

# Developments for retail trade

during the third quarter of 2004

## Statistics in focus

### INDUSTRY, TRADE AND SERVICES

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The seasonally adjusted volume of retail sales index in the EU-25 rose by 0.3 % in the third quarter of 2004 when compared with the previous quarter. This was the sixth consecutive quarter on quarter increase in retail sales volumes in the EU-25. In contrast, the volume of sales in the euro-zone fell by 0.2 %, marking the fourth time in the last five quarters that a negative quarter on quarter rate was recorded. These latest figures confirmed the data from the second quarter of 2004, when sales volumes had risen by 0.5 % in the EU-25 and had fallen by 0.1 % in the euro-zone.

On the basis of a comparison with the same quarter of the year before, the volume of retail sales in the EU-25 rose by 2.0 % in the third quarter of 2004, while there was no change in sales volumes in the euro-zone. As such, the development of the volume of retail sales followed the pattern observed since the start of 2001, since when euro-zone sales volumes have stagnated, while sales in the EU-25 have averaged around 2 % growth per annum since the late 1990s.

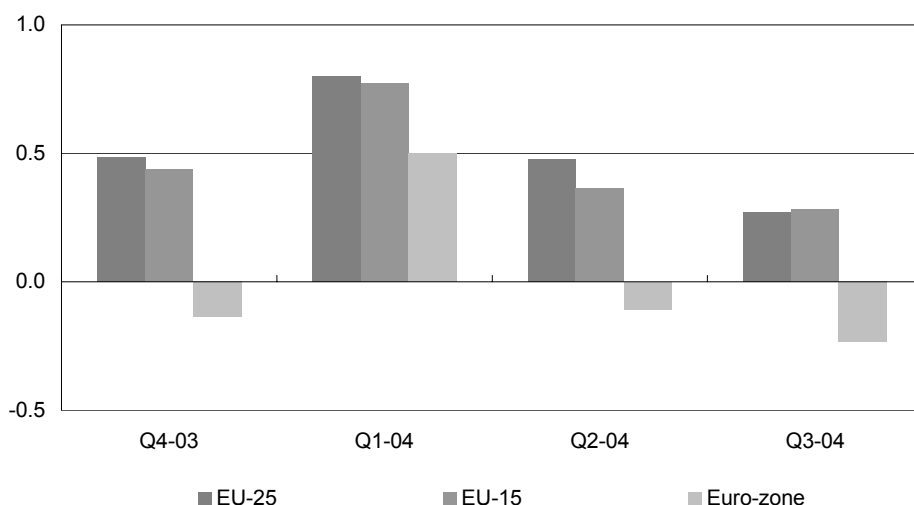


Figure 1: Volume of sales index for retail trade, seasonally adjusted data, growth rates compared to the previous quarter (%); source: Eurostat STS

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
Q4-03	0.5	0.4	-0.1	Q4-03	1.2	0.9	-0.1
Q1-04	0.8	0.8	0.5	Q1-04	2.2	2.0	0.4
Q2-04	0.5	0.4	-0.1	Q2-04	2.1	1.7	0.0
Q3-04	0.3	0.3	-0.2	Q3-04	2.0	1.8	0.0

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



## Volume of sales index for retail trade

The highest growth rates for retail sales volumes between the third quarters of 2003 and 2004 were registered in Denmark, the Baltic States and Slovakia, all of which reported sales increasing by upwards of 8 %. Greece, Ireland, Hungary, Poland, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom also reported relatively high growth rates in the range of 4.4 % to 6.7 %. Only two Member States reported that their sales volumes decreased between the third quarters of 2003 and 2004, namely, Germany (-1.7 %) and Italy (-3.3 %), while the remaining Member States reported growth rates that were fairly close to the EU-25 average (no more than +/-1.1 percentage points difference), except for the Netherlands where sales volumes were almost unchanged (0.2 %).

