

December 2011 compared with November 2011

Volume of retail trade down by 0.4% in euro area

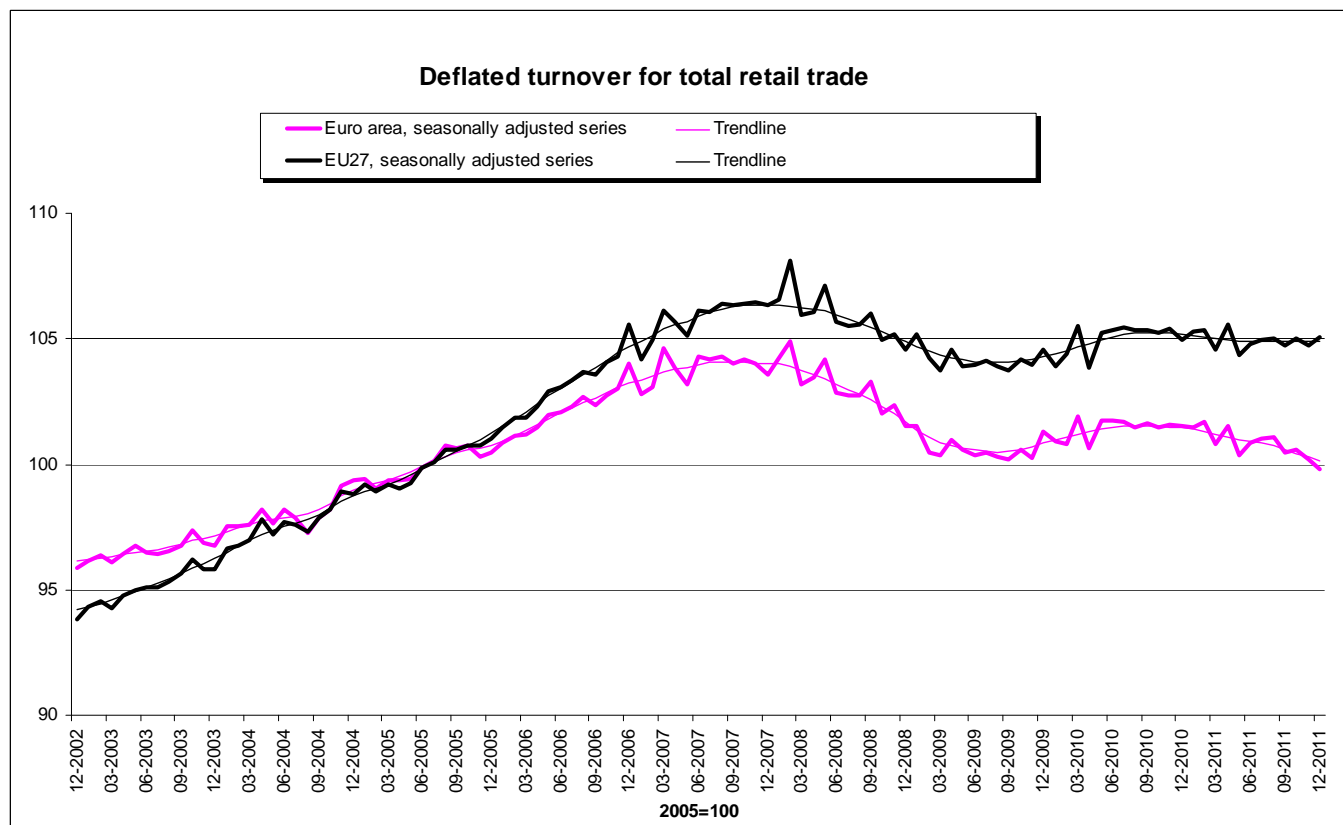
Up by 0.3% in EU27

In December 2011, compared with November 2011, the volume of retail trade¹ fell by 0.4% in the **euro area**² (EA17), while it rose by 0.3% in the **EU27**². In November³ retail trade decreased by 0.4% and 0.2% respectively.

In December 2011⁴, compared with December 2010, the retail sales index decreased by 1.6% in the **euro area** and grew by 0.1% in the **EU27**.

The average volume of retail trade index for 2011, compared with 2010, fell by 0.6% in the **euro area** and by 0.1% in the **EU27**.

These first estimates come from **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.



Monthly comparison

In December 2011, compared with November 2011, "Food, drinks and tobacco" fell by 0.2% in the **euro area** and rose by 0.3% in the **EU27**. The non food sector decreased by 0.1% in the **euro area** and grew by 0.3% in the **EU27**.

