

Developments for retail trade

during the first quarter of 2004

Statistics in focus

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND SERVICES

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Author
Marcel Laveyry

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During the first quarter of 2004, the volume of sales index for retail trade (excluding repair) grew in the EU-25, EU-15 and the euro-zone at a faster pace than at any time during 2003 (on the basis of a comparison with the quarter before). In the EU-25, sales volumes rose by 0.8 %, which was twice the rate registered during the last quarter of 2003. A similar growth rate was recorded in the EU-15 (0.9 %), while the volume of sales grew at a slower pace in the euro-zone (0.6 %), ending nonetheless three consecutive quarter on quarter decreases.

Compared to the same quarter of the year before, sales volumes rose by 1.8 % in both the EU-25 and the EU-15 during the first quarter of 2004. Nevertheless, in the euro-zone, the volume of sales index was almost unchanged, increasing by 0.1 %.

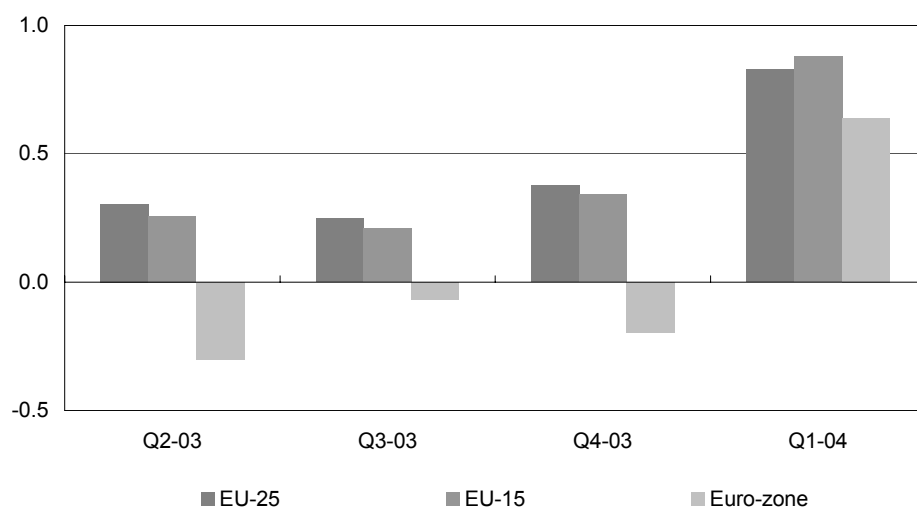


Figure 1: Volume of sales index for retail trade, seasonally adjusted data, growth rates compared to the previous quarter (%)

Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data				Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data			
	EU-25	EU-15	Euro-zone		EU-25	EU-15	Euro-zone
Q2-03	0.3	0.3	-0.3	Q2-03	1.6	1.5	0.8
Q3-03	0.2	0.2	-0.1	Q3-03	0.7	0.6	-0.4
Q4-03	0.4	0.3	-0.2	Q4-03	0.9	0.7	-0.5
Q1-04	0.8	0.9	0.6	Q1-04	1.8	1.8	0.1

Table 1: Volume of sales index for retail trade, growth rates (%)



Volume of sales index for retail trade

The EU-25's volume of sales index for food products grew by 0.7 % during the first quarter of 2004 (compared to the quarter before), while the corresponding figure for non-food products was 0.9 %. There was particularly strong growth for the retail sale of household equipment and books, newspapers and sales in other specialised stores, where rates for the EU-25 and the EU-15 were close to 1.5 % (compared to the quarter before) and between 3.4 % and 4.0 % (when compared to a year before). While there were comparable quarter on quarter growth rates for household equipment in the euro-zone (1.7 %), the same was not true for books, newspapers and sales in other specialised stores (0.4 %).

		Weights (% of total)	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
			Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04
Retail trade	EU-25	100.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.5	1.4	1.6	0.7	0.9	1.8
	EU-15	100.0	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.9	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.6	0.7	1.8
	Euro-zone	100.0	-0.3	0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	0.6	0.0	1.0	0.8	-0.4	-0.5	0.1
Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco	EU-25	43.9	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.7	1.9	2.2	2.4	1.8	0.7	1.2
	EU-15	44.0	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.4	-0.2	0.7	1.9	2.3	2.4	1.8	0.5	1.1
	Euro-zone	43.7	0.8	0.3	-0.4	0.5	-0.5	0.5	1.5	2.0	1.9	1.3	-0.2	0.2
Retail sale of non-food products	EU-25	56.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.8	1.0	-0.2	0.9	2.2
	EU-15	56.0	-0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.9	-0.5	0.7	2.2
	Euro-zone	56.3	-1.0	0.3	-0.5	-0.6	0.1	0.5	-1.2	0.1	0.0	-1.9	-0.8	-0.1
of which,														
Textiles, clothing, footwear & leather goods	EU-25	10.5	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	-0.5	0.5	1.1	1.5	0.7	0.7	-1.2	-0.4	1.3
	EU-15	10.9	-0.5	-0.5	0.2	-0.5	0.5	1.1	1.5	0.6	0.6	-1.4	-0.6	1.3
	Euro-zone	10.6	-1.5	-0.9	-0.7	-1.9	-0.2	0.5	-1.6	-1.3	-1.7	-5.0	-3.7	-2.2
Household equipment	EU-25	14.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.9	0.3	0.6	1.5	0.3	0.7	1.6	0.9	1.5	3.6
	EU-15	14.3	-0.2	-0.2	0.8	0.2	0.6	1.5	0.1	0.7	1.5	0.6	1.3	3.4
	Euro-zone	14.8	-1.0	0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	1.7	-2.7	0.2	0.0	-1.0	-0.3	1.5
Books, newspapers and sale in specialised stores	EU-25	12.6	-0.3	0.0	0.6	0.2	1.0	1.4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.1	1.7	3.8
	EU-15	12.2	-0.4	-0.2	0.6	0.1	1.1	1.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.4	1.4	4.0
	Euro-zone	12.1	-1.2	0.2	-0.2	-1.0	0.3	0.4	-2.4	-0.7	-0.7	-2.5	-0.7	-0.2

Table 2: Volume of sales index, growth rates (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04
EU-25	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.5	1.4	1.6	0.7	0.9	1.8
EU-15	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.9	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.6	0.7	1.8
Euro-zone	-0.3	0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	0.6	0.0	1.0	0.8	-0.4	-0.5	0.1
BE	-0.7	-0.3	0.2	-0.5	-0.1	0.8	-1.3	-1.0	-0.2	-1.5	-0.5	0.4
CZ	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.6	0.5	0.6	1.9	2.3	3.9	5.2	3.5	2.7
DK	0.6	1.3	0.9	0.6	1.2	2.1	3.6	2.8	4.2	3.9	4.1	5.4
DE	-0.8	0.4	-0.1	-1.3	-0.7	-0.2	-1.8	0.2	0.3	-1.9	-1.9	-2.3
EE	1.0	-7.6	3.3	3.4	2.5	3.4	14.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.2	1.3	13.0
EL	1.7	1.2	-0.1	2.6	0.4	1.8	5.9	6.7	2.6	6.0	3.4	4.9
ES	-0.8	1.4	1.6	0.1	1.3	1.4	0.5	1.9	4.0	2.4	4.5	4.4
FR	0.5	0.2	-0.3	0.1	0.4	0.9	1.4	2.2	0.7	0.8	-0.1	1.6
IE	2.3	-1.8	2.0	-1.2	3.3	-0.7	0.8	2.1	3.7	1.2	2.4	3.3
IT	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	0.0	-0.3	0.5	-0.9	-1.3	-1.9
CY	-0.3	1.1	-1.4	2.3	1.0	:	-3.7	-0.8	-4.8	1.8	3.4	:
LV	3.1	1.8	4.2	3.8	4.0	1.1	20.4	11.3	12.3	13.8	16.2	13.0
LT	1.8	2.1	3.1	3.8	6.9	-0.7	6.9	5.5	8.9	12.7	16.2	14.0
LU	4.1	0.4	0.2	-1.6	3.7	:	6.8	5.9	3.9	3.2	3.2	:
HU	1.6	4.2	1.0	2.4	2.9	-0.7	7.6	10.1	6.6	8.9	10.0	6.0
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	0.1	-1.2	-3.0	-0.7	-0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4	-3.2	-4.9	-5.2	-3.2
AT	0.1	1.3	0.3	-2.9	0.5	1.6	0.1	0.9	2.9	-1.1	-1.1	-0.5
PL	-0.1	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.5	-0.2	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.8	1.4	1.1
PT	-3.3	0.3	-1.2	1.2	-2.6	2.9	-3.1	-3.2	-1.9	-2.8	-2.3	0.3
SI	0.0	0.1	0.5	3.1	-0.7	-0.5	1.7	1.5	3.6	3.8	3.0	2.3
SK	1.1	-6.8	0.7	-0.6	3.0	0.5	5.6	-6.7	-6.1	-6.3	-2.9	3.7
FI	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.6	0.6	2.0	2.5	4.0	2.6	4.2	4.0	5.1
SE	1.4	0.2	2.6	0.8	0.9	1.4	5.8	3.7	4.8	5.1	4.4	5.7
UK	1.1	-1.1	1.8	1.2	1.7	1.7	5.6	2.5	3.3	2.9	3.6	6.5
BG	1.7	-0.8	3.1	2.7	2.7	4.3	9.7	4.0	6.3	6.8	7.6	13.9
RO	-0.7	0.4	3.1	2.4	3.3	:	-0.1	3.6	4.4	4.8	8.7	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 3: Volume of sales index for retail trade, growth rates (%)

