



 This update:
 30-Apr-09 (2)

 Next update:
 04-Jun-09

DG ECFIN Research Directorate

DG ECFIN Research L	on ectorate	LTA ⁽¹⁾	2007	2008	08Q2	08Q3	08Q4	09Q1	Nov-08	Dec-08	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	Apr-09
1. Output														
Economic Sentiment	indicator	100.6	108.9	91.1	97.5	89.9	75.8	65.7	76.8	68.9	67.2	65.3	64.7	67.2
Industrial confidence	balance	-6.1	4.4	-9.4	-2.9	-9.7	-25.3	-35.8	-24.8	-33.0	-33.4	-36.1	-37.8	-35.0
Services confidence	balance	16.6	19.4	1.8	-2.0	0.6	-11.9	-23.7	-11.7	-17.4	-22.2 -2.5	-23.6	-25.4	-24.3
Industrial production (excluding construction)	% ch. on prev. period % ch. on prev. year	1.5	3.8	-1.7	1.1	-2.7 -1.4	-6.2 -9.0		-2.8 -9.1	-2.9 -12.3	-2.5 -16.1	-2.2 -18.4		
	% ch. on prev. period	1.5	3.0	-1./	-0.3	-0.3	-1.6		-7.1	-12.3	-10.1	-10.4		
Gross domestic product	% ch. on prev. year	2.0	2.6	0.8	1.4	0.6	-1.5							
Labour productivity	% ch. on prev. period				-0.3	-0.1	-1.3							
Labour productivity	% ch. on prev. year	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.0	-1.4							
2. Private consumption														
Consumer confidence	balance	-11.4	-4.9	-17.9	-14.6	-19.2	-26.1	-32.2	-25.1	-29.7	-30.5	-32.5	-33.7	-31.3
Retail confidence	balance % ch. on prev. period	-6.0	0.7	-7.0	-3.3	-8.9 0.1	-15.3 -0.3	-18.6	-12.7	-20.0	-19.6	-19.1	-17.0	-18.9
Private consumption	% ch. on prev. periou % ch. on prev. year	1.8	1.6	0.4	0.4	0.1	-0.5							
	% ch. on prev. period	1.0		0.1	-0.4	-0.5	-1.0		-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.5		
Retail sales	% ch. on prev. year	1.6	1.3	-0.2	0.6	-0.2	-1.9		-2.3	-2.0	-2.3	-4.5		
3. Investment														
Capacity utilisation	level (%)	82.0	84.2	83.0	83.7	82.8	81.5	74.7			74.7			70.5
Production expectations (manuf.)	balance	6.2	13.2	-1.9	6.5	-2.1	-21.8	-31.4	-21.9	-30.3	-31.0	-31.7	-31.6	-25.3
Gross fixed capital formation	% ch. on prev. period				-1.3	-0.7	-4.0							
	% ch. on prev. year	2.5	4.4	0.0	1.5	-0.1	-5.0							
- equipment investment	% ch. on prev. period % ch. on prev. year	4.3	6.6	-0.5	-0.3 1.2	-0.5 0.1	-5.5 -6.6							
	% ch. on prev. period	4.3	0.0	-0.5	-2.3	-1.3	-3.5							
- construction investment	% ch. on prev. year	1.7	3.1	-0.8	0.7	-1.3	-5.2							
Change in stocks	contrib. to GDP (pp.)	0.0	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.4	0.3							
4. Labour market														
Employment expectations (manuf.)	balance	-12.0	1.8	-8.7	-3.0	-8.6	-22.7	-34.7	-22.1	-30.3	-31.5	-34.3	-38.3	-37.2
Employment expectations (services)	balance	9.1	13.4	4.3	8.1	4.0	-5.1	-15.5	-5.1	-10.6	-13.1	-16.6	-16.8	-18.5
Employment	% ch. on prev. period				0.1	-0.1	-0.3							
	% ch. on prev. year	1.2	1.8	0.8	1.1	0.5	0.0							
Employment (000)	abs. ch. on prev. period		2 605	1 115	120	-206	-466							
Compensation of employees per head	% ch. on prev. period	2.2	2.5	2.2	0.8	0.6	0.8							
(nominal) Unemployment rate	% ch. on prev. year % of lah. force	2.2	7.5	7.6	7.4	7.6	3.0 8.0	8.7	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.7	8.9	
Unemployment (000)	abs. ch. on prev. period		-1 225	245	238	314	718	1 097	254	293	414	395	419	
5. International transactions	uos. vn. on prev. periou		-1 223	243	250	317	/10	1 057	234	273	717	373	717	
	% ch. on prev. period				-0.4	2.3	-6.1		-6.6	-6.1	-5.9	0.8		
World trade	% ch. on prev. year	7.1	7.8	2.2	3.4	3.2	-2.7		-3.5	-7.8	-16.8	-15.4		
Export order books	balance	-17.5	3.5	-14.8	-6.6	-14.9	-35.6	-56.7	-34.7	-46.1	-49.1	-58.5	-62.4	-63.1
Trade balance (merchandise)	billion EUR		12.1	-38.9	-6.0	-12.3	-7.7		-4.4	-1.2	-5.4	-4.0		-
Exports of goods and services	% ch. on prev. period				-0.2	-0.2	-6.7							
1 0	% ch. on prev. year	5.5	5.9	1.3	3.7	1.8	-5.8							
Imports of goods and services	% ch. on prev. period		F 2	1.0	-0.5	1.3	-4.7							
Current account balance	% ch. on prev. year billion EUR	5.5	13.5	-92.4	-16.8	-23.5	-2.9 -35.3		-15.6	-12.8	-12.3	-8.1		
Direct investment	billion EUR		-92.5	-251.3	-53.4	-35.9	-86.7		-53.3	-12.5	-15.9	-13.2		
Portfolio investment	billion EUR		159.7	439.2	27.3	121.5	201.8		60.2	6.4	-7.4	61.2		
6. Prices														
Consumer inflation expectations	balance	22.8	23.1	23.0	28.3	23.3	12.4	3.7	10.7	7.5	5.5	4.5	1.1	-1.7
Headline inflation (HICP)	% ch. on prev. year		2.1	3.3	3.6	3.8	2.3	1.0	2.1	1.6	1.1	1.2	0.6	0.6
Core HICP	% ch. on prev. year		2.0	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.2	1.6	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.5	
Domestic producer prices	% ch. on prev. year		2.7	6.1	7.0	8.6	3.6	1.8	3.2	1.5	-0.5	-1.5		
Import prices	% ch. on prev. year		1.4		8.7	11.1			3.9					
Oil (Brent) in USD	level		72.5	98.6	121.9	118.0	58.5	45.6	55.3	43.6	45.3	44.0	47.3	51.1
	% ch. on prev. year level		9.5 52.6	36.1 66.2	77.5	58.9 78.2	-33.8 44.3	-52.6 34.9	-40.2 43.5	-52.1 32.4	-50.9 34.2	-53.2 34.4	-54.0 36.1	-53.4 38.7
Oil (Brent) in EUR	% ch. on prev. year		-0.1	25.7	53.2	44.7	-27.2	-45.5	-31.0	-48.3	-45.4	-46.0	-45.4	-44.3
	% ch. on prev. period		-0.1	23.1	1.1	-2.2	-19.1	-3.1	-51.0	-10.7	6.2	1.3	-1.5	-44.3
Non-energy commodity prices (EUR)	% ch. on prev. year		8.0	4.2	7.2	8.4	-9.4	-22.5	-6.2	-16.8	-20.2	-23.6	-23.8	
7. Monetary and financial indicators														
Nominal interest rates (3 month)	level		4.28	4.64	4.86	4.98	4.24	2.01	4.24	3.29	2.46	1.94	1.64	1.43
Nominal interest rates (10 year)	level		4.23	4.01	4.27	4.28	3.54	3.10	3.57	3.08	3.08	3.16	3.07	3.18
ECB repo rate	level		3.84	3.90	4.00	4.23	3.37	1.99	3.43	2.73	2.32	2.00	1.66	1.31
Stock market (Eurostoxx)	% ch. on prev. period				-2.7	-11.5	-23.7	-13.6	-6.6	-1.8	-2.9	-7.7	-7.7	12.9
	% ch. on prev. year		13.8	-23.1	-16.2	-24.1	-42.9	-43.3	-43.2	-45.1	-41.9	-42.8	-44.6	-40.3
Money demand (M3)	% ch. on prev. year		11.2	9.5	10.1	9.0	8.0	5.6	7.7	7.5	6.0	5.8	5.1	
Loans to households	% ch. on prev. year		7.2	4.2	4.8	3.9	2.4	0.8	2.4	1.6	1.2	0.7	0.4	
Loans to companies	% ch. on prev. year		13.5	13.1	14.3	12.6	10.9	7.7	11.2	9.6	9.0	7.7	6.3	1 22
Bilateral exchange rate EUR/USD	level		1.37 9.1	1.47	1.56 15.9	1.51 9.5	1.32 -9.0	1.30 -13.0	1.27 -13.3	1.34 -7.7	1.32 -10.1	1.28 -13.3	1.30 -16.0	1.32
	% ch. on prev. year % ch. on prev. period		9.1	7.3	2.7	-1.7	-4.3	2.5	-0.8	4.9	-10.1	-13.3	2.6	-16.3
Nominal effective exchange rate	% ch. on prev. year		3.9	4.7	8.1	5.8	-1.4	-0.9	-3.7	0.8	-0.4	-1.4	-1.4	-3.3
(1) LTA=Long-Term Average			J.,			2.0			5.7				itil date of i	



