

# EUROPEAN ECONOMY

EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

## Supplement B Business and Consumer Survey Results

No 8/9 – August/September 1994

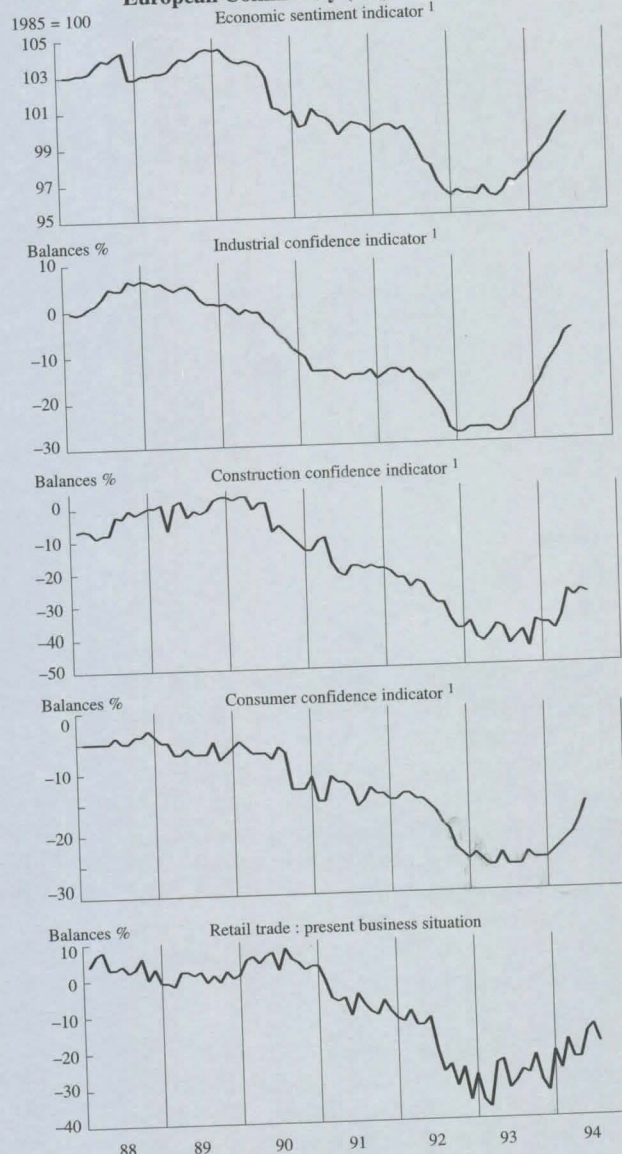


*In this number :  
Capacity utilization in industry;  
factors limiting production*

### THE MAIN POINTS IN BRIEF

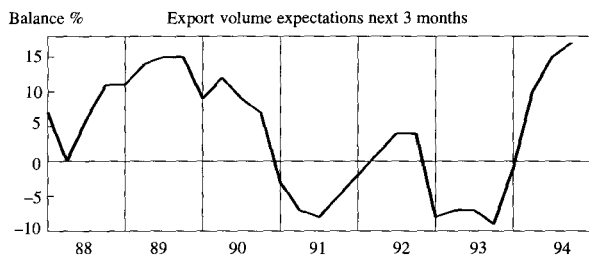
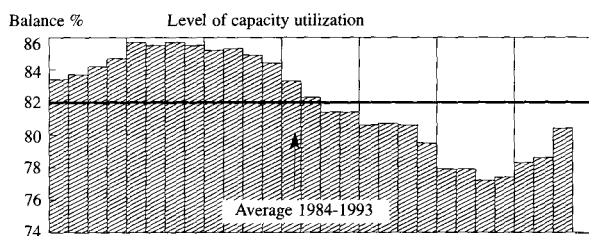
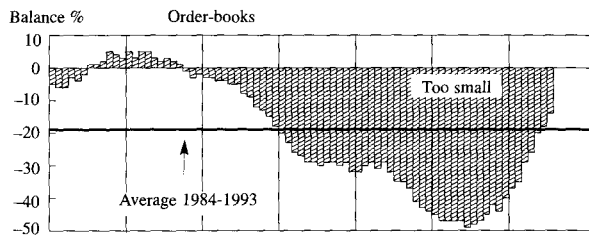
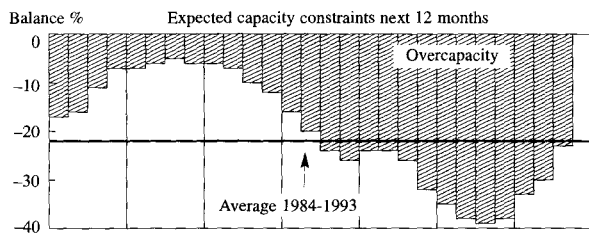
- The economic improvement in the Community has gained fresh impetus. The positive economic picture is reflected in favourable assessments of the *current situation and future developments*.
- *Capacity utilization in industry has risen markedly. Capacity shortages are not expected in the near future.*
- There has been a clear reduction in industrial firms' plans to lay off workers. Employment expectations in the *retail trade* remain considerably more positive than in industry.
- *Consumers* too are less pessimistic about the future. Fears of a further rise in unemployment are lessening.

GRAPH 1 : Indicators of economic sentiment —  
European Community (s.a.)  
Economic sentiment indicator <sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> See notes to Table 8.

GRAPH 2 : Indicators of capacity, order-books and export volume expectations — European Community (s.a.)



Source : European Community Business Surveys

**The economic improvement in the European Union has gained fresh impetus.** — The economic upturn in the Union continued in the summer. This is reflected in the most recent business surveys covering the period up to and including August. The assessments of managers in industry and the retail trade confirm growing confidence both in the current situation and in the future trend of the European economy. The construction industry was the only sector in which the positive trend of previous months was not maintained. By contrast, the gradual strengthening of consumer confidence is continuing without interruption.

**Capacity utilization in industry has again risen.** — At the end of July capacity utilization in European industry reached a level (80.4%) last reached in October 1992; admittedly, that level is still well below the high point observed in 1988 (85.8%). The highest level of capacity utilization was reported in the *basic materials and pro-*

*ducer goods industries* (82.5%), which also recorded the sharpest rise (+3%). The *investment goods industries* again reported the lowest capacity level (79.3%). Nevertheless, the latest results indicate more intensive use of plant even here (+2.2%). While capacity utilization in the *consumer goods industries* exceeded the 80% mark (80.3%), the rise, compared with previous quarters, was appreciably less than in the other industrial sectors owing to less buoyant private consumption.

According to the latest survey findings, there is still ample capacity in industry to carry out the planned expansion of industrial output without it resulting in capacity shortages. However, the number of firms reporting surplus capacity has declined markedly. Compared with the previous quarter, the gap between the number of firms anticipating surplus capacity in the near future and those expecting capacity shortages has narrowed by six percentage points.

**Domestic and export demand increases further.** — The latest business survey results confirm the favourable trend of domestic and export demand; both the assessments of order-book levels and those of new orders in industry point to stronger demand for industrial products.

While *order-book levels* are still viewed by a majority (albeit a steadily declining one) as relatively low, managers in all countries of the Union again voiced optimism about the recent trend of *new orders*.

Over the recent period, demand for industrial products has been underpinned mainly by buoyant external trade. This is reflected in managers' assessments of the level of export orders, although these are still seen as being too low; however, the majority of managers in all member countries are expecting a further rise in the volume of exports over the next few months. The latest business survey findings indicate particular optimism in Greece, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

**The employment decline in industry is slowing. A rise in recruitment is planned in the retail trade.** — In *industry* managers' assessments of the employment trend have again become less pessimistic, and in fact markedly so. This positive result is due to the appreciable improvement in recruitment plans in almost all Union countries, except in Ireland and Portugal. In Denmark and Greece, employment in industry is even expected to increase. However, employment expectations remain considerably more positive in the *retail trade* than in industry.

**Consumer confidence in the economic trend has strengthened further.** — According to the latest survey results (August), the consumer climate has improved further. The growing confidence is due mainly to increasingly positive assessments of the general economic situation and of future prospects. In August the current financial situation of households was also viewed more favourably than in previous months.

At the same time, there is an increasing decline in the majority of consumers who fear a further rise in unemployment.

TABLE 1\*: Capacity utilization in manufacturing industry (%) <sup>(a)</sup> (s.a.)

	Values		1991	1992	1993	1992	1993				1994		
	Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93					IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
<b>B</b>	82.2	74.5	79.4	77.4	74.8	76.4	75.3	74.5	74.5	74.9	76.4	77.1	77.7
<b>DK</b>	82.4	75.4	80.5	79.2	77.1	78.9	77.5	75.4	77.0	78.5	80.2	80.7	82.2
<b>D</b>	89.5	78.1	88.2	84.8	79.1	82.9	80.5	79.2	78.5	78.1	78.5	80.4	81.9
<b>GR</b>	78.9	74.1	77.2	78.3	75.9	78.8	77.8	76.7	74.4	74.6	74.1	74.3	74.0
<b>E</b>	81.7	71.1	77.6	76.6	72.8	76.4	73.9	73.9	71.1	72.1	75.7	73.2	74.0
<b>F</b>	88.3	78.9	84.2	82.5	79.7	82.1	81.2	79.4	78.9	79.1	79.2	79.9	84.0
<b>IRL</b>	78.7	71.6	75.5	77.1	73.6	76.7	71.6	74.9	73.5	74.4	76.6	74.7	74.7
<b>I</b>	80.8	74.3	77.3	76.4	74.4	75.0	74.4	74.6	74.3	74.3	74.4	74.4	75.4
<b>L</b>	85.6	78.3	82.1	79.8	80.1	78.3	80.0	80.5	81.0	78.8	80.7	80.3	82.3
<b>NL</b>	86.1	80.3	84.6	83.5	81.0	83.1	82.2	81.1	80.3	80.5	80.5	82.0	83.0
<b>P</b>	82.3	72.6	79.1	77.3	73.9	76.9	75.2	75.0	72.9	72.6	74.8	76.5	76.2
<b>UK<sup>(b)</sup></b>	94.8	76.6	78.6	77.9	79.9	78.5	76.7	80.8	80.4	81.7	83.5	82.6	84.3
<b>EUR</b>	85.8	77.2	82.1	80.4	77.6	79.5	77.9	77.9	77.2	77.4	78.3	78.7	80.4

TABLE 2: Degree of capacity utilization and orders on hand by industrial branches — European Community <sup>(a)</sup> (s.a.)

