

Developments for the construction sector

during the first quarter of 2004

Statistics in focus

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND SERVICES

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Author
Digna Amil

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Latest trends

The production volume index for construction in the EU-25 grew by 3.8 % in the first quarter of 2004 when compared to the same period of 2003 (the same growth rate was registered for the EU-15). For building, the EU-25's production index rose by 4.5 %, which was considerably higher than the corresponding growth rate recorded for civil engineering (0.9 %). In the euro-zone the production index for construction increased at a less rapid pace than in the EU-25 or EU-15, as output rose by 1.2 % in the first quarter of 2004 (again compared with the same quarter of a year before). Nevertheless, this was the highest growth rate reported for the euro-zone (using this measure) since the first quarter of 2001.

A quarter-on-quarter comparison confirmed these observations, as production for construction rose by 0.4 % in the EU-25 in the first quarter of 2004 and by 0.6 % in the EU-15, while there was a slight decline of 0.1 % for the euro-zone.

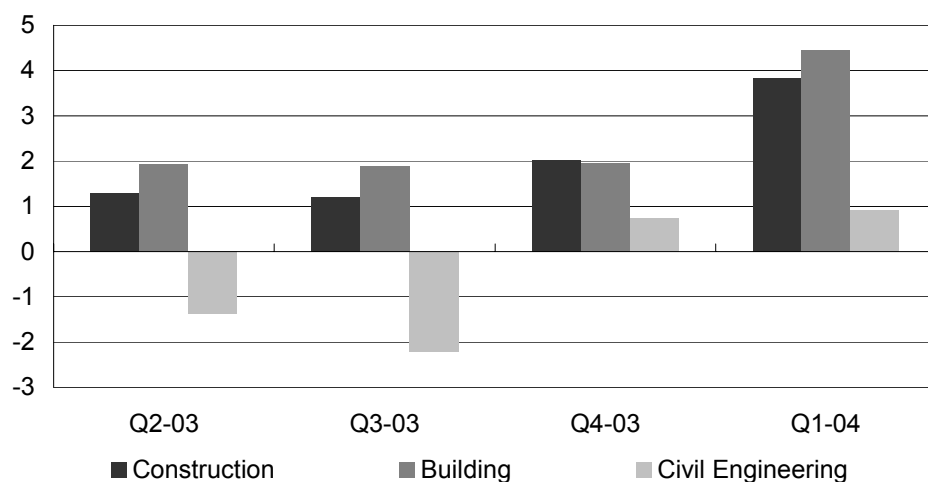


Figure 1: Production volume index, working day adjusted, growth rates compared to the same quarter of the previous year, EU-25 (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series			Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted series			
	EU-25	EU-15	Euro-zone	EU-25	EU-15	Euro-zone	
Q2-03	1.8	1.7	1.0	Q2-03	1.3	1.3	0.7
Q3-03	0.3	0.1	-0.3	Q3-03	1.2	1.0	0.3
Q4-03	0.9	1.2	0.5	Q4-03	2.0	2.0	0.6
Q1-04	0.4	0.6	-0.1	Q1-04	3.8	3.8	1.2

Table 1: Production volume index for construction, growth rates (%)

Data extracted: 02.07.2004

Production indices for construction

The production index for building increased by 0.9 % between the final quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004 within the EU-25, which was 0.8 percentage points higher than in the euro-zone. During the same period, output for civil engineering decreased by 0.1 % in the EU-25 and by 0.3 % in the euro-zone.

Among the Member States, the production index for total construction grew by as much as 5.0 % in Belgium and by 4.7 % in Lithuania in the first quarter of 2004 (compared with the final quarter of 2003); in Luxembourg output rose by 9.0 % in the final quarter of 2003 (latest available data). In contrast, two of the new Member States, namely Cyprus and Slovakia, recorded the largest reductions in output, both in excess of 7 %.

In the EU-25 new orders for construction went up by 6.8 % in the first quarter of 2004 when compared

to the previous quarter, whereas in the fourth quarter of 2003 there was almost no change for this index. In the euro-zone the increase in new orders for construction was fairly modest in the first quarter of 2004, namely 1.8 %. For both of these European aggregates the latest quarter-on-quarter growth rates marked the third consecutive period when the new orders index was either unchanged or growing.

In the first quarter of 2004 employment within construction grew by 1.4 % in the EU-25 and by 0.9 % in the euro-zone when compared with the previous quarter. As such, this marked a significant change in the evolution of this index, as the number of persons employed had fallen in the previous three (EU-25) and two (euro-zone) quarters.

Between the fourth quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004 there was an increase in the number of hours worked of 0.5 % in the EU-25

and of 0.3 % in the euro-zone.

In the first quarter of 2004 wages and salaries for construction increased by 0.6 % in the EU-25 when compared with the previous quarter. The evolution of wages and salaries followed a similar upward trend in the euro-zone, with 0.5 % growth in the first quarter of 2004.

