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In the fourth quarter last year, working-day adjusted turnover in selected services activities increased by 3.6 per cent over the corresponding period of 2013. Provisional seasonally adjusted services turnover increased by 0.7 per cent.

## Short-term Services Indicators: Q4/2014

Cut-off date:  
9 April 2015

### Annual comparison

When compared to the fourth quarter of 2013, working-day adjusted turnover went up by 3.6 per cent. Turnover increased in real estate activities (26.9 per cent), accommodation and food service activities (12.5 per cent), wholesale trade (7.6 per cent), motor trade (6.1 per cent), retail trade (5.1 per cent) and transportation and storage (2.4 per cent). Decreases were registered in administrative and support services activities (14.5 per cent), information and communication (13.1 per cent) and professional, scientific and technical activities (0.4 per cent) (Table 1).

Employment (Table 3), gross wages and salaries (Table 5) and hours worked (Table 7) increased by 1.2, 3.8 and 3.4 per cent respectively over the comparative quarter of 2013.

### Quarterly comparison

Seasonally adjusted turnover in the fourth quarter of 2014 increased by 0.7 per cent over the previous quarter. Increases were registered in transportation and storage (6.3 per cent), accommodation and food service activities (3.7 per cent), information and communication (2.1 per cent), retail trade (2.1 per cent) and motor trade (1.5 per cent). Declines were registered in administrative and support services activities (6.4 per cent), real estate activities (5.6 per cent), professional, scientific and technical activities (1.5 per cent) and wholesale trade (0.6 per cent) (Table 2).

Seasonally adjusted employment (Table 4), gross wages and salaries (Table 6) and hours worked (Table 8) increased by 1.0, 0.9 and 1.6 per cent respectively over the previous quarter ■

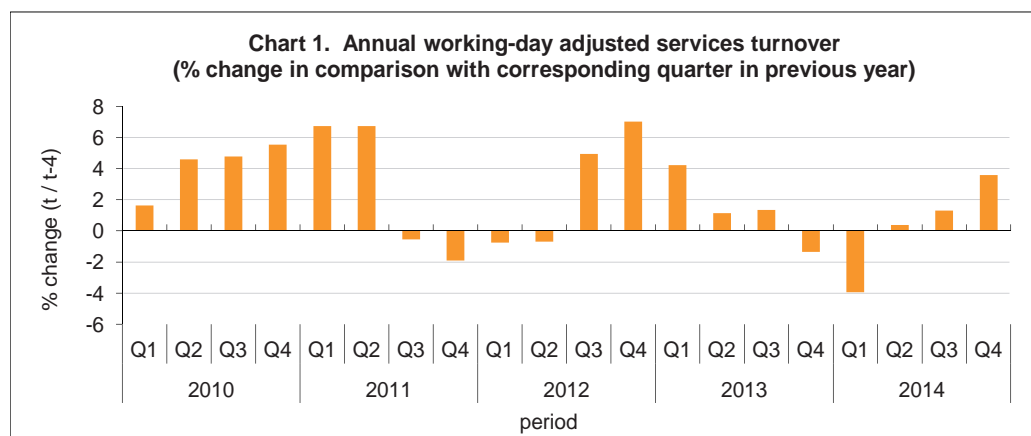
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**Table 1. Services turnover index by NACE classification**  
Working-day adjusted

NACE	2013	2014				% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
						2013	2014			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	107.6	96.0	109.1	111.2	114.6	-1	-6	3.9	3	6.5
Motor trade	100.2	96.0	113.7	106.4	106.3	-4.2	3.5	6.1	1.8	6.1
Wholesale trade	102.2	95.0	105.6	110.1	110.0	-2	-9	3.5	5.7	7.6
Retail trade	117.4	97.8	113.9	113.5	123.4	1	-2.4	4	-0.7	5.1
Food	118.0	99.0	107.4	110.1	120.2	-0.8	-4.2	-4	-6.9	1.9
Non-food	117.1	97.2	117.2	115.3	125.0	2	-1.4	8.2	2.6	6.7
Transportation and storage	106.0	96.1	117.2	119.4	108.5	-0.9	3.6	2.6	-9.5	2.4
Accommodation and food service activities	102.2	76.7	122.8	165.1	115.0	10	10.5	6.3	17	12.5
Information and communication	99.9	83.1	81.1	85.0	86.8	7.9	-13.5	-12.3	-9.6	-13.1
Real estate activities	78.7	84.8	90.5	105.8	99.9	-20.6	-18.5	29.3	40.3	26.9
Professional, scientific and technical activities	123.9	106.0	118.1	113.4	123.4	0.7	3.6	-4.2	0.6	-0.4
Administrative and support service activities	111.2	90.0	112.1	129.3	95.1	-17.6	6.5	-21.2	-10.9	-14.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>107.0</b>	<b>93.6</b>	<b>108.8</b>	<b>115.1</b>	<b>110.8</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>-3.9</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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