Industries	Degree of capacity utilization in %								Expected capacity constraints : balances overcapacity (+) capacity too small (-)							
	1992	1993	1993			1994			1992	1993	1993			1994		
			II	III	IV	I	II	III			II	III	IV	I	II	III
<b>Industry as a whole</b>	80.4	77.6	77.9	77.2	77.4	78.3	78.7	80.4	+27	+38	+38	+39	+38	+33	+30	+23
<b>Consumer goods <sup>(d)</sup></b>	81.5	79.6	79.9	79.5	79.1	79.3	79.9	80.3	+25	+33	+36	+35	+33	+29	+24	+21
<b>Investment goods <sup>(d)</sup></b>	78.9	76.5	77.0	75.8	75.8	76.4	77.1	79.3	+28	+46	+42	+50	+49	+48	+41	+35
<b>Intermediate goods <sup>(d)</sup></b>	80.6	77.8	77.9	77.3	77.8	79.4	79.5	82.4	+7	+40	+43	+40	+41	+34	+32	+22
Textile industry	79.9	77.8	76.8	77.8	79.0	80.0	81.3	82.3	+26	+34	+35	+36	+32	+26	+16	+13
Footwear and clothing	83.0	80.3	79.9	80.4	80.1	81.0	81.5	82.9	+25	+32	+31	+33	+34	+25	+21	+17
Timber/wooden furniture	79.8	77.6	76.8	77.3	78.0	78.1	79.0	80.2	+24	+30	+30	+33	+28	+30	+26	+22
Manufacture of paper, paper products, printing of which :	82.5	80.9	80.2	81.1	81.7	82.5	82.5	82.1	+27	+31	+33	+32	+30	+26	+25	+22
manufacture of paper	87.3	85.3	86.1	84.3	85.8	88.4	88.3	90.0	+32	+40	+37	+44	+42	+27	+17	+6
Leather	76.8	74.5	73.7	74.5	76.7	78.6	80.3	77.7	+33	+32	+30	+41	+25	+20	-1	+17
Plastics	79.5	76.4	75.5	76.5	76.7	77.3	78.7	79.5	+20	+39	+42	+39	+38	+32	+28	+29
Mineral-oil refining	90.3	89.6	90.5	90.9	89.2	92.1	93.2	91.9	+4	0	-6	-7	+15	+14	+27	+38
Metals	80.6	75.0	77.0	74.3	73.8	77.2	76.1	82.4	+29	+53	+53	+56	+56	+40	+41	+21
Non-metallic mineral products	80.0	76.7	76.8	76.4	76.9	76.4	77.0	78.3	+32	+41	+42	+40	+40	+34	+34	+24
Metal articles	76.8	73.3	73.2	72.8	72.9	72.9	74.3	77.8	+32	+45	+41	+46	+49	+40	+34	+29
Mechanical engineering of which:	77.8	75.3	75.4	74.7	74.5	75.4	76.6	78.8	+42	+50	+51	+55	+52	+48	+42	+32
machines tools	77.0	73.3	73.9	73.2	72.3	74.5	76.8	79.1	+40	+54	+53	+53	+56	+45	+35	+28
Office and data processing machinery	80.1	74.2	74.0	75.6	72.3	76.9	83.5	90.5	+44	+70	+66	+59	+80	+41	+32	+17
Electrical engineering	79.2	78.9	80.3	77.5	78.8	79.0	79.7	80.1	+32	+36	+35	+41	+34	+40	+31	+31
Shipbuilding	74.0	70.6	70.4	75.1	69.6	69.0	68.4	73.2	+55	+48	+51	+38	+43	+64	+53	+65
Rubber products	84.0	78.4	79.9	79.1	75.5	77.7	80.9	82.7	+7	+40	+38	+42	+49	+44	+43	+24
Instrument engineering	82.5	80.1	80.4	80.8	78.9	78.5	79.4	83.5	+28	+41	+39	+46	+35	+32	+33	+28

TABLE 3: Expected capacity constraints in manufacturing industry : i.e. balance of respondents expecting capacity to be more than sufficient in relation to production expectations <sup>(a)(c)</sup> (s.a.)

	Values		1991	1992	1993	1992	1993				1994		
	Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93					IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
<b>B</b>	+9	+54	+24	+33	+50	+37	+46	+49	+54	+50	+45	+34	+33
<b>DK</b>	+10	+33	+23	+28	+31	+26	+31	+33	+30	+28	+22	+17	+12
<b>D</b>	-6	+45	+5	+18	+42	+29	+36	+43	+44	+45	+44	+34	+24
<b>GR</b>	+8	+19	+10	+11	+15	+9	+12	+14	+17	+17	+19	+21	+17
<b>E</b>	+3	+20	+14	+14	+17	+11	+12	+20	+17	+17	+14	+11	+10
<b>F</b>	-6	+52	+18	+25	+47	+32	+39	+46	+52	+50	+42	+38	+29
<b>IRL</b>	+1	+30	+19	+11	+24	+10	+20	+21	+30	+23	+15	+18	+16
<b>I</b>	+12	+40	+33	+35	+38	+37	+37	+37	+40	+38	+33	+29	+27
<b>L</b>	-3	+45	+13	+32	+44	+38	+42	+45	+45	+44	+45	+51	+22
<b>NL</b>	-1	+16	+3	+7	+15	+11	+14	+16	+16	+15	+15	+10	+7
<b>P</b>	-4	+40	+10	+22	+36	+21	+29	+34	+40	+40	+31	+22	+13
<b>UK</b>	+1	+55	+47	+48	+39	+52	+45	+37	+37	+36	+29	+36	+27
<b>EUR</b>	+5	+39	+22	+27	+38	+32	+35	+38	+39	+38	+33	+30	+23

\* Used data-signs in the tables : (s.a.) = seasonally adjusted ; = not available.  
The figures for the Federal Republic of Germany refer to Western Germany, if not mentioned otherwise.  
Source, unless stated otherwise : European Community business surveys.

(a) The data are collected in January, April, July and October each year.

(b) The series for the United Kingdom are estimated using the national (Confederation of British Industry) data on the percentage of firms reporting below-capacity working.

(c) Answers to the questions whether, taking into account the level of order-books or production capacity is more than sufficient (+), sufficient (=) or less than sufficient (-). This, negative balances (capacity less than sufficient) indicate high levels of capacity utilization and positive balances (capacity more than sufficient) are associated with low levels of capacity utilization.

(d) The three major groups do not cover all the sectors of industry as a whole.

TABLE 4 : Estimated number of months' production assured by orders on hand in manufacturing industry <sup>(a)</sup> (s.a.)

	Values		1991	1992	1993	1992					1993		
	Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93				IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
B	4,3	2,9	3,7	3,5	3,1	3,4	3,3	3,1	3,0	2,9	3,0	2,9	2,9
DK	2,9	1,3	2,0	2,0	2,0	2,0	2,9	1,3	1,8	2,0	1,8	2,3	1,9
D	3,3	2,3	3,2	2,8	2,4	2,6	2,4	2,5	2,3	2,5	2,6	2,5	2,6
GR	6,9	5,1	5,7	5,5	5,6	5,2	5,2	5,8	5,8	5,4	5,6	5,7	5,8
E	3,5	1,5	2,3	2,5	2,0	2,3	2,6	1,5	2,1	1,7	2,4	2,6	2,0
F	3,7	2,3	3,0	3,0	2,8	3,0	3,0	3,1	2,3	2,8	2,7	3,1	3,0
IRL	2,2	1,6	1,9	2,3	1,9	2,1	2,0	1,9	2,2	1,6	2,5	2,2	2,6
I	4,7	3,8	4,1	4,1	3,9	4,3	4,1	4,0	3,9	3,8	3,8	4,1	4,1
L	2,7	1,9	2,4	2,2	2,1	2,0	2,3	2,1	1,9	1,9	2,0	2,0	2,2
NL	3,3	2,2	3,0	2,8	2,3	2,6	2,4	2,3	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2	2,2
P	4,4	3,3	3,8	3,6	3,5	3,8	3,4	3,7	3,3	3,7	3,4	3,3	3,2
UK	4,1	2,8	3,1	3,1	3,0	3,1	2,9	3,0	2,8	3,3	3,1	2,9	3,1
EUR	3,6	2,7	3,3	3,2	2,9	3,1	3,0	2,9	2,7	2,9	2,9	3,0	3,1

TABLE 5 : New orders in manufacturing industry <sup>(a)</sup> (s.a.)

Balances : i.e., differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies

	Values		1991	1992	1993	1992					1993		
	Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93				IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
B	+10	-21	-11	-12	-15	-13	-15	-21	-13	-12	+4	+5	+5
DK	+19	-18	+4	-1	-7	-8	-15	-18	-5	+10	+19	+25	+37
D	+18	-21	-2	-10	-13	-19	-21	-17	-13	-2	-4	+20	+16
E	+12	-8	+5	+1	-5	-6	+1	-8	-8	-6	-4	-3	+8
F	+21	-45	-26	-15	-38	-27	-30	-40	-45	-38	-21	+3	+19
IRL	+20	-17	-11	-5	-2	-7	-11	0	-5	+9	+10	+2	+13
I	+23	-13	-1	-4	-5	-13	-10	-6	-6	+1	+14	+15	+23
L	+10	-48	-34	-35	-26	-39	-48	-12	-25	-19	-16	-8	+1
NL	+16	-5	+4	+5	+2	+4	+1	-2	+7	+3	+8	+17	+13
P	+28	-37	-10	-17	-34	-25	-31	-35	-37	-31	-13	-3	+6
UK	+31	-46	-40	-23	+1	-20	-10	-4	+9	+7	+13	+12	+16
EUR	+19	-17	-12	-10	-13	-17	-16	-16	-13	-7	0	+12	+17

TABLE 6 : Export volume expectations in manufacturing industry <sup>(a)</sup> (s.a.)

Balances : i.e., differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies

	Values		1991	1992	1993	1992					1993		
	Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93				IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
B	+13	-19	-14	-10	-10	-12	-11	-18	-10	+1	+15	+15	+13
D	+15	-20	-11	-4	-14	-20	-17	-15	-14	-9	+5	+15	+16
GR	+29	+5	+18	+17	+15	+13	+21	+16	+19	+5	+21	+26	+27
E	+8	-8	+1	0	-1	-3	+5	-8	-2	+1	-4	+12	+10
F	+14	-30	-11	-3	-23	-11	-23	-25	-30	-14	-1	+9	+8
IRL	+38	-29	+12	-1	-5	-29	+1	-10	-28	+18	-13	+21	+36
I	+27	+1	+6	+7	+10	+6	+2	+11	+10	+15	+26	+22	+21
L	+13	-58	-39	-38	-23	-46	-42	-6	-26	-17	-19	-8	+5
NL	+18	-7	+6	+8	+3	+6	+4	+3	-2	+5	+14	+10	+20
P	+30	-25	+5	-3	-20	-11	-24	-22	-25	-6	+6	+17	+29
UK	+23	-18	-4	+6	+12	+9	+20	+15	+4	+8	+18	+13	+23
EUR	+16	-9	-5	0	-6	-8	-7	-7	-9	-1	+10	+15	+17

TABLE 7 : Employment expectations in manufacturing industry <sup>(a)</sup> (s.a.)

Balance of respondents expecting employment up, unchanged, down

	Values		1991	1992	1993	1992					1993		
	Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93				IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III
B	+3	-26	-10	-14	-23	-18	-22	-25	-26	-20	-16	-10	-7
DK	+2	-21	-5	-7	-13	-11	-17	-21	-7	-6	+3	+10	+5
D	+8	-53	-7	-27	-51	-41	-48	-52	-51	-53	-43	-30	-30
GR	+3	-11	-7	-4	-5	-6	-4	-4	-5	-6	-3	-3	+3
E	-9	-51	-18	-20	-43	-23	-41	-52	-47	-33	-32	-25	-14
F	-10	-53	-30	-40	-49	-40	-44	-49	-53	-50	-43	-39	-34
IRL	+13	-33	-15	-18	-26	-33	-19	-29	-30	-26	-23	-14	-14
I	+7	-27	-12	-23	-21	-27	-24	-20	-21	-18	-22	-15	-9
L	+5	-53	-41	-35	-44	-40	-43	-44	-41	-48	-40	-48	-32
NL	+14	-29	-8	-14	-27	-17	-25	-29	-26	-27	-27	-24	-21
P	+1	-34	-12	-21	-32	-23	-29	-34	-32	-32	-28	-16	-19
UK	+13	-48	-43	-35	-27	-40	-32	-26	-28	-22	-12	-24	-14
EUR	-3	-39	-19	-28	-37	-34	-36	-38	-39	-34	-31	-26	-21

(a) The data are collected in January, April, July and October each year.

TABLE 8\* : Indicators of confidence and economic sentiment (s.a.)

		Values		1991	1992	1993	1993	1994			1994					
		Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93					IV	I	II	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
<b>B</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	2	-33	-15	-20	-29	-24	-12	-9	-12	-10	-9	-8	-7	-4	
	2. construction confidence indicator	7	-25	-7	-13	-21	-21	-17	-14	-18	-14	-13	-14	-15	-15	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	5	-30	-7	-12	-26	-29	-24	-17	-22	-20	-16	-15	-16	-12	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	177.4	175.3	191.4	207.9	219.6	217.4	218.2	218.7	223.0	210.6	208.0	213.5	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	107.6	98.0	103.4	102.0	99.3	99.5	101.6	103.1	101.9	102.5	103.4	103.4	103.3	104.3	
<b>DK</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	5	-20	-8	-7	-12	-3	6	10	:	10	:	:	15	:	
	2. construction confidence indicator	12	-37	-32	-22	-26	-18	-11	-5	:	-5	:	:	12	:	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	2	-10	-2	-2	-5	-2	3	8	3	8	9	8	9	9	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	157.9	144.7	147.7	163.7	189.7	176.8	185.4	184.3	172.7	173.4	179.6	179.2	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	98.5	95.9	97.2	97.2	96.9	98.2	99.6	99.9	99.7	100.0	99.9	99.8	99.9	:	
<b>D</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	11	-36	0	-18	-34	-31	-24	-16	-20	-19	-16	-14	-10	-10	
	2. construction confidence indicator	3	-33	-5	-15	-28	-30	-30	-26	-31	-28	-26	-24	-27	-26	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	6	-30	-12	-20	-28	-29	-27	-17	-24	-22	-17	-13	-11	-11	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	141.3	137.5	147.4	166.9	171.8	172.5	170.8	175.7	176.2	165.7	165.8	170.4	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	104.6	95.0	101.3	98.6	96.1	96.5	97.3	99.1	97.9	98.4	99.3	99.7	100.2	100.3	
<b>E</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	0	-44	-22	-25	-35	-28	-19	-10	-14	-12	-10	-8	-6	:	
	2. construction confidence indicator	32	-59	-8	-37	-44	-35	-38	-24	-34	-30	-24	-19	-20	:	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	5	-39	-6	-20	-34	-35	-33	-30	-32	-33	-29	-27	-25	-19	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	311.2	270.0	316.0	360.8	397.2	371.9	374.2	381.0	383.0	351.6	367.5	379.5	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	102.0	96.1	99.8	98.1	96.6	97.2	98.1	98.8	98.3	98.4	98.9	99.1	99.3	:	
<b>F</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	12	-40	-20	-21	-35	-31	-21	-5	-16	-7	-2	-5	-2	:	
	2. construction confidence indicator	2	-59	-16	-43	-57	-58	-46	-40	:	-40	:	:	-37	:	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	-9	-28	-21	-22	-25	-25	-22	-18	-22	-21	-18	-16	-16	:	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	208.6	217.2	241.2	263.0	275.4	255.1	267.7	261.3	263.0	241.1	243.7	250.6	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	106.0	97.1	101.4	99.9	97.9	98.2	99.9	101.4	100.2	100.9	101.7	101.7	102.0	:	
<b>IRL</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	14	-22	-9	-4	-13	-9	1	-2	0	1	-1	-5	2	-1	
	2. construction confidence indicator	30	-38	-19	-13	-27	-24	-21	-27	-16	-21	-26	-35	-8	23	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	-3	-26	-18	-21	-14	-7	-2	-3	-1	-6	-1	-1	-2	-2	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	241.4	223.9	280.8	317.8	332.8	305.2	310.3	319.3	304.2	292.0	318.0	330.8	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	105.1	100.5	101.5	101.4	102.2	103.3	104.4	103.9	104.4	103.9	104.1	103.8	104.6	105.2	
<b>I</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	13	-22	-13	-15	-17	-12	-6	-1	-3	-4	-1	1	2	:	
	2. construction confidence indicator	21	-68	-7	-16	-48	-53	-58	-33	-50	-24	-36	-40	-46	:	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	0	-36	-13	-19	-32	-31	-30	-22	-29	-24	-23	-20	-20	:	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	156.4	136.9	168.2	177.0	199.8	233.7	204.6	238.6	241.0	221.5	216.0	210.8	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	103.5	96.2	100.0	98.8	96.9	97.5	98.2	100.4	98.7	100.2	100.3	100.6	100.6	:	
<b>NL</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	3	-12	-4	-6	-10	-9	-6	-2	-6	-3	-3	-1	1	1	
	2. construction confidence indicator	9	-20	-6	-15	-17	-18	-16	-12	-14	-15	-12	-11	-8	:	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	11	-21	-10	-10	-17	-16	-13	-9	-11	-9	-9	-8	-8	-4	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	136.0	142.4	167.0	189.1	200.2	191.4	191.4	198.5	191.5	184.3	183.7	190.7	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	103.5	97.3	99.5	99.0	98.0	98.5	99.3	100.0	99.4	99.9	99.9	100.1	100.4	:	
<b>UK</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	21	-40	-32	-24	-11	-8	-2	-3	-2	-8	-2	0	0	8	
	2. construction confidence indicator	42	-78	-62	-53	-38	-30	-24	-24	-23	-25	-28	-20	-18	-12	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	7	-31	-17	-15	-13	-11	-11	-17	-14	-17	-19	-14	-13	-10	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	190.3	198.1	228.2	242.3	259.3	241.7	252.2	246.9	244.3	233.9	237.3	248.4	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	103.8	96.1	97.3	98.0	99.1	99.7	100.2	99.5	100.0	99.4	99.3	99.9	100.0	100.8	
<b>EUR</b>	1. industrial confidence indicator	6	-28	-14	-19	-26	-21	-14	-7	-12	-10	-7	-6	-3	:	
	2. construction confidence indicator	3	-44	-18	-29	-40	-40	-38	-29	-36	-28	-30	-28	-29	:	
	3. consumer confidence indicator	3	-26	-14	-18	-25	-25	-23	-19	-22	-21	-19	-16	-15	:	
	4. share-price index <sup>(a)</sup>	:	:	174.9	177.1	199.7	216.9	229.5	219.5	224.4	224.5	223.0	211.1	213.0	220.0	
	= 5. economic sentiment indicator	104.6	95.9	100.2	98.6	96.4	97.0	98.2	99.7	98.6	99.2	99.7	100.2	100.6	:	

\* Used data-sign in the tables : (s.a.) = seasonally adjusted, : = not available.  
The figures for the Federal Republic of Germany refer to Western Germany, if not mentioned otherwise.  
Source, unless stated otherwise : European Commission business surveys.

(a) Not seasonally adjusted.

TABLE 9 : **Monthly survey of manufacturing industry** — Monthly questions and the composite industrial confidence indicator <sup>(a)</sup>  
Balances : i.e. differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies (s.a.)

