

57/2020 - 7 April 2020

First release for the fourth quarter of 2019

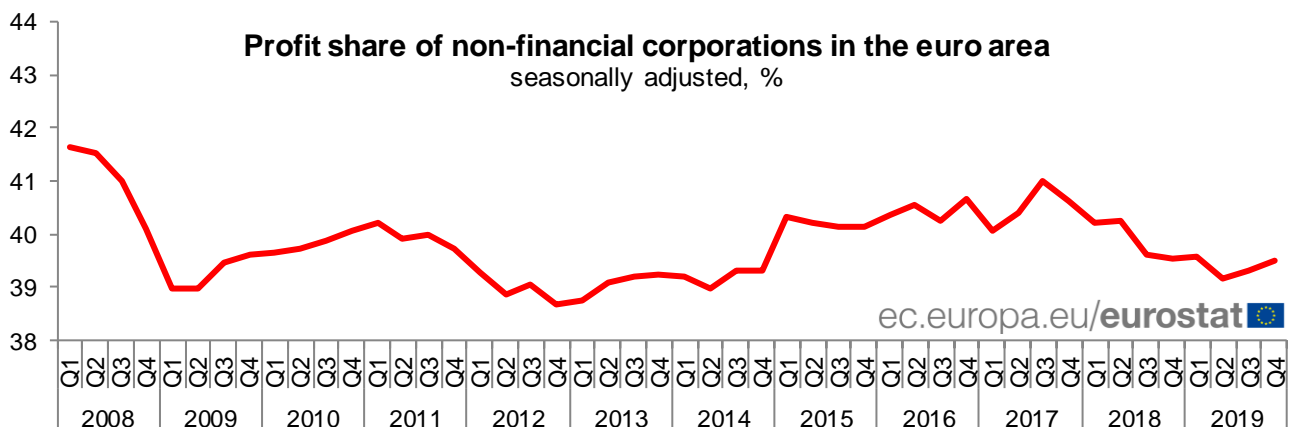
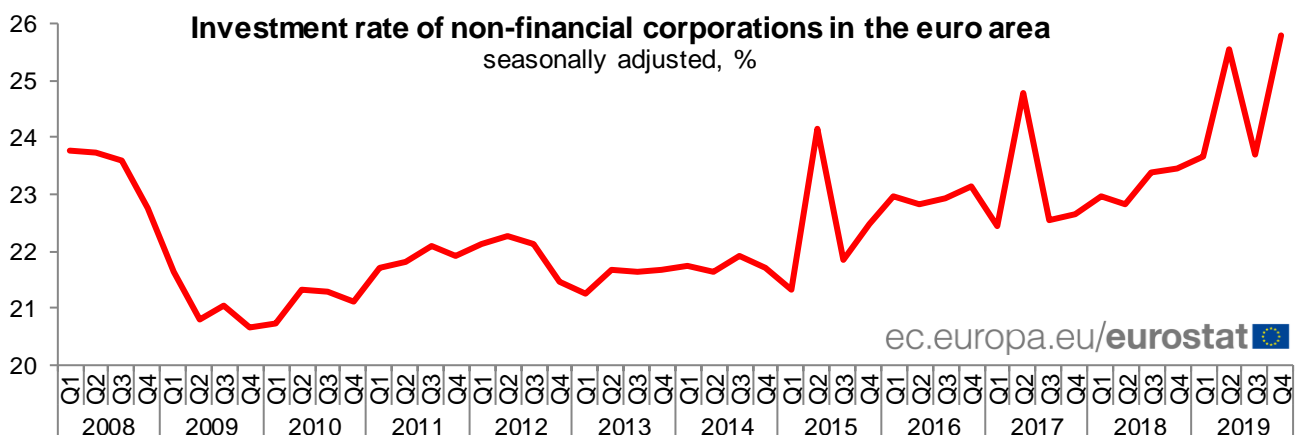
Business investment up to 25.8% in the euro area

Business profit share up to 39.5%

In the fourth quarter of 2019, before COVID-19 containment measures began to be widely introduced by Member States, the business investment rate was 25.8% in the **euro area**, compared with 23.7% in the previous quarter.

The business profit share in the **euro area** was 39.5% in the fourth quarter of 2019, compared with 39.3% in the previous quarter.

These data come from a first release of seasonally adjusted quarterly European sector accounts from **Eurostat**, the statistical office of the European Union, and the **European Central Bank (ECB)**.



Geographical information

The **euro area** (EA19) consists of 19 Member States: Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland, plus the European Central Bank and the European Stability Mechanism.

Methods and definitions

The **gross investment rate of non-financial corporations** is defined as gross fixed capital formation divided by gross value added. This ratio relates the investment of non-financial businesses in fixed assets (buildings, machinery etc.) to the value added created during the production process.

The **profit share of non-financial corporations** is defined as gross operating surplus divided by gross value added. This profitability-type indicator shows the share of the value added created during the production process remunerating capital. It is the complement of the share of wage costs (plus other taxes less other subsidies on production) in value added.

The compilation of the European sector accounts follows the **European System of Accounts 2010 (ESA2010)** and covers the period from the first quarter of 1999 onwards.

Institutional sectors bring together economic units with broadly similar characteristics and behaviour, namely: households (including non-profit institutions serving households), non-financial corporations, financial corporations, government and the rest of the world. In the latter, to measure the external transactions of the euro area / European Union, it is necessary to remove cross-border flows within the area concerned.

Eurostat's website includes detailed annual and quarterly sector accounts of Member States of the European Economic Area and derived key indicators published around 120 days after each quarter (which also cover annual indicators such as debt-to-income ratios). A subset of quarterly key indicators is published around 94 days after each quarter.

Revisions and timetable

Compared with data released on 28 January 2020, the investment rate of non-financial corporations for the third quarter of 2019 remains unchanged at 23.7%. The profit share of non-financial corporations for the third quarter of 2019 was revised upwards from 39.2% to 39.3%.

Peaks of the investment rate of non-financial corporations observed in 2015Q2, 2017Q2, 2019Q2 and 2019Q4 are related to large imports of intellectual property products reflecting globalisation effects. For more details please see our [database](#).

The complete set of sectoral data will be updated in the dedicated section of the Eurostat website on 29 April 2020.

For more information

Eurostat [quarterly data](#) on sector accounts (including complete euro area dataset – previous vintage)

Eurostat [annual data](#) on sector accounts (including complete euro area dataset – previous vintage)

Eurostat [metadata](#) on European sector accounts compilation

Detailed data and methodology on the Eurostat website [here](#) and on the ECB website [here](#)

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

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Key indicators and growth rates of selected transactions of the euro area (EA19)

		Investment rate, %		Profit share, %		Nominal growth, % change compared with the previous quarter (seasonally adjusted)		
		Not seasonally adjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Not seasonally adjusted	Seasonally adjusted	Gross value added	Gross fixed capital formation	Compensation of employees and other taxes less subsidies on production
2008	Q1	23.3	23.8	44.1	41.6	1.3	-2.4	2.5
	Q2	24.2	23.7	41.0	41.5	0.3	0.0	0.5
	Q3	23.0	23.6	41.9	41.0	-0.1	-0.6	0.8
	Q4	23.4	22.8	37.4	40.1	-2.3	-5.8	-0.8
2009	Q1	21.3	21.6	41.7	39.0	-3.1	-7.9	-1.3
	Q2	21.1	20.8	37.9	39.0	-0.9	-4.7	-0.9
	Q3	20.5	21.0	40.7	39.5	0.9	2.0	0.0
	Q4	21.2	20.6	37.2	39.6	0.5	-1.4	0.3
2010	Q1	20.4	20.7	42.3	39.7	0.7	1.0	0.6
	Q2	21.7	21.3	38.7	39.7	0.8	3.7	0.7
	Q3	20.7	21.3	41.0	39.9	1.1	0.9	0.8
	Q4	21.8	21.1	38.2	40.1	1.0	0.3	0.8
2011	Q1	21.4	21.7	43.0	40.2	1.4	4.2	1.1
	Q2	22.2	21.8	38.7	39.9	0.4	0.9	0.9
	Q3	21.4	22.1	41.0	40.0	0.6	1.9	0.5
	Q4	22.5	21.9	37.5	39.7	0.1	-0.7	0.5
2012	Q1	21.8	22.1	42.2	39.3	-0.1	0.9	0.6
	Q2	22.7	22.3	37.3	38.8	-0.4	0.3	0.4
	Q3	21.4	22.1	39.9	39.0	0.4	-0.3	0.0
	Q4	22.0	21.5	36.4	38.7	-0.2	-3.2	0.4
2013	Q1	20.9	21.3	41.5	38.8	0.0	-1.0	-0.1
	Q2	22.0	21.7	37.5	39.1	1.2	3.2	0.7
	Q3	21.0	21.6	40.3	39.2	0.7	0.6	0.5
	Q4	22.2	21.7	37.0	39.2	0.5	0.6	0.4
2014	Q1	21.3	21.7	41.9	39.2	0.6	1.0	0.7
	Q2	22.0	21.6	37.4	39.0	0.3	-0.2	0.7
	Q3	21.3	21.9	40.4	39.3	1.3	2.7	0.6
	Q4	22.3	21.7	37.2	39.3	0.5	-0.6	0.5
2015	Q1	20.9	21.3	43.0	40.3	2.0	0.2	0.3
	Q2	24.6	24.2	38.7	40.2	1.0	14.5	1.2
	Q3	21.3	21.9	41.4	40.1	0.8	-8.8	0.9
	Q4	23.2	22.5	38.4	40.1	1.0	3.9	1.0
2016	Q1	22.5	23.0	42.6	40.4	1.1	3.3	0.7
	Q2	23.3	22.8	39.5	40.6	0.7	0.0	0.4
	Q3	22.3	22.9	41.3	40.3	0.5	1.1	1.0
	Q4	23.7	23.1	38.8	40.6	1.3	2.1	0.6
2017	Q1	22.2	22.4	42.6	40.1	0.8	-2.2	1.8
	Q2	25.3	24.8	38.9	40.4	1.6	12.2	1.0
	Q3	21.8	22.5	41.9	41.0	1.5	-7.7	0.6
	Q4	23.1	22.7	38.5	40.6	1.2	1.8	1.9
2018	Q1	22.6	23.0	42.5	40.2	0.3	1.8	1.0
	Q2	23.2	22.8	38.8	40.3	0.9	0.2	0.8
	Q3	22.6	23.4	40.4	39.6	0.4	2.9	1.6
	Q4	24.0	23.5	37.7	39.5	0.8	1.2	1.0
2019	Q1	23.2	23.7	41.8	39.6	1.0	2.0	1.0
	Q2	26.0	25.6	37.6	39.1	0.4	8.4	1.1
	Q3	23.0	23.7	40.3	39.3	1.0	-6.3	0.8
	Q4	26.4	25.8	37.7	39.5	0.7	9.5	0.4

Source dataset: [nasq_10_ki](#)