

Developments for the construction sector

during the final quarter of 2004

Statistics in focus

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND SERVICES

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Latest trends

The downturn of the EU's civil engineering sector continued into the final quarter of 2004 (as shown in Figure 1). Seasonally adjusted output in the EU-25's civil engineering sector declined by 0.9 % between the third and final quarters of 2004, and by 0.6 % in the euro-zone. Over a longer timeframe, working day adjusted output fell by 4.1 % in the EU-25's civil engineering sector between the final quarters of 2003 and 2004, at a considerably faster pace than in the euro-zone, where a reduction of 2.1 % was registered.

There was no change in the level of output in the EU-25's building sector between the third and final quarters of 2004. In comparison with the final quarter of 2003, building production fell by 0.1 % in the EU-25 in the final quarter of 2004. Corresponding rates for the euro-zone showed that building output fell by 0.2 % between the third and final quarters of 2004, and by 0.4 % between the final quarters of 2003 and 2004.

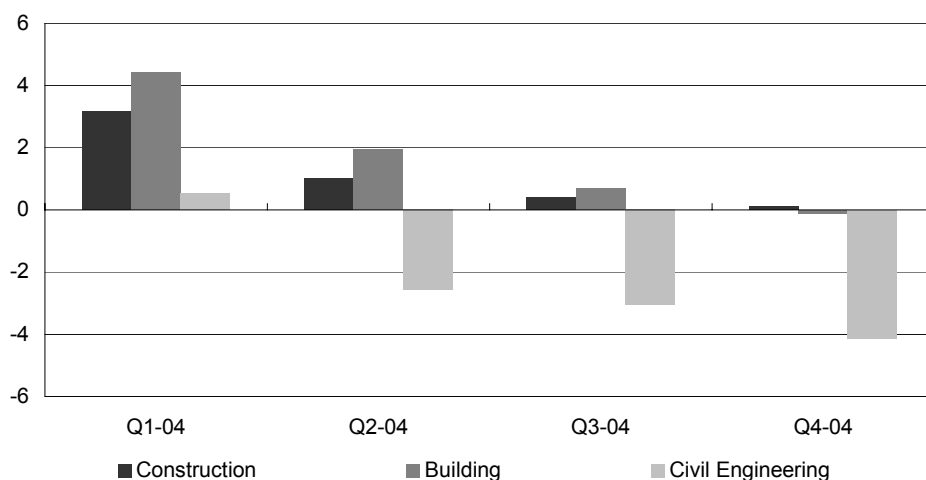


Figure 1: Production volume index, working day adjusted, growth rates compared to the same quarter of the previous year, EU-25 (%); source: Eurostat STS

Data extracted: 13.04.2005

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series		Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted series	
	EU-25	Euro-zone	EU-25	Euro-zone
Q1-04	0.4	0.0	3.2	1.3
Q2-04	-0.2	-0.2	1.0	-0.1
Q3-04	-0.2	-0.2	0.4	-0.1
Q4-04	0.2	0.2	0.1	-0.2

Table 1: Production volume index for construction, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

Production indices for construction

Having registered consecutive reductions of 0.2 % in the second and third quarters of 2004, the EU-25's construction sector posted positive quarter on quarter growth between the third and final quarters of 2004, as output expanded by 0.2 %. A similar picture was observed in the euro-zone, with identical quarter on quarter growth rates for the last three quarters when compared with those registered for the EU-25.

Between the final quarters of 2003 and 2004, the working day adjusted index of production for the construction sector rose by 0.1 % in the EU-25 and fell by 0.2 % in the euro-zone.

Across the Member States construction output largely followed an upward course between the third and final quarters of 2004, as production fell in just 6 out of the 21 countries for which data are

available (and output also rose in Bulgaria and Romania). The highest expansions in construction output between the third and final quarters of 2004 were recorded in Slovakia, Cyprus and Poland. Data for the European aggregates was influenced by the performance of the construction sector in several of the large Member States, as construction output fell by 0.8 % in Italy, by 0.3 % in Germany and was unchanged (0.0 %) in France, while Spain (0.3 %) and the United Kingdom (1.0 %) reported an expansion in activity. The other Member States to report a contraction in construction activity were Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal and Slovenia.

The seasonally adjusted employment index for the construction sector rose by 0.5 % between the third and final quarters of 2004 in both the EU-25 and the euro-zone. Particularly high

employment growth rates were reported in the United Kingdom (3.1 %) and Spain (1.6 %), with Latvia, Lithuania and Slovakia the only other Member States to report employment growth of at least 1.0 %.

While there was an expansion in the number of persons employed in the construction sector, there was a somewhat more modest increase in the number of hours worked. In the EU-25, hours worked in the construction sector rose by 0.2 % between the third and final quarters of 2004.

Over the same period, wages and salaries in the construction sector rose by 0.3 % in the EU-25. This followed growth of 0.4 % or 0.5 % in each of the previous six quarters.

