

13 March 2017 | 1100 hrs | 044/2017

Provisional seasonally adjusted turnover registered during the fourth quarter of 2016 decreased by 0.1 per cent over the previous quarter. When compared to the same period in 2015, working-day adjusted industrial turnover decreased by 0.9 per cent.

Short-term Industrial Indicators: Q4/2016

Cut-off date: **Quarterly comparison**
7 March 2017

When compared to the third quarter of 2016, seasonally adjusted industrial turnover for the period under review decreased by 0.1 per cent. A decline in turnover was registered across all the main industrial groupings except for the energy and intermediate goods sectors (Table 1).

During the fourth quarter of 2016, seasonally adjusted industrial employment dropped by 0.1 per cent (Table 3). Hours worked decreased by 1.6 per cent (Table 5) whereas gross wages and salaries fell by 1.2 per cent. (Table 7).

Annual comparison

When compared to the fourth quarter of 2015, working-day adjusted turnover decreased by 0.9 per cent. This was essentially due to decreases in turnover recorded in the consumer goods (8.6 per cent) and capital goods (3.3 per cent) groupings. However, turnover in the energy and intermediate goods sectors rose by 14.7 and 2.2 per cent respectively (Table 2).

Year-on-year unadjusted industrial employment fell by 2.2 per cent (Table 4). Working-day adjusted industrial hours worked decreased by 3.6 per cent (Table 6) while gross wages and salaries dropped by 1.9 per cent (Table 8) ■

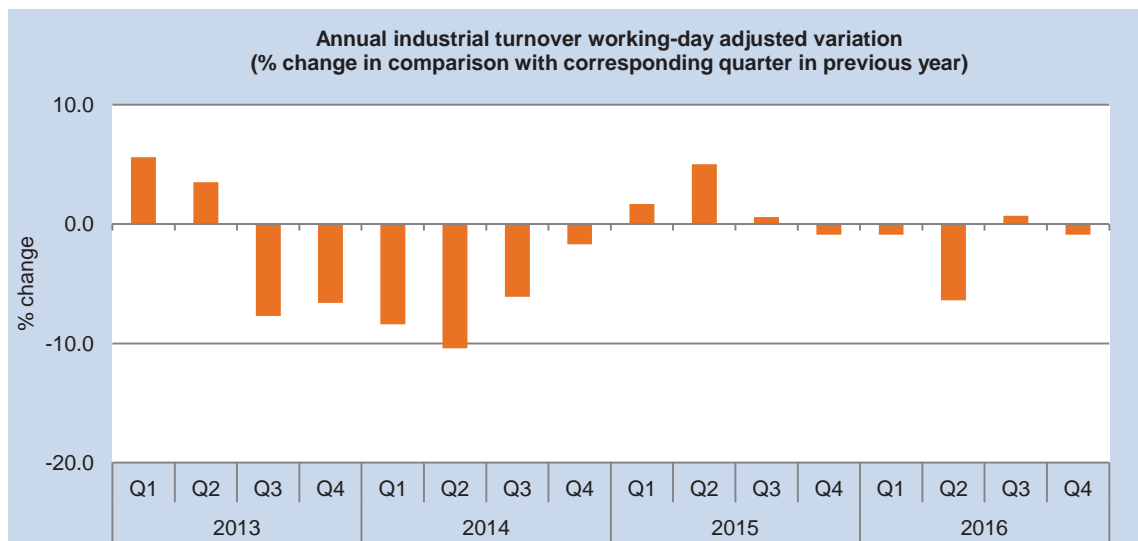


Table 1. Industrial turnover by main industrial grouping
(Seasonally adjusted; 2010=100)

Main industrial grouping	2015	2016				% change compared with previous quarter				
						2015	2016			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Intermediate goods	75.6	76.5	72.4	77.1	77.2	0.9	1.2	-5.4	6.5	0.1
Energy	90.9	93.9	98.2	97.7	104.1	-10.6	3.3	4.6	-0.5	6.6
Capital goods	150.5	150.6	148.7	146.6	145.5	5.5	0.1	-1.3	-1.4	-0.8
Consumer goods	120.7	118.9	113.8	114.2	110.9	5.3	-1.5	-4.3	0.4	-2.9
Durable consumer goods	119.0	107.0	99.3	104.5	101.3	3.3	-10.1	-7.2	5.2	-3.1
Non-durable consumer goods	120.9	120.4	115.0	115.2	111.9	5.6	-0.4	-4.5	0.2	-2.9
Total industry	98.8	98.9	95.7	97.9	97.8	1.7	0.1	-3.2	2.3	-0.1

Table 2. Industrial turnover by main industrial grouping
(Working-day adjusted; 2010=100)