1. Output

In April, **industrial confidence** picked up from its March historical low of -38 to -35, the first upward move since December 2007. However this is still significantly below the long-term average of 5. All indices improved, with production expectations noting the largest increase from -32 to -25. The April results suggest a start of some recovery.

In February 2009, euro-area **industrial production** recorded another major decline of 2.2% month-onmonth (mom) and 18.3% year-on-year (yoy). All product categories decreased (mom), durable consumer goods fell most (by -4.3%). Industrial output in February fell in all large euro-area economies, with France recording a relative subdued decline of -0.5%.

According to Eurostat's second release, euro-area **GDP** contracted by 1.6% quarter-on-quarter (qoq) in 08Q4, broadly in line with the Commission's Interim forecast of -1.5%. This is the third consecutive contraction, after -0.3% in 08Q2 and 08Q3. As to the breakdown, the contraction was broad-based with sizable declines in all components, except government consumption and stocks. GDP contracted in most of the large economies (DE -2.1%, FR -1.1%, IT -1.9% and ES -1.0%). Compared to the same quarter of the previous year, euro-area GDP growth in 08Q4 came in at -1.5%, negative for the first time since the start of the EMU. For 2008 as a whole, GDP grew by 0.8% in the euro area, after 2.6% in 2007.

According to the **Commission's January 2009 Interim forecast,** GDP is expected to decline by less than 2% in 2009, followed by a gradual recovery in 2010 (to around ½%). Consumer-price inflation is expected to fall from 3.3% in 2008 to about 1% in 2009 and just below 2% in 2010.

2. Private consumption

Private consumption deteriorated in 08Q4 by -0.3% qoq. Contracting retail sales, sluggish disposable income growth and deteriorating labour markets weighed on household spending.

In April, the **consumer confidence** index clearly improved to -31 from its record low of -34 in March. Better perception of households' general economic situation and their saving situation were the main elements behind the rebound.

After two almost flat months, the volume of retail trade fell again in February, by -0.5% mom. In April,

the Commission's **retail trade confidence** indicator fell back to its February level (from -17 to -19).

3. Investment

Gross fixed capital formation declined markedly by -4.0% qoq in 08Q4, after previous declines of -1.3% in 08Q2 and -0.7% in 08Q3. Sluggish demand, decreasing profits, falling capacity utilisation and still-tight financing conditions have led firms to drastically reduce investment plans. On an annual basis, investment fell by -5.0% in Q4.

Capacity utilisation continues to fall sharply in the second quarter of 2009, from 74.7 in 09Q1 to 70.5 in 09Q2, the lowest level since the start of the series in 1985.

4. Labour market

In March 2009, the euro-area **unemployment** rate rose to 8.9%, compared with 8.7% in February. It was 8.3% in March 2008. As to the country breakdown, most Member States reported increases in their unemployment rate. In particular, the largest increase was noted in Spain again, up by +0.9pp.

According to Eurostat's estimate, the number of persons employed in the **euro area** decreased by 0.3% qoq (453,000 persons) in 08Q4, after contracting (by -0.1%) in 08Q3. Compared with 07Q4, employment remained flat on yoy basis, implying a continued gradual deceleration (yoy growth of 1.5% in 08Q1, 1.1% in 08Q2 and 0.6% in 08Q3).

In April, **employment expectations** among managers in industry improved slightly, while those in the services sector have worsened. Moreover, for the first time in a year, the perception of the future unemployment among households did not deteriorate. The level of **labour shortages in manufacturing** decreased significantly in 09Q2, with only 1.6% of firms reporting that unfilled job openings were constraining production (compared to 7.2% a year ago).

5. International transactions

In April, the assessment of **export order books** fell from -62 to -63, far below its long-term average of -18. The seasonally adjusted **euro-area trade balance** with the rest of the world showed another high deficit in February 2009 (-4.0 bn euro). In 08Q4, both **exports and imports of goods and services** in volume contracted significantly, by -6.7% qoq and -4.7% respectively.

In February 2009, the working-day and seasonally adjusted **current account** of the euro area recorded a



deficit of 8.1 billion euro. In the **financial account**, combined direct and portfolio investment showed net inflows of 48 bn euro, as net inflows of portfolio investment (61 bn euro) significantly exceeded net outflows of direct investment (13 bn euro).

6. Prices

According to Eurostat's flash estimate, annual inflation in April is expected to be at 0.6%. Euro-area **HICP inflation** was 0.6% in March, down from 1.2% a month ago. **Core inflation** is gradually easing, from 1.7% in February to 1.5% in March.

After a sharp drop in **oil prices** in the second half of 2008, prices have been relatively stable (around 45-52 USD/bl.) since the beginning of the year. Crude oil is currently trading at about 49.3 USD/bl. (29 April), significantly below the record-high of mid-July 2008 (146 USD/bl.). Despite a slightly higher average oil price level in April compared to March, the contracting global economy and a high level of inventories are still weighing on oil demand. Moreover, recent concerns about the swine flu impact on the travelling industry put also downward pressure on oil prices.

Industrial producer prices posted a seventh consecutive mom decline in February (-0.5%). Producer prices are decelerating fast: the yoy growth rate was 5.9% in 2008, 3.3% in 08Q4 and -1.5% in February.

7. Monetary and financial indicators

On 2 April, the ECB lowered its **policy rate** by a further 25bps. to 1.25%, bringing the total reduction since early October 2008 to 300 bps. Overall, the money markets start to show some signs of a gradual mowing towards more stable conditions. In particular, the 3-month interbank market rates (Euribor) declined to 1.37% (29 April) from 2.86% at the start of the year. The spreads to the overnight indexed swap (OIS) narrowed to 60 bps., considerably lower compared to almost 200 bps. in October 2008, however still high as to the pre-crisis level (15 bps. on average). The US Federal Reserve lowered in December 2008 its target interest rate from 1.0% to a target range of 0-0.25%. The US interbank market rates declined (the 3-month interest rate is at 1.03% on 29 April).

Bond markets (10 year benchmark government yields) in the euro area and especially US have trended upwards in recent weeks, as investors sought higher yields in other segments. The euro-area tenyear interest rate is 3.13% on 29 April 2009 (most-recent high was 4.61% in June 2008). The US ten-

year interest rate is at 3.11% on 29 April (up from 2.2% at the turn of the year), significantly lower than the most-recent high of 4.27% in June 2008.