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	0.4	0.6	0.4	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	1.4	1.8	3.2	1.0	0.4	0.1
Euro-zone	-0.2	0.3	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.2	0.5	1.3	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
BE	2.4	-2.7	5.4	-8.1	1.0	1.4	1.7	-3.7	1.1	-3.0	-5.1	-0.8
CZ	6.4	1.4	-0.2	3.0	-0.6	0.3	14.4	11.9	13.2	12.9	4.3	2.7
DK	-0.2	3.6	1.2	0.5	1.0	1.1	0.0	6.2	3.9	5.1	6.3	4.0
DE	-0.5	0.5	-3.7	-2.7	-0.8	-0.3	-2.5	-0.8	-3.1	-5.7	-5.8	-7.2
EE	4.2	-0.9	9.1	1.7	-6.9	2.9	7.8	5.6	28.1	16.8	3.9	6.9
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	0.7	0.3	0.2	-0.4	0.7	0.3	4.2	4.3	3.5	0.7	0.9	0.9
FR	1.2	0.4	0.9	0.0	-0.7	0.0	1.0	1.5	4.1	3.0	0.3	-0.7
IE	4.8	3.2	c	c	c	:	3.9	9.1	c	c	c	:
IT	-3.5	1.4	2.1	1.8	1.5	-0.8	-0.7	-3.8	-0.1	2.1	6.0	4.9
CY	1.0	4.8	-6.4	4.2	0.8	5.1	12.8	12.5	0.8	3.3	3.1	3.4
LV	5.3	1.7	3.8	3.2	3.2	3.2	20.4	6.5	14.6	12.1	11.4	15.8
LT	4.6	0.8	0.5	-0.8	-0.1	-0.5	33.9	21.0	18.7	4.3	2.4	0.9
LU	2.6	1.5	-3.7	1.1	-0.9	-2.5	3.7	3.8	1.7	1.4	-0.9	-6.3
HU	-1.3	1.5	2.2	-0.8	1.9	2.7	3.1	6.6	14.3	2.3	5.3	6.4
MT	1.3	1.0	0.6	1.5	1.2	:	3.6	4.5	2.3	4.5	4.5	:
NL	-1.2	0.4	2.9	-1.5	0.1	0.9	-8.2	-3.6	2.9	-0.1	0.1	2.6
AT	1.8	2.3	-3.4	3.7	4.4	3.3	11.9	12.7	-0.4	3.3	7.0	6.9
PL	-1.3	-5.2	-0.1	6.7	-5.1	4.7	-1.8	-3.3	-5.0	-3.0	-3.9	5.6
PT	2.4	-5.7	0.4	0.3	0.1	-5.4	-3.4	-9.0	-4.4	-2.8	-5.0	-5.8
SI	-3.7	-0.4	3.5	-4.7	9.3	-6.6	6.4	1.7	8.8	-5.8	7.5	1.4
SK	4.5	-0.7	-3.3	2.2	4.0	10.5	9.4	8.6	1.5	1.9	2.2	14.6
FI	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
SE	-1.7	-0.2	0.4	3.2	0.6	1.5	-4.1	-2.0	-0.8	2.0	4.1	5.9
UK	2.8	0.8	0.0	0.3	1.2	1.0	6.1	6.5	9.8	4.4	1.1	-1.2
BG	-4.6	-1.2	13.7	-5.4	7.0	12.1	-2.2	0.8	11.8	-3.6	9.3	30.7
RO	1.4	2.7	1.8	2.3	2.7	1.7	6.1	7.8	6.9	8.1	10.5	8.8

Table 2: Production volume index for construction, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

Production indices for building and civil engineering

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	0.5	0.8	0.9	-0.2	-0.7	0.0	1.6	1.6	4.4	1.9	0.7	-0.1
Euro-zone	-0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	0.1	1.4	0.5	0.0	-0.4
BE	0.5	-2.4	1.8	-4.7	0.4	-0.5	-3.3	-6.5	-1.8	-4.9	-5.3	-3.1
CZ	6.4	3.5	1.2	2.6	0.2	-0.9	9.0	10.5	14.6	15.1	8.0	2.3
DK	2.8	6.6	-2.4	-0.5	-2.1	:	-7.3	7.4	7.9	6.5	1.4	:
DE	-0.8	0.3	-2.5	-2.5	-2.4	-1.6	-1.8	-0.8	-1.7	-4.9	-6.0	-8.5
EE (1)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.4	-0.3	0.2	4.6	3.2	2.8	1.8	0.5	0.4
FR	0.7	0.2	0.8	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.8	0.8	3.6	1.9	0.0	-1.1
IE	5.2	2.9	c	c	c	:	5.1	9.5	c	c	c	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	-2.2	3.5	-1.0	1.5	4.5	-2.2	7.0	6.2	4.1	1.7	8.8	2.7
LV	4.2	1.6	2.3	2.8	4.6	2.6	17.7	14.9	5.8	6.6	11.7	17.7
LT	8.2	3.4	4.6	-0.1	0.5	-0.3	47.8	33.4	26.1	4.9	-1.1	-1.8
LU	1.3	3.0	-1.6	1.2	0.5	0.1	0.5	5.4	5.4	4.0	3.6	-0.7
HU	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-1.7	1.8	3.2	-2.1	0.6	-0.3	-9.1	-4.4	2.1	0.5	0.7	1.7
AT	2.0	3.2	-1.9	3.7	3.6	2.4	9.7	13.1	1.5	6.0	9.0	6.7
PL	0.6	-1.3	-0.8	2.9	-4.2	-2.0	-12.5	-5.7	-9.4	3.8	-4.5	-3.1
PT	2.9	-6.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.6	-5.8	-2.6	-9.3	-4.9	-3.6	-5.9	-6.5
SI	-6.1	13.0	1.5	-8.4	14.7	-8.6	-4.0	10.4	27.0	-1.5	20.8	-1.8
SK	7.1	-2.8	0.3	4.2	2.6	9.6	10.5	4.6	3.4	8.7	4.0	18.6
FI	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
SE	-1.6	1.0	1.3	2.7	2.0	2.1	-4.3	-1.1	1.8	3.9	7.3	8.5
UK	2.5	1.5	4.6	-2.6	-1.4	-0.2	8.4	6.9	15.5	6.0	2.0	0.2
BG (1)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
RO	-2.1	0.5	1.5	0.7	4.5	3.4	3.2	2.8	4.8	-1.0	6.9	10.2

Table 3: Production volume index for building, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

(1) Gross series supplied: currently too short to calculate other forms of data presentation.

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	-0.1	0.4	-1.1	-1.4	-0.8	-0.9	-1.8	1.0	0.5	-2.6	-3.1	-4.1
Euro-zone	0.6	0.6	-0.4	-1.1	-0.2	-0.6	0.2	2.3	2.6	-0.4	-1.0	-2.1
BE	3.4	-5.2	6.8	-11.4	4.1	-0.6	1.3	-4.5	0.4	-6.4	-6.9	-2.1
CZ	6.2	-1.8	-1.4	3.2	-1.7	1.7	21.9	11.7	7.3	8.9	-2.3	3.0
DK	-3.1	4.8	-7.9	4.6	2.9	-4.6	2.2	6.9	-14.3	-2.1	4.3	-5.6
DE	0.0	0.8	-5.9	-3.2	2.1	1.9	-3.7	-0.8	-5.8	-7.4	-5.4	-5.0
EE (1)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	2.1	-1.4	3.6	-6.1	3.0	-0.4	2.5	5.0	7.5	-2.1	-1.2	-0.2
FR	2.6	0.9	1.1	0.7	-1.3	0.1	1.5	3.1	5.3	5.6	1.0	0.3
IE	2.6	4.0	c	c	c	:	0.0	7.5	c	c	c	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	13.4	13.1	-23.2	15.5	4.3	5.7	35.0	39.9	-1.1	13.7	4.5	-2.3
LV	5.5	-1.3	6.8	2.8	0.3	1.4	23.7	-4.5	8.9	17.2	11.1	7.1
LT	2.3	-1.1	1.1	0.8	1.4	2.3	18.8	7.0	2.0	4.1	4.5	7.2
LU	2.5	1.2	-11.1	-4.9	-1.6	-5.7	9.0	4.2	-3.4	-12.4	-14.9	-22.8
HU	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	0.8	-0.1	0.7	-0.7	0.8	2.8	0.2	5.5	4.5	-1.0	-0.7	5.9
AT	0.7	0.3	-6.8	4.2	6.1	6.1	18.1	11.5	-7.1	-3.6	1.9	7.5
PL	2.0	-4.4	-9.7	7.4	6.7	11.4	8.4	-1.6	-1.0	-8.9	-3.5	12.9
PT	1.4	-4.7	1.6	1.1	-0.8	-4.4	-5.2	-8.6	-3.3	-0.8	-2.9	-4.1
SI	0.1	-12.7	5.5	-0.5	5.8	-6.3	17.2	-5.8	-9.7	-9.6	-3.8	4.8
SK	-0.7	2.7	-9.1	-0.9	6.1	8.8	1.7	17.0	-3.3	-10.5	-1.4	5.0
FI	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
SE	1.4	-3.6	-0.2	-0.8	0.3	6.1	3.0	-3.5	-3.0	-3.3	-4.3	5.3
UK	-0.6	-0.5	-5.4	-5.7	-2.7	-7.1	-13.3	-4.6	-5.1	-11.8	-13.6	-19.4
BG (1)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
RO	5.3	7.4	0.6	3.2	2.2	1.1	8.9	13.9	9.2	17.4	13.9	7.3

Table 4: Production volume index for civil engineering, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

(1) Gross series supplied: currently too short to calculate other forms of data presentation.

New orders and employment

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	-0.7	2.0	3.0	0.0	-1.6	4.4	-3.7	-0.5	6.3	4.3	3.3	5.8
Euro-zone	0.1	2.6	2.1	-2.1	2.1	1.7	-1.5	3.5	7.2	1.4	4.3	4.3
BE	-0.1	4.3	4.3	-1.4	-2.6	-2.1	-5.5	-5.7	-0.6	7.4	4.0	-2.4
CZ	14.0	7.0	2.8	23.7	0.1	-25.5	21.1	2.7	16.8	55.0	36.1	-5.2
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DE	1.2	-3.7	0.6	-4.2	-0.7	-1.6	-7.3	-8.7	-1.0	-6.0	-7.8	-5.6
EE	0.9	-13.6	4.4	8.4	25.1	37.9	32.3	0.5	-7.7	-21.0	18.8	135.7
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	1.2	3.9	8.1	-12.1	14.3	7.8	10.5	21.8	16.4	-1.2	12.9	17.6
FR	2.4	1.6	1.4	1.3	0.3	0.3	4.8	3.0	8.5	7.6	4.2	1.3
IE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
CY	12.6	-13.4	2.0	8.7	7.4	21.8	45.4	-2.0	-26.0	8.3	3.5	45.7
LV	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LT	2.1	-0.4	11.3	4.4	3.1	2.2	23.1	11.2	15.1	4.2	11.8	58.9
LU	-10.4	14.1	8.1	-15.9	19.0	2.1	-16.0	-10.9	0.5	-10.1	30.0	5.4
HU	10.2	12.0	16.2	22.5	-6.9	-7.2	-15.0	-27.9	43.1	79.4	49.1	20.9
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
AT	6.0	1.2	-2.5	0.5	6.5	2.1	16.3	12.4	2.2	4.7	5.9	6.8
PL	-6.8	-2.5	-5.2	-8.0	-11.1	10.2	-32.1	3.6	-8.3	-19.3	-24.2	-13.7
PT	4.2	7.7	9.1	4.9	-17.9	9.6	-12.9	0.9	21.1	28.3	1.1	2.9
SI	2.8	20.6	-9.6	14.6	17.9	-14.3	-5.1	16.1	3.5	26.3	43.8	5.5
SK	-8.8	6.4	3.5	5.6	-1.6	-7.1	-10.3	-22.5	-2.3	5.4	13.7	-0.6
FI	-7.5	83.4	-6.9	-33.6	-2.2	-16.5	0.7	93.8	22.3	1.4	7.0	-50.7
SE	c	c	c	c	c	13.6	c	c	c	c	c	c
UK	2.3	-5.4	18.3	-2.8	-7.6	:	-7.9	-13.5	4.1	8.5	0.8	:
BG	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
RO	9.9	5.5	14.3	-3.3	13.0	6.4	45.8	43.0	85.2	29.6	33.4	34.2

Table 5: New orders index for construction, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	-0.1	-0.4	1.3	-0.8	0.1	0.5	1.1	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.1	1.1
Euro-zone	-0.6	-0.4	1.2	-0.3	-0.2	0.5	1.7	0.2	0.5	-0.2	0.2	1.1
BE	-1.0	-0.9	-0.9	-1.6	-1.2	-1.2	-3.2	-3.0	-3.3	-4.4	-4.6	-4.8
CZ	0.2	0.7	0.6	1.2	1.0	0.7	-1.2	0.5	0.1	2.7	4.0	4.0
DK	-0.7	1.2	-1.2	1.8	-0.1	:	-3.2	-1.2	-2.0	1.0	1.6	:
DE	-1.2	-2.2	-0.6	-1.7	-1.3	-2.1	-6.6	-6.9	-3.9	-5.6	-5.7	-5.6
EE	1.1	0.1	5.4	-1.3	1.0	0.3	4.0	2.8	7.7	5.2	5.2	5.4
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	-0.5	0.7	1.4	0.9	1.2	1.6	4.3	4.3	3.2	2.5	4.2	5.1
FR	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.3
IE	-0.3	0.4	0.9	1.3	2.2	c	0.6	0.5	0.8	2.1	5.2	c
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	1.1	1.4	1.1	0.9	2.0	0.8	7.9	7.1	6.9	4.4	5.7	4.7
LV	1.2	-0.1	11.3	0.9	0.2	1.4	6.9	3.5	15.7	13.7	12.4	13.9
LT	4.2	0.8	2.0	-1.1	-0.7	1.0	10.9	9.7	10.5	5.9	0.5	0.8
LU	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.3	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	-0.2
HU	0.7	0.4	-0.7	2.9	1.5	0.6	2.8	1.7	1.3	3.4	4.3	4.3
MT	-3.3	1.3	8.4	-4.7	-2.3	-16.9	11.0	-15.7	23.9	1.9	3.7	-17.7
NL	-1.1	-1.1	-1.1	-0.9	-1.0	-1.1	-3.4	-4.0	-4.5	-4.1	-3.9	-4.1
AT	0.4	0.2	-0.8	0.0	-0.2	-0.3	4.7	4.4	-2.2	-1.1	-0.3	-0.8
PL	-3.0	-3.1	7.1	-10.5	-1.8	:	-14.3	-15.2	13.4	-11.7	-9.6	:
PT	-0.8	-0.7	-0.3	-1.0	-1.3	-1.6	-7.6	-6.5	-3.6	-2.8	-3.3	-4.2
SI	0.1	-1.8	-0.9	0.4	0.0	0.7	0.7	-1.6	-2.3	-2.2	-2.3	0.2
SK	1.5	1.3	-0.8	0.9	1.1	1.4	4.9	6.7	3.8	2.5	2.2	2.4
FI	-2.9	-0.3	-0.6	-1.1	1.0	-0.5	1.1	-0.3	-2.0	-5.2	-0.1	0.2
SE	-0.3	-1.0	-0.3	0.1	-0.5	-0.3	2.3	-0.6	-1.0	-1.2	-1.7	-1.0
UK	2.1	1.6	1.5	-0.5	-0.7	3.1	5.6	6.2	7.5	4.7	1.6	3.8
BG	3.2	0.1	5.6	-1.3	0.9	6.0	14.9	11.2	11.8	7.5	5.2	11.4
RO	2.5	-1.4	-4.7	-0.1	-1.2	2.5	4.1	6.6	-0.4	-3.7	-7.2	-3.6

Table 6: Employment index for construction, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

Hours worked and wages and salaries

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.5
Euro-zone	0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.6	1.4	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.3	1.2
BE	1.5	-2.8	7.0	-7.4	1.8	-0.1	-0.6	-2.7	2.7	-0.2	-8.6	1.1
CZ	2.7	-0.3	1.9	1.8	-0.6	1.5	0.9	0.3	5.4	7.2	1.7	4.5
DK	-3.2	3.7	:	:	:	:	-4.0	0.1	:	:	:	:
DE	-0.6	-1.3	-0.2	-5.3	-2.0	0.5	-4.4	-2.9	0.5	-6.7	-8.3	-8.2
EE	1.3	1.9	3.9	-2.4	3.1	2.3	3.9	6.0	7.8	4.6	6.5	7.0
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	2.4	1.3	-0.3	2.4	1.2	2.3	8.3	10.5	2.7	5.8	6.0	7.5
FR	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.8	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.3
IE	1.1	4.0	2.2	4.6	c	:	-5.1	5.9	6.2	12.4	c	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	1.1	1.4	1.1	0.9	2.0	0.8	7.8	7.1	7.0	4.4	5.7	4.9
LV	2.9	-2.1	13.7	-1.0	2.6	2.5	8.2	3.4	18.6	13.3	13.0	18.3
LT	4.9	0.9	0.7	-1.6	-0.5	0.7	18.4	17.9	12.3	4.9	-0.6	-1.0
LU	2.1	1.0	-2.6	0.5	-0.3	-0.7	4.5	4.1	1.4	0.5	-2.5	-7.0
HU	1.3	0.6	1.0	1.9	0.7	1.0	2.4	2.4	3.8	5.1	4.1	4.5
MT	14.1	-2.7	-5.2	11.0	-12.8	-20.1	24.4	-16.1	3.8	16.8	-10.7	-26.7
NL	-1.3	-1.2	-1.4	-1.1	-1.3	-1.3	-3.9	-4.7	-5.4	-4.9	-4.7	-4.9
AT	0.7	0.6	-2.8	1.9	0.9	-0.2	8.0	6.0	-1.0	0.4	0.8	-1.7
PL	-4.5	-3.1	-1.6	-1.8	-0.8	-1.8	-16.9	-17.7	-13.2	-10.1	-5.0	-6.4
PT	0.9	-2.3	-0.6	-0.7	-1.4	-1.7	-2.3	-8.3	-3.9	-2.0	-4.0	-6.0
SI	0.0	0.0	0.7	-0.5	-0.9	-1.3	0.0	-0.5	1.7	-0.4	-0.2	-0.7
SK	2.5	1.0	0.8	1.2	0.1	2.3	4.8	7.1	7.3	5.9	2.7	3.9
FI	0.0	0.5	-2.4	-0.5	0.8	-0.4	6.0	5.2	-0.9	-3.1	-1.2	-2.0
SE	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
BG	4.9	-0.9	6.4	-2.1	0.7	6.3	14.3	12.9	15.9	8.1	3.6	11.6
RO	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c