Main industrial grouping	2015	2016				% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
						2015	2016			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Intermediate goods	77.5	75.2	72.7	76.1	79.2	-2.3	-4.5	-14.2	2.9	2.2
Energy	88.7	90.4	91.6	110.1	101.7	-19.4	-13.7	-1.0	-3.9	14.7
Capital goods	150.2	153.0	153.5	139.7	145.3	1.2	3.1	0.1	2.8	-3.3
Consumer goods	119.0	117.4	118.9	112.2	108.8	8.3	7.0	-2.3	-0.4	-8.6
Durable consumer goods	121.7	96.1	104.7	107.0	103.6	18.4	-11.8	-20.0	-9.3	-14.9
Non-durable consumer goods	118.7	119.6	120.4	112.8	109.3	7.3	8.9	-0.2	0.6	-7.9
Total industry	98.7	97.6	97.1	97.8	97.8	-0.9	-0.9	-6.4	0.7	-0.9

Table 3. Industrial employment by main industrial grouping
(Seasonally adjusted; 2010=100)

Main industrial grouping	2015	2016				% change compared with previous quarter				
						2015	2016			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Intermediate goods	100.7	101.5	101.3	102.1	102.5	0.0	0.8	-0.2	0.8	0.4
Energy	72.2	71.3	70.6	65.1	65.0	-1.5	-1.2	-1.0	-7.8	-0.2
Capital goods	99.9	99.1	99.1	98.2	97.8	0.3	-0.8	0.0	-0.9	-0.4
Consumer goods	96.2	93.9	93.5	92.3	92.2	-0.4	-2.4	-0.4	-1.3	-0.1
Durable consumer goods	90.2	86.3	85.4	82.2	83.8	1.3	-4.3	-1.0	-3.7	1.9
Non-durable consumer goods	97.4	95.8	95.5	94.4	94.0	-0.8	-1.6	-0.3	-1.2	-0.4
Total industry	95.6	95.0	94.7	93.5	93.4	-0.3	-0.6	-0.3	-1.3	-0.1

Table 4. Industrial employment by main industrial grouping
(Unadjusted; 2010=100)

Main industrial grouping	2015	2016				% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
						2015	2016			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Intermediate goods	100.7	101.1	100.9	102.8	102.5	-0.1	0.9	-0.1	1.4	1.8
Energy	72.7	71.2	69.6	65.3	65.8	-19.5	-13.0	-6.2	-11.2	-9.5
Capital goods	100.0	98.4	99.1	98.8	98.0	1.5	-1.5	-1.1	-1.4	-2.0
Consumer goods	95.8	93.4	94.1	92.7	91.9	-1.2	-4.0	-3.6	-4.5	-4.1
Durable consumer goods	90.2	86.3	85.4	82.2	83.8	1.5	-6.8	-8.8	-7.7	-7.1
Non-durable consumer goods	97.1	95.0	96.0	95.0	93.7	-1.7	-3.5	-2.5	-3.9	-3.5
Total industry	95.7	94.4	94.6	94.1	93.6	-2.1	-2.7	-2.2	-2.5	-2.2

Table 5. Industrial hours worked by main industrial grouping
(Seasonally adjusted; 2010=100)

Main industrial grouping	2015	2016				% change compared with previous quarter				
						2015	2016			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Intermediate goods	103.2	104.4	103.6	106.4	105.1	-0.1	1.2	-0.8	2.7	-1.2
Energy	72.8	72.4	71.2	67.9	66.8	-1.9	-0.5	-1.7	-4.6	-1.6
Capital goods	101.3	101	97.2	93.2	89.5	1.4	-0.3	-3.8	-4.1	-4.0
Consumer goods	99.6	97.9	97.2	96.9	96.2	-0.1	-1.7	-0.7	-0.3	-0.7
Durable consumer goods	84.4	83.5	83.0	76.1	79.9	3.4	-1.1	-0.6	-8.3	5.0
Non-durable consumer goods	102.0	100.4	99.8	100.1	99.0	-0.3	-1.6	-0.6	0.3	-1.1
Total industry	97.6	97.6	96.2	95.5	94.0	0.1	0.0	-1.4	-0.7	-1.6

Table 6. Industrial hours worked by main industrial grouping
(Working-day adjusted; 2010=100)

Main industrial grouping	2015	2016				% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
						2015	2016			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Intermediate goods	102.5	104	105	106.1	104.3	-0.1	1.3	-0.8	3.0	1.8
Energy	73.9	72.0	69.5	68.8	67.9	-17.5	-11.5	-6.7	-8.5	-8.1
Capital goods	102.1	99.8	97.1	93.6	90.2	4.8	1.1	-8.5	-6.7	-11.7
Consumer goods	98.0	96.7	99.9	97.1	94.7	1.8	0.4	-1.5	-2.7	-3.4
Durable consumer goods	84.4	83.5	83.0	76.1	79.9	7.2	-2.2	-7.3	-6.8	-5.3
Non-durable consumer goods	100.2	99.1	102.5	100.6	97.3	1.1	0.7	-0.8	-2.0	-2.9
Total industry	97.2	96.7	97.1	95.8	93.7	-0.4	-0.3	-3.3	-2.0	-3.6

Table 7. Industrial gross wages and salaries by main industrial grouping
(Seasonally adjusted; 2010=100)