After a period of stability for construction costs between the third and fourth quarters of 2003, there were rises of 0.6 % in the EU-25 and the EU-15 and 0.2 % in the euro-zone between the final quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004.

Compared with the last quarter of 2003, the number of permits issued for new residential buildings grew by 2.5% in the EU-25 and by 1.4% in the euro-zone. In terms of area, the increases were less pronounced, with the square metres for which permits were granted rising by 1.4 % and 0.8 % respectively.

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted series					
	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	-0.9	1.8	0.3	0.9	0.4	-0.1	-1.9	1.3	1.2	2.0	3.8
EU-15	0.2	-0.9	1.7	0.1	1.2	0.6	-0.1	-1.7	1.3	1.0	2.0	3.8
Euro-zone	0.2	-0.7	1.0	-0.3	0.5	-0.1	-0.9	-2.2	0.7	0.3	0.6	1.2
BE	3.2	0.6	-4.2	2.0	-2.2	5.0	-5.0	-3.5	-4.2	1.4	-3.8	0.3
CZ	0.9	-0.7	2.3	4.7	-2.1	-0.7	3.7	-4.1	2.4	16.0	11.4	12.9
DK	-6.6	0.4	-0.7	1.6	7.2	-0.5	-7.2	-9.8	-8.9	-5.4	8.6	7.6
DE	-1.0	-2.5	1.2	-0.7	1.0	-4.2	-7.0	-12.3	-3.3	-2.5	-0.8	-4.2
EE	-1.7	-7.5	13.8	1.2	3.0	1.4	27.2	1.4	5.5	7.8	5.6	28.1
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	0.1	0.9	1.9	1.0	0.5	0.8	3.6	2.3	4.8	4.2	4.3	4.2
FR	-0.3	-0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.3	-0.9	-1.6	-0.6	0.7	1.3	3.5
IE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	5.9	0.2	6.7	0.4	4.5	-7.3	2.3	5.3	-0.2	13.2	13.0	4.0
LV	8.0	0.5	1.2	5.4	1.5	2.2	24.2	16.9	11.8	20.4	6.5	12.6
LT	8.3	5.4	5.2	5.7	3.2	4.7	24.7	24.4	27.8	30.6	17.0	18.4
LU	3.8	1.9	-5.1	3.4	9.0	:	-1.9	-5.8	-5.8	3.4	9.3	:
HU	0.6	0.3	1.3	1.3	2.1	1.9	12.5	-17.3	5.0	1.3	6.0	19.4
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-2.2	-1.9	1.8	-0.5	1.0	3.2	-7.8	-5.1	-1.2	-4.4	-1.6	3.1
AT	1.9	8.2	-1.4	3.8	0.8	-0.1	-0.5	16.5	6.7	10.5	12.0	0.3
PL	-2.7	-2.1	-0.3	-0.4	-1.4	-0.8	-8.9	-20.6	-7.2	-1.7	-3.6	-6.1
PT	0.3	-4.2	-1.5	2.4	-5.7	0.4	-5.6	-9.8	-10.2	-3.4	-9.0	-4.5
SI	1.6	-2.8	9.7	-1.8	-2.1	3.8	10.0	8.6	17.6	6.4	1.7	8.8
SK	3.2	-1.8	2.6	5.5	2.2	-7.4	8.3	3.5	1.2	9.3	8.8	1.8
FI	-0.9	0.0	1.5	3.7	1.4	-2.3	3.5	2.1	1.1	4.3	6.6	2.5
SE	-2.6	-1.1	1.1	-1.6	-0.2	0.9	-1.3	0.0	-0.1	-4.1	-2.0	0.2
UK	1.6	-2.7	4.5	2.7	1.4	0.3	4.1	0.9	5.3	5.5	7.3	13.4
BG	-5.9	-15.4	-1.5	1.8	7.2	17.3	4.6	-7.2	-17.0	-22.4	-16.5	51.6
RO	1.4	2.2	2.6	0.4	-0.8	-2.7	7.0	5.3	5.6	6.1	7.8	6.9
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 2: Production volume index for construction, growth rates (%)