Volume of sales index for food and non-food retailers

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04
EU-25	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	-0.1	0.7	1.9	2.2	2.4	1.8	0.7	1.2
EU-15	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.4	-0.2	0.7	1.9	2.3	2.4	1.8	0.5	1.1
Euro-zone	0.8	0.3	-0.4	0.5	-0.5	0.5	1.5	2.0	1.9	1.3	-0.2	0.2
BE	0.7	-0.8	1.1	-0.3	0.2	2.4	2.4	2.9	1.1	0.7	0.0	3.3
CZ	1.5	1.2	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.3	3.3	2.9	4.6	3.9	4.1	2.5
DK	-0.3	3.0	0.0	0.6	-0.3	1.0	-1.6	2.1	4.2	3.3	2.8	1.3
DE	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.2	-1.4	-0.3	1.0	2.1	1.8	1.5	-0.8	-1.2
EE	3.7	-3.6	3.7	5.2	2.4	1.7	20.9	10.8	8.9	9.4	7.9	13.5
EL	0.1	2.0	-0.6	3.0	2.4	1.0	7.0	7.8	1.2	4.7	7.7	6.2
ES	0.5	1.2	0.2	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.5	2.8	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.4
FR	1.3	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.5	2.1	1.5	0.7	1.2	-1.6	-0.1
IE	1.4	-2.3	2.0	-0.3	3.2	-1.4	2.6	0.9	3.5	0.7	2.6	3.4
IT	0.9	0.5	0.2	-0.7	-0.2	-0.2	1.7	2.1	3.9	0.6	-0.3	-0.9
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	4.3	2.6	4.4	3.7	5.2	-0.3	26.2	16.2	16.7	16.3	17.6	13.7
LT	0.8	4.0	1.7	6.9	1.8	1.9	8.0	8.3	6.0	14.3	15.2	12.7
LU	4.4	0.7	0.2	-0.5	3.2	:	10.1	9.5	7.9	4.6	3.9	:
HU	2.8	4.4	1.4	-1.2	1.5	1.0	11.4	8.6	11.4	7.3	6.2	2.7
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	0.2	0.7	1.1	1.5	0.1	-0.9	-0.8	0.2
AT	0.3	2.8	1.0	-3.4	0.5	2.2	2.3	2.5	3.1	0.6	1.1	0.4
PL	-0.7	-0.7	0.2	0.5	1.4	0.3	-2.4	-3.7	-2.6	-0.6	1.6	2.6
PT	-1.7	0.6	-0.6	1.1	-3.2	2.4	-2.1	-0.8	1.0	-0.6	-2.2	-0.7
SI	1.7	-1.8	-1.2	0.6	0.0	2.3	0.2	-1.0	-0.2	-0.8	-2.3	1.6
SK	1.7	0.2	-5.7	-3.5	-2.4	0.2	-12.4	-4.8	-5.8	-7.1	-11.0	-10.6
FI	0.5	1.0	0.6	0.7	-0.1	2.2	2.7	3.1	3.3	3.0	2.1	3.4
SE	0.3	0.7	1.9	-1.0	-0.3	1.0	2.7	2.5	3.9	1.8	1.1	1.5
UK	0.8	0.3	1.3	0.8	0.5	1.5	3.4	3.0	3.7	3.2	2.9	4.2
BG	1.9	-1.9	3.5	2.4	2.0	2.5	12.3	2.0	5.5	6.3	6.5	10.8
RO	-0.9	0.1	1.1	1.1	3.3	:	-8.7	2.3	1.9	-1.0	2.0	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 4: Volume of sales index for food retailers, growth rates (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04
EU-25	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.8	1.0	-0.2	0.9	2.2
EU-15	-0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.9	-0.5	0.7	2.2
Euro-zone	-1.0	0.3	-0.5	-0.6	0.1	0.5	-1.2	0.1	0.0	-1.9	-0.8	-0.1
BE	-2.8	1.5	-1.7	-0.7	0.0	-1.6	-4.1	-3.7	-1.3	-3.5	-0.8	-4.0
CZ	0.8	1.2	1.2	2.0	0.2	0.9	1.0	1.9	3.3	6.2	3.2	3.0
DK	1.5	0.0	2.4	0.0	1.8	3.7	5.6	3.6	4.3	3.7	3.7	7.7
DE	-1.6	0.4	-0.4	-2.4	-0.2	-0.2	-3.5	-1.1	-0.6	-4.1	-2.5	-3.0
EE	-1.2	-13.3	4.5	2.5	3.2	3.0	9.3	-10.4	-8.5	-8.3	-4.0	13.8
EL	3.2	0.1	-0.3	2.3	-1.9	2.8	4.7	5.1	2.8	6.1	-1.4	3.3
ES	-1.6	1.3	2.5	-0.3	1.8	1.3	1.5	2.1	4.9	2.0	5.4	5.5
FR	-0.3	0.8	-0.4	0.3	1.2	1.5	0.7	3.0	0.8	0.3	1.6	3.4
IE	-0.7	0.4	-0.3	1.1	0.4	0.7	-3.0	0.8	1.7	0.5	1.5	2.0
IT	-0.1	-0.5	-1.6	-0.7	0.4	-0.6	-1.3	-1.8	-1.3	-2.3	-3.0	-2.9
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	7.3	-3.9	3.9	6.1	8.8	-6.9	13.1	8.7	7.3	13.2	14.4	12.7
LT	2.6	-1.1	5.4	3.4	8.9	-3.5	7.4	3.2	13.2	10.8	15.9	15.6
LU	3.9	1.3	-1.3	-1.7	4.1	:	4.3	3.4	1.0	2.2	2.8	:
HU	1.4	4.5	1.0	3.0	3.0	2.2	4.9	7.5	6.0	10.2	12.4	9.4
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-0.1	-2.0	-4.1	-1.1	-0.1	0.8	0.5	-0.8	-5.3	-7.2	-7.1	-4.4
AT	0.0	0.8	-0.1	-2.7	0.7	1.1	-0.9	0.2	2.7	-2.1	-1.5	-1.1
PL	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.1	-0.4	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.5	1.4	0.3
PT	-4.3	0.0	-1.6	1.3	-2.1	3.3	-3.9	-5.0	-4.2	-4.5	-2.4	0.9
SI	-0.5	3.3	1.8	3.5	0.5	-1.5	3.8	4.8	8.2	9.3	9.7	3.3
SK	4.0	-14.1	4.1	0.7	8.7	-6.0	13.2	-7.4	-6.4	-6.7	-1.0	6.7
FI	0.7	1.6	1.1	1.7	0.6	2.8	2.6	4.7	2.3	5.3	5.0	6.3
SE	2.3	0.1	3.0	2.2	1.6	2.4	8.5	4.8	5.5	8.0	7.0	9.3
UK	1.3	-2.0	2.3	1.3	2.4	2.2	7.1	2.1	3.0	2.7	4.1	8.5
BG	1.7	0.0	2.7	2.8	3.3	5.2	8.3	5.3	6.8	7.1	8.2	15.8
RO	-0.2	0.7	4.0	3.9	4.0	:	6.7	4.8	6.3	8.9	13.2	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 5: Volume of sales index for non-food retailers, growth rates (%)

Volume of sales index for selected non-food retailers

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04
EU-25	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	-0.5	0.5	1.1	1.5	0.7	0.7	-1.2	-0.4	1.3
EU-15	-0.5	-0.5	0.2	-0.5	0.5	1.1	1.5	0.6	0.6	-1.4	-0.6	1.3
Euro-zone	-1.5	-0.9	-0.7	-1.9	-0.2	0.5	-1.6	-1.3	-1.7	-5.0	-3.7	-2.2
BE	-1.6	-0.7	-3.5	1.2	-1.0	2.5	-7.6	-4.7	-7.9	-4.5	-3.8	-1.5
CZ	0.3	3.1	2.7	1.9	-0.6	4.4	-1.9	-0.4	5.3	8.6	4.5	8.5
DK	1.6	1.9	-0.3	1.9	-0.3	:	3.6	3.6	2.3	5.0	2.6	:
DE	-0.9	-1.4	-0.6	-4.0	-1.5	1.4	-3.6	-3.6	-2.5	-7.3	-6.7	-5.0
EE	4.9	12.2	6.2	10.0	-1.9	-12.6	42.0	25.5	18.6	37.8	29.4	-0.4
EL	4.6	-2.3	4.1	-0.2	-3.7	1.4	3.9	-3.3	10.5	7.8	-4.9	0.6
ES	-3.7	-1.0	2.5	-2.0	1.7	-0.1	-1.5	-2.7	1.5	-4.0	1.4	2.3
FR	-1.6	0.5	-2.1	-0.2	1.4	0.3	0.1	4.2	-1.5	-4.2	-1.0	-0.3
IE	-2.1	12.7	-6.6	2.7	-6.2	19.1	4.6	10.0	7.3	14.0	6.3	7.3
IT	-0.6	-1.0	-0.8	-1.1	-1.1	-1.0	-1.8	-3.1	-1.7	-3.4	-4.3	-3.6
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	7.0	17.9	-0.6	11.8	8.0	5.2	3.3	39.4	29.8	41.4	40.0	26.9
LT	6.4	2.9	2.9	7.2	5.8	6.0	39.8	30.1	16.9	21.6	20.0	25.7
LU	4.5	-0.5	4.0	-9.1	6.3	:	5.6	-1.4	-0.6	-1.5	0.0	:
HU	3.0	10.4	-1.8	1.9	1.4	2.9	2.8	21.5	11.9	13.2	10.5	5.1
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	0.1	-1.4	-4.9	-2.7	0.7	0.6	4.2	0.9	-5.3	-8.9	-7.9	-6.0
AT	0.6	-2.1	-1.8	-4.2	1.4	2.1	0.6	-3.0	-0.5	-7.1	-6.6	-2.7
PL	-0.4	-0.6	-0.7	-0.8	-0.9	-1.0	-1.1	-1.6	-2.0	-2.3	-2.8	-3.4
PT	-14.1	9.9	-5.8	1.7	-5.7	12.0	-7.8	-6.7	0.5	-9.0	-0.6	0.7
SI	-1.9	1.2	6.5	5.4	3.0	:	20.4	9.4	14.9	13.7	17.4	:
SK	31.1	16.6	1.0	-4.7	24.2	-30.9	-59.4	12.3	40.6	47.1	38.0	-18.2
FI	2.8	-0.6	-1.8	4.9	-0.4	:	4.1	2.6	-2.7	5.5	1.9	:
SE	2.1	0.7	-0.8	4.8	-1.5	4.2	6.6	3.2	-0.1	7.3	2.7	6.0
UK	1.1	1.9	2.0	1.2	1.8	4.4	9.1	5.6	6.9	6.2	6.6	9.8
BG	-1.2	-0.2	2.6	3.0	0.0	3.9	13.2	3.6	5.1	4.2	5.4	9.2
RO	-1.5	-0.2	4.1	-3.4	1.4	:	-1.4	5.8	11.0	-2.3	0.8	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 6: Volume of sales index for textiles, clothing, footwear & leather goods retailers, growth rates (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04