		Weights (% of total)	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
			Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04
Retail trade	EU-25	100.0	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.3	1.9	0.9	1.2	2.2	2.1	2.0
	EU-15	100.0	0.6	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3	1.7	0.6	0.9	2.0	1.7	1.8
	Euro-zone	100.0	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	-0.1	-0.2	1.0	-0.4	-0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0
Retail sale of food, beverages and tobacco	EU-25	43.9	0.7	0.4	-0.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	2.4	1.9	1.1	1.6	0.9	0.5
	EU-15	44.0	0.6	0.4	-0.2	0.5	0.0	0.1	2.2	1.7	0.9	1.3	0.7	0.4
	Euro-zone	43.7	0.2	0.4	-0.5	0.1	-0.3	-0.1	1.6	1.2	0.2	0.4	-0.4	-0.8
Retail sale of non-food products	EU-25	56.1	0.4	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.4	1.4	0.0	1.3	2.6	3.0	3.2
	EU-15	56.0	0.3	-0.1	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.4	1.2	-0.4	0.9	2.4	2.6	2.9
	Euro-zone	56.3	-0.1	-0.8	0.3	0.6	0.0	-0.3	0.4	-1.7	-0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5
of which,														
Textiles, clothing, footwear & leather goods	EU-25	10.5	0.2	-0.3	0.5	1.3	1.1	0.5	1.0	-0.9	-0.1	1.6	2.8	3.4
	EU-15	10.9	0.0	-0.4	0.5	1.3	1.1	0.4	0.8	-1.1	-0.4	1.3	2.7	3.2
	Euro-zone	10.6	-0.9	-1.7	-0.2	0.9	0.6	-0.5	-1.5	-4.6	-3.5	-2.1	-0.4	0.7
Household equipment	EU-25	14.1	1.0	0.5	0.9	1.8	0.9	0.5	2.0	0.8	1.9	4.5	4.4	4.1
	EU-15	14.3	0.9	0.3	0.8	1.5	0.8	0.6	1.9	0.7	1.7	3.7	3.6	3.6
	Euro-zone	14.8	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.6	0.3	-0.4	0.6	-0.7	0.3	2.1	2.3	1.7
Books, newspapers and sale in specialised stores	EU-25	12.6	0.1	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.1	1.9	3.0	4.0	3.4
	EU-15	12.2	0.2	0.3	1.2	1.3	0.8	0.5	0.0	-0.6	1.5	3.3	3.8	3.6
	Euro-zone	12.1	-0.5	-0.8	0.5	-0.2	-0.3	-0.7	-0.8	-2.6	-0.3	-0.7	-0.6	-0.9

Table 2: Volume of sales index, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04
EU-25	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.3	1.9	0.9	1.2	2.2	2.1	2.0
EU-15	0.6	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.3	1.7	0.6	0.9	2.0	1.7	1.8
Euro-zone	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	-0.1	-0.2	1.0	-0.4	-0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0
BE	0.1	-0.5	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.3	-0.2	-1.5	-0.5	0.4	0.8	1.7
CZ	0.8	1.0	0.4	0.3	0.8	1.3	4.4	5.2	3.5	2.1	2.3	3.1
DK	0.9	1.2	0.6	3.4	0.9	2.9	4.5	3.6	4.4	6.4	6.8	8.1
DE	0.5	-1.0	0.1	-1.4	-0.5	0.0	0.4	-1.8	-0.8	-2.0	-2.7	-1.7
EE	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.3	2.7	2.5	-0.2	0.3	2.5	13.7	13.1	12.2
EL	0.0	2.4	0.4	1.7	0.8	1.4	2.6	6.0	3.4	4.9	5.1	4.7
ES	1.8	0.5	1.0	1.0	-0.1	-0.9	4.0	2.4	4.5	4.4	2.5	0.9
FR	0.5	0.4	0.0	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.2	0.9	0.3	2.2	1.8	1.5
IE	0.5	0.5	1.2	0.8	1.3	1.6	3.8	1.3	2.3	3.1	3.9	4.8
IT	-0.1	-0.6	-0.7	-0.5	-0.9	-0.9	0.7	-1.1	-1.9	-1.4	-2.6	-3.3
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	3.7	4.4	3.9	1.2	3.5	1.9	12.3	13.6	16.3	13.0	13.8	10.4
LT	3.8	5.1	2.9	1.9	2.1	1.3	9.2	12.9	15.5	14.5	12.5	8.3
LU	0.2	-1.3	3.7	-1.2	0.2	-1.5	3.8	3.2	3.3	1.2	1.3	1.0
HU	0.8	2.7	2.9	-0.8	2.6	1.1	6.6	9.0	9.9	6.2	7.8	5.6
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-2.8	-0.6	0.3	0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-2.3	-4.1	-4.0	-2.6	0.0	0.2
AT	-0.2	-2.4	0.4	1.7	1.4	-1.1	2.8	-1.2	-1.0	-0.6	1.1	2.3
PL	2.4	1.7	2.3	1.3	2.3	-0.6	6.9	5.0	8.1	7.8	9.5	4.8
PT	-1.1	1.1	-2.3	2.3	-1.3	4.6	-2.0	-2.8	-2.2	-0.2	4.5	3.0
SI	0.6	3.4	-0.6	-2.2	2.4	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.0	1.1	2.9	3.0
SK	-0.2	-0.3	3.6	1.0	3.3	1.2	-6.1	-6.3	-2.9	3.7	8.3	9.4
FI	0.6	1.5	0.7	1.8	0.8	1.0	2.6	4.3	3.9	4.7	4.8	4.4
SE	2.3	0.7	1.2	1.6	0.7	1.4	4.8	5.1	4.4	5.7	4.4	5.1
UK	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.3	3.3	2.9	3.4	6.3	6.8	6.7
BG	2.7	2.8	3.0	4.7	4.2	4.1	6.3	6.8	7.6	13.9	16.0	17.2
RO	3.1	2.3	3.5	4.2	1.9	:	4.4	4.8	8.7	16.2	12.0	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 3: Volume of sales index for retail trade (excluding repair), growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