Main industrial grouping	2015	2016				% change compared with previous quarter				
						2015	2016			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Intermediate goods	112.6	114.7	113.2	116.2	113.5	2.0	1.9	-1.3	2.7	-2.3
Energy	92.1	85.6	82.9	88.5	88.6	-8.6	-7.1	-3.2	6.8	0.1
Capital goods	120.6	119.1	117.3	117.1	119.4	5.1	-1.2	-1.5	-0.2	2.0
Consumer goods	112.7	112.4	108.8	110.7	108.2	0.2	-0.3	-3.2	1.7	-2.3
Durable consumer goods	93.9	86.0	85.4	80.1	84.5	7.3	-8.4	-0.7	-6.2	5.5
Non-durable consumer goods	114.7	115.4	111.3	113.8	110.7	-0.1	0.6	-3.6	2.2	-2.7
Total industry	111.3	110.2	108.5	110.5	109.2	0.7	-1.0	-1.5	1.8	-1.2

Table 8. Industrial gross wages and salaries by main industrial grouping
(Working-day adjusted; 2010=100)

Main industrial grouping	2015	2016				% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
						2015	2016			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Intermediate goods	112.8	113.9	113.8	116.1	113.7	1.8	5.2	0.2	5.2	0.8
Energy	92.1	85.6	82.9	88.5	88.6	-12.2	-13.0	-6.8	-12.2	-3.8
Capital goods	120.6	119.1	117.3	117.1	119.4	7.8	6.2	0.1	2.0	-1.0
Consumer goods	112.7	112.0	109.3	110.7	108.1	2.8	2.7	-3.2	-1.3	-4.1
Durable consumer goods	93.9	86.0	85.4	80.1	84.5	16.4	-2.9	-7.8	-8.5	-10.0
Non-durable consumer goods	114.7	114.8	111.8	114.0	110.6	1.8	3.1	-2.8	-0.7	-3.6
Total industry	111.3	110.2	108.5	110.5	109.2	1.4	2.2	-1.8	-0.1	-1.9

Methodological Notes

1. This news release comprises a number of business cycle indicators showing the quarterly evolution of the market of goods and services in the industrial sector. It records the evolution of turnover, employment, wages and salaries, and hours worked over long periods of time. The objective of these indicators is to measure the market activity in the industrial sector. These indicators are compiled as a "fixed-base-year Laspeyres type volume index". The current base year is 2010 (index 2010=100). The results are compiled and published according to the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community, NACE Rev. 2.
2. The data is collected by means of a monthly questionnaire sent to a representative sample of 418 enterprises categorised within the industrial sector. The data is then grossed up to represent the entire industrial population.
3. For the scope of the index calculation, NACE divisions 09,12,19,24, and NACE groups 27.5 and 30.9 are excluded because of their negligible activity.
4. The calendar and seasonal adjustments for this release are done directly on quarterly indices. These indices cannot be compared directly to the indices published by Eurostat, since quarterly adjusted European aggregates are calculated from monthly adjusted series, which are provided by the Member States.
5. Calendar 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 particular weekdays or holidays in different months or other time periods (quarters, years). 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 compare the same quarter of the previous year.
6. Working-day adjustment is the part of calendar adjustment which focuses on the changing number of working days (Monday to Friday) in the various months/quarters and their effect on statistical indicators for these months/quarters.
7. Seasonal adjustment removes variations which include effects due to quarter lengths, 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 with the previous quarter.
8. The objective of Main Industrial Groupings (MIGs) is to provide an activity breakdown of industry (NACE Rev. 2 Sections B, C, D and E). These regroup all the activities between Sections B to E and cover economic activities of companies in the quarrying, manufacturing, water and energy sectors. There are four MIGs, namely intermediate goods, energy, capital goods and consumer goods, of which the consumer goods grouping is further broken down into durable consumer goods and non-durable consumer goods:

9. Definitions:

- **Turnover:** Includes total sales and other income presented in current prices and is expressed net of VAT.
- **Wages and Salaries:** Covers wages and salaries including bonuses, weekly allowances (cost of living allowances), overtime and national social security contributions by employees. It does not include employers' social security charges.
- **Employment:** Covers all persons employed, regardless of whether they are part-time or full-time, and includes paid employees, working proprietors and unpaid family workers. Employment is not working-day adjusted since the number of employees does not depend on the factors that make up the working-day effect.
- **Hours worked:** Covers total amount of hours actually worked; regular working hours and hours worked during overtime; during nights, Sundays or Public holidays. Hours worked but not paid are also considered.

A distribution of the aggregation weights by variable and main industrial grouping is presented in the following table:

Main industrial grouping	Turnover	Employment	Wages and salaries	Hours worked
Intermediate goods	47.4	31.0	32.6	32.0
Energy	13.4	10.5	14.1	12.3
Capital goods	10.9	19.4	18.3	19.6
Consumer goods	28.3	39.1	35.0	36.1
Durable consumer goods	2.7	7.2	3.4	5.1
Non-durable consumer goods	25.6	31.9	31.6	31.0
Total industry	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

10. The calculation of growth rates from the indices table may slightly differ from the growth rates published due to rounding.
11. 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.
12. 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>
 Classifications: http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/classificationdetails.aspx?id=NACE_Rev_2
13. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
14. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt