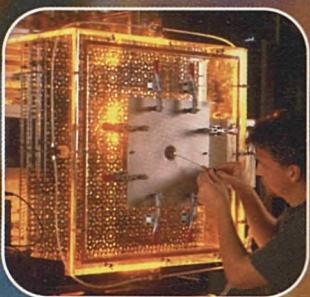


Monthly Panorama of European Industry



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DE EUROPÆISKE FÆLLESSKABERS STATISTISKE KONTOR
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Monthly **Panorama**
of European Industry

ISSUE 10/98 ■ OCTOBER 1998

Theme
Energy and industry
Series
Short-term statistics

4
B

Sent to press in october 1998

A great deal of additional information on the European Union is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the Europa server (<http://europa.eu.int>)

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We welcome readers back after the summer break. We are sorry for the interruption to the publication which was caused by technical difficulties.

There are some new developments that have taken place over the summer months. We are pleased to announce that the publication now contains information on services short-term statistics for the first time. Readers will be able to find data on retail trade activity, new vehicle registrations and tourism data. The expansion of data to the service sector is part of a medium-term strategy to expand the publication to cover business statistics in general.

In this issue there is a general overview of the European industrial economy, where industrial production has slowed somewhat in recent months. At the same time, EU producer prices have been falling, down 0.3% during the year to July 1998, the second consecutive month that there has been a decline. Latest data for Japan and the United States (June 1998) showed that producer prices were falling by 1.9% (compared to a year before).

There is also a sector-specific study on the wood industry, which has seen an expansion in the number of persons employed (mainly in Scandinavia) over the last twelve months. It is hoped that next month's issue will provide readers with an extended publication: featuring not only the data for industry and services, but also an article on the structure of the textile industry, as well as a special feature on sub-contracting in textiles.

Pedro Díaz Muñoz,
Luxembourg



Latest outlook - the most recent short-term indicators for European industry in tabular and graphic format, page 7



Latest outlook - the most recent short-term indicators for European services in tabular and graphic format, page 51



In depth - a close look into the wood and wood products industry, page 67

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The Monthly Panorama of European Industry has the objective of furnishing readers with an instrument which will allow them to follow the evolution of industrial short-term trends and also show the structure and activity of an industry. The publication appears eleven times during the course of the year. When the occasion warrants topical articles may well be treated in the form of a special edition.

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The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual authors alone and do not necessarily reflect the position of the European Commission.

Next issue:
Textiles

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Data extracted on 08-10-98

1.

Industrial commentary

Commentary 8

current situation in the EU, Japan and United States

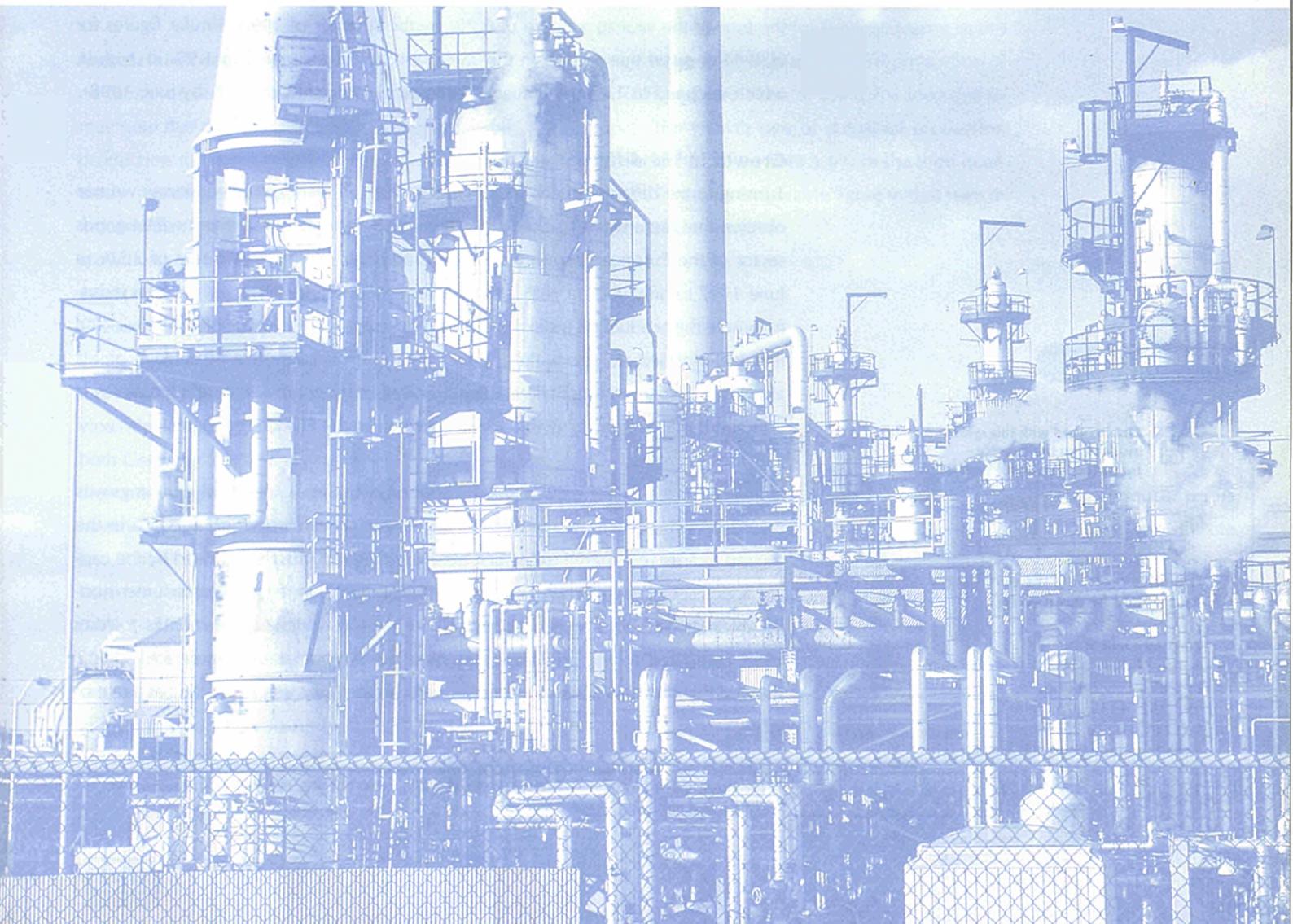
Data in this section 9

index of production

producer price index

new orders

trade balance



1. Industrial commentary

Industrial production trends

Latest production figures show that in Europe the index of production for total industry rose by 0.7% in the three months to June 1998 (compared to the previous three months). Data for the aggregate of countries that will make up the monetary union (EUR-11¹) reports that there was somewhat more growth in the Euro zone, with production rising by 0.9% in the second quarter of 1998 (when compared to the first quarter).

Both of these growth rates were showing signs of slowing down if we compare to the trends seen since the start of 1997. The expansion of industrial production across Europe has been reduced from 1.6% growth in July 1997, through 1.0% growth at the turn of the year to a figure of 0.7% by the summer of 1998. Similar figures for EUR-11 showed that growth in the summer of 1997 was equal to 1.9% in August, which declined to 1.1% by January 1998 and subsequently to 0.9% by June 1998.

Growth in the different goods sectors

Turning to the different goods sectors that make up the industrial economy, we can observe that there was a marked slowdown in the activity of the intermediate goods sector of the European economy. Growth rates have fallen from a rate of 2.5% in June 1997 to only 0.6% a year later. Contrary to the trends observed for total industry where the production index for the Euro zone is superior to that of EU-15, we find that for intermediate goods the EU-15 growth rate is some 0.2 percentage points above the corresponding EUR-11 figure. For all other goods sectors the converse is true and the Euro zone growth rate exceeds that of the EU-15 aggregate.



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In June 1998 the fastest growth in Europe amongst the main industrial groupings was recorded in the consumer durables sector, where growth was equal to 1.5% in the second quarter (compared to the first quarter). This was closely followed by the capital goods sector, with growth of 1.4% in the second quarter. In the consumer non-durables sector output expanded by only 0.3% (this for the three months to May 1998 compared to the previous three months). A comparative figure for EUR-11 showed that the Euro zone consumer non-durables sector was expanding at a rate of 0.6%.

1) Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland

Industrial production and producer prices

Index of production for total

industry rose by 0.7% in the

three months to June 1998

(compared to the previous

three months)

Industrial production in the Member States
 At the level of the individual Member States we may note that the slowdown observed in industrial production in recent months has not been consistently reproduced across the whole of the EU. Indeed, the latest data available show extensive growth for a number of the Member States. For example, in Belgium (2.1%), Denmark (also 2.1%), Greece (2.8%) and Ireland (3.5%) growth rates in excess of two per cent were recorded for the latest three months available (when compared to the previous three months). Of the larger Member States both Germany (0.8%) and France (0.9%) have seen their rates of growth slow down in recent months - largely explaining the reductions seen in the EU-15 and EUR-11 rates. In Italy industrial production has been very modest in 1998, with growth of between 0.0% and 0.3% for the first six months of 1998. The United Kingdom was showing signs of an expansion in industrial activity, with the growth rate of industrial production rising from 0.1% in January 1998 to 0.7% by July 1998.

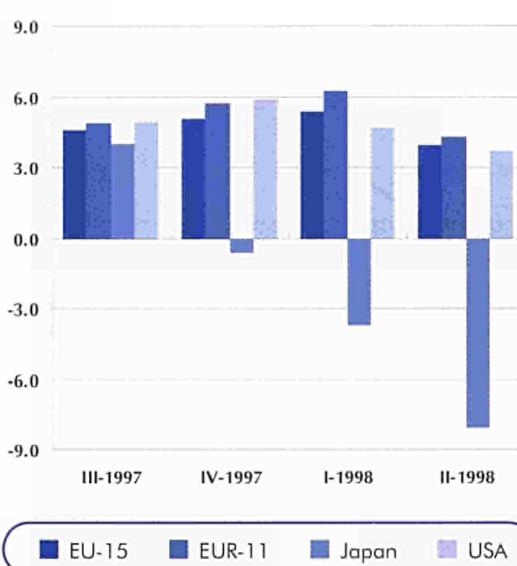


Figure 1.1

Industrial production:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

Source: eurostat

American and Japanese industrial activity

International comparisons with Europe's two main competitors showed that similar trends to those being observed in the EU were present in America. Indeed, there was a general slowing down of the American industrial economy. Data for the second quarter of 1998 (compared to the first quarter again) reflected a rise in American industrial production of 0.6% (a figure very close to the 0.7% recorded in Europe). The growth rate of industrial production for the USA has fallen from 1.6% in the third quarter of 1997 (also a comparable figure to that seen in Europe at the same time).

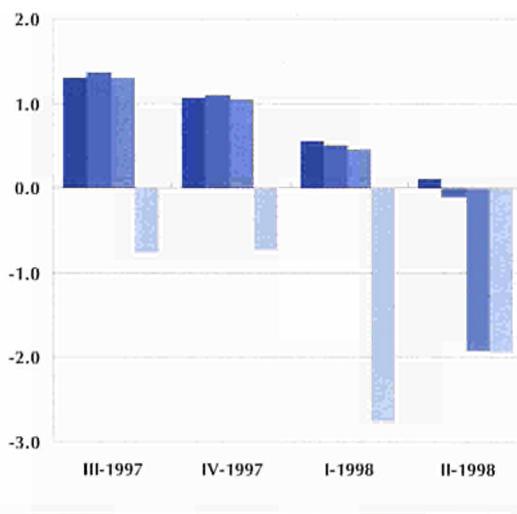


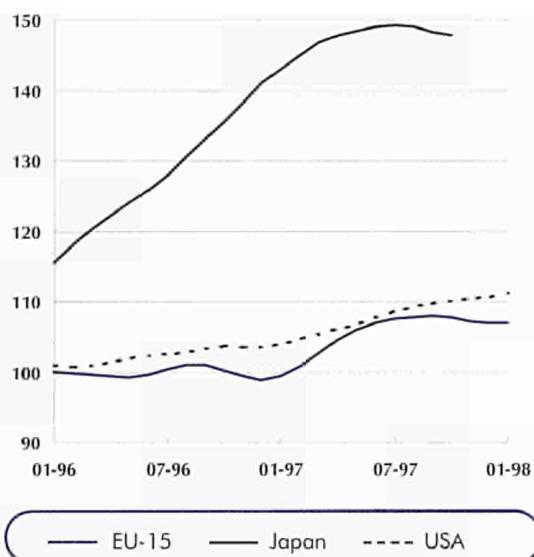
Figure 1.2

Producer prices:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 1.3

New orders index
(1995 = 100)



Source: eurostat

Nevertheless, the reduced growth rates in the USA have been particularly marked as the decline observed has taken place largely during 1998. The rate of growth of industrial production in the USA was still rising by 1.3% in January 1998 (on the basis of a three months compared to the previous three months growth rate). However, two successive monthly reductions equal to 0.5 percentage points were then recorded. By April 1998, the American industrial economy was recording its lowest rate of growth for more than two years (equal to only 0.2%).

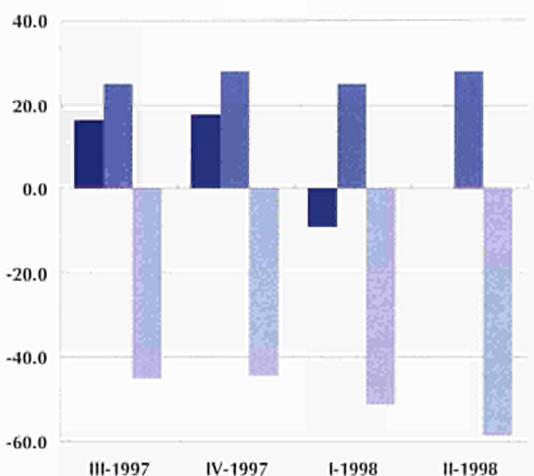
Producer prices have

experienced two months

of negative trend in Europe

Figure 1.4

Quarterly trade balance - manufactured goods (billion ECU)



Source: eurostat

Growth rates across the different goods sectors of the US economy were quite uniform - of the magnitude of 0.6% to 0.9% - again comparing the second quarter to the first quarter. This was true for all goods sectors, with the exception of consumer non-durables, which showed almost no change and were stagnating (up by 0.1%).

In Japan the recent effects of the financial crisis were far more evident than the slow down being experienced in both Europe and America. The rate of change in the second quarter of 1998 (when compared to the first quarter) was equal to -2.9%. The crisis in Japan was particularly acute in the capital goods sector, where second quarter data showed a retraction of 6.0% in comparison to the first quarter. The growth rates observed for the consumer non-durables sector held up quite well, with a reduction of only 0.7% in the second quarter of 1998. The growth rates for the other two goods sectors of the Japanese industrial economy were: intermediate goods (-2.9%) and consumer durables (-3.1%). Indeed, consumer confidence in Japan was very low and has led to many consumers opting to save, worried about the financial crisis and its implications for job security.

Industrial production (working day adjusted) & trade balance

EU-15 EUR-11 Japan USA

Table 1.1

Annual growth rates of industrial production

If we turn to annual growth rates of industrial production (based on a comparison of one month compared to the same month of a year before) we find that the European industrial economy expanded by 3.1% (June 1998 compared to June 1997). The Euro zone recorded growth of 3.2% over the same period. The similarities between European and American trends in the growth of industrial production continued when looking at annual rates of growth, with the most recent figures available for the USA showing an expansion of 3.5% (in June 1998 compared to a year before). In Japan industrial production declined by a substantial amount, with the latest data available (also for June 1998) indicating a reduction of 8.6%. This was the eighth consecutive month that the Japanese industrial economy has reported declining rates of industrial activity. Particularly noticeable was the capital goods sector, where a reduction of more than 17% was seen in comparison to a year before.

Producer prices in the EU, USA and Japan

The effects of the financial crisis seen in world markets over recent months may explain to some degree the trends of producer prices. With a lack of confidence in financial markets, reduced activity in the manufacturing sector and low levels of consumer confidence, producer prices have been exposed to very little inflationary pressure. Indeed, producer price levels in all three of the world's largest economies are below those of a year before. In Europe they have experienced two months of negative trend. They fell by 0.1% in June 1998 and by 0.3% in July 1998. In the Euro zone a month earlier, producer prices fell by 0.1% in May 1998 (when compared to a year before) and 0.3% in June 1998.

In the two other major world economies producer prices were falling at a faster rate. In June 1998, American producer prices for total industry were 1.9% below their corresponding level of a year before. Producer prices in the USA have fallen con-

	EU-15	EUR-11	Japan	USA
07-97	5.5	5.9	4.1	5.1
08-97	4.2	4.7	4.9	5.0
09-97	4.1	4.2	3.1	4.8
10-97	5.4	5.9	1.3	5.8
11-97	4.2	4.8	-1.0	5.9
12-97	5.6	6.5	-2.1	6.0
01-98	4.7	5.8	-1.8	5.0
02-98	5.1	6.0	-3.7	4.3
03-98	6.2	6.9	-5.2	4.9
04-98	3.1	3.2	-6.4	3.1
05-98	5.7	6.8	-9.2	4.5
06-98	3.1	3.2	-8.6	3.5

Industrial production:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

Source:  eurostat

EU-15 Japan USA

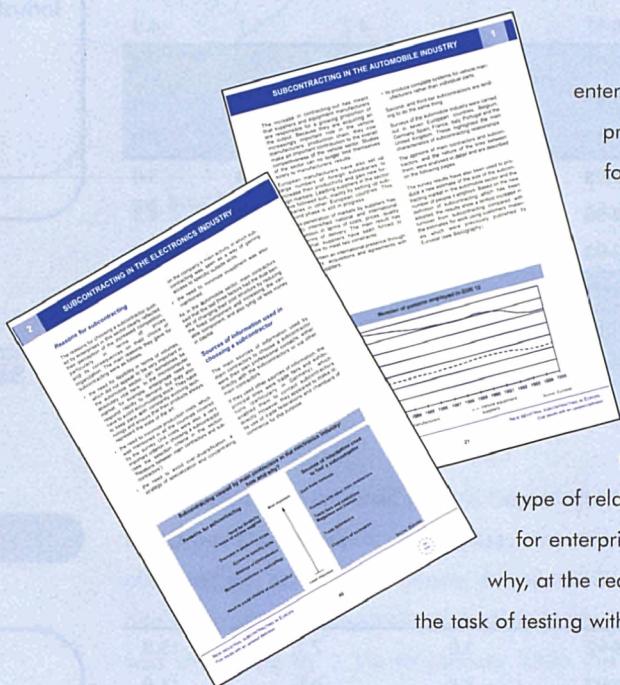
Table 1.2

	EU-15	Japan	USA
08-97	3.0	7.1	-15.8
09-97	3.3	9.6	-15.0
10-97	6.4	9.4	-14.5
11-97	4.2	8.7	-14.6
12-97	6.8	9.8	-15.3
01-98	4.6	3.9	-15.7
02-98	-6.5	10.8	-16.6
03-98	2.0	10.2	-18.9
04-98	2.1	9.4	-19.6
05-98	2.9	9.4	-20.4
06-98	:	8.9	-18.6
07-98	:	9.6	-19.1

Monthly trade
balance -
manufactured goods
(billion ECU)

Source:  eurostat

sistently since April 1997. Nevertheless, the decline in American prices is somewhat less than that seen at the start of 1998, when the annual rate of change was equal to some 3.3% per annum. The reduction of Japanese producer prices was at the same rate as that recorded in the USA (down by 1.9% on an annual basis).



New industrial sub-contracting in Europe

Within a context of increased international competition, European enterprises have been forced to restructure and to outsource a number of production functions. Recourse to subcontracting constitutes one of the forms of this outsourcing. However, subcontracting itself is evolving: in most cases, it is not restricted to the simple processing of materials supplied by a main contractor. Subcontractors are increasingly responsible for key operations in the production process (purchase of raw materials, design of products, investment, etc.).

The nature of the interdependence between subcontractors and main contractors is therefore changing, and is bringing about a new type of relationship which must be taken into account in the policies carried out for enterprises. Information about enterprises must adapt to this change. This is why, at the request of the European Commission's DG XXIII, Eurostat has taken on the task of testing within volunteer Member States a new concept of subcontracting and of evaluating its importance and characteristics.

New industrial subcontracting in Europe presents the results of Eurostat's pilot statistical exercise in which four sectors were the subject of surveys or studies:

- ★ the automobile sector;
- ★ electronics;
- ★ textiles/clothing;
- ★ aeronautics.

For each sector, a study was made of the importance of subcontracting within the purchases of main contractors, the importance of subcontracting sales within the subcontractors' turnover figures, the geographical extent of subcontracting transactions, and finally the main characteristics of the links established between main contractors and subcontractors (existence of contracts, supply of materials, cooperation in research and development, etc.).

The measurements that were carried out within this pilot exercise, using harmonised methodology and concepts, contribute today to a better understanding of the organisation of industrial relationships which underpin four essential sectors of the European economy.

The publication is available in French and English.

Catalogue number in French, CA-01-96-139-FR-C; in English, CA-01-96-139-EN-C.

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2.

Latest outlook: total industry

Business cycle at a glance 14

Short-term indicators 15

 production index

 expected output index

 producer price index

 employment index

 the construction sector

 capacity utilisation

 foreign trade indices

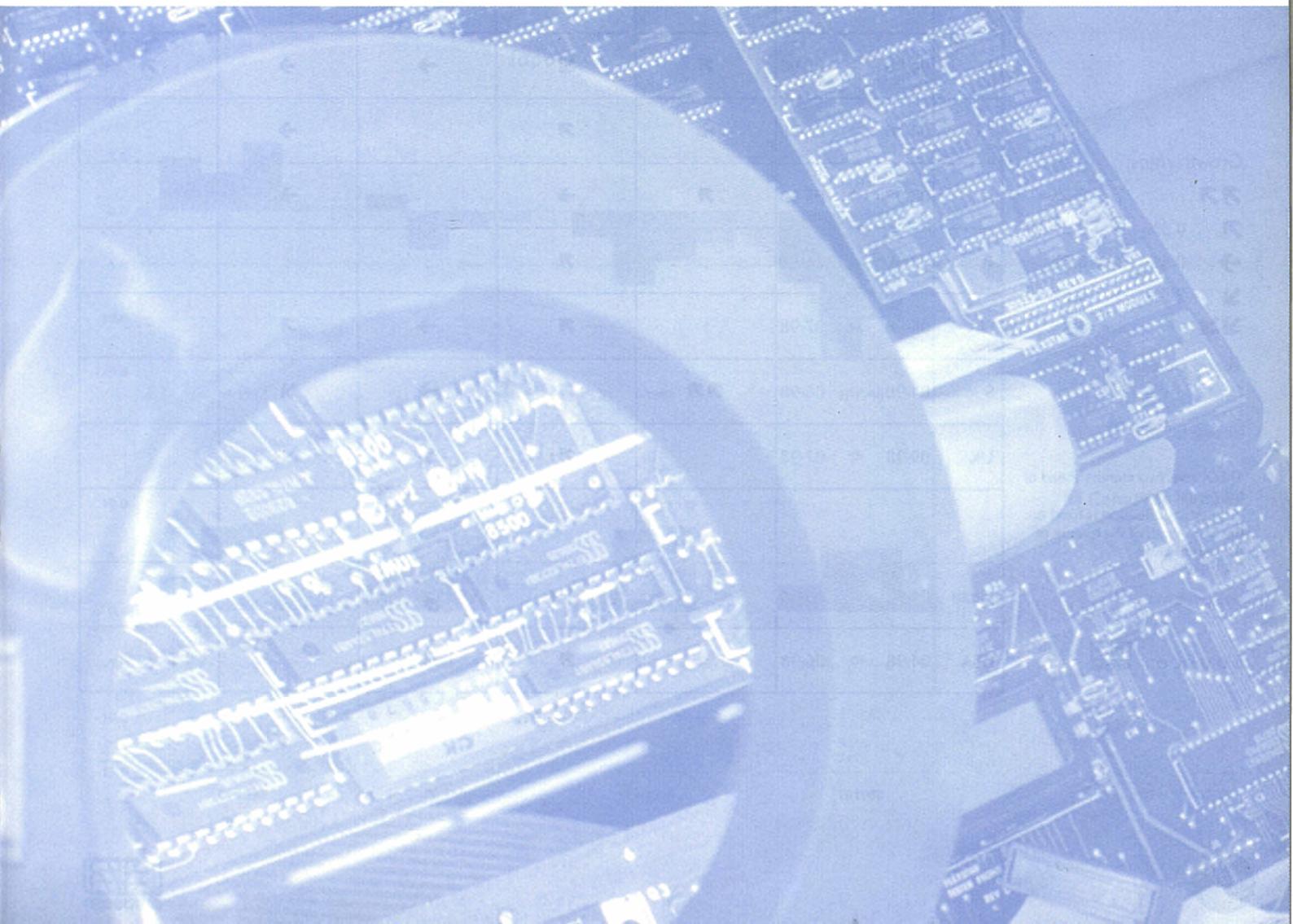


Table 2.1

Business cycle at a glance: growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

Growth rates:

- ↗↗** >2.5%
- ↗** 0.5% → 2.5%
- -0.5% → 0.5%
- ↘** -2.5% → -0.5%
- ↘↘** <-2.5%

1) EOI runs two months ahead of the period given

2) capacity utilisation is fixed on the first month of the quarter of the period given

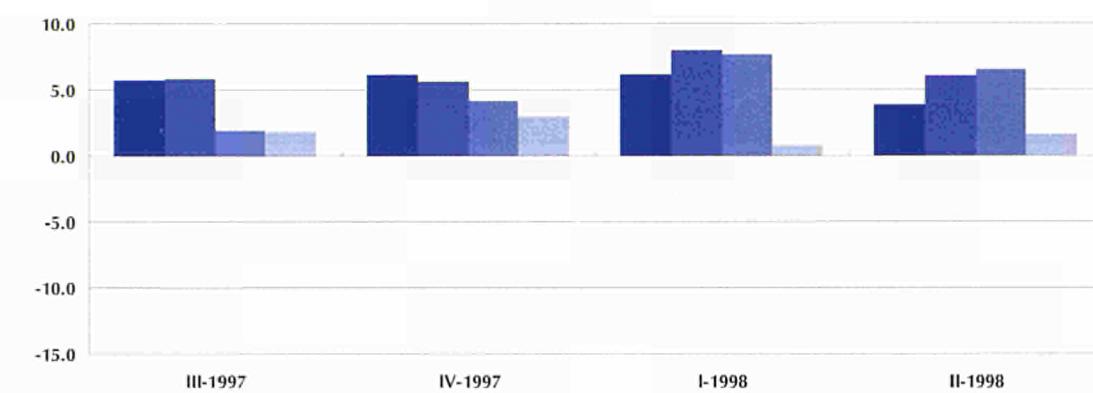
Source:  eurostat

	Latest 3 months available	Estimated output index (1)	Production	Producer prices	Capacity utilisation (2)	New orders
EU-15	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	↗	↗	↗	↗	:
B	05-98 ⇄ 07-98	:	↗	:	↗	:
DK	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	:	↗	↗	↘	↗
D	05-98 ⇄ 07-98	:	↗	↗	↗	↗
EL	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	:	↗↗	↗	↗↗	:
E	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	↗	↗	↗	↗	:
F	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	↗	↗	↘	↗	:
IRL	03-98 ⇄ 05-98	:	↗↗	:	:	:
I	05-98 ⇄ 07-98	:	↗	↗	↗	:
L	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	↗	↘	↗	↗	↗
NL	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	↗	↗	:	↗	:
A	03-98 ⇄ 05-98	↗	↗	:	↗	:
P	02-98 ⇄ 04-98	:	↗	:	:	:
FIN	05-98 ⇄ 07-98	:	↗	↗	↗	:
S	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	↗↗	↗	↗	↘	:
UK	05-98 ⇄ 07-98	:	↗	↘	↘	:
Japan	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	:	↘↘	↘	:	:
USA	04-98 ⇄ 06-98	:	↗	↗	:	:

Production index (working day adjusted)

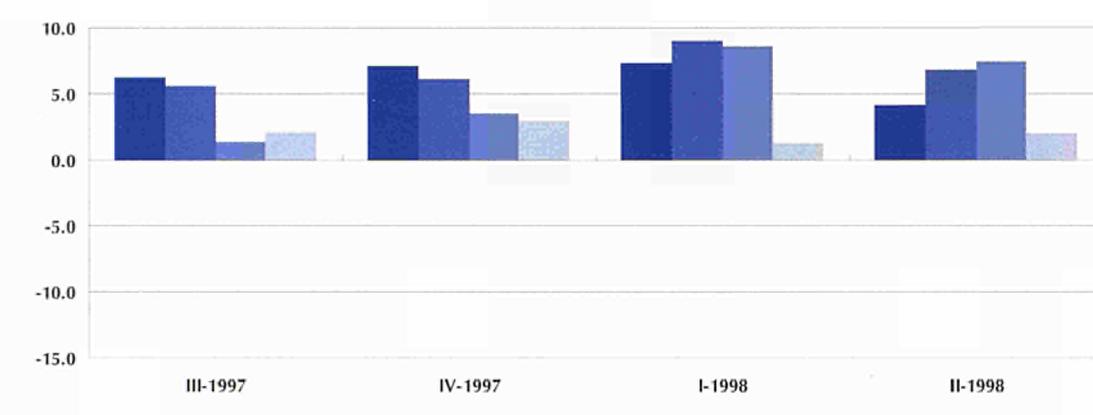
EU-15

Figure 2.1

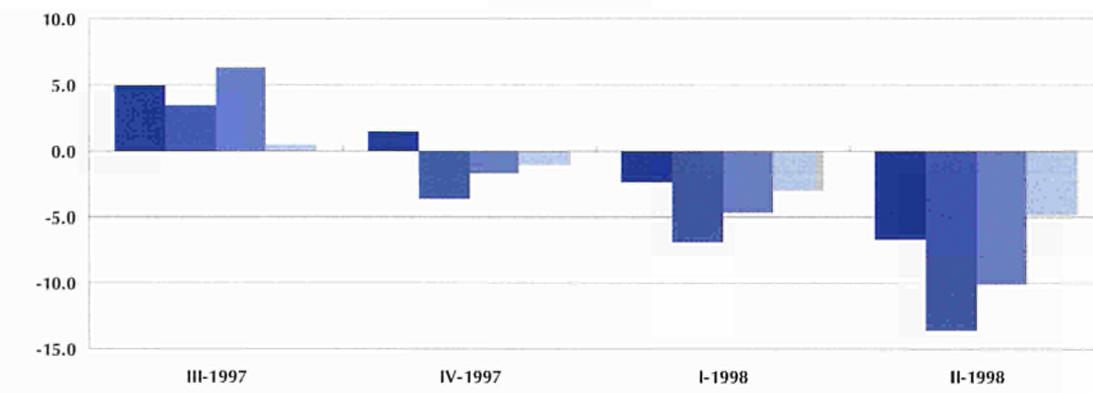


Industrial production
for the main
industrial groupings:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

EUR-11



Japan



■ Intermediate goods

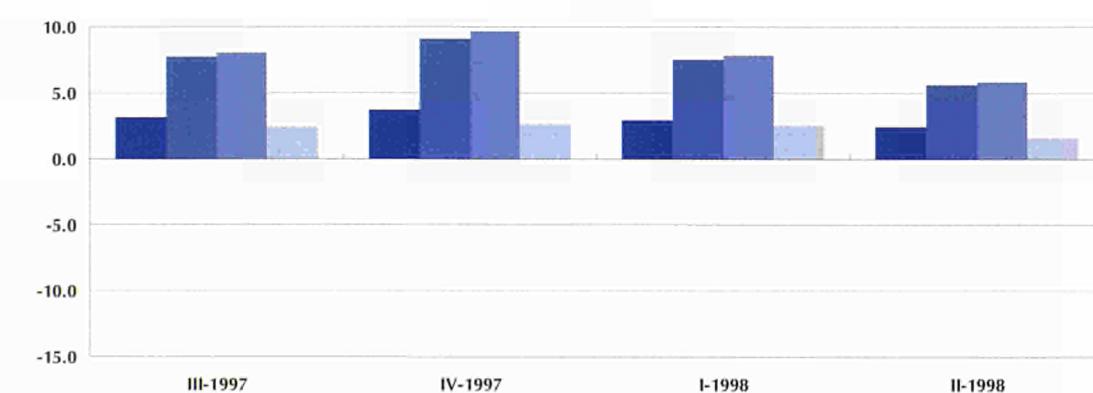
■ Capital goods

■ Consumer durables

Consumer

non-durables

USA



Source:

Table 2.2

Industrial production:
indices
(1995 = 100)

	1995	1996	1997	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	07-98
EU-15	100.0	100.3	104.1	107.2	107.8	107.8	108.0	108.0	:
B	100.0	101.1	105.6	109.2	108.6	110.5	110.5	112.0	114.1
DK	100.0	101.1	105.5	110.1	110.8	97.6	100.3	108.4	:
D	100.0	100.4	103.8	108.2	111.6	106.8	109.4	108.2	109.6
EL	100.0	101.0	102.7	107.3	107.9	109.7	109.7	111.6	:
E	100.0	99.0	105.9	112.4	110.1	110.0	112.0	112.6	:
F	100.0	99.9	104.0	107.5	109.0	108.4	109.2	108.9	:
IRL	100.0	108.0	124.5	140.2	140.1	139.2	138.3	:	:
I	100.0	97.2	99.8	100.7	101.3	101.0	101.4	101.2	101.4
L	100.0	99.6	106.3	110.2	111.2	108.6	108.4	109.8	:
NL	100.0	102.7	104.7	104.9	105.4	107.4	105.6	106.6	:
A	100.0	100.6	106.7	108.5	108.3	108.9	109.4	:	:
P	100.0	101.3	103.9	108.7	109.5	108.6	:	:	:
FIN	100.0	103.8	113.2	119.6	121.3	122.9	123.2	119.1	125.4
S	100.0	103.1	111.2	113.9	113.5	115.7	114.3	116.6	:
UK	100.0	100.9	102.3	101.9	102.7	104.0	102.8	103.5	103.9
Japan	100.0	102.0	105.8	102.4	100.1	98.7	97.0	98.3	:
USA	100.0	103.5	108.6	111.1	111.7	112.2	112.5	111.8	:

Source:  eurostat

Table 2.3

Industrial production
for the main
industrial groupings:
indices
(1995 = 100)

	1995	1996	1997	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98
Total industry									
EU-15	100.0	100.3	104.1	106.5	107.2	107.8	107.8	108.0	108.0
Japan	100.0	102.0	105.8	106.2	102.4	100.1	98.7	97.0	98.3
USA	100.0	103.5	108.6	111.6	111.1	111.7	112.2	112.5	111.8
Intermediate goods									
EU-15	100.0	99.6	104.4	107.1	107.6	108.2	108.2	108.3	108.3
Japan	100.0	100.0	104.5	105.3	102.0	98.9	97.7	97.2	97.3
USA	100.0	102.4	106.3	108.4	108.6	108.3	108.6	109.0	109.0
Capital goods									
EU-15	100.0	101.9	106.2	109.9	110.7	113.4	111.5	112.4	112.5
Japan	100.0	106.4	109.8	107.0	103.4	103.5	96.7	91.9	95.3
USA	100.0	105.2	113.2	117.0	116.9	118.1	118.6	118.9	118.5
Consumer durables									
EU-15	100.0	100.5	102.1	104.6	108.1	108.5	107.6	108.4	108.8
Japan	100.0	102.7	111.0	111.9	108.3	102.4	102.2	102.3	106.1
USA	100.0	106.2	114.8	119.6	119.2	119.8	120.7	121.3	120.1
Consumer non-durables									
EU-15	100.0	99.6	:	102.4	102.1	102.2	102.5	103.2	:
Japan	100.0	100.1	101.0	100.9	97.1	96.6	98.0	96.5	97.9
USA	100.0	100.6	103.5	105.8	105.3	104.9	105.5	105.0	104.9

Source:  eurostat

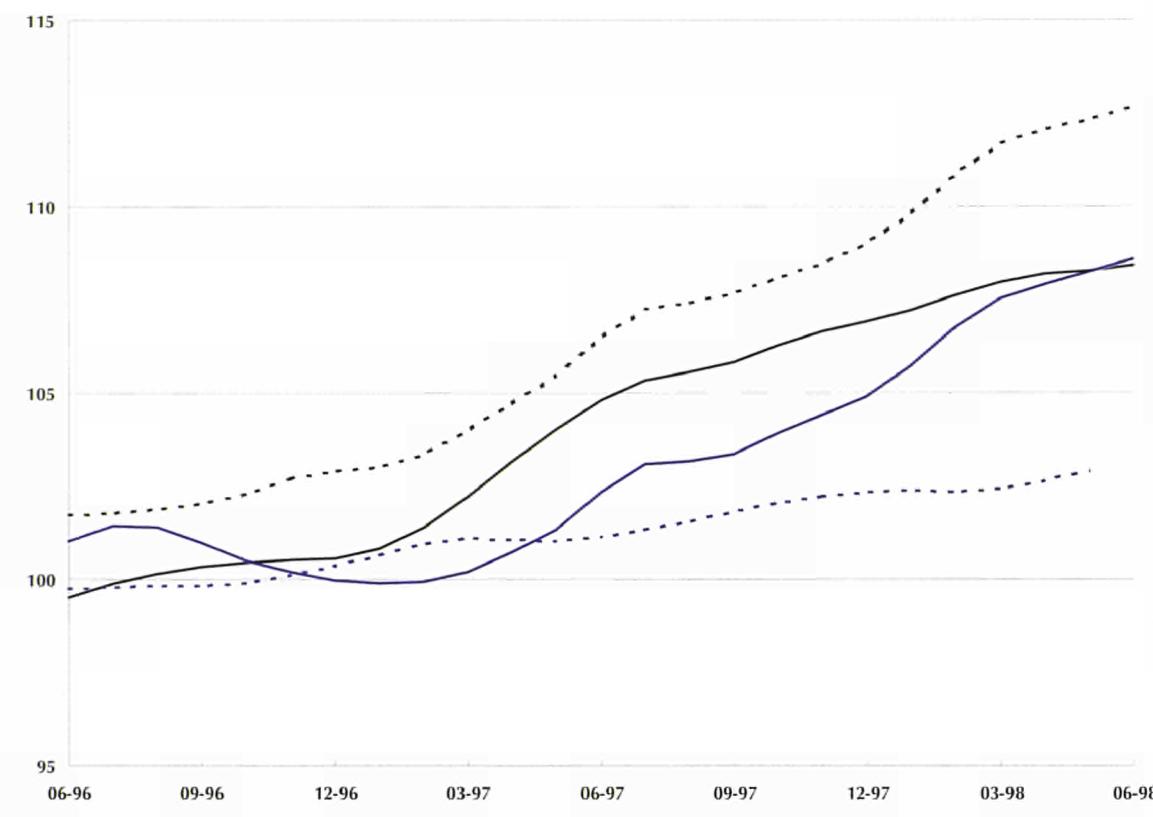


Figure 2.2

EU-15 industrial production for the main industrial groupings: indices (1995 = 100)

— Intermediate goods
- - - Capital goods
— Consumer durables
Consumer
----- non-durables

Source : eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.7	0.6	1.4	1.5
B	05-98	⇒	07-98	2.1	1.9	4.3	-0.3
DK	04-98	⇒	06-98	2.1	2.7	-1.3	5.4
D	05-98	⇒	07-98	0.8	0.4	1.2	2.1
EL	04-98	⇒	06-98	2.8	2.9	4.2	2.6
E	04-98	⇒	06-98	1.3	1.2	2.8	2.1
F	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.9	0.5	2.5	2.7
IRL	03-98	⇒	05-98	3.5	4.7	5.5	:
I	05-98	⇒	07-98	0.2	0.0	0.6	0.8
L	04-98	⇒	06-98	-0.9	-3.8	3.6	-4.4
NL	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.7	0.6	1.3	1.6
A	03-98	⇒	05-98	0.3	:	1.7	6.2
P	02-98	⇒	04-98	1.6	1.0	8.3	3.2
FIN	05-98	⇒	07-98	1.6	0.9	5.3	3.8
S	04-98	⇒	06-98	1.3	1.2	2.4	4.2
UK	05-98	⇒	07-98	0.7	0.6	1.5	-0.4
Japan	04-98	⇒	06-98	-2.9	-2.9	-6.0	-3.1
USA	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.7

Table 2.4

Industrial production for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

Source : eurostat

Figure 2.3

Industrial production
for total industry:
growth rate, three
months compared to
the same three
months of the
previous year,
04-98 to 06-98
(%)