Production indices for building and civil engineering

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted series					
	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	0.7	-1.0	1.9	0.3	0.8	0.9	0.1	-1.3	1.9	1.9	2.0	4.5
EU-15	0.9	-1.0	1.9	0.2	0.8	1.1	0.6	-1.1	2.1	2.0	1.9	4.5
Euro-zone	0.6	-0.5	1.1	-0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.4	-1.4	1.5	0.8	0.5	1.2
BE	2.2	-0.6	-0.3	0.9	-2.3	2.0	-6.9	-2.9	-2.1	2.4	-2.3	0.4
CZ	1.8	0.3	-2.2	9.5	5.5	7.5	-3.0	-4.2	-4.2	9.5	10.0	14.3
DK	-5.7	-2.5	4.0	3.4	4.6	-0.4	-5.8	-10.3	-12.4	-7.5	7.1	10.8
DE	-0.8	-2.4	1.9	-0.6	0.2	-3.4	-7.4	-12.1	-2.8	-1.7	-0.8	-3.2
EE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	1.6	0.5	1.8	0.5	0.4	0.8	5.9	3.7	6.1	4.6	3.2	3.4
FR	-0.1	-0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	1.2	0.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.5	0.6	2.8
IE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	4.2	0.6	5.4	-1.7	1.6	-2.2	-0.1	5.2	0.0	7.4	6.8	4.2
LV	3.5	6.4	1.7	4.5	1.4	0.4	17.5	18.8	14.3	17.6	14.9	6.9
LT	13.5	7.7	6.0	7.3	2.6	11.2	14.5	34.9	31.3	38.5	21.5	30.4
LU	-4.4	-2.3	1.2	3.8	4.1	:	-4.3	-12.2	-11.1	-2.2	11.2	:
HU	-2.3	-10.0	11.9	1.3	6.3	-7.8	11.3	-14.4	5.2	-0.6	10.2	10.6
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-1.5	-2.4	2.6	-0.3	1.4	3.8	-7.4	-3.5	-0.5	-4.9	-2.5	2.2
AT	-1.6	11.5	-3.1	2.2	1.5	-1.3	-3.9	15.9	5.3	8.7	12.3	1.2
PL	-8.3	-1.6	-5.2	1.6	2.4	1.7	-25.1	-22.0	-14.5	-12.5	-5.7	-7.4
PT	0.9	-4.4	-1.6	2.9	-6.0	-0.3	-4.5	-8.6	-9.4	-2.6	-9.3	-5.0
SI	-3.3	-11.6	17.1	-4.1	11.3	2.0	-2.5	-8.8	2.3	-4.0	10.4	27.0
SK	4.8	-0.7	-1.2	7.3	-0.6	-2.1	7.9	3.7	-2.1	10.5	4.6	3.2
FI	0.1	1.1	1.1	2.9	1.6	-2.2	3.4	2.7	1.4	5.0	6.9	1.6
SE	-2.6	-2.2	2.3	-1.7	0.9	0.9	1.6	-3.3	-1.1	-4.3	-1.0	2.1
UK	3.1	-2.9	5.9	2.3	1.9	5.2	5.0	1.6	7.1	8.4	7.1	16.1
BG	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	59.7
RO	0.8	2.1	-1.6	-0.4	2.5	2.4	25.8	9.5	11.5	3.2	2.8	4.8
