

During the second quarter of 2018, working-day adjusted turnover in selected services activities increased by 7.0 per cent over the same quarter in 2017. Seasonally adjusted services turnover increased by 1.2 per cent over the previous quarter.

## Short-term Services Indicators: Q2/2018

Cut-off date:  
22 August 2018

### Annual comparison

When compared to the second quarter of 2017, working-day adjusted turnover increased by 7.0 per cent (Table 1). Increases in turnover were registered namely in the real estate activities (125.6 per cent), in the transportation and storage activities (9.7 per cent), in the accommodation and food service activities (9.1 per cent), in the motor trade activities (7.7 per cent), in the wholesale trade activities (5.7 per cent) and in the retail trade activities (1.2 per cent). Decreases were recorded in the professional, scientific and technical activities (4.7 per cent), in the information and communication activities (3.9 per cent) and in the administrative and support service activities (0.7 per cent).

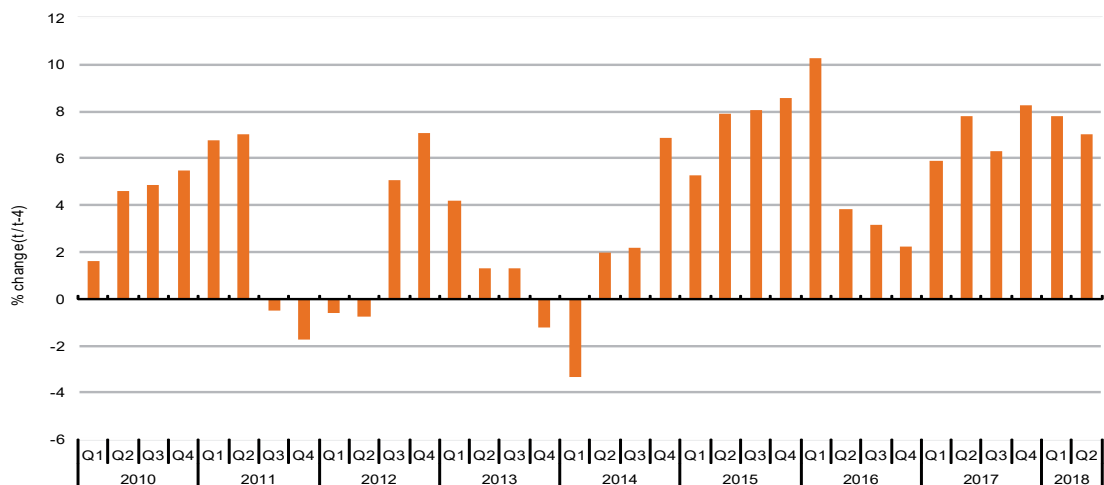
Employment (Table 3), the gross amount of wages and salaries paid (Table 5) and hours worked (Table 7) rose by 0.7, 3.3 and 3.0 per cent respectively over the corresponding quarter in 2017.

### Quarterly comparison

When compared to the previous quarter of 2017, the seasonally adjusted services turnover index increased by 1.2 per cent (Table 2). Increases were recorded in the real estate activities (89.6 per cent), in the information and communication activities (5.1 per cent), in the transportation and storage activities (3.9 per cent), in the motor trade activities (1.4 per cent), in the retail trade activities (0.6 per cent) and in the accommodation and food service activities (0.3 per cent). Decreases were registered within the professional, scientific and technical activities (9.9 per cent), in the administrative and support service activities (2.9 per cent) and in the wholesale trade activities (0.1 per cent).