Among the Member States for which data are available, total retail trade fell in eleven, remained unchanged in **Ireland** and **Sweden** and rose in eight Member States. The largest decreases were observed in **Malta** and **Slovenia** (both -3.1%) and **Latvia** (-2.0%), and the highest increases in **Portugal** (+2.2%), **Belgium** (+1.5%) and **Poland** (+0.7%).

Annual comparison

In December 2011, compared with December 2010, "Food, drinks and tobacco" fell by 1.3% in the **euro area** and by 0.6% in the **EU27**. The non food sector decreased by 1.5% in the **euro area**, but rose by 0.8% in the **EU27**.

Among the Member States for which data are available, total retail trade fell in ten and rose in eleven. The largest decreases were observed in **Portugal** (-8.8%), **Spain** (-5.3%) and **Slovakia** (-3.3%), and the highest increases in **Lithuania** (+13.0%), **Latvia** (+7.1%) and the **United Kingdom** (+6.3%).

1. Based on data adjusted for working days and seasonal effects.
The seasonally adjusted euro area and EU series are calculated by aggregating the working day adjusted series from individual Member States and performing an adjustment for seasonal effects on these series. Therefore the European seasonally adjusted figures for total retail trade are based directly on the working day adjusted series coming from the Member States and **not on an aggregation of the seasonally adjusted indices from the Member States**. The euro area and EU seasonally adjusted growth rates might differ from the weighted growth rates of the individual Member States. This procedure also implies that the aggregation of total retail trade is not directly based on the published details (food, non-food, fuel).
The weights of the Member States in the EU and euro area aggregates can be found at:
http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/dsis/ebt/library?l=/sts_weights_public/weights_for_2000&vm=detailed&sb=Title
See file: EU_EA17_NEWS_RELEASE_WEIGHTINGS_2005_nace2
More detailed data can be found in the short-term statistics database on the Eurostat website:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/short_term_business_statistics/data/database
2. The euro area (EA17) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.
The EU27 includes Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), the Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE) and the United Kingdom (UK).
3. Data of previous months have been revised compared to those issued in the News Release 4/2012 of 6 January 2012. The monthly growth rates for November 2011 have been revised from -0.8% to -0.4% in the EA17 and from -0.6% to -0.2% in the EU27. The annual growth rates have been revised from -2.5% to -1.5% in the EA17 and from -1.3% to -0.7% in the EU27.
4. Based on data adjusted for working days.

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

Tim ALLEN
Tel: +352-4301-33 444
eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

For further information on data:

Anastassios GIANNOPLIDIS
Tel: +352-4301-37 756
anastassios.giannoplidis@ec.europa.eu

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Volume of retail trade
% change compared with the previous month*

	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11
EA17						
Total retail trade	0.2	0.0	-0.6	0.1	-0.4	-0.4
Food, drinks, tobacco	-0.7	0.3	0.1	0.1	-0.8	-0.2
Non food products (except automotive fuel), of which:	0.5	-0.2	-0.8	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
Textiles, clothing, footwear	1.5	-1.5	-4.2	2.0	-0.4	:
Electrical goods and furniture	1.3	-0.7	0.0	0.1	-0.7	:
Computer equipment, books and other	0.6	0.7	-1.0	0.8	-0.6	:
Pharmaceutical and medical goods	0.2	0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.1	:
Mail orders and internet	3.2	-0.7	-0.4	-0.3	0.0	:
Automotive fuel in specialised stores	-0.5	1.1	-0.8	-1.2	-0.3	:
EU27						
Total retail trade	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	0.3
Food, drinks, tobacco	-0.5	0.5	0.2	0.0	-0.6	0.3
Non food products (except automotive fuel), of which:	0.6	-0.1	-0.8	0.6	0.0	0.3
Textiles, clothing, footwear	1.3	-1.4	-6.3	2.9	0.7	:
Electrical goods and furniture	0.9	-0.3	0.1	0.1	-0.3	:
Computer equipment, books and other	0.2	0.6	-0.5	1.4	-0.9	:
Pharmaceutical and medical goods	0.2	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.5	:
Mail orders and internet	1.8	0.2	0.4	-0.5	3.3	:
Automotive fuel in specialised stores	0.3	0.6	-0.7	-0.9	0.1	:

	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11
EA17	0.2	0.0	-0.6	0.1	-0.4	-0.4
EU27	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.3	-0.2	0.3
Belgium	1.0	-0.3	-0.5	0.6	0.1	1.5
Bulgaria	-0.8	-0.1	-0.9	-0.8	0.7	0.3
Czech Republic	-0.2	0.5	-0.6	0.1	0.1	c
Denmark	-1.7	1.4	-0.1	-2.1	1.8	0.4
Germany	0.3	-0.6	0.9	0.0	-1.0	-1.4
Estonia	1.4	0.0	-0.3	-0.6	1.2	0.5
Ireland	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.3	1.7	0.0
Greece	2.1	-0.1	-2.8	-2.6	-0.3	c
Spain	0.4	0.1	-1.6	-1.0	-0.8	-0.8
France	0.3	0.9	-0.4	0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Italy	0.0	-0.2	-0.6	0.1	-0.4	c
Cyprus	-3.1	1.0	-1.6	-0.3	c	c
Latvia	1.8	2.0	0.8	-2.6	1.8	-2.0
Lithuania	0.2	1.7	1.1	0.8	2.4	-1.3
Luxembourg	0.0	0.5	0.3	1.4	0.1	-1.4
Hungary	-0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	c
Malta	-3.7	1.8	0.6	1.1	-1.6	-3.1
Netherlands	1.2	-0.7	-1.6	0.8	0.3	c
Austria	-0.4	-0.3	0.1	-0.5	0.7	-0.9
Poland	0.1	2.0	1.6	1.4	-0.9	0.7
Portugal	2.9	1.0	-4.7	-3.1	-2.5	2.2
Romania	2.0	-2.9	1.6	2.1	-0.8	0.3
Slovenia	1.2	2.4	-1.5	0.4	-0.1	-3.1
Slovakia	-0.5	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.6
Finland	0.4	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.1	-1.0
Sweden	-1.2	-0.4	-0.5	0.6	0.8	0.0
United Kingdom	0.4	-0.4	0.9	1.1	-0.4	0.4
Norway	-0.8	1.4	-0.6	0.8	0.2	-0.3
Switzerland	-2.9	-3.2	-0.4	2.5	0.5	-2.9

* Seasonally adjusted

: Data not available

c: Confidential

Volume of retail trade
% change compared with the same month of the previous year*

	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11
EA17						
Total retail trade	-0.4	-0.1	-1.2	-0.7	-1.5	-1.6
Food, drinks, tobacco	-2.4	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-1.5	-1.3
Non food products (except automotive fuel), of which:	1.7	0.4	-1.9	-1.0	-1.2	-1.5
Textiles, clothing, footwear	2.3	-1.1	-8.4	-4.1	-4.4	:
Electrical goods and furniture	1.5	-1.3	-0.4	-0.4	-1.4	:
Computer equipment, books and other	2.6	3.3	0.8	2.7	0.5	:
Pharmaceutical and medical goods	1.0	1.8	0.1	-0.2	0.4	:
Mail orders and internet	4.7	1.9	4.1	2.5	0.7	:
Automotive fuel in specialised stores	-5.4	-2.9	-4.2	-4.3	-3.7	:
EU27						
Total retail trade	-0.4	-0.3	-0.7	-0.1	-0.7	0.1
Food, drinks, tobacco	-2.4	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	-1.4	-0.6
Non food products (except automotive fuel), of which:	1.3	0.1	-1.0	-0.1	0.0	0.8
Textiles, clothing, footwear	1.5	-1.5	-6.5	-3.4	-3.0	:
Electrical goods and furniture	0.7	-1.6	-0.5	-0.1	-0.8	:
Computer equipment, books and other	1.1	1.1	0.2	3.0	0.2	:
Pharmaceutical and medical goods	0.9	1.4	0.3	-0.2	1.5	:
Mail orders and internet	10.7	7.6	9.8	7.2	11.9	:
Automotive fuel in specialised stores	-3.8	-1.9	-3.3	-3.4	-2.2	:

	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11
EA17	-0.4	-0.1	-1.2	-0.7	-1.5	-1.6
EU27	-0.4	-0.3	-0.7	-0.1	-0.7	0.1
Belgium	3.2	0.2	-2.4	-0.4	-3.1	0.9
Bulgaria	-2.8	-2.9	-3.0	-5.2	-5.3	-2.4
Czech Republic	-1.7	0.3	-1.3	-1.2	-0.4	c
Denmark	-5.0	-0.9	-1.9	-4.4	-2.6	-1.9
Germany	1.2	0.2	1.3	1.4	0.9	-0.9
Estonia	5.8	5.9	5.0	3.5	4.6	6.1
Ireland	-2.6	-3.3	-3.3	-2.9	-0.5	0.8
Greece	-3.9	-1.9	-6.5	-10.8	-8.9	c
Spain	-4.0	-4.4	-5.6	-7.0	-7.0	-5.3
France	0.3	2.8	1.8	2.8	1.2	0.3
Italy	-0.4	-0.9	-3.3	-1.6	-3.3	c
Cyprus	-1.3	2.3	0.1	-0.4	c	c
Latvia	6.5	8.0	8.0	5.4	7.5	7.1
Lithuania	8.4	10.1	11.1	11.1	14.4	13.0
Luxembourg	5.8	5.3	5.7	7.0	2.2	1.7
Hungary	-1.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.1	c
Malta	-6.5	-1.7	-1.7	1.3	-2.7	-2.9
Netherlands	-0.7	-2.7	-4.7	-2.5	-2.8	c
Austria	-2.3	0.2	-1.2	-1.5	-1.0	-1.1
Poland	-3.9	-2.3	-0.7	-0.3	-0.2	-1.6
Portugal	-5.0	-4.3	-7.0	-9.7	-9.2	-8.8
Romania	1.4	-6.2	-4.6	2.9	1.9	3.9
Slovenia	-0.1	5.7	2.2	1.6	1.3	-1.1
Slovakia	-4.3	-3.8	-3.7	-3.1	-3.0	-3.3
Finland	3.2	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.4	1.9
Sweden	0.3	-0.1	-1.5	-1.0	0.1	0.9
United Kingdom	0.3	-0.4	1.3	2.2	1.7	6.3
Norway	0.9	4.0	1.3	2.4	0.3	2.0
Switzerland	2.8	-0.8	-1.4	0.1	1.8	0.6

* Working day adjusted

: Data not available

c: Confidential

Deflated turnover for total retail trade
seasonally adjusted
(Base year 2005)

	12/10	01/11	02/11	03/11	04/11	05/11	06/11	07/11	08/11	09/11	10/11	11/11	12/11
EA17	101.5	101.5	101.7	100.8	101.5	100.4	100.9	101.0	101.1	100.5	100.6	100.2	99.8
EU27	105.0	105.3	105.3	104.6	105.6	104.3	104.8	104.9	105.0	104.7	105.0	104.7	105.0
BE	106.9	104.6	103.7	104.4	105.9	106.1	105.1	106.2	105.9	105.3	105.9	106.0	107.6
BG	123.6	126.4	127.2	126.7	126.9	125.8	124.2	123.3	123.1	122.0	121.0	121.9	122.3
CZ	117.5	119.8	120.4	119.4	120.5	119.0	118.5	118.3	118.9	118.1	118.2	118.3	c
DK	93.6	92.2	91.9	91.2	95.0	91.3	92.1	90.5	91.8	91.7	89.8	91.4	91.8