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 3: Production volume index for building, growth rates (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted series					
	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	-1.8	-0.8	0.6	-0.2	0.7	-0.1	-1.5	-4.7	-1.4	-2.2	0.8	0.9
EU-15	-2.3	-0.6	0.4	-0.4	0.9	-0.1	-2.3	-4.5	-1.7	-2.9	0.7	0.8
Euro-zone	-1.4	-0.2	1.0	0.4	0.4	-0.3	-2.7	-3.1	0.1	-0.1	1.6	1.8
BE	4.0	26.0	-5.5	3.9	-1.0	5.7	-13.1	25.2	18.9	30.2	21.9	2.6
CZ	7.0	1.8	1.9	8.7	1.3	3.6	17.4	4.5	15.2	21.9	11.8	7.0
DK	-1.0	10.3	1.8	-4.2	3.9	-7.9	-15.1	-6.3	11.0	6.1	12.3	-7.2
DE	-1.2	-2.5	0.1	-0.9	2.5	-5.6	-6.5	-12.6	-4.0	-3.7	-0.7	-6.4
EE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	-3.6	1.1	2.7	2.5	-1.3	4.0	-2.6	0.7	3.4	2.5	5.0	7.9
FR	-0.7	-0.3	0.6	1.6	0.9	1.5	-3.2	-1.8	-1.8	1.4	3.0	5.4
IE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	8.7	0.7	9.4	13.2	11.7	-25.0	14.2	6.0	-0.8	35.0	39.9	3.2
LV	12.3	-3.2	2.0	3.9	-2.0	4.4	34.5	14.8	8.5	23.7	-4.5	7.9
LT	8.2	0.6	6.6	1.9	0.3	0.5	40.3	3.8	22.5	21.9	11.8	4.4
LU	7.2	-1.1	1.5	0.6	6.5	:	0.7	-0.2	0.2	9.9	7.3	:
HU	-1.0	-14.2	26.9	-3.5	-0.1	12.4	13.3	-21.6	4.7	3.7	1.9	38.9
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-2.8	-2.0	1.9	0.4	0.9	0.9	-7.0	-12.4	-4.5	-2.9	1.1	5.8
AT	9.4	5.3	-2.8	4.7	2.0	-2.3	11.1	18.8	11.0	15.7	11.4	-3.2
PL	0.5	-5.8	10.2	0.9	-10.3	-16.3	9.2	-19.4	0.7	8.3	-1.6	-3.3
PT	-0.9	-3.8	-1.6	1.4	-4.7	1.6	-7.9	-12.5	-12.1	-5.2	-8.5	-3.5
SI	3.6	6.7	2.0	1.0	-14.2	5.6	23.9	31.2	35.3	17.2	-5.8	-9.7
SK	-3.8	-0.9	7.6	1.3	3.9	-15.9	11.2	-5.5	0.1	1.7	17.0	-3.2
FI	-2.6	-2.2	0.5	6.1	2.2	0.8	4.3	-1.5	-0.5	2.8	5.1	7.8
SE	3.3	-1.0	-0.8	1.5	-2.9	5.0	-2.1	2.9	2.7	3.0	-3.2	2.6
UK	-9.7	-5.0	1.5	-2.0	2.1	-3.6	1.2	-9.9	-10.3	-14.7	-3.6	-2.2
BG	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	40.5
RO	0.6	3.4	12.8	-2.7	-12.1	-22.9	-10.0	1.5	0.2	8.9	13.9	9.2
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 4: Production volume index for civil engineering, growth rates (%)

New orders and employment

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	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	2.0	-3.3	-1.3	2.0	-0.1	6.8	9.1	1.8	-1.5	-0.7	-2.7	7.5
EU-15	1.4	-2.3	-1.6	1.6	-0.2	7.4	8.6	1.9	-1.2	-1.0	-2.5	7.2
Euro-zone	2.3	-1.6	-1.8	2.9	2.1	1.8	7.4	2.4	-3.2	0.7	0.7	8.7
BE	6.0	-2.2	-8.7	0.3	5.2	1.6	5.8	6.4	-8.8	-5.5	-5.7	-0.2
CZ	10.9	1.3	0.9	5.6	8.7	-6.1	12.8	24.0	-1.5	21.1	2.7	16.7
DK	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
DE	-1.8	-8.1	0.6	1.6	-2.9	-0.4	-6.1	-17.0	-12.1	-7.3	-8.7	-1.0
EE	8.5	16.0	-5.5	7.0	-16.3	.	22.4	35.2	0.1	32.3	0.5	.
EL	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ES	-3.1	12.6	-2.8	4.6	6.6	6.3	17.8	28.6	2.0	10.5	21.8	16.4
FR	0.4	2.4	0.2	3.0	0.5	2.1	6.0	3.0	2.3	4.8	3.0	5.5
IE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
IT	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
CY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
LV	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
LT	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
LU	4.6	-10.4	-10.4	-3.0	4.7	.	36.4	13.1	-20.2	-20.3	-16.0	.
HU	6.2	-18.2	3.9	-3.7	-0.1	3.5	34.8	-52.8	-35.3	-17.2	-30.0	48.3
MT	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
NL	0.8	0.6	.	.	.	.	19.7	-10.9	.	.	.	.
AT	4.3	3.6	-2.8	9.7	1.1	3.9	9.2	9.8	3.6	15.2	11.6	4.5
PL	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
PT	-3.7	-9.8	0.2	0.1	11.7	8.1	-7.9	-3.8	-2.7	-12.9	0.9	21.1
SI	-0.9	2.2	-1.3	2.5	4.2	1.4	15.3	32.1	-7.1	-5.1	16.1	3.5
SK	4.5	-6.0	-4.9	-5.8	-6.9	6.2	57.1	-6.4	-2.2	-10.3	-22.5	-2.3
FI	9.5	7.5	-29.9	6.4	40.9	7.3	66.2	85.8	-9.7	-11.5	18.2	13.9
SE	0.7	-1.8	-1.9	0.7	-3.3	.	1.3	27.7	14.0	11.7	-3.6	.
UK	-6.2	2.1	-8.5	2.3	-5.4	14.9	14.0	-1.7	4.4	-7.9	-13.5	1.5
BG	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
RO	10.5	-9.8	31.7	13.1	6.7	15.2	24.4	13.2	38.5	45.8	43.0	85.2
TR	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Table 5: New orders index for construction, growth rates (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	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	-0.7	-0.1	1.4	-1.6	-2.3	-0.5	-0.6	-0.8	1.7
EU-15	-0.3	0.3	0.4	-0.4	0.3	0.5	-1.2	-1.4	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.9
Euro-zone	-0.1	0.1	0.4	-0.6	-0.4	0.9	-1.4	-1.5	0.1	-0.4	-0.7	0.2
BE	-0.8	-0.7	-0.6	-1.0	-0.8	-0.9	-2.2	-2.6	-2.5	-3.2	-3.0	-3.2
CZ	-0.2	-0.4	0.1	0.1	0.5	-0.2	-1.4	-3.2	-3.3	-1.2	0.5	0.1
DK	-1.1	-0.3	-0.7	-0.6	0.6	.	-2.6	-3.3	-3.1	-2.8	-0.9	.
DE	-3.3	-2.2	-0.9	-1.5	-1.4	-2.1	-7.9	-11.0	-7.6	-6.6	-6.9	-5.4
EE	1.2	6.0	0.0	0.3	-0.6	.	7.3	5.4	3.8	4.0	2.8	.
EL	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ES	0.8	2.7	1.6	-0.8	0.7	1.7	1.0	2.2	4.1	4.3	4.3	3.2
FR	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.3
IE	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	c	-0.9	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.5	c
IT	1.1	0.6	1.4	0.2	-0.4	0.9	2.8	4.3	6.5	2.6	0.7	3.3
CY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
LV	1.0	2.8	1.2	1.9	1.0	2.9	5.5	6.0	8.6	6.9	3.5	10.2
LT	1.5	7.0	2.0	3.5	3.2	15.6	10.7	0.8	0.7	1.6	0.7	16.6
LU	0.3	0.3	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	.	1.7	1.2	0.6	0.9	0.3	.
HU	0.6	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2	2.8	-0.3	2.1	2.8	1.7	1.3
MT	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
NL	-0.6	-1.0	-1.1	-0.9	-1.0	c	-1.6	-2.4	-3.4	-3.8	-4.1	c
AT	0.2	1.6	0.5	0.3	0.2	-0.8	-2.9	0.0	3.1	3.5	3.7	0.7
PL	-1.7	-2.3	-1.7	-1.5	-2.4	6.4	-10.8	-16.5	-14.9	-14.3	-15.2	13.4
PT	-2.0	-3.2	-1.8	-0.8	-0.8	-0.1	-4.0	-7.3	-8.3	-7.6	-6.5	-3.6
SI	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.6	-0.9	-0.8	-0.7	-0.6	0.5	0.7	-1.6	-2.3
SK	-0.2	2.2	1.4	0.0	-0.3	0.1	0.9	1.5	2.6	4.9	6.7	3.8
FI	2.5	0.3	0.6	-1.7	-0.6	-0.6	3.3	3.0	4.2	1.1	-0.3	-2.0
SE	.	.	.	.	.	.	1.2	-0.3	2.7	2.3	-0.6	-1.0
UK	1.0	0.4	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.6	-0.5	-0.6	2.9	4.6	5.3	7.0
BG	1.8	1.7	3.5	2.0	1.7	4.5	2.0	6.1	13.2	14.9	11.2	11.8
RO	-0.7	-0.8	0.5	0.3	-0.2	-0.8	-7.6	4.7	0.8	4.1	6.6	-0.4
TR	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Table 6: Employment index for construction, growth rates (%)

