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Industrial employment in the euro-zone rises by 0.4% in the final quarter of 2000 (compared to a year before)

Gunter Schäfer

The index of employment and hours worked for total industry (excluding construction) fell in the EU in the final quarter of 2000 (when compared to the quarter before or to the same quarter of a year before). Euro-zone industrial employment rose by 0.4% between the final quarter of 1999 and 2000. The EU index of wages and salaries for total industry (mining and quarrying, manufacturing and electricity, gas and water supply) rose by 0.6% in the final quarter of 2000 compared to the third quarter and by 2.5% compared to the same quarter of a year before.

	Growth rate, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted				Growth rate, year on year, gross data			
	EU-15		EUR-11		EU-15		EUR-11	
Employment	Q4-00	-0.1	Q4-00	0.1	Q4-00	-0.2	Q4-00	0.4
Hours worked	Q4-00	-0.6	Q4-00	-0.3	Q4-00	-1.7	Q4-00	-1.2
Wages & salaries	Q4-00	0.6	Q4-00	0.8	Q4-00	2.5	Q4-00	2.5

Table 1: Recent growth rates for total industry (%)

Employment index for industry (excluding construction)

Euro-zone industrial employment rose by 0.1% in the final quarter of 2000 (compared to the third quarter), whilst the EU industrial employment index fell by 0.1%. As a result, the euro-zone recorded its fourth successive quarter of employment expansion within the industrial economy (on the basis of a comparison with the quarter before).

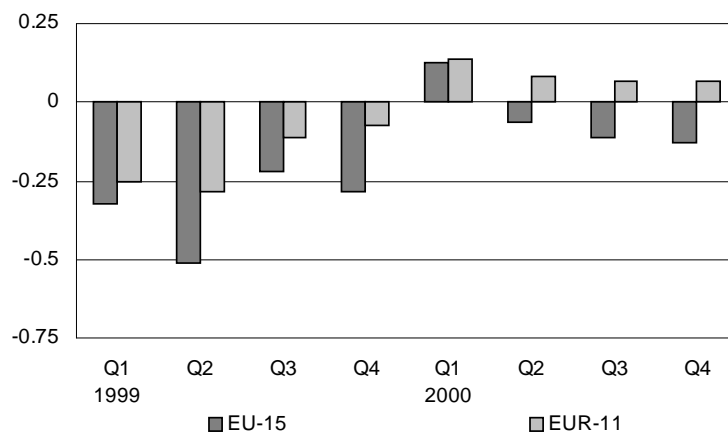


Figure 1: Employment index for total industry, growth rates, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted (%)

Looking at the main industrial groupings (MIGs), the EU consumer non-durable goods industries consistently recorded reductions in the number of persons employed since the first quarter of 1999. This pattern continued in the final quarter of 2000, with consumer non-durables losing 0.3% compared to the previous quarter and 1.6% compared to the same quarter of the previous year. In contrast the capital goods and consumer durable goods industries recorded quarter on quarter growth of 0.2% in the EU and 0.3% in the euro-zone. On the basis of a comparison with the same quarter of the previous year capital goods and consumer durables also reported the highest growth rates, gaining 0.4% and 0.5% respectively in the EU in the final quarter of 2000 and 1.1% and 0.8% in the euro-zone.

		Growth rate, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted						Growth rate, year on year, gross data					
		Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00
EU-15	Total industry	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-1.4	-1.3	-0.9	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2
	Intermediate goods ind.	-0.5	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	-1.9	-2.0	-1.5	-0.9	-0.3	0.1
	Capital goods ind.	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.2	-1.1	-0.8	-0.2	0.3	0.2	0.4
	Cons. durable goods ind.	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.2	-0.6	-0.5	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.5
	Cons. non-durable goods ind.	-0.4	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-1.3	-1.7	-2.0	-1.9	-2.0	-1.6
EUR-11	Total industry	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.9	-0.7	-0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4
	Intermediate goods ind.	-0.3	-0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	-1.1	-1.1	-0.8	-0.3	0.2	0.5
	Capital goods ind.	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	-0.5	-0.1	0.5	0.9	1.0	1.1
	Cons. durable goods ind.	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.8
	Cons. non-durable goods ind.	-0.5	-0.6	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-1.2	-1.6	-1.9	-1.8	-1.7	-1.2

Table 2: Employment index for the MIGs, growth rates (%)

