan there was a decline in the number of persons employed equal to 3.0%, whilst in the USA the increase in employment was at a moderate pace (up by 1.0%). In the same year (1997), the EU saw employment in the manufacture of machinery and equipment almost unchanged (down by 0.2%).

Labour productivity

In the EU, labour productivity of the manufacture of machinery and equipment continuously improved (when measured as value added per person employed) from the eighties onwards. In 1998 the ratio registered some 49.6 thousand ECU per head in the EU. In Germany and in the United Kingdom value added per person employed increased in 1998 by 2.6 and 1.7 thousand ECU to 55.4 and 46.5 thousand ECU per head respectively. However, labour productivity was reduced in Ireland and Denmark by 4.9 and 1.9 thousand ECU to 37.4 and 43.4 thousand ECU per head.

By means of comparison, data for the USA and Japan recorded higher levels of labour productivity (80.2 and 85.3 thousand ECU respectively in 1997). Whilst in the USA the ratio of value added per head increased, Japanese competitors faced falling labour productivity during 1997. Differences in labour productivity may be explained to some degree by looking at the labour intensity of the production process. In general, the production process in Europe was more labour intensive than in either Japan or the USA, where the same level of output was produced by 65.6% and 86.5% respectively of the European labour force.

Foreign trade

In the EU foreign trade within the activity of machinery and equipment posted a positive trade balance. This has been the case since 1993, with exports increasing at a faster pace than imports with respect to non-EU countries. In 1998 the EU exported 32.2% of its production to countries outside of the Union. The export ratio increased between 1988 and 1998 by 8.6 percentage points. In Germany there was a large amount of trade in this particular activity, with an export ratio of 54.6% (in other words more than half of German production was exported in 1998).

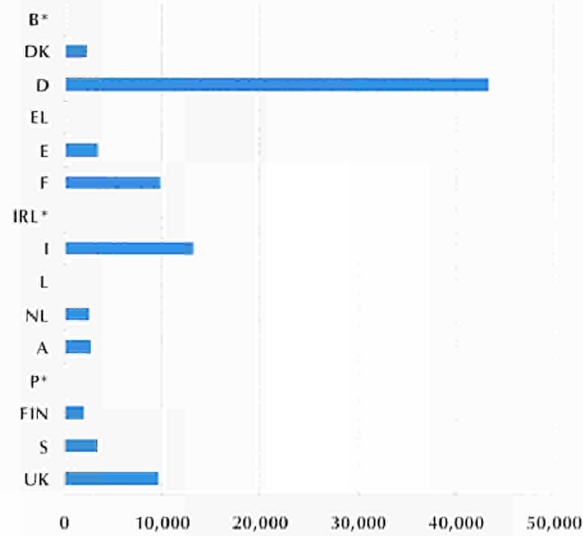


Figure 5.5

Labour costs, 1998 (million ECU)

Source: eurostat

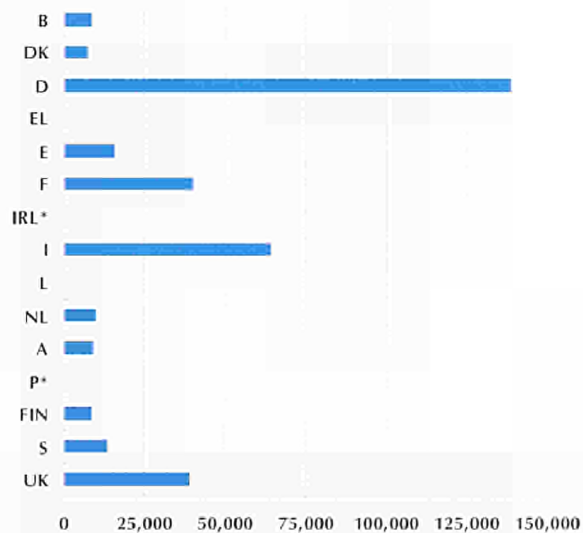


Figure 5.6

Production in constant prices, 1998 (million ECU)

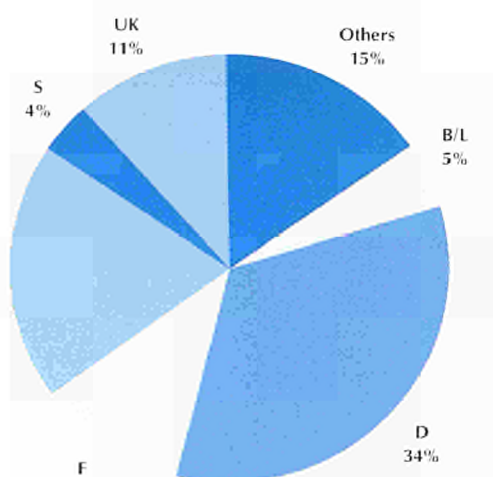
Source: eurostat

Turning to import levels, we find that imports from third countries accounted for 17.0% of apparent consumption in the EU. The import penetration ratio grew by 5.4 percentage points (again between 1988 and 1998).

A positive trade balance was recorded throughout most activities, although one notable exception was the manufacture of machine-tools, where several Member States imported more than they exported (including the United Kingdom, Spain and Denmark).

Figure 5.7

Share of European exports to the rest of the world, 1998



Source: eurostat

Production index

The production index of machinery and equipment decreased by 0.7% in the EU and by 1.6% for the EUR-11 aggregate during the three months to March 1999 (compared to the three months before). The negative trend in the production index started during the summer of 1998, with the index reporting a slowdown in rates of growth from the start of 1998 onwards.

If we look at the breakdown of the activity, negative trends were seen in all activities at the 3-digit level, apart from the production of machine-tools (up 0.7% to April 1999) and the manufacture of other general purpose machinery, where there was almost no change.

In Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom the latest rates of change were all found to be below -1%.

Contrary to this general trend, Finland reported an increase in activity of some 1.2% (March 1999). The Finnish growth rate has been positive since December 1998, following dramatic reductions witnessed in the late summer of 1998. In Spain there was also an upward trend (with growth of 2.1% by March 1999).

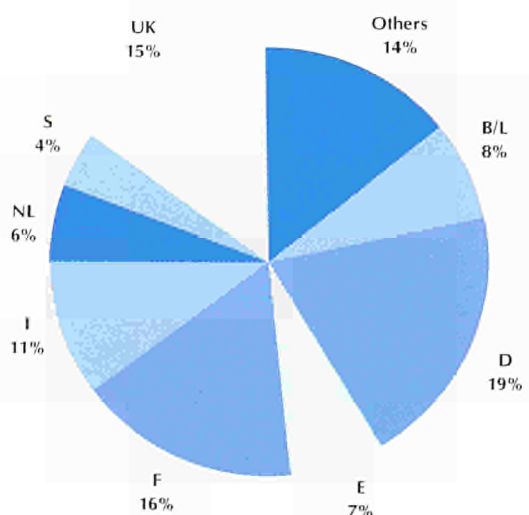
Continuous increase in the producer price index

In April 1999 producer prices of machinery and equipment were increasing at a moderate pace, rising by 0.9% and 0.8% for the two European aggregates (EU-15 and EUR-11 respectively- comparing data to the same month of a year before).

From December 1998 onwards, producer prices rose at a fast pace in Sweden, up by 3.6 percentage points to 4.7% (March 1999). The same month also saw increases observed in the Netherlands (1.9%), Finland (1.7% - April 1999) and Denmark (1.6%), whilst in Italy the index displayed growth of 0.7% (April 1999).

Figure 5.8

Share of European imports from the rest of the world, 1998



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)

	1994 t / t-1 (%)		1995 t / t-1 (%)		1996 t / t-1 (%)		1997 t / t-1 (%)		1998 t / t-1 (%)	
EU-15	107,734	5.5	115,882	7.6	121,273	4.7	125,501	3.5	130,727	4.2
EUR-11	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	2,505	9.3	2,679	6.9	2,715	1.4	2,786	2.6	2,782	-0.1
D	47,496	1.4	51,537	8.5	51,282	-0.5	52,449	2.3	55,640	6.1
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	4,151	5.7	4,400	6.0	4,999	13.6	5,175	3.5	5,488	6.1
F	11,186	6.5	11,507	2.9	12,341	7.3	12,307	-0.3	12,342	0.3
IRL	516	19.5	544	5.4	585	7.5	651	11.3	599	-8.1
I	15,364	5.5	16,642	8.3	19,349	16.3	19,434	0.4	20,336	4.6
L	159	17.3	182	14.9	149	-18.4	151	1.3	161	6.9
NL	2,960	6.6	3,219	8.8	3,314	2.9	3,394	2.4	3,552	4.6
A	2,887	10.9	3,090	7.1	3,180	2.9	3,276	3.0	3,705	13.1
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	1,914	12.7	2,588	35.2	2,867	10.8	3,004	4.8	2,909	-3.2
S	4,114	32.4	4,469	8.6	4,783	7.0	4,846	1.3	4,799	-1.0
UK	11,878	:	11,887	0.1	12,634	6.3	14,735	16.6	15,021	1.9
Japan	100,721	2.0	107,378	6.6	99,007	-7.8	93,948	-5.1	:	:
USA	120,462	10.6	115,798	-3.9	126,732	9.4	150,733	18.9	:	:


Source:  eurostat

Table 5.2

Production in
constant prices
(million ECU)

	1994 t / t-1 (%)		1995 t / t-1 (%)		1996 t / t-1 (%)		1997 t / t-1 (%)		1998 t / t-1 (%)	
EU-15	280,729	7.2	314,752	12.1	326,628	3.8	343,805	5.3	356,730	3.8
EUR-11	235,225	6.2	263,478	12.0	273,121	3.7	283,763	3.9	296,549	4.5
B	5,627	8.1	7,918	40.7	7,752	-2.1	8,249	6.4	8,294	0.6
DK	5,339	11.2	6,783	27.1	6,614	-2.5	7,041	6.5	7,202	2.3
D	113,983	3.1	127,639	12.0	127,726	0.1	130,121	1.9	137,804	5.9
EL	434	5.3	480	10.6	525	9.2	522	-0.6	579	11.1
E	10,630	14.0	11,974	12.6	13,774	15.0	14,611	6.1	15,686	7.4
F	32,932	7.4	35,839	8.8	37,521	4.7	38,337	2.2	39,791	3.8
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	48,696	9.1	52,772	8.4	57,427	8.8	62,094	8.1	63,708	2.6
L	361	14.7	411	14.1	381	-7.3	353	-7.3	393	11.2
NL	7,724	6.4	8,829	14.3	9,420	6.7	9,538	1.3	9,780	2.5
A	7,764	9.1	7,658	-1.4	7,880	2.9	8,119	3.0	8,794	8.3
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	4,876	24.2	7,317	50.1	7,820	6.9	8,540	9.2	8,510	-0.3
S	9,558	33.8	12,642	32.3	13,712	8.5	13,814	0.7	13,575	-1.7
UK	30,173	7.5	31,368	4.0	32,657	4.1	38,666	18.4	38,825	0.4
Japan	241,208	1.8	253,462	5.1	237,368	-6.3	221,743	-6.6	:	:
USA	225,785	9.5	224,019	-0.8	244,959	9.3	290,651	18.7	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Machinery and equipment: NACE Rev. 1 Division 29

Table 5.3

	1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)		1998 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	2,608,300	-3.7	2,630,730	0.9	2,577,800	-2.0	2,571,930	-0.2	2,635,590	2.5
EUR-11	2,113,871	-4.8	2,126,092	0.6	2,087,438	-1.8	2,082,126	-0.3	2,150,074	3.3
B	42,979	-2.1	47,431	10.4	42,933	-9.5	42,899	-0.1	44,406	3.5
DK	55,974	3.9	62,620	11.9	61,913	-1.1	61,550	-0.6	64,056	4.1
D	1,073,000	-8.1	1,051,140	-2.0	1,010,710	-3.8	993,750	-1.7	1,005,190	1.2
EL	8,711	-1.8	8,970	3.0	9,034	0.7	9,142	1.2	9,025	-1.3
E	140,026	1.3	142,504	1.8	147,984	3.8	158,875	7.4	165,641	4.3
F	267,867	-3.6	268,854	0.4	268,042	-0.3	265,464	-1.0	269,155	1.4
IRL	13,656	10.5	14,325	4.9	14,401	0.5	15,410	7.0	16,011	3.9
I	365,038	-0.3	372,487	2.0	374,945	0.7	375,206	0.1	410,309	9.4
L	3,154	-0.1	3,241	2.8	3,015	-7.0	3,044	1.0	3,064	0.7
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
A	61,148	-1.1	64,769	5.9	65,339	0.9	64,814	-0.8	71,233	9.9
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	44,140	2.1	54,175	22.7	54,994	1.5	57,371	4.3	55,091	-4.0
S	86,698	10.1	92,105	6.2	91,852	-0.3	90,373	-1.6	89,478	-1.0
UK	343,046	-0.6	340,943	-0.6	327,563	-3.9	328,739	0.4	322,957	-1.8
Japan	1,125,180	-5.5	1,129,340	0.4	1,135,560	0.6	1,101,730	-3.0	:	:
USA	1,736,200	3.5	1,824,000	5.1	1,861,400	2.1	1,879,970	1.0	:	:

Number of persons employed (units)

Source:  eurostat

Table 5.4

	1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)		1998 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	86,064	-0.1	91,234	6.0	92,546	1.4	92,189	-0.4	94,364	2.4
EUR-11	73,156	-1.3	77,967	6.6	78,567	0.8	76,901	-2.1	79,120	2.9
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	1,748	6.0	2,138	22.3	2,137	0.0	2,089	-2.2	2,170	3.9
D	41,846	-3.2	44,853	7.2	43,994	-1.9	42,250	-4.0	43,223	2.3
EL	140	5.6	154	10.4	169	9.8	183	8.0	142	-22.2
E	3,101	0.3	3,196	3.1	3,455	8.1	3,590	3.9	3,397	-5.4
F	9,239	-0.4	9,591	3.8	9,795	2.1	9,614	-1.8	9,674	0.6
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	10,729	1.2	10,899	1.6	11,929	9.5	12,121	1.6	13,157	8.5
L	123	2.2	129	5.3	129	0.1	127	-1.6	131	2.6
NL	2,210	1.5	2,341	5.9	2,361	0.9	2,342	-0.8	2,468	5.4
A	2,215	2.2	2,507	13.2	2,582	3.0	2,457	-4.8	2,628	7.0
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	1,250	18.2	1,810	44.8	1,857	2.6	1,969	6.1	1,946	-1.2
S	2,732	16.1	3,081	12.8	3,578	16.1	3,465	-3.2	3,329	-3.9
UK	8,289	4.7	7,894	-4.8	8,095	2.6	9,550	18.0	9,602	0.5
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Labour costs (million ECU)

Source:  eurostat

Table 5.5

1994 t/t-1 (%) 1995 t/t-1 (%) 1996 t/t-1 (%) 1997 t/t-1 (%) 1998 t/t-1 (%)

Extra-EU-15
exports
(million ECU)

	1994	1994	1995	1995	1996	1996	1997	1997	1998	1998
	t	t-1 (%)	t	t-1 (%)	t	t-1 (%)	t	t-1 (%)	t	t-1 (%)
EU-15	84,553	10.7	94,070	11.3	105,361	12.0	115,612	9.7	115,007	-0.5
B/L	2,408	31.7	2,348	-2.5	2,433	3.6	2,806	15.4	3,531	25.8
DK	1,845	11.8	2,220	20.4	2,205	-0.7	2,304	4.5	2,188	-5.1
D	31,200	7.5	34,808	11.6	37,872	8.8	40,567	7.1	41,728	2.9
EL	116	12.9	138	19.6	166	19.8	185	11.7	195	5.3
E	2,072	-0.5	2,364	14.1	2,736	15.7	3,038	11.1	2,793	-8.1
F	8,127	11.9	9,148	12.6	9,923	8.5	10,722	8.1	11,456	6.8
IRL	301	25.7	382	26.7	477	25.0	508	6.5	425	-16.4
I	16,507	7.4	18,283	10.8	22,427	22.7	24,130	7.6	22,841	-5.3
NL	3,357	14.8	3,490	3.9	3,855	10.5	4,342	12.6	4,114	-5.2
A	2,563	11.1	2,983	16.4	2,845	-4.6	3,680	29.4	3,716	1.0
P	228	19.9	262	14.8	298	13.9	339	13.9	357	5.1
FIN	1,620	15.7	2,120	30.9	2,267	6.9	2,868	26.5	2,605	-9.2
S	4,394	46.0	5,203	18.4	5,617	7.9	5,981	6.5	5,416	-9.4
UK	9,815	8.8	10,320	5.1	12,241	18.6	14,141	15.5	13,643	-3.5

Source:  eurostat

Table 5.6

1994 t/t-1 (%) 1995 t/t-1 (%) 1996 t/t-1 (%) 1997 t/t-1 (%) 1998 t/t-1 (%)

Extra EU-15
imports
(million ECU)

