

83/2020 - 19 May 2020

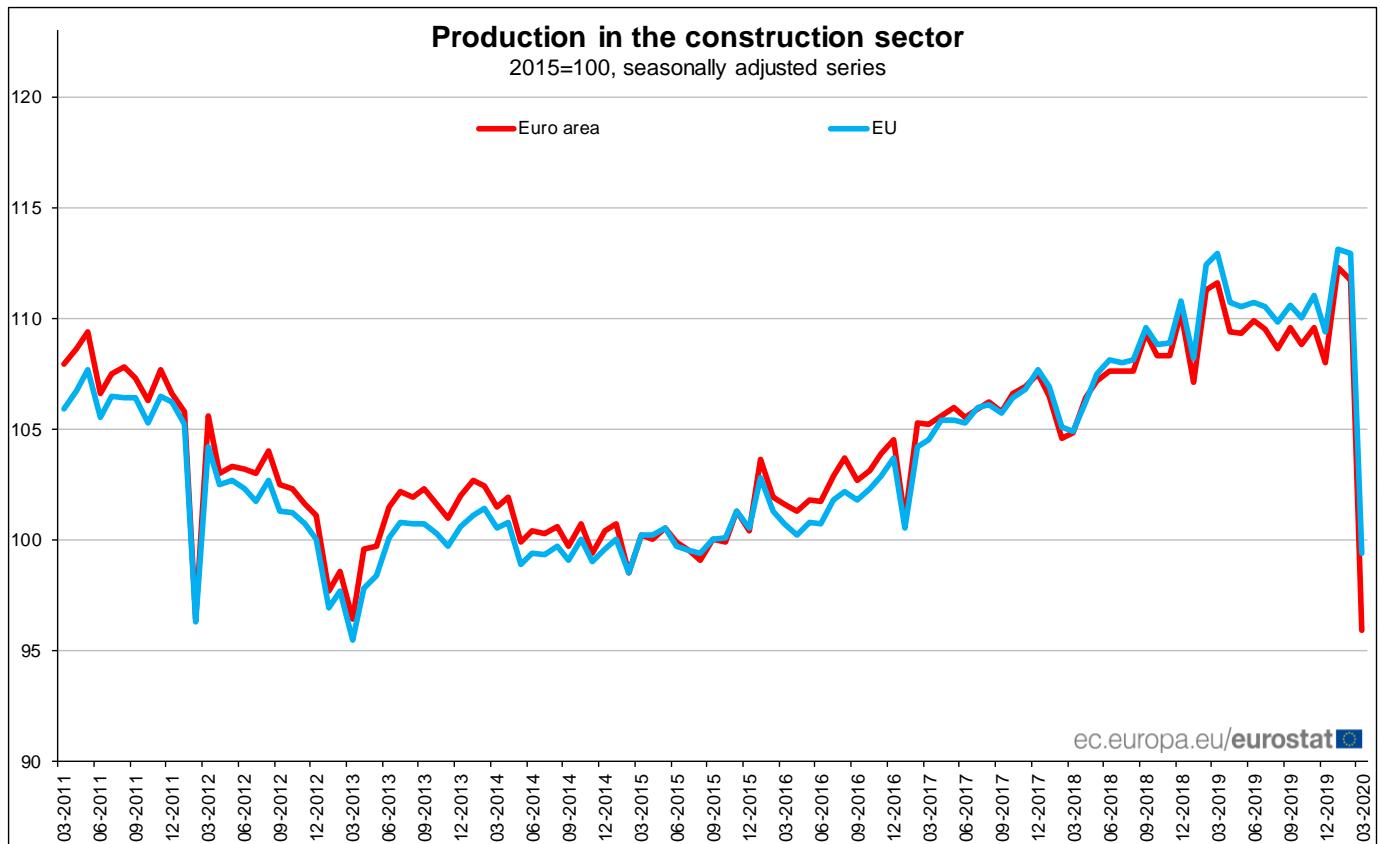
March 2020 compared with February 2020

## Production in construction down by 14.1% in euro area

Down by 12.0% in EU

In March 2020, the COVID-19 containment measures widely introduced by Member States had a significant impact on production in construction, as the seasonally adjusted production in the construction sector decreased by 14.1% in the **euro area** and by 12.0% in the **EU**, compared with February 2020, according to first estimates from **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In February 2020, production in construction fell by 0.5% in the **euro area** and by 0.2% in the **EU**.

In March 2020 compared with March 2019, production in construction decreased by 15.4% in the **euro area** and by 13.4% in the **EU**.



