

During the third quarter of 2018, working-day adjusted turnover in selected services activities increased by 4.5 per cent over the same quarter in 2017. Seasonally adjusted services turnover decreased by 4.0 per cent over the previous quarter.

## Short-term Services Indicators: Q3/2018

Cut-off date:  
**22 November 2018**

### Annual comparison

When compared to the third quarter of 2017, working-day adjusted turnover increased by 4.5 per cent (Table 1). Increases in turnover were registered in the real estate activities (32.3 per cent), in the professional, scientific and technical activities (11.3 per cent), in the transportation and storage activities (8.7 per cent), in the wholesale trade (7.9 per cent) and in the retail trade (0.7 per cent). Decreases were recorded in the administrative and support service activities (8.1 per cent), in the motor trade (2.5 per cent), in the information and communication (1.4 per cent) and in the accommodation and food service activities (1.2 per cent).

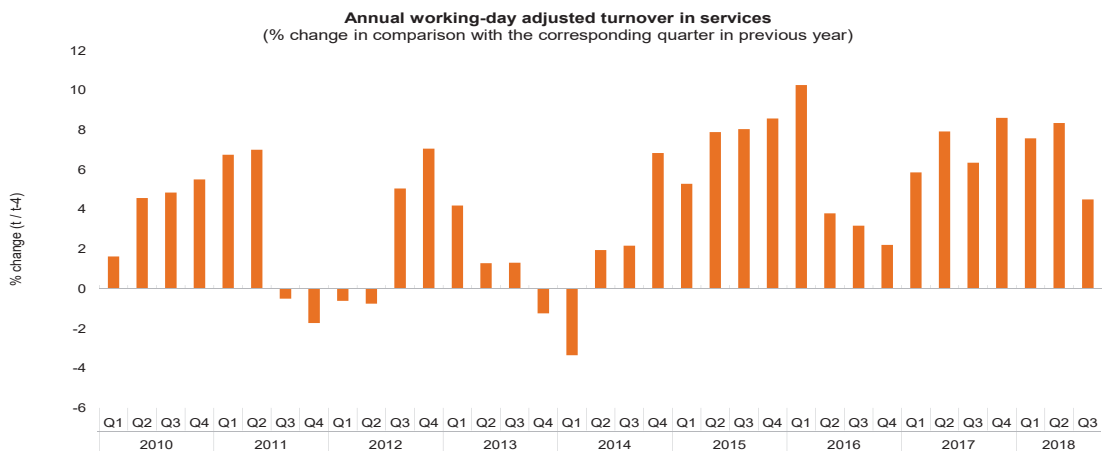
Employment (Table 3) and the gross amount of wages and salaries paid (Table 5) rose by 0.3 and 0.5 per cent respectively while the hours worked (Table 7) decreased by 0.3 per cent over the corresponding quarter in 2017.

### Quarterly comparison

When compared to the previous quarter of 2018, the seasonally adjusted services turnover index decreased by 4.0 per cent (Table 2). Decreases were recorded in the real estate activities (24.3 per cent), in the administrative and support service activities (6.4 per cent), in the transportation and storage (3.9 per cent), in the accommodation and food service activities (3.7 per cent), in the information and communication activities (2.7 per cent) and in the wholesale trade (0.2 per cent). Increases were recorded within the professional, scientific and technical activities (7.9 per cent) and in the motor trade (1.5 per cent).

Moreover, the seasonally adjusted employment (Table 4), seasonally adjusted gross wages and salaries (Table 6) and the hours worked (Table 8) each decreased by 0.7 per cent ■

**Chart 1. Annual working-day adjusted turnover in services**  
(% change in comparison with the corresponding quarter in previous year)



**Table 1. Services turnover index by period and NACE classification**  
*Working-day adjusted*

NACE	2017		2018			% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	2017		2018		
						Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	111.1	115.9	101.0	116.1	116.4	8.1	12.0	8.0	8.7	4.8
Motor trade	116.7	111.0	116.3	118.4	113.8	11.7	9.4	10.5	1.6	-2.5
Wholesale trade	109.6	114.6	98.7	117.3	118.3	8.6	16.5	9.0	13.8	7.9
Retail trade	112.7	119.3	102.4	113.4	113.4	6.5	5.2	5.7	1.3	0.7
Food	115.1	121.7	105.7	121.1	126.7	6.9	9.5	8.9	3.6	10.1
Non-food	111.1	117.7	100.2	108.3	104.7	6.2	2.5	3.6	-0.3	-5.8
Transportation and storage	137.5	126.6	123.7	147.4	149.4	4.7	5.3	8.8	12.0	8.7
Accommodation and food service activities	145.8	99.1	84.5	124.6	144.1	7.1	5.6	10.6	6.8	-1.2
Information and communication	117.6	129.0	111.4	119.1	115.9	5.6	5.6	-4.9	-1.1	-1.4
Real estate activities	115.4	94.7	124.6	201.6	152.7	10.1	-10.3	24.4	85.0	32.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	99.4	119.4	114.3	111.9	110.6	-3.6	4.0	12.6	-2.7	11.3
Administrative and support service activities	132.5	121.1	112.5	132.7	121.7	4.4	6.9	6.9	-3.4	-8.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>117.5</b>	<b>117.9</b>	<b>106.3</b>	<b>123.9</b>	<b>122.8</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>4.5</b>

**Table 2. Services turnover index by period and NACE classification**  
*Seasonally adjusted*

NACE	2017		2018			% change compared with previous quarter				
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	2017		2018		
						Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	108.7	111.6	109.3	114.3	113.9	3.3	2.7	-2.1	4.6	-0.3
Motor trade	118.3	112.3	118.5	113.6	115.3	5.8	-5.1	5.5	-4.2	1.5
Wholesale trade	106.0	111.7	107.5	114.6	114.4	5.2	5.4	-3.8	6.7	-0.2
Retail trade	111.1	112.0	112.6	112.0	112.0	0.6	0.8	0.5	-0.5	0.0
Food	111.6	115.8	117.1	119.2	123.1	-2.9	3.7	1.1	1.8	3.3
Non-food	110.9	109.3	109.7	107.2	104.9	3.2	-1.4	0.3	-2.3	-2.2
Transportation and storage	126.3	129.1	136.0	143.8	138.3	-1.3	2.2	5.3	5.8	-3.9
Accommodation and food service activities	114.1	108.9	113.9	117.0	112.7	4.3	-4.5	4.5	2.7	-3.7
Information and communication	117.6	129.0	111.4	119.1	115.9	-2.3	9.8	-13.6	6.8	-2.7
Real estate activities	115.4	94.7	124.6	201.6	152.7	5.9	-17.9	31.6	61.8	-24.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	105.6	111.2	119.8	108.8	117.5	-5.5	5.3	7.8	-9.2	7.9
Administrative and support service activities	124.3	126.9	127.7	123.5	115.6	-3.4	2.1	0.7	-3.3	-6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>111.2</b>	<b>115.8</b>	<b>117.9</b>	<b>121.0</b>	<b>116.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>-4.0</b>

Note: The calculation of growth rates from the indices tables may differ slightly from the published growth rates, due to rounding.