	1994	1994	1995	1995	1996	1996	1997	1997	1998	1998
	t	t-1 (%)	t	t-1 (%)	t	t-1 (%)	t	t-1 (%)	t	t-1 (%)
EU-15	31,592	12.2	35,701	13.0	38,811	8.7	43,809	12.9	49,549	13.1
B/L	1,625	23.3	1,882	15.8	2,235	18.8	2,565	14.8	3,032	18.2
DK	694	23.1	798	15.0	678	-15.1	910	34.3	914	0.4
D	8,839	8.4	10,441	18.1	10,920	4.6	11,954	9.5	13,927	16.5
EL	329	-12.1	385	17.0	455	18.2	504	10.7	552	9.5
E	1,135	-5.8	1,451	27.9	1,571	8.2	1,821	15.9	2,051	12.6
F	3,971	12.7	4,343	9.4	4,693	8.1	5,031	7.2	5,738	14.1
IRL	475	24.7	451	-5.1	528	16.9	707	34.1	920	30.1
I	2,819	9.8	3,536	25.4	3,877	9.6	4,032	4.0	4,780	18.5
NL	2,304	27.2	2,535	10.0	2,883	13.8	3,187	10.5	3,716	16.6
A	1,106	22.9	1,021	-7.7	1,127	10.3	1,295	14.9	1,448	11.8
P	274	-18.0	298	8.7	336	12.7	373	11.0	386	3.6
FIN	657	30.3	580	-11.7	600	3.3	762	27.0	731	-4.0
S	1,287	30.3	1,347	4.7	1,465	8.7	1,611	10.0	1,579	-2.0
UK	6,076	9.8	6,631	9.1	7,443	12.2	9,057	21.7	9,775	7.9

Source:  eurostat

Machinery and equipment: NACE Rev. 1 Division 29

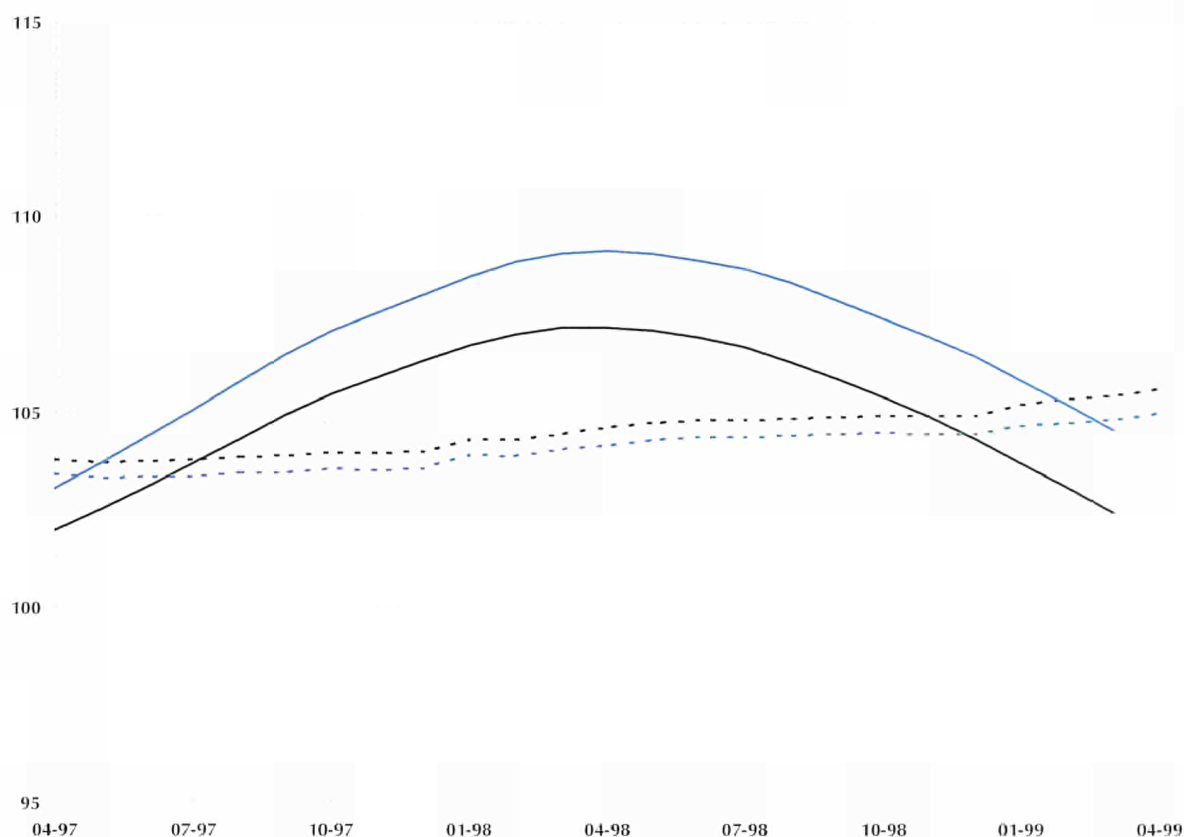


Figure 5.9

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 / t-1 t / t-4

t / t-3 t / t-12

Table 5.7

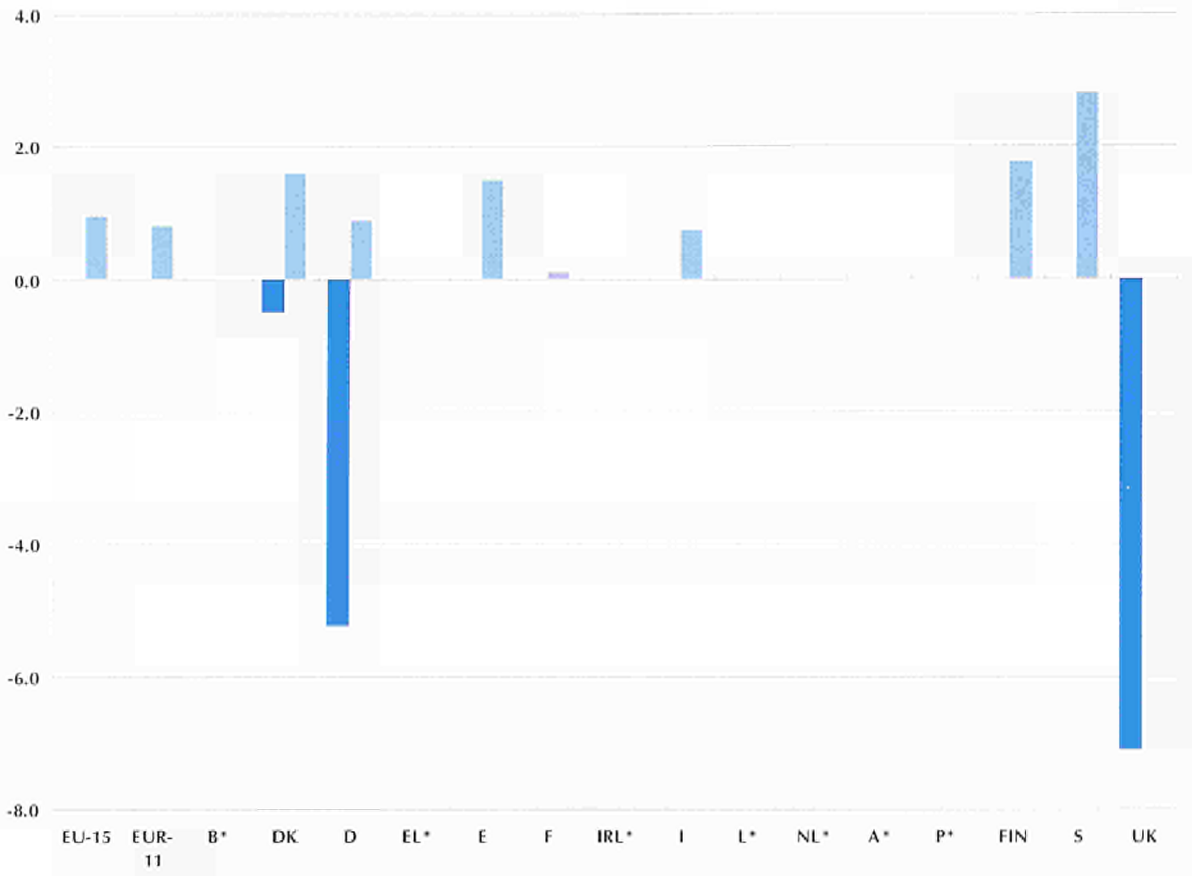
	Latest 3 months available		Production index		Latest month available	Producer price index	
			t / t-1	t / t-4		t / t-3	t / t-12
EU-15	01-99	⇒	03-99	-1.7	-4.0	04-99	0.4 0.9
EUR-11	01-99	⇒	03-99	-1.6	-3.3	04-99	0.3 0.8
B	10-98	⇒	12-98	-3.2	-8.8		: :
DK	02-99	⇒	04-99	-1.4	-0.5	04-99	0.8 1.6
D	02-99	⇒	04-99	-1.7	-5.3	04-99	0.4 0.9
EL	01-99	⇒	03-99	-1.1	-8.7	12-98	0.1 4.3
E	01-99	⇒	03-99	2.1	5.6	04-99	0.7 1.5
F	01-99	⇒	03-99	-1.1	-1.2	04-99	0.0 0.1
IRL	03-97	⇒	05-97	1.3	3.5	09-97	0.0 0.6
I	01-99	⇒	03-99	-1.1	-4.6	04-99	0.2 0.7
L	10-98	⇒	12-98	-0.5	-0.8	12-98	-0.2 1.2
NL		⇒		:	:		: :
A	10-98	⇒	12-98	-5.3	-11.9		: :
P	10-98	⇒	12-98	0.1	0.4	01-98	0.7 0.8
FIN	01-99	⇒	03-99	1.2	-5.3	04-99	0.4 1.7
S	01-99	⇒	03-99	-0.4	-5.5	04-99	0.7 2.8
UK	02-99	⇒	04-99	-1.3	-7.1	09-98	-0.1 0.6
NO	12-98	⇒	02-99	1.5	5.7		: :
Japan		⇒		:	:	10-98	-0.5 -1.9
USA		⇒		:	:	03-98	-0.1 -0.8

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, 02-99 to 04-99 (%)

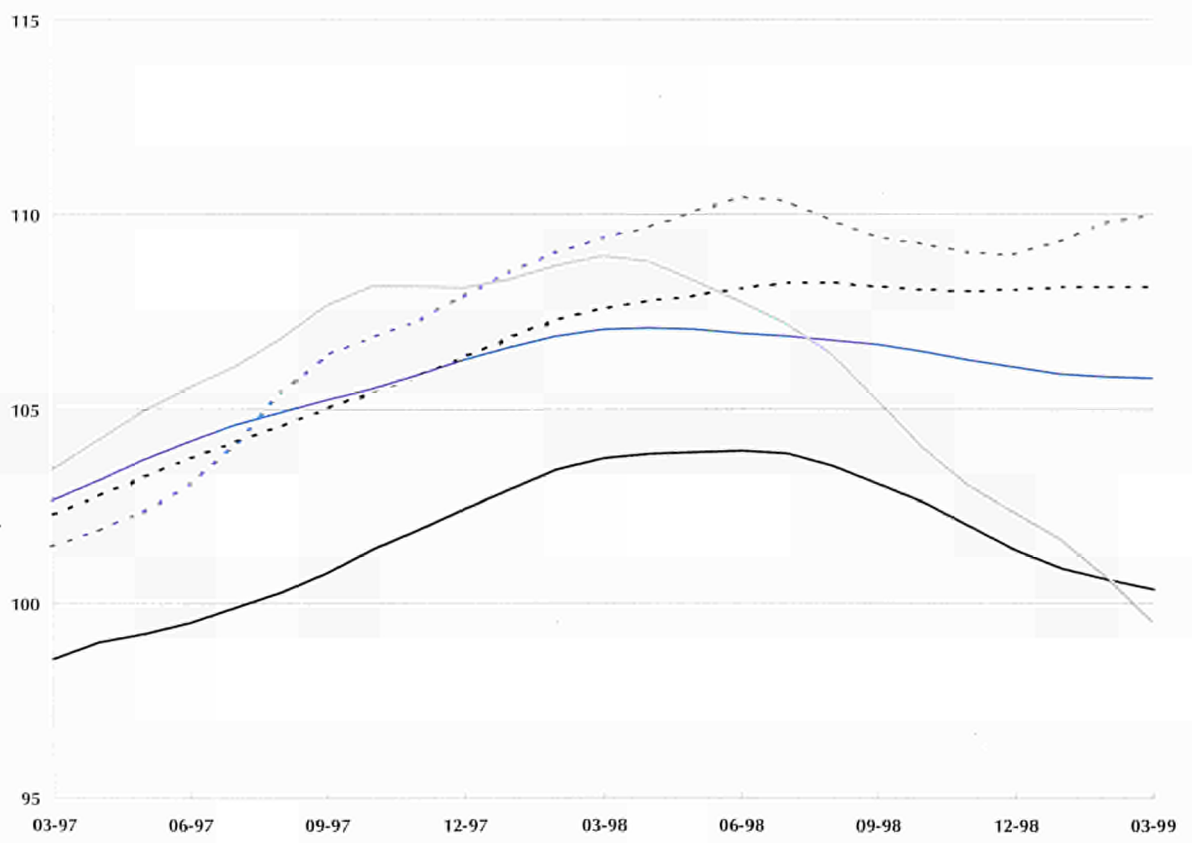


Production (blue square) Producer price index (green square)

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.11

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

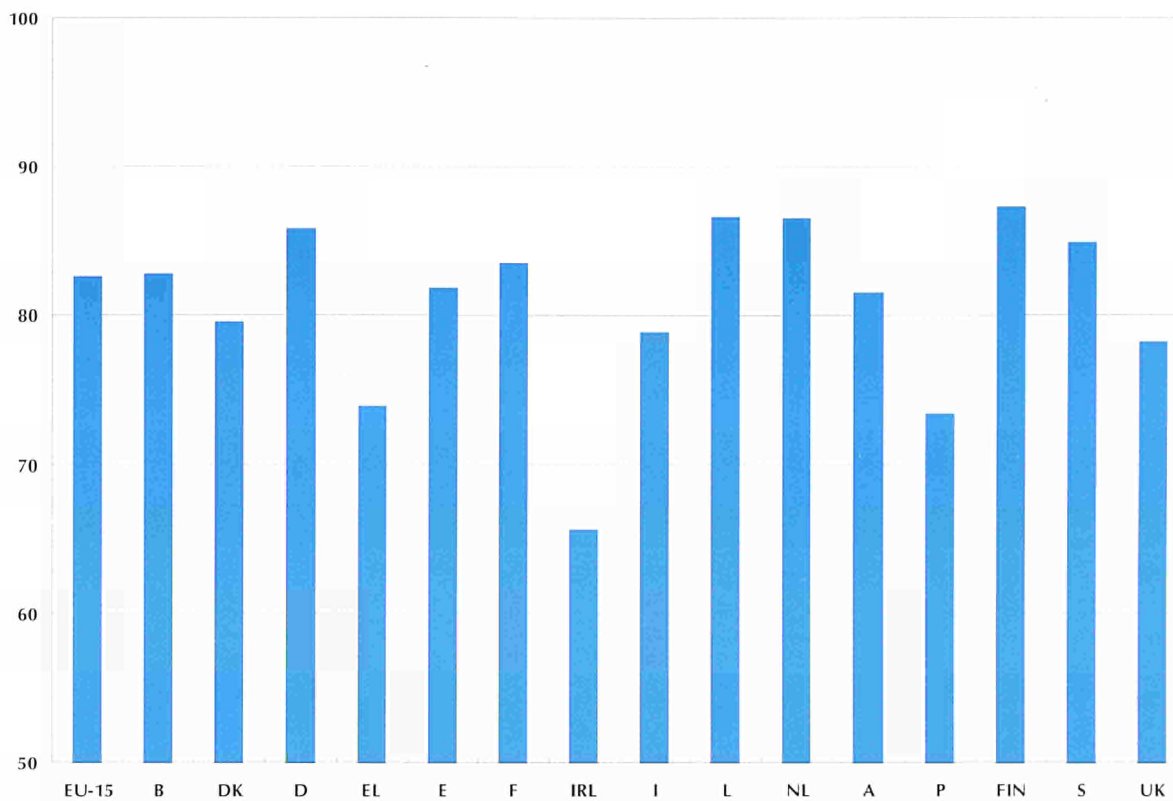


Machinery for prod. & use of mechan. power, ex. aircraft, vehicles & cycle engines (solid black line) Other general purpose machinery (dashed black line) Agricultural and forestry machinery (solid blue line) Machine-tools (dashed blue line) Other special purpose machinery (dotted black line)

Source: eurostat

Machinery and equipment: NACE Rev. 1 Division 29

Figure 5.12



Capacity
utilisation rates,
04-99
(%)

Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Table 5.8

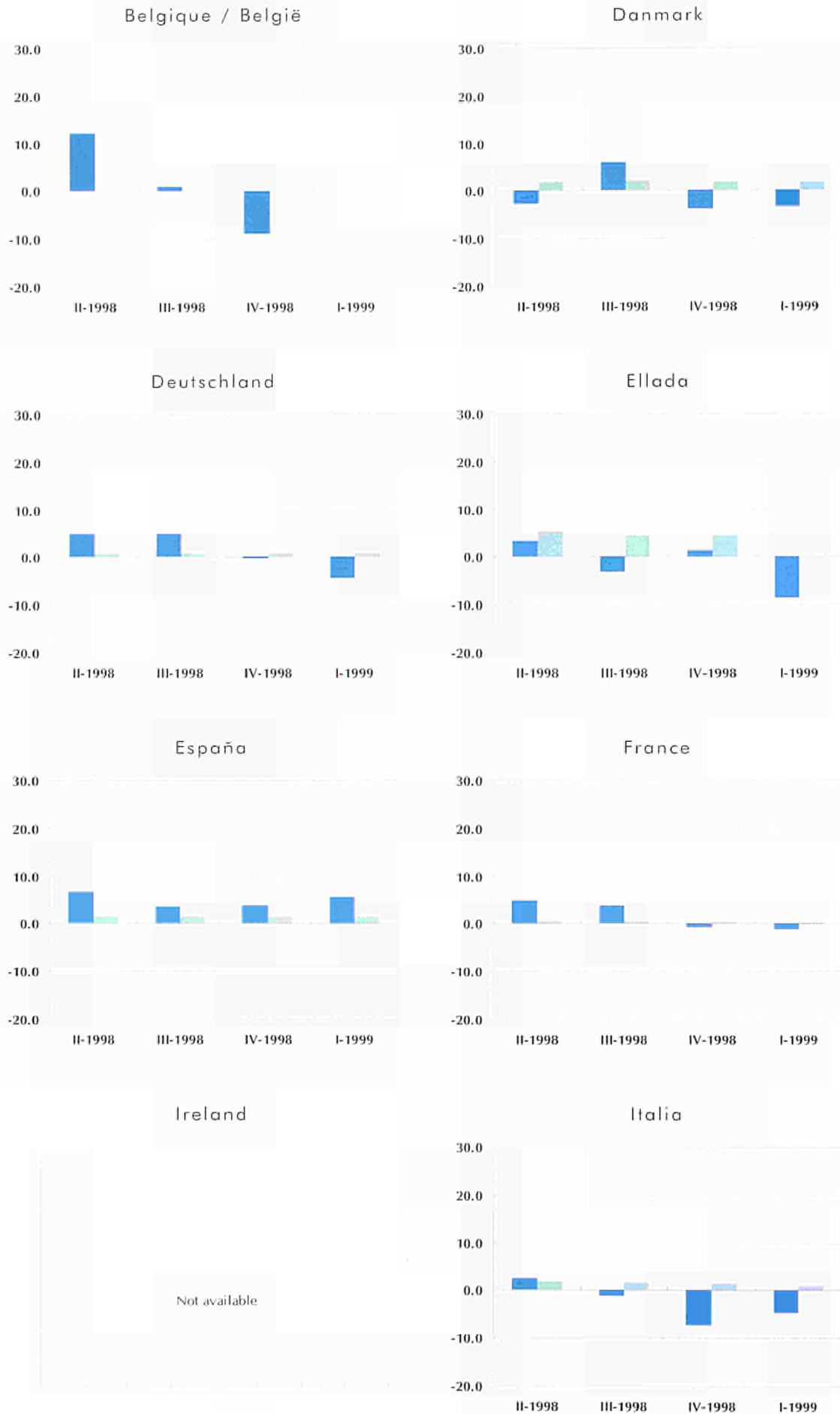
	Growth rate: latest month, t / t-12 (%)	07-98	10-98	01-99	04-99
EU-15	-2.8	85.5	83.8	82.3	82.7
B	-1.8	85.2	80.9	80.8	82.9
DK	-9.0	89.6	84.3	79.4	79.7
D	-1.8	88.9	88.3	86.6	85.9
EL	1.4	74.0	77.0	75.0	74.0
E	-0.5	85.3	83.7	:	81.9
F	3.0	82.8	83.7	82.8	83.6
IRL	-15.0	76.1	75.6	64.6	65.7
I	-6.6	81.6	78.8	77.0	79.0
L	0.6	89.9	83.6	84.0	86.7
NL	-0.6	87.6	87.0	85.8	86.6
A	-3.1	88.3	87.4	83.3	81.6
P	-7.4	74.5	78.2	78.9	73.5
FIN	-2.9	91.7	88.5	85.6	87.4
S	-3.4	84.0	87.0	86.0	85.0
UK	-3.2	83.1	77.3	77.7	78.3

Capacity
utilisation rates
(%)

Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Figure 5.13

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



Production index ■
 Producer price index ■

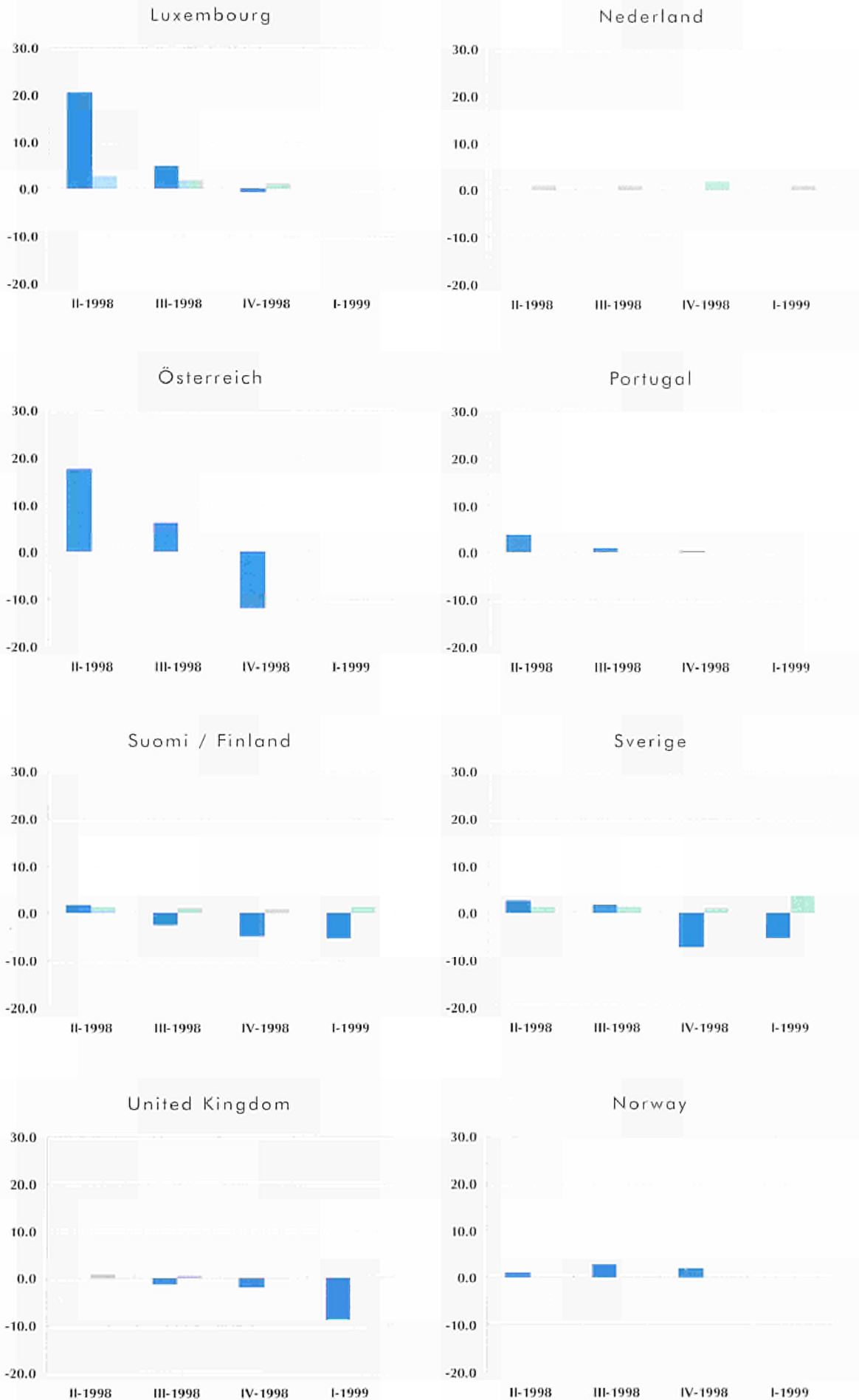
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Source: eurostat

Machinery and equipment: NACE Rev. 1 Division 29

Figure 5.13

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

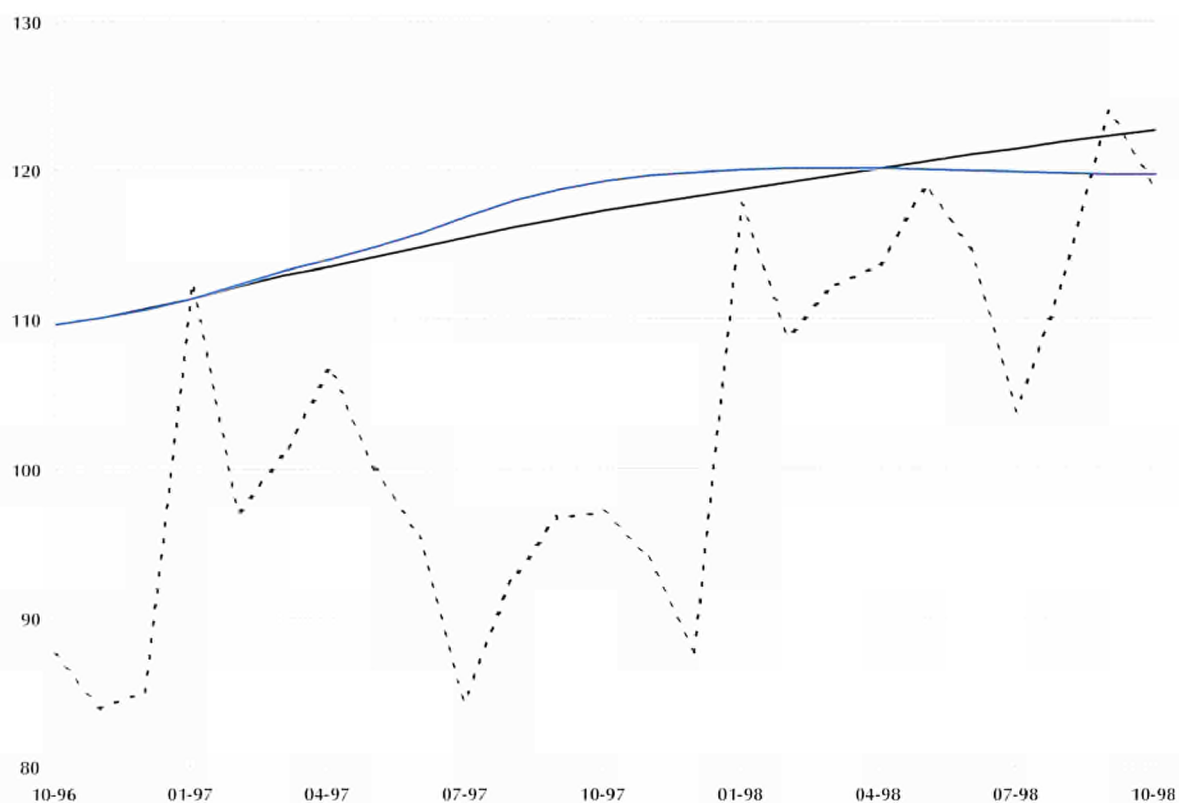


■ Production index
■ Producer price index

Source: eurostat

Figure 5.14

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



Source: eurostat

Table 5.9

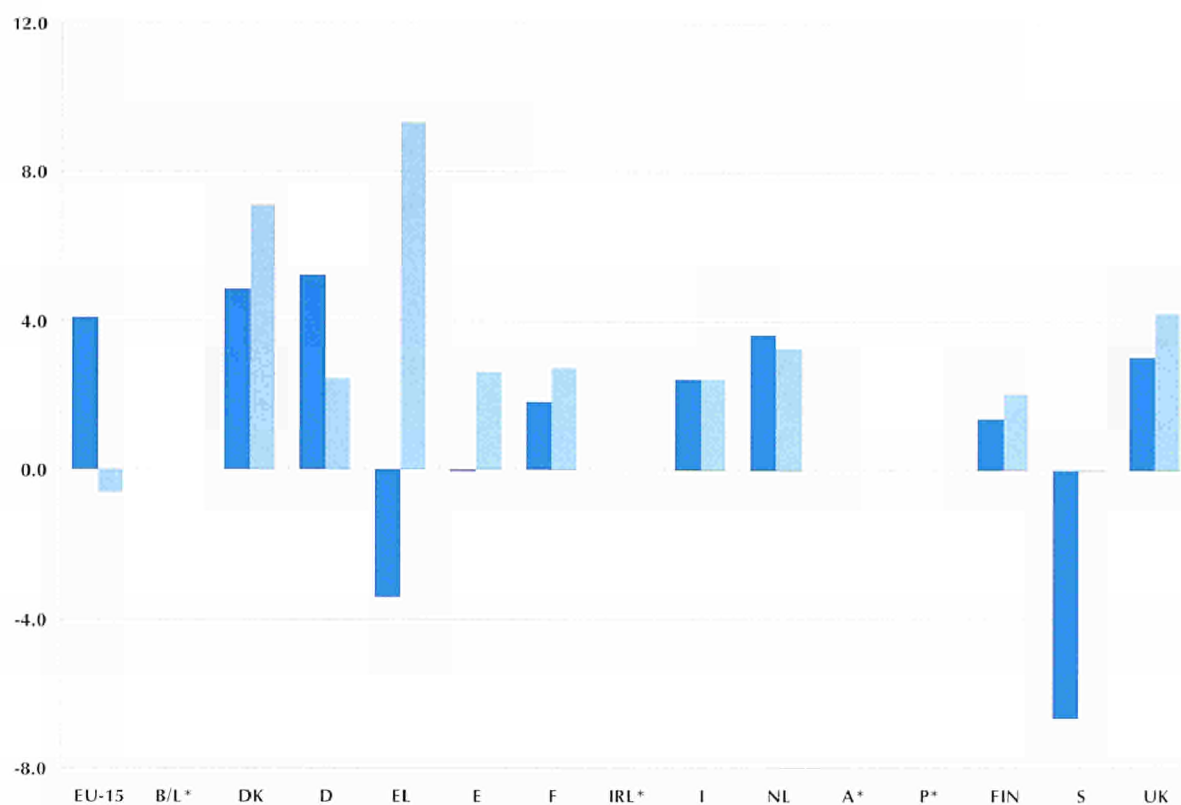
Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-98 ⇄	10-98	1.0	-2.3	-0.2	0.4	5.3
B / L	09-97 ⇄	11-97	-4.4	-6.9	-4.2	-4.8	2.0
DK	08-98 ⇄	10-98	1.6	-5.1	1.9	1.7	11.7
D	09-98 ⇄	11-98	0.2	-0.9	1.1	-2.5	-0.8
EL	08-98 ⇄	10-98	-8.4	3.6	1.1	-11.5	-6.3
E	09-98 ⇄	11-98	0.0	-0.7	1.1	4.4	8.0
F	09-98 ⇄	11-98	0.8	-1.6	0.5	1.2	3.9
IRL	08-97 ⇄	10-97	7.3	5.3	8.1	1.5	-5.8
I	09-98 ⇄	11-98	0.2	-3.5	0.3	2.2	24.4
NL	09-98 ⇄	11-98	0.8	-7.6	-1.0	-5.0	15.6
A	⇄		:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97 ⇄	10-97	7.8	1.6	1.4	0.8	-1.9
FIN	⇄		:	:	:	:	:
S	⇄		:	:	:	:	:
UK	09-98 ⇄	11-98	0.3	-3.5	0.4	-5.2	-2.7

Source: eurostat

Machinery and equipment: NACE Rev. 1 Division 29

Figure 5.15



Foreign trade indices in ECU terms: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 08-98 to 10-98 (%)