## **Monthly comparison by construction sector and by Member State**

In the **euro area** in March 2020, compared with February 2020, civil engineering decreased by 16.0% and building construction by 14.0%.

In the **EU**, civil engineering decreased by 13.7% and building construction by 11.8%.

Among Member States for which data are available, the largest decreases in production in construction were recorded in **France** (-40.2%), **Italy** (-36.2%) and **Slovenia** (-11.9%). The highest increases were observed in **Romania** (+2.1%), **Germany** (+1.8%) and **Netherlands** (+1.5%).

## **Annual comparison by construction sector and by Member State**

In the **euro area** in March 2020, compared with March 2019, civil engineering decreased by 17.2% and building construction by 15.2%.

In the **EU** civil engineering decreased by 14.9% and building construction by 13.3%.

Among Member States for which data are available, the largest decreases in production in construction were observed in **France** (-41.2%), **Italy** (-35.4%) and **Belgium** (-23.2%). The highest increases were observed in **Romania** (+28.1%), **Germany** (+5.1%), **Poland** and **Finland** (both +1.5%).

## **Geographical information**

The **euro area** (EA19) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union** (EU27) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.

Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania and Malta are not required to supply monthly data under Council Regulation 1165/98.

## **Methods and definitions**

The **index of production in construction** approximates the evolution of the volume of production within the sector, broken down into building construction and civil engineering.

**Seasonally adjusted** euro area and EU series are calculated by aggregating the seasonally adjusted national data. Eurostat carries out the seasonal adjustment of the data for those countries that do not adjust their data for seasonal effects.

The monthly index as presented in this News Release is calculated only on the basis of the data of those countries reporting monthly data. Missing observations from Member States for recent months are estimated for the calculation of the euro area and the EU aggregates.

Data collection for volume of production in construction has in several countries been affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The data in this release are, for some Member States, based on fewer statistical observations than usual. Information on the compilation of short-term business statistics during the COVID-19 crisis can be found [here](#).

## **Revisions and timetable**

Data of previous months have been revised compared with those issued in News Release [62/2020](#) of 17 April 2020. The monthly percentage change for February 2020 was revised from -1.5% to -0.5% in the euro area and from -1.0% to -0.2% in the EU. The annual percentage change has been revised from -0.9% to +0.2% in the euro area and from -0.9% to +0.1% in the EU.

## **For more information**

Eurostat [database section](#) on short-term business statistics

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on the production in construction index

The [weights of the Member States](#) in the EU and euro area aggregates (see file NEWS\_RELEASE\_WEIGHTINGS\_2015)

Eurostat [€-indicators release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

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## Production in construction

% change compared with the previous quarter / previous month\*

	Q2-19	Q3-19	Q4-19	Q1-20	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
<b>Euro area</b>										
Total construction	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	<b>-1.8</b>	-0.7	0.7	-1.5	4.0	-0.5	<b>-14.1</b>
Building	-0.6	-0.2	-0.4	<b>-1.6</b>	-0.8	0.6	-1.6	4.0	0.0	<b>-14.0</b>
Civil engineering	0.1	-0.2	0.5	<b>-2.6</b>	-0.8	1.4	-1.0	4.5	-2.5	<b>-16.0</b>
<b>EU</b>										
Total construction	-0.4	-0.3	0.0	<b>-1.4</b>	-0.5	0.9	-1.4	3.4	-0.2	<b>-12.0</b>
Building	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	<b>-1.6</b>	-0.4	0.8	-1.4	3.0	0.2	<b>-11.8</b>
Civil engineering	-0.3	-0.5	0.5	<b>-0.9</b>	-0.7	1.3	-0.9	4.9	-1.5	<b>-13.7</b>

Source datasets: [sts\\_copr\\_q](#) (quarterly data) and [sts\\_copr\\_m](#) (monthly data)