DE	97.7	98.6	98.5	97.3	97.7	96.5	98.5	98.8	98.2	99.1	99.1	98.1	96.7
EE	101.8	100.9	103.0	104.3	104.2	104.4	105.6	107.1	107.1	106.8	106.2	107.5	108.0
IE	103.9	104.9	103.9	104.4	103.8	103.1	103.5	103.2	103.0	102.7	103.0	104.8	104.8
EL	89.0	88.2	88.7	87.4	86.5	84.6	83.9	85.6	85.5	83.1	81.0	80.8	c
ES	88.0	87.7	88.6	86.2	88.4	85.4	85.8	86.2	86.3	84.9	84.1	83.4	82.7
FR	113.4	114.9	115.5	114.8	115.5	113.8	115.0	115.3	116.3	115.8	116.1	115.8	115.4
IT	97.0	96.9	96.8	96.7	96.5	96.2	96.1	96.1	95.9	95.3	95.4	95.0	c
CY	119.5	118.0	118.4	127.8	124.7	119.3	121.3	117.5	118.7	116.8	116.5	c	c
LV	91.6	90.2	91.8	92.4	91.6	94.2	95.8	97.6	99.6	100.3	97.8	99.6	97.6
LT	92.8	94.9	97.0	97.4	98.2	98.3	100.2	100.3	102.0	103.1	103.9	106.4	105.0
LU	129.6	130.6	130.8	128.5	129.6	129.1	131.0	131.0	131.6	132.0	133.8	134.0	132.1
HU	93.0	93.9	93.7	93.3	93.3	93.8	93.4	93.2	93.7	93.7	93.7	93.8	c
MT	101.2	105.8	102.8	105.4	102.5	106.7	104.3	100.4	102.2	102.8	103.9	102.2	99.0
NL	100.1	102.3	101.8	100.8	100.7	100.8	99.2	100.4	99.6	98.1	98.9	99.1	c
AT	106.2	104.8	104.7	104.6	104.9	103.1	105.8	105.4	105.1	105.2	104.7	105.4	104.4
PL	150.9	138.5	141.0	139.6	140.0	141.7	140.8	141.0	143.8	146.1	148.2	146.8	147.9
PT	99.1	94.5	97.2	91.8	94.2	91.9	92.9	95.6	96.6	92.1	89.2	87.0	88.9
RO	139.0	140.5	142.9	143.0	140.9	142.0	141.4	144.2	140.0	142.2	145.2	144.0	144.4
SI	109.3	112.3	111.5	109.2	110.1	108.5	109.0	110.3	113.0	111.3	111.8	111.7	108.2
SK	108.3	108.8	108.6	107.3	107.8	106.4	106.2	105.6	105.5	105.3	105.0	104.8	104.2
FI	112.1	113.0	112.2	112.3	114.4	115.4	114.2	114.6	114.6	115.3	115.4	115.5	114.3
SE	112.2	112.3	112.2	111.5	113.7	111.0	114.0	112.6	112.2	111.6	112.3	113.2	113.2
UK	111.9	113.8	112.6	112.8	114.2	112.7	113.2	113.6	113.2	114.2	115.4	115.0	115.5
NO	118.2	118.0	118.8	118.0	118.2	119.7	119.7	118.7	120.4	119.7	120.7	120.9	120.5
CH	114.0	111.2	115.8	116.1	117.0	112.7	121.5	118.0	114.2	113.7	116.5	117.2	113.8