Hours worked and wages and salaries

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	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	1.0	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.5	-3.5	-0.7	-0.5	1.5	1.8	1.5
EU-15	-0.3	1.2	-0.2	0.6	0.3	0.3	-3.8	-0.6	-0.6	1.4	1.7	0.9
Euro-zone	-0.7	1.4	-0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	-4.8	-0.9	-0.7	0.9	1.6	0.7
BE	-0.1	0.4	-3.1	1.4	-2.5	6.9	-5.4	-3.3	-3.7	-0.6	-2.7	2.7
CZ	-0.9	-1.3	1.0	1.1	0.2	0.8	-2.5	-4.6	-3.1	0.9	0.3	5.4
DK	-0.5	0.7	-1.1	-3.2	3.7	:	-1.1	-0.8	-5.0	-4.0	0.1	:
DE	-6.4	-0.4	1.9	-1.9	-0.7	-7.5	-11.2	-16.6	-6.8	-4.4	-2.9	-0.9
EE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	2.3	7.2	-0.3	2.0	1.3	-0.6	-4.6	12.8	6.7	8.3	10.5	2.7
FR	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.4	0.7	0.9	1.3
IE	-1.6	0.4	:	:	:	:	-0.9	-0.7	:	:	:	:
IT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	0.9	4.7	2.2	2.6	-1.3	3.7	3.6	6.1	7.3	8.2	3.4	12.2
LT	1.9	6.5	2.3	3.3	2.9	5.0	4.1	2.6	7.4	8.3	6.5	19.7
LU	-0.4	0.9	0.1	3.1	2.3	:	-2.9	-4.1	-6.0	4.4	8.9	:
HU	0.4	0.2	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.6	3.0	-1.8	1.3	2.4	2.4	3.8
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-0.8	-1.3	-1.4	-0.9	-1.1	c	-1.5	-3.0	-4.2	-4.5	-4.8	c
AT	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.2	0.2	-0.1	-1.5	0.0	3.8	6.7	5.1	2.2
PL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
PT	-0.4	-3.4	-1.7	0.8	-3.2	-0.1	-4.5	-8.3	-9.2	-2.3	-8.3	-4.0
SI	0.6	-0.9	0.4	0.5	0.2	-0.3	0.2	-0.5	0.4	0.0	-0.5	1.7
SK	-0.8	1.6	1.3	1.8	-0.5	1.4	-2.0	-1.4	1.7	4.8	7.1	7.3
FI	1.8	2.3	0.9	0.7	0.4	-2.2	-1.1	-0.1	2.5	6.0	5.2	-0.9
SE	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
UK	1.5	-0.1	:	:	:	:	-0.3	0.0	:	:	:	:
BG	0.6	2.7	1.9	2.9	0.4	4.4	-1.0	4.1	11.2	14.3	12.9	15.9
RO	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 7: Hours worked index for construction, growth rates (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	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	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.7	1.0	1.0	2.2
EU-15	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.8	1.0	1.0	2.1
Euro-zone	-0.1	-0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	-0.8	-0.7	0.6	0.7	0.2	1.5
BE	12.5	3.6	1.1	-0.4	-1.1	:	15.3	18.0	18.0	19.8	-1.8	:
CZ	2.3	0.5	2.2	1.6	2.7	0.4	5.7	2.3	3.4	5.4	9.1	5.8
DK	-0.8	-0.4	1.0	0.6	0.7	:	-2.6	-1.8	-5.6	1.1	3.6	:
DE	-2.3	-2.6	0.4	-1.9	-1.5	-2.0	-7.0	-10.0	-5.1	-5.9	-6.3	-4.3
EE	7.3	9.8	2.4	1.0	3.4	:	25.9	18.3	18.3	18.9	18.6	:
EL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
ES	-0.2	1.8	1.3	1.4	1.1	0.9	-1.8	2.1	4.3	6.3	5.7	4.0
FR	0.6	-0.2	0.9	1.1	1.8	1.7	4.2	2.4	2.4	2.5	3.7	5.6
IE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
IT	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.2	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	1.5
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	3.4	6.4	4.1	4.7	4.6	6.0	9.8	18.0	21.8	23.6	22.5	29.5
LT	3.5	7.9	3.5	5.4	5.6	7.2	1.7	11.6	12.8	17.8	19.0	29.1
LU	4.2	-2.4	0.3	2.8	0.9	:	13.3	3.6	0.6	5.1	1.8	:
HU	2.5	3.8	3.1	2.2	1.2	-0.6	5.4	8.5	11.1	11.7	11.8	13.2
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	0.3	-0.8	-0.4	0.4	0.6	c	2.5	3.0	-0.5	-0.7	-1.7	c
AT	1.1	2.2	1.4	1.4	0.9	0.0	0.4	4.0	5.0	5.8	5.7	3.2
PL	-2.2	-4.7	-3.6	-1.3	-3.6	-4.8	-9.7	-16.6	-13.3	-12.6	-13.6	-7.6
PT	-0.7	-2.2	-0.8	-0.3	1.1	3.0	-0.4	-3.1	-4.6	-4.2	-2.4	3.1
SI	2.6	1.4	2.8	1.2	1.6	1.8	10.1	7.7	10.4	8.3	6.4	8.6
SK	2.0	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.6	5.5	5.0	5.8	7.2	5.8	11.0
FI	-0.4	2.0	0.7	2.1	1.0	0.7	0.6	1.8	1.0	4.4	6.1	5.5
SE	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
UK	0.3	0.0	1.4	0.2	1.9	:	3.7	2.8	1.8	1.8	3.6	:
BG	4.6	9.0	5.7	4.3	1.8	15.2	-6.8	13.9	23.3	27.2	26.2	24.4
RO	4.8	7.1	6.6	7.0	5.1	4.2	21.7	30.7	25.0	29.5	29.6	19.4
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 8: Wages and salaries index for construction, growth rates (%)