Total construction	Q2-19	Q3-19	Q4-19	Q1-20	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
<b>Euro area</b>	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	<b>-1.8</b>	-0.7	0.7	-1.5	4.0	-0.5	<b>-14.1</b>
<b>EU</b>	-0.4	-0.3	0.0	<b>-1.4</b>	-0.5	0.9	-1.4	3.4	-0.2	<b>-12.0</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	-0.4	-1.1	-1.0	<b>-1.9</b>	-0.5	0.9	-1.6	2.4	-2.6	<b>-5.1</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	-0.5	1.3	-0.2	<b>-4.2</b>	0.0	-1.0	0.4	0.3	-1.2	<b>-11.2</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	-0.1	-0.3	1.0	<b>2.9</b>	0.4	1.3	0.5	3.2	-0.1	<b>-3.1</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	-3.6	1.8	0.2	:	0.4	0.5	-2.8	1.6	-2.4	:
<b>Germany</b>	0.4	0.1	0.1	<b>5.5</b>	-1.3	2.0	-1.9	5.8	-0.3	<b>1.8</b>
<b>Estonia**</b>	1.1	1.7	3.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Ireland**</b>	-0.4	6.6	5.3	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Greece**</b>	9.7	-14.6	2.9	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	0.6	-2.1	-2.3	<b>-3.1</b>	0.7	-1.1	-1.0	-0.2	-1.6	<b>-2.5</b>
<b>France</b>	-1.5	-1.1	-0.1	<b>-12.0u</b>	-2.2	3.2	-3.5	2.3	1.1u	<b>-40.2u</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	-0.8	2.3	2.1	:	0.3	0.8	0.4	2.6	4.8	:
<b>Italy</b>	-1.8	0.6	-1.3	<b>-6.8</b>	0.5	-3.4	1.4	7.8	-2.4	<b>-36.2</b>
<b>Cyprus**</b>	3.2	2.4	1.0	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Latvia**</b>	-0.1	0.4	1.8	<b>11.5</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Lithuania**</b>	-2.9	0.7	-0.3	<b>12.3</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Luxembourg</b>	-1.3	1.8	1.2	:	1.6	-1.8	0.5	4.0	2.6	:
<b>Hungary</b>	-3.6	5.0	-1.6	<b>1.0</b>	2.7	-4.5	-3.1	2.1	6.8	<b>-5.2</b>
<b>Malta**</b>	7.3	4.1	4.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Netherlands</b>	-0.7	1.1	-0.6	<b>0.5</b>	-1.1	-0.1	-0.2	1.8	-2.4	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Austria</b>	2.1	1.0	1.4	:	2.8	0.1	-1.4	4.2	0.5	:
<b>Poland</b>	-0.1	0.0	-3.6	<b>8.7</b>	-5.5	3.1	-3.0	8.9	3.1	<b>-3.6</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	-0.3	0.8	-1.5	<b>0.5</b>	0.0	-1.1	0.1	1.1	1.6	<b>-4.2</b>
<b>Romania</b>	15.1	-1.1	-2.7	<b>19.4</b>	-1.8	1.7	-1.8	22.4	-3.7	<b>2.1</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	-4.2	-5.2	2.7	<b>10.8</b>	5.2	-1.2	-1.4	11.0	8.2	<b>-11.9</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	-0.9	1.0	-1.1	<b>3.6</b>	-2.4	-6.6	3.5	5.0	1.3	<b>-6.5</b>
<b>Finland</b>	0.2	-0.2	0.7	<b>2.3</b>	0.4	0.3	-0.3	2.0	0.9	<b>-0.8</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	-1.8	-3.4	5.9	<b>-6.8</b>	4.4	2.6	0.1	-10.1	3.6	<b>0.8</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	-1.2	0.8	0.0	<b>-2.6</b>	-2.4	2.3	-0.2	0.2	-2.2	<b>-5.8</b>
<b>Norway</b>	1.9	0.4	-0.8	<b>-1.9</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Switzerland</b>	-0.4	-0.5	0.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

\* Calendar and seasonally adjusted

\*\* These Member States are not required to supply monthly data under Council Regulation 1165/98

: Data not available

u Low reliability

Source datasets: [sts\\_copr\\_q](#) (quarterly data) and [sts\\_copr\\_m](#) (monthly data)

## Production in construction

% change compared with the same quarter / the same month of the previous year\*

	Q2-19	Q3-19	Q4-19	Q1-20	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
<b>Euro area</b>										
Total construction	2.3	1.2	0.3	<b>-3.4</b>	0.5	1.3	-2.3	7.1	0.2	<b>-15.4</b>
Building	2.3	1.2	-0.1	<b>-3.6</b>	0.3	0.9	-3.2	5.6	-0.1	<b>-15.2</b>
Civil engineering	3.0	1.1	1.3	<b>-2.5</b>	1.0	2.0	1.5	13.4	2.0	<b>-17.2</b>
<b>EU</b>										
Total construction	3.2	1.8	0.8	<b>-2.9</b>	1.1	1.8	-1.7	6.1	0.1	<b>-13.4</b>
Building	3.3	2.0	1.0	<b>-3.2</b>	1.3	2.0	-1.9	4.8	-0.5	<b>-13.3</b>
Civil engineering	3.4	1.4	0.8	<b>-1.8</b>	0.3	1.4	0.8	12.7	2.5	<b>-14.9</b>