NACE	2013	2014				% change compared with previous quarter				
						2013	2014			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	104.0	102.8	107.9	108.9	110.8	-1.7	-1.2	5.0	0.9	1.7
Motor trade	101.7	100.2	107.6	106.3	107.9	-2.6	-1.5	7.4	-1.2	1.5
Wholesale trade	100.2	99.4	104.7	108.4	107.7	-2.4	-0.8	5.3	3.5	-0.6
Retail trade	109.8	110.0	112.1	111.8	114.1	-1.2	0.2	1.9	-0.3	2.1
Food	111.2	108.4	108.6	107.3	112.7	-2.8	-2.5	0.2	-1.2	5.0
Non-food	109.1	107.7	116.3	113.8	116.9	-1.6	-1.3	8.0	-2.1	2.7
Transportation and storage	108.9	112.6	113.4	104.8	111.4	-5.9	3.4	0.7	-7.6	6.3
Accommodation and food service activities	112.9	112.5	115.1	122.2	126.7	8.1	-0.4	2.3	6.2	3.7
Information and communication	99.9	83.1	81.1	85.0	86.8	6.2	-16.8	-2.4	4.8	2.1
Real estate activities	78.7	84.8	90.5	105.8	99.9	4.4	7.8	6.7	16.9	-5.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	116.7	112.7	114.0	118.0	116.2	-0.6	-3.4	1.2	3.5	-1.5
Administrative and support service activities	117.5	115.6	104.5	108.0	101.1	-3.3	-1.6	-9.6	3.3	-6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>105.4</b>	<b>103.6</b>	<b>106.6</b>	<b>108.4</b>	<b>109.2</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.7</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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 NACE classification**

NACE	Unadjusted									
	2013	2014				% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	2013	2014		
						Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	108.9	110.1	111.2	112.0	112.7	5.7	6	5.2	3.4	3.5
Motor trade	119.0	112.7	118.0	120.3	121.2	12.1	10.8	2.4	2.1	1.8
Wholesale trade	111.0	119.4	119.9	119.6	119.3	7.9	10.7	13.4	9	7.5
Retail trade	105.8	103.6	104.3	105.5	106.8	3.1	1.9	0.4	0	0.9
Food	103.2	100.0	99.0	100.0	103.3	1.3	-0.2	-2.4	-2.2	0.1
Non-food	106.7	105.0	106.2	107.5	108.1	3.7	2.7	1.4	0.7	1.3
Transportation and storage	93.3	95.3	94.9	96.8	94.5	-0.7	4.7	0.6	2.4	1.3
Accommodation and food service activities	97.5	91.3	95.8	93.9	90.2	-0.8	-4.8	-6.4	-10.5	-7.5
Information and communication	98.7	101.9	104.4	106.7	104.8	2.6	1.6	7.5	9.7	6.2
Real estate activities	112.4	107.5	105.7	100.7	103.5	3.2	-1.7	-5.9	-9.7	-7.9
Professional, scientific and technical activities	114.6	117.7	122.9	114.0	123.2	3.7	3.9	7.6	-0.5	7.5
Administrative and support service activities	98.6	96.7	100.2	103.3	100.2	-3.7	-5	0.8	1.2	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>103.4</b>	<b>102.9</b>	<b>105.3</b>	<b>105.3</b>	<b>104.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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