Source:  eurostat

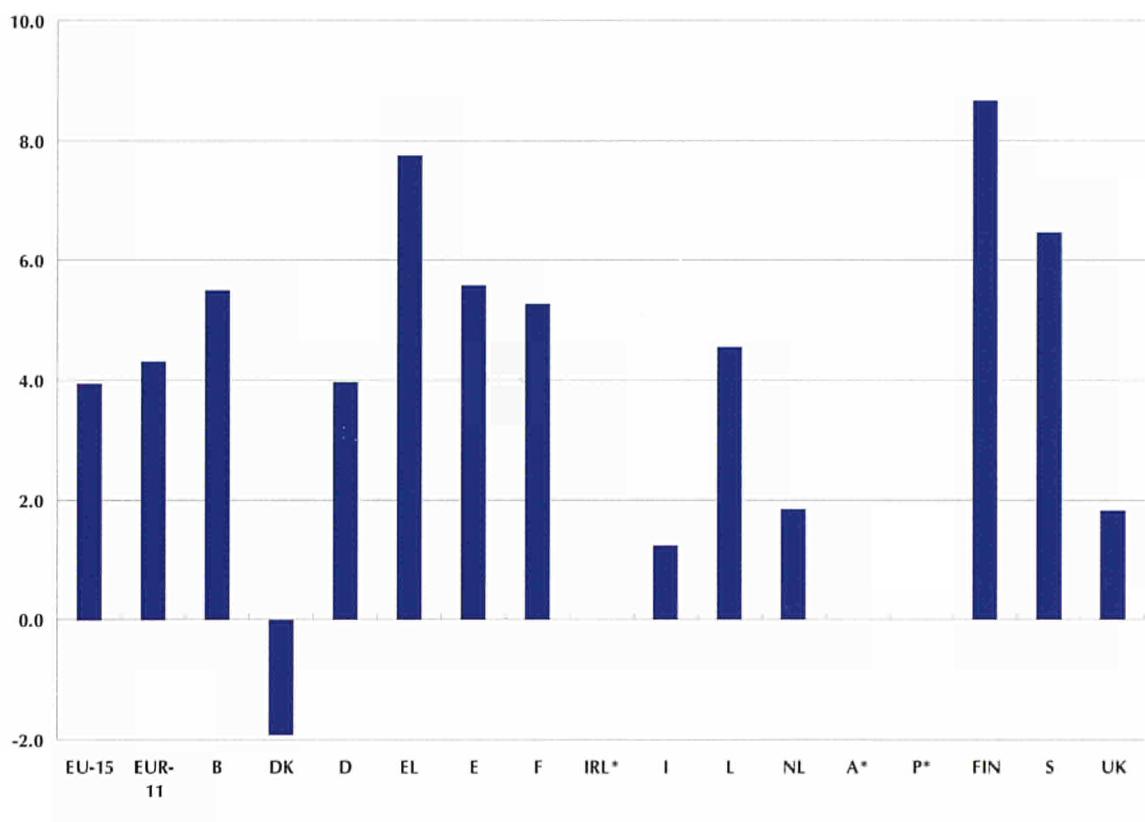


Table 2.5

Industrial production
for the main
industrial groupings:
growth rate, three
months compared to
the same three
months of the
previous year
(%)

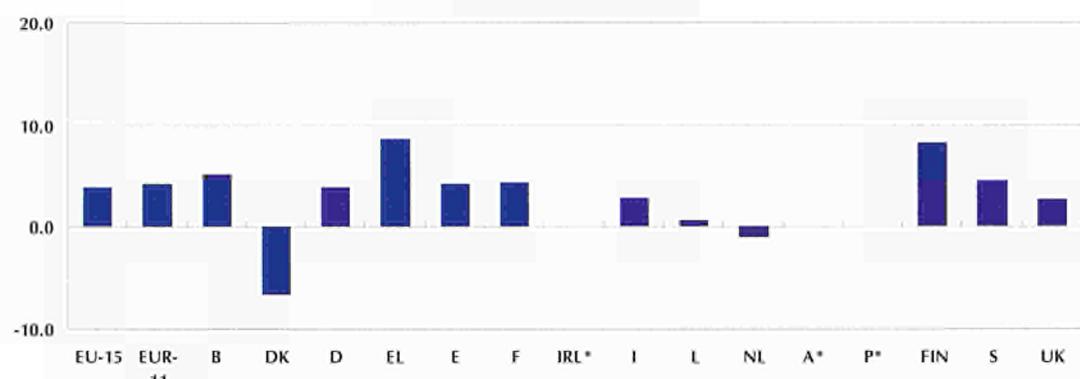
Source:  eurostat

	Latest 3 months available	Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	4.0	3.8	6.1	6.5	1.6
B	05-98 ⇌ 07-98	5.5	4.8	11.7	-2.3	3.8
DK	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	-1.9	-6.7	-3.0	7.0	2.0
D	05-98 ⇌ 07-98	4.7	4.7	7.1	9.4	0.7
EL	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	7.8	8.5	12.2	4.9	5.0
E	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	5.6	4.2	10.8	10.5	3.0
F	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	5.3	4.3	9.4	13.4	3.2
IRL	03-98 ⇌ 05-98	15.4	22.0	17.7	:	3.0
I	05-98 ⇌ 07-98	1.7	2.5	1.1	-2.3	2.5
L	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	4.6	0.6	18.8	-1.4	5.8
NL	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	1.9	-1.1	6.2	6.7	4.3
A	03-98 ⇌ 05-98	4.0	:	10.4	21.9	-0.7
P	02-98 ⇌ 04-98	6.8	7.9	17.4	16.8	-2.5
FIN	05-98 ⇌ 07-98	7.7	6.4	17.9	2.0	3.1
S	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	6.5	4.4	9.6	14.9	2.1
UK	05-98 ⇌ 07-98	1.5	1.6	2.6	-3.5	0.4
Japan	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	-8.0	-6.7	-13.6	-10.1	-4.9
USA	04-98 ⇌ 06-98	3.7	2.4	5.7	5.9	1.6

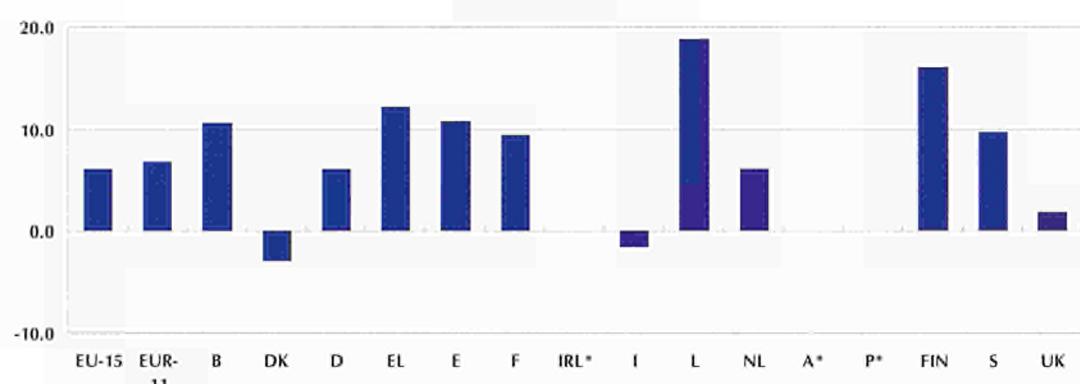
Production index (working day adjusted)

Figure 2.4

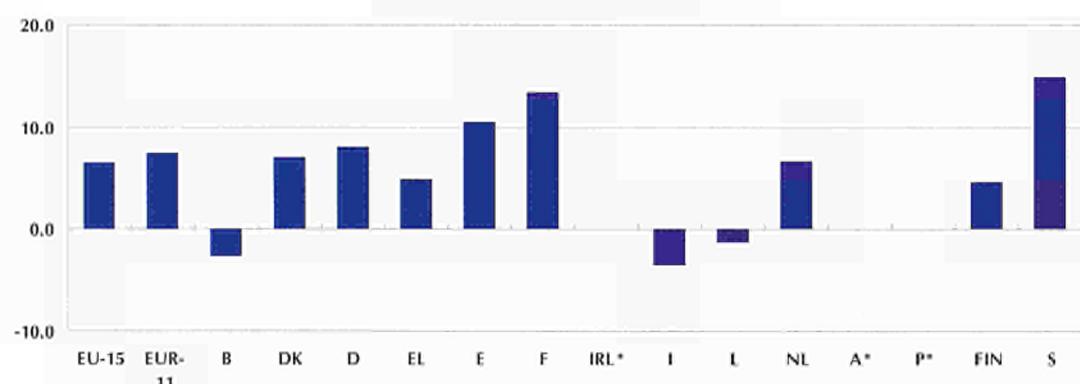
Intermediate goods



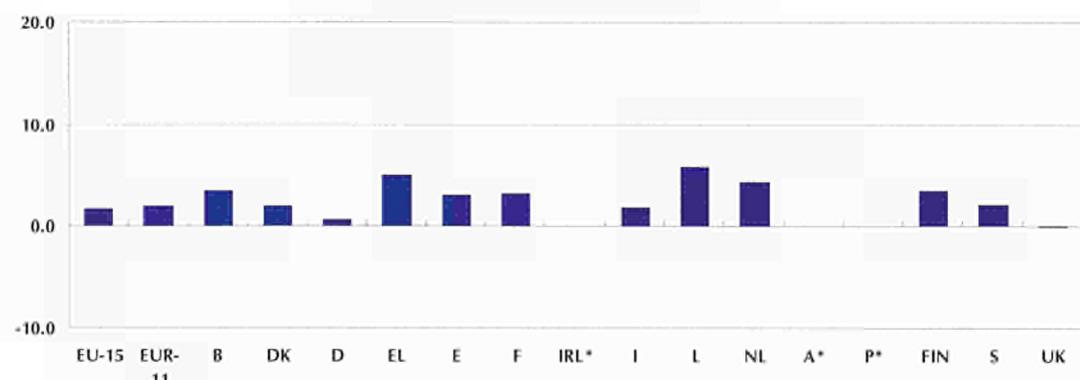
Capital goods



Consumer durables goods



Consumer non-durables goods



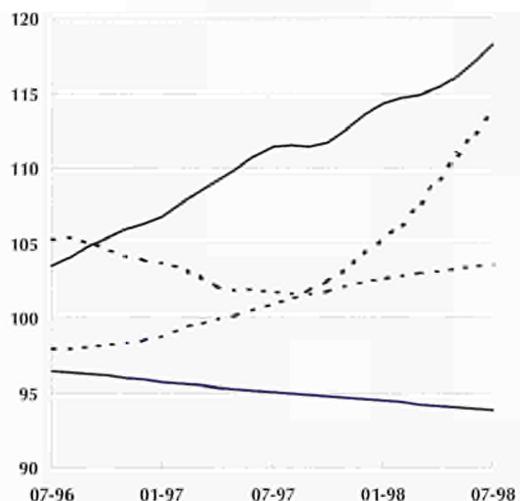
Industrial production
for the main
industrial groupings:
growth rate, three
months compared to
the same three
months of the
previous year,
04-98 to 06-98
(%)

Source: eurostat

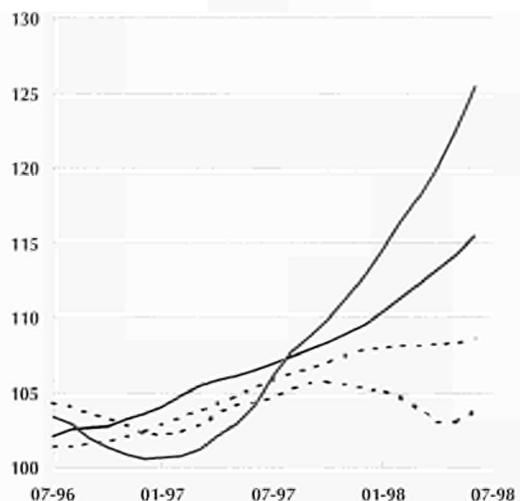
Figure 2.5

Industrial production
for the main
industrial groupings:
indices
(1995 = 100)

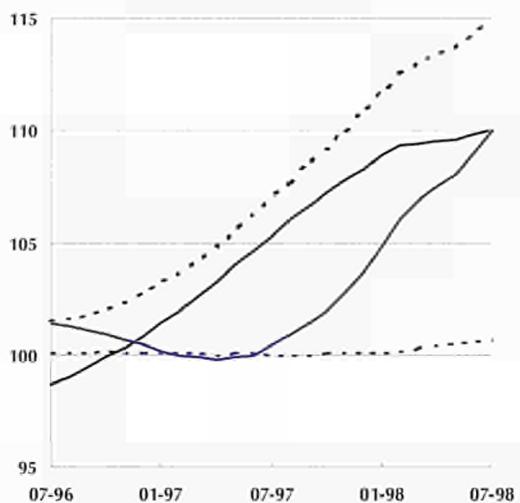
Belgique / België



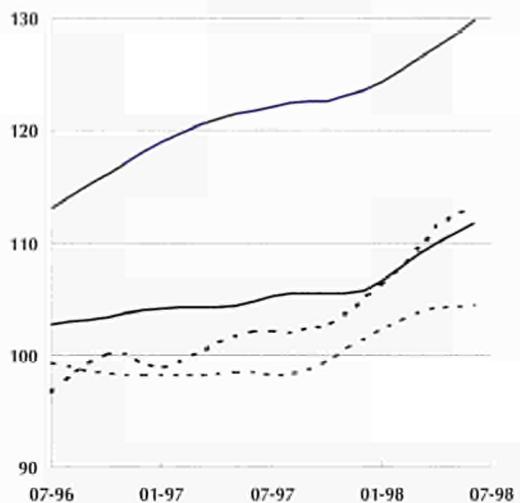
Danmark



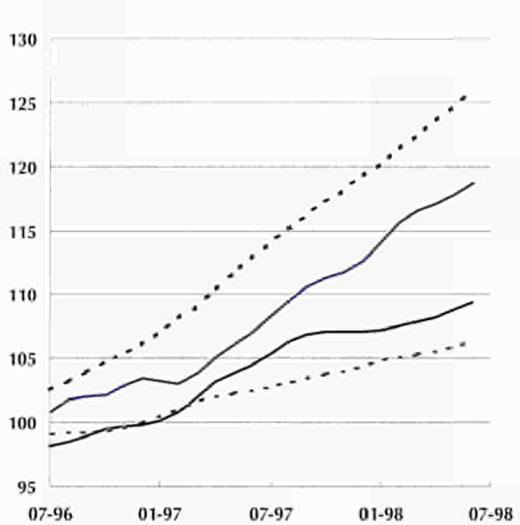
Deutschland



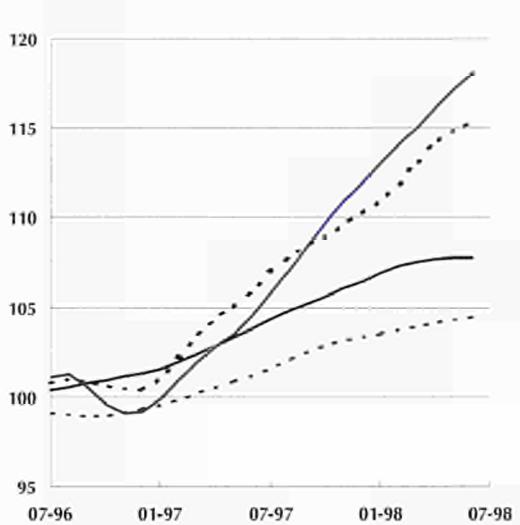
Ellada



España



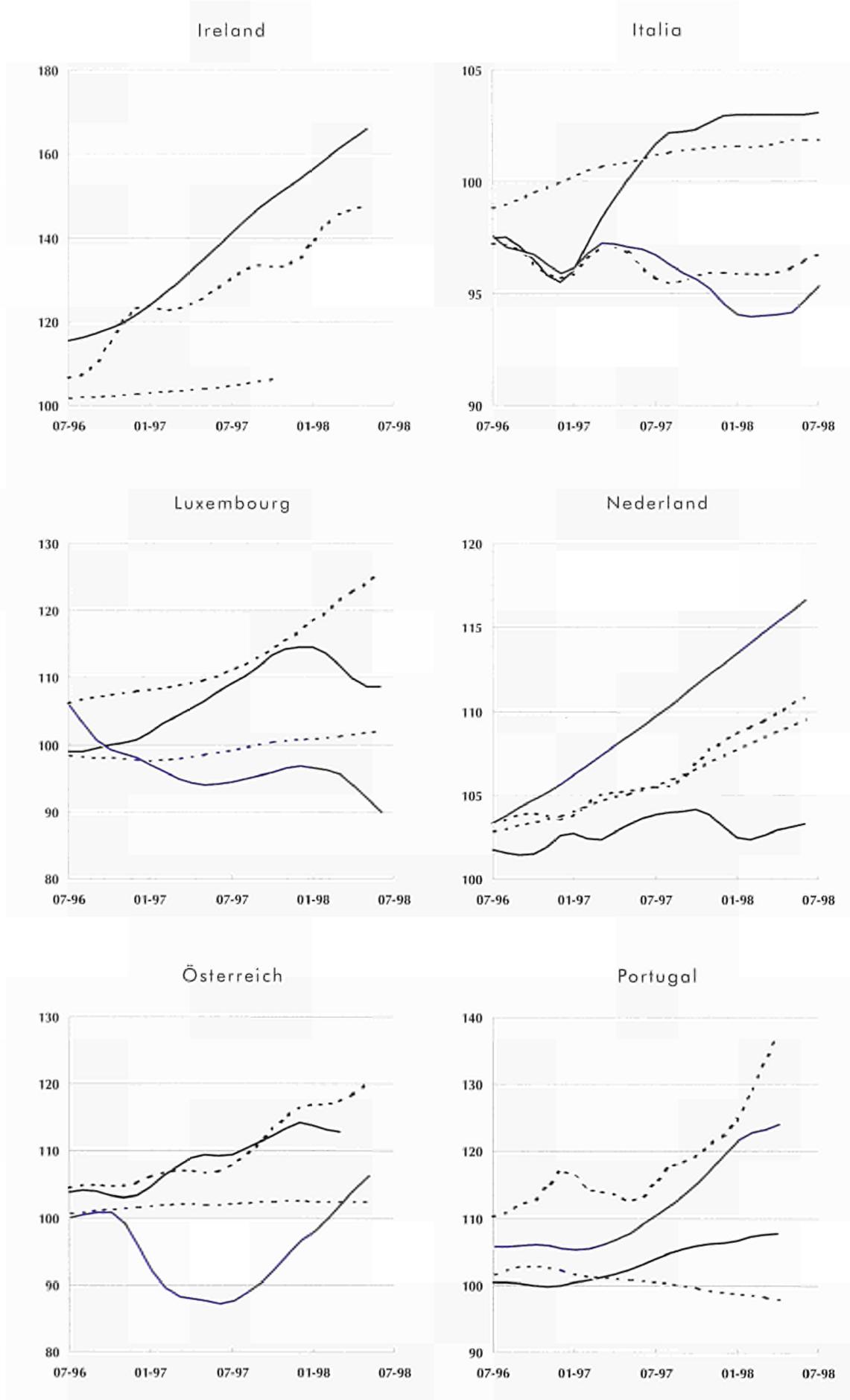
France



Intermediate goods —————
Capital goods - - - - -
Consumer durables ——————
Consumer non-durables - - - - -

Source : eurostat

Figure 2.5

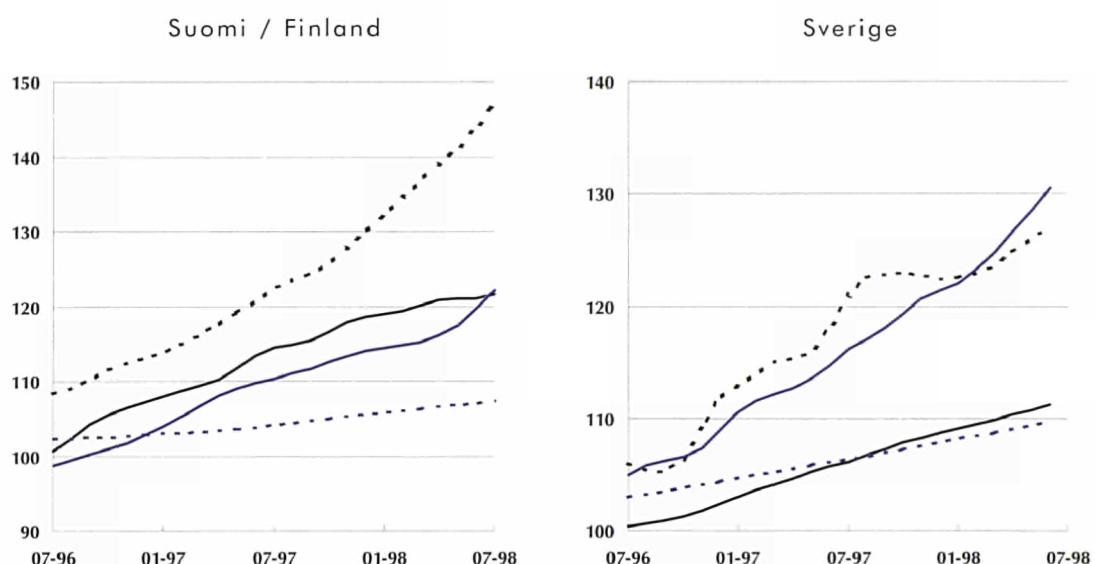


Industrial production
for the main
industrial groupings:
indices
(1995 = 100)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.5

Industrial production
for the main
industrial groupings:
indices
(1995 = 100)



Intermediate goods ———

Capital goods -----

Consumer durables - - - -

Consumer
non-durables - - - -

Further information - production index:

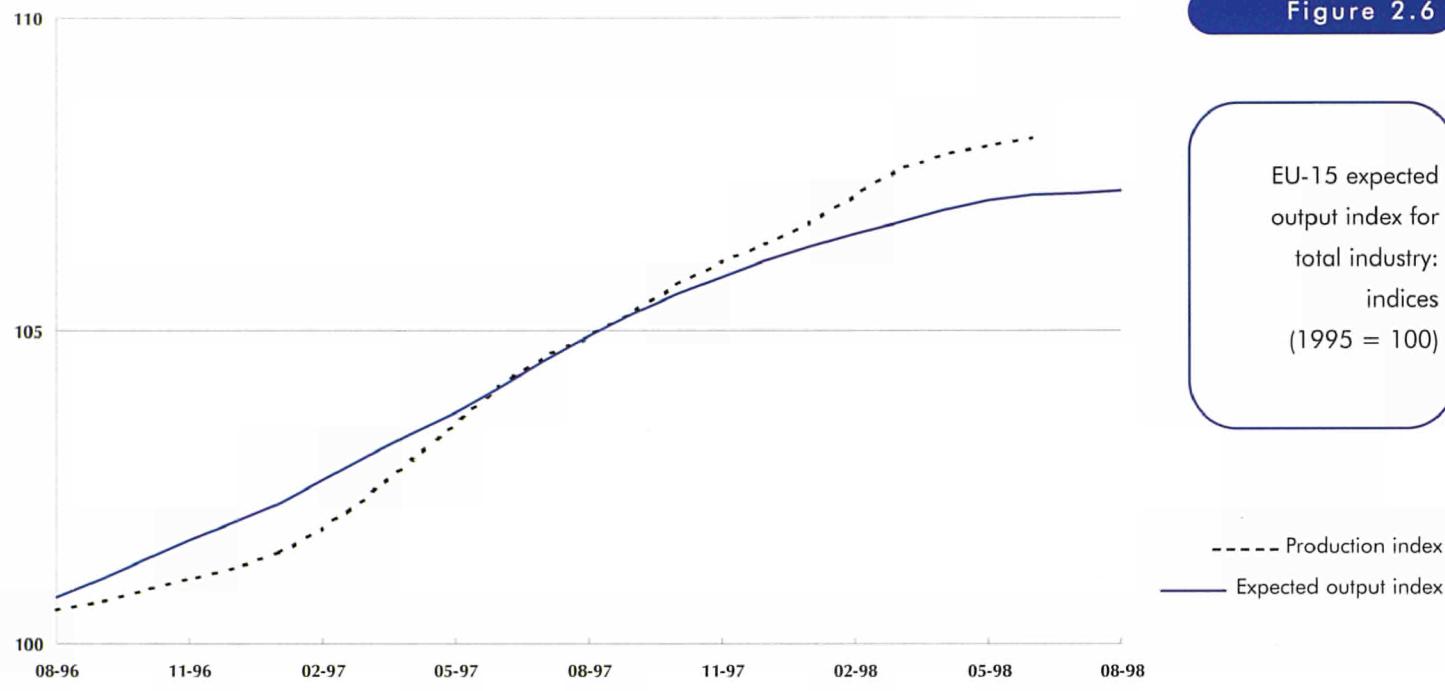
The index of production aims to measure changes in volume (at constant prices) of gross value added created by a given activity, the activity indices being aggregated (like the aggregation at Community level) by means of a system of weighting according to gross value added at factor cost. Since the monthly evolution of value added can not be measured, as an approximation, product output or deflated turnover is used.

The indices of production are adjusted in two stages. Firstly, account is taken of the variation in the number of working days in the month. The national Statistical Offices provide Eurostat with these series (except Denmark, France and Spain). Secondly, for EU-15 and most of the Member States a correction is made using seasonal adjustment with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V. Gomez. For France, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the indices are adjusted by the national statistical offices themselves. For Germany, the trend and seasonally adjusted figures are calculated by the German NSO.

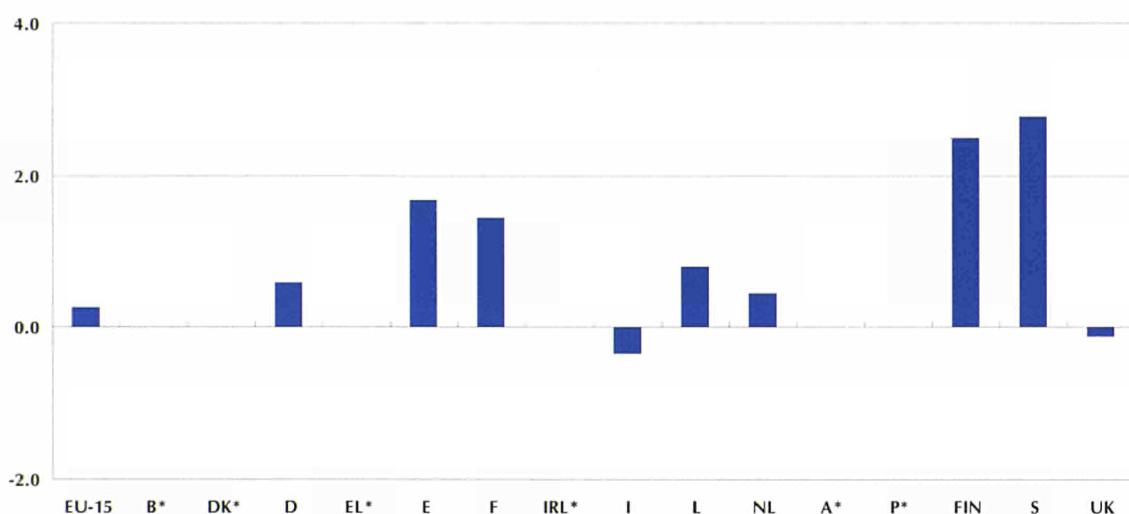
Full methodological notes may be found on page 89.

Source: eurostat

Production index (expected output index)



Expected output index for total industry,
three months compared to the previous three months, 06-98 to 08-98 (%)



Source: eurostat

Further information - expected output index:

The Expected Output Index (EOI) links several aspects of information from qualitative business opinion surveys (questions on order books and questions on production expectations) with the index of industrial production. As the data from the business opinion surveys are available earlier and lead the evolution of industrial production, they can be used to compute a short-term estimate of the production index.

A multiple regression is run, using the growth rate of the industrial production lagged with values of the business opinion survey data. The result of this regression is "integrated" from a growth rate to an evolution, and after that the trend cycle is calculated for a clearer interpretation of the results.

Details of the estimation method can be found in a more thorough article that was published in Special Edition 5/97 of the Monthly Panorama of the European Industry.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 89.

Figure 2.7

Expected output index
for total industry:
indices
(1995 = 100)

Belgique / België

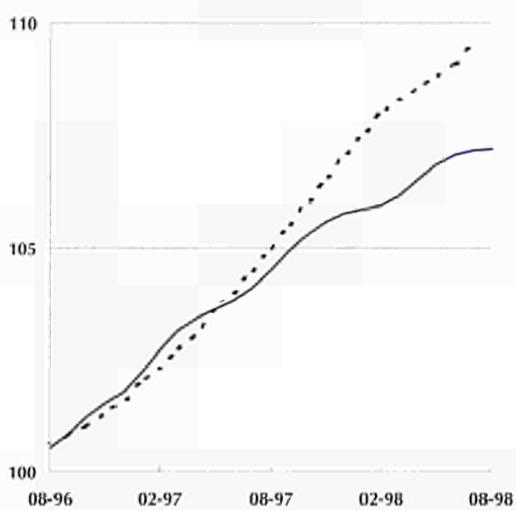
Danmark

Not available

Not available

Deutschland

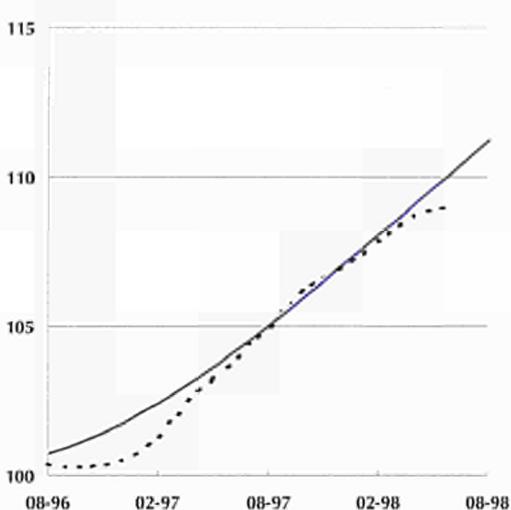
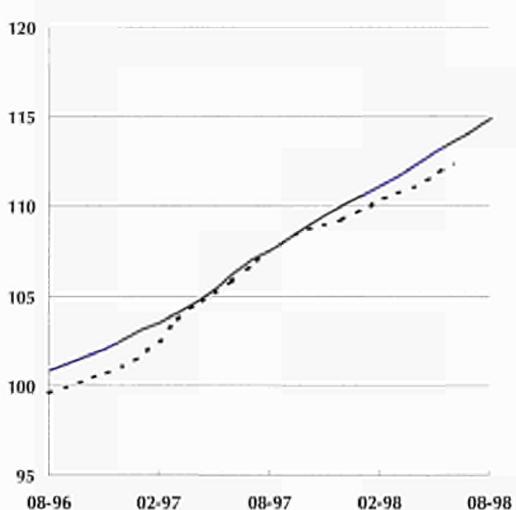
Espana



Not available

Espana

France



Production index ---
Expected output index —

Source: eurostat

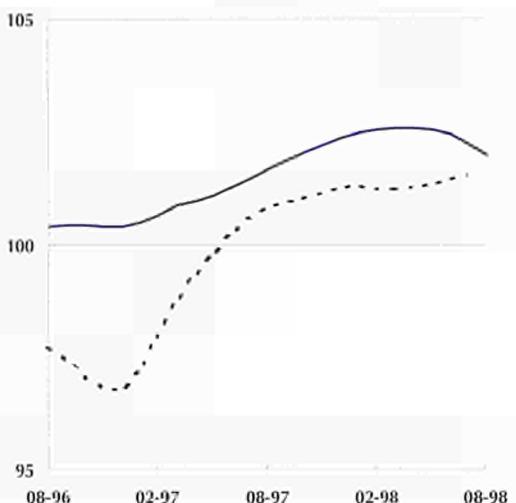
Figure 2.7

Ireland

Italia

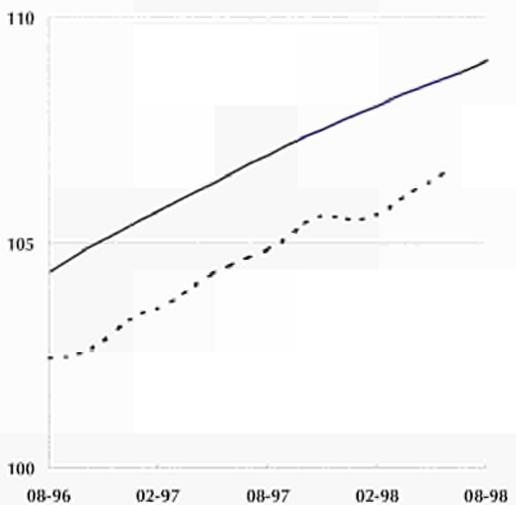
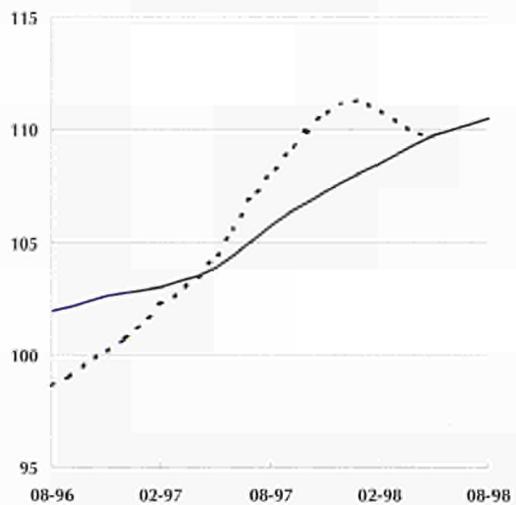
Expected output index
for total industry:
indices
(1995 = 100)

Not available



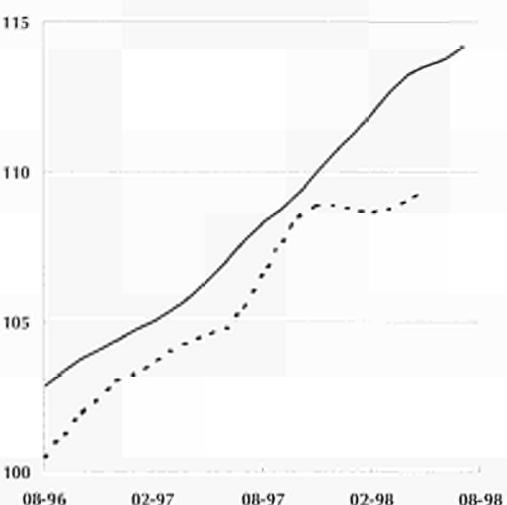
Luxembourg

Nederland



Österreich

Portugal



--- Production index
— Expected output index

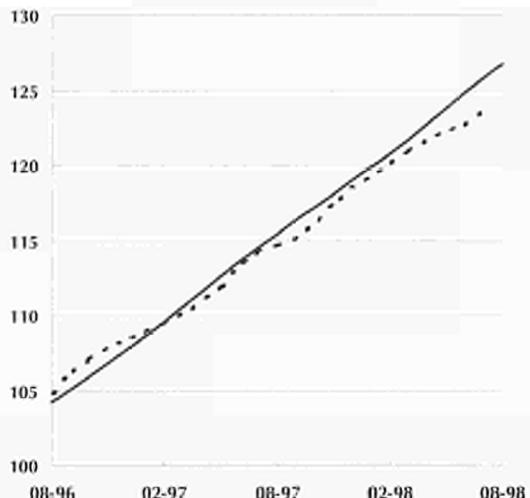
Not available

Source: eurostat

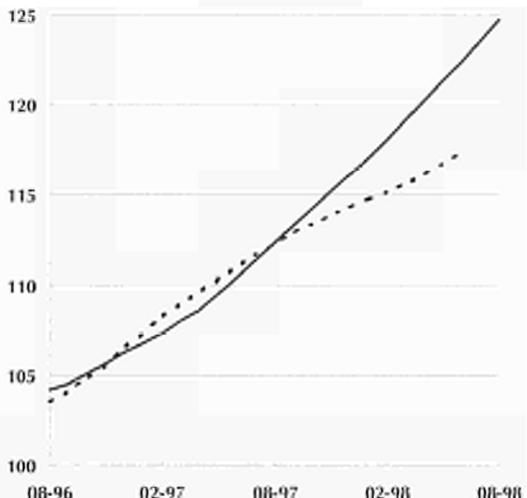
Figure 2.7

Expected output index
for total industry:
indices
(1995 = 100)

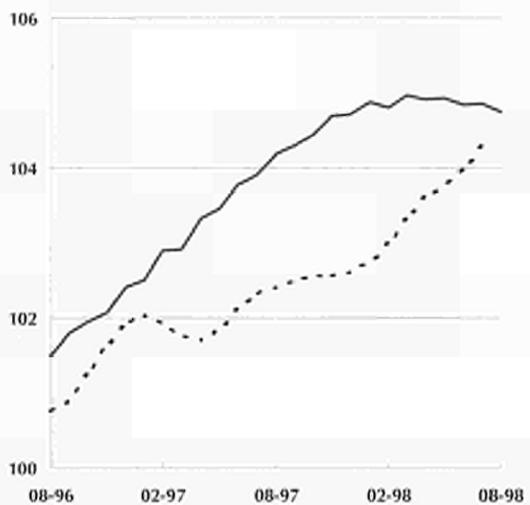
Suomi / Finland



Sverige



United Kingdom



Production index -----

Expected output index ———

Domestic producer price index

EU-15

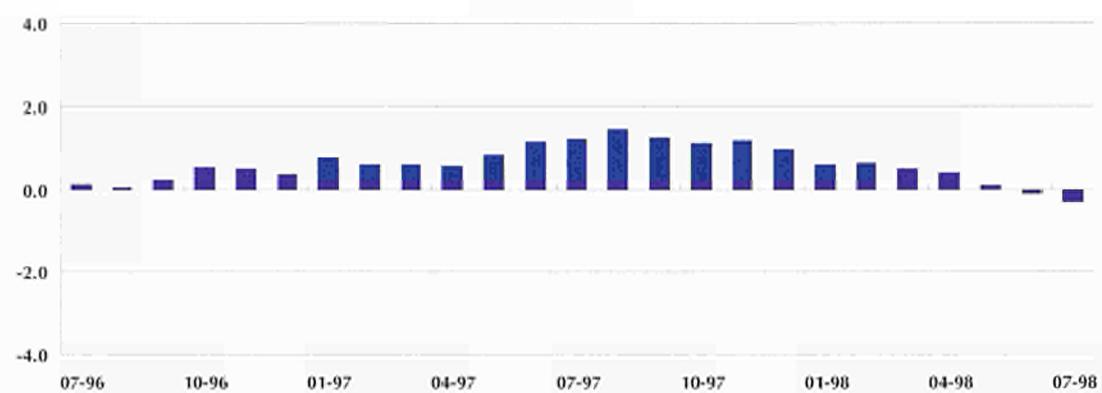
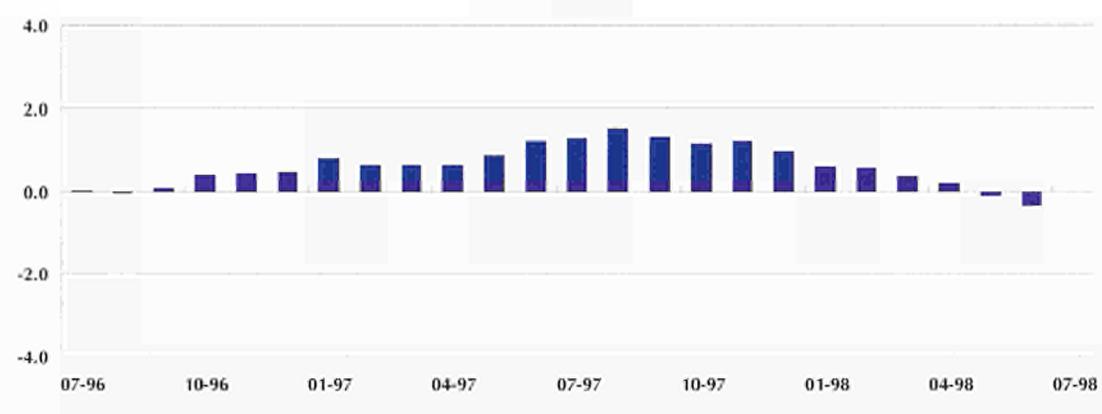


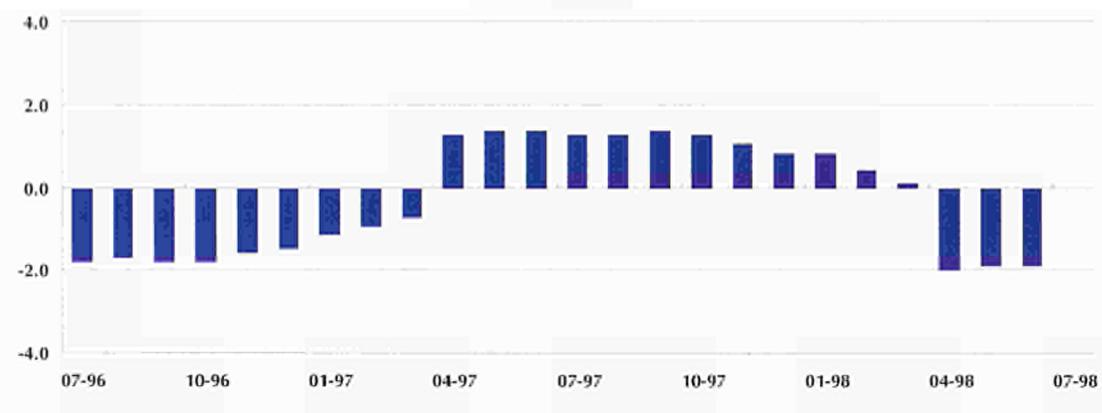
Figure 2.8

Domestic producer
price index:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

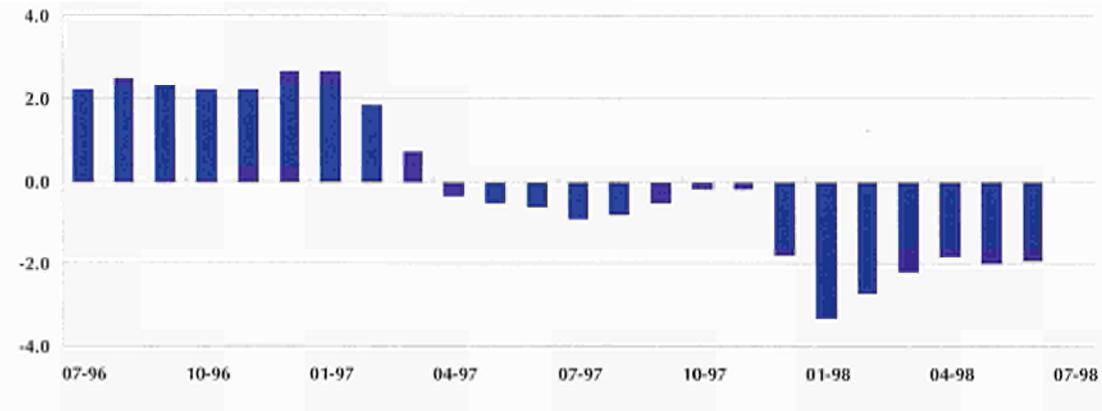
EUR-11



Japan



USA



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.9

Export prices for manufacturing industry: growth rate, year on year, 06-98 (%)

Source:  eurostat

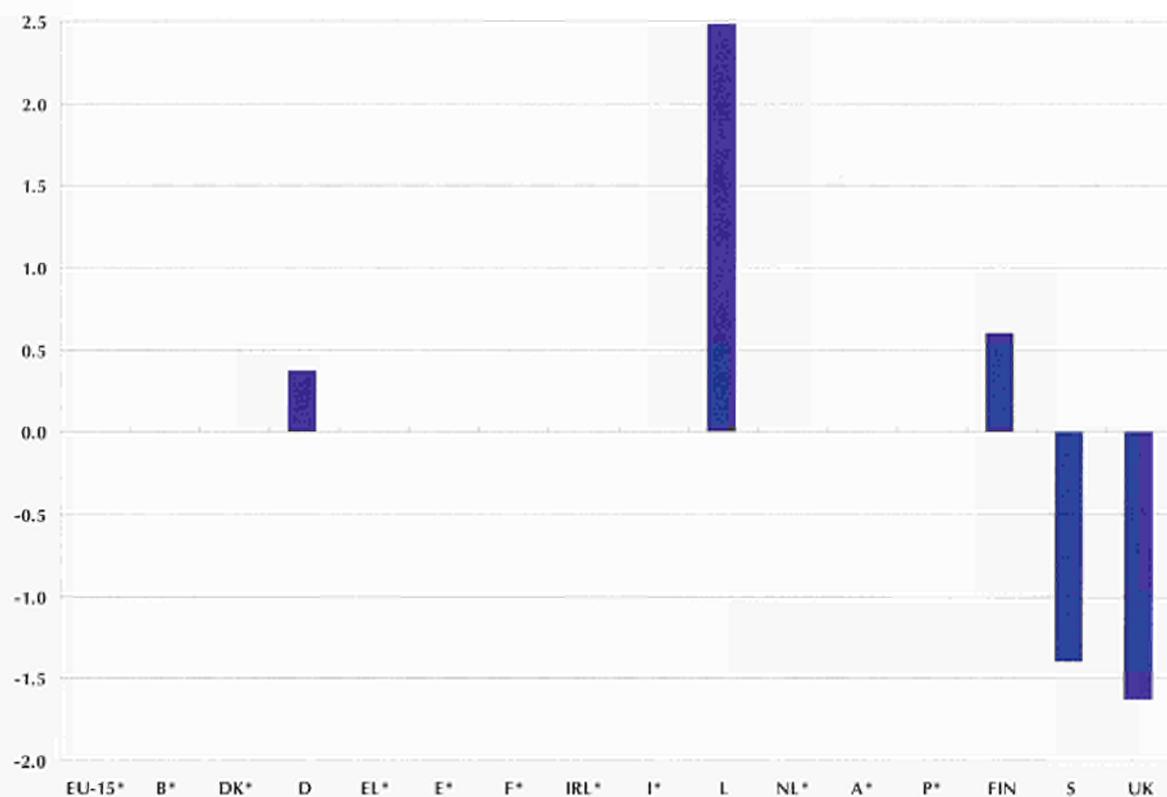
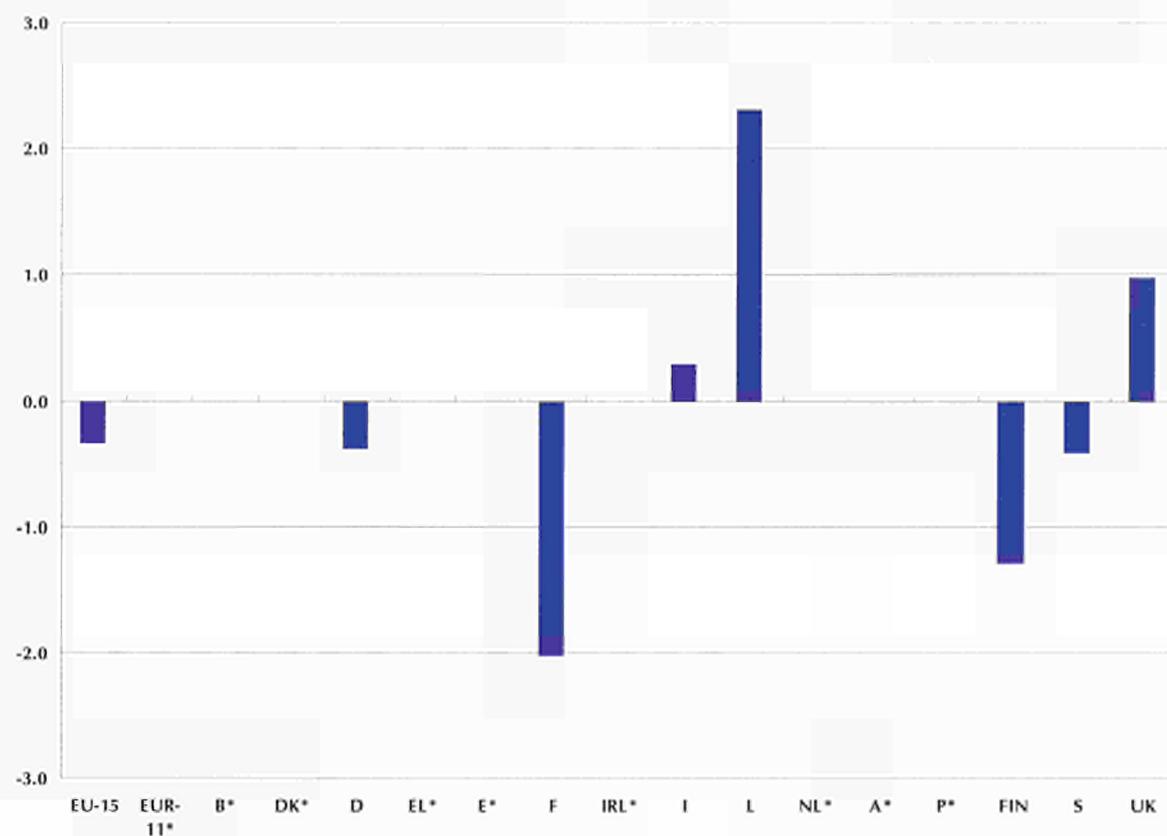


Figure 2.10

Domestic producer price index: growth rate, year on year, 07-98 (%)

Source:  eurostat



Domestic producer price index

1995 1996 1997 03-98 04-98 05-98 06-98 07-98 08-98

Table 2.6

	1995	1996	1997	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	07-98	08-98	
EU-15	100.0	100.6	101.6	101.7	101.6	101.5	101.3	101.2	:	
B	100.0	100.6	102.3	101.8	102.3	102.3	101.8	:	:	
DK	100.0	101.6	103.7	102.6	103.3	103.1	102.9	:	:	
D	100.0	99.6	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.7	100.6	100.4	:	
EL	100.0	107.4	111.0	112.9	114.6	114.9	114.8	:	:	
E	100.0	101.7	102.7	102.5	102.5	102.4	102.2	:	:	
F	100.0	100.5	100.7	99.8	99.7	99.2	98.8	98.6	98.3	
IRL	100.0	101.8	101.9	:	:	:	:	:	:	
I	100.0	101.9	103.2	103.8	103.8	103.6	103.5	103.4	:	
L	100.0	99.6	101.4	103.6	103.7	103.6	103.8	103.8	:	
NL	100.0	101.8	104.5	104.4	104.0	:	:	:	:	
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
P	100.0	103.1	104.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	
FIN	100.0	99.1	100.4	100.0	99.8	99.8	99.5	99.4	99.0	
S	100.0	100.6	101.7	101.6	101.7	101.8	101.8	101.7	:	
UK	100.0	100.8	101.2	102.1	101.8	101.6	101.5	101.2	101.1	
Japan	100.0	98.2	98.9	98.1	97.8	97.7	97.6	:	:	
USA	100.0	102.4	102.3	99.8	99.9	100.1	100.0	:	:	

Domestic producer
price index:
indices
(1995 = 100)

Source: 

1995 1996 1997 03-98 04-98 05-98 06-98 07-98 08-98

Table 2.7

	1995	1996	1997	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	07-98	08-98	
EU-15	100.0	102.2	104.8	105.2	105.1	104.8	104.7	104.4	:	
B	100.0	98.7	97.3	96.1	96.5	97.1	96.4	:	:	
DK	100.0	101.1	101.5	99.6	100.2	100.7	100.3	:	:	
D	100.0	97.7	96.0	95.3	95.3	95.9	95.5	95.3	:	
EL	100.0	106.6	108.8	103.1	100.7	102.3	103.9	:	:	
E	100.0	103.1	100.9	99.5	99.3	99.8	99.4	:	:	
F	100.0	100.9	99.4	98.1	98.1	98.1	97.4	97.2	97.1	
IRL	100.0	104.7	111.2	:	:	:	:	:	:	
I	100.0	110.8	113.9	113.3	113.0	113.6	113.3	113.2	:	
L	100.0	97.7	96.5	97.7	97.9	98.3	98.3	98.3	:	
NL	100.0	99.9	99.2	98.1	97.9	:	:	:	:	
A	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
P	100.0	103.3	103.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	
FIN	100.0	97.1	97.4	95.0	94.8	95.2	94.7	94.6	94.3	
S	100.0	110.1	109.5	109.6	111.0	111.1	108.9	108.1	:	
UK	100.0	102.8	121.2	129.6	129.2	124.3	126.1	125.6	124.2	
Japan	100.0	87.1	88.5	85.8	83.0	79.9	77.4	:	:	
USA	100.0	105.5	118.0	120.4	119.8	118.1	118.8	:	:	

Domestic producer
price index
in ECU terms:
indices
(1995 = 100)

Source: 

Figure 2.11

EU-15 domestic
producer price index
for the main
industrial groupings:
indices
(1995 = 100)

Intermediate goods ——
Capital goods -----
Consumer durables ——
Consumer
non-durables -----

Source : 

Not available

Table 2.8

Domestic producer
price index for the
main industrial
groupings:
indices
(1995 = 100)

	1995	1996	1997	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	07-98
Total industry									
EU-15	100.0	100.6	101.6	101.9	101.7	101.6	101.5	101.3	101.2
Japan	100.0	98.2	98.9	98.4	98.1	97.8	97.7	97.6	:
USA	100.0	102.4	102.3	100.2	99.8	99.9	100.1	100.0	:
Intermediate goods									
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Capital goods									
EU-15	100.0	101.4	101.9	102.2	102.3	102.4	102.6	102.6	102.6
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Consumer durables									
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Consumer non-durables									
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source : 

Domestic producer price index

Figure 2.12

Not available

EU-15 domestic
producer price index
for the main
industrial groupings:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

- Intermediate goods
 - Capital goods
 - Consumer durables
 - Consumer
non-durables
- Source: 

Table 2.9

Latest month available	Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	07-98	-0.3	:	0.8	:
B	06-98	-0.1	0.8	0.1	:
DK	06-98	-1.3	0.0	1.7	2.5
D	07-98	-0.4	-1.4	0.7	0.3
EL	06-98	3.8	3.0	11.1	4.5
E	06-98	-0.2	-1.3	0.7	1.1
F	08-98	-2.6	:	-0.8	:
IRL	01-98	0.0	:	:	0.5
I	07-98	0.3	-1.3	2.0	:
L	07-98	2.3	2.7	2.8	-3.2
NL	04-98	-0.4	-0.7	1.9	1.7
A		:	:	:	:
P	12-97	0.5	-0.1	:	1.7
FIN	08-98	-1.9	:	-1.5	2.4
S	07-98	-0.4	-3.8	2.3	0.8
UK	08-98	0.7	:	0.7	0.4
Japan	06-98	-1.9	:	:	:
USA	06-98	-1.9	:	:	:

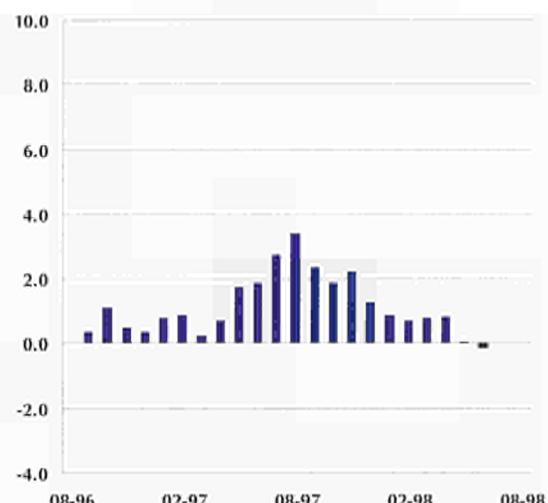
Domestic producer
price index for the
main industrial
groupings:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

Source: 

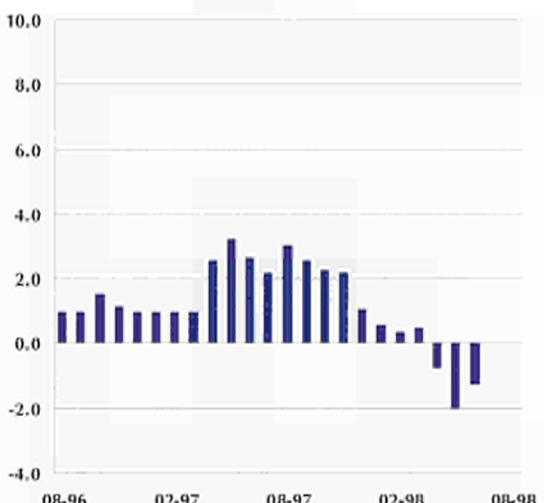
Figure 2.13

Domestic producer
price index:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

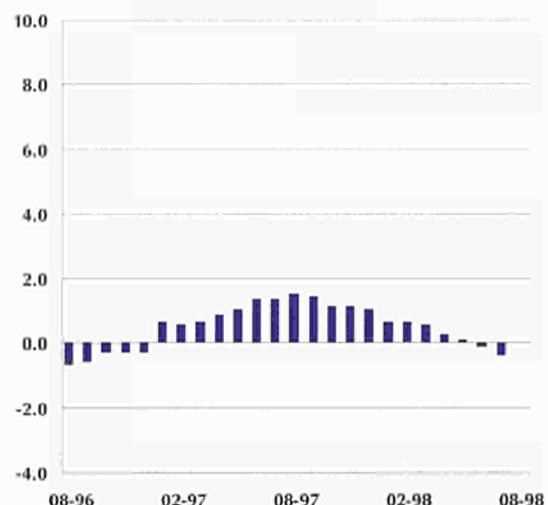
Belgique / België



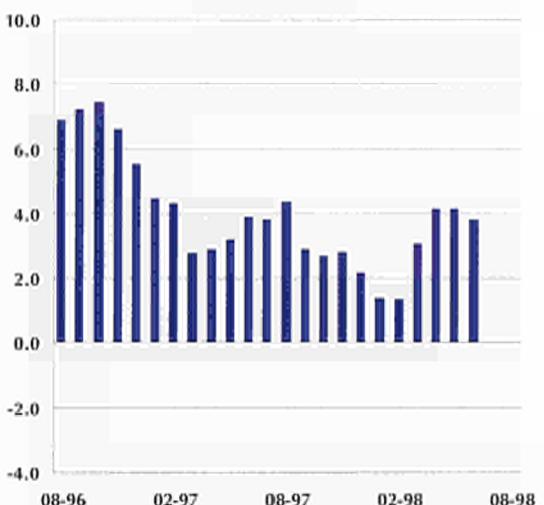
Danmark



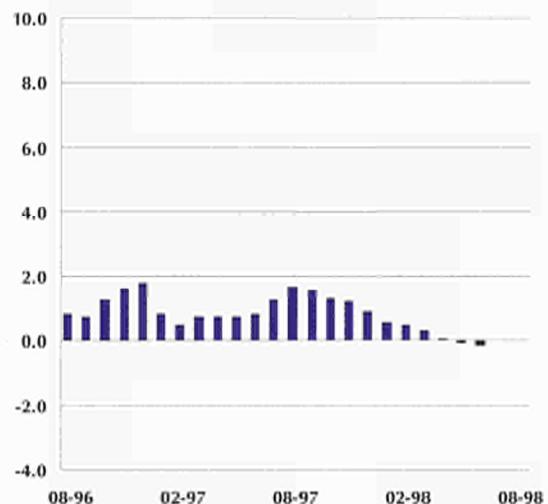
Deutschland



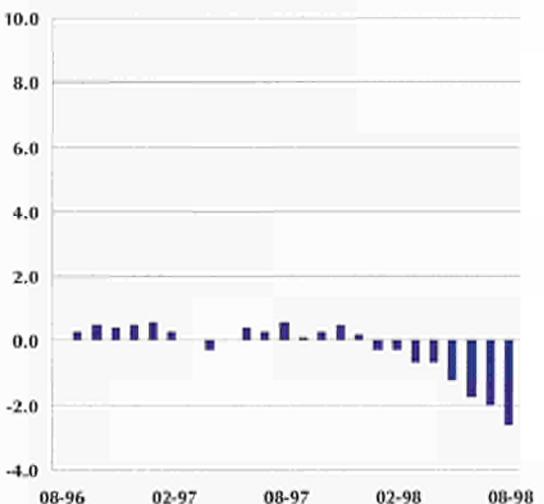
Ellada



España



France



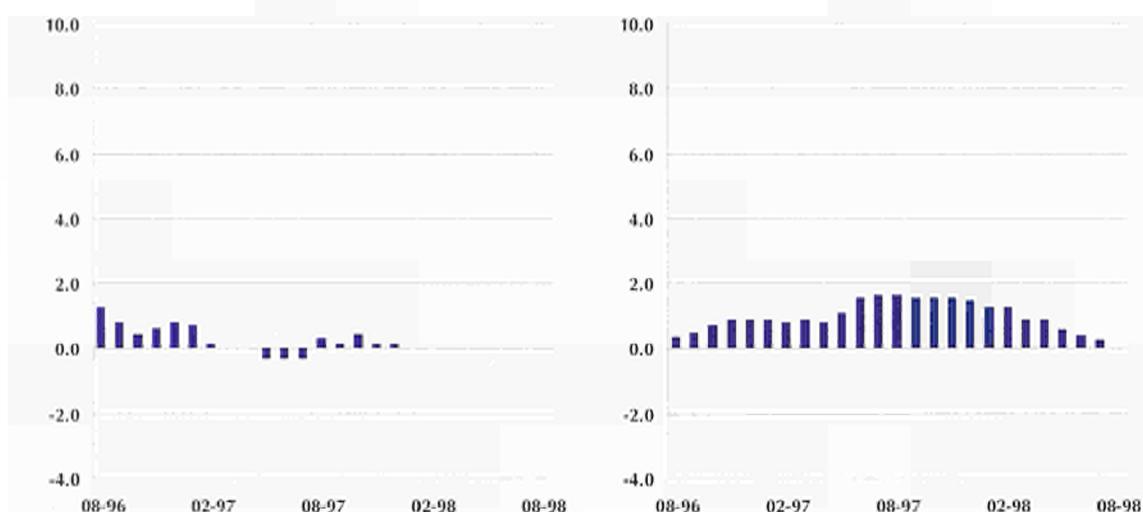
Domestic producer price index

Figure 2.13

Ireland

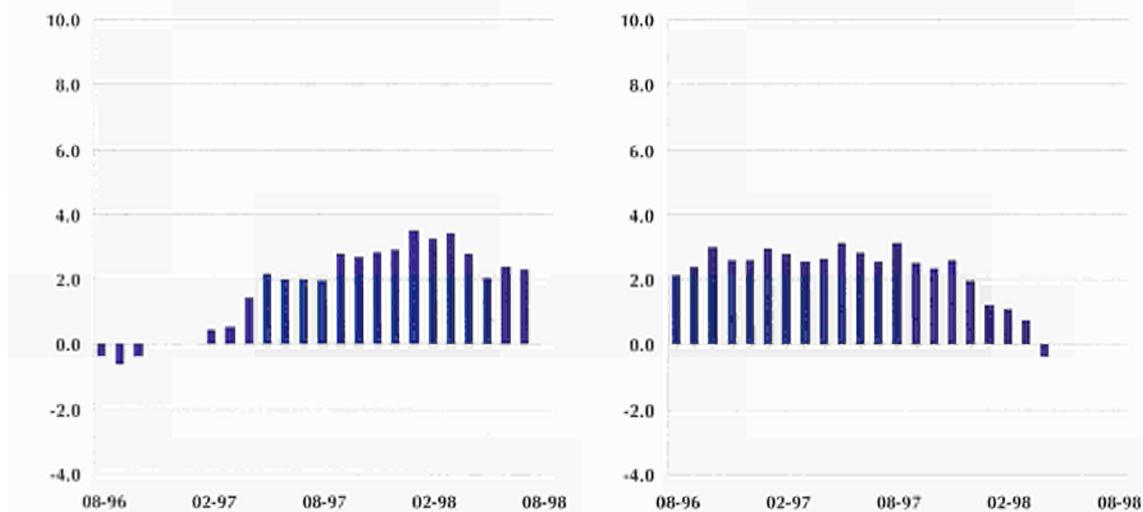
Italia

Domestic producer
price index:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)



Luxembourg

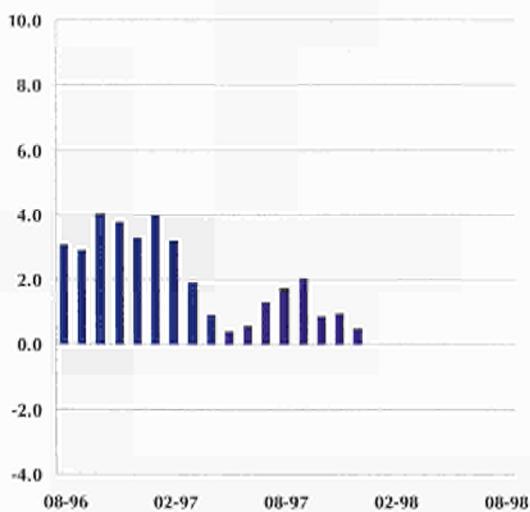
Nederland



Österreich

Portugal

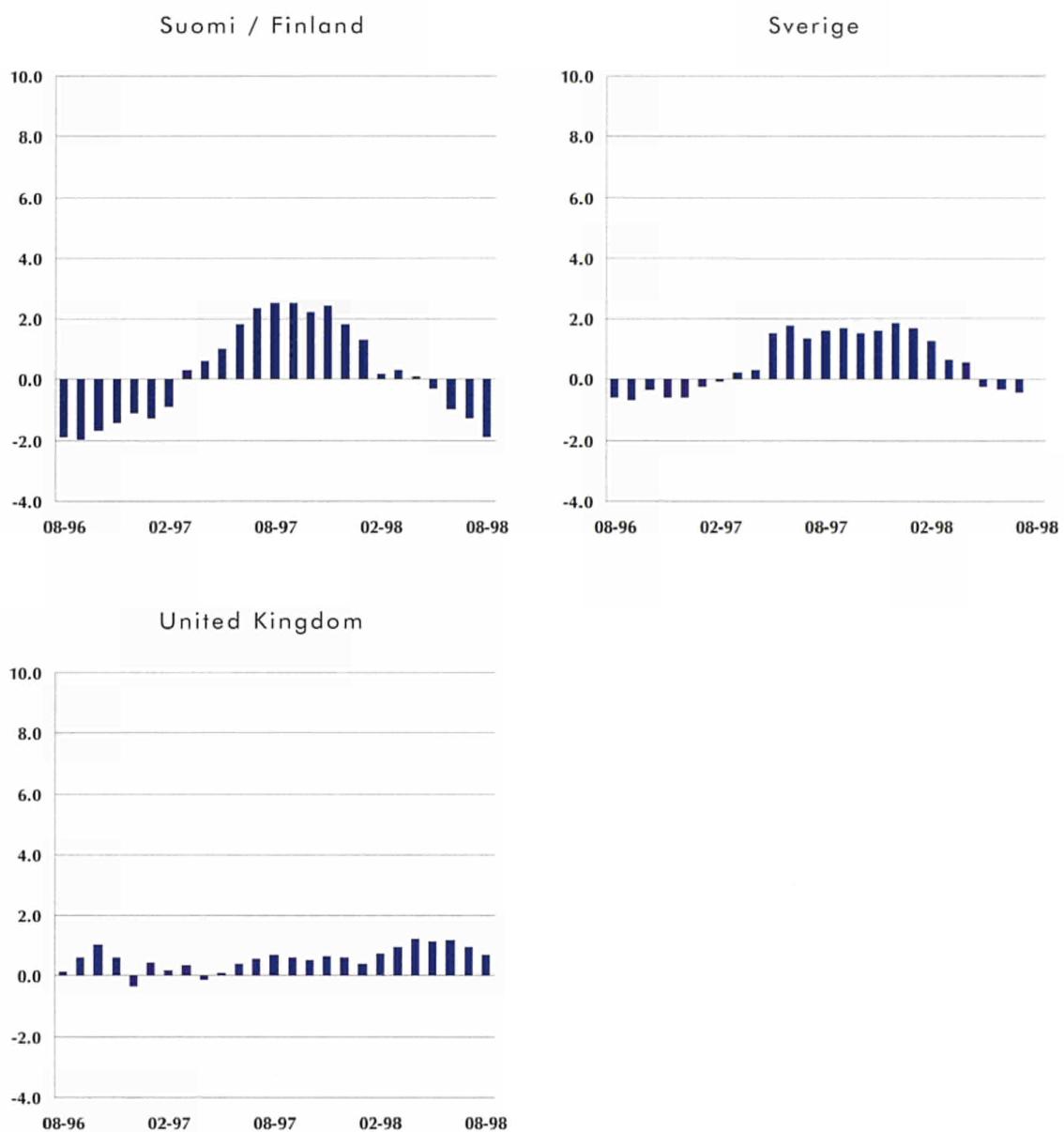
Not available



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.13

Domestic producer
price index:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)



Further information - price indices:

The index of domestic producer prices shows (in the national currency of the Member State in question) changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on the domestic market. Since we deal with producer prices, imports are not included in these price indices. The Community indices (EU-14, since there are no producer price indices for Austria yet) refer to overall weighted price changes. Producer price indices are not seasonally adjusted. The system used for the collection of export price indices is a duplicate of the model for domestic producer price indices.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 89.

Employment index

EU-15

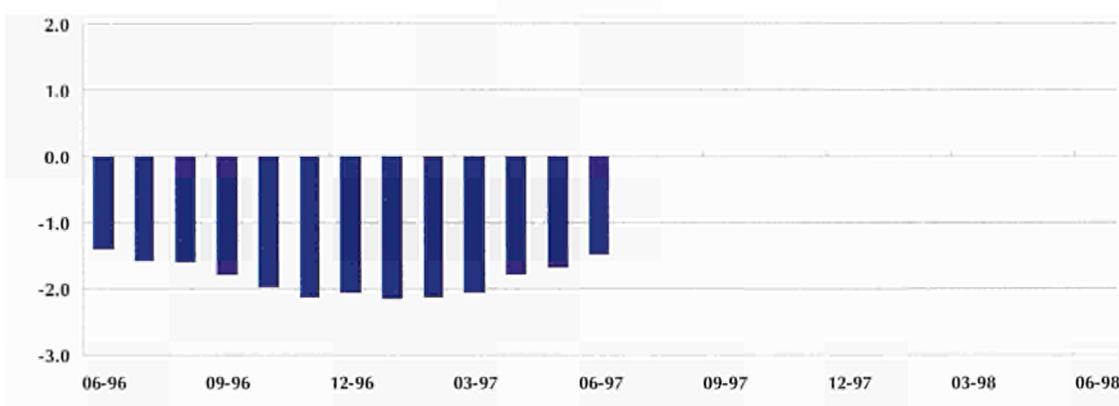
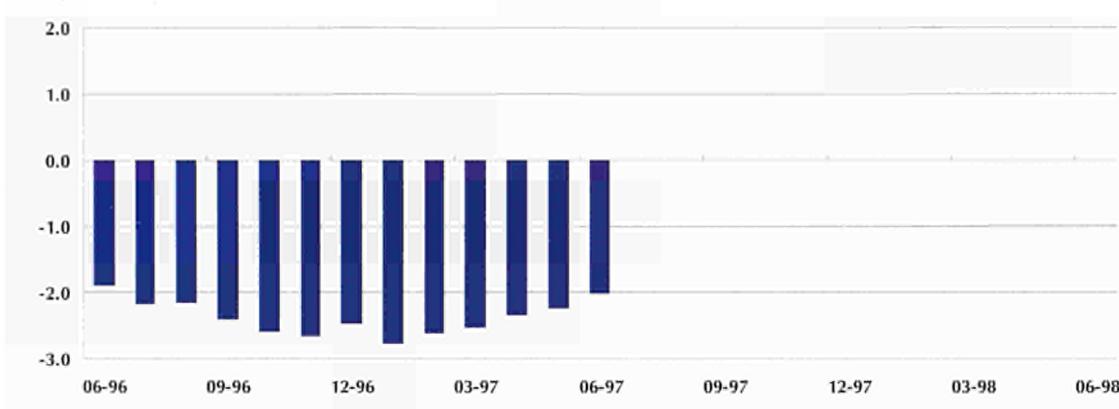


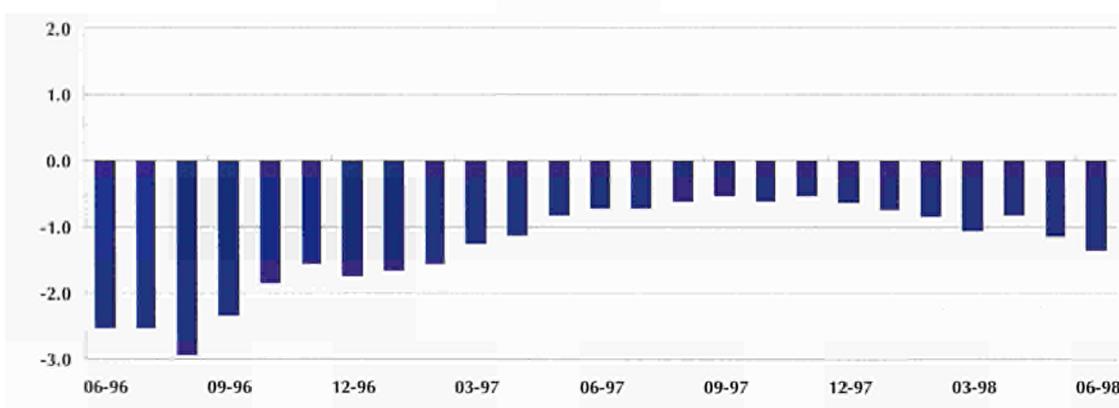
Figure 2.14

Employment index:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

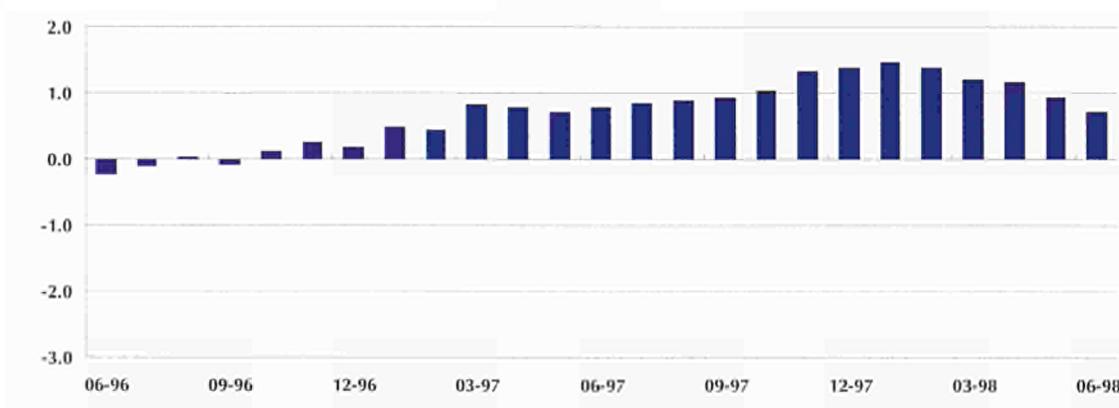
EUR-11



Japan



USA



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.15

EU-15 employment index for the main industrial groupings: indices
(1995 = 100)

Intermediate goods —————
Capital goods -----
Consumer durables —————

Source :  eurostat

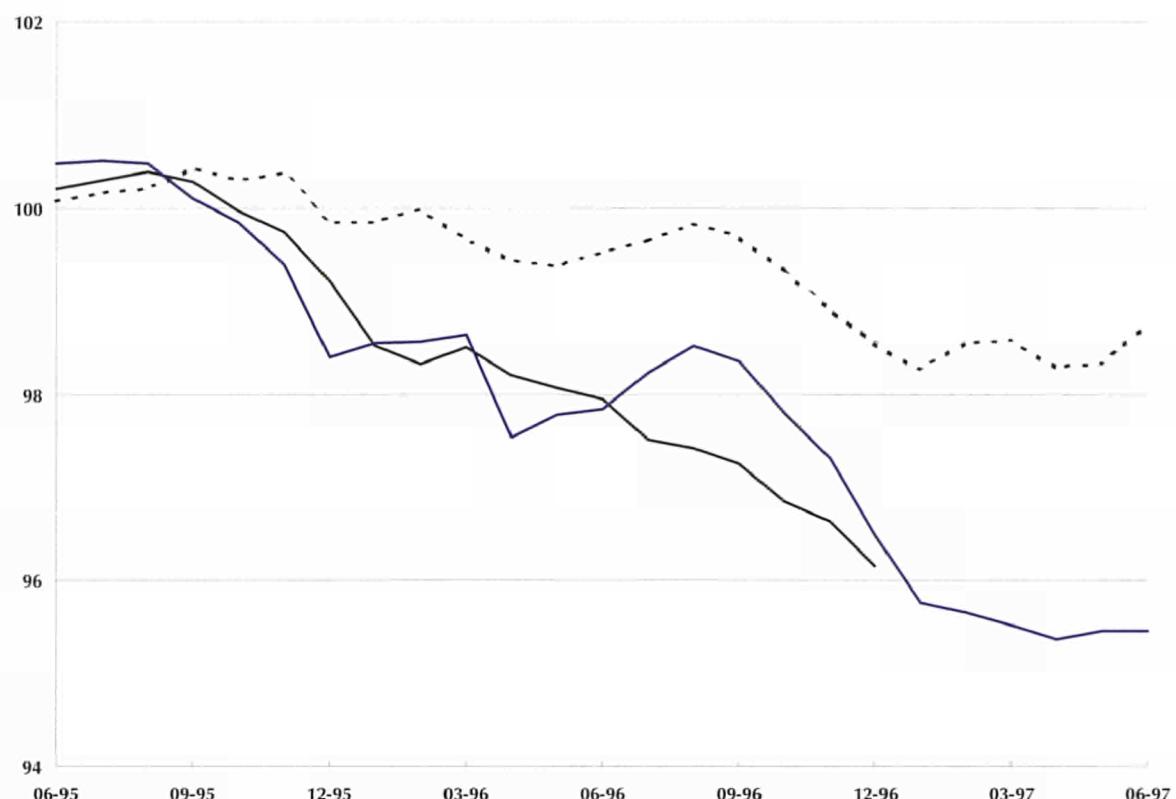


Table 2.10

Employment index for the main industrial groupings: growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

Latest 3 months available Total industry Intermediate goods Capital goods Consumer durables Consumer non-durables

EU-15	04-97	⇒	06-97	-0.1	:	-0.1	-0.5	-0.2
B	03-98	⇒	05-98	:	:	:	-0.7	0.3
DK		⇒		:	:	:	:	:
D	10-97	⇒	12-97	-0.3	-0.6	-0.3	-0.7	-0.9
EL	04-97	⇒	06-97	0.0	-0.1	-4.5	0.9	-1.2
E	01-98	⇒	03-98	-0.6	-0.2	0.8	-0.5	-0.1
F	10-97	⇒	12-97	0.2	:	:	:	:
IRL	01-97	⇒	03-97	1.8	1.3	3.4	:	:
I	04-97	⇒	06-97	-0.5	:	0.3	-0.7	-0.7
L	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.3	0.3	2.6	1.3	-0.7
NL	07-96	⇒	09-96	-1.7	:	:	:	:
A	03-98	⇒	05-98	1.5	1.0	2.7	-0.6	1.4
P	10-97	⇒	12-97	-0.3	0.0	0.1	0.3	-0.4
FIN	04-96	⇒	06-96	0.2	:	:	:	:
S	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.7	:	:	:	:
UK	01-98	⇒	03-98	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1
Japan	04-98	⇒	06-98	-0.4	:	:	:	:
USA	04-98	⇒	06-98	-0.1	:	:	:	:

Source :  eurostat

Employment index

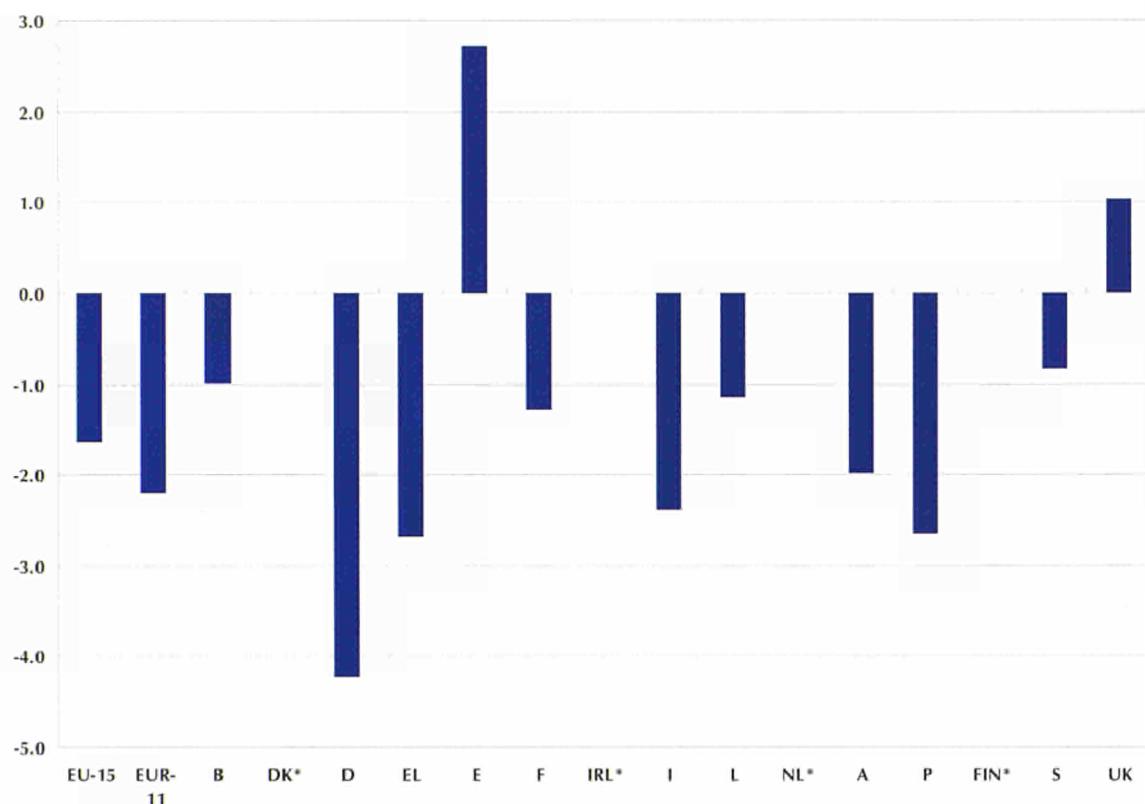


Figure 2.1.6

Employment index:
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year,
04-97 to 06-97
(%)

Source: eurostat

Table 2.1.1

	Latest 3 months available		Total industry	Intermediate goods	Capital goods	Consumer durables	Consumer non-durables
EU-15	04-97	⇒	06-97	-1.6	:	-1.0	-2.3
B	03-98	⇒	05-98	:	:	:	-0.7
DK		⇒		:	:	:	:
D	10-97	⇒	12-97	-2.2	-2.8	-2.1	-4.1
EL	04-97	⇒	06-97	-2.7	-1.6	-2.3	-6.1
E	01-98	⇒	03-98	5.0	6.6	10.1	1.2
F	10-97	⇒	12-97	-0.3	:	:	:
IRL	01-97	⇒	03-97	4.3	5.1	5.0	:
I	04-97	⇒	06-97	-2.4	:	-1.7	-4.1
L	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.8	-0.8	8.7	-1.7
NL	07-96	⇒	09-96	-0.4	:	:	:
A	03-98	⇒	05-98	1.7	2.1	4.2	-0.3
P	10-97	⇒	12-97	-2.3	-0.3	0.2	-5.1
FIN	04-96	⇒	06-96	1.1	:	:	:
S	04-98	⇒	06-98	1.2	:	:	:
UK	01-98	⇒	03-98	0.2	-0.7	1.3	-0.4
Japan	04-98	⇒	06-98	-1.1	:	:	:
USA	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.9	:	:	:

Employment index for
the main industrial
groupings: growth
rate, three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year
(%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.17

Production and employment trends in construction: indices (1995 = 100)

EU-15 construction:
production index —
EU-15 construction:
employment index - - -
EUR-11 construction:
production index —
EUR-11 construction:
employment index - - -

Source :  eurostat

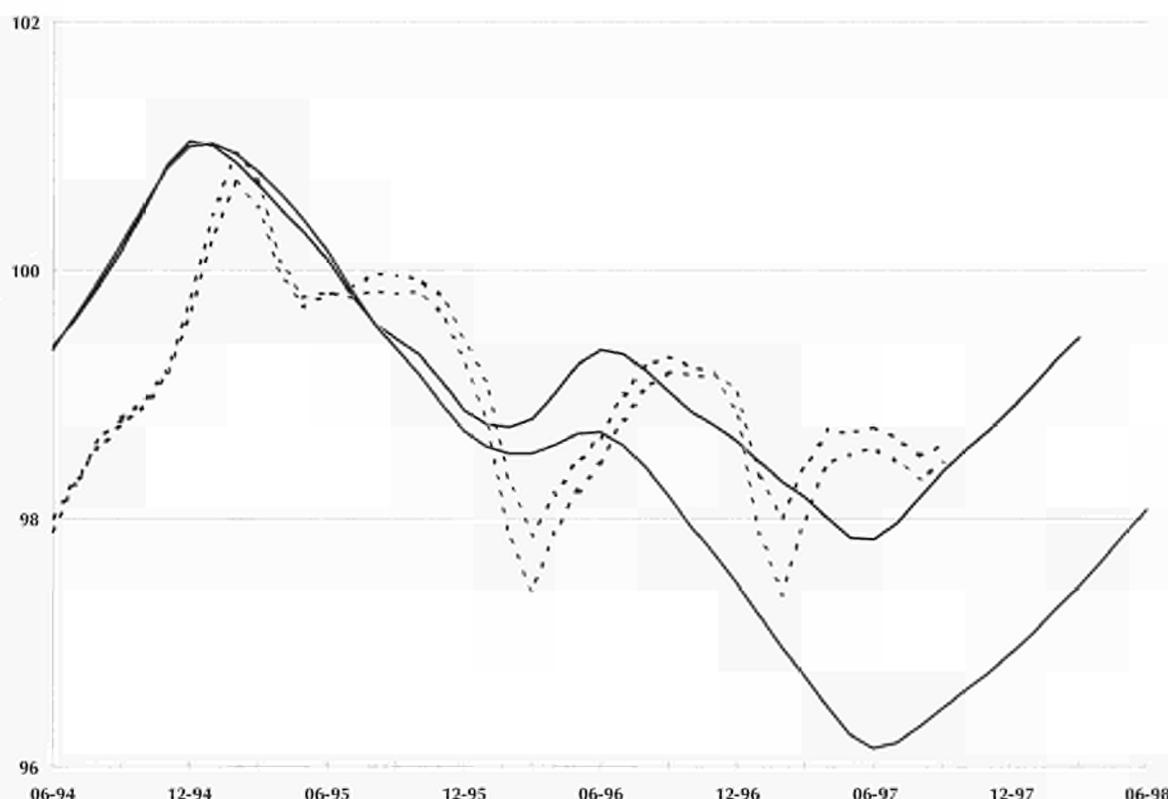
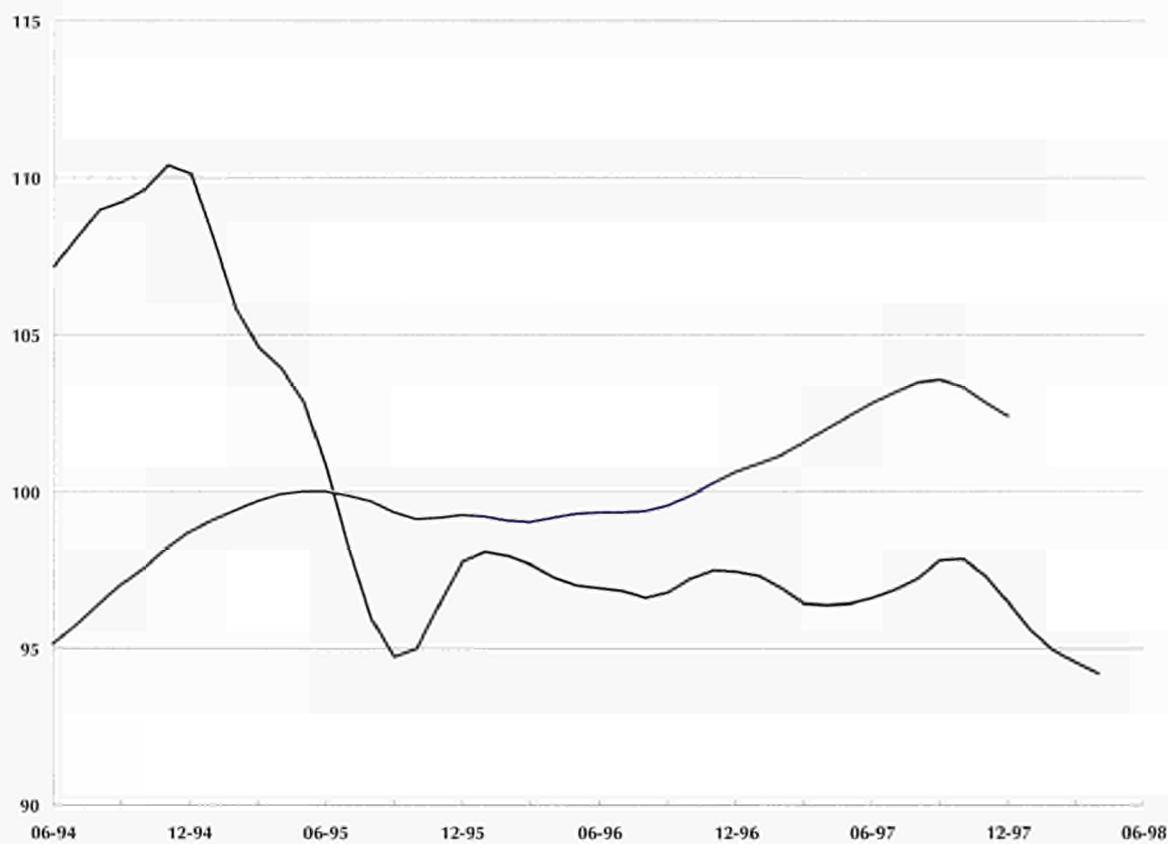


Figure 2.18

EU-15
building permits:
indices
(1995 = 100)

Residential —
Non-residential —

Source :  eurostat



Production index (working day adjusted & trend cycle)

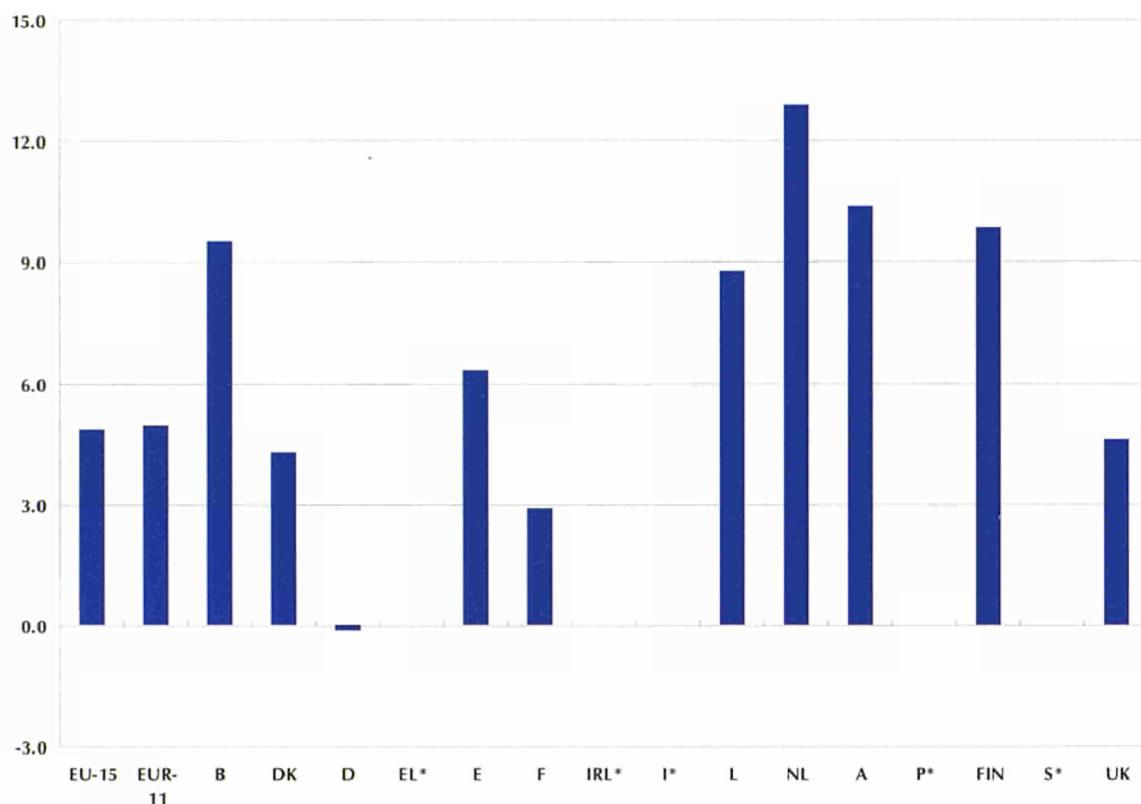


Figure 2.19

Production index for construction: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 01-98 to 03-98 (%)

Source: eurostat

Table 2.12

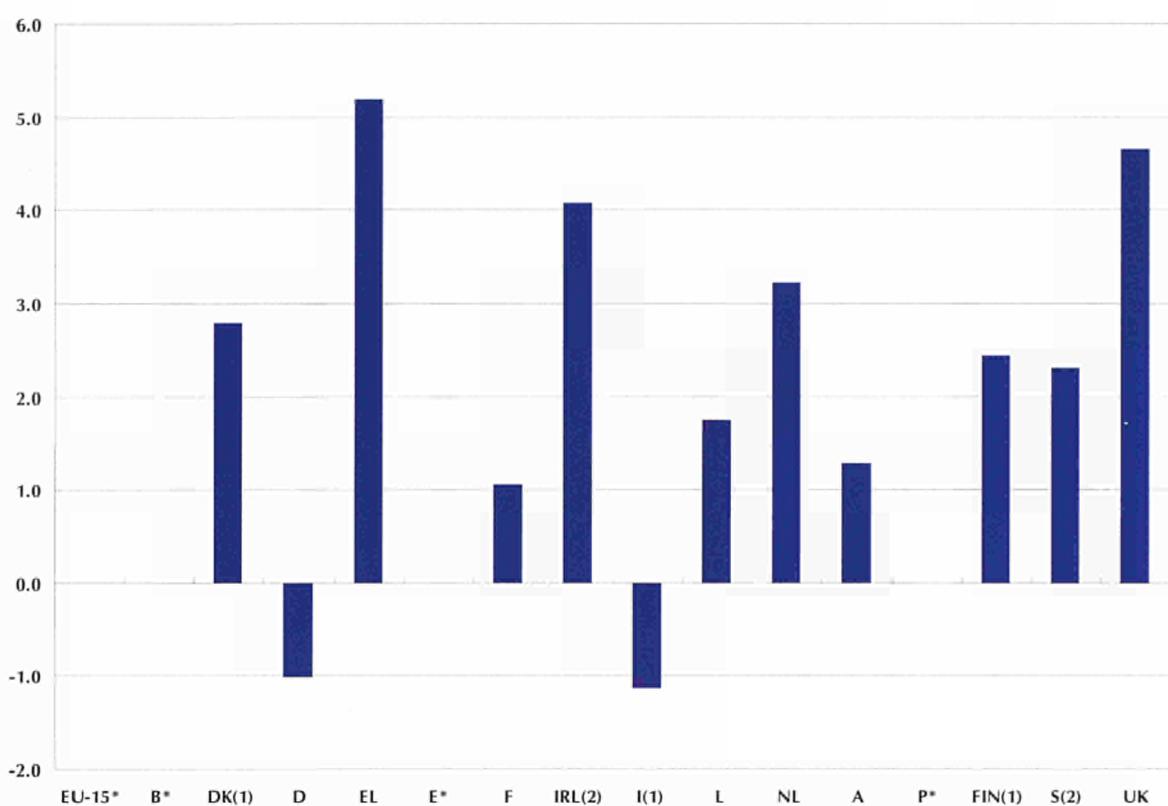
	Latest 3 months available		Building t / t-1 t / t-4		Latest 3 months available		Civil engineering t / t-1 t / t-4	
	10-97	⇒ 12-97	0.8	1.6	10-97	⇒ 12-97	0.0	:
EU-15								
B		⇒				⇒		
DK	05-98	⇒	07-98	-4.6	-8.7	05-98	⇒	07-98
D	05-98	⇒	07-98	-2.3	-8.8	05-98	⇒	07-98
EL		⇒				⇒		
E	04-98	⇒	06-98	2.5	6.1	04-98	⇒	06-98
F	04-98	⇒	06-98	-3.6	-6.1	04-98	⇒	06-98
IRL		⇒				⇒		
I	01-98	⇒	03-98	-4.8	-5.4	10-97	⇒	12-97
L	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.1	2.9	04-98	⇒	06-98
NL	01-98	⇒	03-98	8.3	15.8		⇒	
A	03-98	⇒	05-98	-4.6	5.5	03-98	⇒	05-98
P		⇒				⇒		
FIN	04-98	⇒	06-98	-0.7	7.0	04-98	⇒	06-98
S		⇒				⇒		
UK	04-98	⇒	06-98	-2.7	1.7	10-97	⇒	12-97

Production index of building and civil engineering: growth rates (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.20

Output prices for new residential buildings:
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year,
01-98 to 03-98
(%)



Source : eurostat

Table 2.13

Output prices for new residential buildings:
indices
(1995 = 100)

1) input prices
2) input prices and one-dwelling buildings

Source : eurostat

	IV-1996	I-1997	II-1997	III-1997	IV-1997	I-1998	II-1998	III-1998
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
DK (1)	104.2	104.9	105.6	106.4	107.1	107.8	107.8	109.3
D	99.5	99.3	99.1	99.1	98.7	98.3	98.1	:
EL	107.4	110.1	110.7	111.9	113.2	115.8	117.2	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	102.8	102.9	104.2	104.8	104.9	104.0	:	:
IRL (2)	102.2	103.3	104.5	105.6	106.7	107.5	:	:
I (1)	103.1	103.3	103.5	105.0	105.3	102.1	:	:
L	101.0	102.1	102.1	102.7	102.7	103.9	103.9	:
NL	103.0	104.6	105.5	106.3	108.0	108.0	108.9	:
A	101.7	102.4	102.8	103.1	103.1	103.7	104.0	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN (1)	100.3	101.4	102.5	103.7	103.7	103.9	104.6	:
S (2)	103.8	104.8	105.5	106.3	106.9	107.2	108.6	:
UK	103.4	105.4	106.4	107.4	109.3	110.3	:	:

Building permits - useful floor area

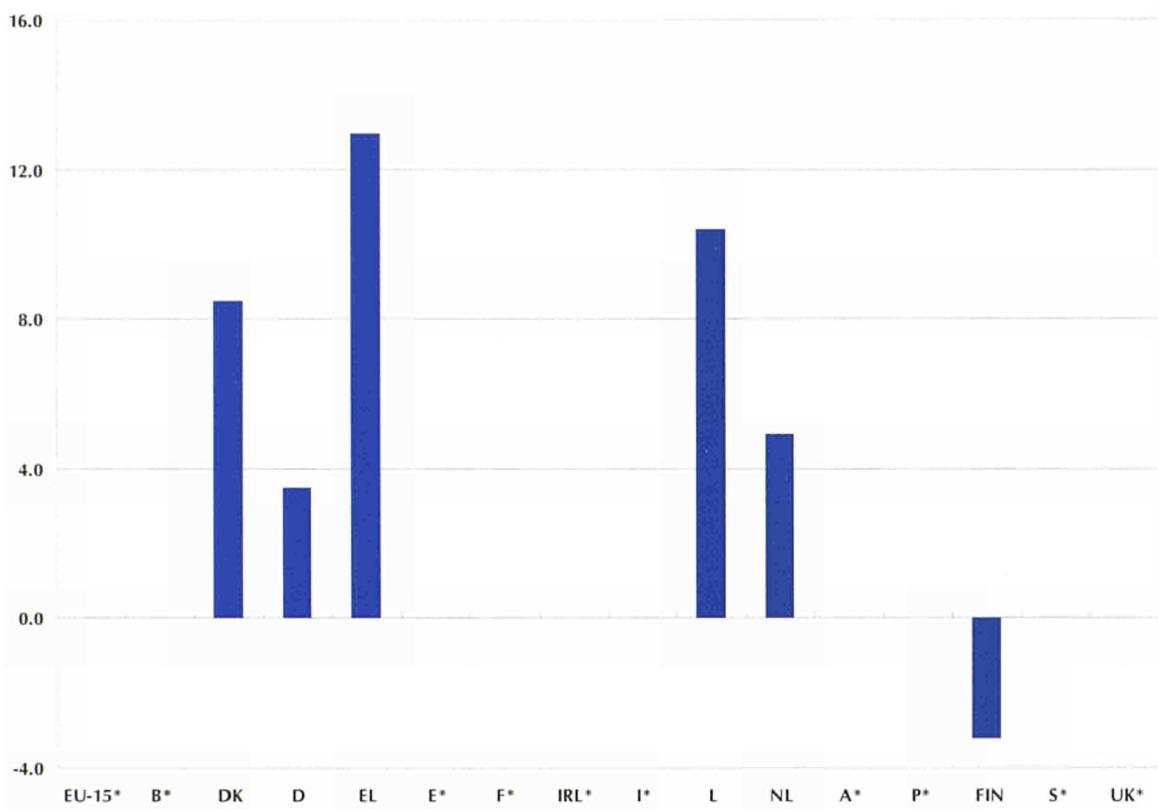


Figure 2.21

Building permits - useful floor area:
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year,
03-98 to 05-98
(%)

Source: eurostat

Table 2.14

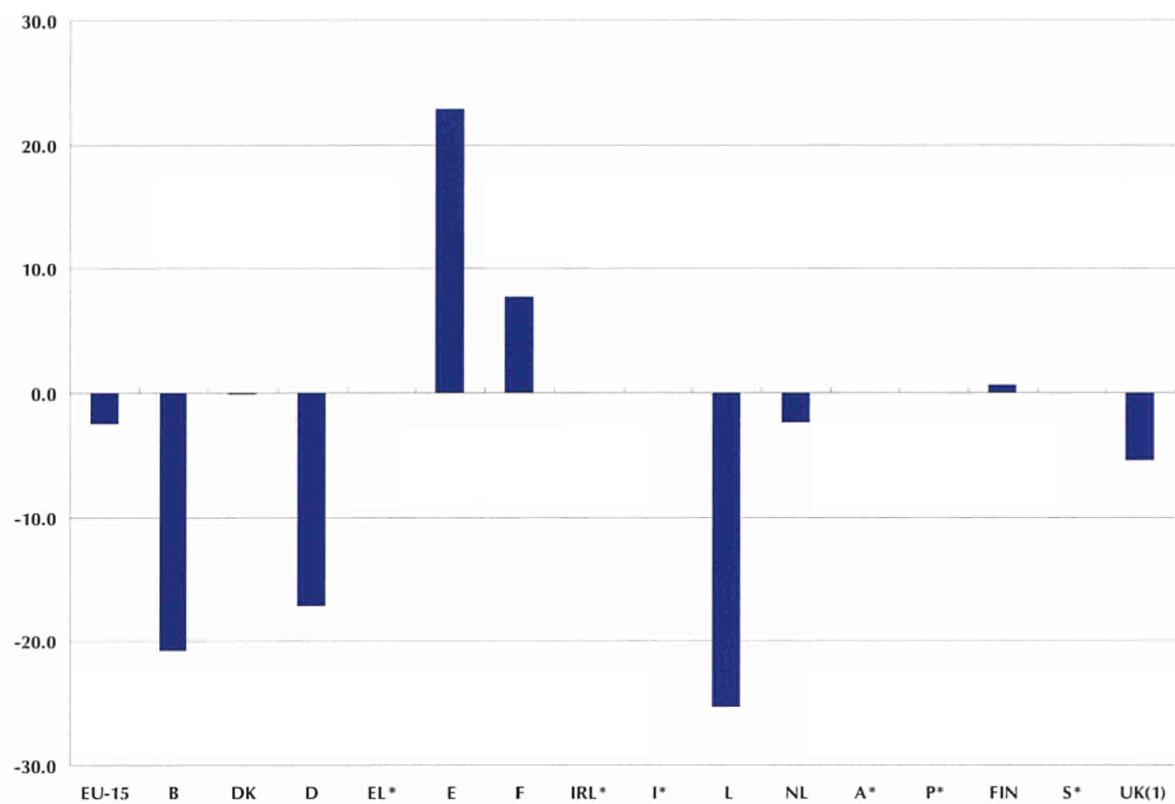
	Latest 3 months available		Residential '000m ² 1995 = 100		Latest 3 months available		Non-residential '000m ² 1995 = 100	
	EU-15	⇒	:	10-97	⇒	12-97	:	102.4
B	02-98	⇒	04-98	1,872	84.8	02-98	⇒	1,818 113.8
DK	05-98	⇒	07-98	679	177.5	05-98	⇒	1,401 132.2
D	04-98	⇒	06-98	13,806	100.1	04-98	⇒	11,228 104.2
EL	03-97	⇒	05-97	2,756	130.2	03-97	⇒	1,091 111.9
E	02-98	⇒	04-98	13,375	118.9	02-98	⇒	2,844 139.3
F		⇒		:	:	10-97	⇒	8,674 99.1
IRL	04-98	⇒	06-98	1,517	161.3	04-98	⇒	775 119.1
I	10-97	⇒	12-97	2,828	75.1	10-97	⇒	3,900 67.1
L	04-98	⇒	06-98	:	122.4	04-98	⇒	06-98 :
NL	06-98	⇒	08-98	3,492	88.5	06-98	⇒	5,954 168.3
A		⇒		:	:	⇒		:
P		⇒		:	:	⇒		:
FIN	05-98	⇒	07-98	967	201.0	05-98	⇒	1,127 177.2
S	04-98	⇒	06-98	301	:	05-98	⇒	481 :
UK		⇒		:	:	⇒		:

Building permits -
useful floor area:
actual values and
indices

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.22

Building permits - no. of dwellings:
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year,
02-98 to 04-98
(%)



1) buildings starts

Source : eurostat

Table 2.15

Number of dwellings authorised (units)

	Latest year available	no. of dwellings	Latest month available	no. of dwellings	no. of dwellings per 1,000 inhabitants	Index, 1995 = 100
EU-15	:	:	04-98	:	:	92.8
B	1997	50,847	04-98	3,103	:	82.8
DK	1997	16,711	07-98	1,269	:	131.8
D	1997	530,263	06-98	46,075	:	86.5
EL	1996	86,741	05-97	7,527	0.72	127.5
E	1997	304,763	04-98	25,845	:	109.8
F	1997	299,845	08-98	27,447	:	106.8
IRL (1)	1997	37,060	06-98	:	:	154.7
I	1997	145,435	12-97	9,700	0.17	67.0
L	1997	3,411	06-98	293	:	131.4
NL	1997	101,501	08-98	5,357	:	65.3
A	:	:	:	:	:	:
P	1997	94,786	12-97	8,667	0.87	135.2
FIN	1997	31,117	07-98	1,748	:	111.3
S	1997	11,659	06-98	814	:	:
UK (2)	1997	188,900	07-98	17,100	:	122.4

1) quarterly data
2) buildings starts

Source : eurostat

Capacity utilisation rates

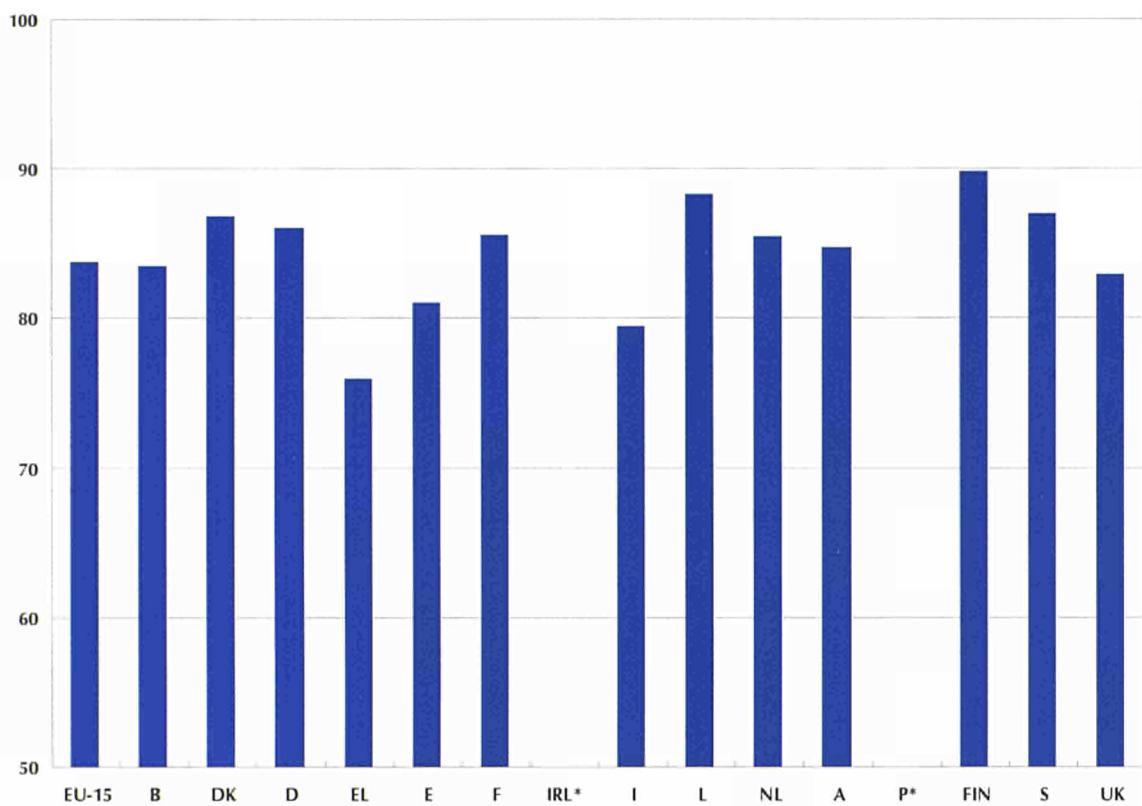


Figure 2.23

Capacity utilisation
rates:
07-98
(%)

Source : DG II,
Business Survey

Table 2.16

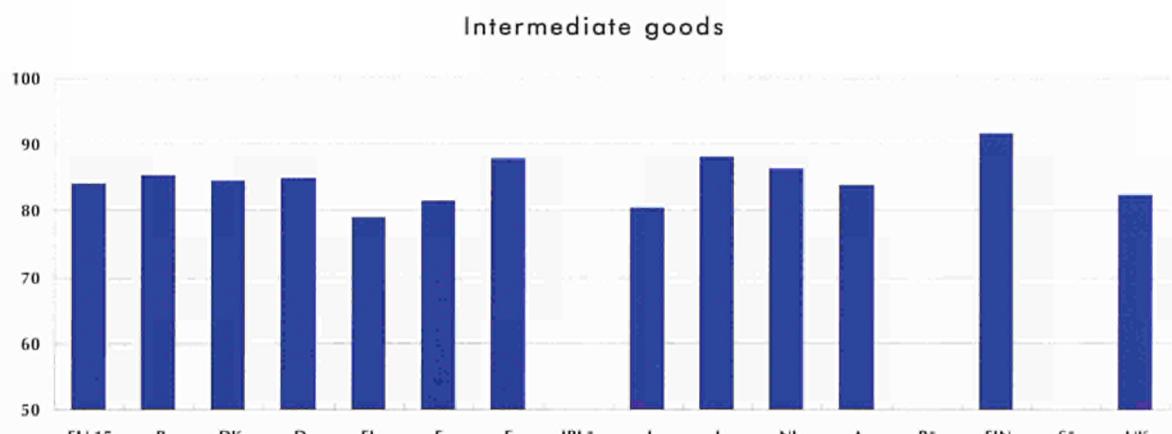
	Growth rate: latest month, t / t-12 (%)	10-97	01-98	04-98	07-98
EU-15	1.6	83.2	83.2	83.3	83.8
B	1.3	83.2	81.9	82.6	83.5
DK	2.1	84.0	85.4	83.9	86.8
D	2.3	84.9	84.7	85.3	86.1
EL	-0.4	74.3	75.0	77.0	76.0
E	2.8	80.5	79.4	80.0	81.1
F	2.1	84.8	84.0	85.2	85.6
IRL	-0.4	74.2	76.6	:	:
I	2.3	77.7	79.0	78.2	79.5
L	4.5	84.8	87.5	87.9	88.3
NL	0.7	85.2	85.3	85.6	85.5
A	1.4	84.0	83.1	83.3	84.7
P	-1.1	81.9	80.5	:	:
FIN	3.2	89.0	89.0	88.0	89.8
S	0.0	85.0	87.0	86.0	87.0
UK	-1.0	85.1	84.7	84.1	83.0

Capacity utilisation
rates
(%)

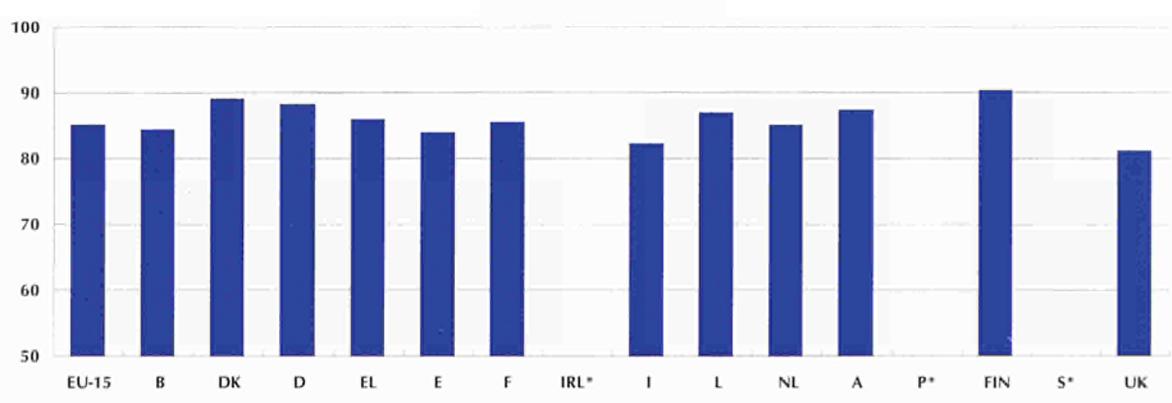
Source : DG II,
Business Survey

Figure 2.24

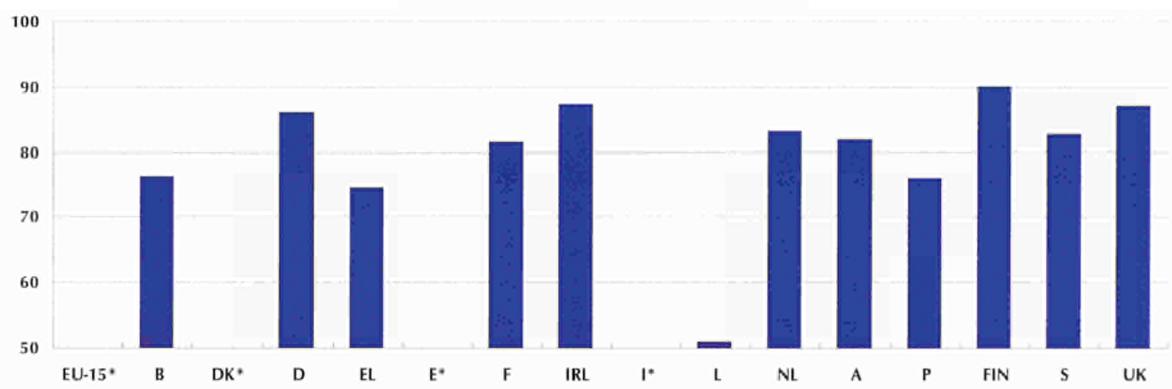
Capacity utilisation rates for the main industrial groupings, 07-98 (%)



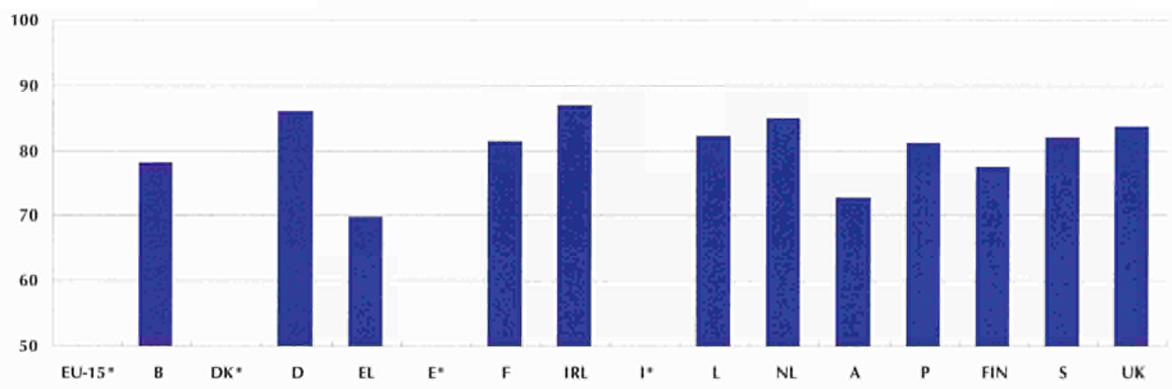
Capital goods



Consumer durables goods¹



Consumer non-durables goods¹



1) data is for 04-97

Source : DG II,
Business Survey

Foreign trade indices

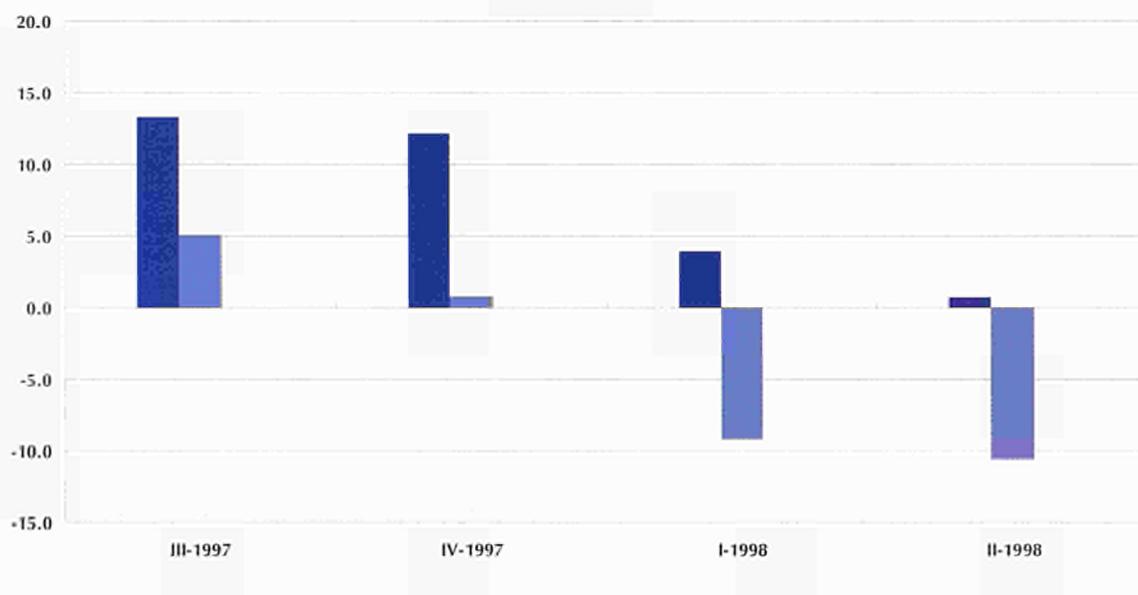
EU-15



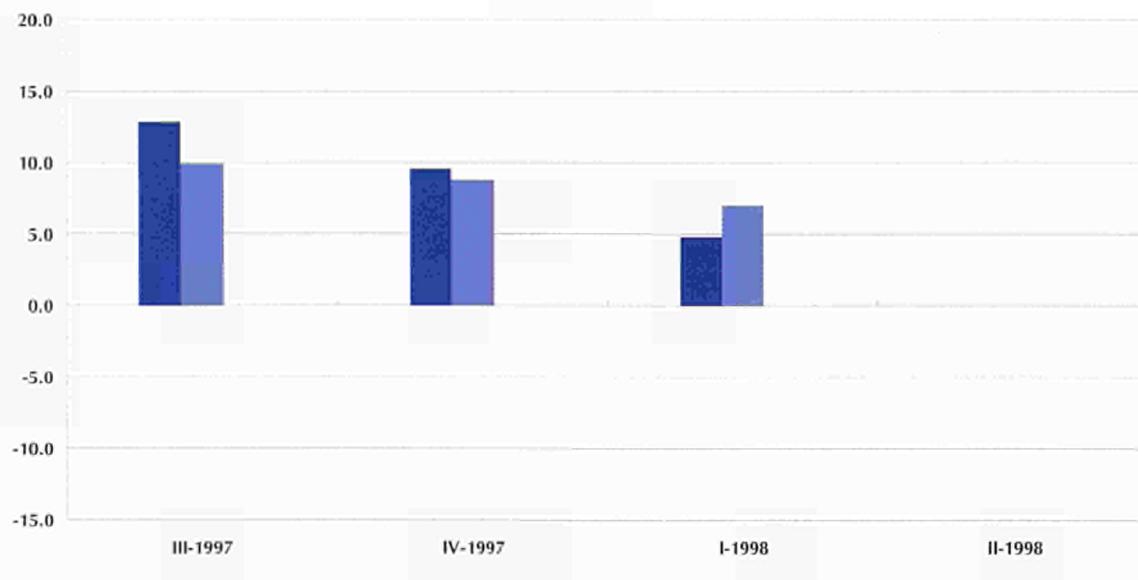
Figure 2.25

Foreign trade indices:
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year
(%)

Japan



USA



Source: eurostat

Figure 2.26

EU-15 foreign
trade indices in
ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