		Values		1991	1992	1993	1993	1994				1994			
		Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93					IV	I	II	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July
INDUSTRIAL CONFIDENCE INDICATOR	<b>B</b>	2	-33	-15	-20	-29	-24	-12	-9	-12	-10	-9	-8	-7	-4
	<b>DK</b>	5	-20	-8	-7	-13	-3	6	10	:	10	:	:	15	:
	<b>D</b>	11	-38	0	-18	-34	-31	-24	-16	-20	-19	-16	-14	-10	-10
	<b>GR</b>	5	-11	-7	-4	-6	-8	-3	1	-2	0	1	1	3	:
	<b>E</b>	0	-44	-22	-25	-35	-28	-19	10	-14	-12	-10	-8	-6	:
	<b>F</b>	12	-40	-20	-21	-35	-31	-20	-5	-16	-7	-2	-5	-2	:
	<b>IRL</b>	14	-22	-9	-4	-13	-9	1	-2	0	1	-1	-5	2	-1
	<b>I</b>	13	-22	-13	-15	-18	-12	-6	-1	-3	-4	-1	1	2	:
	<b>L</b>	11	-36	-24	-28	-25	-24	-19	-12	-18	-15	-9	-12	-8	-7
	<b>NL</b>	3	-12	-5	-6	-10	-8	-6	-2	-6	-3	-3	-1	1	1
<b>P</b>	5	-28	-7	-12	-25	-21	-13	-6	-9	-9	-7	-3	-1	:	
<b>UK</b>	21	-40	-32	-24	-11	-7	-1	-3	-2	-8	-2	0	0	8	
<b>EUR</b>	6	-28	-14	-19	-26	-21	-14	-8	-12	-10	-7	-6	-3	:	
PRODUCTION EXPECTATIONS	<b>B</b>	12	-36	-12	-16	-28	-21	-5	-3	-7	-6	-2	0	-1	4
	<b>DK</b>	15	-5	8	7	4	9	17	21	:	21	:	:	18	:
	<b>D</b>	14	-31	3	-10	-20	-11	-2	7	2	5	7	8	11	9
	<b>GR</b>	29	3	18	25	20	17	21	24	21	23	24	25	30	:
	<b>E</b>	16	-19	-1	-4	-10	-3	2	5	3	1	6	7	7	:
	<b>F</b>	23	-27	-4	-4	-20	-14	1	11	7	11	15	6	10	:
	<b>IRL</b>	27	-15	4	1	-3	1	14	10	10	14	15	0	11	9
	<b>I</b>	28	-14	8	1	-1	6	9	14	11	12	14	17	16	:
	<b>L</b>	19	-42	-27	-28	-16	-14	-9	-5	-7	-7	-3	-5	3	2
	<b>NL</b>	12	-4	5	4	1	4	8	8	5	8	8	8	12	12
<b>P</b>	18	-11	9	3	-8	-5	-1	9	1	5	8	13	14	:	
<b>UK</b>	34	-38	-14	-1	11	13	22	16	22	12	16	19	16	29	
<b>EUR</b>	28	-16	0	-4	-9	-3	6	10	8	9	11	11	12	:	
ORDER-BOOKS	<b>B</b>	-1	-51	-26	-33	-45	-41	-31	-24	-28	-26	-24	-22	-20	-17
	<b>DK</b>	11	-45	-14	-17	-31	-12	-6	11	:	11	:	:	26	:
	<b>D</b>	12	-59	-4	-29	-57	-57	-51	-40	-45	-45	-40	-36	-32	-29
	<b>GR</b>	-7	-30	-23	-21	-26	-25	-19	-18	-19	-18	-15	-22	-18	:
	<b>E</b>	-3	-65	-39	-43	-58	-52	-38	-22	-31	-22	-24	-19	-12	:
	<b>F</b>	16	-65	-35	-39	-57	-57	-42	-17	-31	-23	-13	-14	-9	:
	<b>IRL</b>	16	-36	-22	-8	-20	-10	-2	-6	-3	-10	-6	-3	1	-4
	<b>I</b>	12	-44	-28	-30	-38	-29	-21	-12	-16	-17	-11	-8	-4	:
	<b>L</b>	16	-63	-38	-44	-44	-44	-40	-29	-41	-36	-26	-26	-21	-24
	<b>NL</b>	1	-25	-11	-15	-23	-22	-18	-10	-14	-11	-12	-8	-7	-8
<b>P</b>	0	-52	-21	-30	-48	-45	-30	-22	-23	-23	-24	-18	-19	:	
<b>UK</b>	26	-62	-56	-49	-26	-20	-15	-11	-16	-17	-8	-7	-7	3	
<b>EUR</b>	5	-49	-28	-35	-46	-42	-34	-21	-29	-26	-20	-18	-14	:	
EXPORT ORDER-BOOKS	<b>B</b>	-3	-56	-30	-36	-49	-44	-34	-24	-32	-28	-22	-21	-24	-18
	<b>DK</b>	17	-39	-4	-9	-24	-8	2	9	:	9	:	:	22	:
	<b>D</b>	1	-68	-32	-39	-63	-63	-59	-49	-56	-51	-49	-47	-42	-40
	<b>GR</b>	-16	-36	-24	-26	-24	-15	-4	-2	-10	-4	0	-2	-3	:
	<b>E</b>	-17	-55	-33	-38	-48	-42	-30	-16	-24	-18	-21	-9	-10	:
	<b>F</b>	24	-62	-34	-32	-54	-51	-37	-14	-31	-15	-17	-11	-4	:
	<b>IRL</b>	29	-53	-20	2	-18	-18	-15	-13	-18	-19	-9	-11	-1	-8
	<b>I</b>	0	-41	-33	-35	-26	-11	-2	8	-1	5	7	12	13	:
	<b>L</b>	52	-74	-47	-51	-42	-51	-43	-28	-41	-34	-26	-25	-20	-25
	<b>NL</b>	1	-58	-24	-29	-50	-38	-15	3	-11	-4	1	12	1	:
<b>P</b>	12	-42	-35	-35	-19	-16	-10	-8	-8	-8	-9	-7	-1	3	
<b>UK</b>	0	-49	-32	-35	-46	-42	-35	-23	-32	-24	-25	-21	-16	:	
STOCKS OF FINISHED PRODUCTS	<b>B</b>	-1	21	7	12	13	9	0	0	1	-2	0	1	-1	0
	<b>DK</b>	-1	20	18	11	10	5	-6	1	:	1	:	:	0	:
	<b>D</b>	-9	30	0	15	27	25	20	15	18	18	14	13	10	10
	<b>GR</b>	1	21	14	15	12	14	10	4	8	6	5	1	3	:
	<b>E</b>	8	47	26	27	37	28	21	12	15	14	12	11	12	:
	<b>F</b>	-3	32	21	19	27	23	21	9	24	9	9	8	7	:
	<b>IRL</b>	-6	23	8	5	15	18	9	9	7	2	13	13	5	7
	<b>I</b>	-4	22	19	17	13	13	7	7	5	6	7	7	6	:
	<b>L</b>	-10	26	7	11	15	14	8	1	5	2	-3	4	5	0
	<b>NL</b>	0	11	8	7	9	8	8	5	8	6	6	3	3	0
<b>P</b>	0	25	10	9	18	13	8	5	5	8	5	3	-1	:	
<b>UK</b>	4	30	26	20	18	16	13	15	13	18	15	12	10	8	
<b>EUR</b>	2	25	15	17	22	20	15	11	14	12	11	10	8	:	
SELLING-PRICE EXPECTATIONS	<b>B</b>	24	-18	2	-3	-6	-2	-1	5	0	3	4	9	12	12
	<b>D</b>	26	-7	14	10	-2	-4	-4	4	-2	0	4	9	12	13
	<b>GR</b>	41	13	28	28	22	24	22	29	22	30	28	29	28	:
	<b>E</b>	21	-18	0	-5	-10	-6	1	7	4	7	6	8	14	:
	<b>F</b>	34	-11	11	8	-3	-5	1	6	7	2	9	7	12	:
	<b>IRL</b>	23	-25	-1	-4	-4	0	-9	1	-6	-5	-2	9	5	4
	<b>I</b>	32	6	16	13	11	9	12	18	13	15	17	23	21	:
	<b>L</b>	62	-50	-32	-14	1	14	-1	-13	-7	-10	0	-29	14	26
	<b>P</b>	28	-2	17	10	3	2	14	18	15	13	17	23	25	:
	<b>UK</b>	34	-6	5	-1	5	1	2	5	3	-4	5	14	13	19
<b>EUR</b>	28	-1	11	7	1	0	2	8	5	4	8	13	15	:	

(a) The indicator is an average of the responses (balances) to the questions on production expectations, order-books and stocks (the latter with inverted sign).

TABLE 10 : Survey of the construction industry\*  
Balances : i.e. differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies (s.a.)