■ Export value
■ Import value

Source: eurostat

Table 5.10

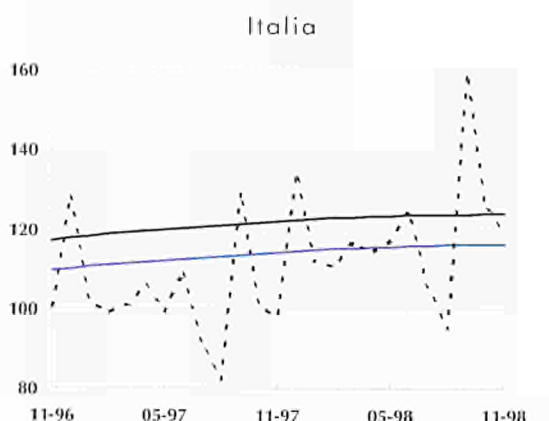
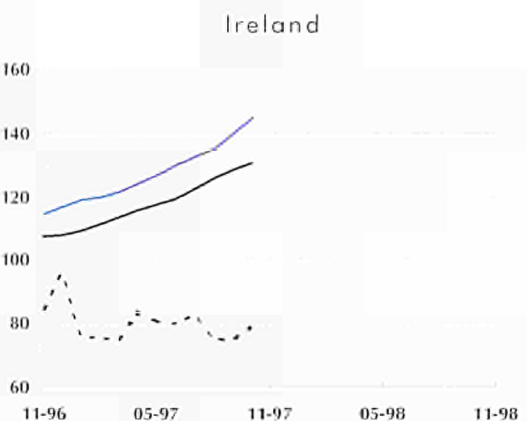
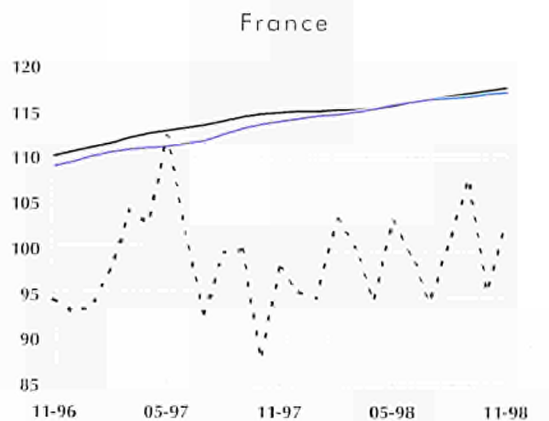
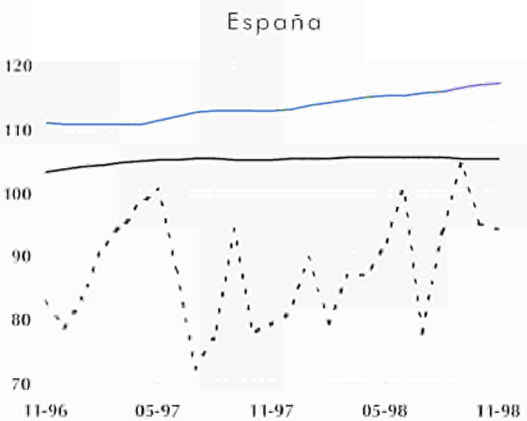
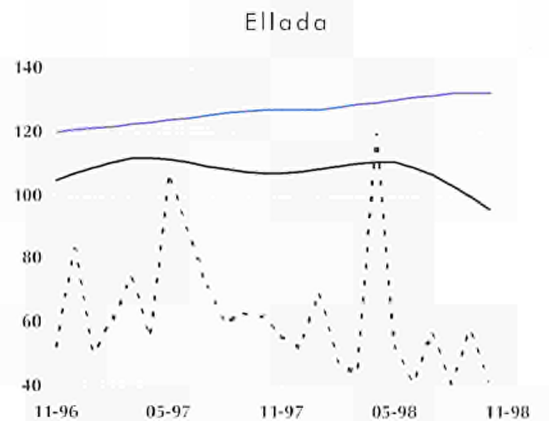
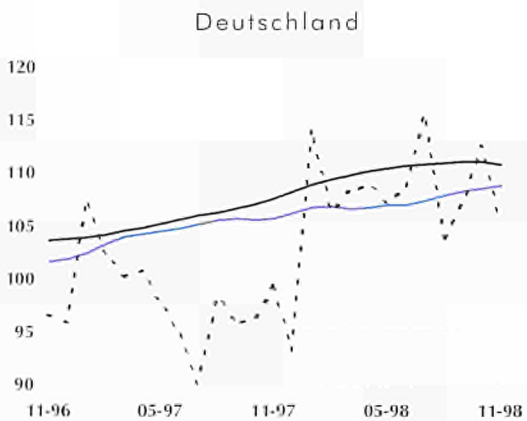
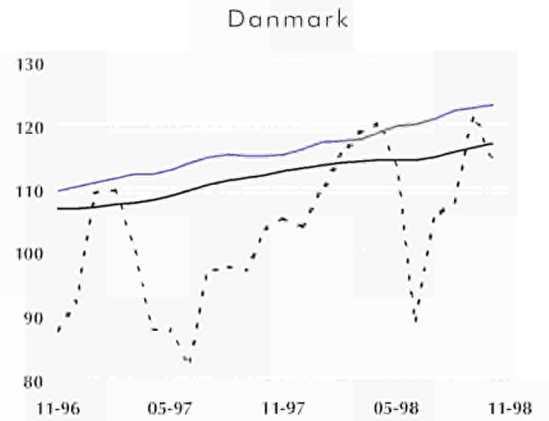
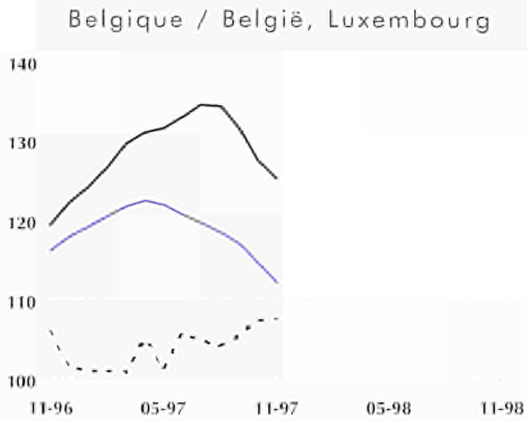
	Latest 3 months available	Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
		Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-98 ⇨ 10-98	4.1	-9.5	-0.6	7.1	24.1
B / L	09-97 ⇨ 11-97	9.9	3.2	0.8	-1.4	4.1
DK	08-98 ⇨ 10-98	4.8	-7.7	7.1	8.8	15.3
D	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	5.6	-5.0	3.1	3.7	11.8
EL	08-98 ⇨ 10-98	-3.4	-5.6	9.3	-20.1	-23.8
E	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	2.1	-4.8	4.1	14.2	16.9
F	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	2.7	0.6	2.5	7.7	7.1
IRL	08-97 ⇨ 10-97	22.4	23.3	27.5	13.8	-11.9
I	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	2.6	-9.4	2.8	11.9	23.1
NL	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	4.5	-20.5	1.7	-12.4	13.5
A	⇨	:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97 ⇨ 10-97	14.7	8.7	11.5	5.8	-0.5
FIN	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	0.5	-6.9	1.5	-7.6	:
S	08-98 ⇨ 10-98	-6.6	-4.6	0.0	-2.4	:
UK	09-98 ⇨ 11-98	1.1	-11.1	2.4	-13.5	-4.1

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

Figure 5.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)



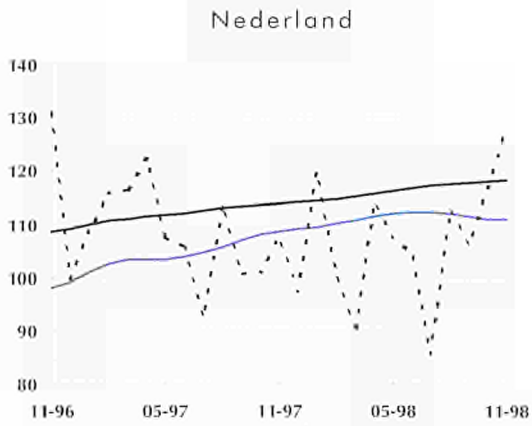
Export value index ———
Import value index ———
Terms of trade - - - - -

Source: eurostat

Machinery and equipment: NACE Rev. 1 Division 29

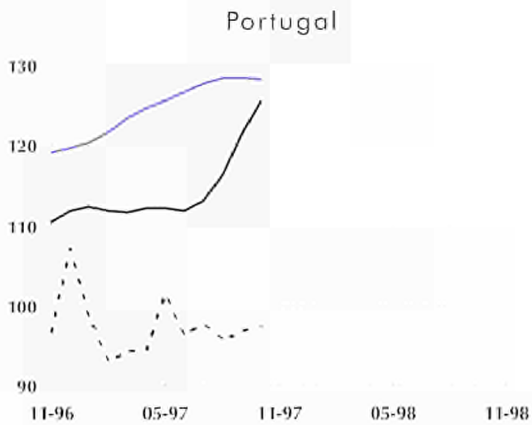
Figure 5.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)



Österreich

Not available



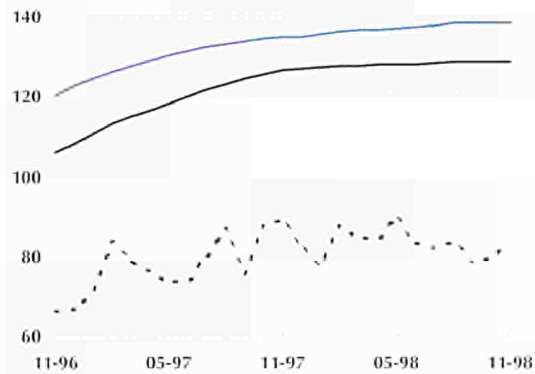
Suomi / Finland

Not available

Sverige

Not available

United Kingdom



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

Source: eurostat

**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.

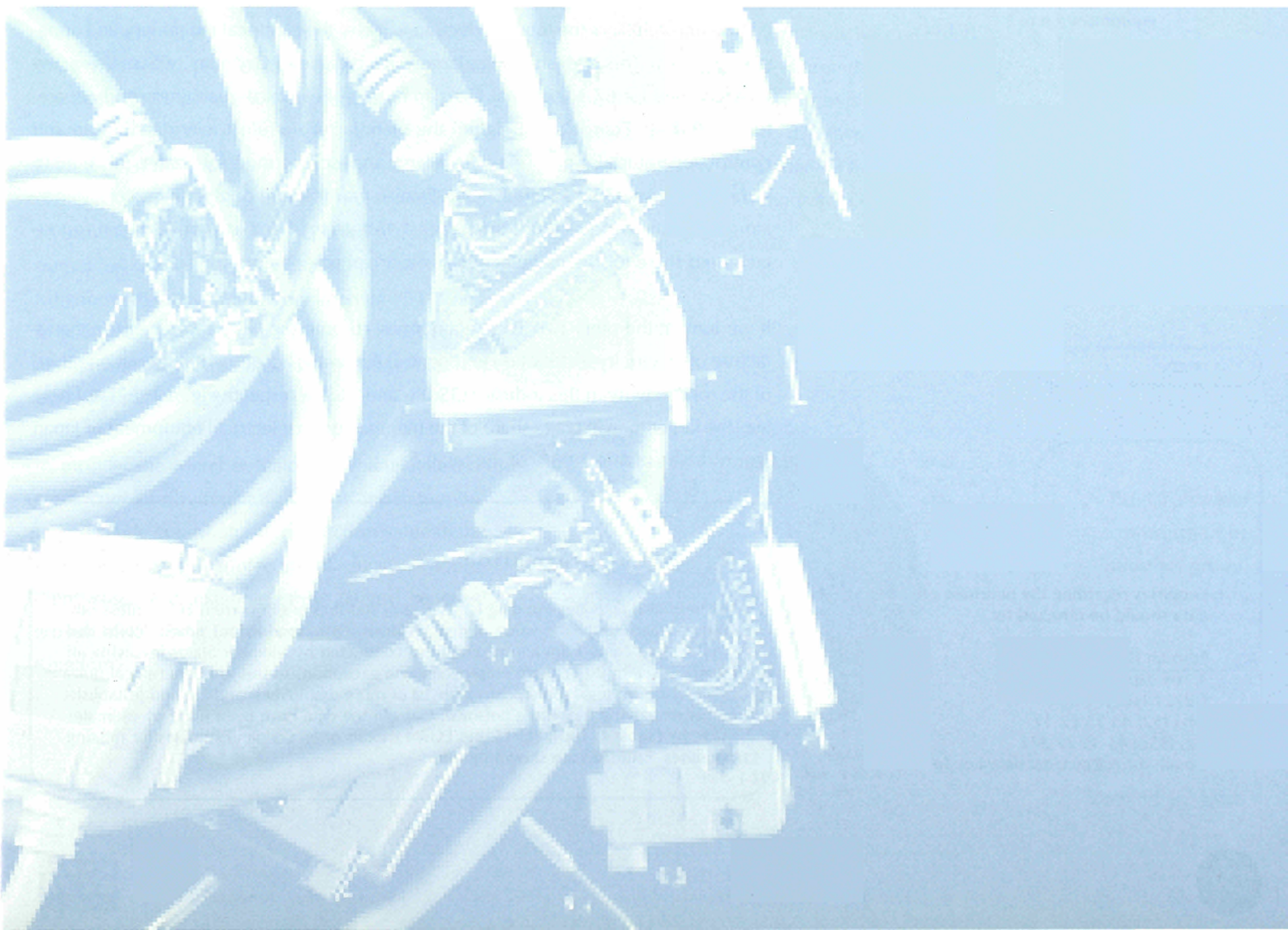
For more extensive details of the methodology of short-term indicators please refer to the Eurostat publication "Methodology of Industrial Short-term Statistics" ISBN 92-828-2879-4.

Full methodological notes for this publication may be found on page 109.

6.

Electrical machinery and apparatus

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6. Electrical machinery and apparatus

Description of the NACE Rev. 1 Groups in Division 31:

- 31.1: manufacture of electric motors, generators and transformers;
- 31.2: manufacture of manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus;
- 31.3: manufacture of insulated wire and cable;
- 31.4: manufacture of accumulators, primary cells and primary batteries;
- 31.5: manufacture of lighting equipment and electric lamps;
- 31.6: manufacture of electrical equipment n.e.c.

The manufacture of electrical machinery and apparatus encompasses the manufacture of electric motors, generators and transformers, which are capital goods, and the manufacture of various intermediate goods, such as electricity distribution equipment, insulated wires and cables, accumulators or electric lamps. The performance of this industry is therefore directly determined by sales to downstream industries and the willingness of other manufacturers to invest. Electrical machinery and apparatus is sold to many innovative sectors like telecommunications or the manufacture of computers. Suppliers of electrical machinery and apparatus themselves tend to offer a constant range of products that they adapt to technological change.

In the EU, the manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus accounted for almost 50% of the total production value of the electrical machinery and apparatus industry. This high share was largely attributable to Germany, where this activity accounted for 67.3% of total German output of electrical machinery and apparatus in 1998. In France and Belgium the manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus also accounted for a large share of the industry total, equivalent to some 38.4% and 39.4%. Finnish and Danish manufacture of electric motors, generators and transformers contributed almost 46% to total activity, whilst Spain reported a high share for the manufacture of electrical equipment.

If we look at the other two Triad economies, in both the USA and Japan the manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus accounted for about one third of the total activity in this industry (35.0% and 31.1% respectively in 1997). Of note was the larger than average share of the manufacture of electrical equipment in Japan (equivalent to some 39.5% of the total).

Further information

For industrial activities the 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). 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.

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L-2721 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 43 35 22 51
fax: (352) 43 35 22 221
e-mail: dslux@eurostat.datashop.lu

Trends in production

In 1998 production value at current prices was on an upward trend in the EU (compared to a year before). In Germany production increased by 3.1%, after a decline for three consecutive years. Nevertheless, German output has yet to return to the production levels of 1994, when the most recent high was recorded.

In Spain production slowed down somewhat, although it still grew by 7.0%. Within the smaller Member States production was generally growing at a somewhat faster pace. Portugal, Denmark and Belgium reported the highest growth rates in 1998 (output rose by 12.1%, 9.3% and 7.5% respectively). Greece however saw its output of electrical machinery and apparatus fall by 15.4%.

If we take a longer period as the basis for the analysis, production in Denmark was increasing by 18.3% per annum between 1993 and 1998 (at constant prices), whilst France and Italy reported a more moderate, yet positive, evolution (of some 4.0% and 3.4% per annum respectively).

Even though there was a general upward tendency observed in the industry in 1998, the manufacture of insulated wire and cable reported a decline in output in several Member States. In the United Kingdom production values declined by 15.0% and in France by 24.7%. Contrary to the trend German manufacturers of insulated wire and cable displayed growth of 8.0%.

In most of the Member States the manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus (the largest single contributor to production value in the industry) and the manufacture of electrical equipment rose. For example, this activity reported growth of 17.1% in France and 4.9% in the United Kingdom.

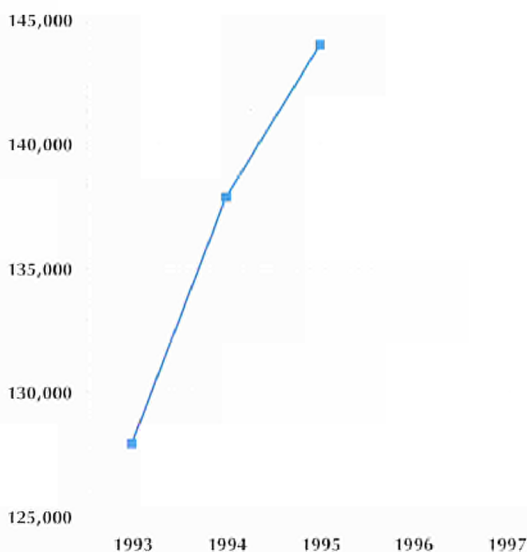


Figure 6.1

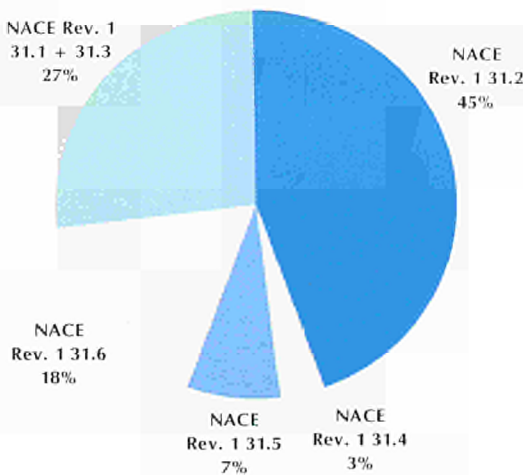
EU-15 production in constant prices (million ECU)

Source: eurostat

Despite the growth in production value in 1998, labour productivity (in terms of value added per person employed) fell. In Spain labour productivity of 33.0 thousand ECU per head was recorded in 1998, a reduction of 6.0 thousand ECU compared to the data for 1997. Only in two Member States, Denmark and Germany, did labour productivity increase, rising by just under 10 thousand ECU in Denmark to some 53.4 thousand ECU per head.