Construction costs and building permits

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, gross series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	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	0.5	1.4	-0.7	0.0	0.6	-0.1	1.0	2.3	1.4	1.2	1.2
EU-15	0.2	0.5	1.4	-0.7	0.0	0.6	-0.1	1.0	2.3	1.4	1.2	1.2
Euro-zone	0.2	0.3	1.4	-0.5	0.0	0.2	0.0	1.2	2.4	1.4	1.2	1.1
BE	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.5	-1.3	0.6	1.7	2.3	1.6	1.4	-0.3	-0.1
CZ	0.6	0.6	3.8	-1.7	-1.5	0.3	1.9	3.4	7.1	3.4	1.2	0.8
DK	-0.3	0.2	1.7	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-1.1	0.3	1.7	1.5	1.9	1.8
DE	0.6	0.6	1.2	-0.8	0.9	:	2.1	3.2	3.6	1.7	1.9	:
EE	0.1	0.2	1.5	-0.8	0.1	0.2	0.7	1.8	2.8	1.0	1.0	1.0
EL	0.5	0.0	1.0	-0.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.0	2.0	0.9	0.4	0.5
ES	-0.4	0.5	0.7	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	1.7	2.7	2.6	0.5	0.5	0.1
FR	0.7	0.4	1.1	-0.5	0.2	0.1	0.6	1.7	2.7	1.7	1.2	0.9
IE	1.8	-0.1	0.8	2.3	-0.1	:	3.1	3.7	4.6	4.9	2.9	:
IT	1.4	1.2	3.6	-1.7	-0.3	1.2	0.6	3.6	7.4	4.5	2.8	2.8
CY	0.0	0.0	1.1	-1.0	-0.3	:	-1.4	-0.4	1.5	0.2	-0.2	:
LV	0.0	-0.2	1.3	0.1	-1.4	-0.4	0.3	1.4	2.6	1.3	-0.2	-0.4
LT	-0.3	0.2	1.3	-1.5	-0.1	0.4	-1.4	-0.4	1.0	-0.2	0.0	0.2
LU	0.6	4.7	5.0	-1.7	-0.2	0.7	0.7	5.9	10.9	8.8	7.9	3.8
HU	-0.3	1.2	0.8	-1.6	-0.1	2.5	-0.6	-0.8	-0.2	0.1	0.2	1.5
MT	0.5	0.0	1.0	-0.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.0	2.0	0.9	0.4	0.5
NL	-0.4	0.5	0.7	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	1.7	2.7	2.6	0.5	0.5	0.1
AT	0.7	0.4	1.1	-0.5	0.2	0.1	0.6	1.7	2.7	1.7	1.2	0.9
PL	1.8	-0.1	0.8	2.3	-0.1	:	3.1	3.7	4.6	4.9	2.9	:
PT	1.4	1.2	3.6	-1.7	-0.3	1.2	0.6	3.6	7.4	4.5	2.8	2.8
SI	0.0	0.0	1.1	-1.0	-0.3	:	-1.4	-0.4	1.5	0.2	-0.2	:
SK	0.5	0.0	1.0	-0.6	0.0	0.1	0.1	1.0	2.0	0.9	0.4	0.5
FI	-0.4	0.5	0.7	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	1.7	2.7	2.6	0.5	0.5	0.1
SE	0.7	0.4	1.1	-0.5	0.2	0.1	0.6	1.7	2.7	1.7	1.2	0.9
UK	1.8	-0.1	0.8	2.3	-0.1	:	3.1	3.7	4.6	4.9	2.9	:
BG	1.4	1.2	3.6	-1.7	-0.3	1.2	0.6	3.6	7.4	4.5	2.8	2.8
RO	0.0	0.0	1.1	-1.0	-0.3	:	-1.4	-0.4	1.5	0.2	-0.2	:
TR	0.0	-0.2	1.3	0.1	-1.4	-0.4	0.3	1.4	2.6	1.3	-0.2	-0.4

Table 9: Construction costs index for residential buildings, growth rates (%)