c: Confidential

Deflated turnover for total retail trade
working days adjusted
(Base year 2005)

	12/08	12/09	12/10	01/11	02/11	03/11	04/11	05/11	06/11	07/11	08/11	09/11	10/11	11/11	12/11
EA17	125.9	125.7	125.7	96.2	89.4	97.7	99.5	97.7	99.6	104.5	99.2	98.9	104.0	99.4	123.6
EU27	129.8	129.8	130.3	98.3	92.9	100.8	103.4	101.8	103.5	107.7	103.3	102.9	108.1	106.1	130.4
BE	124.6	126.3	128.3	103.2	91.1	104.5	108.2	105.6	102.8	109.3	98.9	103.9	109.6	100.0	129.4
BG	166.2	147.1	141.7	110.2	109.2	116.4	118.8	122.9	124.4	129.7	129.5	129.9	130.3	125.6	138.4
CZ	149.7	149.8	144.6	104.6	101.8	115.7	120.0	117.6	118.1	117.0	116.3	119.6	124.1	122.9	c
DK	118.8	118.4	116.6	86.1	78.6	89.1	94.3	93.4	92.5	91.6	93.2	87.3	89.7	90.4	114.4
DE	119.1	116.5	117.0	90.7	87.1	98.6	98.1	95.3	95.1	99.3	95.5	96.7	102.9	101.7	115.9
EE	131.3	110.4	118.7	88.0	85.9	99.0	100.3	107.7	113.0	115.9	114.8	105.3	108.0	104.0	126.0
IE	152.1	144.4	141.9	98.7	97.6	95.7	100.5	98.4	100.2	104.9	100.8	97.7	100.2	107.8	143.0
EL	129.0	128.7	103.7	88.8	90.8	83.0	87.4	77.9	81.0	87.0	84.3	80.7	80.8	78.0	c
ES	111.1	108.1	102.7	92.9	77.3	83.6	85.0	83.9	85.5	93.7	82.5	82.6	85.7	79.9	97.3
FR	137.3	141.2	147.1	109.2	98.5	106.6	112.1	108.2	114.6	116.0	119.4	113.6	120.1	116.3	147.5
IT	125.8	126.5	126.2	88.3	86.5	93.6	92.7	94.0	95.3	104.1	88.8	94.8	100.1	88.9	c
CY	147.8	143.3	148.3	103.7	103.5	119.7	128.7	119.9	134.4	126.4	116.9	111.8	111.8	c	c
LV	139.0	98.3	106.2	81.1	79.3	87.3	87.4	94.2	97.2	102.2	106.5	102.2	100.5	96.4	113.7
LT	143.7	105.3	107.8	84.9	83.1	93.6	94.8	98.9	100.4	104.4	109.9	104.1	107.1	103.8	121.8
LU	142.4	157.6	167.1	126.7	114.8	127.6	126.3	125.2	127.4	132.4	118.8	126.8	138.4	141.1	170.0
HU	126.4	117.7	115.8	75.5	74.6	87.0	90.7	91.5	93.7	99.9	99.9	97.5	100.3	95.8	c
MT	111.7	120.7	114.8	99.0	89.6	99.0	100.3	106.3	105.5	107.7	104.5	104.2	107.4	100.8	111.5
NL	124.2	118.4	115.2	95.4	88.8	99.7	100.1	103.9	101.2	101.9	98.6	96.1	100.7	99.7	c
AT	125.4	129.7	131.0	99.1	93.8	104.7	105.4	99.8	101.4	106.5	100.9	103.0	108.6	105.8	129.5
PL	153.7	155.0	175.6	123.3	124.3	142.0	142.3	142.8	141.1	142.9	148.4	148.4	154.4	139.4	172.8
PT	127.0	131.0	130.3	86.7	83.0	88.6	89.3	89.0	88.9	99.6	100.2	92.2	89.8	86.6	118.8
RO	187.9	176.7	159.3	112.0	116.4	136.0	136.7	141.9	143.7	149.7	153.0	151.2	157.8	150.4	165.5
SI	135.3	124.6	123.7	100.7	96.8	108.7	111.4	109.5	110.4	112.8	112.6	113.9	118.4	108.3	122.4
SK	147.3	133.6	130.5	95.8	95.4	101.4	101.6	103.1	106.7	107.8	108.9	109.0	109.8	109.1	126.2
FI	137.1	137.7	140.1	101.4	93.8	105.3	112.5	119.5	122.6	122.0	118.5	112.4	115.8	114.0	142.7
SE	131.3	134.0	137.9	98.3	93.0	103.9	114.0	113.5	120.2	117.9	116.7	110.2	111.7	111.4	139.1
UK	137.5	140.4	140.7	104.2	102.8	105.5	110.7	108.6	109.8	112.6	108.5	108.7	115.3	125.8	149.6
NO	145.2	150.4	152.3	107.4	99.6	108.8	108.1	118.7	126.9	121.5	126.2	117.2	121.6	123.1	155.3
CH	142.9	149.1	146.8	111.5	105.0	111.6	123.2	111.1	119.8	116.1	105.8	107.1	113.6	114.4	147.7

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Annex: A new seasonal adjustment methodology for short-term business statistics

In order to improve the consistency between European and national aggregates in short-term business statistics (STS), EU and euro area aggregates for the full time series of the volume of retail trade/industrial production/construction output/industrial new orders will be calculated using a revised seasonal adjustment methodology from reference month January 2012 onwards (to be published in March 2012).

For reference months up to and including December 2011 (released in February 2012), the method used by Eurostat consists in first aggregating the gross or working day adjusted national data to obtain European aggregates and then adjusting these aggregates for seasonal effects (direct seasonal adjustment). Starting with reference month January 2012 (to be released in March 2012), Eurostat will instead aggregate seasonally adjusted national time series to obtain European aggregates (geographically indirect seasonal adjustment). Eurostat will replace the full time series of the STS data in the online database with data adjusted according to the new method. After the change, the old time series will no longer be available.

The new method will guarantee the consistency of the European and the national aggregates. The differences between the two approaches are not significant for most European STS time series. The index levels and underlying trends are generally not affected, but individual month-on-month growth rates may change. Some time series will be shorter because of the lack of seasonally adjusted national data.

All STS time series of EU and euro area aggregates that are published in seasonally adjusted form in the online database will be concerned, in particular those disseminated in the news releases on **volume of retail trade, industrial production, construction output and industrial new orders**. STS series for prices, including **industrial producer prices**, are not seasonally adjusted and will not be affected by this change.

For more information on direct and indirect seasonal adjustment refer to:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Short-term_business_statistics_-_seasonal_adjustment_methods

ESS guidelines on seasonal adjustment:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/product_details/publication?p_product_code=KS-RA-09-006