Table 7: Hours worked index for construction, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	1.2	1.2	2.4	1.6	2.0	1.1
Euro-zone	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.8	0.4	1.5	0.5	0.7	0.3
BE	-1.7	-0.2	1.4	-2.0	1.7	-1.8	19.8	-1.8	2.3	-2.5	-3.2	-1.3
CZ	1.7	3.0	-0.5	1.7	1.6	1.1	5.4	9.1	5.8	5.5	5.7	3.8
DK	0.6	0.7	:	:	:	:	1.1	3.6	:	:	:	:
DE	-1.8	-1.6	-0.7	-2.4	-1.7	-2.6	-5.9	-6.3	-3.2	-6.3	-6.1	-7.4
EE	4.1	4.8	5.5	3.4	4.8	3.8	18.9	18.6	22.3	18.4	19.7	18.6
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.7	6.3	5.7	4.0	3.8	4.7	2.8
FR	1.4	1.6	2.0	1.6	1.1	1.2	2.6	3.9	5.9	6.6	6.3	6.0
IE	1.1	3.2	5.3	4.4	c	:	-0.6	13.5	14.4	14.7	c	:
IT	1.0	0.7	0.5	1.6	0.9	1.2	3.1	3.8	1.7	4.1	3.8	4.7
CY	2.8	2.5	1.4	2.9	:	:	14.7	13.7	7.9	10.1	:	:
LV	6.0	4.3	13.2	2.8	3.9	7.7	23.6	22.5	35.4	28.9	25.4	29.7
LT	6.0	4.4	4.4	0.0	4.7	4.1	27.0	30.3	21.4	15.0	14.1	13.4
LU	1.8	2.4	-1.0	1.1	0.6	0.0	4.8	4.8	4.4	4.3	2.6	0.3
HU	3.1	1.9	4.0	2.0	3.6	2.0	11.7	11.8	13.2	11.5	12.0	11.9
MT	0.2	-2.8	8.0	-4.1	3.9	-8.8	32.9	7.5	22.8	0.9	5.4	-2.9
NL	-0.4	-1.3	-0.7	-1.9	-2.0	-1.9	-0.2	-3.5	-4.1	-4.0	-4.0	-3.1
AT	0.7	0.7	-0.7	0.8	1.0	0.8	7.1	6.4	1.7	0.8	1.9	2.0
PL	-0.6	-2.6	-2.9	-0.9	0.0	1.3	-12.6	-13.6	-7.6	-7.0	-6.4	-2.6
PT	0.5	0.9	1.9	0.9	-0.2	0.3	-4.2	-2.4	3.1	4.8	3.2	2.4
SI	0.6	1.0	2.4	0.9	2.1	2.2	8.3	6.4	8.6	5.0	6.7	7.9
SK	2.1	1.2	3.8	1.3	2.8	2.7	7.2	5.8	11.0	8.5	9.2	10.7
FI	1.2	0.1	1.7	1.1	2.5	2.7	4.4	6.1	4.4	3.6	6.6	9.4
SE	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
UK	0.5	2.1	1.6	1.4	1.1	:	2.0	3.7	4.9	5.7	6.3	:
BG	5.6	1.1	8.3	0.9	2.6	7.4	27.2	26.2	24.4	16.4	12.3	20.8
RO	8.0	2.7	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	9.0	29.5	29.6	19.4	10.9	2.5	8.8

Table 8: Wages and salaries index for construction, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