		Values		1991	1992	1993	1993	1994			1994				
		Max. 88/90	Min. 91/93					IV	I	II	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July
CONSTRUCTION CONFIDENCE INDICATOR <sup>(a)</sup>	<b>B</b>	7	-25	-7	-13	-21	-21	-17	-14	-18	-14	-13	-14	-15	-15
	<b>DK</b>	12	-37	-32	-22	-26	-18	-11	-5	:	-5	:	:	12	:
	<b>D</b>	3	-33	-5	-15	-28	-30	-30	-26	-31	-28	-26	-24	-27	-26
	<b>GR</b>	-12	-50	-32	-13	-23	-31	-40	-18	:	-18	:	:	-51	:
	<b>E</b>	31	-59	-8	-37	-44	-35	-38	-24	-34	-30	-24	-19	-20	:
	<b>F</b>	2	-59	-16	-43	-57	-58	-46	-40	:	-40	:	:	-37	:
	<b>IRL</b>	30	-39	-19	-13	-27	-24	-21	-27	-16	-21	-26	-35	-8	23
	<b>I</b>	21	-68	-7	-16	-48	-53	-58	-33	-50	-24	-36	-40	-46	:
	<b>L</b>	24	-65	-4	-23	-54	-56	-68	-58	-74	-69	-57	-50	-49	-43
	<b>NL</b>	9	-20	-6	-15	-17	-18	-16	-12	-14	-15	-12	-11	-8	:
	<b>P</b>	12	-51	-22	-32	-47	-44	-46	-52	-45	-53	-55	-48	-43	-41
<b>UK</b>	42	-78	-62	-53	-38	-30	-24	-24	-23	-25	-28	-20	-18	-12	
<b>EUR</b>	3	-44	-18	-29	-40	-40	-38	-29	-36	-28	-30	-28	-29	:	
TREND OF ACTIVITY COMPARED WITH PRECEDING MONTH	<b>B</b>	36	-37	-8	-5	-10	-22	-7	-9	-5	-16	-17	5	3	-1
	<b>D</b>	19	-29	-11	-16	-24	-30	-21	-17	-21	-23	-12	-16	-16	-16
	<b>GR</b>	30	-27	-7	7	-8	-15	-11	6	:	6	:	:	-36	:
	<b>E</b>	45	-44	9	-25	-13	-19	-23	10	-37	-9	23	17	28	:
	<b>F</b>	32	-63	-12	-38	-58	-49	-38	-31	:	-31	:	:	-16	:
	<b>IRL</b>	24	-33	-18	-10	-14	-8	-15	-15	-11	-3	-28	-15	-2	20
	<b>I</b>	32	-50	-9	-5	-25	-26	-35	-15	-24	-15	-6	-24	-24	:
	<b>L</b>	39	-63	-15	-16	-48	-54	-27	-33	-28	-47	-28	-25	-29	-16
	<b>NL</b>	35	-35	-4	-8	-13	-19	-11	-4	-20	-14	1	1	-1	:
	<b>P</b>	25	-32	-2	-15	-19	-24	-22	-26	-19	-22	-31	-24	-19	-24
	<b>UK</b>	50	-67	-41	-20	-7	-1	0	3	-1	4	1	4	10	8
<b>EUR</b>	20	-34	-13	-19	-26	-27	-23	-13	-23	-16	-9	-13	-8	:	
ORDER-BOOKS	<b>B</b>	-6	-37	-17	-26	-29	-33	-27	-26	-27	-22	-27	-29	-28	-27
	<b>DK</b>	13	-48	-43	-32	-34	-22	-19	-15	:	-15	:	:	7	:
	<b>D</b>	-7	-43	-15	-26	-38	-40	-36	-33	-37	-34	-33	-33	-36	-36
	<b>GR</b>	-39	-73	-54	-45	-56	-69	-58	-47	:	-47	:	:	-60	:
	<b>E</b>	45	-64	-11	-37	-42	-39	-43	-31	-42	-36	-29	-28	-26	:
	<b>F</b>	4	-73	-27	-55	-69	-68	-60	-52	:	-52	:	:	-51	:
	<b>IRL</b>	30	-55	-16	-13	-40	-41	-43	-53	-42	-43	-53	-64	-58	2
	<b>I</b>	17	-76	-4	-17	-58	-63	-67	-45	-54	-41	-45	-48	-59	:
	<b>L</b>	12	-69	-8	-22	-58	-65	-64	-56	-70	-61	-58	-49	-49	-41
	<b>NL</b>	2	-30	-11	-22	-25	-27	-24	-20	-22	-23	-19	-19	-17	:
	<b>P</b>	-6	-70	-46	-49	-66	-66	-73	-75	-71	-72	-79	-75	-63	-72
<b>UK</b>	35	-85	-77	-73	-63	-56	-47	-45	-45	-48	-47	-41	-37	-33	
<b>EUR</b>	-2	-57	-26	-38	-52	-52	-49	-41	-46	-41	-41	-40	-42	:	
EMPLOYMENT EXPECTATIONS	<b>B</b>	19	-18	4	-1	-12	-9	-7	-1	-9	-5	1	1	-1	-2
	<b>DK</b>	11	-26	-21	-13	-18	-13	-2	5	:	5	:	:	16	:
	<b>D</b>	19	-22	6	-4	-18	-20	-25	-18	-25	-22	-18	-15	-17	-15
	<b>GR</b>	20	-26	-10	20	10	8	-22	12	:	12	:	:	-41	:
	<b>E</b>	-0	-63	-6	-36	-45	-32	-33	-18	-25	-24	-19	-10	-13	:
	<b>F</b>	8	-47	-5	-31	-46	-47	-32	-28	:	-28	:	:	-22	:
	<b>IRL</b>	37	-35	-22	-13	-14	-7	2	-1	10	2	2	-6	43	44
	<b>I</b>	25	-60	-11	-15	-39	-43	-49	-22	-46	-7	-27	-32	-33	:
	<b>L</b>	36	-62	0	-25	-50	-46	-71	-61	-77	-76	-56	-50	-49	-44
	<b>NL</b>	16	-15	-2	-8	-9	-9	-8	-4	-6	-6	-5	-2	2	:
	<b>P</b>	28	-37	2	-15	-27	-22	-20	-28	-19	-33	-30	-21	-22	-9
<b>UK</b>	51	-70	-47	-32	-12	-5	0	-3	0	-1	-9	1	1	9	
<b>EUR</b>	12	-34	-10	-19	-29	-27	-26	-17	-25	-15	-19	-16	-16	:	
PRICE EXPECTATIONS	<b>B</b>	28	-12	11	2	-8	-9	-9	-2	-4	-3	-2	-1	1	1
	<b>D</b>	45	-23	12	-6	-21	-17	-22	-14	-22	-20	-13	-9	-6	-3
	<b>GR</b>	26	-28	-4	8	-18	-9	-22	-16	:	-16	:	:	19	:
	<b>E</b>	70	-21	19	12	0	-11	-4	1	-7	-2	-3	9	6	:
	<b>IRL</b>	38	-46	-31	-14	-11	1	5	5	-1	8	5	2	42	16
	<b>I</b>	63	-16	25	25	-1	4	-7	17	-9	10	19	23	21	:
	<b>L</b>	23	-67	1	-31	-58	-60	-56	-52	-60	-59	-53	-44	-43	-34
	<b>NL</b>	64	3	34	28	8	6	9	8	6	5	9	11	17	:
	<b>P</b>	70	-25	30	14	-12	-8	-9	2	-4	8	-2	-1	0	3
	<b>UK</b>	70	-54	-31	-13	5	13	19	22	20	23	20	24	35	37
	<b>EUR</b>	39	-11	9	6	-6	-4	-6	4	-7	0	4	8	12	:

(a) The indicator is an average of the responses (balances) to the questions on order-books and employment expectations.

\* The series for Ireland and the United Kingdom had been revised from July 1991 onwards. Therefore, the results for EUR could also be changed.

TABLE 11 : Consumer opinion on economic and financial conditions (s.a.) (a)

		Values		1991	1992	1993	1993	1994			1994				
		Max. 88/90*	Min. 91/93*					IV	I	II	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July
CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR <sup>(b)</sup>	B	5	-30	-7	-12	-26	-29	-24	-17	-22	-20	-16	-15	-16	-12
	DK	2	-10	-2	-2	-5	-2	3	8	3	8	9	8	9	9
	D	6	-30	-12	-20	-28	-29	-27	-17	-24	-22	-17	-13	-11	-11
	GR	-7	-36	-27	-31	-27	-17	-16	-21	-16	-20	-20	-23	-24	:
	E	5	-39	-6	-20	-34	-35	-33	-30	-32	-33	-29	-27	-25	-19
	F	-9	-28	-21	-22	-25	-25	-22	-18	-22	-21	-18	-16	-16	:
	IRL	-3	-26	-18	-21	-13	-7	-2	-3	-1	-6	-1	-1	-2	-2
	I	0	-36	-13	-19	-32	-31	-30	-22	-29	-24	-23	-20	-20	:
	NL	11	-21	-10	-10	-17	-16	-13	-9	-11	-9	-9	-8	-8	-4
	P	4	-31	3	-5	-24	-29	-27	-27	-23	-26	-27	-28	-28	-24
	UK	7	-31	-17	-15	-13	-11	-11	-17	-14	-17	-19	-14	-13	-10
	EUR <sup>(c)</sup>	-3	-26	-14	-18	-25	-25	-23	-19	-22	-21	-19	-16	-15	:
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS	B	2	-16	-3	-4	-11	-14	-12	-9	-13	-9	-10	-9	-9	-8
	DK	2	-2	-1	3	1	3	6	10	5	9	9	12	10	10
	D	4	-20	-7	-15	-18	-19	-21	-16	-19	-18	-16	-14	-13	-11
	GR	-8	-43	-34	-39	-37	-28	-22	-24	-21	-25	-23	-23	-25	:
	E	0	-27	-4	-12	-22	-25	-24	-22	-22	-23	-23	-20	-22	-19
	F	-5	-16	-10	-10	-12	-15	-14	-13	-14	-13	-13	-12	-13	:
	IRL	-13	-25	-21	-22	-17	-12	-10	-11	-9	-13	-11	-10	-8	-13
	I	-1	-24	-5	-9	-20	-22	-23	-20	-22	-20	-21	-18	-18	:
	NL	12	-3	4	1	-1	-2	-1	-2	-1	-1	-2	-4	-4	-2
	P	2	-23	-1	-5	-18	-22	-20	-22	-19	-21	-24	-22	-24	-19
	UK	-2	-32	-22	-20	-21	-20	-22	-23	-23	-23	-24	-22	-20	-21
	EUR <sup>(c)</sup>	-4	-19	-9	-12	-17	-18	-18	-17	-18	-17	-17	-16	-15	:
— over last 12 months	B	8	-9	2	0	-5	-7	-4	-1	-4	-1	0	-3	-2	
	DK	11	6	7	10	10	11	11	12	11	12	12	11	11	
	D	4	-15	-6	-9	-13	-14	-13	-9	-11	-11	-9	-6	-4	
	GR	3	-31	-23	-26	-18	-3	-4	-12	-5	-11	-11	-13	-17	
	E	8	-16	3	-7	-11	-11	-9	-5	-8	-7	-5	-2	-3	
	F	3	-9	-2	-1	-5	-6	-4	-1	-4	-3	1	0	1	
	IRL	0	-11	-8	-8	-5	-2	0	-1	0	-4	0	0	-1	
	I	5	-13	-1	-5	-12	-11	-8	-4	-7	-4	-5	-2	-3	
	NL	10	-3	0	2	-1	-2	-3	1	-3	-1	2	1	1	
	P	9	-18	7	1	-13	-16	-12	-12	-10	-13	-11	-13	-13	
	UK	4	-22	-1	-1	-7	-11	-14	-18	-17	-21	-20	-14	-14	
	EUR <sup>(c)</sup>	2	-10	-2	-4	-9	-10	-9	-6	-8	-8	-7	-4	-4	
GENERAL ECONOMIC SITUATION	B	7	-61	-20	-32	-54	-57	-52	-41	-48	-45	-41	-38	-36	
	DK	5	-27	-1	-3	-14	-5	1	11	4	12	12	8	15	
	D	14	-60	-18	-34	-54	-59	-56	-36	-50	-46	-36	-27	-21	
	GR	-16	-41	-32	-36	-34	-27	-24	-27	-23	-25	-26	-30	-30	
	E	0	-62	-11	-30	-54	-59	-57	-54	-56	-59	-54	-48	-44	
	F	-23	-57	-43	-46	-54	-54	-52	-46	-51	-49	-46	-42	-41	
	IRL	-3	-59	-31	-44	-36	-24	-10	-11	-10	-16	-7	-10	-10	
	I	-3	-74	-30	-47	-70	-70	-69	-57	-68	-60	-57	-53	-48	
	NL	21	-57	-23	-26	-47	-45	-41	-31	-35	-32	-33	-27	-23	
	P	13	-44	10	-4	-33	-42	-35	-36	-33	-36	-36	-35	-36	
	UK	4	-67	-52	-50	-40	-27	-22	-34	-27	-33	-37	-33	-31	
	EUR <sup>(c)</sup>	-10	-54	-30	-40	-53	-52	-49	-41	-47	-45	-42	-37	-34	
— over last 12 months	B	8	-45	-11	-22	-40	-43	-29	-16	-25	-23	-12	-13	-11	
	DK	5	-10	-1	-4	-6	-5	4	7	4	8	7	7		
	D	6	-41	-16	-24	-38	-38	-29	-12	-23	-19	-12	-6	-5	
	GR	0	-26	-15	-20	-13	2	-1	-12	-1	-9	-11	-17	-18	
	E	6	-38	-6	-24	-25	-23	-22	-14	-22	-20	-14	-8	-5	
	F	-7	-36	-29	-26	-27	-25	-18	-13	-22	-20	-11	-9	-9	
	IRL	10	-29	-18	-18	-11	-3	3	1	0	-4	3	3	0	
	I	5	-39	-18	-23	-29	-24	-12	3	-14	-1	0	9	2	
	NL	11	-42	-29	-24	-30	-23	-16	-6	-11	-7	-6	-5	-7	
	P	12	-30	9	-5	-25	-28	-22	-22	-18	-22	-20	-23	-22	
	UK	1	-33	-5	-7	-10	-11	-8	-19	-15	-22	-21	-15	-10	
	EUR <sup>(c)</sup>	-3	-32	-16	-20	-27	-25	-18	-11	-18	-16	-11	-6	-6	
MAJOR PURCHASES	B	8	-29	-5	-4	-21	-25	-22	-19	-20	-22	-19	-16	-21	
	DK	-7	-27	-14	-18	-17	-13	-8	3	-6	2	5	2	-3	
	D	3	-20	-13	-16	-18	-16	-18	-14	-18	-16	-14	-11	-12	
	GR	-13	-42	-31	-35	-31	-31	-28	-31	-31	-29	-32	-33	-29	
	E	13	-64	-14	-25	-58	-59	-54	-53	-53	-55	-50	-55	-50	
	F	-1	-33	-21	-26	-29	-27	-23	-19	-21	-21	-19	-17	-17	
	IRL	5	-15	-10	-11	4	5	9	9	15	7	6	13	9	
	I	-2	-37	-9	-14	-28	-28	-37	-35	-36	-36	-33	-36	-31	
	NL	11	-16	-1	-3	-7	-8	-3	-3	-3	-2	-3	-3	-7	
	P	-2	-47	-9	-13	-34	-39	-42	-43	-37	-38	-43	-48	-43	
	UK	28	-21	-5	5	11	11	10	12	11	15	10	12	12	
	EUR <sup>(c)</sup>	1	-23	-12	-14	-21	-20	-20	-17	-19	-18	-17	-17	-16	
— over next 12 months	B	-10	-17	-13	-12	-14	-15	-16	-16	-15	-16	-16	-15	-16	
	DK	-7	-14	-10	-10	-9	-7	-5	-3	-7	-2	-5	-2	-4	
	D	-13	-29	-19	-22	-26	-27	-28	-24	-27	-25	-24	-24	-21	
	GR	-26	-50	-28	-41	-38	-36	-38	-37	-38	-40	-35	-37	-33	
	E	-16	-47	-27	-29	-37	-44	-40	-43	-42	-39	-40	-50	-38	
	F	1	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	IRL	-4	-20	-12	-15	-16	-17	-14	-16	-13	-16	-17	-16	-12	
	I	-17	-32	-19	-20	-21	-21	-21	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	-20	
	NL	-8	-15	-13	-13	-12	-12	-14	-12	-12	-13	-10	-12	-11	
	P	20	-23	5	3	-14	-14	-14	-8	-7	-12	-6	-7	-11	
	UK	-8	-26	-18	-19	-19	-18	-17	-19	-17	-20	-19	-19	-17	
	EUR <sup>(c)</sup>	-12	-19	-15	-17	-18	-19	-19	-19	-19	-19	-18	-19	-17	



TABLE 11 (continued): Consumer opinion on economic and financial conditions (s.a.)<sup>(a)</sup>

		Values		1991	1992	1993	1993	1994		1994						
		Max. 88/90*	Min. 91/93*					IV	I	II	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug
UNEMPLOYMENT	<b>B</b>	3	64	27	41	57	55	45	35	42	35	34	35	36	29	
	<b>DK</b>	14	40	27	31	29	22	6	1	5	0	4	0	-14	-14	
	<b>D</b>	1	58	33	33	52	56	46	33	39	39	31	28	24	24	
	<b>GR</b>	15	56	44	49	41	29	34	40	35	38	40	41	41	:	
	<b>E</b>	-4	67	27	47	59	52	48	36	46	40	38	29	21	17	
	<b>F</b>	10	64	52	54	59	59	50	41	51	47	41	35	40	:	
	— over next 12 months	<b>IRL</b>	5	58	43	50	40	37	29	24	29	28	23	22	28	25
	<b>I</b>	26	71	42	53	66	65	56	28	51	36	30	19	20	:	
	<b>NL</b>	-9	77	24	31	67	64	56	50	51	52	54	44	36	21	
	<b>P</b>	-3	73	9	26	62	70	61	60	58	63	60	57	55	54	
	<b>UK</b>	-12	52	47	41	34	25	20	25	28	28	26	21	21	20	
		<b>EUR<sup>(c)</sup></b>	9	57	39	43	54	52	43	33	42	38	33	28	27	:
PRICE TRENDS	<b>B</b>	21	49	40	43	44	41	38	38	38	36	40	37	36	37	
	<b>DK</b>	-23	11	-26	-29	-42	-44	-42	-40	-43	-42	-42	-36	-36	-36	
	<b>D</b>	-28	55	38	51	48	43	44	34	41	36	35	32	27	25	
	<b>GR</b>	19	56	51	51	48	41	30	32	28	31	32	33	30	:	
	<b>E</b>	18	42	34	35	23	25	25	24	24	26	24	23	25	24	
	— over last 12 months	<b>F</b>	0	15	11	6	-4	-10	-5	-11	-8	-11	-12	-10	-9	:
	<b>IRL</b>	21	34	29	27	14	15	12	14	12	18	14	11	16	16	
	<b>I</b>	30	52	49	48	43	44	39	34	37	37	34	32	31	:	
	<b>NL</b>	-18	40	23	28	14	13	16	17	15	17	16	19	17	20	
	<b>P</b>	35	59	51	51	46	47	43	44	41	50	44	39	26	32	
	<b>UK</b>	9	49	37	20	15	15	16	16	19	17	16	16	16	15	
		<b>EUR<sup>(c)</sup></b>	11	37	33	32	25	23	23	19	22	20	19	18	17	:
— over next 12 months	<b>B</b>	13	45	32	36	38	36	32	26	30	28	27	23	27	23	
	<b>DK</b>	-31	-24	-18	-17	-27	-26	-23	-21	-24	-22	-22	-20	-18	-18	
	<b>D</b>	-3	58	53	46	46	44	38	33	35	34	34	32	30	30	
	<b>GR</b>	31	56	51	51	45	38	37	42	37	40	41	44	44	:	
	<b>E</b>	8	32	22	27	9	7	9	10	10	11	9	9	9	5	
	<b>F</b>	-4	54	26	12	10	-3	-1	-6	-1	-3	-8	-6	-1	:	
	<b>IRL</b>	14	32	28	24	16	14	10	18	15	19	16	18	21	21	
	<b>I</b>	35	62	54	53	45	39	35	25	33	28	26	20	25	:	
	<b>NL</b>	7	60	48	36	29	26	29	26	31	27	23	28	32	33	
	<b>P</b>	21	48	33	41	36	37	34	32	33	38	28	29	19	23	
	<b>UK</b>	37	57	34	24	35	43	38	37	40	40	36	34	36	37	
		<b>EUR<sup>(c)</sup></b>	22	49	39	34	30	27	25	21	24	23	20	19	21	:
SAVINGS	<b>B</b>	65	47	60	61	54	50	48	50	50	49	49	51	42	50	
	<b>DK</b>	71	64	62	73	72	67	55	56	53	58	54	55	60	60	
	<b>D</b>	52	30	42	35	33	32	34	36	34	36	34	39	37	39	
	<b>GR</b>	-19	-47	-42	-43	-39	-41	-44	-50	-49	-53	-52	-44	-45	:	
	<b>E</b>	53	30	40	42	47	45	45	40	45	46	37	38	36	46	
	— at present	<b>F</b>	48	31	43	48	51	54	53	52	52	54	51	52	54	:
	<b>IRL</b>	23	-3	10	9	12	13	8	7	9	5	9	7	14	0	
	<b>I</b>	50	33	48	45	42	45	44	46	45	42	45	50	48	:	
	<b>NL</b>	60	47	52	56	59	58	53	59	58	58	58	62	62	61	
	<b>P</b>	-15	-49	-19	-23	-38	-44	-42	-40	-36	-40	-43	-38	-41	-37	
	<b>UK</b>	36	-6	26	15	-1	-1	-4	-5	-1	-7	-7	-2	-6	0	
		<b>EUR<sup>(c)</sup></b>	41	31	39	36	34	34	33	33	34	33	32	35	34	:
— over next 12 months	<b>B</b>	14	-2	10	11	4	1	4	4	4	5	4	3	2	6	
	<b>DK</b>	21	9	10	15	14	16	16	19	16	18	16	23	22	22	
	<b>D</b>	22	-1	13	5	2	1	1	5	3	3	5	8	6	8	
	<b>GR</b>	-32	-57	-49	-53	-52	-48	-45	-50	-45	-49	-52	-50	-53	:	
	<b>E</b>	-16	-33	-24	-25	-28	-30	-25	-23	-25	-26	-26	-16	-31	-25	
	<b>F</b>	-23	-33	-27	-27	-29	-31	-28	-24	-28	-26	-21	-24	-26	:	
	<b>IRL</b>	-12	-32	-25	-26	-25	-19	-22	-22	-22	-26	-17	-24	-16	-18	
	<b>I</b>	0	-26	-1	-6	-21	-21	-24	-20	-21	-20	-21	-18	-16	:	
	<b>NL</b>	35	29	32	35	36	36	34	35	34	32	35	39	33	31	
	<b>P</b>	-19	-38	-23	-25	-33	-30	-33	-35	-26	-36	-31	-39	-39	-33	
	<b>UK</b>	-3	-25	-16	-17	-20	-21	-21	-24	-23	-23	-25	-23	-21	-17	
		<b>EUR<sup>(c)</sup></b>	-4	-16	-7	-10	-15	-15	-15	-13	-14	-14	-13	-11	-13	:
FINANCIAL SITUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS	<b>B</b>	19	13	16	18	16	14	17	14	16	16	13	13	17	17	
	<b>DK</b>	20	15	17	20	20	21	20	22	19	21	20	24	23	23	
	<b>D</b>	22	11	18	13	12	12	11	13	12	13	13	14	14	15	
	<b>GR</b>	6	1	5	3	3	5	5	4	6	3	4	6	4	:	
	<b>E</b>	15	6	8	10	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	9	6	8	
	— indicator of net acquisition of financial assets	<b>F</b>	7	2	5	5	5	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	:
	<b>IRL</b>	7	1	3	3	4	7	7	8	9	7	8	9	9	7	
	<b>I</b>	20	7	19	17	10	9	7	9	8	8	8	11	10	:	
	<b>NL</b>	27	22	25	24	23	23	25	25	27	25	24	26	25	23	
	<b>P</b>	9	4	10	10	6	7	5	0	7	4	0	-4	1	4	
	<b>UK</b>	-16	4	7	6	6	5	5	4	4	6	2	4	4	5	
		<b>EUR<sup>(c)</sup></b>	14	8	12	11	9	8	8	9	8	9	8	9	9	:

(a) The sum of the replies for each Member State are weighted in the Community total with the value of consumers' expenditure.

(b) The indicator represents the arithmetic average of results for five questions, namely the two on the financial situation of the household, the two on the general economic situation, and that concerning major purchases at present.

(c) If monthly data are not available, the EUR-averages incorporate the most recent available results.

\* DK Max. 88/91 and Min. 92/93. UK Max. 88/89 and Min. 90/93.

**TABLE 12 : Expected employment in the retail trade**  
Balances : i.e. differences between the percentages of respondents giving positive and negative replies (seasonnally adjusted)

		Peak	1991	1992	1993	1992			1993				1994	
		88/90				II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
FOOD, DRINK, AND TABOCCO	<b>B</b>	9	5	2	-2	1	7	4	-14	-5	3	7	10	11
	<b>DK</b>	:	-1	1	0	7	-4	-1	0	2	-3	0	8	2
	<b>D</b>	18	3	8	-7	14	-3	13	-6	-14	-4	-2	0	2
	<b>E</b>	12	-1	-9	-15	-6	-7	-16	-15	-16	-20	-9	-7	-9
	<b>F</b>	0	-25	-20	-11	-26	-27	-9	-18	-8	-6	-11	-4	-20
	<b>I</b>	8	1	2	-3	8	-2	3	9	-3	-19	3	-11	-11
	<b>NL</b>	12	2	2	-1	8	0	-1	-1	4	0	-6	-6	-14
	<b>P</b>	30	10	2	4	2	8	-1	-5	-6	32	-4	26	-2
	<b>UK</b>	45	6	-1	7	20	1	-16	5	5	-6	24	-3	-7
	<b>EUR</b>	14	-3	-1	-4	3	-2	-2	-4	-6	-9	2	-3	-7
TEXTILES, CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR	<b>B</b>	22	-4	-2	-2	9	-5	-17	-3	-4	2	-1	-6	11
	<b>DK</b>	:	7	7	1	12	6	2	3	3	0	-4	3	9
	<b>D</b>	4	-1	-5	-7	-2	-4	-8	-10	-4	-9	-3	-4	-5
	<b>E</b>	4	-3	-8	-13	-6	-2	-15	-13	-8	-20	-11	-7	-14
	<b>F</b>	-4	-5	-10	-14	-10	-8	-12	-20	-11	-8	-18	-8	-10
	<b>I</b>	-8	-22	-16	-21	-12	-11	-26	-32	-30	-9	-11	-18	-13
	<b>NL</b>	7	5	2	0	2	4	-2	0	-2	1	0	-7	0
	<b>P</b>	2	2	2	-13	2	-5	-3	-20	-6	-13	-14	-4	-23
	<b>UK</b>	40	-32	-32	-13	-26	-36	-27	-29	-24	5	-3	14	2
	<b>EUR</b>	5	-12	-10	-12	-10	-3	-15	-18	-13	-8	-7	-4	-5
HOUSEHOLD GOODS (TOTAL)	<b>B</b>	5	-2	0	-4	8	-12	-3	-2	-8	-2	-5	-2	-9
	<b>DK</b>	:	4	3	-2	13	-3	-5	-11	-5	1	8	17	17
	<b>D</b>	8	2	-4	-6	-6	-3	-3	-8	-6	-5	-3	-6	-5
	<b>E</b>	10	1	-2	-14	0	0	-8	-12	-12	-16	-15	-11	-6
	<b>F</b>	9	3	-1	1	4	-9	0	1	2	0	0	7	0
	<b>I</b>	6	-12	-4	-11	-10	-2	9	4	-7	-6	-36	-13	-9
	<b>NL</b>	30	13	2	2	4	4	-14	2	6	4	-5	5	12
	<b>P</b>	6	-6	-1	-10	-4	-4	-8	-10	-10	-13	-8	-3	-33
	<b>UK</b>	32	-15	-36	-18	-56	-26	-47	-23	-5	-32	-11	17	11
	<b>EUR</b>	9	-3	-6	-6	-12	-1	-8	0	-3	-12	-10	0	-1
MOTOR VEHICLE	<b>B</b>	16	-2	-8	-5	-19	-1	-5	-1	-14	8	-12	-3	3
	<b>DK</b>	:	9	6	0	10	10	-1	-1	0	-3	4	25	12
	<b>D</b>	10	4	-6	-32	-9	1	-12	-26	-31	-38	-32	-22	-11
	<b>E</b>	23	-3	-2	-12	1	-7	1	-10	-11	-18	-7	-9	-8
	<b>F</b>	1	-5	-10	-10	-7	-7	-17	-11	-8	-13	-7	-2	-15
	<b>I</b>	23	-16	-14	-26	-8	-26	-6	-16	-45	-15	-29	-17	-10
	<b>NL</b>	8	3	2	-3	-1	1	3	-2	-1	-4	-5	1	0
	<b>P</b>	21	0	-7	-17	-4	-3	-15	-17	-4	-20	-25	-25	-18
	<b>UK</b>	47	-61	-51	-28	-54	-60	-40	-44	-32	-27	-10	3	-1
	<b>EUR</b>	14	-14	-11	-21	-15	-2	-13	-19	-23	-24	-16	-8	-7
RETAIL TRADE (TOTAL)	<b>B</b>	12	0	-1	-4	1	-2	-5	-9	-5	0	-2	0	-5
	<b>DK</b>	:	8	7	-3	14	5	6	-5	-7	1	-1	11	6
	<b>D</b>	9	2	0	-9	2	-3	1	-10	-11	-10	-6	-7	-13
	<b>E</b>	9	0	-3	-12	-4	6	-11	-10	-11	-19	-8	-7	-2
	<b>F</b>	-1	-9	-8	-9	-13	2	-11	-9	-5	-6	-14	-2	-7
	<b>I</b>	5	-8	-7	-14	-5	-6	-8	-8	-19	-14	-15	-16	-27
	<b>NL</b>	10	5	3	-1	4	3	-2	-1	1	1	-4	-4	1
	<b>P</b>	7	4	-3	-10	-1	-4	-5	-11	-7	-7	-15	-11	-20
	<b>UK</b>	34	-25	-27	-11	-23	-29	-28	-20	-14	-13	2	5	1
	<b>EUR</b>	7	-7	-7	-10	-7	-1	-9	-10	-11	-12	-7	3	-8