**Table 3. Services employment index by period and NACE classification**

*Unadjusted*

NACE	2017		2018			% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	2017		2018		
						Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	107.6	109.1	108.6	109.1	110.4	2.6	3.7	2.8	2.4	2.6
Motor trade	110.8	107.8	111.5	111.8	113.6	3.9	0.8	1.5	1.8	2.5
Wholesale trade	106.2	106.3	105.5	106.0	107.8	1.1	3.2	0.6	0.8	1.5
Retail trade	108.0	111.0	110.1	110.5	111.6	3.3	4.4	4.3	3.5	3.3
Food	111.5	115.8	115.3	116.3	118.6	4.1	6.2	5.1	4.7	6.4
Non-food	106.5	108.8	107.7	107.8	108.3	2.9	3.5	3.9	2.9	1.8
Transportation and storage	100.7	100.9	101.5	102.5	102.5	-1.3	0.1	-0.1	0.9	1.9
Accommodation and food service activities	102.4	95.3	94.9	97.0	96.7	-2.9	-0.7	-2.1	-0.9	-5.6
Information and communication	102.7	101.5	101.2	103.2	104.4	-3.7	-4.1	-4.0	-1.8	1.6
Real estate activities	107.4	104.3	107.6	118.5	108.6	-1.5	-4.0	0.7	10.7	1.1
Professional, scientific and technical activities	104.2	101.9	104.9	103.4	103.5	-0.3	-2.4	2.2	-2.1	-0.7
Administrative and support service activities	123.4	122.3	122.7	120.8	121.7	8.7	10.5	6.9	-0.8	-1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>107.4</b>	<b>106.3</b>	<b>106.3</b>	<b>106.9</b>	<b>107.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>

**Table 4. Services employment index by period and NACE classification**

*Seasonally adjusted*

NACE	2017		2018			% change compared with previous quarter				
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	2017		2018		
						Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	107.6	109.1	108.6	109.1	110.4	1.1	1.4	-0.5	0.4	1.3
Motor trade	110.8	107.8	111.5	111.8	113.6	0.9	-2.8	3.4	0.3	1.6
Wholesale trade	106.2	106.3	105.5	106.0	107.8	0.9	0.1	-0.8	0.5	1.7
Retail trade	108.0	111.0	110.1	110.5	111.6	1.2	2.7	-0.8	0.3	1.0
Food	111.5	115.8	115.3	116.3	118.6	0.3	3.9	-0.4	0.9	2.0
Non-food	106.5	108.8	107.7	107.8	108.3	1.6	2.2	-1.0	0.1	0.5
Transportation and storage	100.1	101.1	102.3	102.1	101.9	-1.2	1.0	1.2	-0.2	-0.2
Accommodation and food service activities	97.8	97.3	98.2	96.1	92.4	0.7	-0.5	0.9	-2.2	-3.8
Information and communication	102.1	102.1	101.6	102.8	103.8	-2.4	0.0	-0.5	1.2	0.9
Real estate activities	107.4	104.3	107.6	118.5	108.6	0.3	-2.9	3.2	10.1	-8.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	104.2	101.9	104.9	103.4	103.5	-1.3	-2.2	2.9	-1.4	0.1
Administrative and support service activities	123.4	122.3	122.7	120.8	121.7	1.3	-0.9	0.3	-1.5	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>105.7</b>	<b>106.5</b>	<b>108.0</b>	<b>106.8</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-0.7</b>

Note: The calculation of growth rates from the indices tables may differ slightly from the published growth rates, due to rounding.

**Table 5. Services gross wages and salaries index by period and NACE classification**  
*Working-day adjusted*

NACE	2017		2018			% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
						2017		2018		
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	111.9	119.3	116.4	116.4	116.8	6.3	6.8	7.9	5.3	4.4
Motor trade	124.6	131.2	125.4	125.8	128.7	11.7	10.7	11.4	6.2	3.3
Wholesale trade	107.5	115.8	111.9	112.4	112.0	4.2	5.7	6.3	4.7	4.2
Retail trade	114.9	121.3	119.9	119.3	120.3	7.7	7.3	8.9	5.7	4.7
Food	118.7	126.4	123.8	124.8	124.1	8.7	12.3	12.0	9.0	4.5
Non-food	113.5	119.5	118.1	117.0	118.8	7.4	5.3	7.8	4.1	4.7
Transportation and storage	104.9	110.4	113.0	110.8	112.2	3.4	7.5	6.3	6.8	6.9
Accommodation and food service activities	112.9	106.7	106.8	114.5	111.0	4.5	3.2	5.3	6.3	-1.7
Information and communication	108.6	111.6	110.2	112.8	111.6	3.9	4.0	0.9	4.1	2.8
Real estate activities	107.2	115.9	116.4	116.7	114.6	0.1	-1.8	6.4	-5.7	6.9
Professional, scientific and technical activities	122.6	120.5	116.6	122.3	114.3	8.1	3.8	-2.3	-0.2	-6.8
Administrative and support service activities	132.1	140.8	130.4	129.5	120.9	13.6	11.8	10.3	0.1	-8.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>114.5</b>	<b>118.7</b>	<b>116.0</b>	<b>117.3</b>	<b>115.1</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>