Figure 6.2

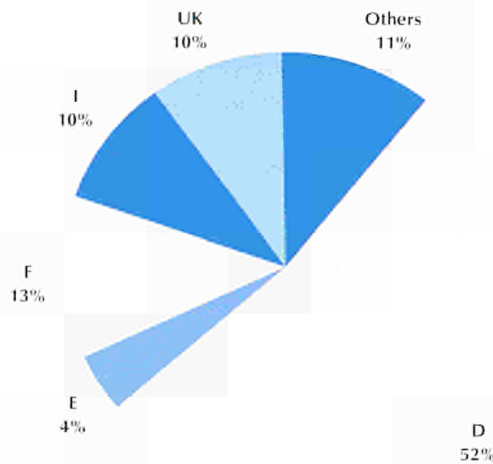
EU-15 share of production by industrial group, 1995



Source: eurostat

Figure 6.3

Share of EU-15 value-added at factor cost, 1995



Source: eurostat

Trends in the production in the Triad

In the USA, the manufacture of electrical machinery and apparatus displayed accelerating growth, with output rising by 29.1% in 1997, following growth of 9.9% in 1996. The EU figures also displayed growth, although at a slower pace, whilst in Japan production values decreased, falling by 15.7% in 1997.

Indeed, in all NACE Rev. 1 Groups, Japanese industry reported negative rates of change. For example, in the manufacture of accumulators, primary cells and primary batteries production was down by 16.1%.

In the USA rates of growth varied between 40.8% for the manufacture of electric motors, generators and transformers and 6.3% for the manufacture of insulated wire and cable. Following the evolution in production, labour productivity in the USA increased dramatically, rising 23.2 thousand ECU to 87.9 thousand ECU per head in 1997, whereas in Japan it fell by 3.0 thousand ECU to 71.0 thousand ECU per head.

Trends in employment

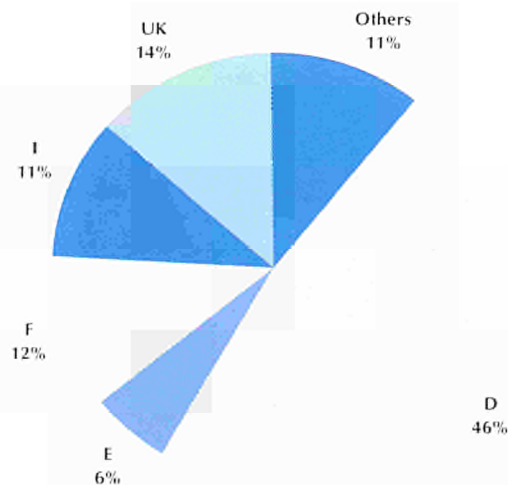
In the EU there were around 1.2 million persons employed in the manufacture of electrical machinery and apparatus in 1998. The increasing pressure to reduce costs explained the reduction in employment that has been observed since 1990 onwards. Nevertheless, in 1998 the number of persons employed increased again in most of the Member States, sometimes at a very fast pace, for example, rising by 25.9% in Spain and by 14.7% in Greece.

In Germany and the United Kingdom there was almost no change in the level of employment, both countries reporting an increase of 0.4% for the year. Changes in employment in the United Kingdom were uniform across the whole activity. However, in Germany there was a high increase in employment levels for the manufacture of electric motors, generators and transformers (up by 8.4%), whilst other activities such as the manufacture of accumulators, primary cells and primary batteries reduced their number of persons employed by 4.3%.

In Japan the evolution of employment corresponded to developments in production, with the number of persons employed reduced by 8.5% in 1997. The USA reported almost no change in employment, with latest data for 1997 showing a decline of 0.6%. More detailed data for the manufacture of electrical equipment reported a decline of 4.8% in employment levels.

Figure 6.4

Share of EU-15 number of persons employed, 1994



Source: eurostat

Electrical machinery and apparatus: NACE Rev. 1 Division 31

Foreign trade

In the EU deliveries of electrical machinery and apparatus to third countries exceeded imports. The EU reported a trade surplus in this industry in 1998, although the value of the surplus was reduced by 21.6% in 1998, as imports grew at a more rapid pace.

Europe reported a positive trade balance, which was equal to some 51.2% of the Japanese surplus in 1997. In the USA a trade deficit was apparent. Indeed, from 1991 the trade balance has become progressively worse in the USA, falling by a further 23.3% in 1997.

Portugal, Germany and Finland reported high export specialisation in this industry: they exported on average 67.3%, 30.6% and 26.8% more than the European average. Between 1993 and 1998 the export ratio in Germany grew by 11.5 percentage points, such that by 1998 some 37.8% of domestic production was destined for export markets. In Portugal, the export ratio also increased, although latest data for 1998 showed a reduction of some 8.0 percentage points to 77.6%.

The volume of trade was on the increase and this meant that whilst European manufacturers were exporting more, it was also common to see imports grow too. In Germany there was an 11.3 percentage point increase in the import penetration ratio in 1998, with some 29.2% of the German demand being satisfied by foreign producers.

A breakdown of the activity showed that trade performance was mixed between the different activities at 3-digit level of the NACE Rev. 1 classification system. In the manufacture of electrical equipment, a trade deficit was recorded for the first time in 1998.

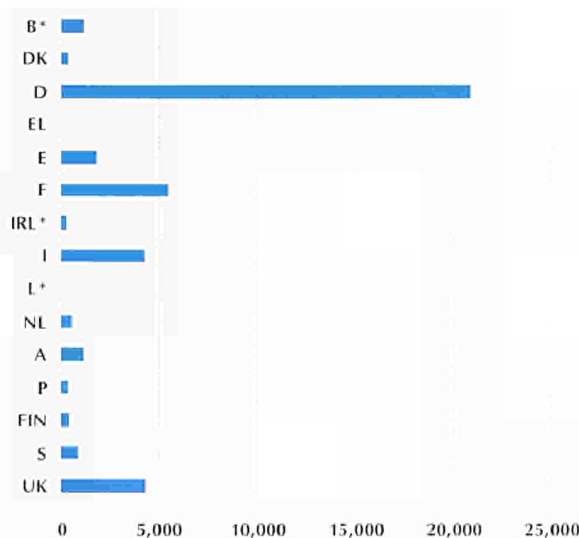


Figure 6.5

Labour costs, 1997 (million ECU)

Source: eurostat

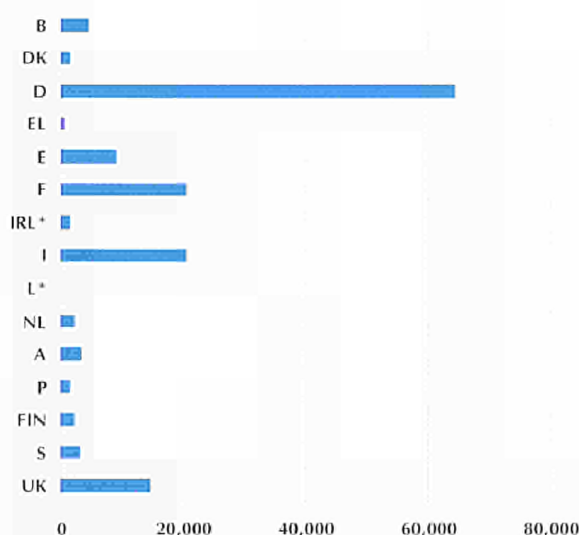


Figure 6.6

Production in constant prices, 1997 (million ECU)

Source: eurostat

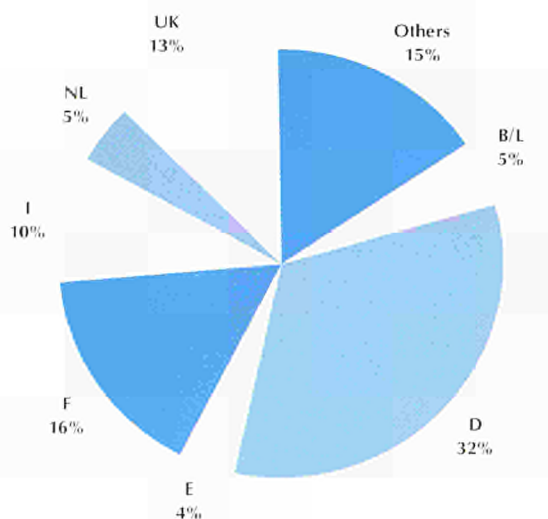
Recent expansion in the United Kingdom

In Europe the production index of electrical machinery and apparatus displayed moderate rates of growth, rising by 0.6% for EU-15 and 0.2% for the euro-zone¹ (both growth rates measure the change in output between the first quarter of 1999 and the final quarter of 1998). European figures had displayed a small decline during the course of the winter of 1998. Indeed, if we look at the period from May 1998 onwards, no growth rate of more than one per cent has been recorded in Europe.

(1) Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland make up the EUR-11 aggregate, otherwise known as the euro-zone.

Figure 6.7

Share of European exports to the rest of the world, 1998



Source:  eurostat

A breakdown of the activity into its constituent parts showed a more varied picture. The production index of insulated wire and cable was decreasing by 1.8% (for March 1999), an improvement of some 1.3 percentage points when compared to the data for February 1999. The rate of change observed for the manufacture of accumulators, primary cells and primary batteries was also negative in the first quarter of 1999 (down by 2.0%, March 1999). The largest activity at 3-digit level, the manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus, was only growing slightly, rising by 0.2% in the first quarter of 1999 and by 0.1% in April 1999.

If we look at the rates of change reported by the individual Member States there was again no uniform evolution, although in the majority of the Member States the production index followed an upward tendency. The United Kingdom recorded a positive growth (latest data showing a rise of 0.6% in April 1999). Indeed, the first three months of 1999 in the United Kingdom all reported growth, whilst during the majority of 1998 the production index in the United Kingdom had been following a negative trend.

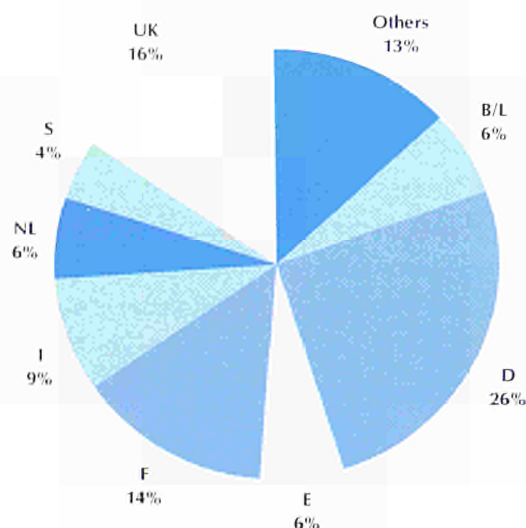
In Germany production of electrical machinery and apparatus fell by 0.6% in the three months to April 1999 and in Finland by 2.0% in the three months to March 1999. Both these countries reported a decline in their rates of growth for this particular activity for seven and eight consecutive months. In France, the same activity reported that the production index was almost unchanged for the first quarter of 1999 (+0.3%).

Producer price index

Producer prices in the manufacture of electrical machinery and apparatus were falling in the EU by some 0.8% in April 1999. Comparable data was available for the euro-zone, where producer prices declined by 1.0% (again in April 1999 - both growth rates measure the rate of change compared to the same month of a year before).

Figure 6.8

Share of European imports from the rest of the world, 1998

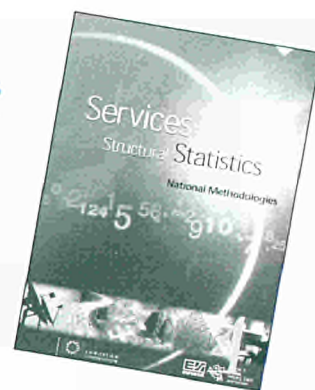


Source:  eurostat

A more detailed analysis shows that the producer price index fell at a rapid pace in the manufacture of insulated wire and cable (down by 7.1%, for April 1999) and at a more subdued rate for the manufacture of accumulators, primary cells and primary batteries (down by 1.7%, for March 1999). However, in the manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus producer prices increased slightly, rising by 0.3% in April 1999.

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

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	52,308	-5.1	55,252	5.6	54,674	-1.0	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	46,138	-5.3	48,544	5.2	48,219	-0.7	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	1,591	:	1,532	-3.7	1,620	5.8
DK	308	-8.5	400	29.9	473	18.2	471	-0.5	479	1.7
D	27,036	-5.1	29,052	7.5	27,249	-6.2	26,912	-1.2	27,862	3.5
EL	107	174.6	94	-11.5	108	14.4	114	5.8	144	25.7
E	2,320	-16.2	2,376	2.4	2,581	8.6	2,949	14.3	3,201	8.5
F	6,535	10.7	6,989	6.9	7,197	3.0	7,375	2.5	8,037	9.0
IRL	325	-7.1	384	18.0	483	25.8	619	28.3	728	17.6
I	5,709	-18.6	5,448	-4.6	5,538	1.7	6,490	17.2	6,381	-1.7
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	770	-9.5	842	9.3	892	5.9	941	5.6	982	4.3
A	1,192	13.7	1,129	-5.3	1,511	33.8	1,527	1.1	1,563	2.4
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	639	-3.0	583	-8.8	703	20.6	806	14.6	885	9.8
S	825	-16.7	782	-5.3	863	10.5	1,147	32.8	1,079	-5.9
UK	4,930	-2.2	5,432	10.2	5,010	-7.8	5,289	5.6	5,880	11.2
Japan	45,213	20.6	45,650	1.0	44,707	-2.1	43,778	-2.1	38,414	-12.3
USA	39,633	17.3	41,925	5.8	40,107	-4.3	43,809	9.2	57,349	30.9

Source:  eurostat

Table 6.2

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	127,906	-3.5	137,863	7.8	143,977	4.4	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	113,062	-3.6	121,614	7.6	127,346	4.7	:	:	:	:
B	2,892	4.9	3,149	8.9	4,795	52.3	4,340	-9.5	4,590	5.8
DK	724	-7.7	1,037	43.2	1,609	55.2	1,487	-7.6	1,679	12.9
D	62,730	-2.1	68,192	8.7	67,095	-1.6	65,610	-2.2	64,440	-1.8
EL	456	77.9	425	-6.8	518	21.8	548	5.8	688	25.7
E	5,931	-16.4	6,303	6.3	7,283	15.5	8,296	13.9	9,101	9.7
F	17,553	12.4	18,900	7.7	20,422	8.1	21,179	3.7	20,821	-1.7
IRL	:	:	876	:	1,120	27.9	1,402	25.3	1,649	17.6
I	15,823	-19.2	16,423	3.8	17,393	5.9	19,712	13.3	20,600	4.5
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	1,929	-6.3	2,118	9.8	2,429	14.7	2,496	2.8	2,470	-1.0
A	2,943	13.3	2,790	-5.2	3,322	19.1	3,357	1.1	3,436	2.4
P	1,196	1.9	1,287	7.6	1,517	17.9	1,511	-0.4	1,615	6.9
FIN	1,259	-2.8	1,540	22.3	1,972	28.0	2,198	11.5	2,406	9.4
S	1,861	-13.2	1,957	5.2	2,454	25.4	3,198	30.3	3,366	5.2
UK	11,804	-2.2	12,831	8.7	12,050	-6.1	13,068	8.5	14,891	14.0
Japan	123,483	19.5	120,056	-2.8	112,549	-6.3	114,767	2.0	96,706	-15.7
USA	73,456	18.6	77,836	6.0	75,297	-3.3	82,763	9.9	106,856	29.1

Source:  eurostat

Electrical machinery and apparatus: NACE Rev. 1 Division 31

Table 6.3

	1993 t/t-1 (%)		1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	1,323,560	-6.2	1,272,940	-3.8	1,231,960	-3.2	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	1,122,043	-6.7	1,067,903	-4.8	1,032,588	-3.3	:	:	:	:
B	27,038	-4.0	25,725	-4.9	28,783	11.9	26,456	-8.1	26,268	-0.7
DK	7,417	-12.1	8,784	18.4	11,265	28.2	10,390	-7.8	10,907	5.0
D	638,454	-6.3	601,199	-5.8	539,595	-10.2	505,650	-6.3	485,069	-4.1
EL	4,814	193.4	4,691	-2.6	4,711	0.4	4,810	2.1	4,793	-0.4
E	76,270	-13.7	74,719	-2.0	73,897	-1.1	78,037	5.6	81,997	5.1
F	151,051	5.0	152,033	0.7	152,543	0.3	155,384	1.9	154,555	-0.5
IRL	10,223	-3.7	10,165	-0.6	12,002	18.1	11,990	-0.1	12,213	1.9
I	146,759	-7.5	134,337	-8.5	132,751	-1.2	139,022	4.7	143,695	3.4
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
A	26,622	-1.3	25,429	-4.5	30,676	20.6	27,921	-9.0	26,976	-3.4
P	26,174	2.1	27,455	4.9	29,202	6.4	30,610	4.8	32,394	5.8
FIN	12,974	-7.6	13,479	3.9	15,768	17.0	15,945	1.1	15,444	-3.1
S	19,713	-12.7	17,379	-11.8	18,851	8.5	22,490	19.3	23,291	3.6
UK	169,573	-3.3	174,183	2.7	164,545	-5.5	166,513	1.2	170,772	2.6
Japan	662,447	-3.1	608,389	-8.2	565,378	-7.1	591,418	4.6	541,371	-8.5
USA	617,188	0.7	632,293	2.4	648,300	2.5	656,700	1.3	652,767	-0.6