NACE	Seasonally adjusted									
	2013	2014				% change compared with previous quarter				
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	2013	2014		
						Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	108.6	110.7	111.4	111.4	112.3	0.8	1.9	0.6	0.0	0.8
Motor trade	117.3	114.9	118.6	119.3	119.3	0.3	-2.0	3.2	0.6	0.0
Wholesale trade	111.0	119.4	119.9	119.6	119.3	1.2	7.6	0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Retail trade	105.2	104.4	104.5	105.1	106.3	0.1	-0.8	0.1	0.6	1.1
Food	101.3	101.0	100.4	100.3	100.7	-0.5	-0.3	-0.6	-0.1	0.4
Non-food	106.0	106.4	106.6	106.8	107.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5
Transportation and storage	93.3	96.3	94.9	95.8	94.4	-0.3	3.2	-1.5	0.9	-1.5
Accommodation and food service activities	98.9	95.5	94.4	90.0	91.5	-1.2	-3.4	-1.2	-4.7	1.7
Information and communication	99.5	102.0	104.2	105.9	105.7	3	2.5	2.2	1.6	-0.2
Real estate activities	112.4	107.5	105.7	100.7	103.5	0.9	-4.4	-1.7	-4.7	2.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities	114.6	117.7	122.9	114.0	123.2	0.1	2.7	4.4	-7.2	8.1
Administrative and support service activities	98.6	96.7	100.2	103.3	100.2	-3.4	-1.9	3.6	3.1	-3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>103.6</b>	<b>104.3</b>	<b>105.1</b>	<b>103.8</b>	<b>104.8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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 NACE classification  
Working-day adjusted

NACE	2013	2014				% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
						2013	2014			
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	123.0	119.7	122.4	126.0	128.4	4.1	7.2	5.8	6.8	4.4
Motor trade	130.0	116.7	129.5	130.2	134.5	11.9	7.2	12	6.3	3.5
Wholesale trade	127.3	127.5	128.6	132.7	133.7	2.9	9.7	7.5	12.1	5.0
Retail trade	116.6	111.0	113.9	117.4	121.1	4.1	4	2.5	0.6	3.9
Food	113.4	114.6	111.9	112.4	116.4	-1.8	3.3	-2.1	-2.4	2.6
Non-food	117.5	110.1	114.3	118.9	122.5	6.2	4.6	4.1	1.8	4.3
Transportation and storage	101.1	101.9	108.4	107.4	105.8	2.8	2.6	6.9	5.7	4.6
Accommodation and food service activities	106.4	101.9	111.4	113.0	105.4	3.1	5.2	3.6	-5.2	-0.9
Information and communication	103.0	109.3	107.4	109.1	112.9	5.4	4	8	8.8	9.6
Real estate activities	112.8	101.8	104.5	110.0	110.3	0.6	-14.1	-4.4	-6.3	-2.2
Professional, scientific and technical activities	129.6	127.8	131.9	129.6	133.0	5.7	6.9	7.2	2.5	2.6
Administrative and support service activities	111.5	105.1	115.2	114.8	117.0	2	-3.5	6.7	-0.7	4.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>113.0</b>	<b>110.9</b>	<b>115.8</b>	<b>116.9</b>	<b>117.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3.8</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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

NACE	2013	2014				% change compared with previous quarter				
						2013	2014			
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	120.6	121.7	123.1	125.7	126.2	2.3	0.9	1.2	2.1	0.4
Motor trade	125.8	118.3	131.0	131.3	130.3	1.9	-6.0	10.7	0.2	-0.8
Wholesale trade	125.9	128.0	128.9	133.4	132.3	5.8	1.7	0.7	3.5	-0.8
Retail trade	113.8	114.1	115.0	116.1	118.1	-1.5	0.3	0.8	1.0	1.7
Food	112.1	116.4	112.6	111.3	115.1	-1.7	3.8	-3.3	-1.2	3.4
Non-food	114.3	112.8	115.4	118.3	119.2	-1.7	-1.3	2.3	2.5	0.8
Transportation and storage	101.1	101.9	108.4	107.4	105.8	-0.5	0.8	6.4	-0.9	-1.5
Accommodation and food service activities	108.5	108.9	110.8	104.9	107.4	-1.9	0.4	1.7	-5.3	2.4
Information and communication	103.0	109.3	107.4	109.1	112.9	2.8	6.1	-1.7	1.6	3.5
Real estate activities	112.8	101.8	104.5	110.0	110.3	-3.9	-9.8	2.7	5.3	0.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	129.6	127.8	131.9	129.6	133.0	2.5	-1.4	3.2	-1.7	2.6
Administrative and support service activities	111.5	105.1	115.2	114.8	117.0	-3.6	-5.7	9.6	-0.3	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>112.2</b>	<b>113.4</b>	<b>115.5</b>	<b>115.5</b>	<b>116.5</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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 NACE classification**  
Working-day adjusted