## 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					
	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04
EU-25	0.7	0.4	-0.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	2.4	1.9	1.1	1.6	0.9	0.5
EU-15	0.6	0.4	-0.2	0.5	0.0	0.1	2.2	1.7	0.9	1.3	0.7	0.4
Euro-zone	0.2	0.4	-0.5	0.1	-0.3	-0.1	1.6	1.2	0.2	0.4	-0.4	-0.8
BE	1.1	-0.3	0.2	2.4	-0.8	0.3	1.1	0.7	0.0	3.3	1.0	2.5
CZ	1.0	0.6	0.8	-0.3	0.4	1.2	5.4	4.1	4.1	1.7	1.1	2.1
DK	0.6	0.6	1.3	0.6	0.0	1.2	4.5	3.6	5.4	3.0	2.5	2.5
DE	-0.3	1.4	-0.3	-1.9	-0.7	0.0	1.0	1.5	0.6	-1.2	-1.7	-2.8
EE	3.1	4.6	3.3	1.7	4.4	2.4	9.2	8.4	8.9	13.0	14.8	12.3
EL	-0.5	2.9	2.7	1.0	1.5	2.5	1.2	4.7	7.7	6.2	7.8	8.2
ES	0.4	1.1	0.0	0.6	-0.2	-0.4	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.4	1.5	-0.1
FR	0.6	0.1	-0.6	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.9	-1.3	0.7	-0.4	-0.1
IE	2.0	-0.7	2.2	-0.2	1.1	1.0	3.7	0.9	2.6	3.3	2.3	4.1
IT	0.6	-0.8	-0.7	-0.4	-1.0	-0.9	3.9	0.6	-0.3	-1.0	-2.8	-3.3
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	4.3	4.2	5.1	-0.6	2.5	1.6	16.7	16.2	17.6	13.7	11.6	8.2
LT	1.3	7.9	1.1	2.0	0.1	-0.7	5.9	14.3	15.2	12.7	11.2	2.3
LU	0.2	0.6	1.9	-1.6	-0.7	-3.7	7.9	4.6	3.9	1.5	0.3	-4.4
HU	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.3	1.0	0.7	8.7	7.3	6.2	3.0	3.5	3.1
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.9	0.0	-0.4	0.1	-0.9	-0.8	0.4	0.8	0.5
AT	0.6	-2.7	0.1	2.3	0.2	-1.8	3.2	0.6	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.4
PL	4.0	0.9	3.7	0.8	0.5	-3.5	6.6	3.2	6.0	9.6	6.0	1.2
PT	-0.2	0.6	-1.8	1.0	2.0	2.3	0.9	-0.5	-2.0	-0.4	6.5	3.4
SI	-1.2	0.6	-0.1	2.4	0.1	0.7	-0.2	-0.9	-2.3	1.7	3.1	3.1
SK	-5.8	-2.6	-2.6	-0.3	-1.5	-4.2	-5.8	-7.1	-10.9	-10.6	-6.7	-8.5
FI	0.5	0.8	-0.4	1.5	1.3	0.2	3.3	3.0	1.9	2.5	3.2	2.5
SE	1.6	-0.6	-0.3	0.9	0.1	-0.8	3.9	1.8	1.1	1.5	0.2	-0.1
UK	1.2	0.9	0.6	1.4	0.9	1.0	3.9	3.3	3.0	4.2	3.9	4.0
BG	4.1	2.2	1.4	2.4	0.4	2.0	5.5	6.3	6.5	10.8	5.9	6.0
RO	1.1	0.1	2.9	7.0	-0.5	:	1.9	-1.0	2.0	14.4	7.7	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04
EU-25	0.4	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.4	1.4	0.0	1.3	2.6	3.0	3.2
EU-15	0.3	-0.1	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.4	1.2	-0.4	0.9	2.4	2.6	2.9
Euro-zone	-0.1	-0.8	0.3	0.6	0.0	-0.3	0.4	-1.7	-0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5
BE	-1.3	-0.7	0.0	0.3	0.7	-0.3	-1.3	-3.5	-0.8	-1.7	0.8	1.1
CZ	0.6	1.4	0.1	0.8	1.1	1.3	3.7	5.9	3.1	2.3	3.2	3.8
DK	0.6	1.2	0.3	5.5	2.2	3.0	4.7	3.4	2.4	8.0	9.2	11.0
DE	0.5	-2.4	1.2	-1.7	-0.4	0.0	-0.6	-4.1	-1.5	-2.7	-3.2	-1.0
EE	4.5	3.1	4.0	3.2	1.3	3.3	-8.9	-7.4	-2.6	15.3	12.0	12.4
EL	0.2	1.9	-1.7	2.3	-0.1	0.7	2.8	6.1	-1.4	3.3	2.2	1.5
ES	2.6	0.2	1.7	0.7	-0.2	-0.7	4.9	2.0	5.4	5.5	2.6	1.3
FR	0.3	0.8	0.6	1.7	0.8	0.4	2.2	0.9	2.0	3.8	4.3	3.4
IE	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.8	2.7	0.0	1.8	0.4	1.3	1.6	4.4	4.1
IT	-1.3	-0.4	-0.2	-0.9	-1.0	-1.1	-1.3	-2.3	-3.0	-2.1	-2.6	-3.2
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	3.9	6.1	8.6	-6.7	7.9	3.1	7.2	13.4	14.4	12.8	16.1	12.4
LT	5.7	2.5	9.3	-2.6	4.5	5.2	13.3	10.7	16.0	16.6	14.4	17.1
LU	-0.9	-1.7	3.5	-0.9	1.0	3.1	1.2	2.1	2.9	0.0	1.8	6.9
HU	1.2	4.0	5.7	-2.8	4.1	1.1	6.0	10.2	12.4	9.6	11.8	7.6
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-4.3	-1.0	1.0	0.8	-0.8	-0.9	-4.0	-6.1	-5.4	-3.5	-0.1	0.1
AT	-0.8	-2.1	0.5	1.4	2.2	-0.6	2.7	-2.1	-1.5	-1.1	1.8	3.4
PL	2.2	1.9	2.4	0.8	3.8	0.2	7.7	6.5	9.4	6.3	11.6	6.9
PT	-1.8	1.4	-2.7	3.3	-3.7	6.3	-4.2	-4.5	-2.3	0.0	2.9	2.7
SI	2.3	2.8	0.9	-2.0	1.9	2.1	8.2	9.3	9.6	3.1	3.3	3.3
SK	2.8	1.0	9.6	-5.4	7.7	3.1	-6.4	-6.7	-1.0	6.8	12.9	15.3
FI	1.1	1.5	1.0	2.5	0.8	1.1	2.3	5.3	5.0	6.3	5.9	5.5
SE	2.8	1.9	2.4	2.2	1.4	2.9	5.5	8.0	7.0	9.3	8.1	9.5
UK	1.9	1.5	2.4	2.1	2.8	1.4	2.8	2.5	3.7	8.0	9.1	8.9
BG	2.0	3.1	4.1	5.8	6.1	5.6	6.8	7.1	8.2	15.8	22.3	24.2
RO	2.6	3.4	4.1	3.8	3.1	:	6.3	8.9	13.2	18.0	15.6	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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