Bank lending continues to decelerate. According to the ECB, the annual rate of **growth of M3** decreased further to 5.1% in March 2009 from 5.8% in February. The 3-month moving average declined to 5.6%. The annual rate of growth of **loans to the private sector** decreased to 3.2% in March, after 4.3% in February. Loan growth to **households** witnessed another record low in March at 0.4% (down from 0.7% in February and 1.2% in January), while loans to **non-financial corporations** are comparably relatively robust, though already decelerating (down from 7.7% to 6.3%).

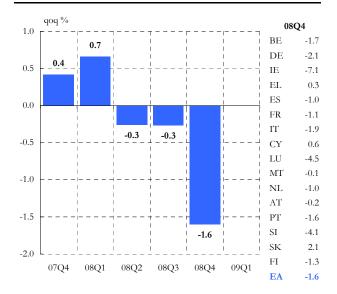
The nominal effective **exchange rate** of the euro (NEER) began to weaken in August 2008. The downward pressure intensified in October and November, largely reflecting a reassessment of the economic situation in the euro area in relation to other economic regions. Lately, following a period of strong volatility, the euro has appreciated somewhat, driven partly by differences in the scale and speed of monetary policy loosening. The euro's real effective exchange rate is currently some 10 percent above its historical average. On 29 April, the euro was trading at 1.33 against the dollar and at 126.4 against the yen.

Stock prices fell to near-decade lows at the beginning of March. Since then both Dow Jones and Eurostoxx gained about 20%, bringing the stock prices to the levels of 6 years ago. On 29 April, Dow Jones was closing at about 89.1, Eurostoxx at 65.9 and Nikkei at 65.9. 2008 was a year of historic losses for stock markets in Europe, US and Japan, losing between 35% and 40%.

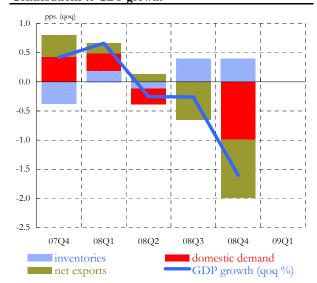


1. OUTPUT

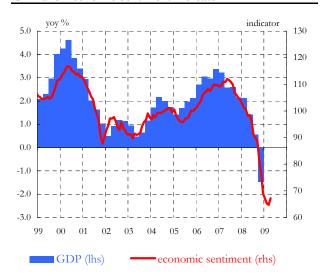
GDP



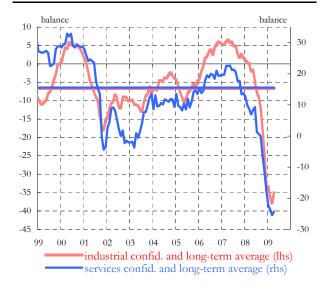
Contributions to GDP growth



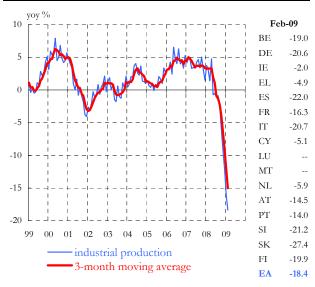
GDP and Economic Sentiment Indicator



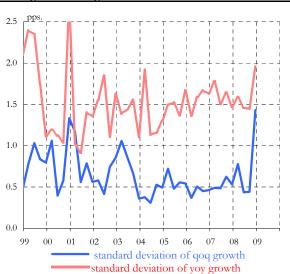
Industrial and services confidence



Industrial production



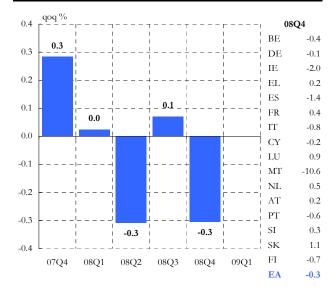
GDP growth divergence, euro area



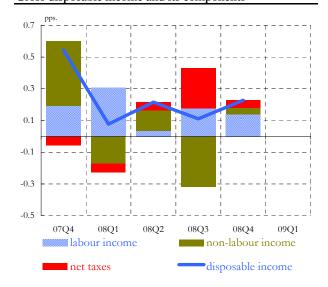


2. PRIVATE CONSUMPTION

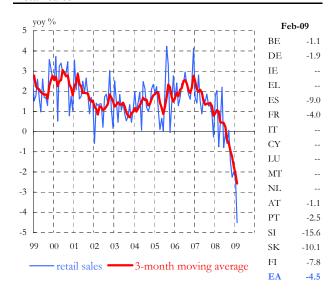
Private consumption



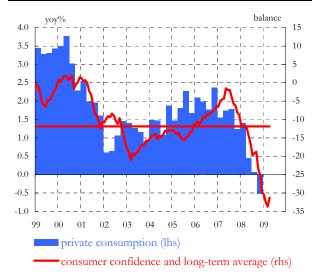
Gross disposable income and its components



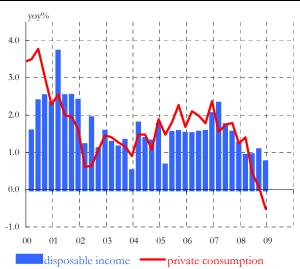
Retail sales



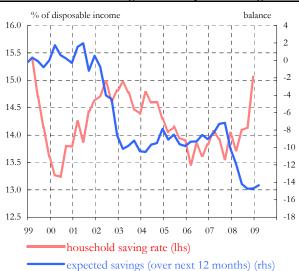
Consumer confidence and private consumption



Households: disposable income and consumption



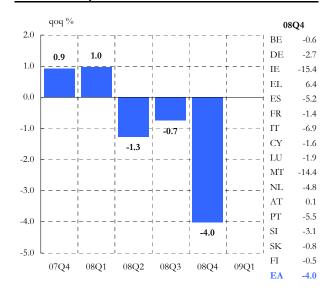
Households: actual saving rate and expected savings



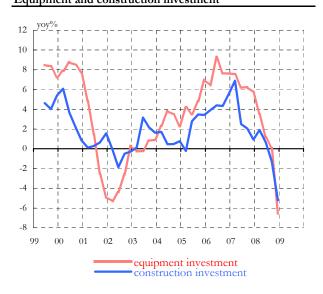


3. INVESTMENT

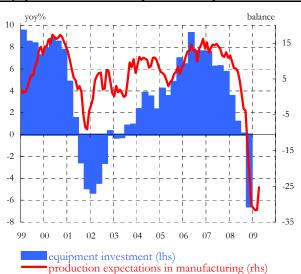
Gross fixed capital formation



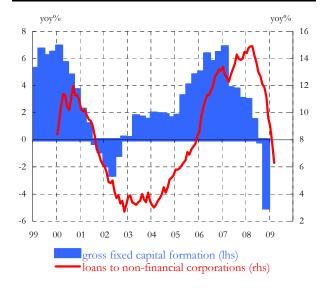
Equipment and construction investment



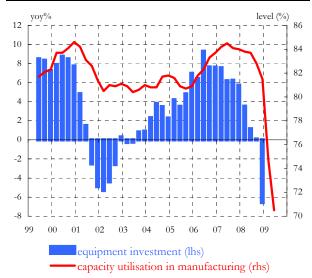
Equipment investment and production expectations



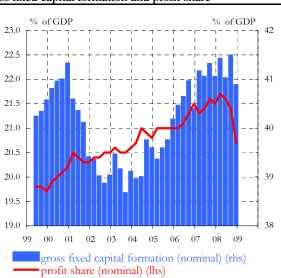
Gross fixed capital formation and corporate loans



Equipment investment and capacity utilisation

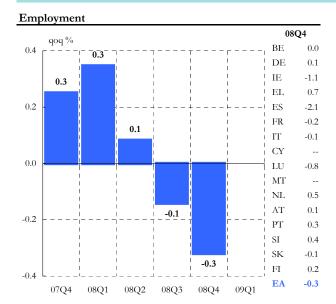


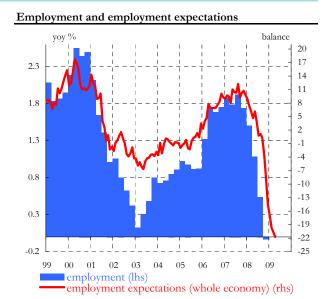
Gross fixed capital formation and profit share

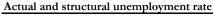


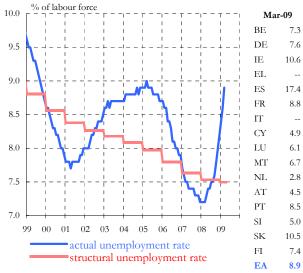


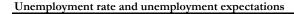


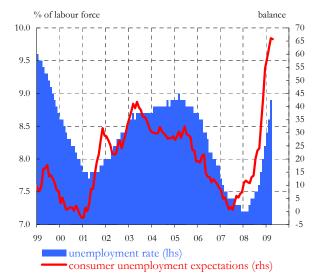




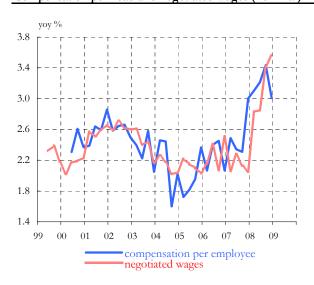




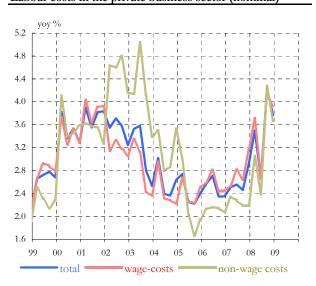




Compensation per head and negotiated wages (nominal)



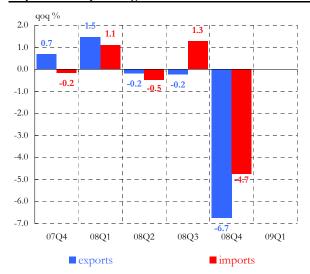
Labour costs in the private business sector (nominal)



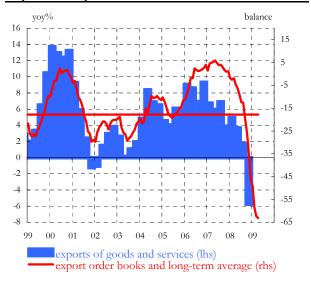




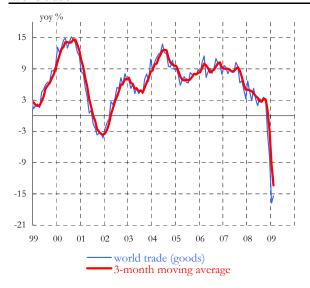
Exports and imports of goods and services



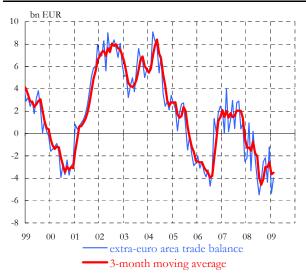
Exports and export order books



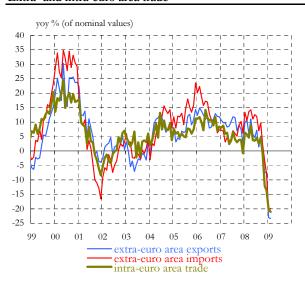
World trade



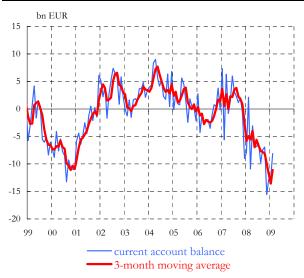
Extra euro-area trade balance



Extra- and intra-euro area trade



Current account balance





МТ

NL

ΑТ

РΤ

SI

2.6

1.9

2.1

0.8

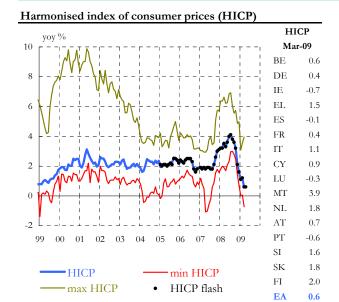
2.8

2.4

3.0

1.5

6. PRICES

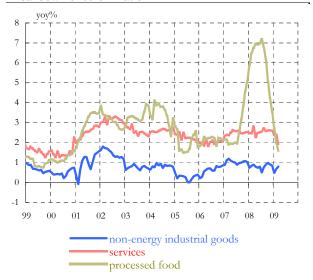


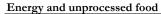
HICP and core inflation Mar-09 ΒE 2.3 DE 1.0 IE. -0.1 EL 3.0 ES 1.2 1.5 FR IT1.8 3.1 CY2.5 LU

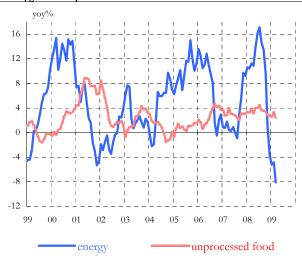
core inflation (HICP excl. energy and unprocessed food)

SK
FI
EA

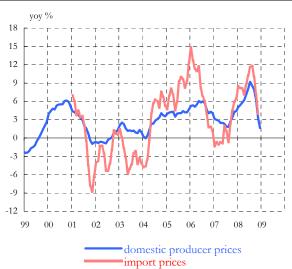
Breakdown of core inflation



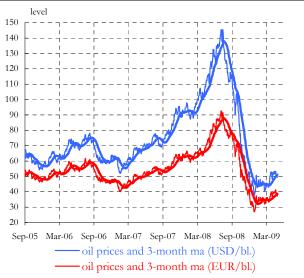




Domestic producer prices and import prices



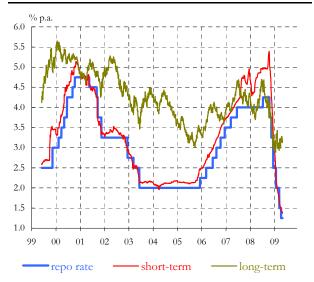
Oil prices



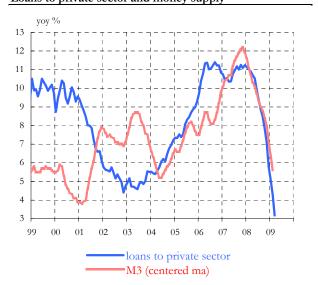


7. MONETARY AND FINANCIAL INDICATORS

Nominal interest rates



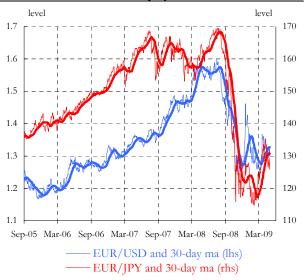
Loans to private sector and money supply



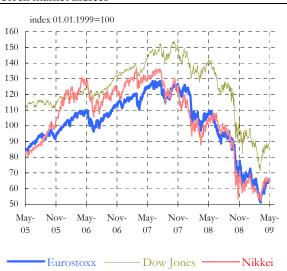
Real interest rates



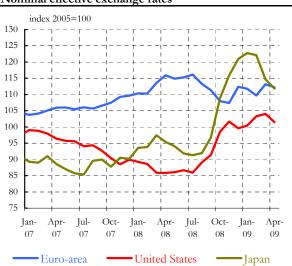
Euro vis-à-vis US dollar and JP yen



Stock market indices



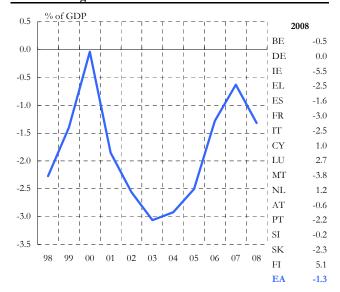
Nominal effective exchange rates



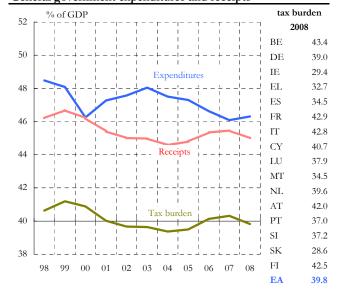


8. PUBLIC FINANCES*

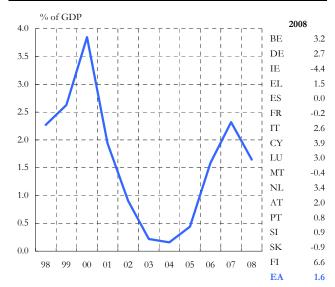
Government general balance



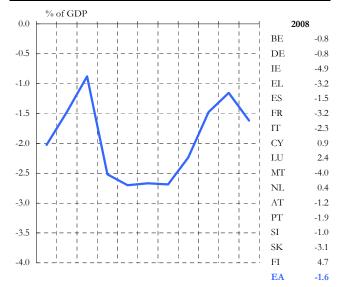
General government expenditures and receipts



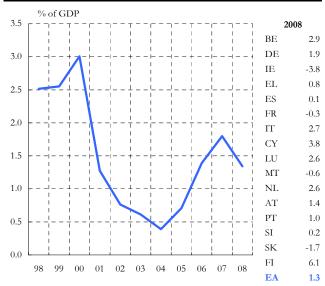
Primary balance



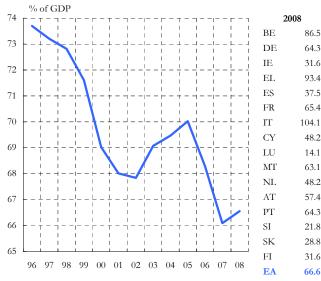
Cyclically adjusted balance



Cyclically adjusted primary balance



General government debt



^{*} Figures are from the Commission's autumn 2008 forecast



Euro-area Indicators as from 2009 refer to Belgium (BE), Germany (DE), Ireland (IE), Growth (GR), Spain (ES), France (FR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Luxembourg (LU), M (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Portugal (PT), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (Finland (FI).						
Indicator	Note	Source				
	1. Output					
Economic Sentiment Indicator	The economic sentiment indicator is the weighted average (of the industrial confidence indicator (40%), the services confidence indicator (30%), the consumer confidence indicator (20%), the construction confidence indicator (5%) and the retail trade confidence indicator (5%)). Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN				
Industrial confidence indicator	The industrial confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the balances (%) referring to the questions on production expectations, order books and stocks (the latter with inverted sign) from the survey of manufacturing industry. The long-term average refers to the period as from publishing of the indicator up to now. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN				
Services confidence indicator	The services confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the balances (%) referring to the questions on business situation and recent and expected evolution of demand from the survey of services. The long-term average refers to the period as from publishing of the indicator up to now. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN				
Industrial production	Monthly Production Index (2005=100), NACE Rev.2 B-C-D, Total industry (excluding construction). Mom % ch. and qoq% ch. are seasonally adjusted, yoy% ch. are working-day adjusted.	Eurostat				
Gross domestic product	Gross domestic product at constant market prices (chain-linked volumes, reference year 2000), EUR. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat				
Labour productivity	Labour productivity defined as the difference between GDP growth and employment growth.	Eurostat				
GDP divergence	Standard deviation of GDP growth of the following countries: BE, DE, ES, FR, IT, CY, LU, NL, AT, PT, SI, FI.	Eurostat				
	2. Private consumption					
Consumer confidence indicator	The consumer confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the balances (%) referring to the questions on the financial situation of households, general economic situation, unemployment expectations (with inverted sign) and savings; all over next 12 months. The long-term average refers to the period as from publishing of the indicator up to now. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN				
Retail confidence indicator	The retail confidence indicator is the arithmetic average of the balances (%) referring to the questions on the present and the future business situation and the volume of stocks (with inverted sign). The long-term average refers to the period from publishing of the indicator up to now. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN				
Private consumption	Household & NPISH final consumption expenditure at constant market prices (chain-linked volumes, reference year 2000), EUR. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat				
Retail sales	Retail trade (NACE Rev.2 G47) excluding motor vehicles, motorcycles; Deflated turnover, mom % ch. and qoq% ch. are seasonally adjusted, yoy% ch. are working-day adjusted.	Eurostat				
	3. Investment					
Capacity utilization	In percent of full capacity in the manufacturing sector. Data are seasonally adjusted (collected in January, April, July and October).	DG ECFIN				
Production expectations	Production expectations in manufacturing sector. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN				
Gross fixed capital formation	Gross fixed capital formation at constant market prices (chain-linked volumes, reference year 2000), EUR. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat				
Equipment investment	Gross fixed capital formation at constant market prices (chain-linked volumes, reference year 2000), EUR, metal products, machinery and transport equipment. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat				
Construction investment	Gross fixed capital formation at constant market prices (chain-linked volumes, reference year 2000), EUR, construction work and housing. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat				
Change in stocks	Changes in inventories and acquisitions less disposals of valuables (at prices of previous year).	Eurostat				
Profit share	Ratio of nominal gross operating surplus and gross mixed income to nominal GDP	Eurostat				



	4. Labour market	
Employment expectations (manufacturing)	Managers' employment expectations over the next three months in the manufacturing sector. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN
Employment expectations (services)	Managers' employment expectations over the next three months in the services sector. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN
Employment expectations (whole economy)	Weighted average of managers' employment expectations over the next three months in the manufacturing (19%), services (65%), construction (6%) and retail sectors (10%). Weights in brackets according to value-added share on GDP of the respective sector. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN
Employment	Total domestic employment (number of persons). Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat
Compensation of employees per head	Nominal compensation of employees divided by the number of employees. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	DG ECFIN
Unemployment expectations	Consumers' unemployment expectations over the next twelve months. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN
Unemployment rate	Harmonized unemployment rate (in percent of labour force), ILO definition. Data are seasonally adjusted.	Eurostat
Structural unemployment rate	Non-accelerating inflation rate of unemployment. Data are seasonally adjusted.	OECD
Total labour costs	Nominal wage- and non-wage costs less subsidies in the private business sector. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat
Wage costs	Nominal wage and salary costs include direct remunerations, bonuses, and allowances, payments to employees saving schemes, payments for days not worked and remunerations in kind. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat
Non-wage costs	Nominal non-wage costs include the employers' social contributions plus employment taxes less subsidies. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat
Labour productivity	Ratio between GDP and employment. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	DG ECFIN
	5. International transactions	
World trade	Volume, 1998=100, seasonally adjusted	CPB
Export order books	Managers' export order expectations in the manufacturing sector. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN
Extra-euro area exports	Nominal extra-euro area exports of goods, fob. Data are seasonally adjusted.	Eurostat
Extra-euro area imports	Nominal extra-euro area imports of goods, cif. Data are seasonally adjusted.	Eurostat
Extra-euro area trade balance	Difference between extra-euro area exports and extra-euro area imports. Data are seasonally adjusted.	Eurostat
Intra-euro area trade	Nominal intra-euro area trade in goods, fob. Data are seasonally adjusted.	Eurostat
Current account balance	Transactions in goods and services plus income and current transfers between residents and non- residents of the euro area. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	ECB
Exports of goods and services	Exports of goods and services at constant market prices (chain-linked volumes, reference year 2000), EUR. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurostat
Imports of goods and services	Imports of goods and services at constant market prices (chain-linked volumes, reference year 2000), EUR. Data are seasonally and working-day adjusted.	Eurosta
Direct investment	Nominal transactions/positions in assets abroad by euro-area residents less nominal transactions/positions in euro-area assets by non-residents. To be regarded as a direct investment, ownership in an enterprise must be equivalent to more than 10% of the ordinary shares or voting power.	ECB
Portfolio investment	Nominal transactions/positions in securities (including equities) abroad by euroarea residents less nominal transactions/positions in euro-area securities (including equities) by non-residents. To be regarded as a portfolio investment, ownership in	ECB



	6. Prices				
HICP	Harmonized index of consumer prices (index 2005=100)	Eurostat			
Core HICP	HICP excluding energy and unprocessed food (index 2005=100)	Eurostat			
Producer prices	Domestic producer price index, total industry excluding construction (index 2005=100)	Eurostat			
Selling price expectation	Managers' selling-price expectations in the manufacturing sector. Data are seasonally adjusted.	DG ECFIN			
Import prices	Unit value index of imports, Current Prices (index 2000=100)	Eurostat			
Oil prices	Price of north sea Brent in USD/barrel and EUR/barrel	ICE			
Non-energy commodity prices	Market price for non-fuel commodities in EUR terms (index 2000c=100)	HWWI			
	7. Monetary and financial indicators				
Nominal interest rate (3-month)	3-month EURIBOR interbank rate (360 day)	ECB/Ec owin			
Nominal interest rate (10-year)	10-year interest rate on government bonds for euro area (based upon the 10-year German government bond)	ECB/Ec owin			
ECB repo rate	Minimum bid rate of main refinancing operations, end of period.	ECB/Ec owin			
Money demand (M3)	Monetary aggregate including currency in circulating (banknotes and coins), operational deposits in central bank, money in current accounts, saving accounts, money market deposits, certificates of deposit, all other deposits and repurchase agreements. Data are seasonally adjusted.	ECB			
Loans to private sector	Loans by MFI (monetary and financial institutions) to euro area residents (excl government). Data are seasonally adjusted.	ECB			
Real long-term interest rates	Nominal interest rate (10-year) deflated by HICP index	DG ECFIN			
Real short-term interest rates	Nominal interest rate (3-month) deflated by HICP index	DG ECFIN			
Stock markets	Eurostoxx50, Dow Jones and Nikkei indices (1.1.1999=100)	Ecowin			
Exchange rates	EUR/USD and EUR/JPY reference rates	ECB			
Nominal effective exchange rate	Monthly Nominal Effective Exch. Rates vs rest of IC24 (index 2005 = 100)	DG ECFIN			
	8. Public finance				
General government balance	Net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) of general government	DG ECFIN			
Primary government balance	Net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) of general government minus interest payment	DG ECFIN			
Cyclically adjusted balance	Net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) of general government corrected for the influence of the business cycle	DG ECFIN			
Cyclically adjusted primary balance	Primary government balance corrected for the influence of the business cycle	DG ECFIN			
General government expenditures and receipts	Nominal expenditures and receipts; tax burden includes taxes on production and imports (incl. taxed paid to EU), current taxes on income and wealth (direct taxes) and actual social contributions	DG ECFIN			
General government debt	Cumulative sum of net lending (+) or net borrowing (-) positions of general government	DG ECFIN			