In the final quarter of 2000 industrial employment growth in the EU was strongest in Spain, Luxembourg, France and Austria - with growth in excess of 1.0% between the fourth quarter of 1999 and 2000. Industrial employment expanded by as much as 4.1% in Spain. On the other hand, the largest losses were reported in Portugal, Italy and the United Kingdom, where the number of persons employed within total industry declined by more than 2.0% over the same period. These three countries were followed by Belgium, Denmark and Finland, where industrial employment declined by between 0.3% and 1.0%. When studying the rates of change for industrial employment between the third and final quarters of 2000, the same six countries again displayed negative rates, whilst there was employment growth in the remaining EU economies.

	Growth rate, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted						Growth rate, year on year, gross data					
	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00
EU-15	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-1.4	-1.3	-0.9	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2
EUR-11	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.9	-0.7	-0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4
B	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.1	-0.3	-1.2	-0.5	-0.3	0.6	0.9	0.6	-1.0
DK	2.0	-2.3	1.0	0.3	-1.2	-0.4	-1.9	-4.9	-1.8	1.0	-2.2	-0.3
D	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	-1.1	-1.0	-0.9	-0.1	0.1	0.3
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
E	0.4	0.5	1.4	0.9	0.7	1.1	1.9	2.1	2.7	3.3	3.5	4.1
F	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.0	0.6	1.3	1.6
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
I	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.9	-0.6	-0.5	-2.9	-2.3	-1.5	-2.2	-2.4	-2.4
L	0.4	-0.2	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.4	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.9
NL	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
A	-0.3	-0.1	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.2	-1.8	-1.7	-0.8	0.3	0.8	1.1
P	-0.7	-0.8	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	-3.2	-3.6	-2.7	-2.2	-2.1	-2.1
FIN	2.2	-0.3	-1.8	2.1	-0.2	-0.2	3.2	4.4	3.2	2.2	-0.2	-0.1
S	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
UK	-1.1	-0.8	-0.5	-0.6	-0.9	-0.8	-4.0	-3.8	-3.5	-2.9	-2.8	-2.9

Table 3: Employment index for total industry, growth rates (%)

Employment index for services

Employment within the retail trade sector of the EU economy expanded by 4.7% in the final quarter of 2000 (compared to the final quarter of 1999). This rate followed growth of 4.9% in the third quarter of 2000 and as such there was a notable change in the pace of employment growth when compared to the rates of 1.4% that were recorded during the second half of 1999. By far the most significant gains in the final quarter of 2000 in the retail sector were recorded in Italy (10.4%) and Spain (6.9%). Indeed, there was also a rapid expansion of the employment index in Italy for the whole of distribution (9.4%) and for the activity of hotels and restaurants (6.7%), in contrast to the latest figures for transport and communications services (-3.5%). Employment also grew at a rapid pace in all service sectors of the Dutch economy, with growth of 3.1% for distribution, 5.1% for hotels and restaurants, 3.0% for transport and communications, 4.3% for financial intermediation and 5.6% for business services. On the basis of a comparison between the final quarter of 1999 and 2000 there was a decline in the number of persons employed in the retail sectors of Finland (-1.7%), Denmark and Germany (both -0.2%).