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE ASSESSMENT OF FACTORS LIMITING PRODUCTION IN INDUSTRY

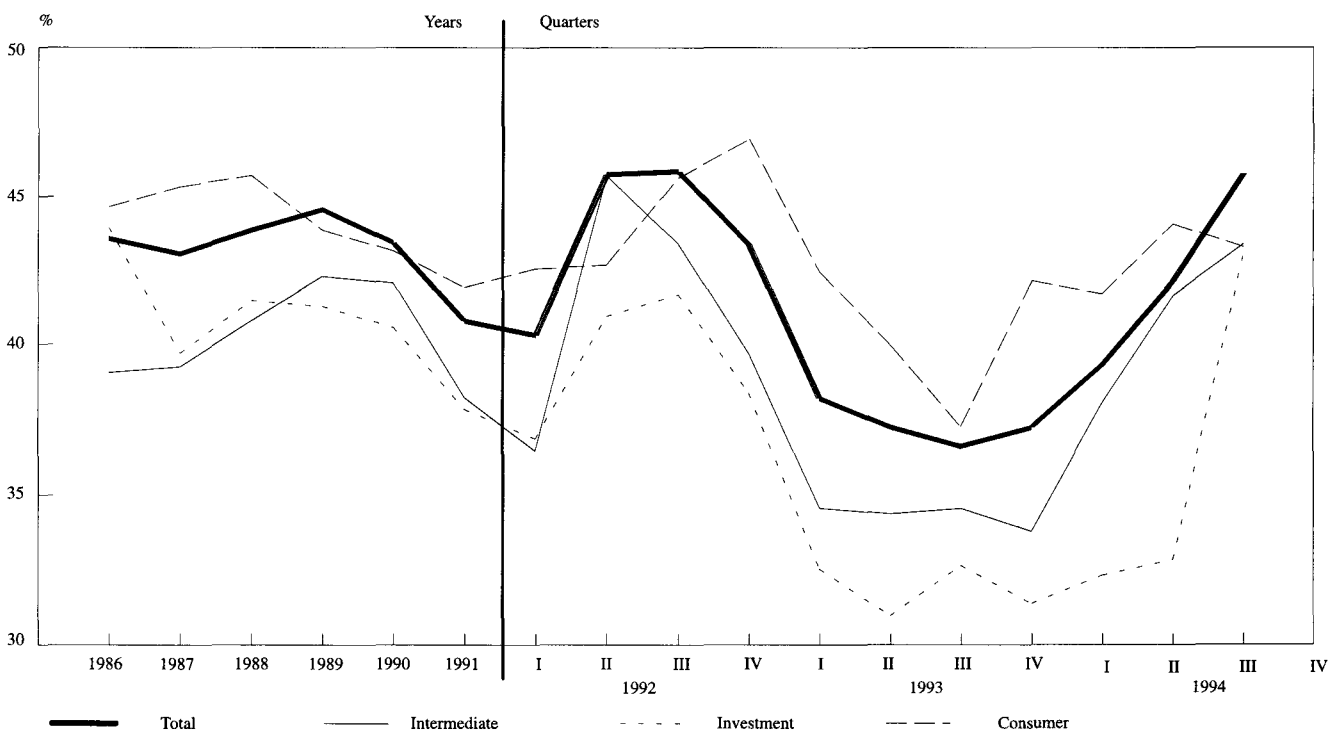
**Lack of demand is no longer considered to be the most important factor limiting industrial production.** — For the first time since July 1992 the number of industrial firms reporting no limit at all on their production is outweighing the number reporting lack of demand (46% against 38%, Graphs 3 and 4). In July 1994, shortage of labour, lack of equipment and other factors have also been cited as a constraint to production more often than in the recent past (Graphs 5, 6 and 7).

**The increasing number of firms reporting no constraint on their production confirms the rise in industrial confidence.** — In each Member Country, a majority of industry managers now observe a rise in *new orders* indicating that demand will be unlikely to slow down production growth. Supply factors, on the other hand, emerge slowly as constraints. About 4% of the industry managers consider shortage of labour as a constraining factor. This figure may well increase as requirements for skilled labour increase due to more favourable *employment expectations* (Table 7). About 6% of industry managers consider lack of equipment to be an obstacle. This figure is also expected to increase as the *capacity utilization rate* reached 80.4% in July 1994, a rise of 1.7% compared to April 1994. Moreover, the majority of industrialists declaring capacity to be more than sufficient has clearly become smaller.

The export-led recovery, with strongly improving assessment of *export order-books* and *export expectations* above the maximum of the previous boom period (1988–1990), yields a different picture among industrial sectors. — Initially, export growth boosts the demand for *intermediate goods*. When demand approaches the limits of existing production capacity, investment begins to take off, so raising the demand for *investment goods*. As increased production leads to a rise in labour income and to a durable improvement in income expectations, the effect eventually feeds through to the demand for *consumer goods*. The *intermediate goods* industry has indeed already experienced a strong increase in "lack of equipment" replies and a fast swap of "lack of demand" replies to "no limit". On the other hand, this swap has been slow in the *consumer goods* industry.<sup>1</sup> The capacity utilization rate in the *intermediate goods* industry has reached its minimum already in July 1993, one quarter before this happened in the *consumer goods* industry. Both the starting point of the recovery and the speed of this recovery, varies across sectors. In July 1994, the rise in the capacity utilization rate, as compared to a year ago, is only 0.8% in the *consumer goods* industry, whereas in the *investment goods* and *intermediate goods* industries, the rise is 3.5% and 5.1% respectively (Table 2).

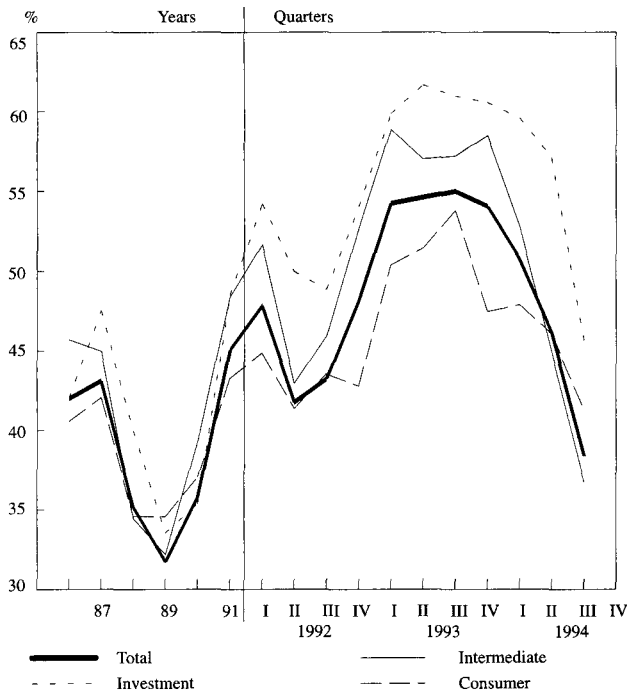
<sup>1</sup> Note that the percentage of "no limit" replies is higher in total manufacturing than in any of the three sectors. This is explained by the high percentage in the fourth sector (food, drinks and tobacco), which is part of the total, but not of any of the three other sectors.

GRAPH 3 : No factors limiting production — European Community (s.a.)



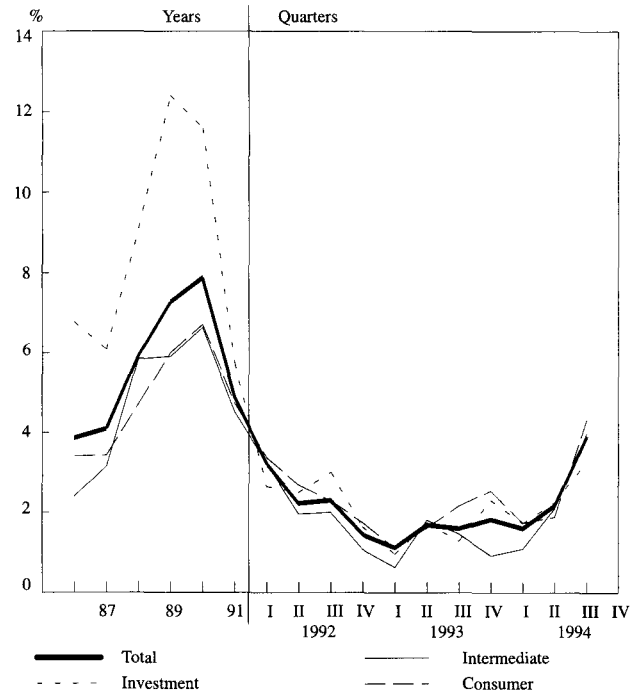
Source : European Community Business Surveys

**GRAPH 4 : Factors limiting production : Insufficient demand — European Community (s.a.)**



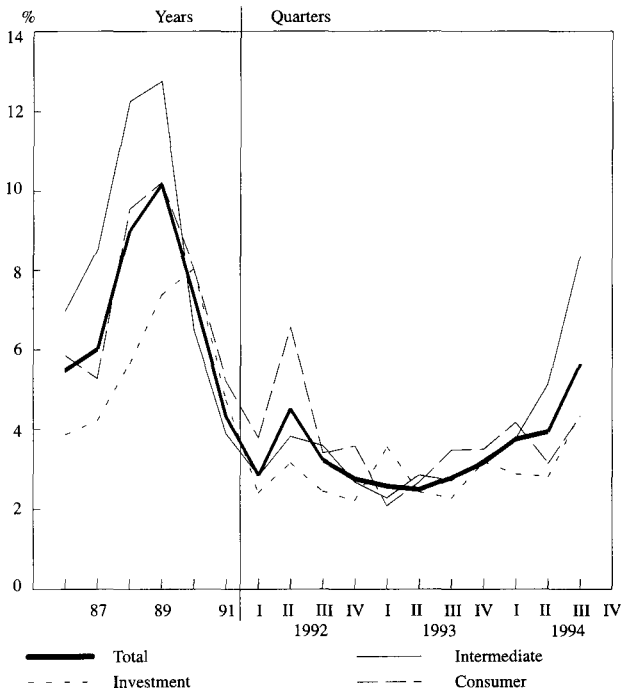
Source : European Community Business Surveys

**GRAPH 6 : Factors limiting production : shortage of labour — European Community (s.a.)**



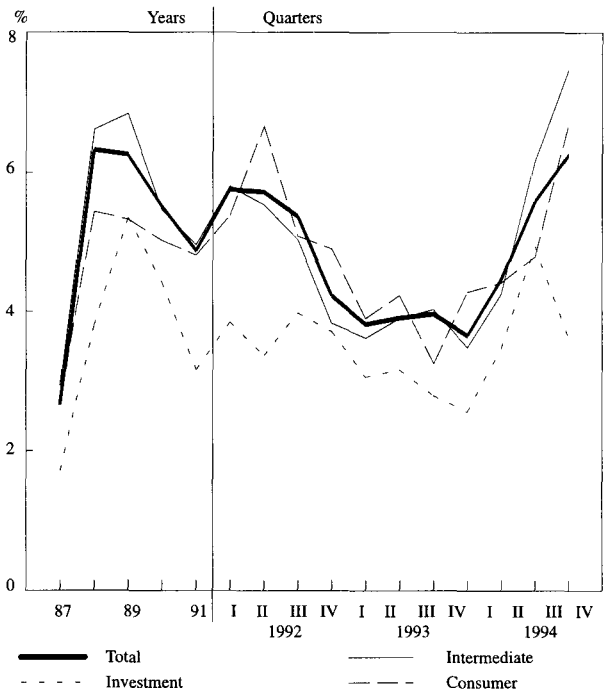
Source : European Community Business Surveys

**GRAPH 5 : Factors limiting production : lack of equipment — European Community (s.a.)**



Source : European Community Business Surveys

**GRAPH 7 : Factors limiting production : others — European Community (s.a.)**



Source : European Community Business Surveys

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