Number of persons
employed
(units)

Source:  eurostat

Table 6.4

	1993 t/t-1 (%)		1994 t/t-1 (%)		1995 t/t-1 (%)		1996 t/t-1 (%)		1997 t/t-1 (%)	
EU-15	43,810	-0.8	44,156	0.8	42,466	-3.8	:	:	:	:
EUR-11	39,424	-0.4	39,623	0.5	38,088	-3.9	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	1,190	:	1,138	-4.4	1,178	3.5
DK	219	-12.2	280	27.7	377	34.7	361	-4.3	379	5.0
D	25,397	2.3	25,093	-1.2	23,434	-6.6	22,220	-5.2	20,895	-6.0
EL	84	187.9	75	-10.9	81	8.6	89	10.0	96	7.6
E	1,772	-18.3	1,677	-5.3	1,667	-0.6	1,795	7.6	1,827	1.8
F	4,957	16.1	5,181	4.5	5,390	4.0	5,651	4.8	5,519	-2.3
IRL	:	:	213	:	246	15.6	282	14.6	309	9.9
I	4,011	-19.5	3,726	-7.1	3,591	-3.6	4,089	13.9	4,292	4.9
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	541	-6.7	581	7.4	600	3.4	604	0.6	595	-1.4
A	882	10.7	870	-1.5	1,173	34.8	1,195	1.9	1,154	-3.5
P	295	0.1	305	3.4	329	7.8	346	5.0	361	4.3
FIN	303	-14.0	365	20.6	469	28.3	496	5.8	476	-4.0
S	609	-23.0	530	-13.0	615	16.1	866	40.7	911	5.2
UK	3,473	-1.2	3,648	5.0	3,304	-9.4	3,573	8.1	4,307	20.6
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Labour costs
(million ECU)


Source:  eurostat

Table 6.5

Extra-EU-15
exports
(million ECU)

	1994 t / t-1 (%)		1995 t / t-1 (%)		1996 t / t-1 (%)		1997 t / t-1 (%)		1998 t / t-1 (%)	
EU-15	22,928	14.7	25,741	12.3	28,879	12.2	33,028	14.4	34,199	3.5
B/L	550	14.0	578	5.2	612	5.8	827	35.2	914	10.5
DK	376	57.2	484	28.6	415	-14.4	486	17.2	522	7.5
D	8,529	14.4	9,690	13.6	10,583	9.2	12,027	13.6	12,732	5.9
EL	55	30.5	63	14.0	71	12.8	100	41.2	98	-1.9
E	660	16.3	740	12.1	848	14.7	934	10.1	1,041	11.4
F	3,693	10.7	4,150	12.4	4,380	5.6	4,912	12.1	5,398	9.9
IRL	132	7.2	196	48.5	223	13.8	267	19.6	456	70.9
I	2,107	12.1	2,259	7.2	2,694	19.2	2,868	6.5	2,914	1.6
NL	1,262	1.7	1,289	2.1	1,455	12.9	1,671	14.9	1,336	-20.1
A	762	28.9	758	-0.5	886	16.9	1,111	25.3	1,198	7.9
P	89	19.2	107	20.2	155	44.7	181	17.3	230	26.9
FIN	674	26.1	928	37.8	1,090	17.4	1,109	1.7	1,225	10.4
S	872	21.1	977	12.1	1,453	48.7	1,625	11.9	1,450	-10.8
UK	3,166	17.2	3,521	11.2	4,015	14.0	4,908	22.3	4,682	-4.6

Source:  eurostat

Table 6.6

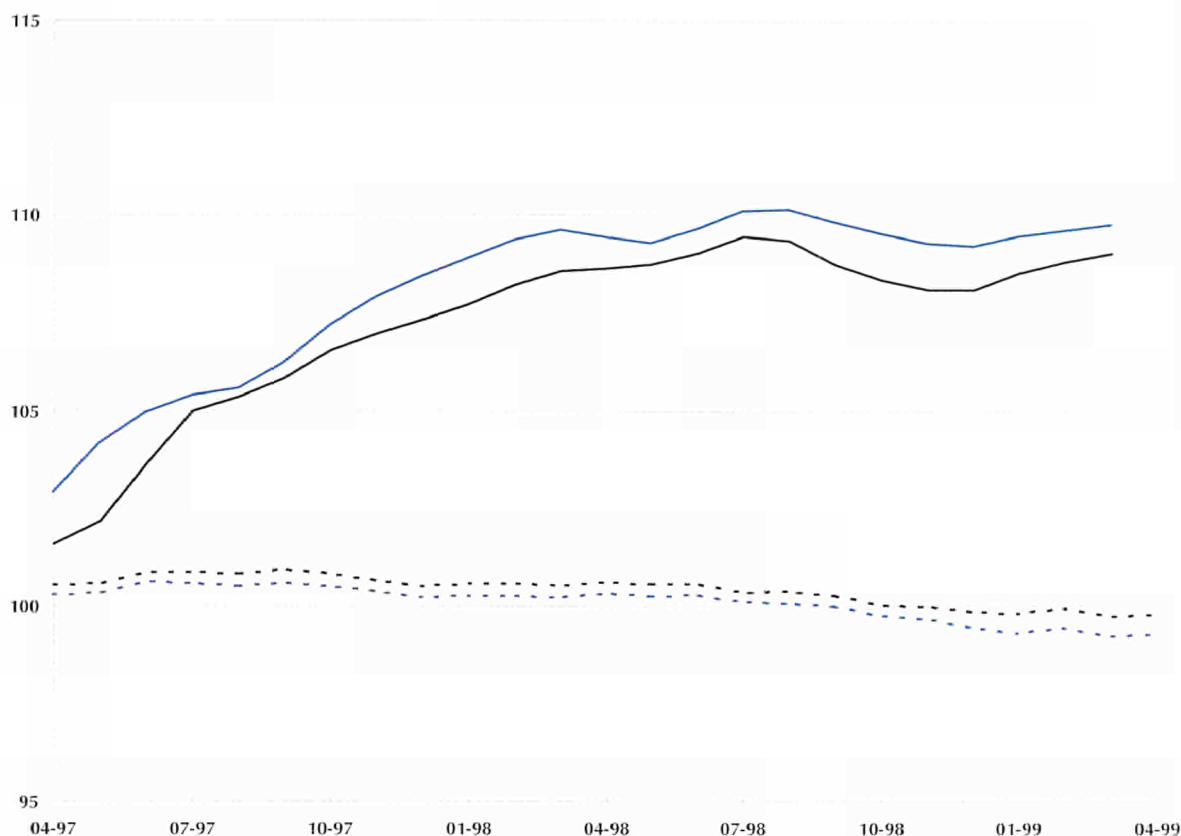
Extra EU-15
imports
(million ECU)

	1994 t / t-1 (%)		1995 t / t-1 (%)		1996 t / t-1 (%)		1997 t / t-1 (%)		1998 t / t-1 (%)	
EU-15	17,662	25.9	21,030	19.1	21,997	4.6	25,944	17.9	28,642	10.4
B/L	627	17.6	747	19.2	858	14.9	1,095	27.6	1,255	14.6
DK	223	18.8	236	5.8	244	3.5	305	25.1	337	10.5
D	6,895	31.1	8,559	24.1	8,354	-2.4	9,142	9.4	10,351	13.2
EL	95	-21.3	92	-2.5	123	33.3	137	11.4	141	2.9
E	447	8.8	485	8.4	483	-0.5	602	24.7	786	30.6
F	1,769	13.6	2,135	20.6	2,298	7.7	2,843	23.7	3,116	9.6
IRL	377	27.2	487	29.2	581	19.1	729	25.5	938	28.7
I	1,090	14.1	1,222	12.1	1,308	7.1	1,552	18.6	1,716	10.5
NL	1,079	33.6	1,290	19.5	1,503	16.5	1,890	25.8	2,023	7.1
A	506	26.4	460	-9.0	611	32.8	747	22.3	842	12.8
P	90	10.0	121	35.4	147	21.4	168	14.3	154	-8.7
FIN	375	60.3	466	24.3	455	-2.5	468	3.0	651	39.2
S	732	33.5	831	13.5	920	10.8	1,108	20.4	965	-12.9
UK	3,357	27.3	3,898	16.1	4,112	5.5	5,157	25.4	5,366	4.1

Source:  eurostat

Electrical machinery and apparatus: NACE Rev. 1 Division 31

Figure 6.9



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
t / t-1 t / t-4

Latest month
available

Producer price index
t / t-3 t / t-12

Table 6.7

	Latest 3 months available		Production index t / t-1 t / t-4		Latest month available	Producer price index t / t-3 t / t-12
EU-15	01-99 ⇒	03-99	0.6 0.7		04-99	0.0 -0.8
EUR-11	01-99 ⇒	03-99	0.2 0.3		04-99	-0.1 -1.0
B	⇒		: :			: :
DK	02-99 ⇒	04-99	0.5 9.7		04-99	-0.7 0.4
D	02-99 ⇒	04-99	-0.6 -0.3		04-99	0.5 -0.6
EL	01-99 ⇒	03-99	0.0 -2.4		12-98	-2.8 0.5
E	01-99 ⇒	03-99	1.2 6.2		04-99	0.1 -1.1
F	01-99 ⇒	03-99	0.3 0.2		04-99	-0.3 -1.9
IRL	⇒		: :			: :
I	01-99 ⇒	03-99	-2.2 -5.8		04-99	-0.8 -1.1
L	10-98 ⇒	12-98	-16.8 -50.3			: :
NL	01-99 ⇒	03-99	0.3 -1.4		03-99	0.0 0.0
A	10-98 ⇒	12-98	0.7 1.1			: :
P	01-99 ⇒	03-99	1.4 5.0		03-99	-11.0 -10.3
FIN	01-99 ⇒	03-99	-2.0 -5.7			: :
S	01-99 ⇒	03-99	2.9 9.3		04-99	-3.6 -0.5
UK	02-99 ⇒	04-99	0.6 -0.5		09-98	-0.4 -1.2
NO	⇒		: :			: :
Japan	⇒		: :			: :
USA	⇒		: :			: :

Production
and producer
price indices:
growth rates
(%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 6.10

Production and producer price indices: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 02-99 to 04-99 (%)

Production ■
 Producer price index ■

Source:  eurostat

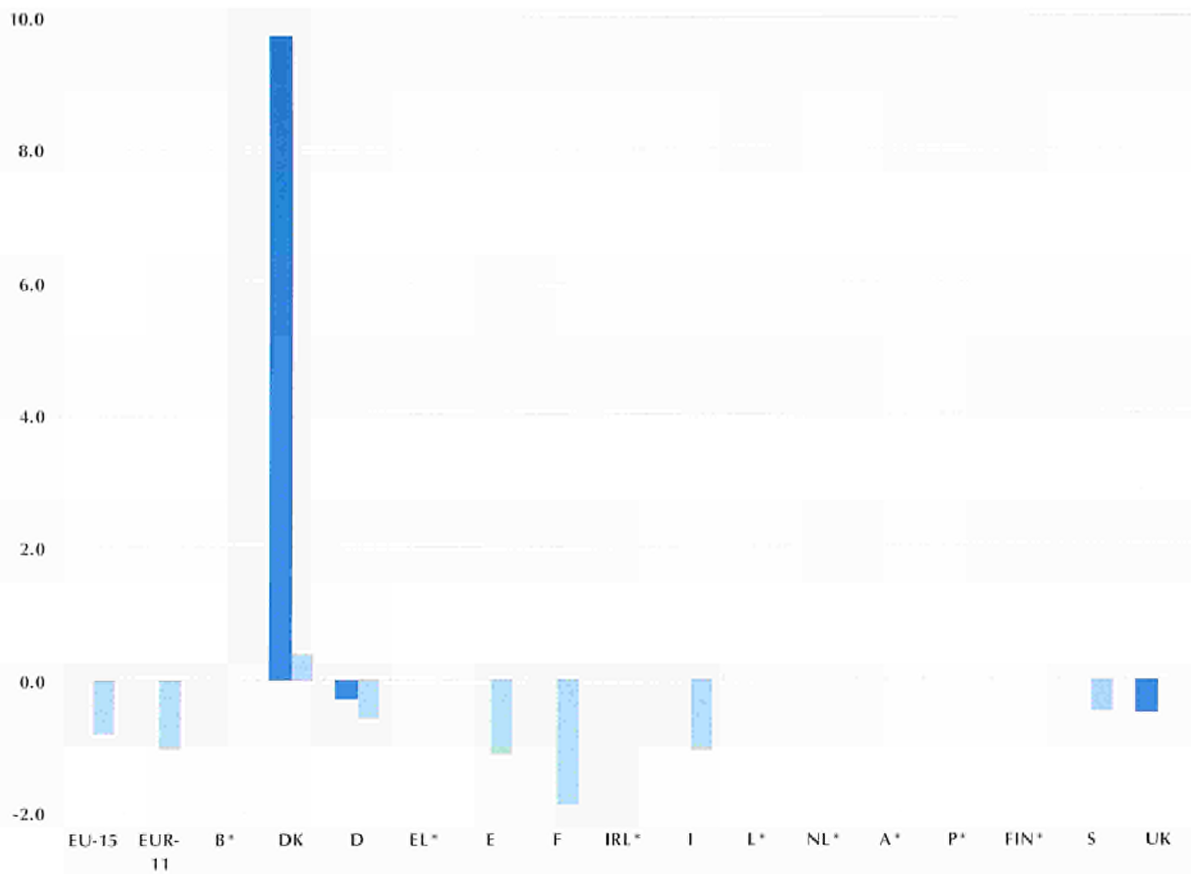
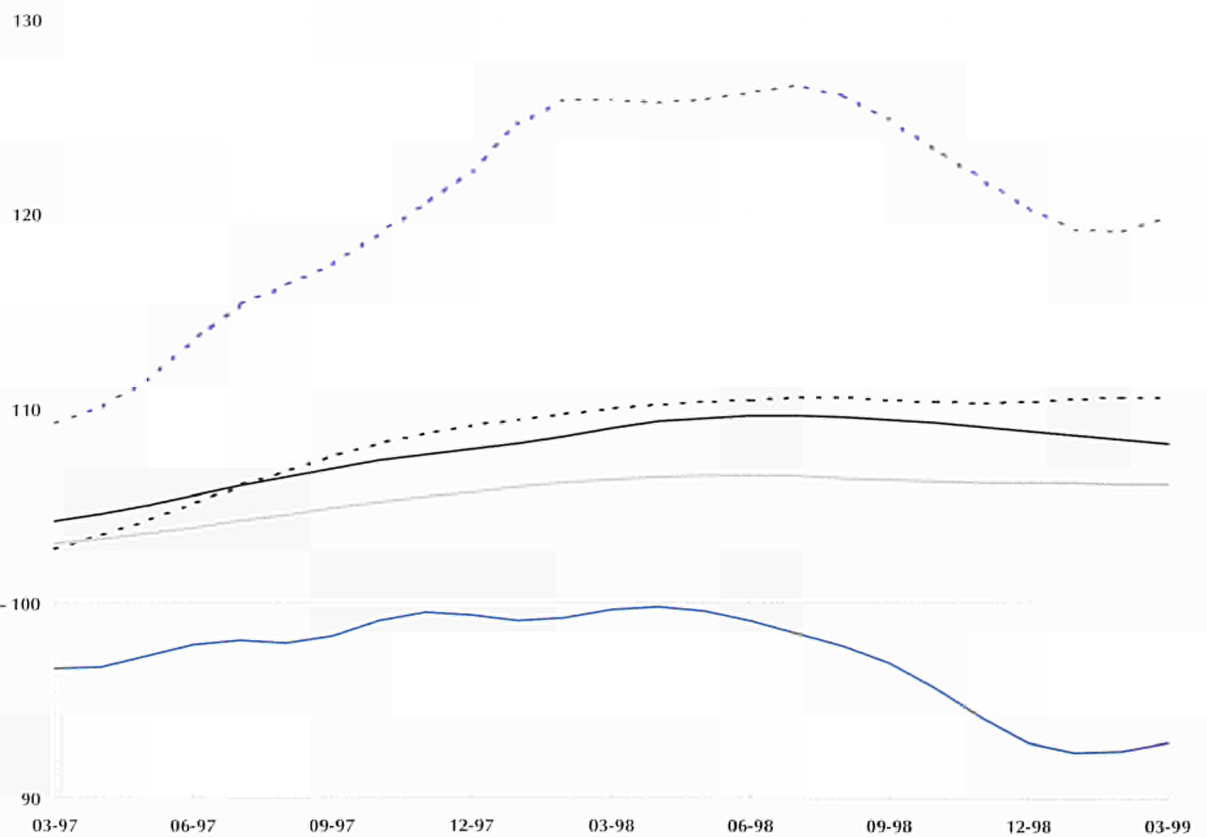