## 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					
	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04
EU-25	0.2	-0.3	0.5	1.3	1.1	0.5	1.0	-0.9	-0.1	1.6	2.8	3.4
EU-15	0.0	-0.4	0.5	1.3	1.1	0.4	0.8	-1.1	-0.4	1.3	2.7	3.2
Euro-zone	-0.9	-1.7	-0.2	0.9	0.6	-0.5	-1.5	-4.6	-3.5	-2.1	-0.4	0.7
BE	-3.8	0.2	0.0	3.0	-1.4	3.3	-8.0	-4.4	-3.8	-1.5	1.5	5.2
CZ	1.9	2.9	0.3	5.9	2.8	3.6	5.2	8.5	4.7	11.7	11.6	14.3
DK	-2.8	1.6	1.6	2.8	-0.3	:	2.3	5.0	2.5	4.1	5.2	:
DE	-1.2	-3.3	-0.3	0.5	0.5	0.0	-4.4	-7.1	-5.6	-4.9	-2.5	0.4
EE	8.0	7.9	0.6	-10.6	-3.1	8.5	20.0	37.1	31.2	3.4	-6.8	-4.9
EL	4.1	-0.9	-3.3	1.9	1.0	1.8	10.5	7.8	-4.9	0.6	-1.5	2.7
ES	2.3	-1.9	1.8	-0.2	2.4	-0.9	1.5	-4.0	1.4	2.3	2.4	3.1
FR	-0.4	-1.0	-0.3	0.9	1.3	-0.2	2.1	-2.7	-2.2	-0.2	1.7	0.6
IE	0.0	1.2	2.5	4.0	3.0	-1.6	7.3	5.3	6.1	7.8	11.0	7.8
IT	-0.7	-1.1	-1.1	-0.9	-1.0	-1.3	-1.7	-3.4	-4.3	-3.6	-3.6	-4.4
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	3.2	3.6	9.2	8.0	18.5	13.2	29.8	41.4	40.0	27.0	44.8	58.6
LT	4.2	4.4	6.8	6.8	4.7	10.3	16.9	21.6	19.9	25.6	23.0	32.3
LU	3.4	-9.2	6.3	-3.1	1.9	:	-0.8	-1.5	0.0	-3.6	-4.8	:
HU	-0.1	3.5	1.0	-0.9	0.4	-1.4	11.9	13.2	10.5	4.5	4.1	-2.0
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-4.4	-1.9	1.3	-0.2	1.5	-0.3	-3.5	-6.8	-5.1	-4.9	0.7	2.4
AT	-2.1	-3.9	1.1	2.3	1.0	0.1	-0.5	-7.1	-6.6	-2.7	-0.2	4.6
PL	12.0	-1.7	7.2	-0.8	-2.2	2.8	1.0	1.3	7.5	15.7	1.5	7.3
PT	-5.8	1.8	-5.7	12.0	-7.4	9.8	0.5	-9.1	-0.6	0.7	3.5	7.5
SI	6.5	5.4	3.0	:	:	:	14.9	13.7	17.4	:	:	:
SK	1.1	-4.0	23.0	-30.8	-6.1	-4.9	40.6	47.1	38.0	-18.2	-23.7	-24.0
FI	-2.0	4.7	0.1	0.3	-1.2	:	-2.8	5.5	1.9	3.4	3.8	:
SE	-0.1	3.3	-0.1	3.4	-0.4	5.4	-0.1	7.3	2.7	6.0	6.2	9.2
UK	1.9	1.8	1.2	3.9	2.5	0.6	7.0	6.4	6.3	9.4	10.0	8.1
BG	1.2	4.7	-0.1	3.7	6.8	-2.8	5.1	4.2	5.4	9.2	16.0	7.4
RO	5.2	-6.4	1.3	7.3	-0.3	:	11.0	-2.3	0.8	10.3	3.7	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, working day adjusted data					
	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04
EU-25	1.0	0.5	0.9	1.8	0.9	0.5	2.0	0.8	1.9	4.5	4.4	4.1
EU-15	0.9	0.3	0.8	1.5	0.8	0.6	1.9	0.7	1.7	3.7	3.6	3.6
Euro-zone	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.6	0.3	-0.4	0.6	-0.7	0.3	2.1	2.3	1.7
BE	-0.5	-0.6	-0.4	3.6	0.5	1.8	1.1	-1.8	-1.2	2.3	3.2	5.8
CZ	0.6	3.0	1.6	0.4	3.2	0.3	4.6	7.7	7.8	4.2	9.6	7.4
DK	2.6	0.9	2.2	0.3	4.3	:	2.3	-0.9	1.7	5.8	7.4	:
DE	-0.3	-1.8	1.1	1.4	-1.3	-0.6	1.0	-3.3	-0.5	-0.1	-0.6	0.4
EE	4.9	8.7	4.1	3.4	4.6	-4.6	-5.5	0.7	4.7	22.6	22.9	7.2
EL	-2.4	2.9	0.4	2.5	0.6	0.7	-1.7	3.6	1.6	5.6	6.2	3.7
ES	2.1	2.5	0.8	1.8	0.5	-1.1	5.4	5.5	6.7	7.4	6.2	1.9
FR	1.0	1.6	1.6	2.5	1.9	0.7	2.9	2.4	4.6	7.4	8.3	6.6
IE	-2.3	0.5	-1.0	2.4	3.4	3.5	-1.5	-2.2	-2.1	-0.5	5.4	8.3
IT	-0.6	-0.9	-0.8	-0.5	-0.7	-1.0	-1.6	-2.0	-2.8	-2.5	-2.7	-3.6
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	8.0	10.7	11.1	-11.3	11.5	2.5	16.2	22.2	30.3	19.6	22.2	11.8
LT	10.7	8.0	9.6	3.6	9.1	7.7	52.1	53.9	54.9	36.8	34.3	33.8
LU	-2.1	-0.9	6.3	-2.1	2.7	:	-0.5	1.2	2.7	2.3	5.9	:
HU	0.7	5.1	4.0	-0.2	5.8	0.1	5.5	9.3	12.2	12.2	17.1	8.3
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-2.8	-0.5	-1.2	0.8	-0.4	-1.6	-4.3	-5.9	-6.5	-3.3	-0.7	-2.3
AT	1.1	-1.9	-1.4	3.7	1.4	-0.8	0.8	-2.3	-2.7	1.2	1.8	2.6
PL	4.5	2.8	7.5	13.2	3.5	-3.1	-2.3	-10.7	1.8	35.4	33.4	20.0
PT	0.0	1.8	-0.9	-1.6	-2.7	6.7	-9.5	-5.3	-5.1	-0.8	1.3	0.8
SI	2.3	6.2	2.3	:	:	:	15.0	14.8	11.7	:	:	:
SK	28.1	10.4	8.8	30.1	8.4	5.9	-9.7	-6.5	-11.1	100.4	70.0	62.5
FI	3.4	1.5	3.2	2.0	1.1	:	3.3	6.2	9.8	10.5	8.0	:
SE	4.6	1.3	2.5	2.1	3.3	3.1	7.4	9.5	9.6	10.2	9.7	11.4
UK	2.9	1.1	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.5	6.1	4.9	5.0	8.1	6.9	8.7
BG	4.3	3.4	5.2	4.9	6.3	6.8	18.9	18.3	18.1	15.2	20.4	27.3
RO	14.0	12.7	9.4	-10.2	5.8	:	32.0	53.2	54.8	27.0	17.4	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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

## 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					
	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04
EU-25	0.1	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.5	0.1	1.9	3.0	4.0	3.4
EU-15	0.2	0.3	1.2	1.3	0.8	0.5	0.0	-0.6	1.5	3.3	3.8	3.6
Euro-zone	-0.5	-0.8	0.5	-0.2	-0.3	-0.7	-0.8	-2.6	-0.3	-0.7	-0.6	-0.9
BE	-1.3	-0.4	-1.0	-1.1	-1.5	-1.9	-3.0	-5.1	-0.9	-3.5	-2.8	-6.8
CZ	-0.7	1.1	-1.0	1.5	0.1	0.3	-0.2	4.6	-1.9	0.5	2.1	-0.2
DK	2.9	5.6	2.5	18.8	1.9	:	18.3	17.2	12.0	33.1	30.4	:
DE	0.0	-0.5	1.2	-3.7	-2.0	-0.1	-2.8	-2.9	1.6	-3.4	-5.2	-4.6
EE	4.6	2.0	9.5	3.1	3.8	9.9	-0.3	1.9	8.4	20.7	19.2	28.8
EL	3.4	0.6	-0.3	2.7	1.2	1.8	11.4	8.8	3.1	6.4	4.6	5.6
ES	2.0	-1.1	2.3	0.8	-1.3	-1.7	2.8	-1.1	5.3	5.2	1.1	-0.6
FR	-1.2	0.0	0.7	1.2	0.5	0.0	0.5	-1.1	-0.1	0.3	2.1	2.5
IE	0.3	-0.6	0.9	0.1	1.1	-0.1	1.7	-0.1	0.2	0.6	1.5	1.9
IT	-0.8	-1.4	-0.5	-0.8	-1.2	-1.4	-2.7	-3.7	-4.0	-3.0	-3.6	-4.4
CY	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
LV	1.2	3.6	7.5	-3.7	8.5	-1.1	4.9	12.4	10.5	9.1	16.4	10.7
LT	7.0	-4.9	-1.2	7.5	-3.2	0.3	10.1	-8.1	-1.9	8.3	-2.4	3.1
LU	-6.5	7.4	-2.5	2.3	0.5	:	-3.2	7.3	2.2	0.4	7.7	:
HU	4.3	1.6	10.4	-6.6	4.9	3.6	5.2	13.1	20.8	10.8	9.7	11.9
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-4.3	-2.2	1.1	-0.4	0.8	-0.9	-7.4	-10.5	-7.6	-5.6	-0.5	0.5
AT	-2.8	-2.3	1.2	1.2	5.9	-0.9	6.6	0.1	0.8	-2.3	5.8	7.2
PL	-1.3	1.9	0.6	-2.5	5.2	-2.8	11.2	7.6	10.7	-4.2	9.3	-1.6
PT	-2.8	-0.5	-6.7	6.4	-5.4	7.1	-4.0	-5.9	-6.1	-3.7	-0.9	0.3
SI	3.7	6.9	1.2	:	:	:	5.3	8.7	11.3	:	:	:
SK	6.0	4.1	13.5	-28.3	21.5	7.2	11.5	8.4	21.6	-9.9	3.0	6.1
FI	0.9	1.5	-0.9	5.1	1.8	:	3.6	6.2	2.1	7.0	7.6	:
SE	4.9	1.9	3.3	3.4	1.9	3.7	9.2	8.0	9.1	14.3	10.9	13.1
UK	0.6	1.5	3.2	4.7	2.7	1.4	-0.4	2.7	4.5	10.8	13.1	12.5
BG	-0.6	3.9	6.0	10.5	9.0	5.3	1.2	1.0	3.1	21.7	36.3	33.5
RO	1.9	0.8	1.3	2.9	4.3	:	2.1	-0.4	-0.8	12.1	12.1	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

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

When looking at the breakdown of retail trade activity in terms of sales volumes in the EU-25, there was a distinct difference in the evolution of the latest data, as growth rates were considerably higher for non-food items. Seasonally adjusted sales volumes rose by 0.1 % for food, beverage and tobacco items between the second and third quarters of 2004, while the corresponding rate for non-food items was 0.4 %. The picture was different in the euro-zone, where the latest data for the third quarter of 2004 showed that sales volumes were reduced by 0.1 % for food, beverage and tobacco items and by 0.3 % for non-food items.

The only countries to report a quarter on quarter reduction of sales volumes for non-food items were Italy (-1.1 %), the Netherlands (-0.9 %), Spain (-0.7 %), Austria (-0.6 %) and Belgium (-0.3 %). Belgium was the only one of these five countries not to report a decline in sales volumes for food, beverage and tobacco items too, while Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovakia and Sweden also reported reduced volumes of sales for food, beverage and tobacco items.

Looking in more detail at a breakdown of activity among non-food items, there was a contraction in the volume of sales in the euro-zone between the second and third quarters of 2004 for each of the three groups of items shown in Tables 6 to 8. The largest reductions were recorded for books, newspapers and other specialised retailers, where sales volumes were down by 0.7 %.

In contrast, positive rates of change were recorded for all three of these groups of non-food items in the EU-25, as detailed in Tables 6 to 8 with the pace of growth evenly spread, as sales increased by 0.5 % for textiles, clothing, footwear & leather goods retailers and for household equipment retailers, while for books, newspapers and other specialised retailers the corresponding rate was 0.4 %.

## Employment index for retail trade

In contrast to the developments seen for sales volumes, which fell in three of the last four quarters in the euro-zone, the index of employment in the euro-zone expanded at a rapid pace (recording higher growth than in the EU-25 or EU-15 in three of the last four quarters). The employment index for the euro-zone has generally expanded at a faster pace than that of the EU-25 since 2001 and this pattern continued into the first two quarters of 2004. The rate at which the employment index for retail trade grew in the euro-zone accelerated through the first three quarters of 2004, rising from 0.3 % to 0.4 % and subsequently 0.7 %.