EU-25	-0.1	-0.2	0.9	0.3	0.6	1.5	0.3	0.7	1.6	0.9	1.5	3.6
EU-15	-0.2	-0.2	0.8	0.2	0.6	1.5	0.1	0.7	1.5	0.6	1.3	3.4
Euro-zone	-1.0	0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	1.7	-2.7	0.2	0.0	-1.0	-0.3	1.5
BE	-1.8	0.3	0.0	-0.3	-0.9	3.2	-6.6	0.6	1.1	-1.8	-1.1	2.2
CZ	1.2	0.0	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.0	3.1	0.4	4.0	7.7	4.7	5.1
DK	-0.6	-3.4	3.2	0.3	2.2	:	4.2	-1.5	1.9	-0.9	1.7	:
DE	-2.3	1.9	-0.4	-2.4	-0.1	2.0	-7.5	0.0	0.4	-3.1	-1.7	-0.2
EE	0.3	-9.0	4.4	5.2	4.2	5.9	14.9	-9.9	-4.0	0.7	4.5	21.0
EL	1.0	2.5	-2.4	2.6	0.8	2.7	2.9	13.9	-1.7	3.6	1.6	5.6
ES	0.2	1.3	1.9	1.9	1.1	2.6	2.1	2.6	5.4	5.5	6.7	7.4
FR	-0.2	0.9	0.3	0.9	1.4	2.5	0.6	2.4	1.6	1.6	3.8	6.8
IE	-1.4	1.2	-1.5	-0.4	3.6	-1.3	-5.8	-1.4	-1.3	-2.1	-2.6	0.2
IT	0.2	0.2	-1.2	-1.9	-0.3	-0.9	-1.0	-1.7	-1.6	-2.0	-2.8	-4.9
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	2.5	-0.5	10.3	9.5	10.8	-12.2	14.3	7.0	16.2	22.2	30.3	19.6
LT	10.7	18.0	10.8	8.0	9.5	3.3	6.1	29.9	52.1	53.9	54.9	36.7
LU	4.2	0.0	-1.6	-1.2	5.5	:	4.7	2.6	-0.6	1.3	2.7	:
HU	2.5	4.0	1.9	1.6	4.8	2.8	2.8	4.4	5.5	9.3	12.2	10.8
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-1.6	-1.7	-2.8	-1.2	-1.7	0.4	-1.5	-1.4	-5.7	-7.2	-8.0	-4.6
AT	-0.9	-0.7	2.1	-2.8	-1.4	3.5	-4.6	-3.1	0.8	-2.4	-2.7	1.2
PL	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.1
PT	-1.1	-5.9	0.0	2.0	-1.0	-1.5	-5.0	-9.7	-9.4	-5.1	-4.9	-0.5
SI	4.9	0.7	2.3	6.2	2.3	:	12.7	9.1	15.0	14.8	11.7	:
SK	13.2	-41.6	29.5	9.7	8.2	30.1	38.0	-27.4	-9.7	-6.5	-11.1	100.4
FI	-0.2	1.2	4.0	1.1	3.2	:	1.9	4.1	3.3	6.2	9.7	:
SE	1.9	0.9	4.9	1.5	2.1	1.8	7.1	4.3	7.4	9.5	9.6	10.2
UK	2.0	-1.5	2.8	1.6	1.9	2.1	9.3	1.9	6.1	5.0	5.3	8.6
BG	4.1	4.0	4.5	3.9	3.6	3.1	19.5	16.2	18.9	18.3	18.1	15.2
RO	5.0	14.2	14.3	12.2	3.2	:	12.8	24.9	32.0	53.2	54.8	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 7: Volume of sales index for household equipment retailers, growth rates (%)

Volume of sales index for selected non-food retailers (continued)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04
EU-25	-0.3	0.0	0.6	0.2	1.0	1.4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.1	1.7	3.8
EU-15	-0.4	-0.2	0.6	0.1	1.1	1.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.4	1.4	4.0
Euro-zone	-1.2	0.2	-0.2	-1.0	0.3	0.4	-2.4	-0.7	-0.7	-2.5	-0.7	-0.2
BE	-1.6	0.1	-1.5	-0.6	-0.4	-0.6	-1.6	-2.7	-3.0	-5.1	-0.9	-3.5
CZ	-0.2	1.9	-0.5	2.2	-1.5	1.3	-1.6	2.0	0.0	4.7	-1.1	1.3
DK	7.5	1.6	2.7	4.6	3.9	:	20.3	22.2	17.8	16.9	12.0	:
DE	-2.8	0.1	0.0	-0.9	0.6	-2.1	-5.2	-4.5	-2.4	-3.4	-0.2	-2.7
EE	-0.5	-7.8	6.5	-2.6	7.9	8.2	18.5	0.0	4.1	-5.4	3.3	21.7
EL	2.4	1.8	3.2	0.6	-0.2	3.0	3.3	7.4	11.4	8.8	3.1	6.4
ES	-2.4	2.5	1.9	-1.9	3.1	1.4	-4.5	1.8	2.8	-1.1	5.3	5.2
FR	0.0	1.0	-0.6	-0.5	0.9	1.8	-0.7	3.1	0.9	-0.3	-0.1	2.1
IE	0.4	-0.8	0.6	0.3	0.9	-1.0	-4.5	1.2	1.5	0.1	0.6	0.8
IT	-0.2	-1.2	-0.7	-2.1	0.3	-0.6	-1.8	-3.5	-2.7	-3.6	-4.0	-2.9
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	9.4	-1.2	1.1	3.0	8.0	-3.6	35.1	8.5	4.7	12.3	10.4	8.9
LT	-5.8	-3.7	6.4	-4.4	-0.3	6.5	5.3	-3.1	10.1	-8.1	-1.9	8.3
LU	1.9	4.7	-6.5	7.3	-2.7	:	0.1	5.8	-3.1	7.3	2.3	:
HU	-0.8	10.1	2.8	2.5	3.5	1.9	4.4	1.6	5.2	13.1	20.8	10.8
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-1.6	-3.1	-3.6	-2.5	-0.3	-1.3	-1.5	-4.1	-8.6	-11.1	-8.8	-7.2
AT	0.6	4.6	-1.9	-3.0	1.4	0.6	3.0	2.9	6.6	0.0	0.8	-2.3
PL	0.6	1.5	1.7	0.3	0.3	-1.3	3.3	4.0	4.9	4.2	4.2	0.9
PT	-4.8	0.9	-0.5	-1.5	-5.2	5.4	-5.9	-6.7	-3.5	-5.5	-6.1	-1.8
SI	-1.8	-0.9	3.7	6.9	1.2	:	7.5	3.9	5.3	8.7	11.3	:
SK	0.4	-3.4	7.0	4.4	12.6	-28.5	-11.0	-2.2	11.5	8.4	21.6	-9.9
FI	2.6	0.7	1.6	1.0	-1.1	:	5.5	6.4	3.7	6.0	1.9	:
SE	1.9	-1.0	4.3	2.6	3.1	3.6	12.4	6.4	9.3	8.0	9.1	14.3
UK	1.5	-0.5	1.1	1.4	3.3	5.5	4.1	-0.2	0.0	3.3	5.4	12.1
BG	0.3	-2.1	0.8	2.5	4.7	10.8	1.4	-0.1	1.2	1.0	3.1	21.7
RO	-0.1	-4.0	3.2	0.4	0.6	:	11.7	-1.1	2.1	-0.3	-0.9	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 8: Volume of sales index for books, newspapers and other specialised retailers, growth rates (%)

The difference between EU-25 and EU-15 rates on the one hand, and euro-zone rates on the other could be largely explained by the evolution of the volume of sales in the United Kingdom. For the whole of retail trade, Germany registered its fourth consecutive quarter on quarter decline (-0.2 % in the first quarter of 2004), although the pace at which sales volumes declined was reduced from -1.3 % in the third quarter of 2003 and -0.7 % in the final quarter of 2003. In Italy there have been five consecutive negative quarter on quarter rates, the last four of which were either -0.3 % or -0.4 %. The trend of declining sales volumes was most apparent in the first quarter of 2004 in Germany for the sale of books, newspapers and other specialised retailers (-2.1 % compared to the quarter before), while in Italy there were reductions of around 1 % for the volume of sales of textiles, clothing, footwear & leather goods and household equipment.

These figures can be contrasted with relatively high growth rates for sales volumes in Spain and the United Kingdom from the second quarter of 2003 to the first quarter of 2004. Sales volumes rose by between 1.2 % and 1.8 % in the United Kingdom during this period, with the latest quarter on quarter rate equal to 1.7 %. There was a marked increase in the pace at which sales volumes were rising for the sale of books, newspapers and other specialised retailers in the United Kingdom, with growth of 5.5 % recorded in the first quarter of 2004; this figure can be compared with a change of -0.5 % that was recorded in the first quarter of 2003. In Spain the volume of sales rose by between 1.3 % and 1.6 % in four of the last five quarters (other than growth of 0.1 % in the third quarter of 2003). The highest growth rates in Spain in the first quarter of 2004 were registered for the sale of household equipment, where volumes increased by 2.6 % on the basis of a comparison with the quarter before.

The volume of sales in France increased from a low of -0.3 % in the second quarter of 2003, turning positive in the third quarter (0.1 %) and subsequently accelerating such that by the first quarter of 2004 retail sales were expanding by 0.9 %. The highest growth rates in France in the first quarter of 2004 were registered for the sale of household equipment, up by 2.5 % compared to the quarter before.

Employment index for retail trade

Although there was a clear pick-up in the volume of sales towards the end of 2003 and into the first quarter of 2004, there was little evidence of a change in the rate of employment growth in the retail trade sector. In the final quarter of 2003 employment grew by 0.5 % in both the EU-25 and EU-15, compared to the previous quarter, while in the euro-zone growth was slightly lower (0.4 %).

Compared to the same quarter of a year before, employment growth for retail trade was relatively stable during the whole of 2003, ranging between 1.3 % and 1.6 % in the EU-25, between 1.5 % and 1.9 % in the EU-15 and 2.1 % and 2.5 % in the euro-zone.

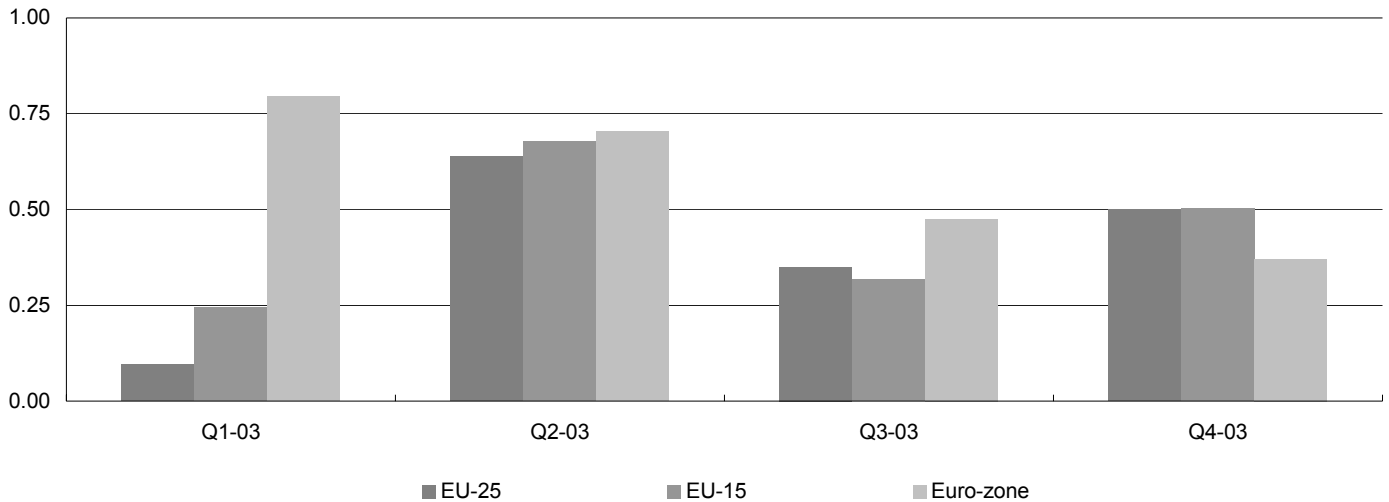


Figure 2: Employment index for retail trade, seasonally adjusted data, growth rates compared to the previous quarter (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, gross data					
	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q4-02	Q1-03	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04
EU-25	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.4	0.5	:	2.1	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.6	:
EU-15	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.5	:	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.8	:
Euro-zone	0.4	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.4	:	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.5	2.3	:
BE (1) (2)	:	:	:	:	:	:	1.8	:	:	:	:	:
CZ	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
DK (1)	1.9	-0.6	3.3	-1.8	-2.4	:	4.9	0.3	4.4	2.8	-1.5	:
DE (1)	-0.6	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	-0.5	-2.4	-2.8	-2.2	-1.8	-1.0	-1.1
EE	3.2	-1.7	1.1	1.6	-0.4	:	4.9	-3.4	-5.8	-5.6	-8.9	:
EL (1) (2)	:	:	:	:	:	:	5.2	3.5	2.0	1.9	1.6	:
ES (1)	1.1	0.6	0.8	1.3	0.5	:	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.8	2.9	:
FR	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.4	1.7	2.7	2.1	2.3	2.9
IE (1)	1.4	1.1	1.6	0.9	2.4	:	4.0	4.7	5.9	4.3	6.0	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	:	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV (1) (2)	:	:	:	:	:	:	3.6	1.8	1.8	2.4	3.3	:
LT (1)	1.9	-0.8	1.9	2.4	1.9	2.0	9.1	2.2	2.3	6.8	7.6	10.1
LU (1)	0.4	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.8	-0.5	-1.5	-0.6	0.4	0.8	1.3	0.9
HU (1)	0.2	0.8	1.3	0.8	0.9	2.3	4.2	3.1	2.7	2.2	3.9	9.6
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL (1)	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	c	0.8	0.4	-0.1	-0.3	-0.7	c
AT (1)	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.2	:	0.3	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.0	:
PL	0.2	-2.1	0.5	0.1	0.2	3.2	6.1	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.7
PT (1)	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.3	-0.2	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.6	-0.1	-0.2
SI (1)	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	2.4	-0.1	-1.3	1.3	-1.7	-0.1
SK	-1.9	-4.8	-5.0	-1.7	-2.9	:	-2.3	-6.8	-10.3	-8.7	-7.3	:
FI (1)	-1.9	0.7	0.9	1.8	-4.7	:	-2.9	-1.3	-0.6	1.5	-1.4	:
SE (1) (2)	:	:	:	:	:	:	-3.0	-2.3	6.8	7.5	2.0	2.0
UK (1)	1.2	-0.7	0.4	-0.1	0.8	:	1.6	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.4	:
BG (1)	2.8	3.8	3.3	1.3	3.2	4.1	7.9	16.1	20.7	20.4	16.3	17.9
RO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 9: Employment index for retail trade, growth rates (%)

(1) Excluding repair (NACE Group 52.7).