Figure 6.11

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

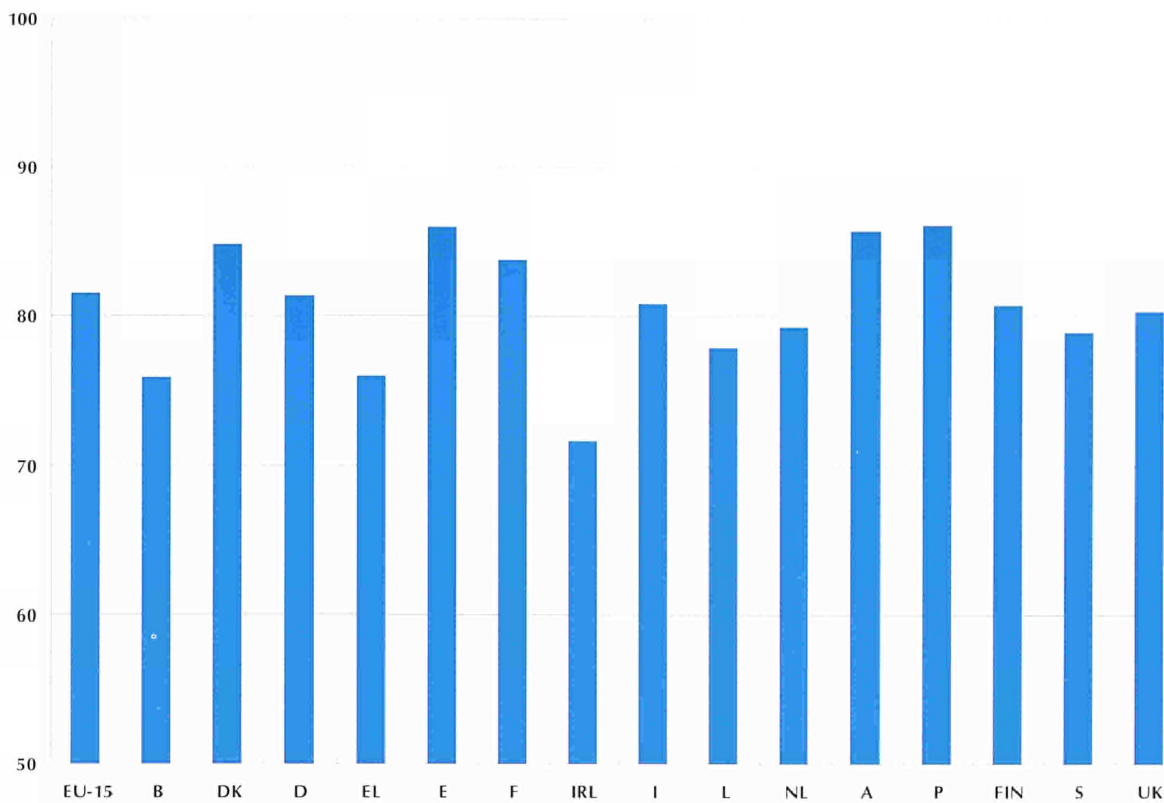
Electric motors, generators and transformers ———
 Electricity distribution and control apparatus - - - - -
 Insulated wire and cable ———
 Accumulators, primary cells and primary batteries - - - - -
 Lighting equipment and electric lamps ———

Source:  eurostat



Electrical machinery and apparatus: NACE Rev. 1 Division 31

Figure 6.12



Capacity
utilisation rates,
04-99
(%)

Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Table 6.8

	Growth rate: latest month, t / t-12 (%)	07-98	10-98	01-99	04-99
EU-15	-3.7	85.2	82.7	82.4	81.6
B	-4.5	84.2	78.3	74.3	75.9
DK	-1.3	85.9	86.7	86.8	84.8
D	-4.8	85.0	84.9	83.3	81.4
EL	-1.3	71.0	64.0	73.0	76.0
E	1.8	87.0	84.9	:	86.0
F	0.0	85.9	81.9	84.2	83.8
IRL	-0.4	71.1	66.9	75.4	71.7
I	-8.3	86.0	73.6	79.2	80.9
L	3.2	76.7	72.8	79.7	78.0
NL	0.3	79.1	78.5	78.7	79.4
A	-0.3	89.1	88.5	87.9	85.8
P	-6.4	90.2	83.8	85.1	86.2
FIN	-10.2	90.8	89.1	84.3	80.8
S	-6.0	87.0	85.0	84.0	79.0
UK	-6.4	87.0	86.2	82.3	80.4

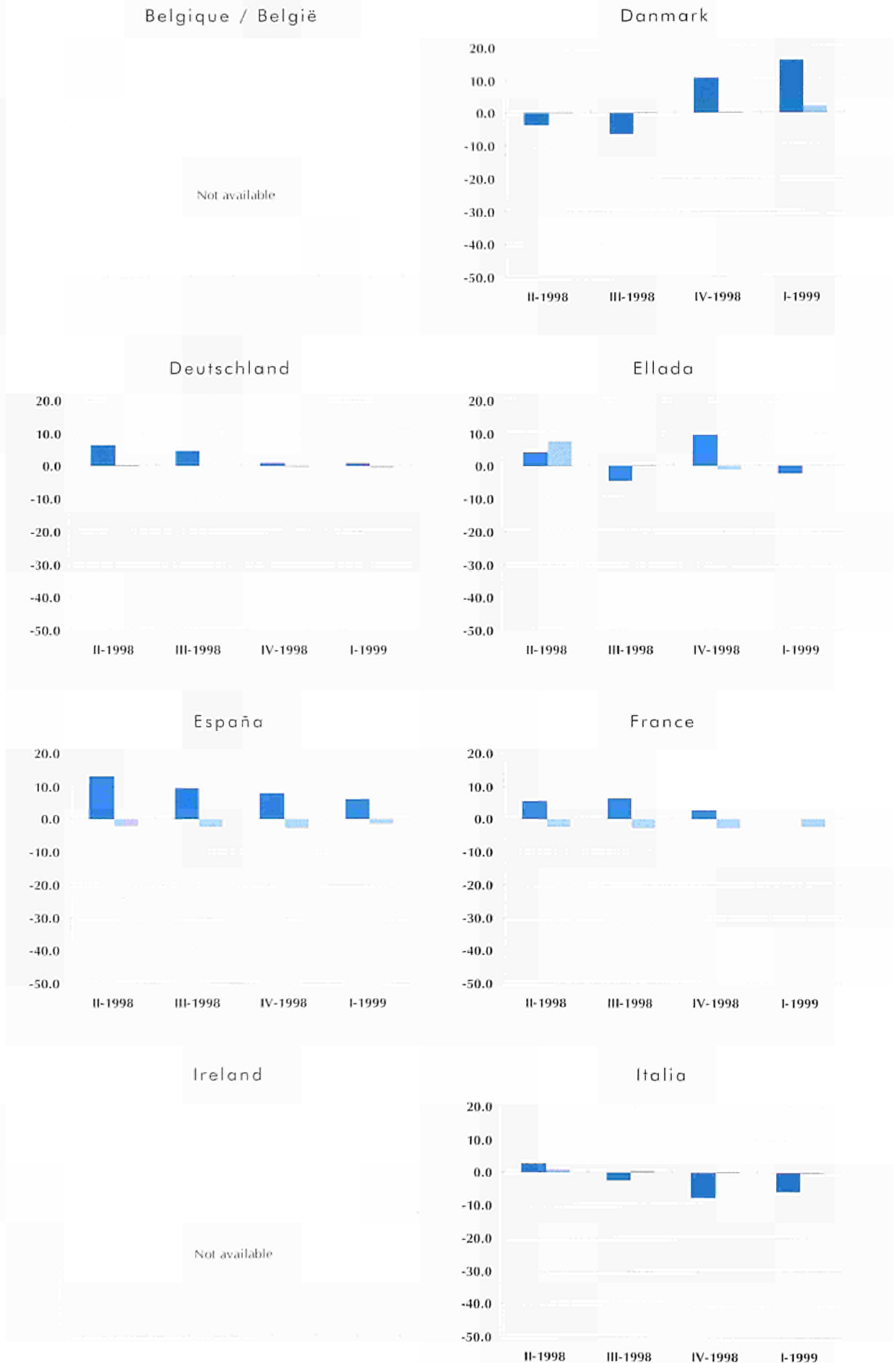
Capacity
utilisation rates
(%)