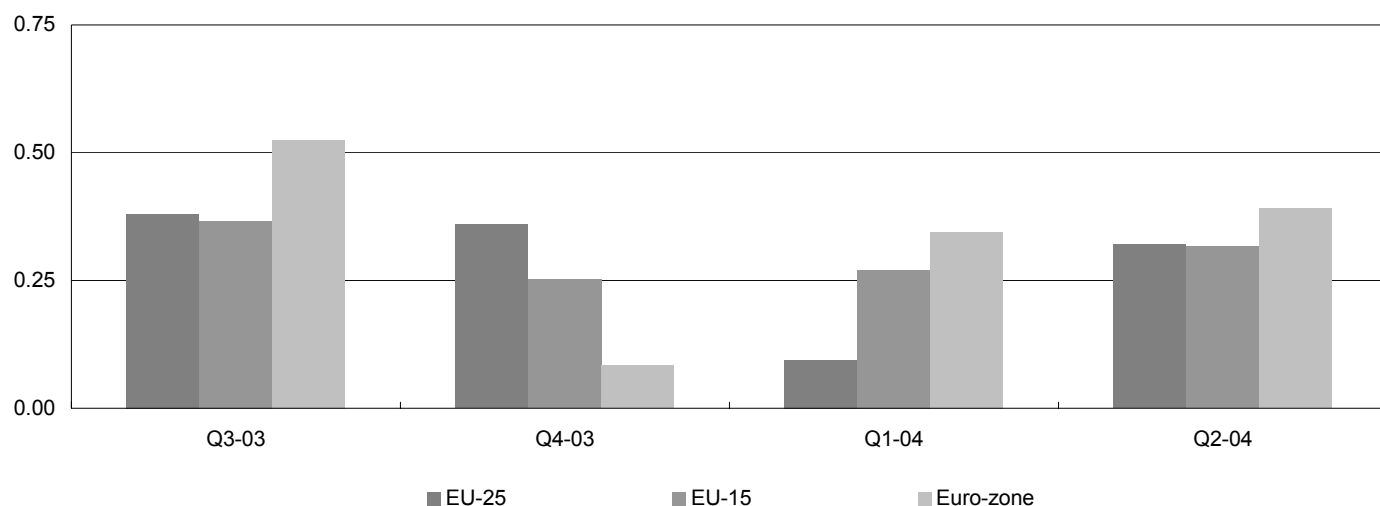


Figure 2: Employment index for retail trade, seasonally adjusted data, growth rates compared to the previous quarter (%); source: Eurostat STS

	Quarter on quarter growth rates, seasonally adjusted data						Year on year growth rates, gross data					
	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04	Q2-03	Q3-03	Q4-03	Q1-04	Q2-04	Q3-04
EU-25	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.3	:	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.2	:
EU-15	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	:	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.2	:
Euro-zone	0.7	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.7	1.9	2.3	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.5
BE	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
CZ	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
DK	3.3	-1.8	-2.4	:	:	:	4.4	2.8	-1.5	:	:	:
DE	-0.4	-0.5	0.0	-0.4	-0.4	-0.1	-2.4	-2.0	-1.2	-1.3	-1.4	-0.9
EE	0.1	0.2	-0.8	-4.4	0.6	:	-5.8	-5.5	-8.8	-5.0	-4.5	:
EL	-0.2	1.2	0.6	1.2	1.4	:	2.0	1.9	1.6	2.9	4.5	:
ES	0.8	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.1	3.5	3.8	2.9	3.3	2.8	2.3
FR	0.7	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.6	2.4	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	2.0
IE (1)	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
IT	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
CY	0.4	-1.0	1.2	0.3	0.1	:	-0.6	-4.2	-1.0	1.0	1.0	:
LV	1.2	1.8	2.0	-1.1	0.1	:	1.7	2.3	3.3	4.0	2.7	:
LT	1.4	5.0	2.6	0.7	2.5	4.3	2.3	6.8	7.6	10.1	11.3	10.5
LU	0.3	0.4	0.7	-0.2	0.1	-0.6	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.1	0.9	0.5
HU	2.1	1.6	1.9	3.7	1.4	:	2.7	2.3	3.9	9.6	8.9	:
MT	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	-0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-1.0	c	0.2	-0.2	-0.7	-1.8	-2.5	c
AT (1)	-0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.4	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.2	1.1	1.6
PL	0.7	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.4	:	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.4	:
PT (1)	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.6	-0.1	-0.3	0.2	0.4
SI	-0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.6	:	-1.5	-1.8	-1.7	-0.3	0.9	:
SK	-4.8	-0.7	-0.9	6.2	-0.2	:	-10.3	-8.7	-7.3	-0.6	4.3	:
FI	0.9	-0.4	-1.2	1.5	-0.3	2.9	-0.5	1.5	-1.4	0.5	-1.0	3.8
SE (1)	5.0	-0.3	-1.3	-1.2	4.0	1.5	6.8	7.5	2.0	2.0	1.1	3.0
UK	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.2	:	0.1	-0.2	0.4	1.1	1.1	:
BG	4.4	2.4	2.5	6.4	2.5	2.0	19.9	18.6	14.6	17.6	15.2	13.6
RO	-3.0	-3.1	-3.3	2.7	-2.6	:	2.2	-1.5	-5.3	-6.6	-6.3	:
TR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Table 9: Employment index for retail trade, growth rates (%); source: Eurostat STS

(1) Excluding repair (NACE Group 52.7).

## ➤ 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**<sup>1</sup>. Division 52 of the NACE Rev. 1 classification<sup>2</sup> covers retailing.

The **volume of sales**<sup>3</sup> 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.**

### SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

c confidential  
: not available

### FURTHER INFORMATION

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<sup>1</sup> 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>.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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**

[EUROSTAT website/Industry, trade and services/Industry, trade and services - horizontal view/Short-term Business Statistics - Monthly and Quarterly \(Industry, Construction, Retail Trade and Other Services\)/Trade and other services \(NACE Rev.1 G-K\)/Retail trade \(NACE Rev.1 52\)](#)

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### **European Statistical Data Support:**

Eurostat set up with the members of the 'European statistical system' a network of support centres, which will exist in nearly all Member States as well as in some EFTA countries.

Their mission is to provide help and guidance to Internet users of European statistical data.

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