(2) The series are not long enough to carry out seasonal adjustment.

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

VOLUME OF SALES

The objective of the **volume of sales index** is to show the quantity of goods sold in the retail trade sector. It is an indicator for final domestic demand and provides information about consumer confidence.

Its **legal basis** is the **Council Regulation for short-term statistics 1165/98 from 19 May 1998**¹, which is currently being implemented. Division 52 of the NACE Rev. 1 classification² covers retailing.

The **volume of sales**³ represents the value of turnover in constant prices and as such it is a quantity index. It **can be calculated as** turnover at current prices, deflated by the deflator of sales, or as a quantity index derived directly from the quantity of goods sold. Turnover comprises the totals invoiced by the observation unit during the reference period. This corresponds to market sales of goods or services supplied to third parties. It includes all duties and taxes on the goods or services invoiced by the unit with the exception of the VAT invoiced by the unit vis-à-vis its customer and other similar deductible taxes directly linked to turnover. Member States are required **to transmit** gross and working-day adjusted data to Eurostat and are encouraged to also send seasonally adjusted and trend data. Eurostat calculates the adjustment only if nationally adjusted data are not available.

Eurostat aggregates working-day adjusted data from the Member States in order **to compile the euro-zone, EU-15 and EU-25 series**. Seasonally adjusted euro-zone, EU-15 and EU-25 series are then produced using TRAMO/SEATS. Missing components for the euro-zone, EU-15 and EU-25 aggregates are estimated using an ARIMA method.

The **reference period** is the calendar month. Aggregate **data should be transmitted to Eurostat no later than two months** after the end of the reference period. More detailed data have to be transmitted within three months. This deadline may be extended by 15 more calendar days for those Member States whose value added in Division 52 of NACE Rev. 1 represents less than 3% of the Community total.

The **weights** used for aggregations are based on information from the Structural Business Statistics database or on information coming directly from the Member States. Weights and base year are revised every five years. **The current base year is 2000.**

EMPLOYMENT INDEX

The index shows the evolution of the number of persons employed in the retail trade sector.

The **legal basis** is again the **Council Regulation for short-term statistics 1165/98** from 19 May 1998.

The index is defined as the total number of persons who work in the observation unit (including working proprietors or partners and unpaid family workers), as well as persons who work outside the unit, but who belong to it and are paid by it (e.g. sales representatives and delivery personnel, repair). Part-time workers are included as well. Excluded is manpower supplied to the unit by other enterprises. Member States can use the number of employees as an approximation of the number of persons employed.

Data shall be **transmitted** to Eurostat at the 2-digit level of NACE Rev. 1 by all Member States. The data are used to produce aggregated indicators for the Community as a whole, and for the group of Member States participating in the euro-zone. **Note that the employment index data refers to NACE Rev. 1 Division 52, whilst that for the volume of sales refers to NACE Rev. 1 Division 52 excluding Group 52.7.**

Member States shall transmit quarterly data. Data should be transmitted not later than three months after the end of the reference period. Those Member States whose value added in Division 52 of NACE Rev. 1 represents less than 3% of the European Community total have 1 month longer to transmit the index.

Member States shall transmit a gross index, although they may also transmit seasonally adjusted and trend-cycle indices. Eurostat publishes nationally adjusted data if available, otherwise, it performs the adjustment itself.

Gross data from Member States are aggregated in order **to compile euro-zone, EU-15 and EU-25 series**. Seasonally adjusted euro-zone, EU-15 and EU-25 series are then produced using the TRAMO & SEATS method. Missing components for euro-zone, EU-15 and EU-25 aggregates are estimated using an ARIMA method. When calculating the data for European aggregates (euro-zone, EU-15 and EU-25) Eurostat makes use of confidential data.

The **weights** for the index come from the Structural Business Statistics database or directly from Member States. Weights and base year are revised every five years. **The current base year is 2000.**

DISSEMINATION

Eurostat publishes detailed data and time series in Theme 4/EBT-domain of NewCronos.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

c confidential
: not available

FURTHER INFORMATION

Marcel Laveyry

Tel.: +352-4301-32146,

Fax: +352-4301-34359,

marcel.laveyry@cec.eu.int

¹ Official Journal No L 162 of 5 June 1998. Also available via the "Business Methods" web-site: <http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/dsis/bmethods/home>. The deadline for the full implementation of the Regulation regarding the indices is mid-2003.

² NACE Rev. 1 - Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community, Eurostat, 1996 (ISBN 92-826-8767-8).

³ This abbreviated version of the definition of the volume of sales index for retail trade is based on the Commission Regulation on the definition of variables.

Further information:

➤ Reference publications

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

➤ Databases

NewCronos, Theme 4, Domain: ebt

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