Construction costs and building permits

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, gross series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	2.0	1.1	1.5	2.0	0.8	1.0	4.5	5.1	5.3	6.8	5.4	5.3
Euro-zone	0.3	0.2	1.3	2.0	0.8	0.4	1.9	1.9	2.2	3.9	4.4	4.6
BE	0.0	0.0	0.7	2.2	:	:	0.9	0.9	0.7	2.9	:	:
CZ	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.8	0.9	0.4	2.2	2.5	2.6	3.9	4.2	4.1
DK	0.0	0.1	-0.3	0.9	0.9	0.9	2.6	2.0	1.0	0.7	1.7	2.5
DE	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.1	0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.3	1.4	1.7	1.8
EE	0.5	0.4	1.5	2.6	1.3	1.1	3.5	3.4	3.5	5.0	5.9	6.6
EL	0.2	0.5	0.6	1.3	0.7	1.3	2.5	2.5	2.2	2.6	3.1	4.1
ES	0.5	-0.1	1.3	3.2	1.1	0.9	2.2	1.7	2.0	4.9	5.5	6.6
FR	0.3	0.6	2.4	2.8	0.6	0.5	2.8	3.1	4.1	6.3	6.6	6.4
IE	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.4	:	11.3	10.9	13.0	12.7	13.1	:
IT	0.2	0.2	1.8	1.8	1.2	0.6	2.8	2.8	2.4	3.9	5.0	5.4
CY	1.0	0.1	4.0	1.7	1.1	0.4	5.3	4.6	5.7	6.9	7.0	7.3
LV	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LT	1.0	0.0	0.5	4.3	3.1	1.7	1.3	1.6	4.1	5.9	8.1	9.9
LU	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.9	1.1	1.7	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.9	3.5
HU	1.1	2.6	-0.7	2.6	1.0	2.8	3.4	3.4	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	0.4	-0.2	0.9	1.0	0.4	0.1	1.3	1.2	1.3	2.2	2.2	2.4
AT	0.6	0.6	1.9	2.2	0.6	0.8	2.7	3.2	4.3	5.3	5.3	5.6
PL	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.2	1.4	0.9	-0.7	0.2	1.0	2.1	3.4	4.1
PT	-0.3	0.2	2.0	2.2	:	:	1.3	1.2	1.2	4.1	:	:
SI	1.2	1.6	1.9	6.0	2.0	1.5	5.9	6.4	6.8	10.9	11.8	11.8
SK	1.3	0.9	2.4	2.0	2.0	0.9	4.4	4.5	6.2	6.7	7.4	7.5
FI	0.3	-0.3	0.5	1.4	1.0	0.6	1.9	1.6	1.3	2.0	2.7	3.6
SE	0.7	0.5	0.9	1.9	0.9	0.4	3.0	3.4	2.8	4.1	4.4	4.3
UK	8.2	4.0	2.3	1.9	0.7	:	14.2	16.7	16.6	17.3	9.1	:
BG	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
RO	4.3	2.5	8.7	2.4	4.2	2.0	20.7	19.5	20.4	19.0	18.9	18.3

Table 9: Construction costs index for residential buildings, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	2.1	2.8	3.0	-0.3	-4.2	3.7	4.2	10.2	6.4	7.9	2.9	3.2
Euro-zone	3.0	3.1	0.8	1.6	-2.8	3.0	4.6	9.5	7.9	9.2	4.7	6.1
BE	3.6	6.7	8.8	-3.4	:	:	2.0	22.1	31.8	17.1	:	:
CZ	19.6	0.4	-2.6	-4.4	-4.8	7.6	39.2	39.8	25.1	11.0	-11.3	-4.0
DK	-7.6	16.8	0.6	-11.4	-2.0	-3.9	-36.1	-1.0	16.2	-4.1	1.4	-16.6
DE	-3.9	6.1	9.8	-18.8	-7.7	-1.5	-5.2	3.4	-0.7	-9.7	-13.7	-20.0
EE	48.3	35.3	39.6	93.2	-52.5	12.4	17.5	2.9	320.3	403.0	41.0	31.5
EL	2.2	-9.3	0.5	:	:	:	-0.1	-15.1	-10.2	:	:	:
ES	-1.0	-2.6	9.8	-0.1	6.8	-5.2	17.8	3.5	14.1	5.8	14.2	10.7
FR	8.2	4.3	6.9	7.3	0.2	5.3	9.7	15.1	18.9	29.3	19.6	21.3
IE	10.0	-5.4	23.1	-1.6	1.7	:	33.9	37.8	87.6	26.0	0.1	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	-7.7	3.4	17.3	3.4	5.6	12.0	37.6	27.9	35.6	14.9	32.7	44.6
LV	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LT	-11.8	-3.7	29.8	-3.0	72.4	-33.1	87.6	3.2	-6.0	-0.1	106.3	40.0
LU	-9.6	39.1	-10.8	-11.5	84.6	-43.5	30.8	19.0	9.8	-0.1	129.7	-19.2
HU	13.6	11.8	-10.4	5.4	-9.3	1.4	16.6	41.5	8.2	22.7	-3.9	-13.9
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-6.8	6.5	-7.8	14.8	-11.3	40.6	1.9	-6.1	-17.7	0.7	-6.4	32.7
AT	-7.4	28.9	:	:	:	:	-25.7	44.8	:	:	:	:
PL	2.1	-1.3	33.2	-10.9	-9.5	-29.2	7.9	42.8	73.2	31.4	16.3	-19.5
PT	-1.8	12.7	-15.8	-0.5	-6.8	3.3	-19.1	17.9	-8.6	-7.5	-12.8	-19.2
SI	-12.6	15.6	-7.4	-5.6	74.7	-25.1	31.3	25.8	13.8	-11.9	76.9	14.4
SK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FI	0.9	4.0	-5.9	-2.6	-1.1	-6.0	15.8	22.2	12.0	-2.4	-4.4	-15.9
SE	0.3	9.0	5.7	-11.1	5.5	7.1	23.8	46.2	17.0	3.9	6.5	7.1
UK	-0.3	:	:	:	:	:	2.7	:	:	:	:	:
BG	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
RO	5.2	6.8	8.3	10.7	-3.1	-3.9	0.7	8.1	25.2	34.6	24.0	11.6

Table 10: Number of residential building permits issued, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