		Growth rate, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted						Growth rate, year on year, gross data					
		Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00
Retail trade	EU-15	-0.3	1.1	1.5	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.4	1.4	2.9	3.8	4.9	4.7
Division 52 (1)(2)	EUR-11	-0.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.4	3.0	3.9	5.0	4.8
	DK	0.9	0.6	0.6	-0.4	-0.7	0.3	1.4	1.0	0.9	1.7	0.0	-0.2
	D	-0.3	-0.4	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.5	-2.1	-2.9	-2.7	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2
	ES	-2.8	5.7	1.5	1.4	1.7	1.8	-0.3	2.6	6.6	5.0	10.1	6.9
	I	0.7	1.0	3.4	2.6	1.6	2.4	5.7	4.9	6.3	7.9	8.9	10.4
	L	0.3	0.2	0.1	:	:	:	3.2	2.1	1.1	:	:	:
	FIN	0.1	-1.0	0.9	-1.5	1.5	-2.1	9.0	1.7	2.0	-2.0	0.9	-1.7
Distribution (including retail trade)	F	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.0	2.2	2.4	2.9	3.2	3.1	3.6
	I	0.6	0.6	2.7	2.5	1.7	2.2	5.0	4.1	5.0	6.5	7.7	9.4
	NL	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	3.8	4.0	4.2	3.8	3.4	3.1
Section G (2)													
Hotels & restaurants	F	0.2	0.6	0.4	-2.8	2.7	2.5	3.0	3.5	1.4	-1.8	0.8	3.5
	I	3.3	2.0	2.4	1.8	0.4	1.9	5.8	6.0	9.3	9.8	6.3	6.7
Section H	NL	0.6	1.6	1.6	0.2	1.5	1.7	3.4	3.7	4.5	4.0	4.9	5.1
Transport & communication	F	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.9	2.4	2.4	2.7	3.3	3.2	3.4
	I	-0.8	-0.7	-0.5	-1.0	-0.8	-1.3	-2.3	-2.5	-2.9	-3.0	-3.0	-3.5
Section I	NL	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	2.5	2.8	3.5	3.3	3.0	3.0
	FIN	-0.6	-0.7	-0.8	4.7	0.8	-1.4	-2.1	-2.3	-2.5	2.5	4.0	3.2
Financial intermediation	F	0.2	0.2	2.2	-2.6	-0.2	2.7	0.5	0.5	2.6	-0.1	-0.6	1.9
	I	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	-0.5	-0.5	0.0	0.5	1.0	1.4
Section J	NL	1.5	1.7	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.0	7.2	6.9	6.3	6.1	5.2	4.3
Business services	F	2.2	-3.3	7.3	1.8	1.5	1.8	7.8	9.5	8.3	8.1	7.1	12.7
	I	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	2.0	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.4
Section K	NL	1.5	1.3	1.9	1.2	1.2	1.3	6.3	5.7	6.6	6.2	5.7	5.6

Table 4: Employment index for services, growth rates (%)

No data available for Member States not included in the table.

- (1) Data from the Netherlands and France have been used in the calculation of the European aggregates but cannot be published due to confidentiality;
- (2) Austrian gross figures are available, but because the data starts in the first quarter of 1999 seasonal adjustment is not possible.

Hours worked index for total industry (excluding construction)

The number of hours worked in the EU industrial economy fell by 0.6% in the final quarter of 2000, the third consecutive quarter that there was a reduction in comparison to the quarter before. A similar pattern was observed in the euro-zone, although the number of hour worked did not decline by as much (down 0.3%). Of the countries for which data is available, only the Netherlands and Austria reported an increase in the number of hours worked in industry between the final quarter of 1999 and the final quarter of 2000 (with hours worked rising by 0.3% in both countries).

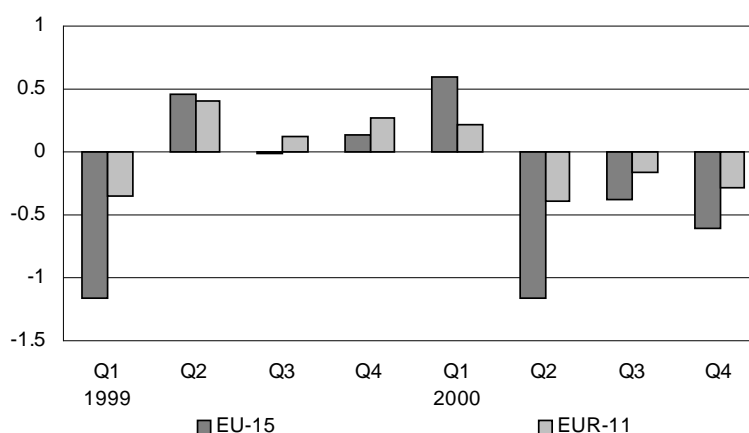


Figure 2: Hours worked index for total industry, growth rates, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted (%)

	Growth rate, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted						Growth rate, year on year, gross data					
	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00
EU-15 Total industry	0.0	0.1	0.6	-1.2	-0.4	-0.6	-1.3	-0.7	1.6	-0.5	-0.9	-1.7
Intermediate goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Capital goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Cons. durable goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Cons. non-durable goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11 Total industry	0.1	0.3	0.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	0.3	2.4	-0.1	-0.4	-1.2
Intermediate goods ind.	-0.4	0.2	0.1	-1.1	-0.1	-0.5	-1.3	-0.6	1.6	-1.6	-1.0	-2.1
Capital goods ind.	0.1	0.3	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.8	0.1	3.0	0.3	0.0	-0.9
Cons. durable goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Cons. non-durable goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 5: Hours worked index for the MIGs, growth rates (%)

	Growth rate, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted						Growth rate, year on year, gross data					
	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00
EU-15	0.0	0.1	0.6	-1.2	-0.4	-0.6	-1.3	-0.7	1.6	-0.5	-0.9	-1.7
EUR-11	0.1	0.3	0.2	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	0.3	2.4	-0.1	-0.4	-1.2
B	1.2	-0.4	1.4	-1.0	-1.7	0.3	-0.2	0.3	2.6	1.2	-2.2	-1.2
D	0.0	0.8	0.7	-1.7	-0.3	-0.8	-1.8	-0.8	1.8	-0.2	-0.5	-2.1
I	0.9	-0.2	0.8	-2.9	0.5	-0.5	0.7	0.9	4.2	-1.6	-1.8	-2.1
L	0.2	-0.8	0.7	-0.8	-0.6	0.4	0.8	0.3	-0.1	-0.8	-1.5	-0.3
NL	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.3
A	-0.4	-1.2	0.6	0.6	-1.0	0.1	-2.2	-2.3	1.0	-0.5	-1.1	0.3
P	-1.1	-1.4	1.1	-2.1	-1.4	-1.5	-4.1	-4.0	-1.5	-3.5	-3.7	-3.7
FIN	-0.5	1.7	-3.4	0.4	0.8	-3.2	0.9	3.8	3.2	-1.7	-0.3	-5.5
UK	-0.7	-0.9	0.2	-1.0	-1.4	-1.9	-5.3	-4.9	-2.1	-2.2	-3.1	-4.2

Table 6: Hours worked index for total industry, growth rates (%)

Data for France are available from 1999 onwards; however, due to a lack of data for the base year 1995, it is at present not possible to calculate an indexed series.

Wages and salaries index for total industry (excluding construction)

Having declined by 0.3% in the third quarter of 2000, industrial wages and salaries grew by 0.6% in the EU in the final quarter (compared to the quarter before) and by 2.5% on the basis of a comparison with the final quarter of 1999.

Using a comparison with the same quarter of the previous year, wage growth in the industrial economy was reported in every Member State for which there was data available, ranging between 1.8% in Italy and 5.5% in Finland.

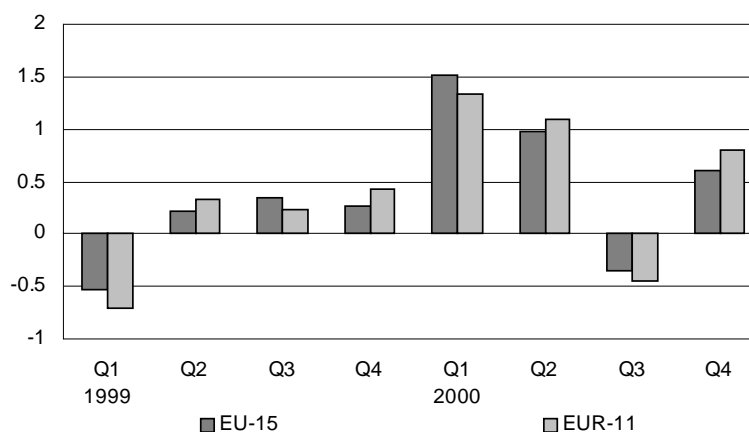


Figure 3: Wages and salaries index for total industry, growth rates quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted (%)

	Growth rate, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted						Growth rate, year on year, gross data					
	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00
EU-15 Total industry	0.3	0.3	1.5	1.0	-0.3	0.6	0.8	0.2	2.5	3.1	2.5	2.5
Intermediate goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Capital goods ind.	0.2	0.4	1.6	0.8	0.4	0.7	2.0	1.1	2.8	3.1	3.1	3.4
Cons. durable goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Cons. non-durable goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EUR-11 Total industry	0.2	0.4	1.3	1.1	-0.4	0.8	0.8	0.3	2.5	3.1	2.5	2.5
Intermediate goods ind.	0.4	0.3	1.6	0.9	-0.2	0.6	0.3	-0.1	2.9	3.6	2.6	2.6
Capital goods ind.	0.0	0.4	1.7	0.9	0.0	0.7	2.2	1.3	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.4
Cons. durable goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Cons. non-durable goods ind.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 7: Wages and salaries index for the MIGs, growth rates (%)

	Growth rate, quarter compared to previous quarter, seasonally adjusted						Growth rate, year on year, gross data					
	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00
EU-15	0.3	0.3	1.5	1.0	-0.3	0.6	0.8	0.2	2.5	3.1	2.5	2.5
EUR-11	0.2	0.4	1.3	1.1	-0.4	0.8	0.8	0.3	2.5	3.1	2.5	2.5
B	1.1	1.0	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.5	3.5	2.5	5.1	4.6	3.9	2.9
DK	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.6	1.0	-0.9	2.9	4.8	2.6	2.0
D	-0.1	0.2	1.6	0.6	0.2	-0.1	0.7	-0.2	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.3
I	0.9	0.7	1.5	0.1	-2.4	2.9	1.4	1.3	5.6	3.2	-0.1	1.8
L	0.1	1.3	1.3	1.5	2.0	0.6	2.8	2.6	4.4	4.3	6.6	5.3
NL	1.0	0.6	0.6	1.0	1.1	1.2	2.9	2.9	3.1	3.1	3.3	4.0
A	-0.2	0.5	1.0	0.4	0.9	0.5	1.2	0.8	1.4	1.6	2.8	2.8
P	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.1	2.3	1.5	2.7	3.7	4.3	2.5
FIN	2.3	1.7	1.6	2.1	-0.3	2.0	3.6	4.0	6.8	8.4	4.8	5.5

Table 8: Wages and salaries index for total industry, growth rates (%)
No data available for Member States not included in the table.

EU-15 labour input indices for industrial Divisions of the NACE classification

NACE Rev. 1 heading (code)	Employment						Hours worked						Wages and salaries					
	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00	Q3-99	Q4-99	Q1-00	Q2-00	Q3-00	Q4-00
Mining of coal and lignite 10	63.8	62.3	60.8	59.0	57.3	55.1	67.4	66.5	64.2	60.7	57.7	54.4	84.7	85.4	86.0	87.0	85.0	82.1
Gas and oil extraction 11	105.3	101.8	101.7	103.0	103.1	102.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Uranium & thorium mining 12	25.2	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Other non-metallic mining 14	94.2	91.8	91.5	92.2	89.9	90.1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Food and beverages 15	100.0	100.2	100.3	100.6	100.9	101.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Tobacco 16	99.8	96.8	100.3	100.8	100.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Textiles 17	89.6	88.4	88.2	87.9	87.1	86.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	98.8	98.3	99.2	99.1	99.2	98.5
Clothing 18	81.6	80.4	79.1	77.8	76.2	74.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Leather products 19	83.6	82.5	82.7	79.6	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Wood products 20	99.5	99.6	100.9	102.0	102.8	103.2	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Pulp & paper 21	94.7	94.1	94.3	94.3	94.5	94.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Publishing & printing 22	102.0	101.9	102.0	101.4	101.7	102.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Fuel products 23	85.9	85.8	84.8	81.7	81.0	79.5	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Chemicals 24	96.6	96.5	96.2	95.9	96.0	95.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	106.7	106.9	108.3	108.9	109.2	109.8
Rubber & plastic 25	101.0	101.5	102.4	103.4	103.2	102.9	:	:	:	:	:	:	110.9	111.8	112.7	114.0	113.7	115.0
Non-metallic minerals 26	94.5	94.9	95.5	95.9	95.9	96.2	:	:	:	:	:	:	104.2	104.2	105.4	106.1	106.7	107.5
Basic metals 27	94.0	92.9	93.1	93.4	93.7	94.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	104.3	105.0	106.1	107.7	108.9	108.8
Metal products 28	101.4	101.7	101.9	102.0	102.2	102.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	110.1	109.5	110.1	111.2	111.5	113.3
Machinery 29	97.5	97.4	97.6	97.7	97.5	97.3	98.1	98.3	101.4	98.2	97.9	97.4	108.0	107.8	108.9	109.8	110.2	111.5
Office machinery 30	98.5	98.3	98.0	96.9	98.5	100.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Electrical machinery 31	97.5	96.7	96.6	97.1	97.8	98.6	98.0	98.8	99.2	98.7	98.4	98.6	103.2	103.9	105.4	105.8	105.9	107.0
Radio/TV/communication 32	100.8	102.1	103.4	103.9	105.1	106.1	:	:	:	:	:	:	112.9	114.7	116.9	118.3	120.3	121.5
Medical and optical 33	99.9	99.2	99.2	99.0	100.3	101.9	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Motor vehicles 34	105.0	105.1	105.7	105.7	106.2	106.6	:	:	:	:	:	:	116.4	117.6	118.7	120.6	121.0	121.8
Other transport 35	97.7	97.4	96.7	96.7	95.9	95.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Furniture & other manf. 36	97.9	98.6	99.0	99.0	98.9	99.1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Recycling 37	111.5	114.0	124.1	123.9	122.9	121.1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Energy/hot water supply 40	88.0	86.9	85.7	85.2	85.1	84.5	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Water 41	89.5	89.1	90.7	89.9	89.7	89.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Construction 45	102.5	102.7	103.5	103.7	102.9	102.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	100.7	101.5	102.6	103.5	:	:

Table 9: Indices for the EU, seasonally adjusted, 1995 = 100

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Labour Input Indices shown in this publication represent in general the evolution of the labour market in the economy. Business statistics aim at providing information for the analysis of the economic cycle.

The Short Term Business Statistics unit of Eurostat (D3/EBT) handles in particular the following three indicators:

The **number of persons employed index** monitors the development of employment in industry and services in terms of total numbers. This indicator can be approximated by the number of employees.

The **hours worked index** shows the development in the total volume of work done.

Lastly, it is the objective of the **wages and salaries index** to show the evolution of the total amounts of wages and salaries paid.

The legal basis for the labour indicators is the Council Regulation No 1165/98 of 19th of May 1998 concerning short-term statistics, which is currently in the process of implementation.

Employment index

The number of persons employed is defined as the total number of persons working in an observation unit (inclusive of working proprietors, partners working regularly in the unit and unpaid family workers), as well as persons who work outside the unit who belong to it and are paid by it (e.g. sales representatives, delivery personnel, repair and maintenance teams). It includes persons absent for a short period (e.g. sick leave, paid leave or special leave), and also those on strike, but not those absent for an indefinite period. It also includes part-time workers who are regarded as such under the laws of the country concerned and who are on the payroll, as well as seasonal

workers, apprentices and home workers on the payroll. The number of persons employed excludes manpower supplied to the unit by other enterprises, persons carrying out repair and maintenance work in the observation unit on behalf of other enterprises, as well as those on compulsory military service.

Hours worked index

The total number of hours worked by employees represents the aggregate number of hours actually worked producing output of the observation unit during the reference period. This variable excludes hours paid but not actually worked such as for annual leave, holidays and sickness leave. It also excludes meal breaks and commuting between home and work. Included are hours actually worked during normal working hours; hours worked in addition to those; time which is spent at the place of work on tasks such as preparing the site and time corresponding to short periods of rest at the work place. If the exact number of hours actually worked is not known, it may be estimated on the basis of the theoretical number of working hours and the average rate of absences (sickness, maternity, etc.).

Wages and salaries index

Wages and salaries include all gratuities, bonuses, ex gratia payments, 13th month payments, severance payments, lodging, transport, cost-of-living, and family allowances, tips, commission, attendance fees, etc. received by employees, as well as taxes, social security contributions and other amounts payable by employees and withheld at source by the employer. Payments for agency workers are not included in wages and salaries.

Related indices

This publication on labour input variables supplements the Eurostat publications on labour costs. In addition, the National Accounts contain information on the labour

input variables.

The **labour cost index** aims at providing information on the evolution of labour costs and thus has a different focus compared to the labour input variables of business statistics. For many Member States the actual source for the labour cost index is, at least partly, business statistics. Some Member States base themselves on the data from National Accounts, administrative employer files or separate earnings survey. A mixture of different sources might also be used.

The **National Accounts** provide information on labour input variables but in physical as well as in value forms. These variables complement other National Accounts aggregates and therefore need to be fully consistent with them. Business statistics are used by many Member States for short-term analysis in the context of quarterly National Accounts, in addition to information from labour force surveys. When revising these estimates later, more administrative data is taken into account.

Please note that the different sources may show some variations due to different practices of revisions, seasonal adjustment, characteristics of data sources, and aggregation methods.

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Further information:

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Title Monthly Panorama of European Business
 Catalogue No KS-AM-01-000-EN-C Price EUR 162

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