**Table 6. Services gross wages and salaries index by period and NACE classification**  
*Seasonally adjusted*

NACE	2017		2018			% change compared with previous quarter				
						2017		2018		
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	113.6	115.2	117.0	117.9	119.1	1.7	1.5	1.5	0.8	1.0
Motor trade	125.0	127.8	127.3	126.9	129.1	4.6	2.2	-0.3	-0.3	1.7
Wholesale trade	109.4	111.7	112.9	113.5	114.1	0.9	2.2	1.1	0.5	0.5
Retail trade	115.7	118.9	120.7	120.1	121.1	1.7	2.8	1.5	-0.5	0.8
Food	118.7	126.4	123.8	124.8	124.1	3.7	6.5	-2.0	0.8	-0.6
Non-food	114.7	116.4	119.1	117.9	120.0	1.4	1.5	2.3	-1.1	1.9
Transportation and storage	104.9	110.4	113.0	110.8	112.2	1.1	5.2	2.4	-1.9	1.3
Accommodation and food service activities	107.8	107.7	112.4	112.8	106.5	1.3	-0.1	4.3	0.4	-5.6
Information and communication	108.6	111.6	110.2	112.8	111.6	0.2	2.8	-1.3	2.4	-1.1
Real estate activities	107.2	115.9	116.4	116.7	114.6	-13.4	8.2	0.4	0.2	-1.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities	122.6	120.5	116.6	122.3	114.3	0.1	-1.8	-3.2	4.9	-6.6
Administrative and support service activities	132.1	140.8	130.4	129.5	120.9	2.1	6.6	-7.4	-0.7	-6.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>115.3</b>	<b>116.1</b>	<b>117.4</b>	<b>117.3</b>	<b>116.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.7</b>

Note: The calculation of growth rates from the indices tables may differ slightly from the published growth rates, due to rounding.

**Table 7. Services hours worked index by period and NACE classification**

*Working-day adjusted*

NACE	2017		2018			% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	2017		2018		
						Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	106.7	108.7	107.3	108.2	110.4	3.7	5.1	3.9	2.4	3.4
Motor trade	110.8	110.7	114.2	114.7	116.3	4.1	4.3	5.3	5.6	5.0
Wholesale trade	101.7	102.6	101.3	103.0	105.1	3.1	4.7	1.5	2.1	3.3
Retail trade	110.1	113.2	111.6	111.6	113.9	3.9	5.5	5.4	2.3	3.5
Food	118.0	123.4	118.6	117.0	123.2	6.8	12.7	8.2	2.3	4.5
Non-food	106.7	108.8	108.4	109.1	109.8	2.5	2.2	4.1	2.2	2.9
Transportation and storage	105.2	108.0	109.2	106.7	108.4	-1.0	3.4	6.4	3.5	3.0
Accommodation and food service activities	106.8	97.7	95.2	104.2	102.4	0.3	-0.6	0.7	2.3	-4.2
Information and communication	103.5	101.9	98.5	102.2	100.8	-1.9	-2.8	-5.8	-1.8	-2.6
Real estate activities	108.3	107.4	109.0	103.6	107.0	-3.4	-1.5	1.7	-8.1	-1.2
Professional, scientific and technical activities	111.3	108.2	108.3	106.0	106.7	2.5	-1.9	-1.5	-4.7	-4.1
Administrative and support service activities	136.0	135.5	128.0	134.6	128.8	9.8	11.5	9.8	4.1	-5.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>110.7</b>	<b>109.6</b>	<b>108.5</b>	<b>110.8</b>	<b>110.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