Source: DG II,
Business Survey

Electrical machinery and apparatus: NACE Rev. 1 Division 31

Figure 6.13

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



Production index ■

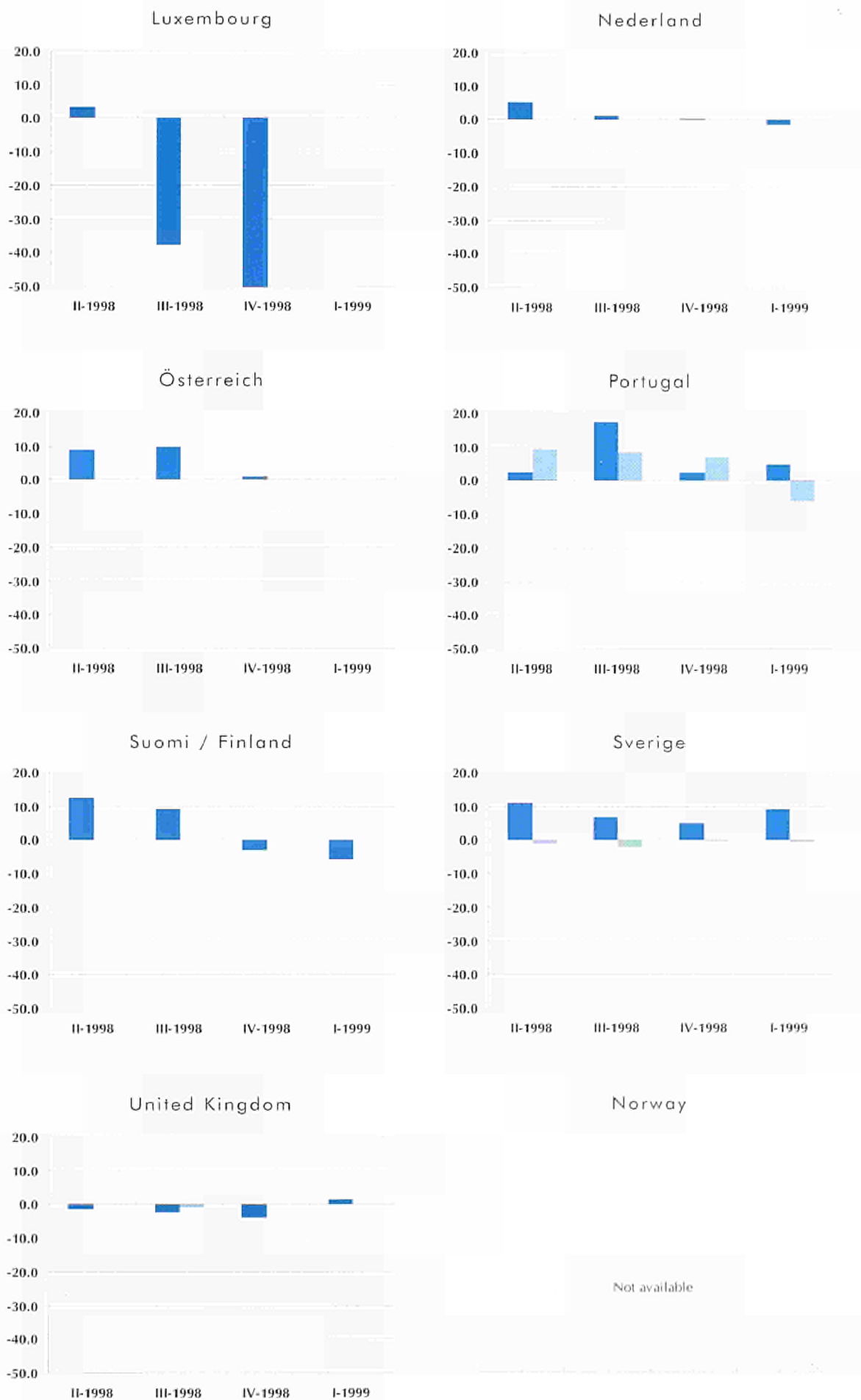
Producer price index ■

Source: eurostat

Electrical machinery and apparatus: NACE Rev. 1 Division 31

Figure 6.13

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



■ Production index
■ Producer price index

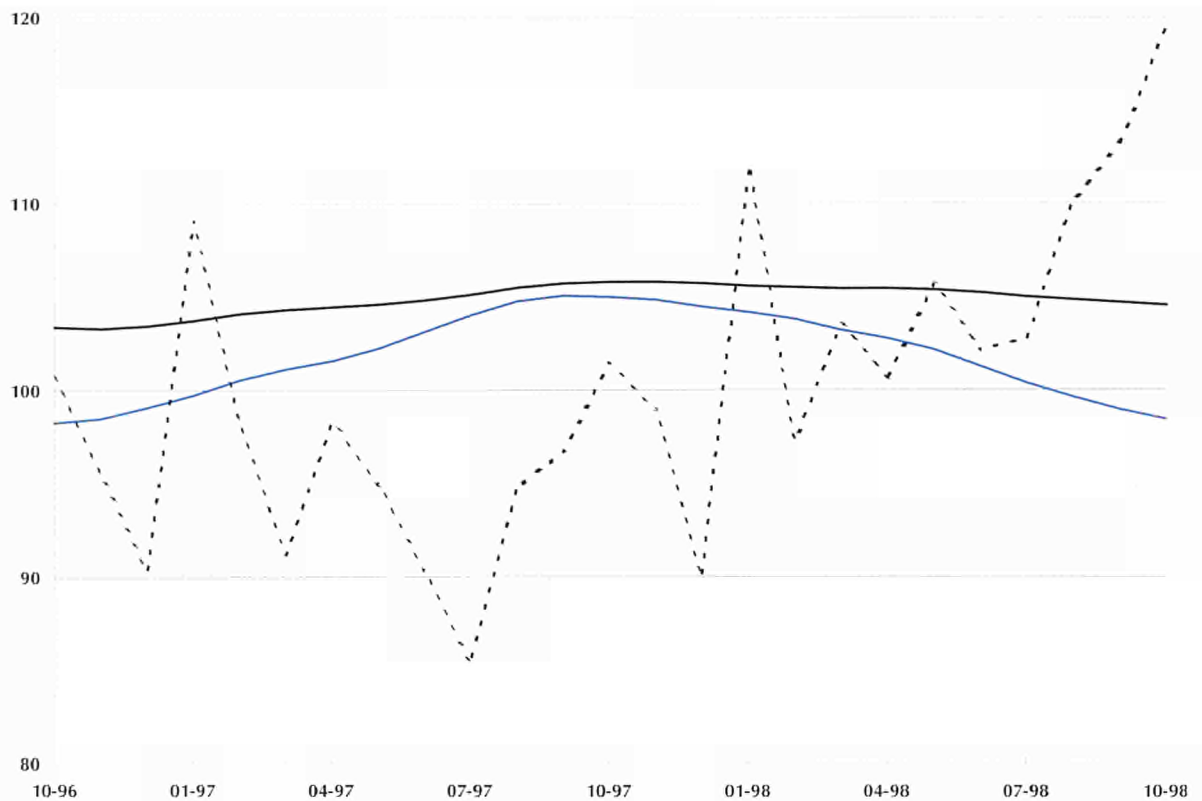
Not available

Source: eurostat

Figure 6.14

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

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



Source: eurostat

Table 6.9

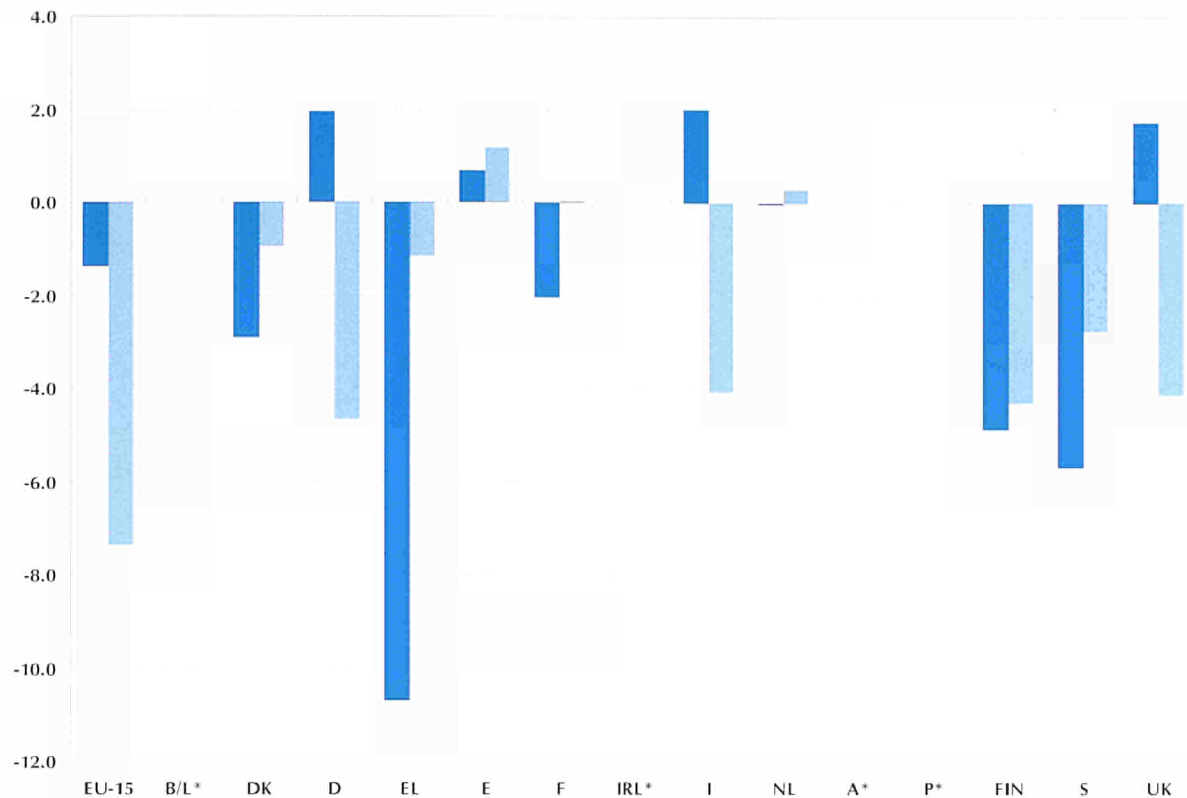
Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-98	⇒ 10-98	-0.5	1.2	-2.2	2.0	10.5
B / L	09-97	⇒ 11-97	-2.3	-1.0	1.3	-0.1	-3.5
DK	08-98	⇒ 10-98	-0.7	1.1	0.7	0.4	2.4
D	09-98	⇒ 11-98	1.1	-0.8	-1.4	1.1	-1.5
EL	08-98	⇒ 10-98	:	:	-2.8	1.2	16.1
E	09-98	⇒ 11-98	-0.8	-1.4	-0.2	0.6	6.0
F	09-98	⇒ 11-98	0.6	1.0	0.3	3.1	8.2
IRL	08-97	⇒ 10-97	14.7	8.0	3.3	3.2	6.7
I	09-98	⇒ 11-98	-0.1	-0.2	-2.1	2.4	20.0
NL	09-98	⇒ 11-98	0.9	-12.6	-0.4	-4.6	22.2
A		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97	⇒ 10-97	1.2	0.3	4.0	2.3	1.5
FIN		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
UK	09-98	⇒ 11-98	1.0	-3.9	-0.9	-1.7	1.7

Source: eurostat

Electrical machinery and apparatus: NACE Rev. 1 Division 31

Figure 6.15



Foreign trade indices in ECU terms: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 08-98 to 10-98 (%)

■ Export value
■ Import value

Source: eurostat

Table 6.10

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-98	⇒ 10-98	-1.4	1.3	-7.4	11.3	17.1
B / L	09-97	⇒ 11-97	3.4	5.1	19.4	18.9	-2.1
DK	08-98	⇒ 10-98	-2.9	-1.6	-1.0	-3.5	-3.7
D	09-98	⇒ 11-98	3.4	-2.7	-3.8	6.5	17.2
EL	08-98	⇒ 10-98	-10.7	14.9	-1.2	29.6	29.6
E	09-98	⇒ 11-98	-0.2	6.3	1.2	5.9	-1.6
F	09-98	⇒ 11-98	-1.8	7.2	0.8	6.4	-3.4
IRL	08-97	⇒ 10-97	52.0	40.0	22.7	25.0	10.4
I	09-98	⇒ 11-98	1.5	-2.1	-5.3	8.5	19.0
NL	09-98	⇒ 11-98	1.6	-34.1	-0.6	-12.8	35.1
A		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97	⇒ 10-97	10.9	5.3	22.3	16.4	-0.6
FIN	09-98	⇒ 11-98	-6.9	12.6	-4.2	9.8	:
S	08-98	⇒ 10-98	-5.7	-0.8	-2.8	-3.1	:
UK	09-98	⇒ 11-98	2.5	-22.9	-3.5	-18.4	12.8

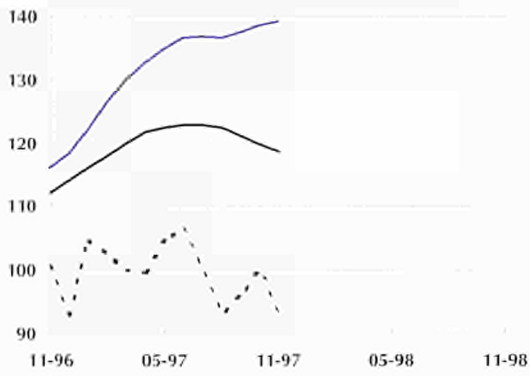
Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): growth rates, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

Source: eurostat

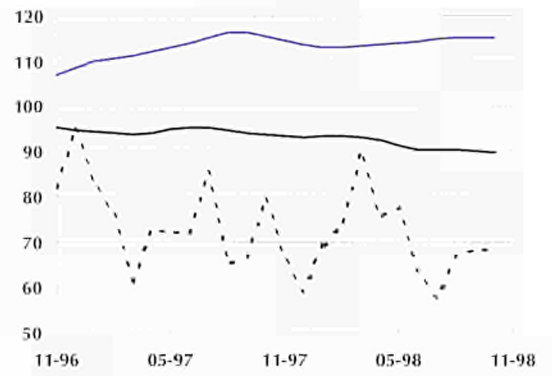
Figure 6.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

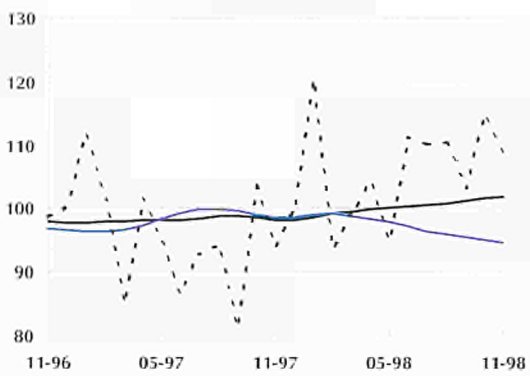
Belgique / België, Luxembourg



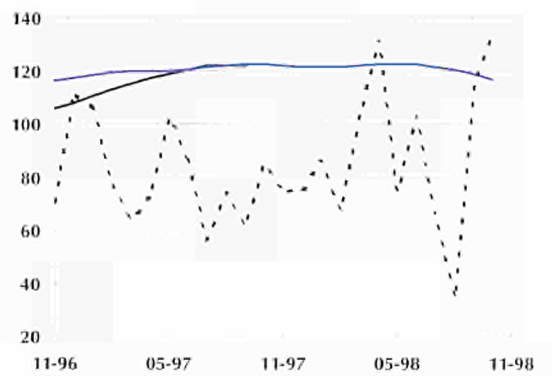
Danmark



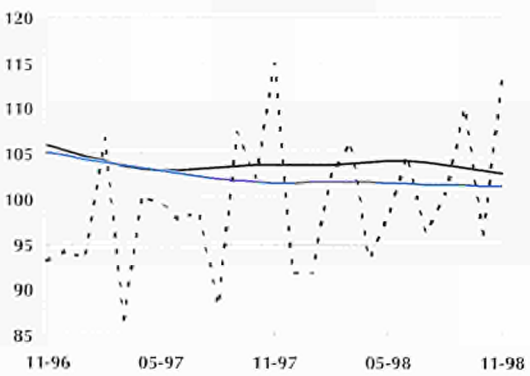
Deutschland



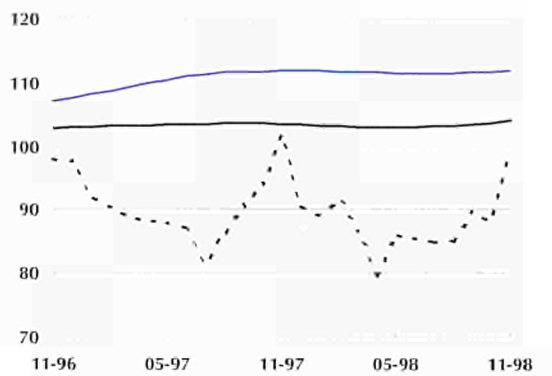
Ellada



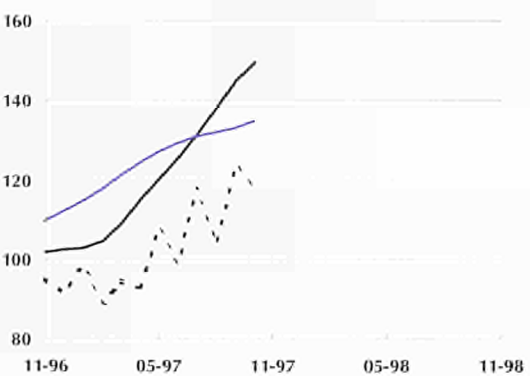
España



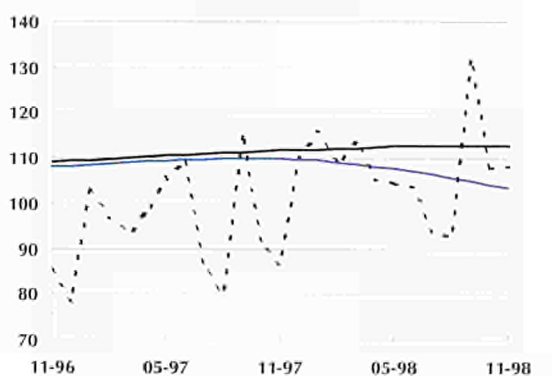
France



Ireland



Italia



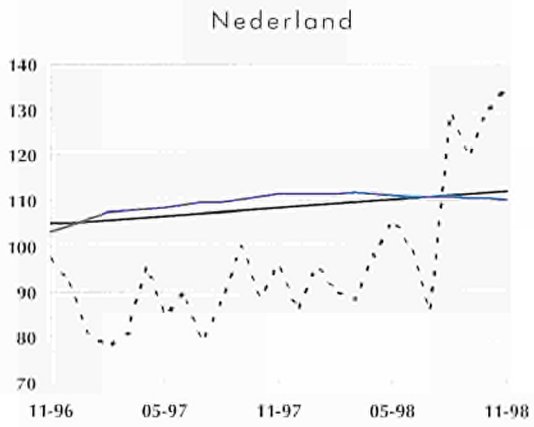
Export value index ———
Import value index ———
Terms of trade - - - - -

Source:  eurostat

Electrical machinery and apparatus: NACE Rev. 1 Division 31

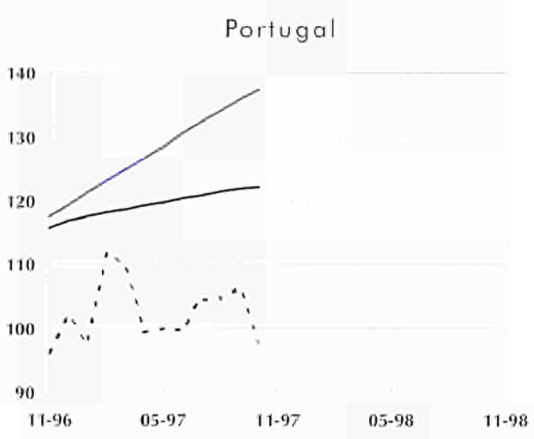
Figure 6.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)



Österreich

Not available



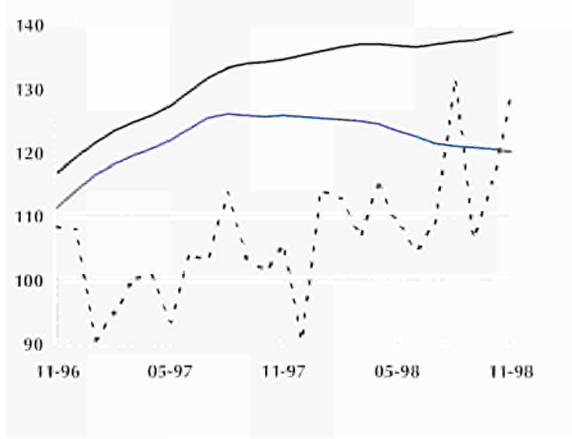
Suomi / Finland

Not available

Sverige

Not available

United Kingdom



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

Source:  Eurostat

**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 Statistics" ISBN 92-828-2879-4.

Full methodological notes for this publication may be found on page 109.

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-term 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.

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

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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

NACE Rev. 1 Sections

C + D + E,

i.e. mining, manufacturing and energy supply

Intermediate goods industries

NACE Rev. 1 Groups

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

NACE Rev. 1 Groups

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

NACE Rev. 1 Groups

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

Non-durable consumer goods industries

NACE Rev. 1 Groups

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 National Statistical Offices.

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 EOIX which produced using the business surveys carried out on behalf of the Directorate General for Economic Affairs of the Commission (DG II) as a leading indicator;
- 3) the estimates for the latest years' structural data, which are made by Eurostat;
- 4) 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 is base year 1995. The indices are adjusted to take account of the varying number of working days in the month.

The Expected Output Index (EOI) links several aspects of information from qualitative business opinion surveys conducted by DG II (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.

The index of producer prices shows the changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on domestic markets of the various countries, excluding VAT and other taxes. 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.

Methodological notes

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 construction indicators, please note that the information on prices supplied for Denmark, Italy and Finland refers to input prices for new residential buildings. Data for Ireland and Sweden also provide input prices, which are for one-dwelling buildings only. All other countries provide output prices for new residential buildings. With respect to data on building permits, the figures refer to the number of dwellings for all countries except the United Kingdom, where the data reported is for the number of building starts. Irish data for these series is in the form of quarterly and not monthly series. Danish and Italian data are estimates.

For services short-term indicators the data collection is in its infancy. There are three main areas covered in this publication. The volume of retail sales (or deflated turnover) is defined as the ratio between the indices of sales at current prices (value indices) and the corresponding price indices (deflator of sales) which are the prices of goods sold through retail outlets. For some countries this deflator of sales can only be approximately estimated. The total retail sales' index corresponds to NACE Rev.1 52 excluding repair works (i.e. NACE Rev. 1 52.7). Volume sales' indices are available for the following groupings:

Food, beverages and tobacco (NACE Rev. 1 52.11 + 52.2)

Textiles, clothing, footwear, leather goods (NACE Rev. 1 52.41 to 52.43)

Household equipment and specialised stores (NACE Rev. 1 52.44 to 52.46)

The figures on car registrations refer to the number of the first registrations of private and commercial cars (motorised road vehicles for the transport of passengers with seats for a maximum of 9 persons). Hire vehicles for mixed use are also included (for the transport of goods and/or passengers).

Data on the number of guest flows (tourism data) is provided. The tourism data refers to the occupancy of collective accommodation establishments, both for domestic and inbound tourism (residents and non-residents).

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

EU-15 and EUR-11 aggregates

EU-15 and EUR-11 data is estimated when 60% of the weighted national data is available. Missing data is estimated using ARIMA.

For further details of the methodology employed, please refer to the Eurostat publication "Methodology of Industrial Short-term Statistics" ISBN 92-828-2879-4. Further data on short-term indicators may be obtained by consulting the EBT domain of theme 4 in the Eurostat reference database, for details please contact the Eurostat Datashop network.

Seasonal adjustment

All series, except prices and capacity utilisation, are seasonally adjusted. If the National Statistical Office does the seasonal adjustment, these series are used. This is currently the case for Belgium, Denmark, Greece, France, Italy, Finland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Norway (although not necessarily for all variables). If no seasonally adjusted series are supplied, Eurostat perform the seasonal adjustment with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V. Gomez. Otherwise, Eurostat calculates the trend cycle (except for Germany) 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 ($t/t-1$, where t is the average of a three-month period) - 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 ($t/t-4$, where t is again the average of a three-month period) - 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 ($t/t-12$ the average of a three-month period) - here gross data for prices is used. Estimates are sometimes made to create an 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 ($t/t-12$ the average of a three-month period) or three months compared to the same three months of the previous year ($t/t-4$, the average of a three-month period). 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

There are two collections of data that are used for the presentation of data in sections 5 and 6 of the publication, one set of data is used for industrial activities and the other for services' activities. In order to obtain data with a lengthy time-series it is at present not possible to use the SBS Regulation data for enterprises of all size classes.

For industrial activities the 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

Methodological notes

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. Further data on industrial activities may be obtained by consulting the SBS enter 1 and SBS Plus domains of theme 4 in the Eurostat reference database, for details please contact the Eurostat Datashop network.

For service activities that are often covered in section 6 the data covers the whole population of enterprises. Hence, data covers small and medium sized enterprises too. However, for these series it is not at present possible to estimate EU totals, nor to use short-term indicators as a proxy for extending series (nowcasting). Further data on service activities may be obtained by consulting the SBS enter domain of theme 4 of the Eurostat reference database, for details please contact the Eurostat Datashop network.

Data is provided in ECU terms before monetary union on January 1st 1999. Fixed exchange rates exist for eleven countries forming the euro-zone from this date onwards. Whilst data in both ECU and Euro terms exists jointly in a table, it is labelled as ECU.

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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