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	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	1.1	4.0	-0.8	0.7	2.9	2.5	5.5	13.5	6.9	4.1	9.4	3.8
EU-15	1.5	3.3	-1.1	-0.1	3.4	1.8	7.9	13.6	6.4	3.0	8.3	2.6
Euro-zone	3.3	4.5	-3.1	1.1	4.1	1.4	10.3	17.8	7.0	4.8	9.3	6.0
BE	-5.0	1.6	5.9	0.3	13.0	7.0	1.5	6.9	8.8	2.0	22.1	29.6
CZ	6.0	9.5	6.9	10.0	4.9	3.1	7.3	11.2	14.8	39.2	39.8	25.1
DK	-26.3	-5.4	-1.9	-6.5	11.2	-11.7	10.5	-28.9	-28.0	-36.1	-3.5	-0.7
DE	3.3	13.7	-15.5	-0.6	8.8	5.6	6.3	39.2	-1.9	-5.2	3.4	-0.7
EE	21.2	-2.4	21.6	18.7	14.9	9.9	289.2	-27.3	23.3	17.5	2.9	320.3
EL	4.3	:	:	:	:	:	19.9	:	:	:	:	:
ES	7.2	7.8	4.4	-5.0	1.9	0.1	13.4	21.0	29.7	17.8	3.5	5.1
FR	-2.3	3.9	-0.1	9.8	4.8	0.1	0.2	6.7	3.0	9.9	15.6	19.6
IE	-10.7	-1.5	33.9	10.1	-5.9	:	-15.6	-17.0	1.0	33.9	37.8	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	4.1	11.5	21.7	-8.8	4.7	16.6	20.0	57.9	71.0	37.6	27.9	35.6
LV	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LT	12.3	13.4	16.8	-9.0	8.3	13.2	32.8	99.8	48.5	87.6	3.2	-6.0
LU	23.6	2.9	-9.8	11.7	11.1	-3.6	17.5	40.2	-20.3	30.8	19.0	9.8
HU	2.2	3.2	-1.1	1.5	1.6	1.0	-9.8	12.6	3.3	16.6	41.5	8.2
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	30.7	-8.9	-1.1	-14.9	21.1	-20.1	53.1	38.7	11.2	1.9	-6.1	-17.7
AT	-29.1	-21.2	40.7	-2.1	37.3	:	-12.3	-36.6	-9.2	-25.7	44.8	:
PL	-26.5	29.2	8.2	2.9	-6.1	59.0	-60.8	4.6	9.5	7.9	40.9	73.2
PT	-22.2	8.7	-2.8	-1.5	13.2	-18.0	-20.3	-7.2	-14.9	-19.1	17.9	-11.3
SI	17.8	0.1	12.3	-8.9	-0.4	-2.5	25.2	-4.8	45.5	31.3	25.8	13.8
SK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FI	-1.0	3.4	13.3	-1.4	5.5	-10.2	9.1	0.7	20.2	14.6	23.8	6.5
SE	-0.4	10.3	0.2	4.9	0.4	-9.2	4.5	42.3	24.9	14.2	26.4	-11.9
UK	-0.7	2.9	0.7	-0.3	:	:	-1.6	4.3	8.9	2.7	:	:
BG	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
RO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 10: Number of residential building permits issued, growth rates (%)

Building permits in square metres

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted series						Year on year growth rates, gross series					
	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	1.9	5.7	-1.9	1.4	6.2	1.4	7.5	19.6	6.3	4.9	10.7	7.2
EU-15	3.1	6.0	-3.2	1.7	6.3	0.8	11.6	19.7	5.4	3.9	9.6	5.9
Euro-zone	3.8	5.0	-1.8	1.6	3.9	0.8	12.5	21.7	6.6	5.7	9.8	5.7
BE	-6.1	7.1	2.3	1.4	11.1	3.6	-4.9	5.3	6.5	4.2	22.3	30.2
CZ	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK	-23.0	-16.7	3.2	-4.1	13.5	19.7	-6.4	-29.6	-32.0	-35.7	-5.9	35.5
DE	6.8	14.5	-17.7	-1.1	10.6	2.0	16.8	46.8	-1.0	-4.8	3.7	-0.1
EE	16.2	16.1	18.0	18.9	19.6	-81.0	159.9	-23.7	26.6	39.7	20.6	319.7
EL	13.5	:	:	:	:	:	30.7	:	:	:	:	:
ES	7.5	1.3	4.9	4.4	-7.3	-0.4	13.7	20.1	28.9	19.2	2.8	3.8
FR	-0.1	3.4	0.0	5.7	8.3	3.9	1.8	5.0	1.0	8.7	19.6	18.9
IE	-1.7	-4.2	28.7	6.4	-5.1	:	-18.1	-14.3	0.1	21.7	33.3	:
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	6.6	1.3	17.7	-6.6	4.9	9.3	16.2	30.0	42.8	22.9	14.3	26.3
LV	-3.3	-2.8	35.7	40.3	26.4	-5.2	54.8	7.3	47.0	76.5	142.8	137.9
LT	:	:	:	:	:	:	54.5	106.6	47.8	84.3	5.9	-5.4
LU	35.2	2.5	-20.8	24.0	-1.4	-6.5	26.8	48.4	-26.4	51.6	7.2	-13.4
HU	2.9	2.4	0.8	0.6	1.2	1.7	-10.8	7.8	22.1	18.4	34.4	14.6
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	30.6	-2.8	-6.3	-17.0	24.1	-19.8	42.8	45.9	11.4	-0.2	-2.7	-22.6
AT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
PL	:	:	:	:	:	:	-62.8	25.5	25.5	20.6	38.9	60.9
PT	-13.0	-1.6	-1.8	-4.3	5.7	-6.5	-16.0	-10.4	-15.1	-23.7	1.1	-3.6
SI	9.9	3.2	10.6	-6.6	10.1	-3.8	20.1	-8.3	40.6	32.5	32.5	27.9
SK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FI	-0.1	5.3	7.8	6.0	4.4	-9.7	9.7	9.6	15.3	19.1	29.2	5.0
SE	2.6	8.9	0.9	3.2	-2.1	-8.8	4.0	31.5	31.5	12.0	15.4	-10.7
UK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
BG	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
RO	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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

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
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For information on methodology:

Digna Amil, Eurostat / D3, L-2920 Luxembourg, Tel. (352) 4301 32321, Fax (352) 4301 34359,
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