**Table 8. Services hours worked index by period and NACE classification**

*Seasonally adjusted*

NACE	2017		2018			% change compared with previous quarter				
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	2017		2018		
						Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	106.3	108.3	108.2	108.0	110.0	0.7	1.9	-0.1	-0.2	1.8
Motor trade	110.8	110.7	114.2	114.7	116.3	2.0	-0.1	3.2	0.4	1.4
Wholesale trade	101.7	102.6	101.3	103.0	105.1	0.9	0.9	-1.3	1.7	2.0
Retail trade	109.4	111.4	113.5	112.1	113.3	-0.2	1.8	1.9	-1.2	1.0
Food	117.3	121.1	120.4	118.2	122.5	1.5	3.2	-0.6	-1.8	3.7
Non-food	106.3	107.5	110.0	109.1	109.5	-0.5	1.1	2.3	-0.8	0.3
Transportation and storage	104.2	106.7	111.1	107.2	107.3	0.6	2.4	4.2	-3.6	0.2
Accommodation and food service activities	100.6	99.6	101.5	101.8	97.0	0.5	-1.0	2.0	0.3	-4.7
Information and communication	103.5	101.9	98.5	102.2	100.8	-0.6	-1.5	-3.3	3.8	-1.4
Real estate activities	108.3	107.4	109.0	103.6	107.0	-4.0	-0.9	1.6	-4.9	3.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	111.3	108.2	108.3	106.0	106.7	0.0	-2.8	0.1	-2.1	0.7
Administrative and support service activities	132.1	135.5	132.3	134.3	125.1	2.3	2.6	-2.3	1.5	-6.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>109.1</b>	<b>109.7</b>	<b>110.2</b>	<b>110.3</b>	<b>109.5</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.7</b>

Note: The calculation of growth rates from the indices tables may differ slightly from the published growth rates, due to rounding.

## Methodological Notes

1. The aim of short-term statistics is to provide information on the business cycle within the services sector. The results are compiled and published according to the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community, NACE Rev. 2.
2. Every quarter, questionnaires are sent to approximately 900 enterprises categorised within the services sector. The data is then grossed up to represent the entire Services population. For each NACE division (for example NACE Division 45 for motor trade), a sample was selected. The selected enterprises were requested to provide information, including turnover, employment and wages and salaries, on a quarterly basis. The indices were calculated for each division, showing the level of the specified variable (for example employment) relative to the average level throughout the base year 2015. The index numbers in this release are working-day and seasonally adjusted. These statistical methods aid interpretation of data by removing regularly recurring variations from a time series. Working-day adjustment is a statistical method for removing the calendar effect from an economic time series. The calendar effect is the variation caused by the changing number of working days in different quarters.

The number of working days for a given quarter may depend on the timing of certain public holidays, the possible overlap of certain public holidays and non-working days, and the occurrence of a leap year. This method is used to make a comparison with the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Seasonal adjustment removes variations which include effects due to quarter length, holidays and particular events such as Christmas.

Statistically, seasonal adjustment takes place after a time series has already been cleared of calendar effects by way of working-day adjustment. This method is used to compare data for a specific quarter with the previous quarter. In seasonal and working-day adjustment, the direct approach is used and refers to the adjustments of aggregated raw component.

3. In line with the Regulation on Short-term Statistics, services exclude Financial and Insurance Activities and Gambling and Betting Activities.
4. **Definitions:**
  - **Turnover:** includes total sales and other income and is expressed net of VAT. Turnover is presented in current prices.
  - **Wages and Salaries:** covers wages and salaries including bonuses, weekly allowances (cost of living allowances), overtime and national social security contributions by the employee. The definition does not include employer's social security charges.
  - **Employment:** covers all persons employed, regardless of whether they are part-time or full-time, and includes paid employees as well as working proprietors and unpaid family workers. Employment is not working day adjusted since the number of employees does not depend on factors that make up the working day effect.
  - **Hours worked:** covers total amount of hours actually worked; regular working hours and during overtime; during nights, Sundays or public holidays. Hours worked but not paid are also considered.
5. The data contained in this release should be considered as provisional and therefore subject to revision. Each release may include revisions of the past quarterly data in respect of a rolling two-year period.

6. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

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