Building permits in square metres

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q4-04
EU-25	-0.2	5.6	2.0	-1.3	1.5	2.1	5.0	9.2	7.6	9.6	5.0	3.5
Euro-zone	2.6	2.8	0.8	1.7	-0.1	1.7	5.5	7.6	4.9	8.5	4.4	4.1
BE	3.6	6.8	35.4	2.8	:	:	4.2	22.3	65.8	55.0	:	:
CZ	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	-4.2	15.8	31.6	-27.3	-3.9	4.3	-35.7	-2.1	50.6	8.0	6.9	-4.5
DE	-3.8	10.7	7.1	-20.2	-7.4	-0.8	-4.8	3.7	-0.1	-9.9	-13.8	-22.4
EE	59.3	18.8	45.2	46.4	-41.5	-0.3	39.7	20.6	319.7	297.1	26.4	11.5
EL	11.0	-18.5	5.1	:	:	:	6.3	-26.1	-13.1	:	:	:
ES	-1.0	-3.0	5.0	3.2	5.2	-4.1	19.2	2.8	10.4	4.1	11.0	9.0
FR	6.5	6.2	3.3	5.1	-0.2	2.7	8.5	15.3	15.9	23.1	14.9	11.2
IE	5.5	3.3	22.0	0.2	-11.3	:	21.3	33.2	75.6	33.3	12.0	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	-3.4	2.5	10.3	5.5	-0.9	9.1	22.9	14.3	26.3	15.3	17.4	26.4
LV	48.0	32.4	-1.4	1.1	21.1	11.6	76.5	142.8	137.9	98.7	60.7	34.6
LT	-0.3	0.1	-1.0	12.0	39.0	0.6	84.3	5.9	-5.4	7.9	68.0	43.7
LU	1.2	25.8	-10.6	1.1	70.8	-43.3	51.6	7.2	-13.4	10.5	132.2	-12.6
HU	1.2	8.8	-5.2	-2.6	-5.1	0.4	18.4	34.4	14.6	3.3	-3.6	-12.0
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-11.2	12.8	-12.0	16.1	-8.2	33.6	-0.2	-2.7	-22.6	-0.9	1.2	26.9
AT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
PL	3.6	-0.9	24.3	-13.3	-9.6	-21.5	20.6	38.8	60.9	20.9	4.7	-23.4
PT	-2.7	4.7	-5.3	-2.4	-6.6	4.9	-23.7	1.1	-1.0	-6.2	-11.3	-8.3
SI	-3.3	12.0	-3.0	-5.0	46.6	-16.0	32.5	32.5	27.9	-0.2	51.3	13.5
SK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FI	4.2	5.9	-6.7	-0.7	-1.6	0.0	19.8	26.4	10.8	3.2	-2.8	-10.1
SE	-5.8	3.3	10.6	-10.9	1.7	5.7	21.9	31.6	12.1	-4.1	0.6	6.5
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
BG	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
RO	-24.0	4.5	8.0	50.2	-28.5	-1.3	14.3	17.7	23.8	29.6	21.4	14.4

Table 11: Total area for which residential building permits were granted, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

Definitions

Production index: shows output volume through the trend in value added at factor costs at constant prices.

Building and civil engineering: the two main Sections in the classification of types of construction (CC).

New orders: an indication of future production. An order is the value of a contract linking a producer and a third party for the provision of goods and services. The order is accepted if there is sufficient evidence for a valid agreement.

Employment: number of persons employed is the total number of persons working within and outside the observation unit (including working proprietors, sales representatives and so on). It also includes persons absent for a short, definite period or persons on strike. Part time, trainee and seasonal workers are also included.

Hours worked: total number of hours worked, excluding hours paid but not actually worked such as for meals, holidays and sick leave.

Wages and salaries: total remuneration, in cash or in kind, payable to all persons counted on the payroll, in return for work done during the reference period. Includes taxes and social contributions paid by the employee.

Construction costs: measure the evolution of the costs of the factors employed in the activity of construction and incurred by the contractor. These factors include, amongst others, materials, wages and salaries, plant and equipment hire; **output prices:** show the evolution of prices paid by the client to the contractor.

Building permits: show the future development of construction activity. A building permit is an authorisation to start work on a building project.

For more information please consult the STS methodology manual at the following web address (note that this is a PDF):

http://forum.europa.eu.int/irc/dsis/bmethods/info/data/new/embs/MM_Eurostat%202002-0507%20vo.2.pdf

Abbreviation and symbols:

: not available
c confidential

Further information:

➤ **Reference publications**

Title Quarterly Panorama of European business statistics
Subscription number VPA000 Price EUR 100

➤ **Databases**

[EUROSTAT website/Industry, trade and services/Industry, trade and services - horizontal view/Short-term Business Statistics - Monthly and Quarterly \(Industry, Construction, Retail Trade and Other Services\)/Construction \(NACE Rev.1 F\) - Building and civil engineering](#)

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