Export value index —————
Import value index ————
Terms of trade -----

Source :  eurostat

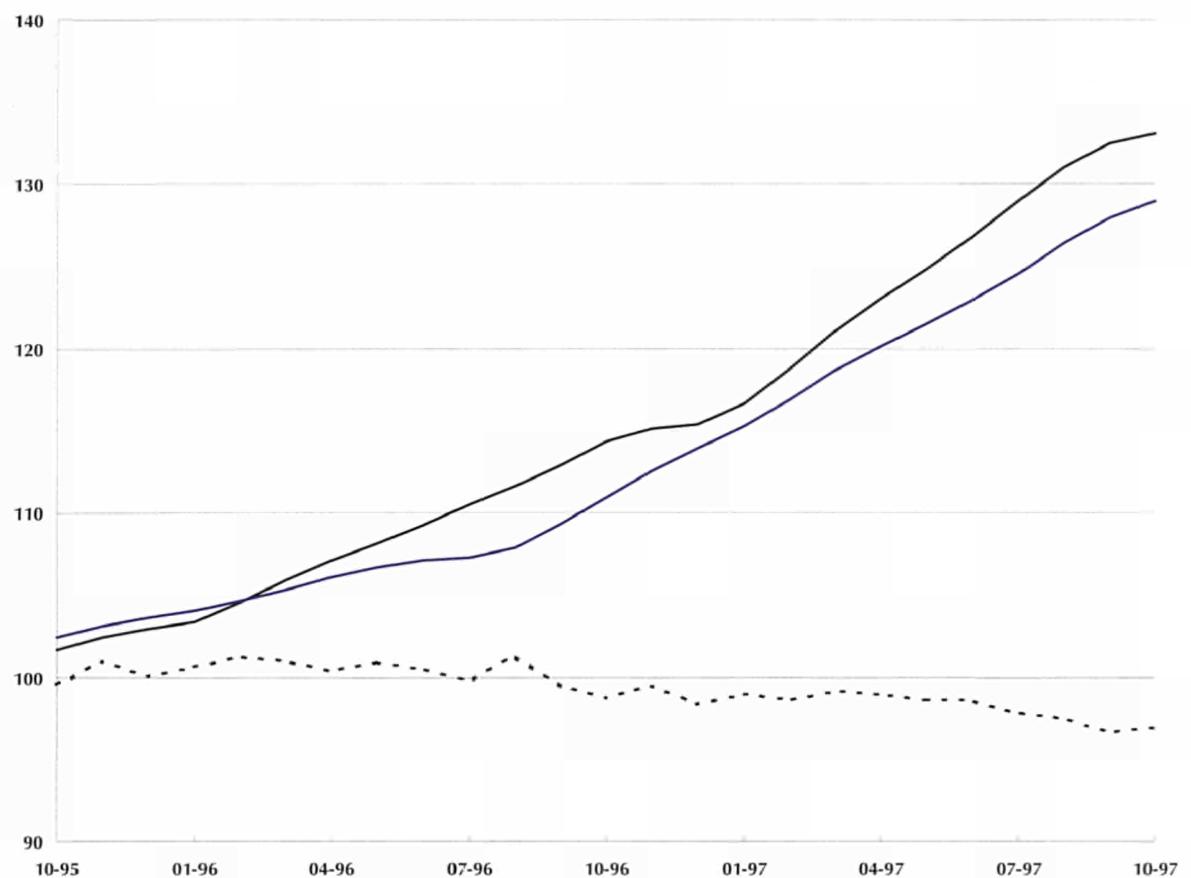


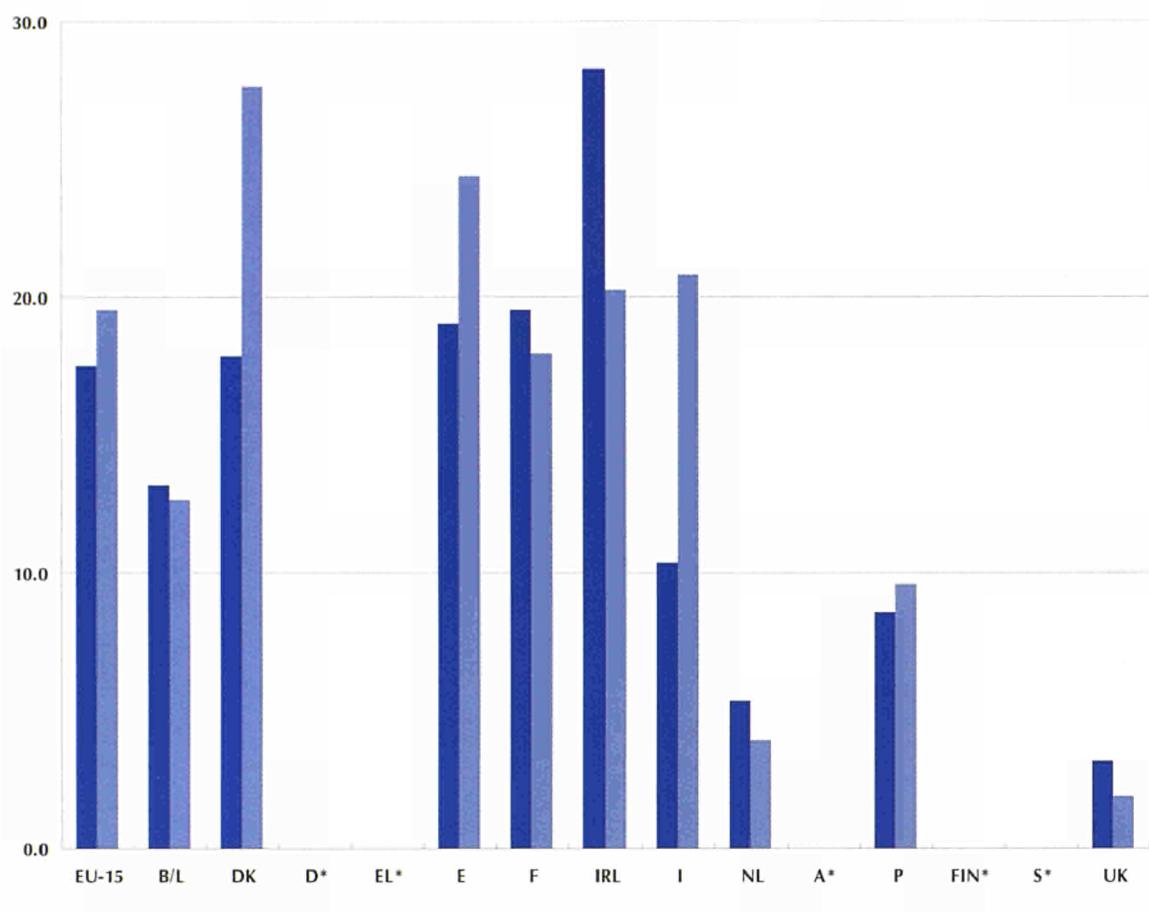
Table 2.17

Foreign trade indices
(value indices are in
ECU terms):
growth rate, three
months compared to
the previous three
months
(%)

	Latest 3 months available	Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
		Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-97 ⇄ 10-97	4.2	2.5	3.9	1.9	-1.4
B/L	09-97 ⇄ 11-97	-3.7	0.6	-2.4	-3.3	-0.5
DK	09-97 ⇄ 11-97	1.8	0.6	2.8	1.3	1.2
D	07-97 ⇄ 09-97	3.1	2.4	3.2	1.7	-0.8
EL	07-97 ⇄ 09-97	3.1	1.3	1.5	-1.8	-0.2
E	09-97 ⇄ 11-97	4.5	3.4	6.4	6.0	1.2
F	09-97 ⇄ 11-97	4.2	3.1	3.3	1.5	-0.4
IRL	08-97 ⇄ 10-97	7.1	5.6	4.1	3.0	1.5
I	08-97 ⇄ 10-97	4.1	2.9	4.9	3.9	-1.2
NL	08-97 ⇄ 10-97	3.5	2.6	2.3	-0.2	0.2
A	⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97 ⇄ 10-97	2.3	0.4	3.5	0.9	-0.9
FIN	⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S	⇒	:	:	:	:	:
UK	09-97 ⇄ 11-97	0.0	-0.3	1.5	1.4	0.9

Source :  eurostat

Foreign trade indices



Foreign trade indices
(in ECU terms):
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year,
08-97 to 10-97
(%)

■ Export value
■ Import value

Source: eurostat

Table 2.18

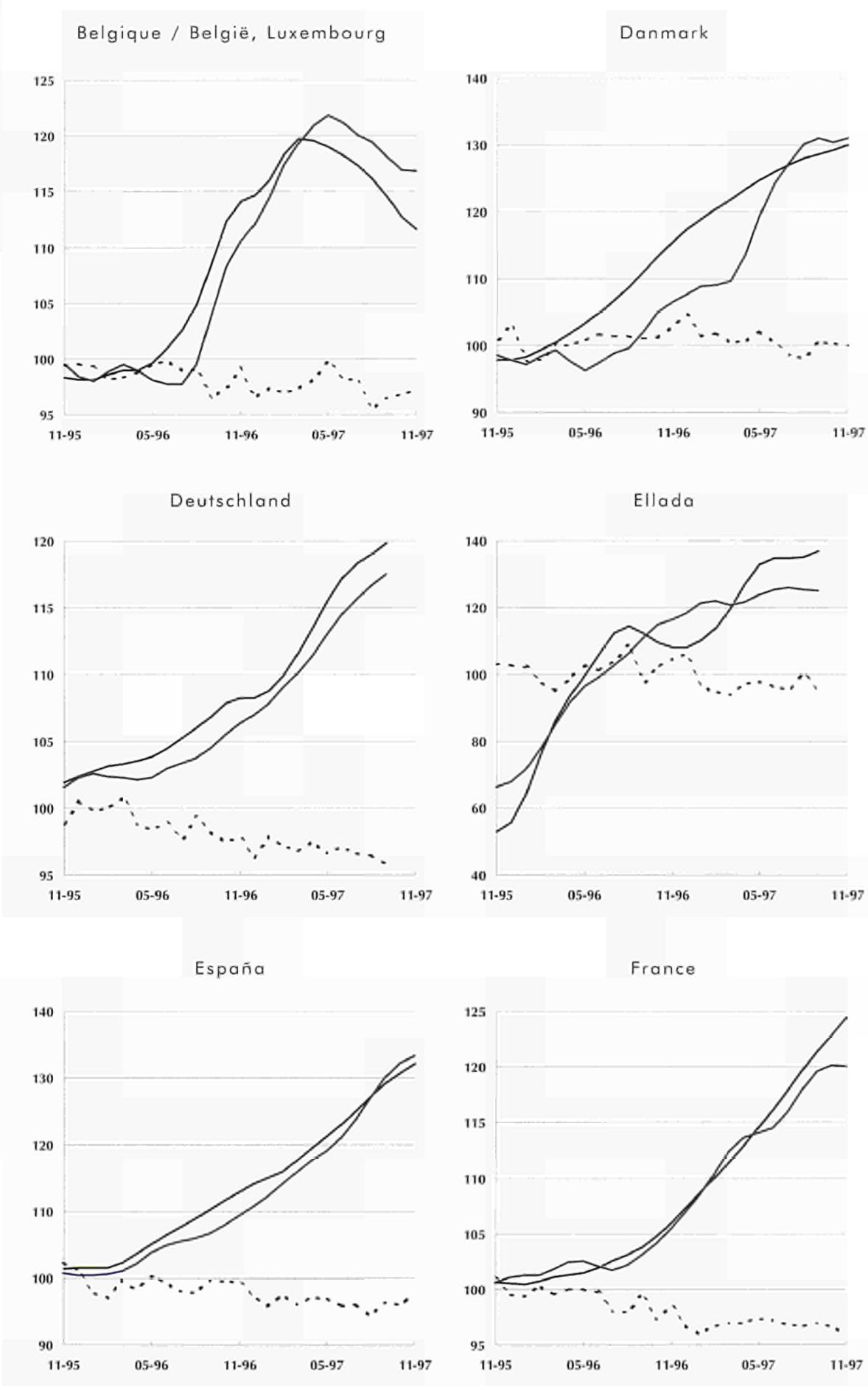
	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-97	⇒ 10-97	17.5	11.0	19.6	9.8	-2.8
B/L	09-97	⇒ 11-97	3.8	-1.5	6.7	0.5	-0.8
DK	09-97	⇒ 11-97	12.4	5.0	24.4	14.4	-1.5
D	07-97	⇒ 09-97	13.0	8.5	14.2	7.3	-2.1
EL	07-97	⇒ 09-97	6.5	-0.5	12.2	-1.5	-6.2
E	09-97	⇒ 11-97	17.2	14.1	23.8	16.9	-2.9
F	09-97	⇒ 11-97	18.1	14.0	14.6	8.6	-1.9
IRL	08-97	⇒ 10-97	28.3	31.3	20.2	17.1	-5.3
I	08-97	⇒ 10-97	10.4	7.1	20.8	16.4	-0.8
NL	08-97	⇒ 10-97	5.4	-5.1	3.9	-5.9	0.6
A		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97	⇒ 10-97	8.6	1.9	9.6	2.7	-0.6
FIN		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
S		⇒	:	:	:	:	:
UK	09-97	⇒ 11-97	2.2	5.1	2.7	6.4	0.6

Foreign trade indices
(value indices are in
ECU terms):
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year
(%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 2.28

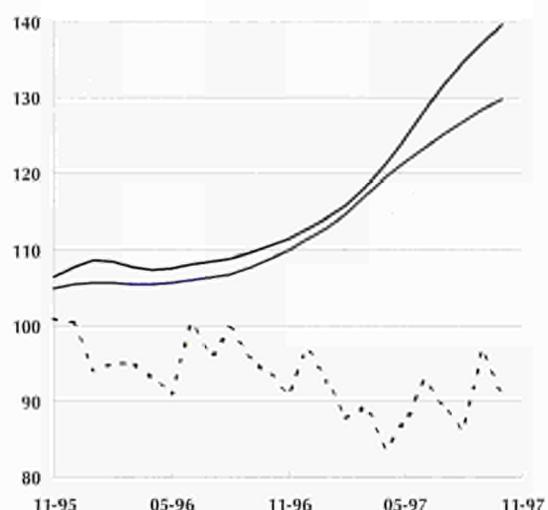
Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)



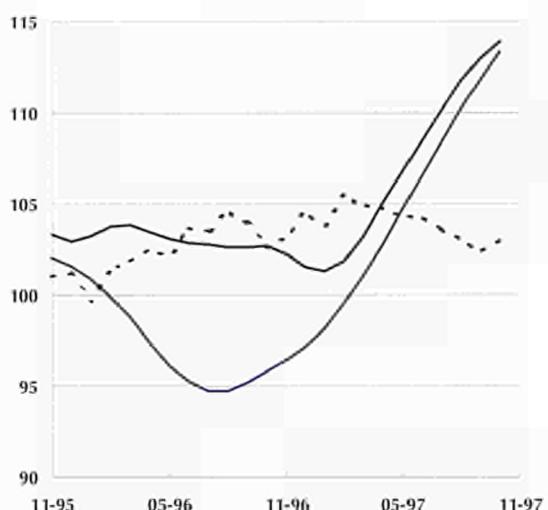
Source: eurostat

Figure 2.28

Ireland

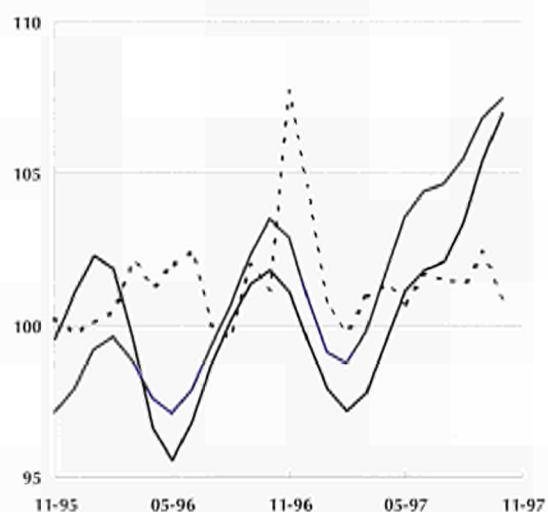


Italia

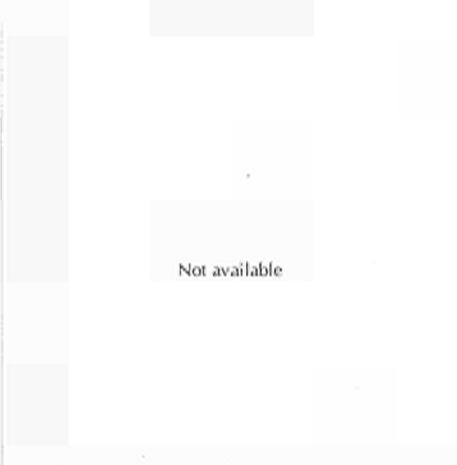


Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

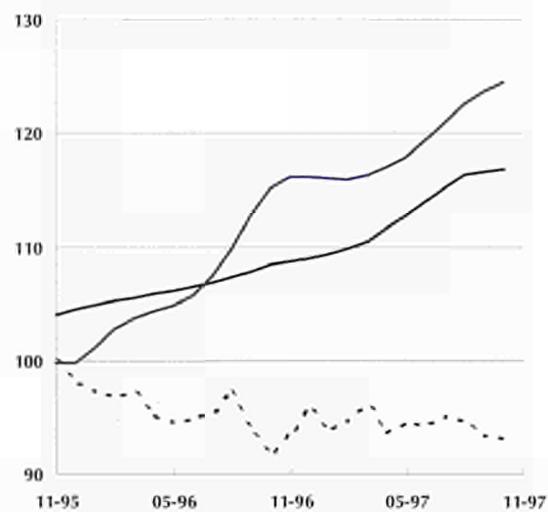
Nederland



Österreich



Portugal



Suomi / Finland



- Export value index
- Import value index
- - - Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

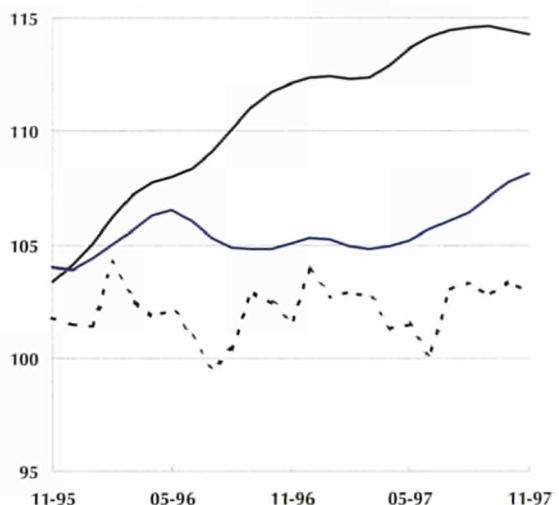
Figure 2.28

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

Sverige

United Kingdom

Not available



Export value index ———

Import value index ———

Terms of trade -----

Further information - employment, construction and trade indices:

Figures showing the number of persons employed include all persons employed by the firm (manual workers and salaried employees on the firm's payroll) plus the self-employed.

For the construction activity there are some very specific variables: for details of these please refer to the Eurostat publication "Methodology of Industrial Short-term Indicators" - CA-97-96-079-EN-C.

For the indices of imports and exports, foreign trade data of industrial products (following the nomenclature of the Harmonised System) were grouped according to the industrial NACE Rev. 1 activity to which they belong. This grouping of products causes inevitably certain inaccuracies which can reduce the reliability of these foreign trade series. The indices for EU-15 refer only to extra-Union trade, the indices for Member States reflect also intra-Union trade.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 89.

Source:

3.

Latest outlook:
services

Commentary	52
Volume of retail sales	54
First registration of private and commercial cars	58
Tourism	62



3.

Latest outlook: services

Retail trade

Retail sales volumes continued to grow within Europe into 1998. In recent months the trend has been for the EUR-11 aggregate to be expanding at a slightly slower rate than that observed for the whole of the EU. Year on year growth for the first quarter of 1998 showed that EU-15 retail sales volumes expanded by 2.4%, compared to a EUR-11 figure of 2.1%. There has been a positive trend to retail sales observed since May 1996.

Four of the Member States reported growth in retail sales above the level of 4%: they were Belgium (6.8%), Ireland (10.2%), the Netherlands (4.9%) and the United Kingdom (4.4%). None of the Member States reported a declining trend in retail sales, although Germany, Greece and Italy all reported that retail sales grew by less than one per cent (over the twelve months to March 1998).

More recent data is available for some of the countries within the EU. Looking at growth for the latest three months period (compared to the previous three month period) we find that all Member States again report positive trends. The highest growth rates are found in the Benelux countries and Ireland.

New vehicle registrations

In 1997 there were more than 13 million new vehicle registrations in the European Union. Not surprisingly, the five largest Member States in terms of population recorded the highest levels of new vehicle registration. Nevertheless, there were marked divergences in the trends seen in the Member States. Whilst in Germany, there were more than 3.5 million new vehicle registrations in 1997, France reported only 1.7 million. The reduced level of new vehicle registrations in France may be explained by the tax incentives given in 1996 which had a negative effect on sales of new cars in 1997. Indeed, data for 1998 revealed an immediate return to positive growth rates for new vehicle registration in France. Annual figures for the other large European economies were as follows: Italy (2.4 million), the United Kingdom (2.2 million) and Spain (1.1 million).

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L - 2014 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 22221
e-mail: agnesn@eurostat.datashop.lu

Looking at the trends for the first half of 1998, we may observe that new vehicle registrations were rising for the latest data available in all Member States (with the exception of Italy and the United Kingdom, where reductions of the magnitude of 3% were recorded). Particularly high rates of growth were seen in Denmark and Finland, where new vehicle registrations were expanding by nearly 25% in the summer months of 1998.

In 1997 there were more

than 13 million new vehicle

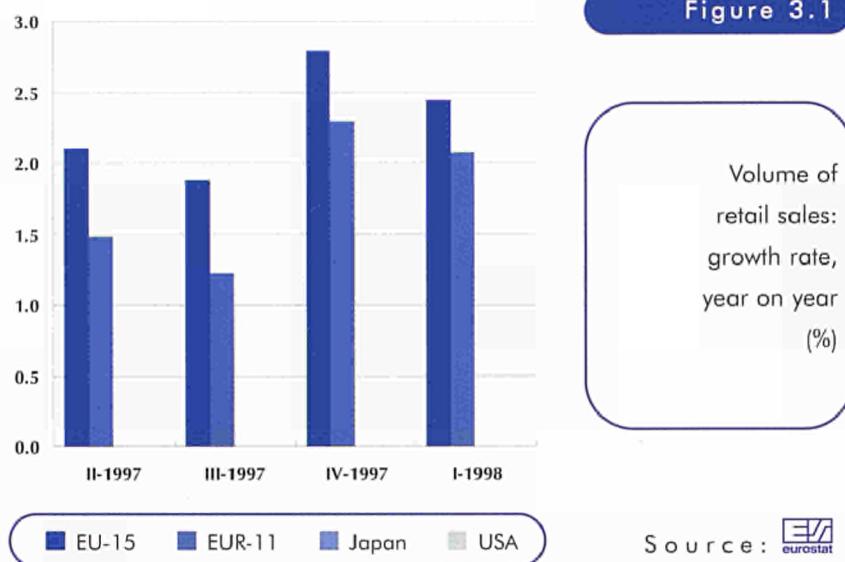
registrations in the EU

Tourism

During 1997 there were almost 590 million nights spent in hotels and similar establishments by residents of the European Union residing in their country of origin. The highest figure was for Germany, where German residents spent almost 150 million nights in hotels or similar establishments.

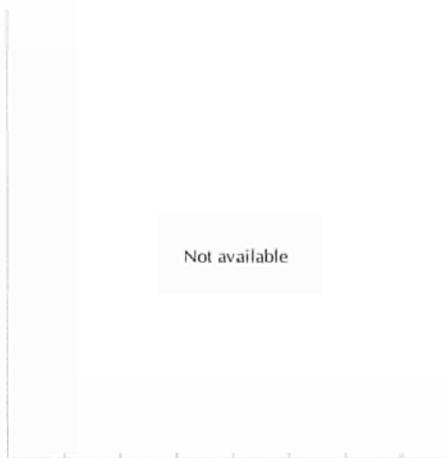
Looking at the growth rates for the latest three months data available compared to the same three month period of a year before, we find that there were six Member States where there was a reduction in the number of residents spending nights in hotels or similar establishments. The most marked change was observed in Denmark (a reduction of nearly 40%), whilst the downward trend seen in the United Kingdom was also sizeable (more than 10%). The decline in the number of nights spent in Germany and Italy was moderate (at -0.6% and -0.9%). The sharp decline observed in Danish figures may well be influenced by a change in methodology.

Turning to the number of nights spent in hotels and similar establishments by non-residents of a country, we may observe that there were almost as many nights spent in Europe by non-residents as residents (520 million compared to 590 million in 1997). Spain was the country that had the highest rate of non-resident visitors in the EU in 1997 (with 106 million nights in hotels and similar establishments). The second most popular destination (in terms of



nights spent in hotels or similar establishments) was the United Kingdom followed by Italy, with 88 million and 85 million nights respectively.

Denmark again experienced a large annual reduction (of 27.5%) when comparing the data for the period March to May 1998 with the same period in 1997. There were two countries that were able to report expansion in the number of nights spent in hotels and similar establishments by non-residents in excess of 10% for the latest period available; they were the Netherlands (up by 18.8%) and Greece (up 12.3%).



First registration of
private and
commercial cars:
growth rate,
year on year
(%)

Table 3.1

	1995	1996	1997	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98
Volume of retail sales: indices, gross data (1995 = 100)									
EU-15	100.0	101.7	103.7	98.6	92.3	101.8	:	:	:
B	100.0	108.2	111.0	113.8	103.6	117.6	120.4	119.4	:
DK	100.0	101.5	103.6	104.1	89.1	96.2	107.4	:	:
D	100.0	100.2	99.6	93.1	86.8	100.5	:	:	:
EL	100.0	101.4	102.4	100.8	93.7	86.8	109.4	96.9	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	100.0	101.8	104.7	104.5	93.0	101.9	106.2	107.2	:
IRL	100.0	106.6	114.9	118.6	119.1	117.2	123.1	125.9	:
I	100.0	100.5	101.7	89.0	87.7	99.1	102.2	:	:
L	100.0	98.5	103.3	102.6	91.4	:	:	:	:
NL	100.0	103.1	106.9	107.0	94.0	103.0	110.0	118.0	114.0
A	100.0	102.1	102.1	94.9	91.7	102.0	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	100.0	104.1	108.0	:	:	:	:	:	:
S	100.0	100.4	103.9	100.9	90.2	101.9	103.6	:	:
UK	100.0	102.8	108.1	103.3	102.4	103.8	107.3	106.4	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Table 3.2

	1995	1996	1997	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98
Volume of retail sales: indices, seasonally adjusted data (1995 = 100)									
EU-15	100.0	101.7	103.7	104.9	105.1	104.9	:	:	:
B	100.0	108.2	111.0	116.4	116.0	115.2	116.7	117.8	:
DK	100.0	101.5	103.6	105.8	105.4	105.8	106.9	:	:
D	100.0	100.2	99.6	:	:	:	:	:	:
EL	100.0	101.4	102.4	103.3	101.6	100.6	:	:	:
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
F	100.0	101.8	104.7	107.9	107.4	106.6	108.8	108.0	:
IRL	100.0	106.6	114.9	120.2	123.8	121.7	123.2	125.7	:
I	100.0	100.5	101.7	102.3	102.2	102.2	102.3	:	:
L	100.0	98.5	103.3	105.7	105.8	:	:	:	:
NL	100.0	103.1	106.9	110.3	110.3	110.1	110.8	111.5	112.2
A	100.0	102.1	102.1	103.2	104.8	101.4	:	:	:
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	100.0	104.1	108.0	:	:	:	:	:	:
S	100.0	100.4	103.9	107.4	105.6	105.7	106.3	:	:
UK	100.0	102.8	108.1	112.2	110.9	111.2	111.0	112.9	:
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source:  eurostat

Retail sales

Figure 3.3

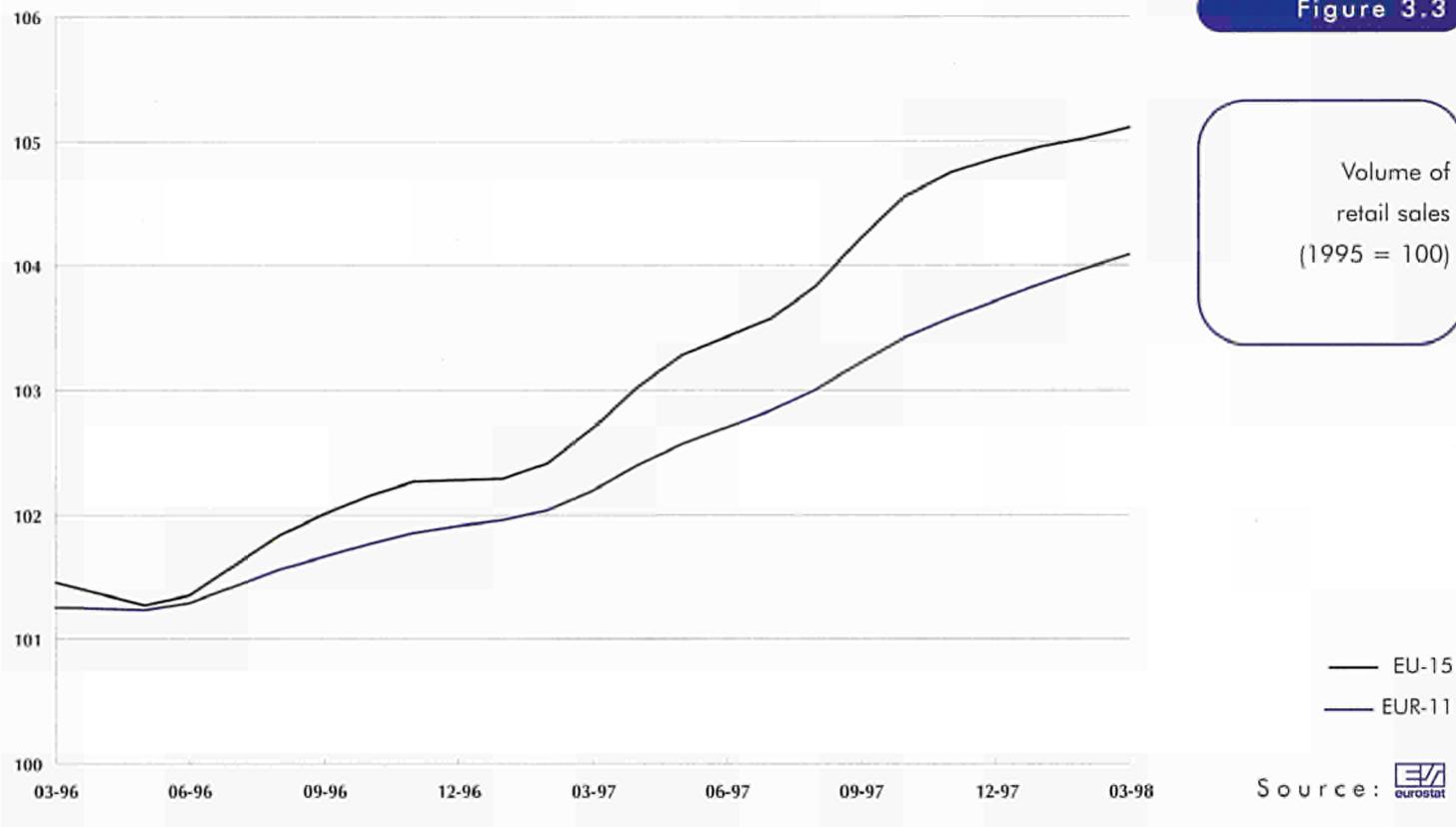


Figure 3.4

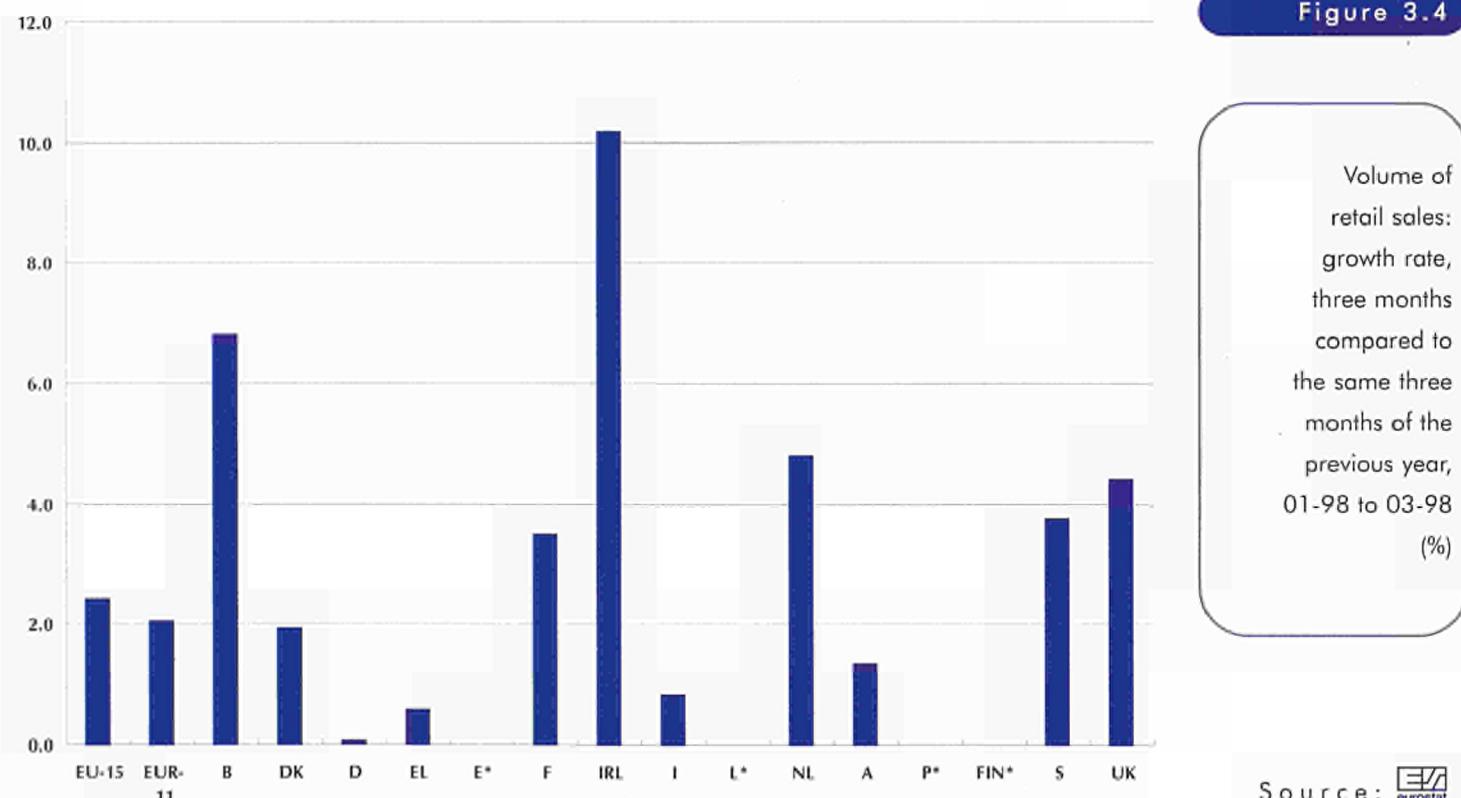


Table 3.3

	1997	12-97	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	Latest 3 months available	t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	102.0	126.1	98.0	93.0	100.5	:	:	01-98 ⇡ 03-98	-0.1	1.2
B	111.8	133.6	108.5	103.2	113.5	114.1	118.0	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	0.0	1.6
DK	101.4	118.7	96.5	89.1	98.0	107.9	:	02-98 ⇡ 04-98	0.9	2.1
D	100.0	119.0	94.3	89.3	97.5	:	:	01-98 ⇡ 03-98	:	-1.1
EL	102.3	134.2	101.6	97.6	97.3	114.6	102.5	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	:	0.4
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
F	104.8	131.0	101.0	91.2	100.3	104.5	105.2	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	0.1	-0.1
IRL	106.4	131.7	99.8	104.6	105.1	111.3	112.9	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	1.5	6.0
I	97.1	140.8	91.9	87.5	98.7	100.1	:	02-98 ⇡ 04-98	0.5	1.1
L	102.5	122.7	100.5	91.8	:	:	:	12-97 ⇡ 02-98	0.8	7.8
NL	102.9	114.6	107.0	92.6	97.4	102.1	:	02-98 ⇡ 04-98	0.2	-0.1
A	98.8	118.7	93.1	93.7	96.0	:	:	01-98 ⇡ 03-98	0.3	0.3
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
FIN	100.9	119.3	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇡ 12-97	-0.4	0.4
S	103.3	119.3	101.4	91.2	102.0	100.5	:	02-98 ⇡ 04-98	-0.4	-1.2
UK	104.7	121.2	101.7	104.2	106.5	108.9	107.3	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	1.0	4.0
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:

Source: 

Table 3.4

	1997	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	Latest 3 months available	t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	106.7	104.0	80.3	94.9	:	:	:	01-98 ⇡ 03-98	0.2	1.1
B	124.1	145.7	95.2	120.7	143.6	144.6	:	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	1.7	5.7
DK	105.6	120.5	73.1	79.0	103.2	:	:	02-98 ⇡ 04-98	-0.5	-2.5
D	97.0	90.1	70.5	89.9	:	:	:	01-98 ⇡ 03-98	:	-4.6
EL	97.0	108.0	86.8	59.0	115.6	90.4	:	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	:	-2.7
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
F	104.0	126.7	77.6	91.5	107.4	122.6	:	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	1.3	4.1
IRL	124.4	137.9	95.5	106.8	122.4	140.7	:	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	1.0	18.3
I	114.5	96.5	85.8	103.8	115.8	:	:	02-98 ⇡ 04-98	1.3	0.9
L	102.0	118.9	73.5	:	:	:	:	12-97 ⇡ 02-98	1.2	10.7
NL	104.4	105.0	75.0	89.0	107.0	119.0	108.0	04-98 ⇡ 06-98	0.4	4.4
A	102.1	98.8	79.7	89.8	:	:	:	01-98 ⇡ 03-98	0.5	0.4
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
FIN	103.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇡ 12-97	-0.6	-0.3
S	99.0	92.3	74.8	87.3	101.6	:	:	02-98 ⇡ 04-98	0.7	2.9
UK	112.1	98.0	89.5	94.6	104.0	110.0	:	03-98 ⇡ 05-98	1.0	3.1
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:

Source: 

Retail sales and first registration of private and commercial cars

Table 3.5

	1997	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	Latest 3 months available	t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	106.5	100.7	97.4	108.0	:	:	:	01-98	⇒	03-98
B	96.7	92.9	85.6	97.2	98.4	99.5	:	03-98	⇒	05-98
DK	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	01-98	⇒	:
D	97.4	88.5	88.1	109.8	:	:	:	01-98	⇒	03-98
EL	114.8	102.0	100.7	97.2	106.5	102.6	:	03-98	⇒	05-98
E	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	03-98	⇒	:
F	106.2	109.6	99.4	104.6	103.2	103.8	:	03-98	⇒	05-98
IRL	118.0	117.8	105.8	109.5	122.6	120.6	:	03-98	⇒	05-98
I	113.0	91.2	99.1	110.2	105.1	:	:	02-98	⇒	04-98
L	114.8	111.3	105.8	:	:	:	:	12-97	⇒	02-98
NL	111.3	109.0	103.0	113.0	117.0	121.0	125.0	04-98	⇒	06-98
A	105.2	92.2	90.3	96.2	:	:	:	01-98	⇒	03-98
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	03-98	⇒	:
FIN	114.6	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒	12-97
S	104.1	108.8	90.3	101.3	100.6	:	:	02-98	⇒	04-98
UK	117.6	128.5	116.5	114.1	120.1	113.3	:	03-98	⇒	05-98
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:

Source: 

Table 3.6

	1997	04-98	05-98	06-98	07-98	08-98	09-98	Latest 3 months available	t / t-1 (%)	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	13,328	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
B	407	49	:	:	:	:	:	02-98	⇒	04-98
DK	153	16	13	21	12	12	:	06-98	⇒	08-98
D	3,528	299	319	343	323	256	:	06-98	⇒	08-98
EL	162	:	:	:	:	:	:	01-98	⇒	03-98
E	1,091	101	101	118	:	:	:	04-98	⇒	06-98
F	1,713	166	137	102	:	:	:	04-98	⇒	06-98
IRL	126	17	:	:	:	:	:	02-98	⇒	04-98
I	2,412	231	217	216	:	:	:	04-98	⇒	06-98
L	32	4	3	3	3	:	:	05-98	⇒	07-98
NL	478	48	47	49	50	:	:	05-98	⇒	07-98
A	302	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒	12-97
P	317	48	47	49	50	:	:	05-98	⇒	07-98
FIN	105	12	11	11	:	:	:	04-98	⇒	06-98
S	259	27	25	27	21	20	24	07-98	⇒	09-98
UK	2,244	178	:	:	:	:	:	02-98	⇒	04-98
Japan	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:
USA	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:	:

Source: 

Volume of retail sales of household equipment in specialised stores: indices and latest growth rates (1995 = 100)

Figure 3.5

First registration
of private and
commercial cars
(1995 = 100)

EU-15 —
EUR-11 —

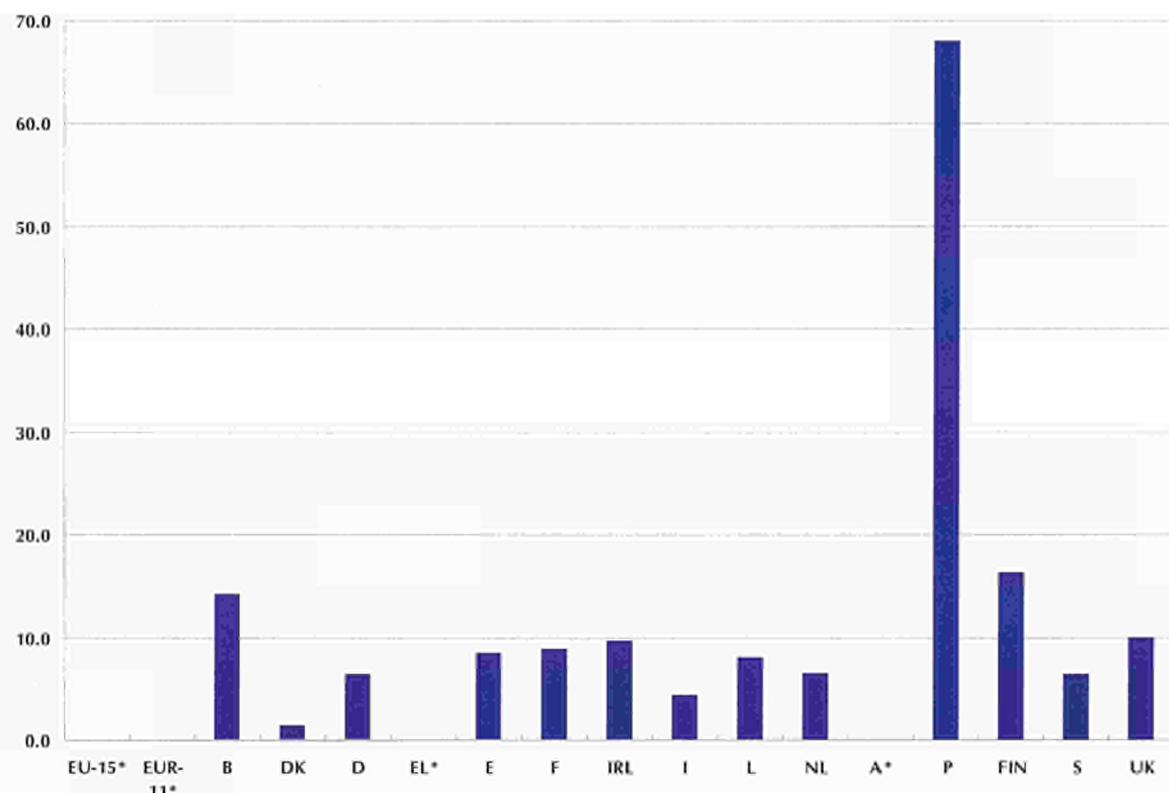
Source:  eurostat

Not available

Figure 3.6

First registration
of private and
commercial cars;
growth rate, three
months compared
to the same
three months
of the previous year,
02-98 to 04-98
(%)

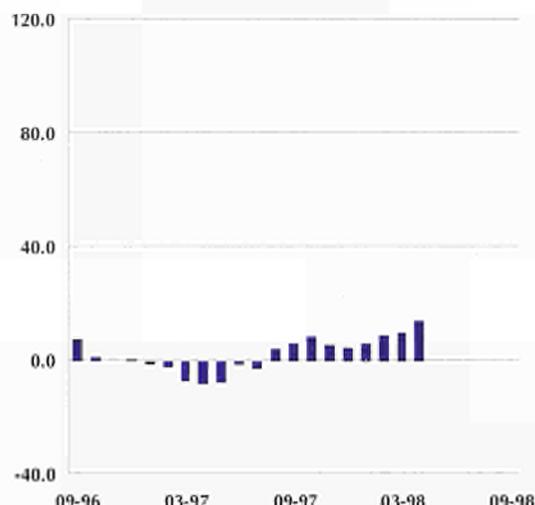
Source:  eurostat



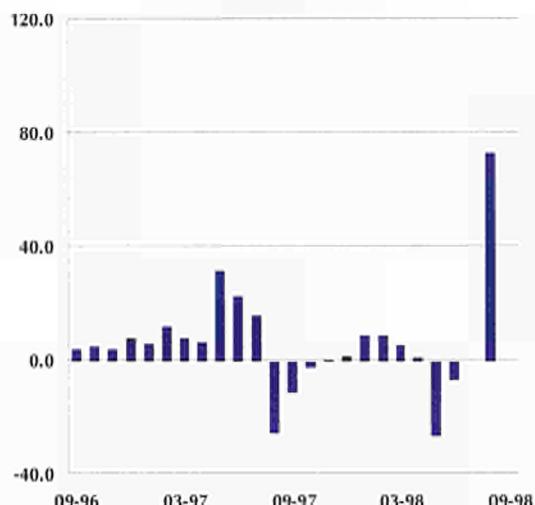
First registration of private and commercial cars

Figure 3.7

Belgique / België

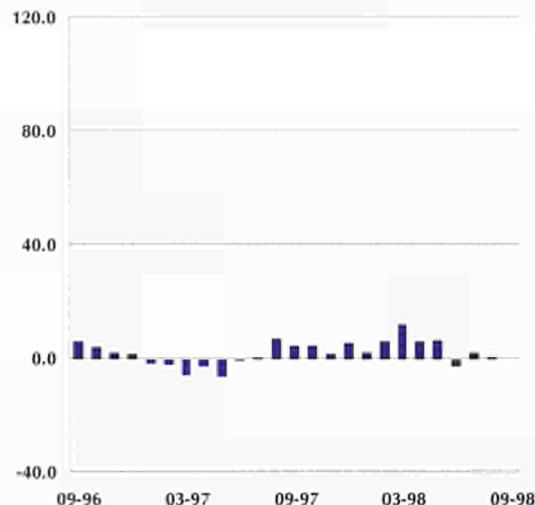


Danmark

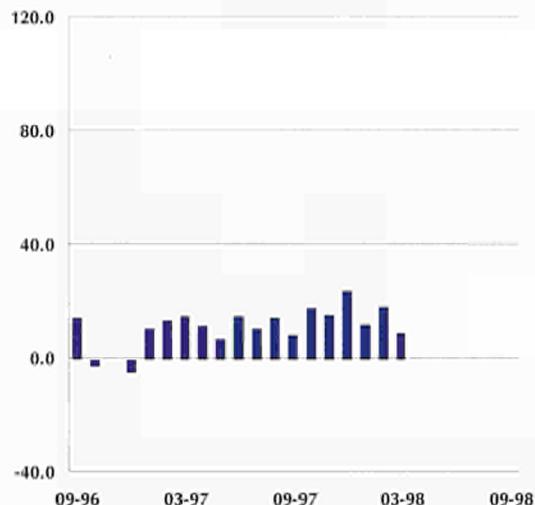


First registration
of private and
commercial cars:
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months
of the previous year
(%)

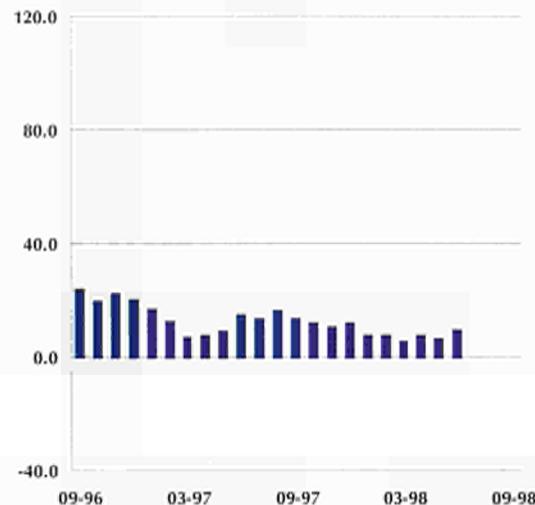
Deutschland



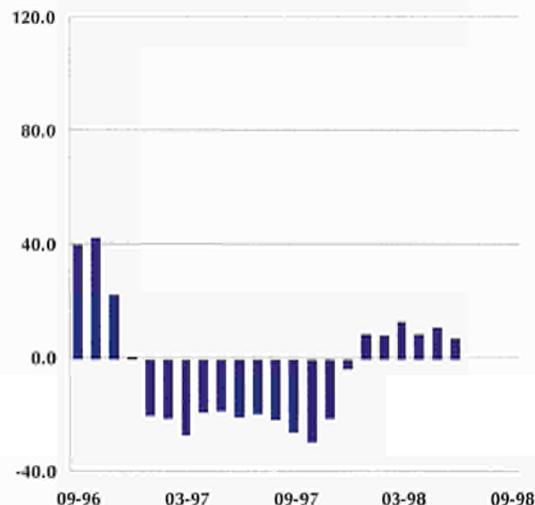
Ellada



España

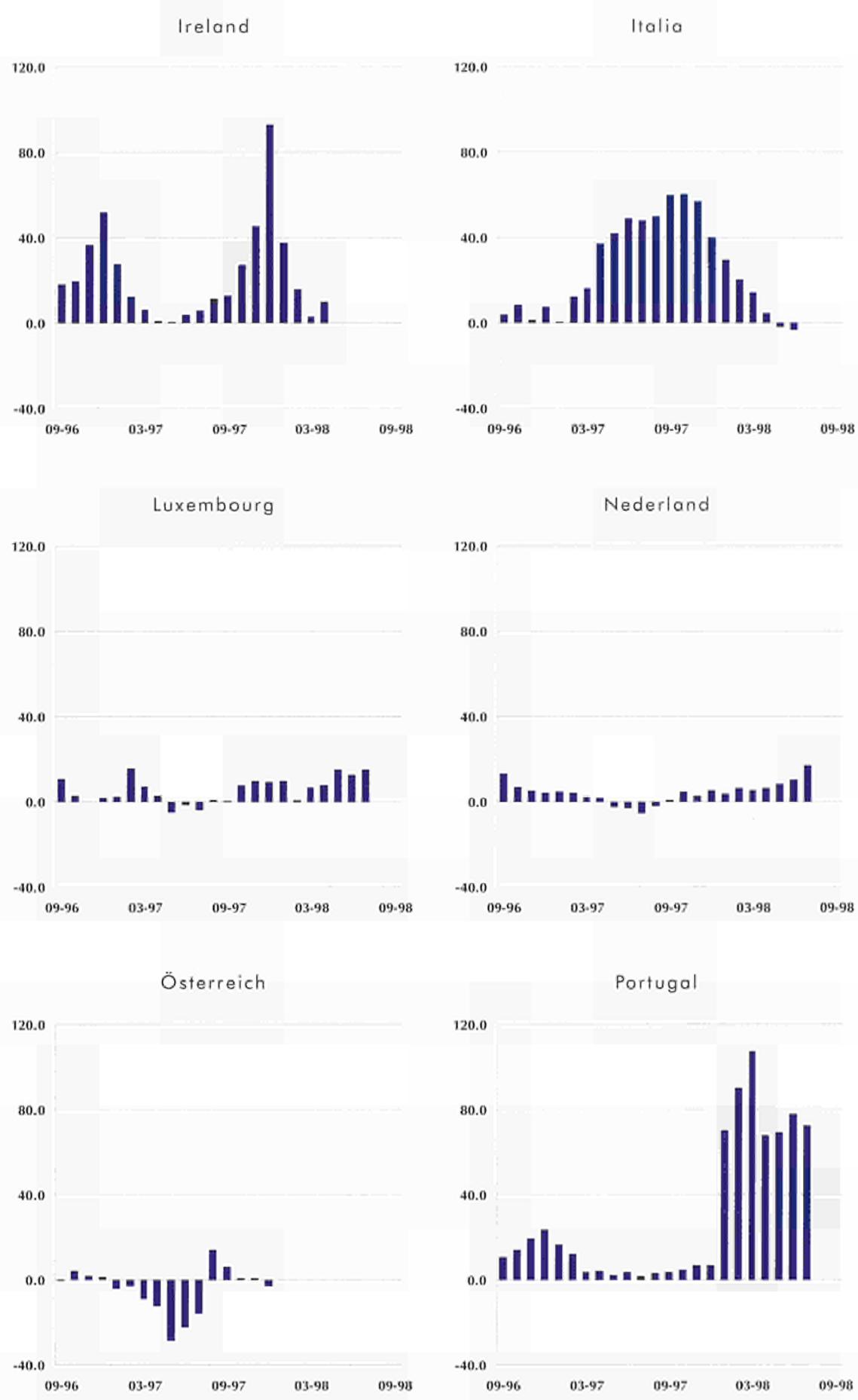


France



Source : eurostat

Figure 3.7

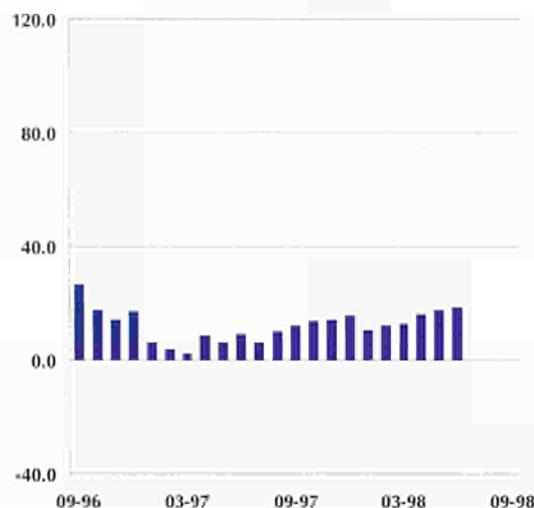


Source: eurostat

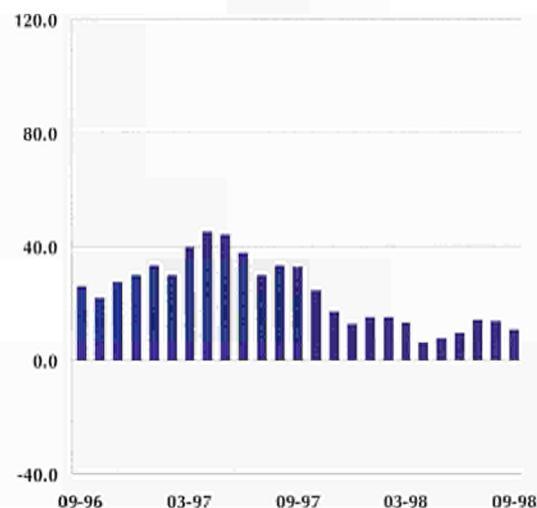
First registration of private and commercial cars

Figure 3.7

Suomi / Finland



Sverige



First registration
of private and
commercial cars:
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months
of the previous year
(%)

United Kingdom

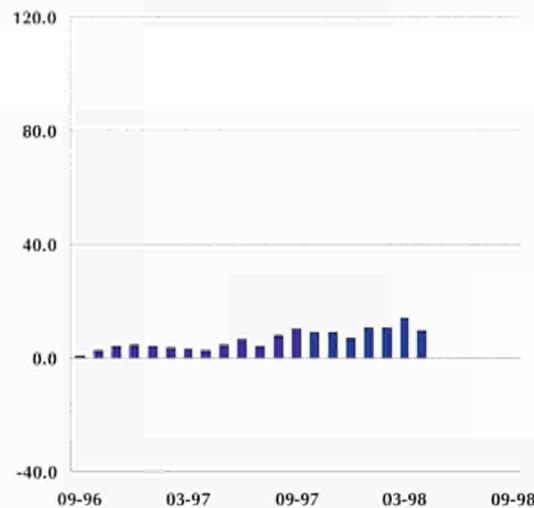


Table 3.7

	1997	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	Latest 3 months available	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	589,541	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
B	3,338	154	215	195	307	327	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	8.2
DK	6,122	273	275	352	295	348	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	-39.4
D	144,469	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	-0.6
EL	13,373	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	20.7
E	61,159	3,048	3,559	4,572	5,829	5,168	5,683	04-98 ⇒ 06-98	12.3
F	92,666	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	1.3
IRL	6,000	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
I	120,920	6,656	:	:	:	:	:	11-97 ⇒ 01-98	-0.9
L	83	5	6	7	7	7	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	-2.1
NL	9,861	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	13.7
A	16,083	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	7.1
P	8,499	434	504	559	703	646	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	-4.1
FIN	9,115	574	714	822	766	746	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	0.6
S	14,815	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	4.5
UK	94,900	3,310	4,480	5,570	6,390	7,330	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	-10.7

Source: 

Table 3.8

	1997	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	Latest 3 months available	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	514,955	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
B	9,267	513	584	746	854	992	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	5.1
DK	4,505	176	189	234	282	376	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	-27.5
D	28,576	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	2.6
EL	39,992	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	12.3
E	106,102	4,540	5,039	6,083	7,544	11,723	12,942	04-98 ⇒ 06-98	6.4
F	60,624	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	9.5
IRL	13,000	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
I	84,565	3,386	:	:	:	:	:	11-97 ⇒ 01-98	-0.5
L	1,026	51	61	71	88	107	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	5.3
NL	11,245	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	18.8
A	53,376	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	0.2
P	20,851	896	1,131	1,554	1,815	2,139	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	0.0
FIN	3,171	247	180	217	179	236	:	03-98 ⇒ 05-98	-2.3
S	4,051	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97 ⇒ 12-97	7.2
UK	88,200	3,650	3,070	4,460	5,480	6,950	8,540	04-98 ⇒ 06-98	0.6

Source: 

Tourism

Table 3.9

	1997	12-97	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	Latest 3 months available	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
B	10,394	444	262	403	437	758	742	03-98	⇒ 05-98 -15.6
DK	8,779	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
D	127,263	5,202	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 -12.3
EL	461	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
E	19,367	301	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 -15.7
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
I	51,418	990	1,210	:	:	:	:	11-97	⇒ 01-98 -2.0
L	117	3	2	3	3	14	24	03-98	⇒ 05-98 22.1
NL	32,492	1,014	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 -4.8
A	7,388	304	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 7.8
P	6,208	72	71	99	116	150	262	03-98	⇒ 05-98 -19.2
FIN	2,150	34	33	55	67	74	68	03-98	⇒ 05-98 -13.3
S	14,454	217	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 -16.5
UK	90,700	1,310	860	1,220	1,750	5,420	9,590	03-98	⇒ 05-98 -17.8

Source : 

Table 3.10

	1997	01-98	02-98	03-98	04-98	05-98	06-98	Latest 3 months available	t / t-4 (%)
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
B	5,495	156	245	295	389	468	:	03-98	⇒ 05-98 -4.6
DK	6,414	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
D	7,672	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 -5.9
EL	676	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 -4.0
E	50,675	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
F	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
IRL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	⇒	:
I	32,636	358	:	:	:	:	:	11-97	⇒ 01-98 5.5
L	1,249	6	10	8	56	121	:	03-98	⇒ 05-98 -15.8
NL	9,608	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 12.9
A	6,918	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 24.9
P	1,750	63	65	39	92	92	:	03-98	⇒ 05-98 8.5
FIN	474	12	8	11	9	17	:	03-98	⇒ 05-98 -10.0
S	3,608	:	:	:	:	:	:	10-97	⇒ 12-97 -19.3
UK	39,420	2,350	1,750	3,050	1,890	2,560	4,130	04-98	⇒ 06-98 -0.2

Source : 

Guest flows in other collective accommodation establishments, residents in the country: units and latest growth rates (thousands)

Figure 3.8

Nights spent in hotels and similar establishments: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

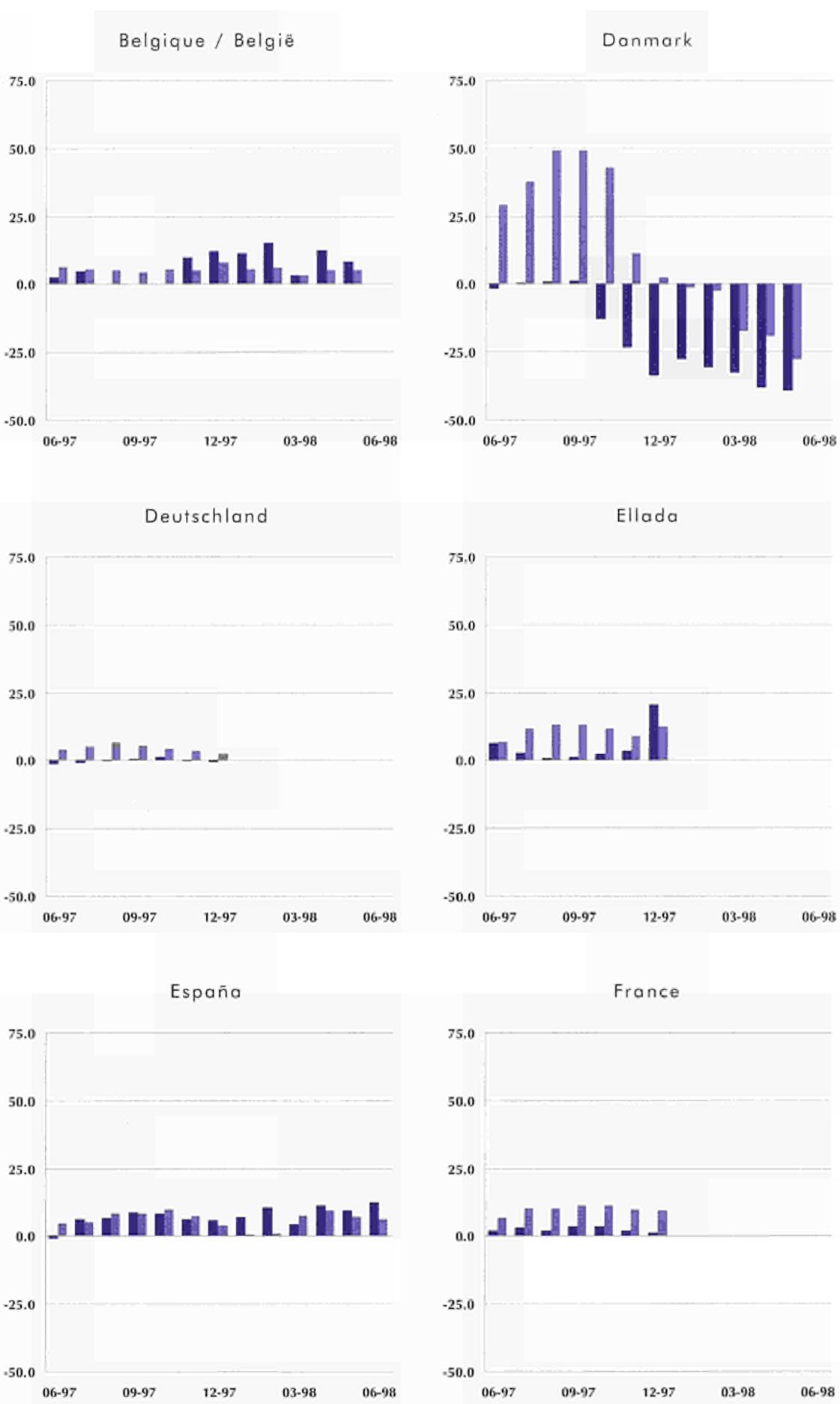
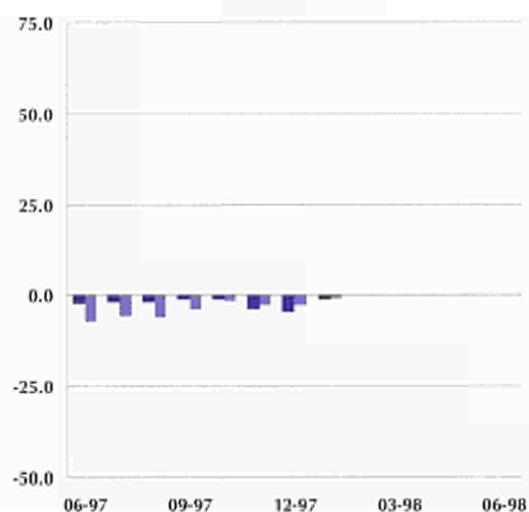


Figure 3.8

Ireland

Italia

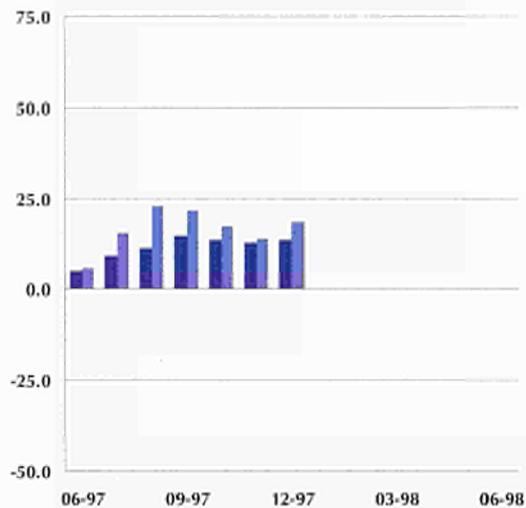
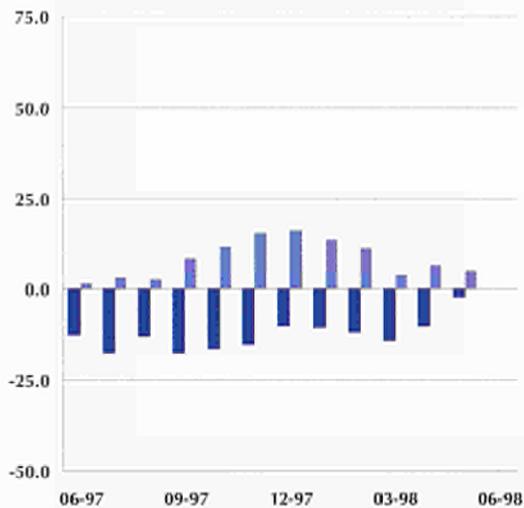
Not available



Nights spent in
hotels and similar
establishments:
growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year
(%)

Luxembourg

Nederland

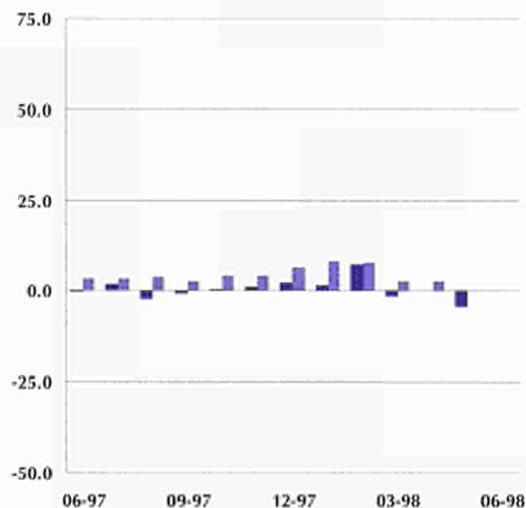
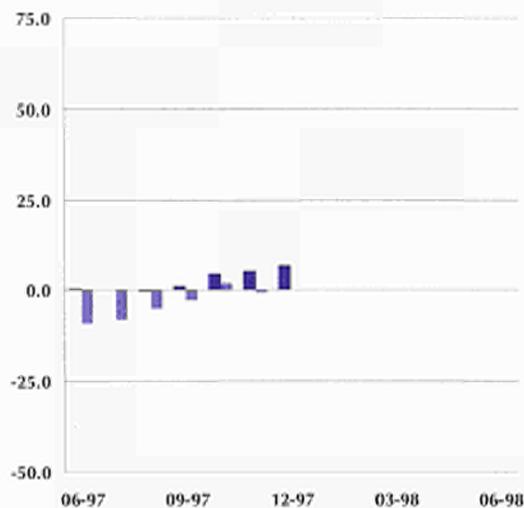


Österreich

Portugal

Residents

Non-residents

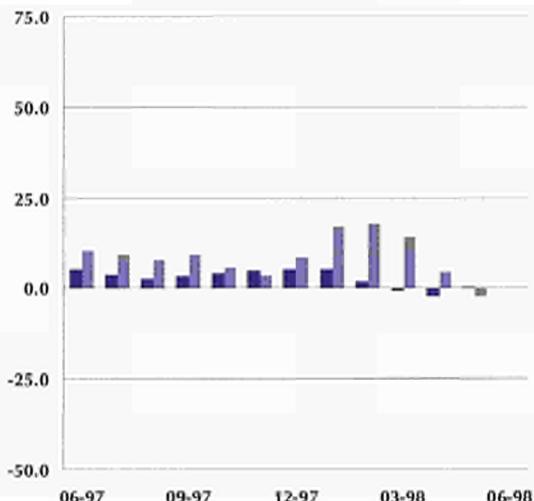


Source: eurostat

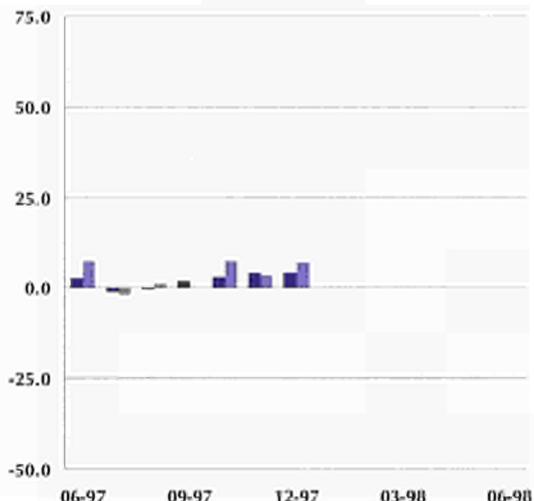
Figure 3.8

Nights spent in hotels and similar establishments: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

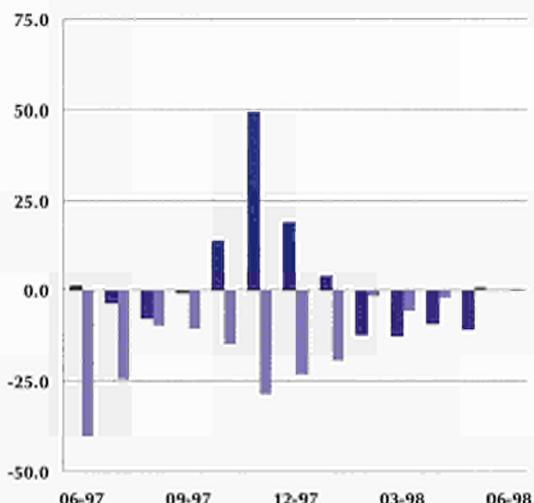
Suomi / Finland



Sverige



United Kingdom



Residents ■

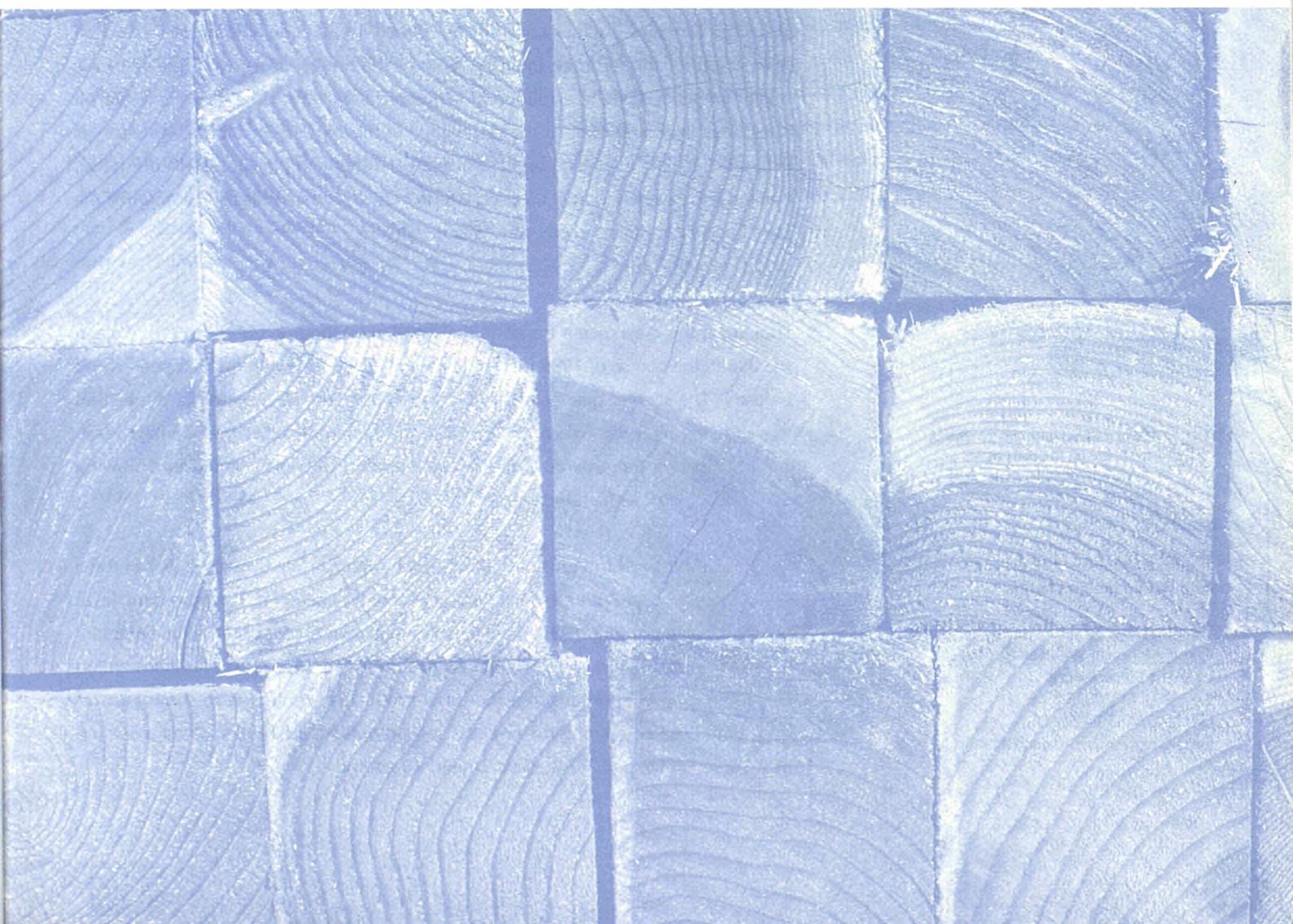
Non-residents ■

Source: eurostat

4.

Wood and wood products

Commentary	68
Structural indicators value-added, production, employment and labour costs	74
External trade extra EU-15 exports and extra EU-15 imports	76
Short-term indicators production index, producer prices, capacity utilisation and foreign trade indices	77



4. Wood and wood products

Description of the NACE Rev. 1 Groups in Division 20:

- 20.1: sawmilling and planing of wood; impregnation of wood;
- 20.2: manufacture of veneer sheets; manufacture of plywood, laminboard, particle board, fibre board and other panels and board;
- 20.3: manufacture of builders' carpentry and joinery;
- 20.4: manufacture of wooden containers;
- 20.5: manufacture of other products of wood; manufacture of articles of cork, straw and plaiting materials

General introduction

The wood and wood products industry in Europe has taken on increased significance since the accession of the three new Member States in January 1995. Data for Austria, Finland and Sweden has led to a sizeable increase in the EU aggregate for the vast majority of indicators. For example, production volumes rose by around 30% in 1995, with large areas of forested land and associated industries being included in the figures for the Union. Nevertheless, the size of the wood and wood products industry (using the NACE Rev. 1 classification of industrial activities) compared to other areas of activity within the EU remains comparatively small (for example, production value is six times less than that seen for chemicals).

The wood and wood products industry is characterised by an abundance of small and medium-sized enterprises. It is an industry that faces cyclical demand from other industrial activities, such as construction. Otherwise, a large amount of production is destined for the furniture industry. Both of the these downstream industries are highly influenced by the evolution of economic activity, income levels and interest rates. This may well explain the resurgence of the industry in the mid-nineties, as economic activity in general became stronger. Furthermore, the accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden to the European Union helped, to some degree, to improve the EU's large trade deficit in this particular activity.

Short-term indicators

Looking at the most recent trends in the wood and wood products industry we can see that in the course of 1998 there was continued expansion in the European wood industry. The second quarter of 1998 reported that European industrial production was growing by 3.8% (when compared to the same quarter of the previous year). Data comparing the growth of the first and second quarters pointed to a slowing down of activity, with an increase of only 0.2%.

Looking at the trend in industrial output in the Member States, we see that in three of the Member States output of the wood industry was below its corresponding level of a year before. In June 1998, the change in industrial output observed in Denmark (-5.3%), France (-4.8%) and the United Kingdom (-1.7%) was down. Furthermore, in France and the United Kingdom industrial production continued to show signs of retracting. Data comparing the first and second quarters of 1998 showed a decline of 1.5% in France and 1.7% in the United Kingdom.

 Data marked with this symbol is available on the diskette - for further details see page 88

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

Eurostat Data-Shop
4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L - 2014 Luxembourg
tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 22221
e-mail: agnesn@eurostat.datashop.lu

Production & activity breakdown

With the accession of the three new Member States, production volumes rose by around 30%

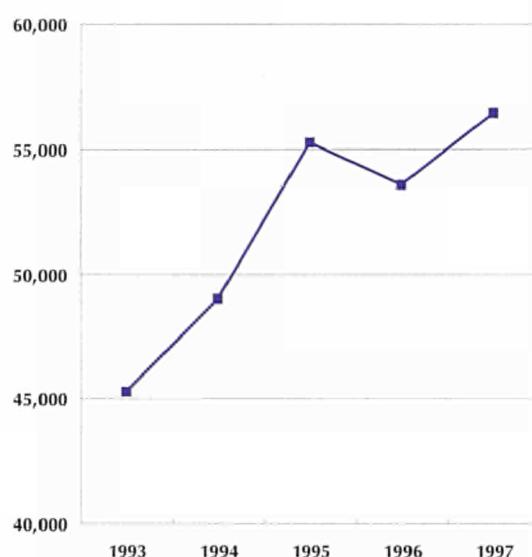


Figure 4.1

EU-15 production
in current prices
(million ECU)

Source: eurostat

Germany, the largest producer in the EU, reported a very moderate expansion of output, rising by 0.8% in the year to July 1998. Indeed, the production index for the three months to July 1998 compared to the three previous months showed that output had declined by 0.4% in Germany. Growth rates for Austria, Finland and Sweden were all showing quite significant gains, up by 11.2%, 9.6% and 5.1% respectively during the year to the summer of 1998.

At the level of the individual Member States, Finland and Sweden saw their producer prices falling, down by 5.5% and 3.8% respectively. The only country to show signs of rapidly increasing prices was Greece, where the annual increase in producer prices was equal to 7.7% (June 1998).

Capacity utilisation rates in this industry were high in the Scandinavian countries in the second quarter of 1998. For example, in Denmark and in Finland capacity utilisation was above 90%. European capacity utilisation was equal to 83.5% in the second quarter of 1998, almost two percentage points above the rate seen a year before.

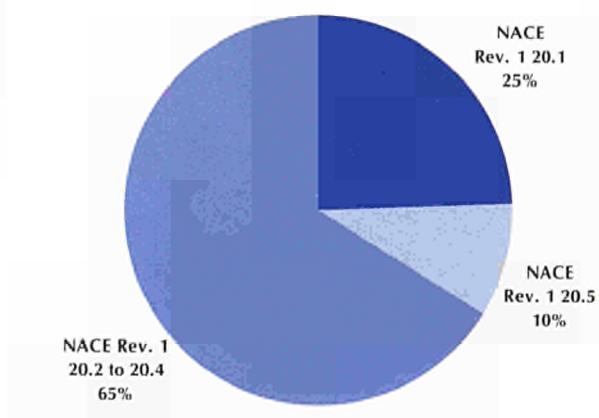


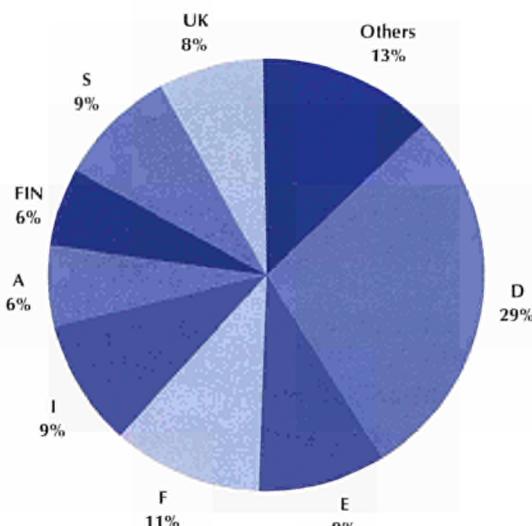
Figure 4.2

EU-15 share of
production by
industrial group,
1997

Source: eurostat

Figure 4.3

Share of EU-15
value-added
at factor cost,
1997



Source: eurostat

EU production was equal to

56.5 billion ECU in 1997

Structural data - production

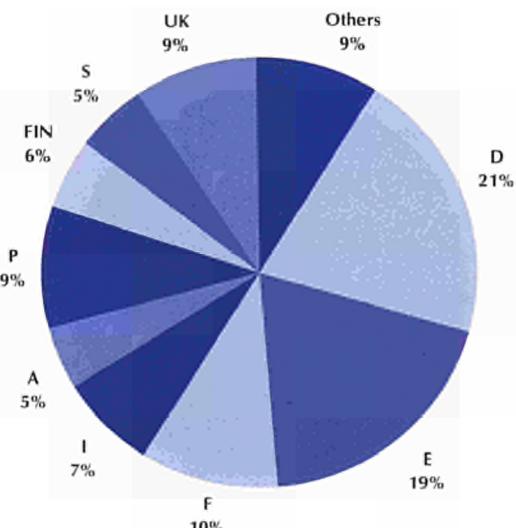
Whilst it is quite common to find production following a fairly simple relationship related to country size, in the wood and wood products industry this is not the case. For example, the production value for Sweden in 1997 was higher than that of the United Kingdom and not far removed from that seen in both Italy and France. The presentation of annual structural data in this section is based upon series that have been retropolated as if all Member States were always members of the European Union. For this reason there are no sizeable shifts in the indicators presented with respect to the accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden in 1995.

Rather any growth that is seen in the data is a result of improved performance within the European Union and not a shift in the EU aggregate.

The early nineties saw production values expand at a rapid pace, output for EU-15 reached 55.3 billion ECU by 1995. However, there was a reduced level of activity in 1996, down by nearly four per cent. Nevertheless, all of these losses were recovered in 1997 with production rising to 56.5 billion ECU.

Figure 4.4

Share of EU-15
number of persons
employed,
1997

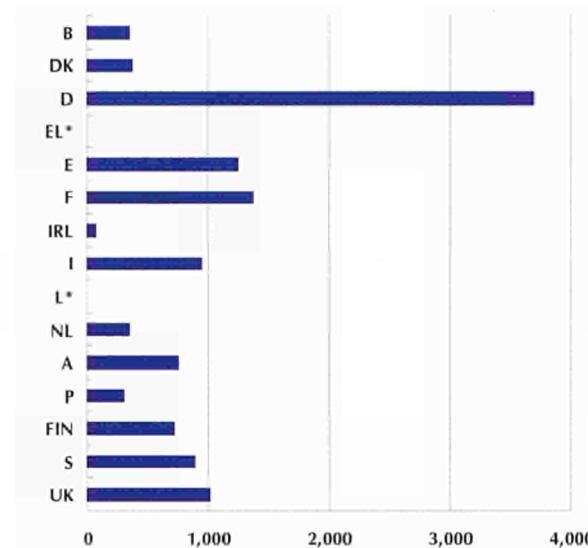


Source: eurostat

Germany remains, by far, the largest producer within the EU, with production value equal to 14.3 billion ECU in 1997, followed by France with 6.7 billion ECU and Italy with 5.6 billion ECU. Spain and Sweden also report production values above the level of 5 billion ECU. If we look at the growth of production in the last twelve months (not taking account of the changes in prices) we can observe that the fastest growing market in 1997 was Finland (up by more than twenty per cent). Three countries reported declining levels of activity: they were Germany, Spain and Portugal.

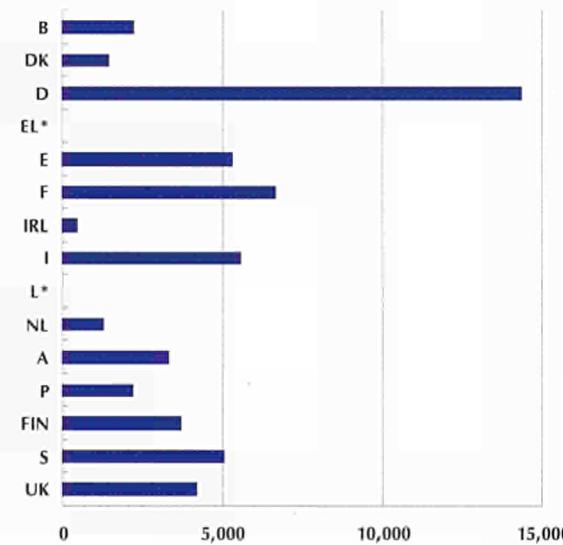
Labour costs & production

Figure 4.5



Source : eurostat

Figure 4.6



Source : eurostat

Number of persons employed

More than half a million persons are employed in the wood and wood products industry in the EU. Unlike the vast majority of industrial activities the industry has shown increased levels of employment through the nineties. Back in 1992 there were 502 thousand persons employed in the EU. This had increased by more than 40 thousand persons by 1997.

There are only two Member States that have more than one hundred thousand persons employed: they are Germany (112 thousand) and Spain (103 thousand). Whilst German industry has faced fairly large reductions in the levels of persons employed (falling from nearly 130 thousand in 1993), the Spanish sector has seen employment rise by more than ten thousand persons in the period 1993-1997. Austria, Finland and Sweden have all recorded quite substantial gains in the number of persons employed for this industry.

Value-added

In terms of value added Germany accounts for almost a third of the EU's value added (with just over 5 billion ECU in value). The remaining countries have far more even shares of value added than seen in many other industrial activities. Indeed, seven of the Member States recorded value added between 1 and 2 billion ECU in 1997.

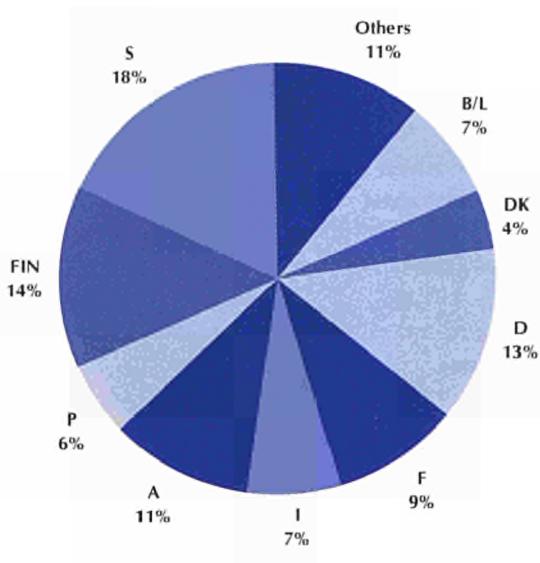
Labour costs

Total labour costs within the EU in 1997 were equal to 12.2 billion ECU, showing a moderate increase on the level of 1996 (up by 1.9%). A number of countries displayed declining levels of labour costs within the European Union. Normally these reductions could be equated with a reduction in the number of persons employed (for example, Germany).

Figure 4.7

Share of European exports to the rest of the world, 1997

Source:  eurostat



Trade performance

Extra-EU exports almost doubled in five years, rising from 2.5 billion ECU in 1993 to 4.9 billion ECU in 1997. Growth between 1996 and 1997 was equal to 21.4% with Germany, Finland and Sweden largely responsible for the rapid expansion.

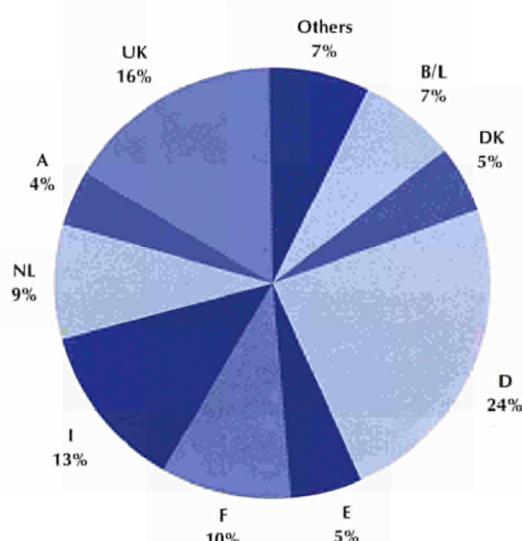
The performance of the Swedish industry is perhaps most striking when looking at exports outside of the European Union, where Sweden exported more wood products than Germany in 1997 (912 million ECU compared to 909 million ECU). Sweden there-

fore exported almost 18% of its production value outside of the European Union in 1997, whilst the corresponding figure for Germany was only 6.3% (despite the fact that German exports to third countries rose by some 33%). A similar phenomenon to that observed in Sweden was found in Finland, where almost one fifth of production value is exported outside of the European Union (19.2% in 1997). Austria too accounts for a large share of European exports. In 1997, Austrian exports were responsible for 11% of all exports from the European Union to the rest of the world.

Figure 4.8

Share of European imports from the rest of the world, 1997

Source:  eurostat



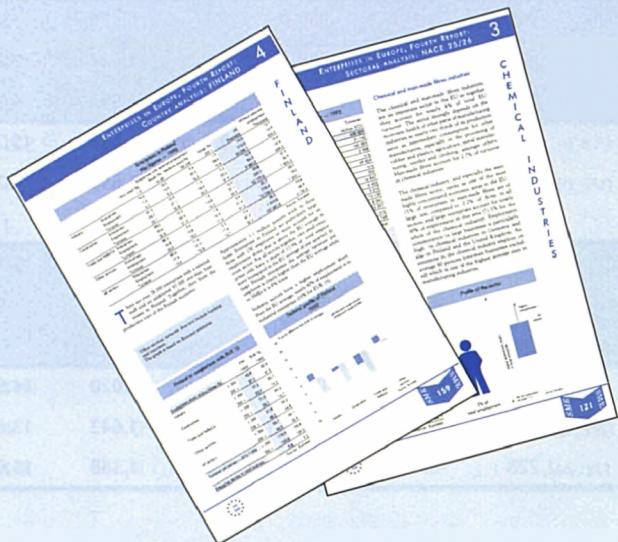
As regards imports there has been a fluctuating trend in recent years. The EU imports almost twice as much in value terms from third countries as it exports. There are three main markets that are responsible for these imports: Germany (2.5 billion ECU), Italy (1.2 billion ECU) and the United Kingdom (1.7 billion ECU). In 1997 all the Member States reported growth of imports in value terms into double figures.

Other Eurostat products

Enterprises in Europe: fourth report

This is a biennial publication produced by Eurostat in co-operation with DG XXIII of the European Commission.

There were around 16 million small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in 1992 in the countries of EU-15, employing more than 100 million people.



The publication contains several parts which present the information that has been gathered by Eurostat. Each has been designed to facilitate the rapid acquisition of the facts. The interested reader may turn to detailed country or sectoral information. Besides this information, an update of the whole SME database will be published on CD-Rom in the first half of 1998. Eurostat Data-Shops also have the most recent data and can make user-specific extractions suited to customers' needs.

The paper publication is broken down into the following sections:

- Part 1: main information on European enterprises;
- Part 2: specific analyses, such as enterprise creation, the innovative behaviour of SMEs or regional analyses;
- Parts 3 & 4: sectoral and country analyses.

The sources used are normally existing business registers in the European countries. The following economic indicators are provided: employment, turnover and sometimes value added and labour costs.

Enquiries regarding the purchase of data should be directed to:

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4, rue Alphonse Weicker
L - 2014 Luxembourg

tel: (352) 4335 2251
fax: (352) 4335 2221
e-mail: agnesn@eurostat.datashop.lu

An order form may be found at the back of this publication

Table 4.1

1993 t / t-1 (%) 1994 t / t-1 (%) 1995 t / t-1 (%) 1996 t / t-1 (%) 1997 t / t-1 (%)

Value-added at
factor cost
(million ECU)

EU-15	15,250	0.1	16,090	5.5	17,227	7.1	16,873	-2.1	17,783	5.4
EUR-11	12,666	0.4	13,000	2.6	14,232	9.5	13,733	-3.5	14,206	3.4
B	:	:	:	:	:	:	552	:	595	7.8
DK	351	9.3	416	18.4	435	4.5	425	-2.3	479	12.6
D	5,229	9.8	5,030	-3.8	5,457	8.5	5,065	-7.2	5,049	-0.3
EL	54	-3.5	38	-28.8	65	70.1	69	5.1	70	1.8
E	1,522	-13.2	1,486	-2.4	1,672	12.5	1,789	7.0	1,624	-9.2
F	1,715	-5.9	1,869	8.9	1,939	3.8	1,912	-1.4	1,993	4.2
IRL	101	-9.7	114	12.8	118	3.3	119	0.7	137	15.2
I	1,376	-9.1	1,427	3.7	1,511	5.9	1,584	4.9	1,659	4.7
L	7	-5.2	9	24.3	8	-7.2	:	:	:	:
NL	385	7.1	386	0.2	433	12.4	421	-2.8	452	7.4
A	799	-1.9	867	8.5	1,057	21.9	1,059	0.3	1,134	7.0
P	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FIN	850	8.5	1,169	37.5	919	-21.4	888	-3.4	1,020	14.9
S	962	-7.7	1,289	34.0	1,268	-1.6	1,445	14.0	1,642	13.6
UK	1,217	2.2	1,347	10.6	1,228	-8.8	1,201	-2.2	1,388	15.6

Source: 

Table 4.2

1993 t / t-1 (%) 1994 t / t-1 (%) 1995 t / t-1 (%) 1996 t / t-1 (%) 1997 t / t-1 (%)

Production in
current prices
(million ECU)

EU-15	45,317	-2.2	49,038	8.2	55,275	12.7	53,570	-3.1	56,475	5.4
EUR-11	37,402	-1.7	39,684	6.1	45,440	14.5	43,744	-3.7	45,408	3.8
B	1,217	1.8	1,283	5.4	2,155	68.0	2,076	-3.7	2,240	7.9
DK	899	6.9	1,051	16.9	1,328	26.3	1,314	-1.0	1,461	11.2
D	13,762	7.2	13,545	-1.6	15,604	15.2	14,458	-7.3	14,373	-0.6
EL	292	-2.0	249	-14.9	284	14.3	:	:	:	:
E	4,485	-13.7	4,624	3.1	5,431	17.5	5,718	5.3	5,338	-6.6
F	5,497	-4.8	6,206	12.9	6,698	7.9	6,518	-2.7	6,693	2.7
IRL	:	:	377	:	417	10.7	429	2.7	483	12.6
I	4,703	-9.5	5,194	10.4	5,121	-1.4	5,311	3.7	5,614	5.7
L	:	:	22	15.1	22	0.0	:	:	:	:
NL	1,094	5.1	1,136	3.8	1,304	14.7	1,252	-4.0	1,297	3.6
A	2,521	-2.2	2,819	11.8	3,121	10.7	3,129	0.3	3,349	7.0
P	2,010	-3.2	2,197	9.3	2,357	7.3	2,278	-3.3	2,216	-2.7
FIN	2,278	-0.8	3,097	35.9	3,209	3.6	3,047	-5.0	3,724	22.2
S	3,084	-15.7	3,864	25.3	4,529	17.2	4,606	1.7	5,086	10.4
UK	3,640	4.5	4,190	15.1	3,694	-11.8	3,607	-2.4	4,216	16.9

Source: 

Number of persons employed & labour costs

1993 t / t-1 (%) 1994 t / t-1 (%) 1995 t / t-1 (%) 1996 t / t-1 (%) 1997 t / t-1 (%)

Table 4.3

EU-15	501,787	-5.5	504,020	0.4	528,391	4.8	524,043	-0.8	542,373	3.5
EUR-11	416,458	-6.3	413,707	-0.7	439,612	6.3	434,221	-1.2	446,407	2.8
B	9,260	-8.4	9,153	-1.2	14,514	58.6	14,368	-1.0	14,152	-1.5
DK	8,386	3.7	9,332	11.3	11,530	23.6	11,316	-1.9	12,954	14.5
D	128,184	-1.5	119,095	-7.1	122,445	2.8	117,531	-4.0	112,422	-4.3
EL	4,462	-10.9	4,010	-10.1	3,778	-5.8	3,750	-0.7	4,017	7.1
E	88,241	-6.6	85,942	-2.6	89,800	4.5	94,078	4.8	103,339	9.8
F	52,556	-8.6	54,916	4.5	55,275	0.7	54,246	-1.9	53,700	-1.0
IRL	4,100	-2.9	4,099	0.0	4,473	9.1	4,409	-1.4	4,740	7.5
I	40,279	-2.1	41,285	2.5	40,550	-1.8	38,981	-3.9	39,622	1.6
L	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
A	20,868	-3.2	20,656	-1.0	24,626	19.2	25,628	4.1	25,864	0.9
P	52,554	-0.2	52,448	-0.2	52,058	-0.7	50,027	-3.9	50,549	1.0
FIN	22,859	-6.1	24,180	5.8	25,171	4.1	24,772	-1.6	29,844	20.5
S	23,470	-13.0	26,319	12.1	27,390	4.1	26,306	-4.0	29,108	10.7
UK	49,011	4.5	50,652	3.3	46,081	-9.0	48,450	5.1	49,887	3.0

Number of persons
employed
(units)Source: 

1993 t / t-1 (%) 1994 t / t-1 (%) 1995 t / t-1 (%) 1996 t / t-1 (%) 1997 t / t-1 (%)

Table 4.4

EU-15	10,856	-3.1	11,018	1.5	12,142	10.2	12,013	-1.1	12,241	1.9
EUR-11	9,085	-1.5	9,029	-0.6	10,167	12.6	9,944	-2.2	9,885	-0.6
B	:	:	:	:	389	:	378	-2.9	361	-4.5
DK	241	4.4	279	15.8	350	25.4	345	-1.5	385	11.7
D	3,880	7.8	3,619	-6.7	4,216	16.5	3,938	-6.6	3,702	-6.0
EL	63	-3.0	56	-10.8	59	3.6	:	:	:	:
E	1,107	-11.9	1,028	-7.2	1,118	8.7	1,205	7.8	1,256	4.2
F	1,308	-4.7	1,390	6.3	1,442	3.7	1,422	-1.4	1,382	-2.8
IRL	:	:	:	:	71	:	71	1.3	83	16.6
I	883	-11.8	900	1.9	882	-2.0	919	4.2	953	3.7
L	5	10.6	5	4.5	5	4.5	:	:	:	:
NL	302	6.3	298	-1.2	332	11.4	313	-5.8	351	12.1
A	539	7.0	559	3.8	713	27.5	747	4.7	755	1.2
P	321	-1.5	335	4.3	351	4.8	322	-8.3	305	-5.3
FIN	449	-10.4	555	23.6	648	16.9	632	-2.5	723	14.4
S	611	-25.7	706	15.5	779	10.4	820	5.3	893	8.8
UK	856	-1.2	948	10.8	786	-17.1	842	7.1	1,019	21.0

Labour costs
(million ECU)Source: 

Table 4.5

1993 t / t-1 (%) 1994 t / t-1 (%) 1995 t / t-1 (%) 1996 t / t-1 (%) 1997 t / t-1 (%)

Extra-EU-15
exports
(million ECU)

	EU-15	2,530	18.0	3,151	24.5	3,647	15.8	4,001	9.7	4,859	21.4
B/L	46	112.9		67	44.6	69	2.5	97	41.2	114	18.1
DK	80	-0.3		93	16.2	104	11.9	113	9.3	120	5.5
D	407	2.3		508	24.8	611	20.3	683	11.7	909	33.0
EL	41	71.7		33	-18.2	30	-11.4	33	12.2	33	0.9
E	150	-3.5		173	14.7	189	9.6	213	12.8	221	3.8
F	226	11.9		262	16.0	306	16.4	351	14.8	385	9.7
IRL	8	171.4		6	-19.7	7	9.8	8	22.4	12	40.2
I	267	38.0		335	25.3	383	14.3	415	8.4	478	15.1
NL	31	8.0		41	31.9	46	12.5	47	1.1	84	81.3
A	283	26.7		369	30.2	384	4.3	425	10.7	455	6.9
P	190	5.9		216	13.4	232	7.7	275	18.3	314	14.4
FIN	300	41.3		429	43.1	538	25.4	525	-2.5	714	36.0
S	438	17.2		551	25.8	682	23.8	729	6.8	912	25.2
UK	62	30.6		68	10.5	67	-1.8	88	30.8	109	23.9

Source:  eurostat

Table 4.6

1993 t / t-1 (%) 1994 t / t-1 (%) 1995 t / t-1 (%) 1996 t / t-1 (%) 1997 t / t-1 (%)

Extra EU-15
imports
(million ECU)

	EU-15	6,843	1.3	7,985	16.7	8,167	2.3	7,768	-4.9	9,311	19.9
B/L	497	20.7		601	20.9	598	-0.5	556	-7.0	679	22.1
DK	151	-1.8		192	27.6	215	11.9	205	-4.8	248	21.1
D	1,846	11.3		2,208	19.6	2,352	6.5	2,157	-8.3	2,483	15.1
EL	85	-11.1		96	12.4	106	10.5	106	0.5	141	32.5
E	265	-23.5		313	18.4	358	14.1	358	0.1	498	39.0
F	477	-4.3		546	14.4	559	2.4	506	-9.6	653	29.0
IRL	65	-8.1		85	30.7	77	-9.4	84	9.3	111	31.9
I	999	-7.1		1,125	12.6	1,204	7.1	1,082	-10.2	1,215	12.3
NL	733	20.6		753	2.7	707	-6.1	706	-0.2	784	11.1
A	231	6.5		273	18.4	292	6.9	302	3.5	353	16.7
P	56	6.0		62	10.7	71	13.8	78	10.5	104	32.7
FIN	52	-25.3		68	29.3	79	17.6	77	-2.6	111	43.2
S	129	-14.4		171	33.0	213	24.0	212	-0.4	245	15.6
UK	1,257	-6.5		1,491	18.6	1,337	-10.3	1,339	0.1	1,688	26.1

Source:  eurostat

Production (trend cycle) & producer price indices

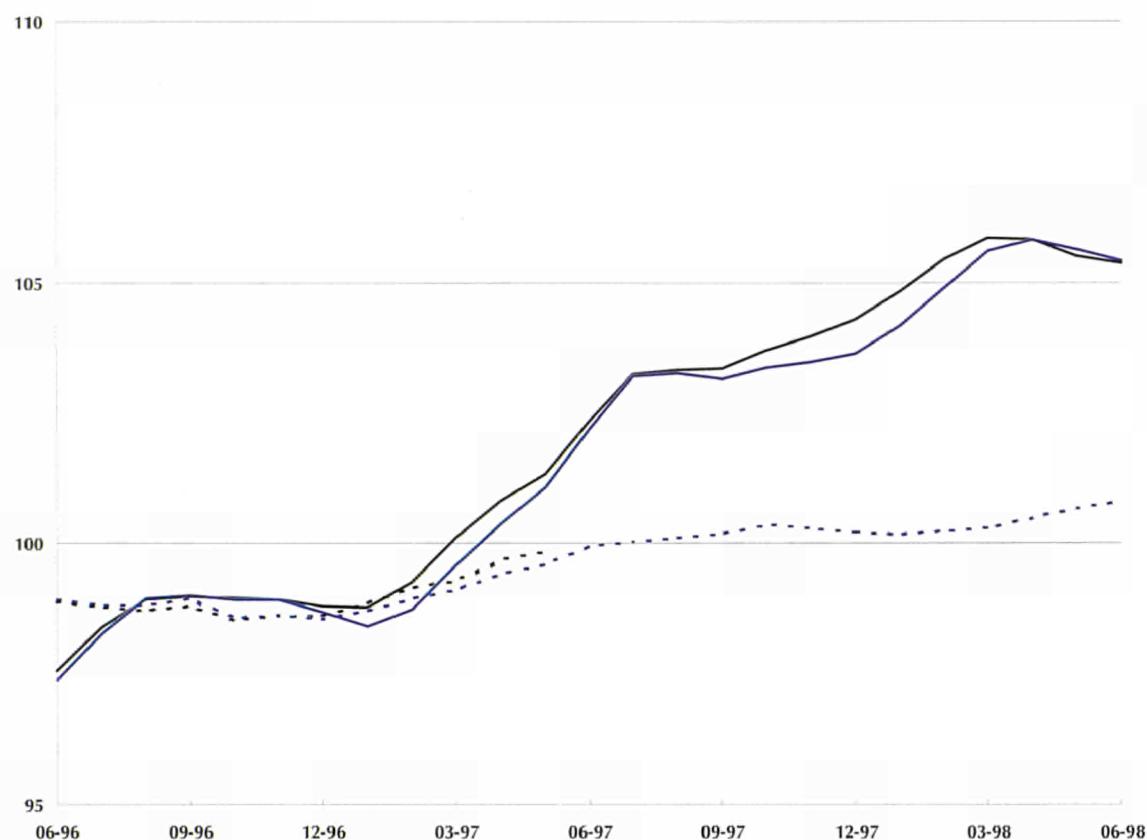


Figure 4.9

Source: eurostat

Table 4.7

	Latest 3 months available		Production index t / t-1	t / t-4	Latest month available	Producer price index t / t-3	t / t-12
EU-15	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.2	3.8	05-97	0.7
B	05-98	⇒	07-98	1.8	8.5	:	:
DK	04-98	⇒	06-98	4.4	-5.3	06-98	-0.1
D	05-98	⇒	07-98	-0.4	0.8	07-98	0.4
EL		⇒		:	:	06-98	3.0
E	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.8	6.3	06-98	0.8
F	04-98	⇒	06-98	-1.5	-4.8	08-98	0.2
IRL		⇒		:	:		:
I	05-98	⇒	07-98	0.1	6.3	07-98	0.4
L	04-98	⇒	06-98	-3.3	19.1		:
NL	02-98	⇒	04-98	1.4	6.5	04-98	0.0
A	03-98	⇒	05-98	1.6	11.2		:
P	02-98	⇒	04-98	0.6	4.7		:
FIN	05-98	⇒	07-98	2.6	9.6	08-98	2.0
S	04-98	⇒	06-98	0.6	5.1	07-98	-0.2
UK	04-98	⇒	06-98	-1.7	-0.1		:
Japan		⇒		:	:		:
USA		⇒		:	:		:

Production and producer price indices: growth rates (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 4.10

Production and producer price indices: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 04-98 to 06-98 (%)

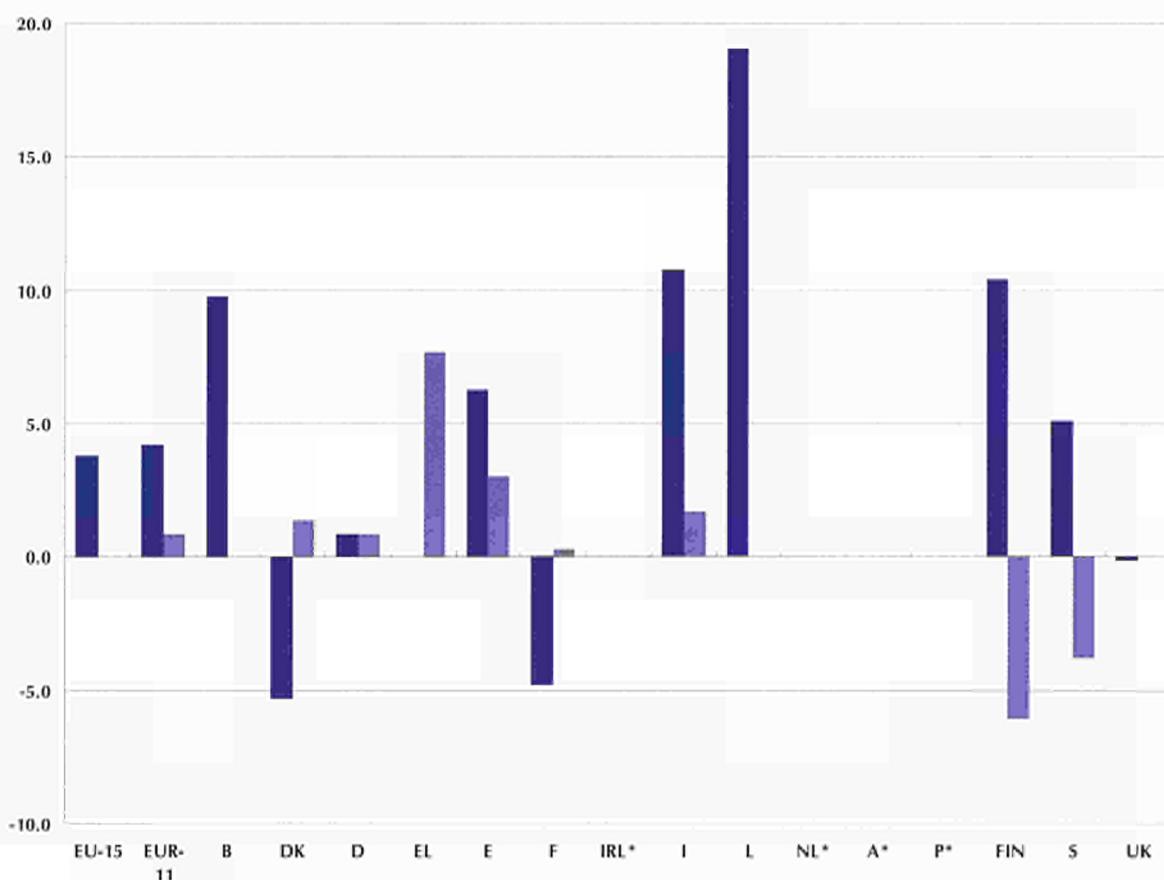
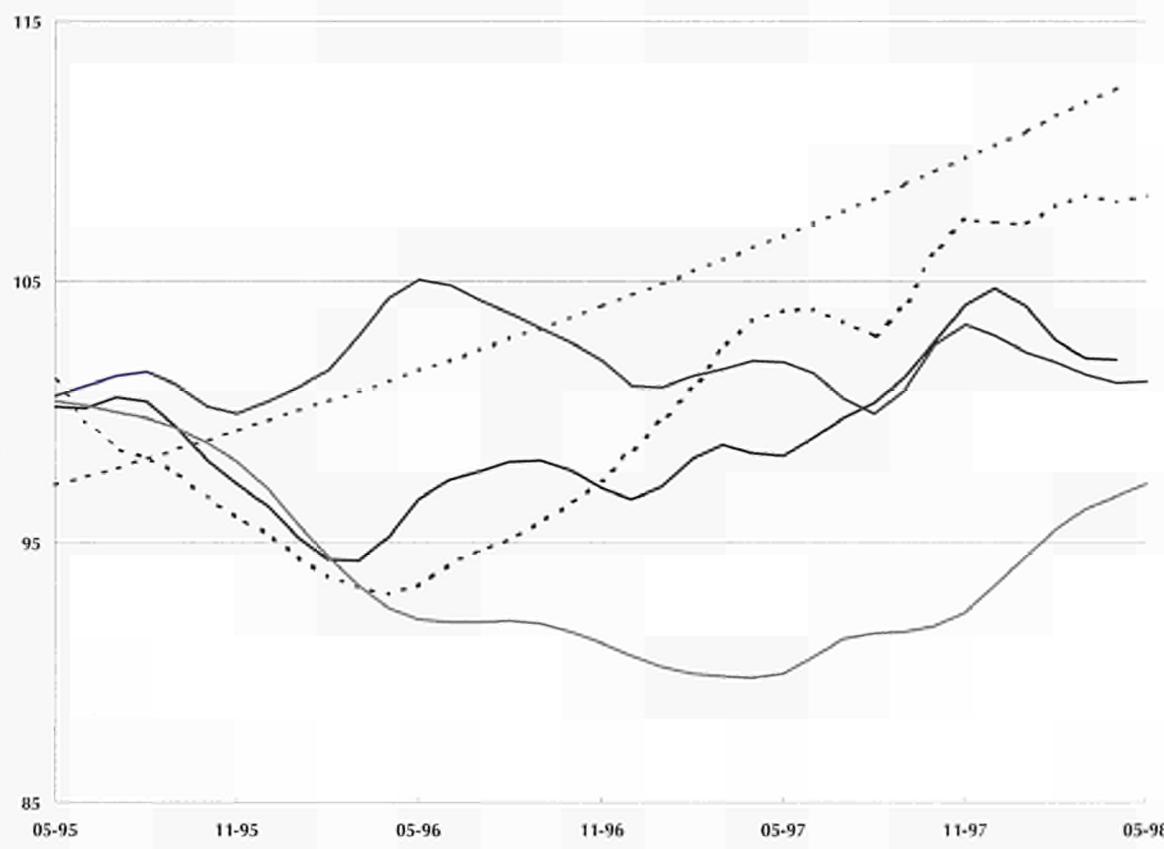


Figure 4.11

EU-15 production index for individual groups, trend cycle (1995 = 100)



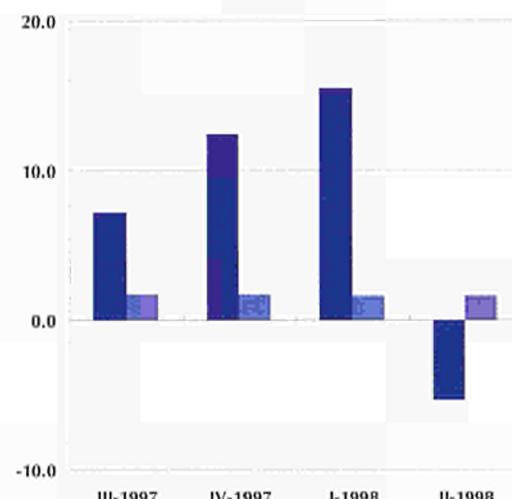
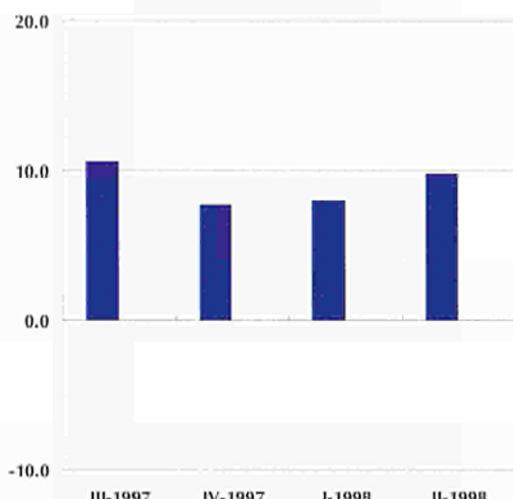
Production & producer price indices

Figure 4.12

Belgique / België

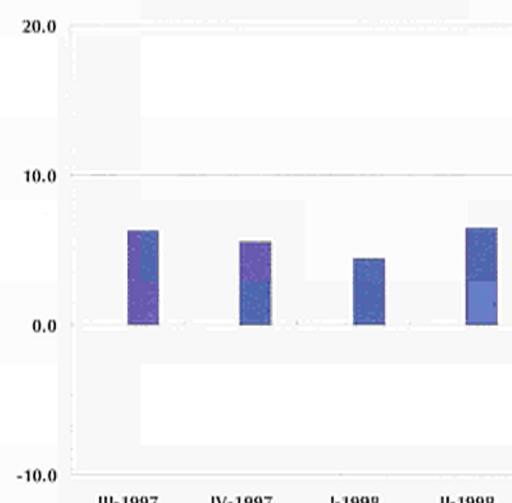
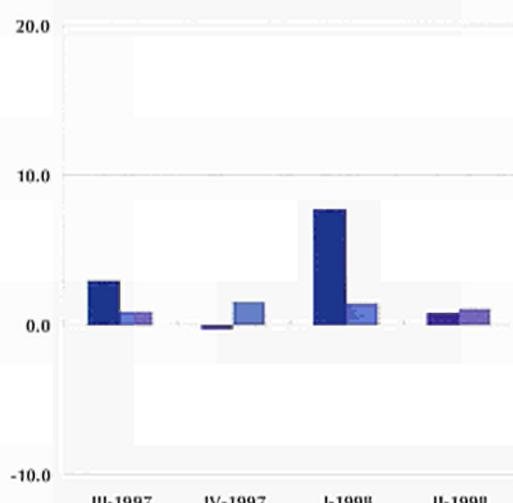
Danmark

Production and
producer price
indices: growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year
(%)



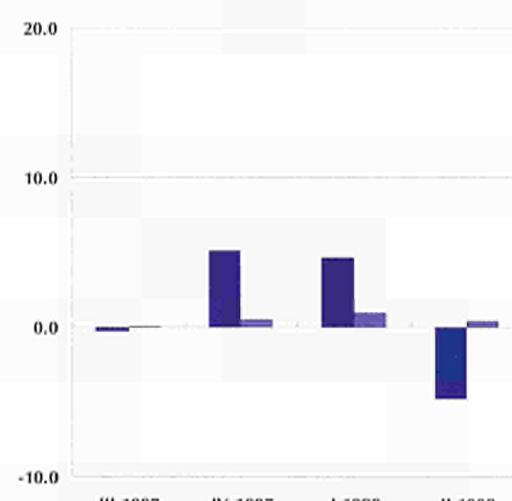
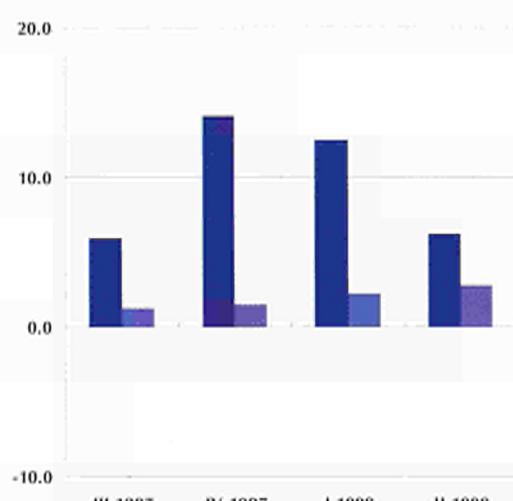
Deutschland

Ellada



España

France



■ Production index

■ Producer price index

Source :

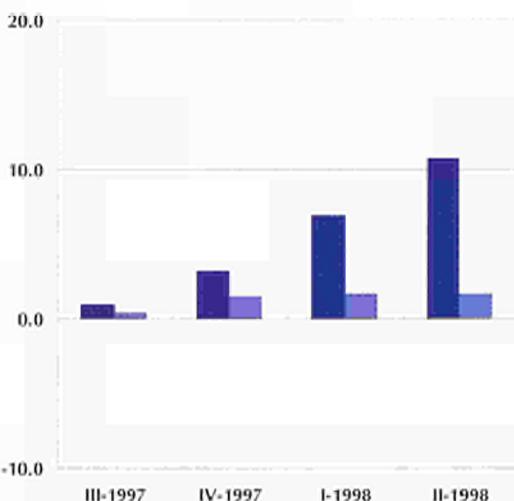
Figure 4.12

Production and producer price indices: growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year (%)

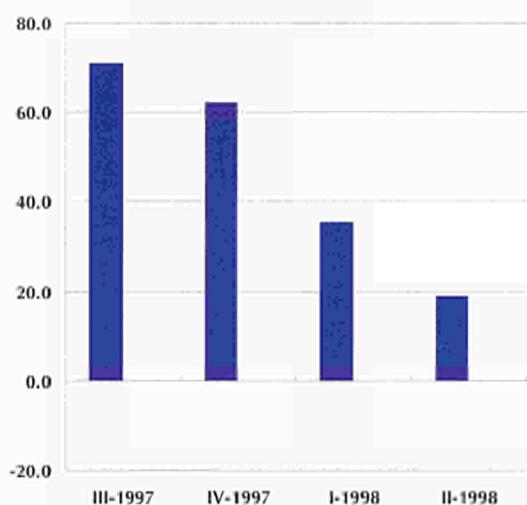
Ireland

Not available

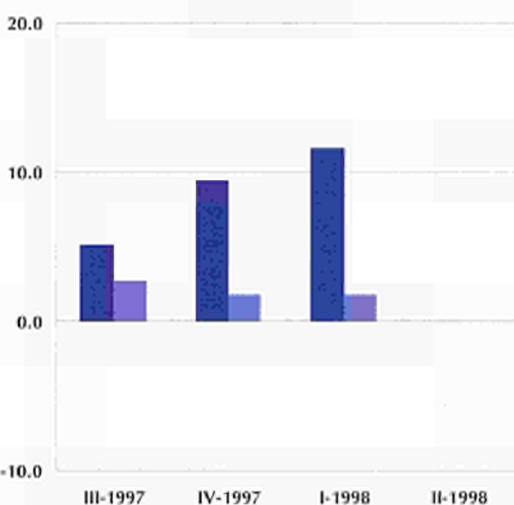
Italia



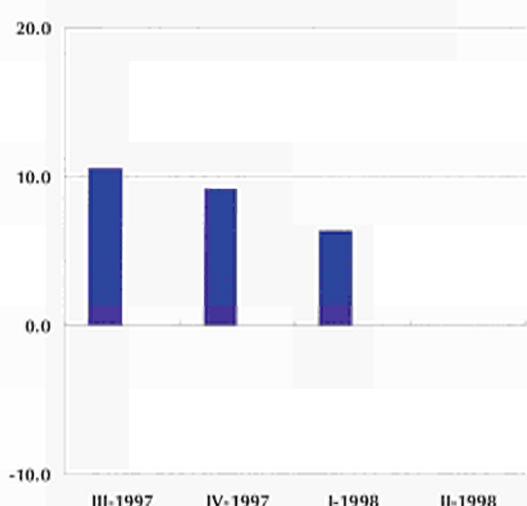
Luxembourg



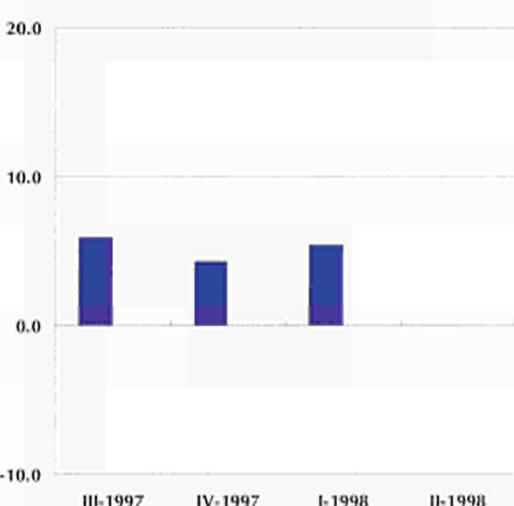
Nederland



Österreich



Portugal



Production index

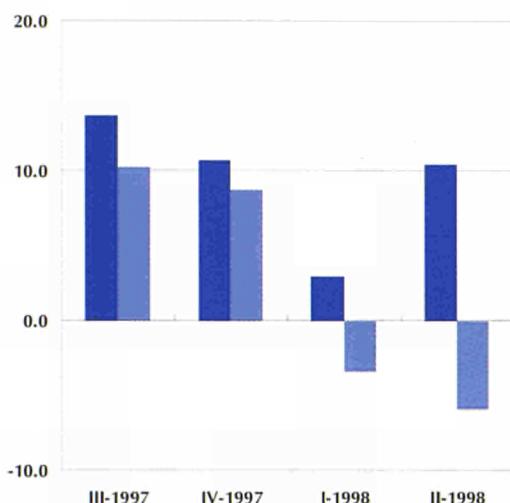
Producer price index

Source: eurostat

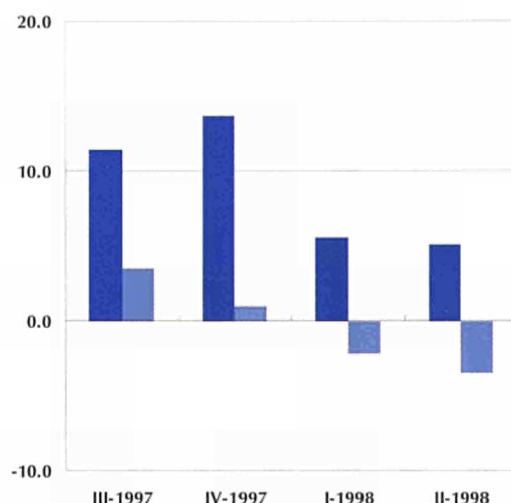
Production & producer price indices

Figure 4.12

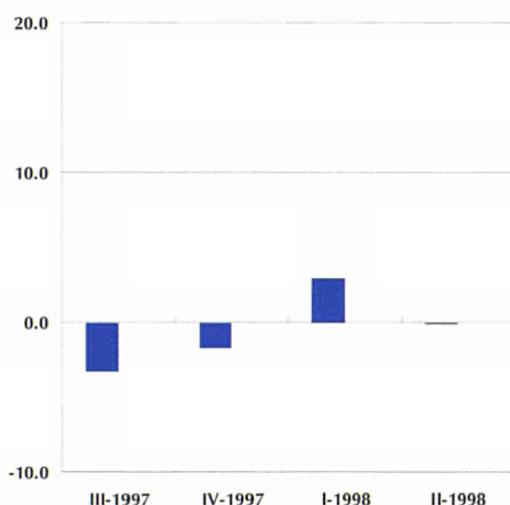
Suomi / Finland



Sverige



United Kingdom



Production and
producer price
indices: growth rate,
three months
compared to the
same three months of
the previous year
(%)

■ Production index

■ Producer price index

Further information - production and producer price indices:

The indices of production are adjusted in two stages. Firstly, account is taken of the variation in the number of working days in the month. The national Statistical Offices provide Eurostat with these series (except Denmark, France and Spain). Secondly, for EU-15 and most of the Member States a correction is made using seasonal adjustment with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V. Gomez. For France, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the indices are adjusted by the national statistical offices themselves. For Germany, the trend and seasonally adjusted figures are calculated by the German NSO.

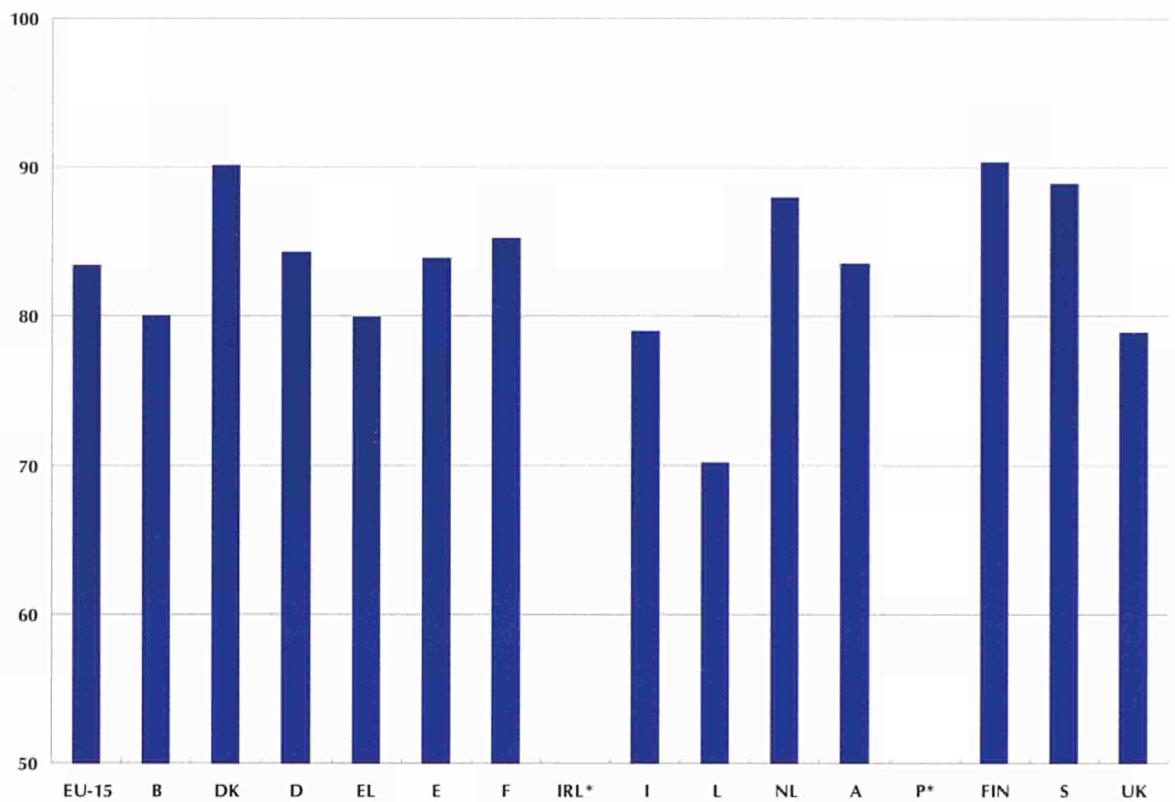
The index of producer prices shows (in the national currency of the Member State in question) changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on the domestic market. Since we deal with producer prices, imports are not included in these price indices. Producer price indices are not seasonally adjusted.

Full methodological notes may be found on page 89.

Source:

Figure 4.13

Capacity utilisation rates,
07-98
(%)



Source : DG II,
Business Survey

Table 4.8

Capacity
utilisation rates
(%)

Growth rate:
latest month, t / t-12 (%)

	10-97	01-98	04-98	07-98
EU-15	1.9	82.3	81.8	83.5
B	-4.9	80.7	84.0	80.1
DK	0.2	91.0	90.5	90.2
D	-0.7	85.9	82.0	84.4
EL	-6.0	84.2	86.0	80.0
E	9.1	77.4	80.0	84.0
F	4.5	81.2	81.3	85.3
IRL	-0.8	85.4	85.7	:
I	8.2	73.7	77.0	79.1
L	-12.5	85.1	75.2	70.2
NL	-1.8	89.0	87.0	88.0
A	-2.0	85.2	82.0	83.6
P	9.8	83.0	85.4	:
FIN	-0.7	90.0	89.0	90.4
S	3.5	:	86.0	89.0
UK	-6.2	85.3	84.1	79.0

Source : DG II,
Business Survey

Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

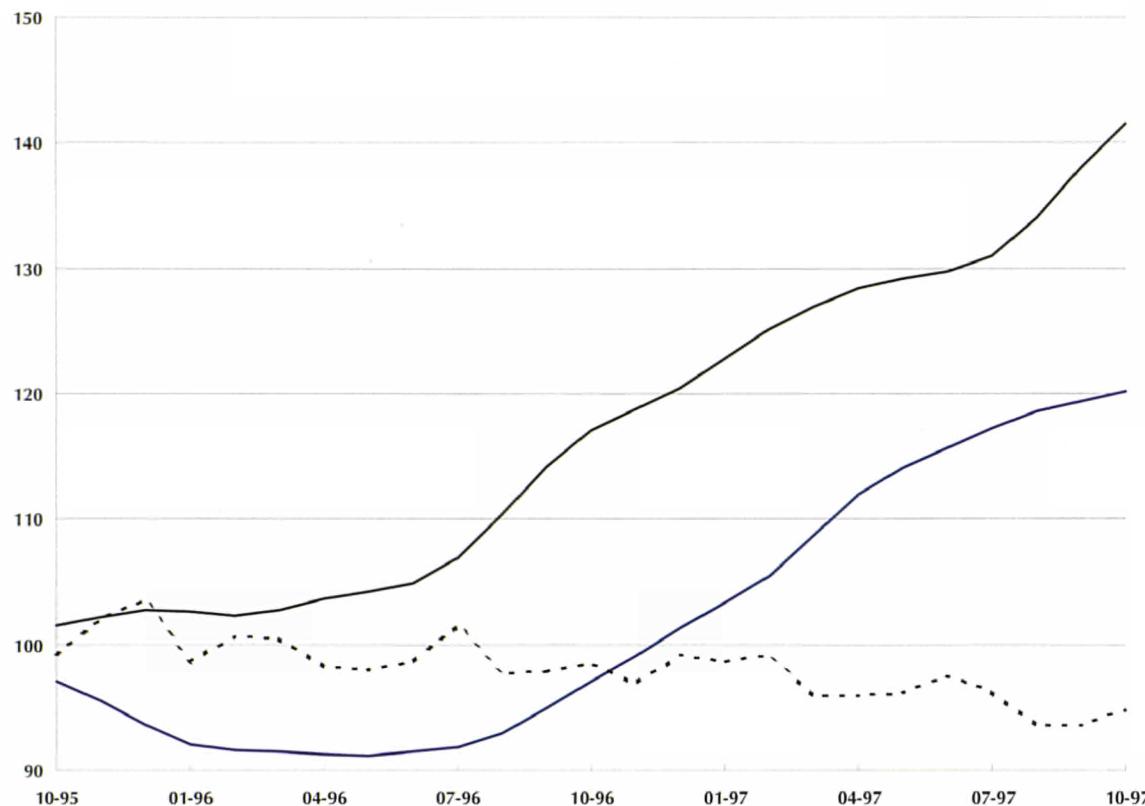


Figure 4.14

EU-15 foreign trade indices in ECU terms (1995 = 100)

— Export value index
— Import value index
- - - Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

	Latest 3 months available		Exports		Imports		Terms of trade
	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	Value	Volume	
EU-15	08-97 ⇌ 10-97		6.0	4.1	3.2	0.9	-2.7
B / L	09-97 ⇌ 11-97		-5.9	-1.5	-4.2	-3.3	-1.8
DK	09-97 ⇌ 11-97		2.8	1.5	0.0	-1.1	-0.6
D	07-97 ⇌ 09-97		11.0	11.9	6.1	2.3	-6.7
EL	07-97 ⇌ 09-97		3.9	3.0	0.9	-4.1	-5.1
E	09-97 ⇌ 11-97		4.0	3.1	6.5	3.7	-0.4
F	09-97 ⇌ 11-97		1.0	0.8	-0.4	0.2	-2.2
IRL	08-97 ⇌ 10-97		-2.3	-5.6	0.3	-3.4	9.4
I	08-97 ⇌ 10-97		3.2	1.4	4.6	1.6	-0.7
NL	08-97 ⇌ 10-97		0.6	-2.2	-1.4	-7.3	5.3
A	⇒		:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97 ⇌ 10-97		2.9	0.7	8.1	4.1	-8.8
FIN	⇒		:	:	:	:	:
S	⇒		:	:	:	:	:
UK	09-97 ⇌ 11-97		0.1	3.2	-2.4	-1.2	3.7

Table 4.9

Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): growth rate, three months compared to the previous three months (%)

Source: eurostat

Figure 4.15

Foreign trade indices in ECU terms:
growth rate, three months compared to the same three months of the previous year, 08-97 to 10-97 (%)

Export value ■
Import value □

Source:  eurostat

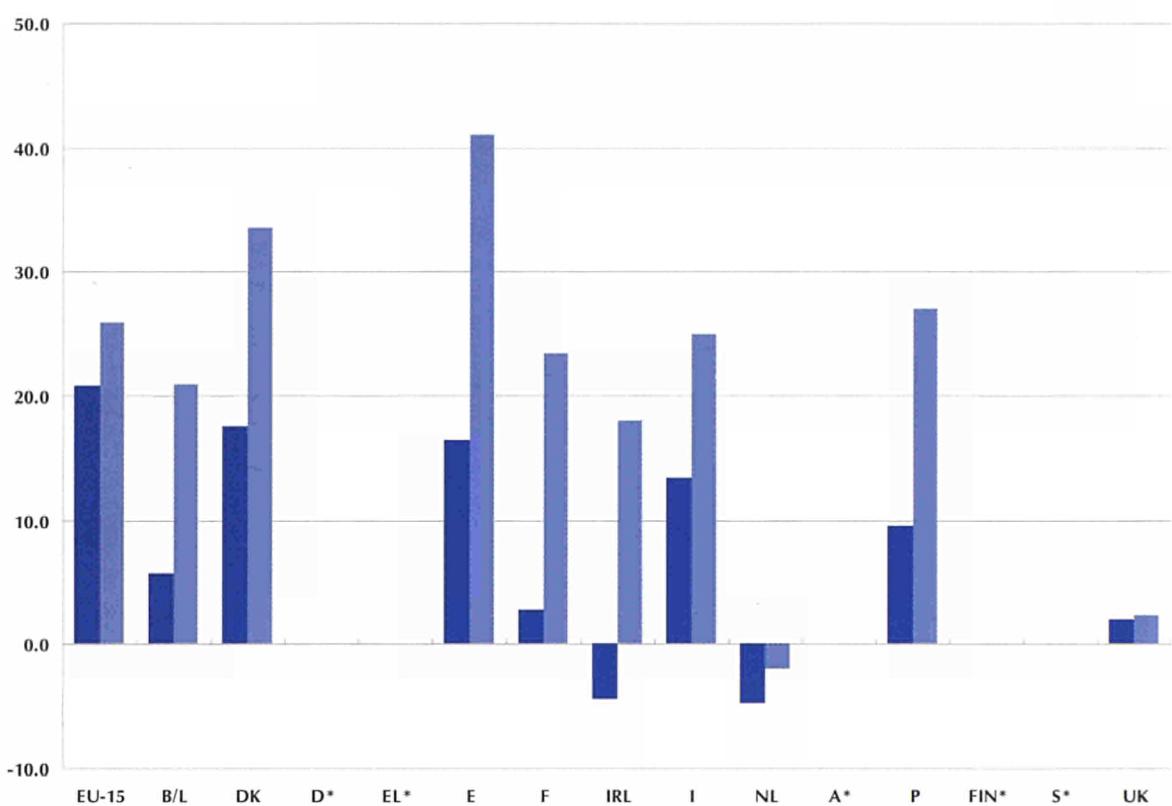


Table 4.10

Foreign trade indices (value indices are in ECU terms): growth rates (%)

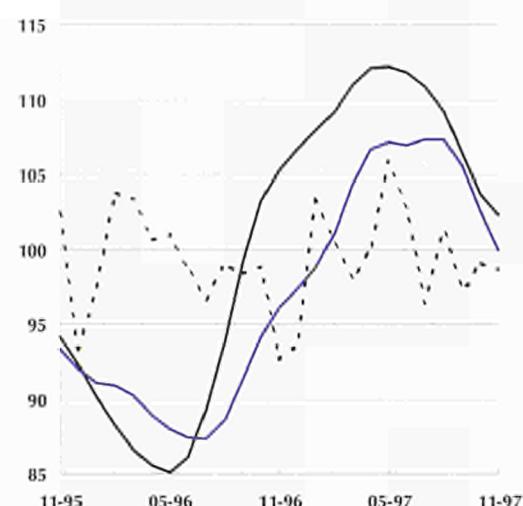
Source:  eurostat

	Latest 3 months available			Exports	Imports	Terms of trade		
				Value	Volume			
EU-15	08-97	⇒	10-97	20.8	12.6	25.9	12.5	-4.1
B/L	09-97	⇒	11-97	-3.8	-13.7	6.5	-2.9	1.8
DK	09-97	⇒	11-97	24.9	11.0	26.8	12.2	-0.2
D	07-97	⇒	09-97	28.6	28.8	22.6	12.0	-8.8
EL	07-97	⇒	09-97	-25.0	-28.3	17.3	-2.7	-12.3
E	09-97	⇒	11-97	16.4	9.4	40.5	24.6	-5.5
F	09-97	⇒	11-97	5.3	2.2	20.3	11.1	-4.6
IRL	08-97	⇒	10-97	-4.5	-16.8	18.0	-1.1	-4.6
I	08-97	⇒	10-97	13.4	6.7	25.0	17.4	0.2
NL	08-97	⇒	10-97	-4.8	-13.9	-2.0	-16.0	-5.5
A		⇒		:	:	:	:	:
P	08-97	⇒	10-97	9.5	-0.1	27.0	12.7	-2.3
FIN		⇒		:	:	:	:	:
S		⇒		:	:	:	:	:
UK	09-97	⇒	11-97	4.2	22.7	1.9	9.8	-8.4

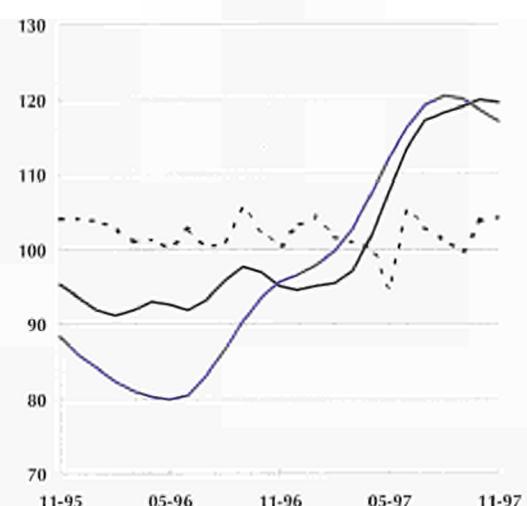
Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

Figure 4.16

Belgique / België, Luxembourg

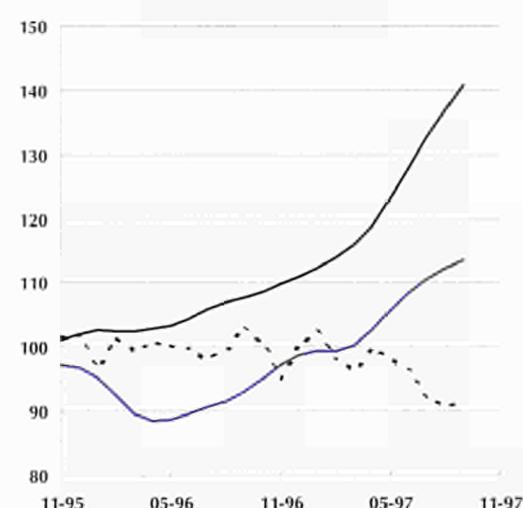


Danmark

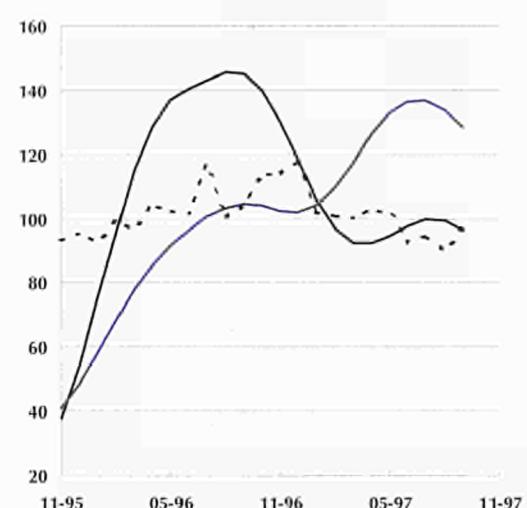


Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

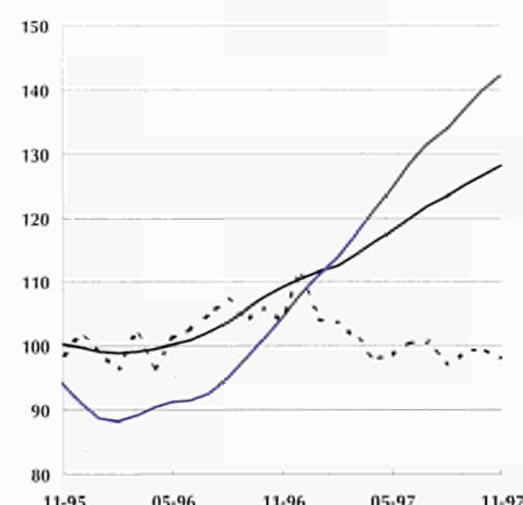
Deutschland



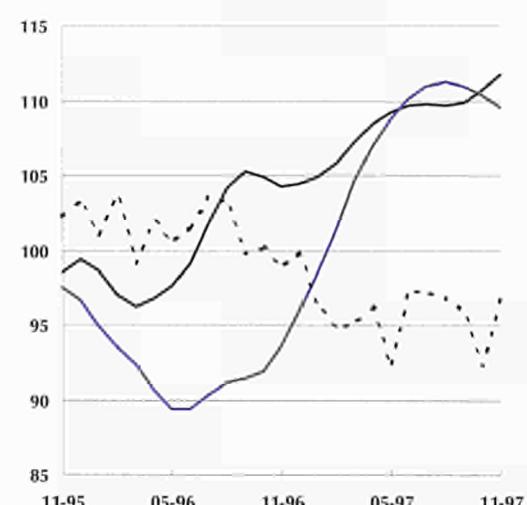
Ellada



España



France



- Export value index
- Import value index
- - - Terms of trade

Source: eurostat

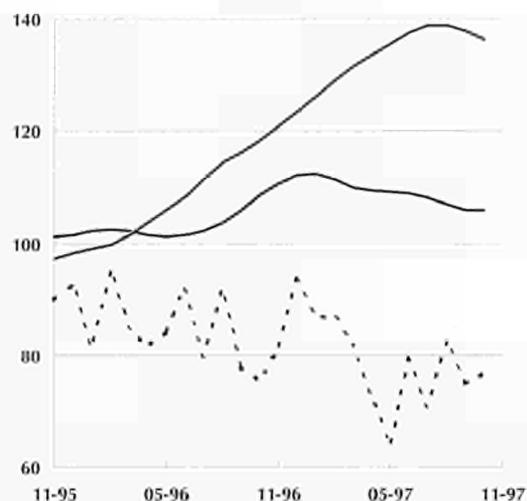
Figure 4.16

Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

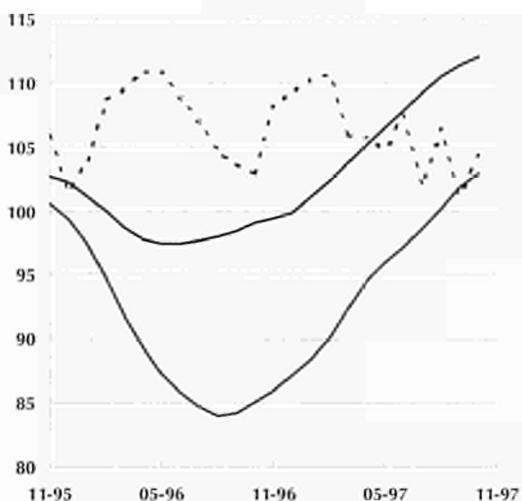
Export value index ———
Import value index ————
Terms of trade -----

Source:  eurostat

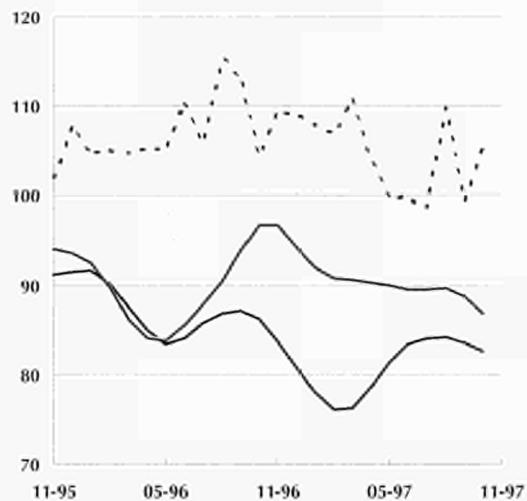
Ireland



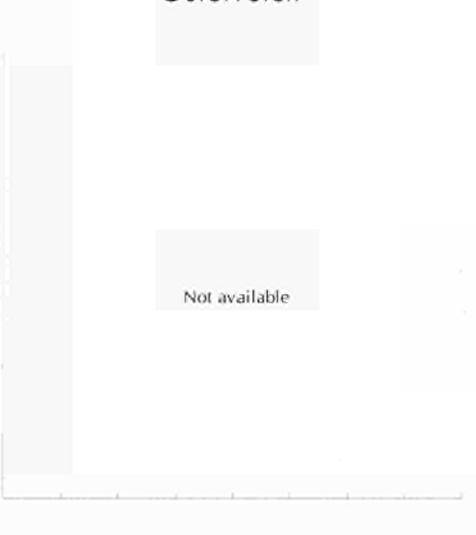
Italia



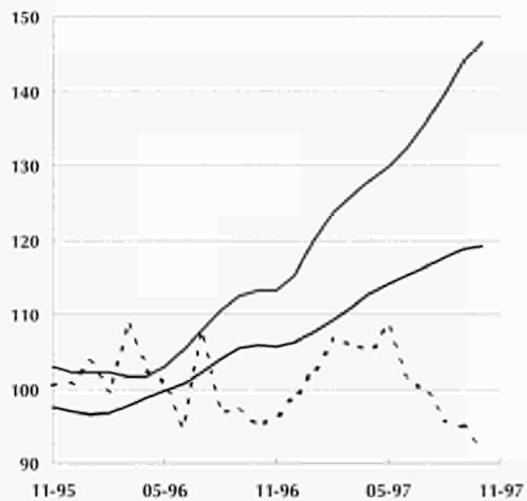
Nederland



Österreich



Portugal

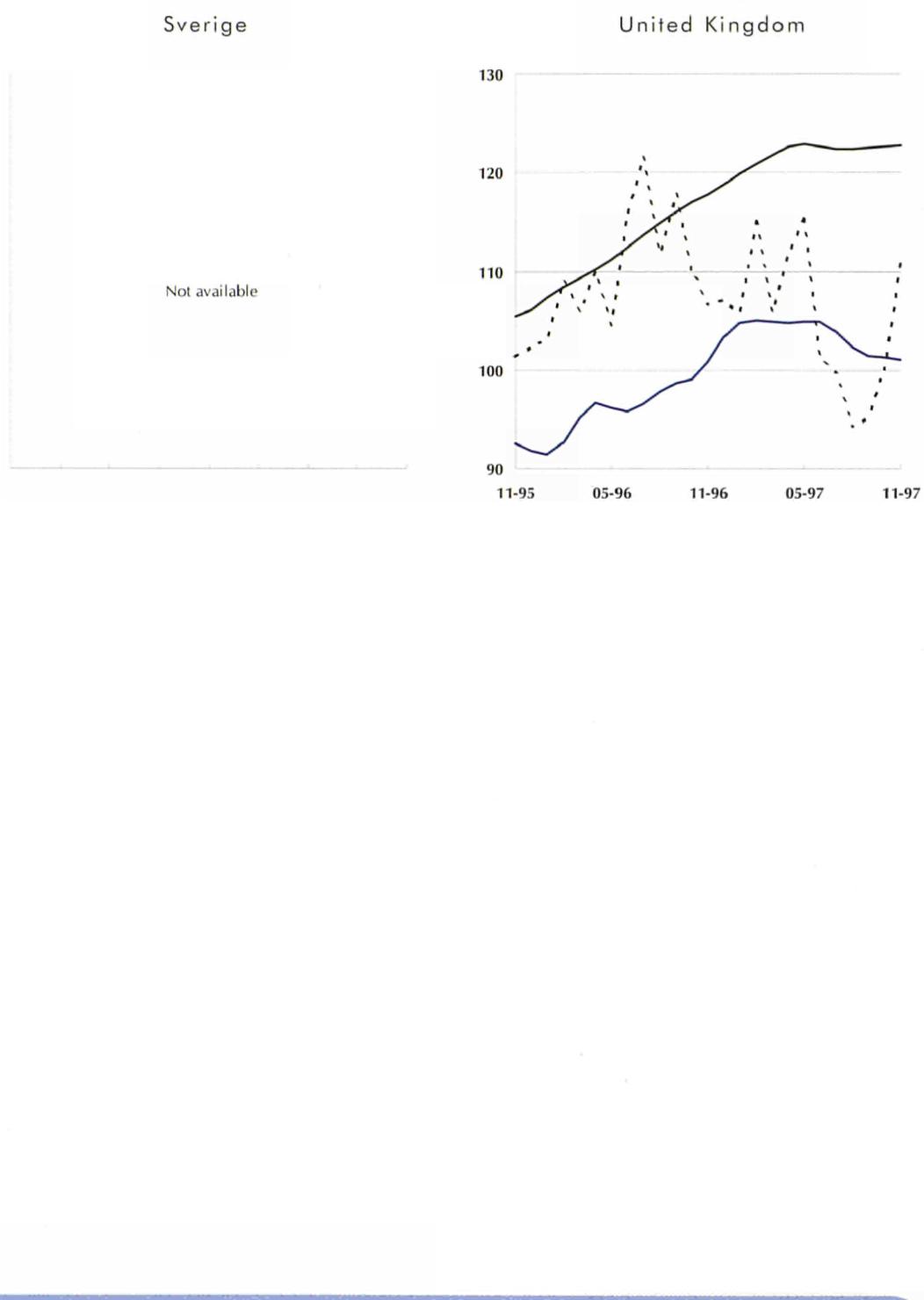


Suomi / Finland



Foreign trade indices (trend cycle)

Figure 4.16



Foreign trade indices
in ECU terms
(1995 = 100)

Further information - foreign trade indices:

For the indices of imports and exports, foreign trade data of industrial products (following the nomenclature of the Harmonised System) were grouped according to the industrial NACE Rev. 1 activity to which they belong. This grouping of products causes inevitably certain inaccuracies which can reduce the reliability of these foreign trade series. The indices for EU-15 refer only to extra-Union trade, the indices for Member States reflect also intra-Union trade.

For more extensive details of the methodology of short-term indicators please refer to the Eurostat publication "Methodology of Industrial Short-term Indicators" - CA-97-96-079-EN-C. Full methodological notes for this publication may be found on page 89.

Source:

5.

Data diskette



The files on the diskette are broken down by industrial branch. Each file contains all countries and indicators for a particular industry. The files have the following format: country, indicator, branch, periodicity, datatype, flag, data,
e.g. EF;PROD;B0020;M;S;*:85.14164...

Step by step guide to using the data on the diskette:

1. Copy the file MPEI1.EXE (English number format) or MPEI2.EXE (continental European number format) from the diskette to a directory on your hard disk (usually C:\....).
2. If in WINDOWS, switch to the File Manager and double-click on the file. The files will self-extract themselves (into the directory from which the program is run). You may need to perform WINDOW - REFRESH <F5> to see the files once the procedure has finished.
3. If in DOS move to the directory you placed the file in (for example, C:\DATA>) and then type the name of the

file (MPEI1.EXE or MPEI2.EXE) and press <ENTER>, the files will self-extract and be placed in the same directory as the .EXE file.

4. The files are simple, plain text files, with the .TXT extension. The files are semi-colon separated (;) and use speech marks as a delimiter.
5. It should be easy to import/open the data-files into any standard spreadsheet or database package.
6. There is a file for each branch available at the NACE 2-digit level, codes are given in the README.TXT file supplied on the diskette.
7. Furthermore, there are two files called STRUCT1.EXE (English number format) and STRUCT2.EXE (continental European number format) with the structural data, for the industry covered in section 4 of the publication. It is also detailed in the README.TXT file.
If you would like to receive the data by e-mail as soon as it is extracted, please send a message to Giuseppe Panbianco (giuseppe.panbianco@eurostat.cec.be) requesting the data.

Divisions:

B0020	Total Industry excluding Construction
B0040	Intermediate Goods Industry
B0050	Capital Goods Industry
B0060	Durable Consumer Goods Industry
B0070	Non-Durable Consumer Goods Industry
B1000	Mining of Coal and Lignite; Extraction of Peat
B1100	Extraction of Crude Petroleum and Natural Gas; Service Activities Incidental to Oil and Gas Extraction, excluding Surveying
B1200	Mining of Uranium and Thorium Ores
B1500	Food and Drink Industry
B1600	Tobacco
B1700	Manufacture of Textiles
B1800	Clothing Industry
B1900	Leather and Shoe Industry
B2000	Manufacture of Wood and Products of Wood
B2100	Paper Industry
B2200	Publishing, Printing, Reproduction of Recorded Media
B2300	Manufacture of Coke, Refined Petroleum Products, Nuclear Fuel

B2400	Chemical Industry
B2500	Manufacture of Rubber and Plastic Products
B2600	Manufacture of other Non-Metallic Mineral Products
B2700	Manufacture of Basic Metals
B2800	Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products
B2900	Mechanical Engineering
B3000	Manufacture of Office Machinery, Computers
B3100	Manufacture of Electrical Machinery
B3200	Manufacture of Radio, TV and Communication Equipment
B3300	Manufacture of Medical, Precision and Optical Instruments
B3400	Manufacture of Motor Vehicles
B3500	Manufacture of Other Transport Equipment
B3600	Manufacture of Furniture; Manufacturing not elsewhere classified
B4000	Electricity, Gas, Steam and Hot Water Supply
B4500	Construction

6.

Industry classification NACE Rev. 1, definitions of main industrial groupings	90
Statistical sources sources and methods used for short-term indicators and structural data; notes on series used and calculation methods	90
Signs and abbreviations specific to use in this publication	91

Industry classification system

The economic activities used in this publication are defined in the revised Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities, NACE Rev. 1. This classification was laid down in a Council Regulation in 1990 (OJ L293 24th October 1990). It should be noted that many series before 1990 and a large amount of annual data even between 1990 and now had to be converted from the old classification NACE 1970. This estimation process can reduce the reliability of the data. Data have been based on 1995 = 100, using weights from the annual surveys of 1995.

Main industrial groupings that are used in Section 2 of this publication have the following definitions in terms of NACE Rev. 1.

Total industry

C + D + E,
i.e. mining, manufacturing and energy supply

Intermediate goods industries

13.1, 13.2, 14.1-14.5, 15.6, 15.7, 17.1-17.3,
20.1-20.5, 21.1, 21.2, 24.1-24.3, 24.6, 24.7,
25.1, 25.2, 26.1-26.8, 27.1-27.5, 28.4-28.7,
31.2-31.6, 32.1, 34.3, 37.1, 37.2

Capital goods industries

28.1-28.3, 29.1-29.6, 30.0, 31.1, 32.2, 33.1-33.3, 34.1,
34.2, 35.1-35.3

Durable consumer goods industries

29.7, 32.3, 33.4, 33.5, 35.4, 35.5, 36.1-36.3

Non-durable consumer goods industries

15.1-15.5, 15.8-16.0, 17.4-17.7, 18.1-18.3, 19.1-19.3,
22.1-22.3, 24.4, 24.5, 36.4-36.6

If Member States dispose of more detailed data series at the 4 digit level of NACE Rev. 1, a more elaborate definition at this level of disaggregation is used.

Statistical sources

Most of the data in this publication is harmonised data supplied to Eurostat by the EU Member States. The exceptions are:

- 1) the capacity utilisation series which come from the business surveys carried out on behalf of the Directorate General for Economic Affairs of the Commission (DG II);
- 2) the estimates for the latest years' structural data, which are made by Eurostat;
- 3) the data for the USA and Japan, which are supplied by the OECD.

Every effort has been made to include data for the EU-15 Member States. The data from 1991 onwards are on a post-unification basis and include East-Germany.

Short term indicators

The index of production measures changes in the volume of the gross value added created by industry, the branch indices being aggregated by means of a system of weighting according to gross value added at factor cost. The indices are adjusted to take account of the varying number of working days in the month.

The index of producer prices shows (in national currencies) the changes in the ex-works selling prices of all products sold on domestic markets of the various countries. The EU indices refer to overall weighted price changes. There are not yet indices for Austria. No seasonal adjustment is carried out on these indices.

Sometimes statistics are collected at the product level. This may be the case for prices, production, imports and exports. Thus, data is not strictly speaking following an activity classification (NACE Rev. 1) but a product classification (Classification of Products by Activity "CPA"). CPA, was laid down in a Council Regulation in 1993. It is a six digit classification which for the 2-digit, 3-digit and 4-digit level is identical to NACE Rev. 1 in its coding.

For the indices of imports and exports, external trade data of 9,000 industrial products were grouped according to the industrial NACE Rev. 1 activity to which they belong. This grouping can cause certain inaccuracies in the data, which may reduce the reliability of foreign trade series.

Statistical sources, signs & abbreviations

The value indices are all in ECU terms. The indices for the EU refer only to extra-Union trade, the indices for Member States reflect also intra-Union trade.

For further details of the methodology employed, please refer to the Eurostat publication "Methodology of Industrial Short-term Indicators" CA-97-96-079-EN-C.

Seasonal adjustment

All series, except prices and capacity utilisation, are seasonally adjusted with TRAMO / SEATS, a method developed by Professor Maravall and V. Gomez. For France, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom the indices are seasonally adjusted by the national statistical office. For Germany, the trend and seasonally adjusted figures for the production index are calculated by the national statistical office. Otherwise, Eurostat calculates the trend cycle, i.e. seasonally adjusted series, where additionally the irregular fluctuations have been excluded (using the program TRAMO / SEATS).

Growth rates

The changes which are given in the tables and graphs show three different growth rates. The first being for the latest three months data compared to the previous three months data ($t/t-1$) - here the trend cycle is used. The second growth rate is for the latest three months data compared to the same three months of the previous year ($t/t-4$) - here a series only adjusted for the number of working days is used. The third is a year on year growth rate for a particular month ($t/t-12$) - here gross data for prices is used. Estimates are sometimes made to create a EU-15 or EUR-11 total.

Graphs

The line graphs show the trend cycle. The bar graphs show the annual growth of the index, using a working day adjusted series (where available). Growth rates are either one month compared to the same month of the previous year or three months compared to the same three months of the previous year. For Member States where just one month is missing (and not more), this missing value is estimated in order to bring the growth rate for all Member States up to the same date. This estimation is indicated by ** in the graph.

Structural data

Data for structural statistics are in current ECU unless otherwise stated. Data for value added at factor cost, production, labour costs and employment come from annual enquiries conducted by Member States involving all enterprises with 20 or more employees. The exceptions to this are Spain (local units of all sizes), Portugal (enterprises with 10 or more employees) and Finland (establishments employing 5 or more persons). The employment data relates to the number of persons employed, excluding home workers.

Estimates are not supplied to Eurostat by Member States for the smaller firms not covered by the enquiries, and hence the figures under-report the actual values. In certain industries this may be a serious problem in the interpretation of series, especially when comparing with other industries.

Gaps in the data have been filled by estimates made by Eurostat. Thus, EU-15 and EUR-11 totals often contain estimates for missing countries. Estimates are shown in bold. Attention should be drawn to the fact that the data has switched to the NACE Rev. 1 classification, this may result in revisions of data being made in the medium-term.

Annual foreign trade data comes from the COMEXT database. Statistical régime 4 (total trade) is used.

Signs and abbreviations

EUR-11	Monetary union participating countries
B / L	Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union
ECU	European currency unit
TRIAD	EU-15, Japan and the USA
Billion	thousand million
*	not available (in graphs)
:	not available (in tables)
**	estimation (in graphs)
data in bold	estimation (in tables)
1995 = 100	reference year

For more information on methodology, please contact Berthold Feldmann - tel: (352) 4301 34401 or e-mail: berthold.feldmann@eurostat.cec.be

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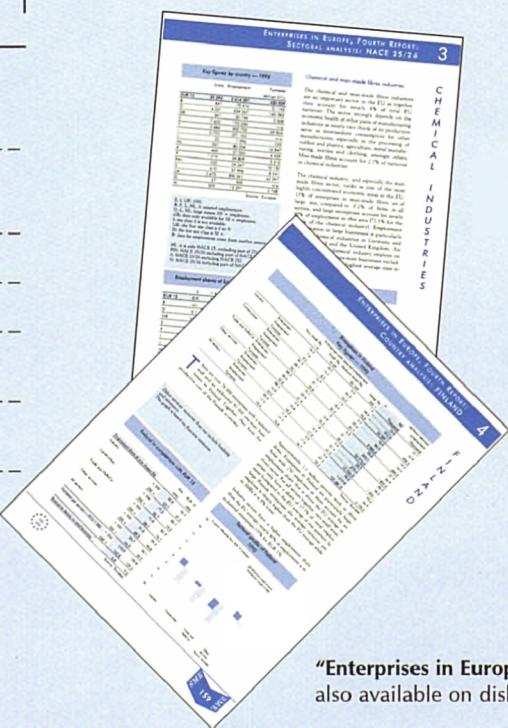
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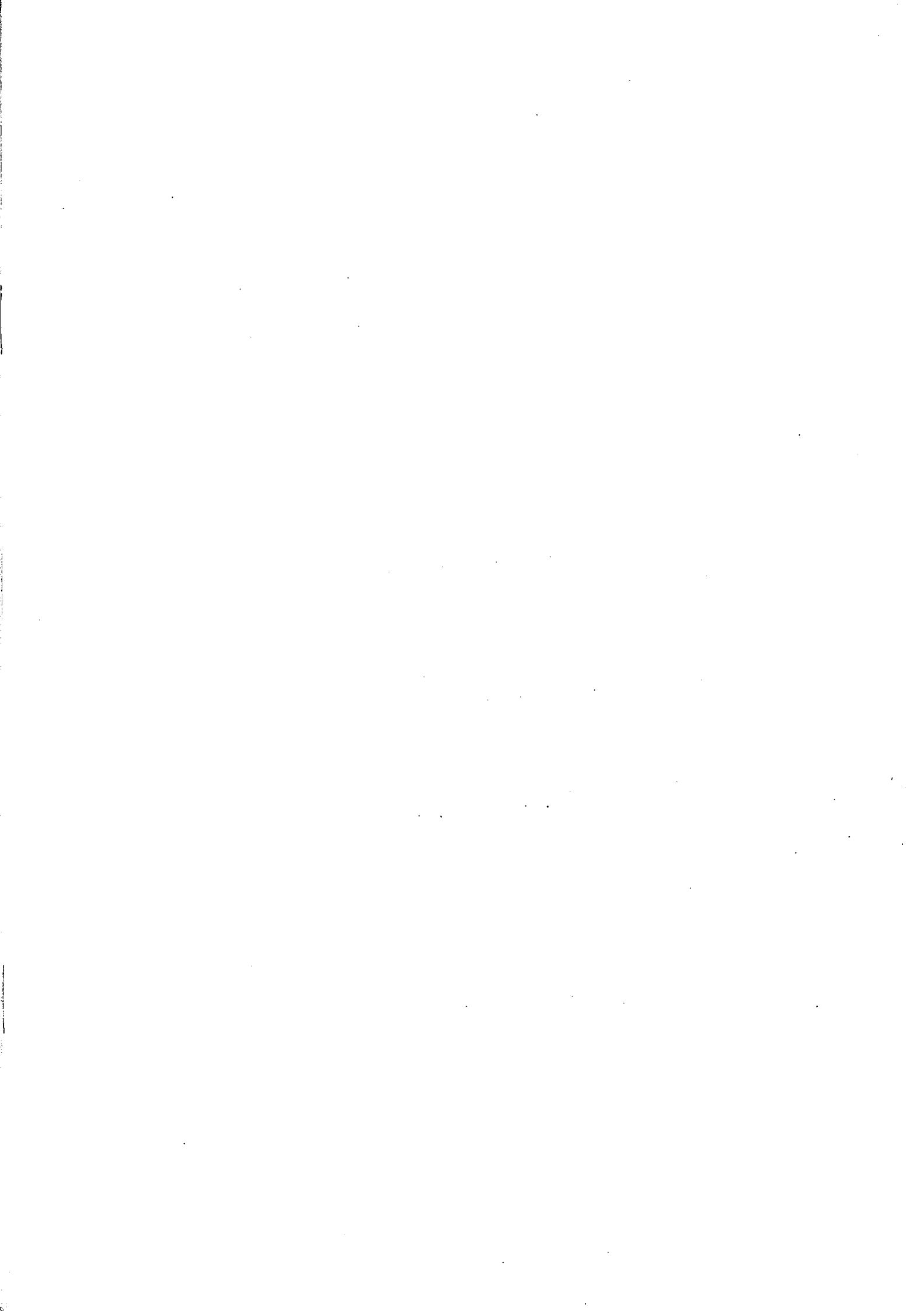
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