Moreover, the seasonally adjusted employment (Table 4) and seasonally adjusted gross wages and salaries (Table 6) decreased by 1.1 and 0.3 respectively while the hours worked (Table 8) increased by 2.1 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				
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2017			2018	
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	106.8	111.1	116.3	101.7	111.4	4.1	8.1	12.4	8.7	4.3
Motor trade	116.6	116.7	111.1	116.3	125.6	3.3	11.7	9.5	10.5	7.7
Wholesale trade	103.0	109.6	115.0	99.6	108.9	2.4	8.6	17.0	9.9	5.7
Retail trade	111.9	112.8	119.7	102.8	113.3	7.3	6.6	5.6	6.2	1.2
Food	116.9	115.4	122.7	106.9	123.3	13.6	7.2	10.4	10.1	5.5
Non-food	108.6	111.1	117.7	100.2	106.7	3.2	6.2	2.5	3.6	-1.8
Transportation and storage	131.7	137.5	126.6	123.7	144.5	9.7	4.8	5.3	8.6	9.7
Accommodation and food service activities	116.1	146.3	99.1	82.7	126.7	5.0	7.4	5.5	7.7	9.1
Information and communication	120.0	118.0	126.0	109.7	115.3	15.1	5.9	3.2	-6.4	-3.9
Real estate activities	109.2	112.6	98.1	129.9	246.3	15.7	7.5	-7.1	29.8	125.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	114.1	99.2	116.6	112.4	108.7	7.6	-3.7	1.5	10.7	-4.7
Administrative and support service activities	137.5	132.6	119.6	115.1	136.5	19.8	4.1	5.3	9.4	-0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>114.2</b>	<b>117.5</b>	<b>117.5</b>	<b>106.5</b>	<b>122.3</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.0</b>

<sup>p</sup> Provisional

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

NACE	2017			2018		% change compared with previous quarter				
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2017			2018	
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	105.4	108.8	111.9	109.7	110.0	4.5	3.2	2.9	-2.0	0.3
Motor trade	111.7	118.1	112.4	118.7	120.3	4.0	5.8	-4.8	5.6	1.4
Wholesale trade	101.4	106.3	112.0	107.4	107.3	3.8	4.8	5.3	-4.1	-0.1
Retail trade	111.1	110.5	113.7	111.8	112.5	5.0	-0.5	2.8	-1.6	0.6
Food	114.6	112.5	116.8	118.2	120.7	5.9	-1.8	3.8	1.2	2.1
Non-food	108.3	109.7	109.1	109.9	107.2	1.4	1.3	-0.6	0.8	-2.5
Transportation and storage	128.3	126.5	128.9	135.7	141.1	1.9	-1.4	1.9	5.3	3.9
Accommodation and food service activities	108.8	109.4	110.7	118.3	118.7	-1.0	0.6	1.2	6.9	0.3
Information and communication	120.0	118.0	126.0	109.7	115.3	2.5	-1.7	6.8	-13.0	5.1
Real estate activities	109.2	112.6	98.1	129.9	246.3	9.0	3.2	-12.9	32.4	89.6
Professional, scientific and technical activities	110.9	105.3	108.7	117.5	105.9	4.2	-5.0	3.2	8.0	-9.9
Administrative and support service activities	129.0	122.9	126.5	131.3	127.4	6.8	-4.7	2.9	3.8	-2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>111.7</b>	<b>111.0</b>	<b>115.5</b>	<b>118.2</b>	<b>119.6</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.2</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 period and NACE classification**

*Unadjusted*

NACE	2017			2018		% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2017			2018	
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	106.4	107.5	109.0	108.5	108.7	3.2	2.5	3.6	2.7	2.1
Motor trade	109.8	110.8	107.8	111.5	111.4	3.9	3.9	0.9	1.5	1.5
Wholesale trade	105.0	105.9	105.9	105.1	105.6	2.7	0.9	2.9	0.3	0.6
Retail trade	106.8	108.0	111.0	110.0	110.1	3.3	3.3	4.4	4.2	3.1
Food	111.1	111.5	115.8	114.9	114.8	5.5	4.1	6.2	4.7	3.3
Non-food	104.8	106.5	108.8	107.8	108.0	2.3	2.9	3.5	4.0	3.0
Transportation and storage	101.8	100.9	101.1	101.7	102.7	1.3	-1.1	0.2	0.2	0.9
Accommodation and food service activities	98.1	102.7	95.9	95.5	96.7	-2.7	-2.6	0.0	-1.4	-1.3
Information and communication	105.1	102.8	103.5	105.4	107.4	0.1	-3.6	-2.2	0.0	2.2
Real estate activities	107.0	107.4	105.9	108.7	119.8	0.1	-1.5	-2.6	1.8	12.0
Professional, scientific and technical activities	105.6	104.0	101.9	104.6	102.9	-2.8	-0.6	-2.4	1.7	-2.5
Administrative and support service activities	121.7	123.3	121.1	121.4	120.8	9.7	8.6	9.4	5.8	-0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>106.3</b>	<b>107.4</b>	<b>106.1</b>	<b>106.5</b>	<b>107.1</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>

<sup>p</sup> Provisional

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

*Seasonally adjusted*

NACE	2017			2018		% change compared with previous quarter				
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2017			2018	
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	106.4	107.5	109.0	108.5	108.7	0.7	1.1	1.4	-0.5	0.2
Motor trade	109.8	110.8	107.8	111.5	111.4	0.0	0.9	-2.8	3.4	0.0
Wholesale trade	105.0	105.9	105.9	105.1	105.6	0.2	0.9	0.0	-0.8	0.4
Retail trade	106.8	108.0	111.0	110.0	110.1	1.1	1.2	2.7	-0.9	0.1
Food	111.1	111.5	115.8	114.9	114.8	1.3	0.3	3.9	-0.7	-0.1
Non-food	104.8	106.5	108.8	107.8	108.0	1.0	1.6	2.2	-0.9	0.1
Transportation and storage	101.4	100.2	101.2	102.5	102.4	-0.9	-1.2	1.0	1.3	-0.1
Accommodation and food service activities	97.7	97.7	97.8	98.9	96.5	-2.9	0.0	0.1	1.1	-2.4
Information and communication	104.7	102.6	104.1	105.5	106.9	-0.7	-2.0	1.5	1.3	1.3
Real estate activities	107.0	107.4	105.9	108.7	119.8	0.2	0.3	-1.4	2.7	10.2
Professional, scientific and technical activities	105.6	104.0	101.9	104.6	102.9	2.7	-1.5	-2.0	2.6	-1.6
Administrative and support service activities	121.7	123.3	121.1	121.4	120.8	6.0	1.3	-1.7	0.2	-0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>106.2</b>	<b>105.7</b>	<b>106.4</b>	<b>108.2</b>	<b>107.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-1.1</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 period and NACE classification**  
*Working-day adjusted*

NACE	2017			2018		% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2017			2018	
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	110.5	111.8	119.2	115.7	114.8	5.7	6.2	6.7	7.3	3.9
Motor trade	118.4	124.6	131.1	125.3	126.6	6.8	11.7	10.7	11.3	7.0
Wholesale trade	107.2	107.3	115.6	111.3	110.2	4.6	4.0	5.5	5.8	2.8
Retail trade	112.9	114.9	121.3	119.2	118.0	6.7	7.7	7.3	8.3	4.5
Food	114.3	118.4	126.1	122.4	122.3	8.0	8.5	12.2	10.3	7.0
Non-food	112.4	113.5	119.5	117.7	116.2	6.4	7.4	5.3	7.5	3.4
Transportation and storage	104.0	105.0	110.5	113.2	112.3	4.4	3.4	7.6	6.4	8.0
Accommodation and food service activities	107.8	112.6	107.1	107.3	115.1	6.7	4.4	3.8	5.9	6.8
Information and communication	107.8	108.5	111.2	111.0	110.3	2.2	3.8	3.6	1.6	2.3
Real estate activities	124.9	108.2	117.0	116.2	119.5	3.1	1.1	-0.9	6.2	-4.3
Professional, scientific and technical activities	122.1	122.2	120.2	116.2	116.6	8.1	7.8	3.6	-2.4	-4.5
Administrative and support service activities	129.2	132.0	136.3	132.5	129.5	14.3	13.5	8.3	12.2	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>112.8</b>	<b>114.4</b>	<b>117.6</b>	<b>116.3</b>	<b>116.5</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>

<sup>P</sup> Provisional

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

NACE	2017			2018		% change compared with previous quarter				
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2017			2018	
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	112.3	113.5	114.8	116.1	117.0	3.4	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.8
Motor trade	119.4	124.9	127.7	127.4	127.8	4.4	4.6	2.2	-0.2	0.3
Wholesale trade	108.6	109.0	111.3	112.3	111.8	2.2	0.4	2.2	0.8	-0.4
Retail trade	113.8	115.1	119.2	120.2	118.9	2.4	1.2	3.6	0.8	-1.0
Food	114.3	118.4	126.1	122.4	122.3	3.0	3.6	6.5	-2.9	-0.1
Non-food	113.3	114.7	116.4	118.8	117.2	2.4	1.2	1.5	2.1	-1.4
Transportation and storage	104.0	105.0	110.5	113.2	112.3	-2.3	1.0	5.2	2.5	-0.8
Accommodation and food service activities	107.4	105.4	108.7	114.0	114.7	-0.3	-1.8	3.1	4.9	0.6
Information and communication	107.8	108.5	111.2	111.0	110.3	-1.3	0.6	2.6	-0.2	-0.7
Real estate activities	124.9	108.2	117.0	116.2	119.5	14.1	-13.3	8.2	-0.7	2.8
Professional, scientific and technical activities	122.1	122.2	120.2	116.2	116.6	2.5	0.1	-1.6	-3.4	0.3
Administrative and support service activities	129.2	132.0	136.3	132.5	129.5	9.4	2.2	3.3	-2.8	-2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>113.4</b>	<b>114.3</b>	<b>115.4</b>	<b>117.8</b>	<b>117.4</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-0.3</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 period and NACE classification**