NACE	2013	2014				% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
						2013		2014		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	108.9	108.9	110.1	113.2	113.0	3.5	4.5	1.7	2.5	3.8
Motor trade	119.3	122.7	134.1	132.3	125.0	7.8	6.4	6.6	3.6	4.8
Wholesale trade	106.4	108.1	109.4	113.0	110.9	1.8	4.2	1	4.6	4.2
Retail trade	109.5	106.6	107.1	110.2	113.0	4.2	3.8	1.3	-0.1	3.2
Food	103.2	104.2	102.0	102.5	106.0	-0.5	4.3	0.7	0.4	2.7
Non-food	111.6	107.7	108.6	112.7	115.4	5.9	3.9	1.5	0	3.4
Transportation and storage	97.4	96.6	95.6	97.2	96.3	-0.4	3	0.7	0	-1.1
Accommodation and food service activities	94.0	87.7	95.9	100.6	91.3	-3.3	0.5	-1.1	-7.2	-2.9
Information and communication	91.2	99.3	98.6	100.8	104.0	4.8	-1.6	10.7	12.9	14.0
Real estate activities	107.5	101.4	96.3	92.9	92.7	4	-1.1	-8.1	-13.6	-13.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities	117.2	122.0	120.6	116.0	117.5	7.6	7.5	4.3	0.4	0.3
Administrative and support service activities	112.3	111.0	118.0	125.6	124.5	-2.2	-1.6	5.3	4.3	10.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>104.4</b>	<b>102.9</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>109.7</b>	<b>108.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

**Table 8. Services hours worked index by NACE classification**  
Seasonally adjusted

NACE	2013	2014				% change compared with previous quarter				
						2013		2014		
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4 <sup>P</sup>	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	109.1	110.3	110.6	111.7	112.9	0.5	1.1	0.3	1.0	1.1
Motor trade	119.3	122.7	134.1	132.3	125.0	-6.6	2.8	9.3	-1.3	-5.5
Wholesale trade	106.4	108.1	109.4	113.0	110.9	-1.5	1.6	1.2	3.3	-1.9
Retail trade	108.0	108.7	108.5	108.8	111.0	-0.3	0.6	-0.2	0.3	2.0
Food	100.7	106.3	102.6	102.4	103.4	-1.2	5.6	-3.5	-0.2	1.0
Non-food	110.4	109.6	109.2	111.6	114.0	-1.1	-0.7	-0.4	2.2	2.2
Transportation and storage	96.5	98.5	95.7	96.1	95.4	0.4	2.1	-2.8	0.4	-0.7
Accommodation and food service activities	95.5	95.9	95.4	91.6	92.7	-3.1	0.4	-0.5	-4.0	1.2
Information and communication	91.2	99.3	98.6	100.8	104.0	2.1	8.9	-0.7	2.2	3.2
Real estate activities	107.5	101.4	96.3	92.9	92.7	0.1	-5.7	-5.0	-3.5	-0.2
Professional, scientific and technical activities	117.2	122.0	120.6	116.0	117.5	1.5	4.1	-1.1	-3.8	1.3
Administrative and support service activities	112.7	113.7	118.2	122.0	124.9	-3.7	0.9	4.0	3.2	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>104.9</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>106.8</b>	<b>106.5</b>	<b>108.2</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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 2010. 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 thereby subject to revision. Each release may include revisions of the past quarterly data in respect of a rolling two-year period.

A distribution of the aggregation weights by NACE classification is presented in the following table:

NACE	Turnover	Employment	Wages and salaries	Hours worked
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	59.8	35.4	30.2	33.4
Motor trade	3.3	3.5	2.4	2.8
Wholesale trade	34.9	12.5	15.1	14.8
Retail trade	21.6	19.4	12.8	15.9
Food	7.3	5.2	3.2	4.1
Non-food	14.3	14.2	9.6	11.8
Transportation and storage	10.4	11.2	17.8	13.0
Accommodation and food service activities	7.2	19.1	15.4	18.8
Information and communication	7.6	7.2	11.9	8.8
Real estate activities	2.2	1.7	1.2	1.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	6.3	10.9	10.8	9.0
Administrative and support service activities	6.5	14.5	12.7	15.7

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

Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=13>

**European statistics comparable to data in this News Release are available at:**

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](#)

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For further assistance send a request from:

<http://nso.gov.mt/en/Services/Pages/Request-for-Information.aspx>