Source datasets: [sts\\_copr\\_q](#) (quarterly data) and [sts\\_copr\\_m](#) (monthly data)

Total construction	Q2-19	Q3-19	Q4-19	Q1-20	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20
<b>Euro area</b>	2.3	1.2	0.3	<b>-3.4</b>	0.5	1.3	-2.3	7.1	0.2	<b>-15.4</b>
<b>EU</b>	3.2	1.8	0.8	<b>-2.9</b>	1.1	1.8	-1.7	6.1	0.1	<b>-13.4</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	2.5	-1.0	-2.0	<b>-6.1</b>	-2.5	2.2	-6.5	12.6	-4.4	<b>-23.2</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	3.2	4.6	2.2	<b>-4.4</b>	3.4	1.3	1.9	1.7	-0.2	<b>-14.0</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	4.4	0.0	3.2	<b>2.3</b>	0.5	5.2	4.4	6.0	5.4	<b>-2.3</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	0.9	2.5	1.9	:	2.7	3.6	-0.8	2.3	-5.0	:
<b>Germany</b>	3.3	2.7	1.8	<b>7.6</b>	1.2	3.6	0.5	15.0	4.5	<b>5.1</b>
<b>Estonia**</b>	3.0	-1.2	9.4	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Ireland**</b>	4.7	8.5	15.2	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Greece**</b>	6.6	-9.0	-5.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	0.5	-2.2	-3.8	<b>-8.2</b>	-0.8	-3.2	-6.4	-0.7	-7.4	<b>-15.5</b>
<b>France</b>	1.4	-1.6	-1.4	<b>-14.7u</b>	-1.7	1.8	-5.2	1.3	-1.5u	<b>-41.2u</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	6.2	5.9	7.4	:	7.0	7.0	8.3	8.0	11.9	:
<b>Italy</b>	1.8	1.2	-0.4	<b>-10.6</b>	2.7	-2.7	-1.3	8.4	1.1	<b>-35.4</b>
<b>Cyprus**</b>	15.5	10.5	9.8	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Latvia**</b>	0.9	5.8	-0.5	<b>14.8</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Lithuania**</b>	8.0	6.3	6.2	<b>10.1</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Luxembourg</b>	-1.3	1.3	0.6	:	1.0	1.4	-1.2	12.1	4.7	:
<b>Hungary</b>	27.2	19.4	9.7	<b>-0.1</b>	20.8	7.3	2.7	-1.0	5.3	<b>-3.4</b>
<b>Malta**</b>	15.6	21.7	21.9	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Netherlands</b>	2.4	5.0	0.3	<b>1.1</b>	1.3	0.3	-1.2	6.1	-3.8	<b>1.4</b>
<b>Austria</b>	5.6	4.4	4.1	:	4.0	6.6	1.6	11.4	10.4	:
<b>Poland</b>	8.0	4.9	-3.6	<b>5.2</b>	-4.1	-1.1	-5.4	8.6	7.2	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	3.1	2.7	1.7	<b>-0.6</b>	1.8	2.1	1.1	0.4	1.2	<b>-3.5</b>
<b>Romania</b>	30.3	35.5	25.7	<b>32.8</b>	27.6	27.1	23.1	49.8	26.8	<b>28.1</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	8.5	-5.2	-3.8	<b>3.1</b>	-3.2	-8.7	2.9	8.0	7.2	<b>-3.8</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	-0.5	-3.9	-6.3	<b>4.1</b>	-2.4	-10.6	-5.9	8.5	8.4	<b>-2.5</b>
<b>Finland</b>	0.9	-0.8	-2.4	<b>3.8</b>	0.0	-0.9	-5.8	4.3	5.7	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	6.9	0.5	5.6	<b>-6.3</b>	5.2	6.7	4.9	-6.7	-6.4	<b>-5.7</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	1.5	2.3	1.4	<b>-1.9</b>	-0.7	0.0	5.7	1.1	-1.1	<b>-5.3</b>
<b>Norway</b>	4.6	3.7	1.2	<b>-0.4</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Switzerland</b>	-2.7	-1.8	-0.1	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

\* Calendar adjusted

\*\* These Member States are not required to supply monthly data under Council Regulation 1165/98

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Source datasets: [sts\\_copr\\_q](#) (quarterly data) and [sts\\_copr\\_m](#) (monthly data)