*Working-day adjusted*

NACE	2017			2018		% change compared with same quarter of the previous year				
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2017			2018	
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	105.6	106.7	108.5	107.1	107.5	3.0	3.6	5.0	3.7	1.8
Motor trade	108.6	110.8	110.6	114.2	113.6	3.6	4.1	4.2	5.2	4.7
Wholesale trade	100.7	101.5	102.2	101.1	101.4	-1.2	2.9	4.3	1.3	0.7
Retail trade	109.1	110.1	113.3	111.2	111.7	5.9	3.9	5.5	5.1	2.4
Food	114.7	118.4	123.8	117.4	118.6	9.4	7.1	12.9	7.6	3.4
Non-food	106.8	106.7	108.8	108.3	108.7	4.6	2.5	2.2	4.0	1.7
Transportation and storage	103.3	105.4	108.1	109.3	108.4	0.2	-0.8	3.6	6.5	5.0
Accommodation and food service activities	102.5	106.9	97.9	95.7	105.5	2.7	0.3	-0.5	1.1	2.9
Information and communication	104.2	103.6	102.0	102.3	105.4	1.8	-1.8	-2.7	-2.1	1.1
Real estate activities	113.2	108.9	106.5	109.8	107.1	-0.4	-2.9	-2.2	2.5	-5.4
Professional, scientific and technical activities	110.9	110.7	108.1	107.7	107.8	1.3	2.0	-2.0	-1.7	-2.8
Administrative and support service activities	128.7	135.3	130.8	130.2	134.5	12.3	9.2	7.6	11.3	4.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>108.2</b>	<b>110.7</b>	<b>108.6</b>	<b>109.2</b>	<b>111.4</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>

<sup>p</sup> Provisional

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

*Seasonally adjusted*

NACE	2017			2018		% change compared with previous quarter				
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	2017			2018	
						Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	105.5	106.3	108.2	107.9	107.4	1.3	0.7	1.8	-0.2	-0.5
Motor trade	108.6	110.8	110.6	114.2	113.6	0.1	2.0	-0.2	3.2	-0.5
Wholesale trade	100.7	101.5	102.2	101.1	101.4	1.0	0.8	0.7	-1.2	0.4
Retail trade	109.7	109.4	111.5	113.2	112.3	1.8	-0.2	1.9	1.5	-0.8
Food	115.9	117.4	121.7	119.2	119.9	4.6	1.3	3.7	-2.1	0.6
Non-food	106.9	106.3	107.5	110.0	108.7	1.1	-0.5	1.2	2.3	-1.2
Transportation and storage	103.7	104.3	106.8	111.3	108.8	-0.8	0.6	2.4	4.2	-2.2
Accommodation and food service activities	101.0	99.4	100.0	102.9	103.8	-0.9	-1.6	0.6	3.0	0.8
Information and communication	104.2	103.6	102.0	102.3	105.4	-0.2	-0.6	-1.6	0.3	3.0
Real estate activities	113.2	108.9	106.5	109.8	107.1	5.6	-3.8	-2.1	3.1	-2.5
Professional, scientific and technical activities	110.9	110.7	108.1	107.7	107.8	1.2	-0.2	-2.3	-0.4	0.1
Administrative and support service activities	128.8	129.9	131.3	135.2	134.5	6.0	0.9	1.1	2.9	-0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>108.2</b>	<b>110.7</b>	<b>108.6</b>	<b>109.2</b>	<b>111.4</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>2.1</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 therefore subject to revision. Each release may include revisions of the past quarterly data in respect of a rolling two-year period.
6. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.
7. As from January 2018, the index has been re-referenced from 2010 = 100 to 2015 = 100. Hence, news releases published before January 2018 cannot be directly compared with those published afterwards.
8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

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

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9. A detailed news release calendar is available on:

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