

Press release: 13 522-016/25

Turnover in industry and construction down by 8.0% in December

Slight decline in persons employed, increase in hours worked in December 2024; road freight transport of Austrian enterprises rose in Q4

Vienna, 2025-01-29 – In December 2024, turnover in industry and construction fell by 8.0% compared to December of the previous year, according to flash estimates by Statistics Austria. The index of hours worked increased by 1.9%, while the index of persons employed decreased by 0.2%. Worldwide road freight transport volume of Austrian enterprises increased by 8.1% in the fourth quarter of 2024.

“The Austrian industrial economy remains at a low, with no turnaround in sight. According to a flash estimate, industrial turnover at the end of 2024 was 9.6% lower than in December 2023. Turnover in the construction sector rose only slightly at +0.3%. Overall, industry and construction generated 8.0% less turnover than a year earlier. At the same time, employment remained almost stable with a small decrease of 0.2%, while hours worked in industry and construction increased by 1.9%”, says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Considering the industrial and the construction sector separately, the flash estimates for **December 2024** showed a decrease of the turnover index in industry (–9.6%), while the turnover index in construction (+0.3%) slightly increased compared to the same month of the previous year. The index of hours worked increased in industry (+0.9%), as well as in construction (+5.1%) compared to December 2023. The index of persons employed showed a decrease in industry (–1.0%), in construction it increased by 2.2% (see table 1).

Decrease in industry turnover, increase in construction turnover in October 2024

In **October 2024**, a total of 82 709 enterprises in the entire industry and construction sector reported a turnover of €34.8 bn (–1.6% compared to October 2023). At the same time, the number of employees decreased by 1.8% to 1 024 646. In nominal terms, turnover in industry was also down compared to the same month of the previous year (–2.7% to €28.3 bn). The 42 782 Austrian construction enterprises achieved a turnover of €6.6 bn in October 2024. This corresponds to a nominal increase of 3.2% compared to October 2023 (see table 2).

Decrease in industry production in October 2024

Compared to October 2023, sold production in industry (sections B to E of ÖNACE 2008) decreased nominally by 2.4% to €27.8 bn in October 2024. Half of the ten largest divisions reported declines compared to previous year (see table 3). A substantial drop was observed in electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (–16.3% to €5.9 bn), where part of the development is influenced by falling energy prices. Other major divisions also reported a down-swing, led by manufacture of machinery and equipment not elsewhere classified (–7.5% to €2.4 bn) and manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products (–4.6% to €0.9 bn). Out of the ten largest divisions, manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers (+11.0% to €1.7 bn), manufacture of food products (+5.5% to €2.3 bn) and manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment (+7.1% to €1.8 bn) could report an increase in turnover (see table 3).

Turnaround in road freight transport of Austrian enterprises in Q4 2024

According to a flash estimate, Austrian enterprises transported 96.3 million tonnes of goods worldwide by road in the **fourth quarter of 2024**. This means that the transport volume was 8.1% higher than a year earlier (89.1 million tonnes), which is the first increase of transport volume in comparison to the previous year since the first quarter 2022 (see table 4). Multiplied by the distance travelled worldwide, this resulted in a transport performance of 6.6 billion tonne-kilometres (bn tkm; +5.1% compared to the fourth quarter of the previous year). Transport performance increased by 6.2% to 4.9 bn tkm on Austrian territory as well as outside Austria (+2.1% to 1.7 bn tkm). The number of laden journeys rose by 7.5% to 7.0 million.

Slight decrease in road freight transport of Austrian enterprises in 2024

Considering the flash estimates for the third and fourth quarter, preliminary yearly results can be published. In 2024, Austrian enterprises were accountable for a total worldwide transport volume of 366.9 million tonnes, a decrease of 1.0% compared to 2023 (370.6 million tonnes). The total transport performance declined by 0.3% to 26.1 bn tkm. Within the domestic territory, it increased by 0.4% to 18.8 bn tkm, whereas on foreign territory it declined by 2.0% to 7.2 bn tkm.

For **detailed results** or more information on short-term statistics in Austria and on our [flash-estimates](#) in industry and construction please refer to our [website](#). The [Economic monitor](#) of Statistics Austria provides an overview of the economic development in Austria with about 80 business indicators. Additionally, a more detailed presentation and description of the most important [nominal short-term statistics data](#) is available. Further information about [road freight transport of Austrian enterprises](#) can be found on our website.

Table 1: Short-term business statistics indicators (final, preliminary and flash estimates at t+30 days for December 2024); turnover index, index of persons employed and index of hours worked in industry and construction (base year 2021); ÖNACE 2008

2024	Total (B–F)	Compared to the same month of the previous year	Industry (B–E)	Compared to the same month of the previous year	Construction (F)	Compared to the same month of the previous year
Turnover index ¹ October ²	117.3	-0.6	114.3	-1.9	136.2	6.5
Turnover index ¹ November ³	113.5	-8.2	110.3	-9.7	133.4	-0.2
Turnover index ¹ December ⁴	106.7	-8.0	103.0	-9.6	129.7	0.3
Index of persons employed ¹ October ²	103.2	-0.6	102.8	-0.7	104.4	-0.3
Index of persons employed ¹ November ³	102.6	-0.7	102.4	-0.9	103.1	-0.1
Index of persons employed ¹ December ⁴	100.0	-0.2	101.3	-1.0	95.8	2.2
Index of hours worked ¹ October ²	112.3	5.4	111.2	5.3	115.5	5.7
Index of hours worked ¹ November ³	105.0	-1.8	104.3	-2.3	107.1	-0.4
Index of hours worked ¹ December ⁴	86.7	1.9	88.2	0.9	82.3	5.1

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA. – Annual average 2021 = 100.

1) Unadjusted. – 2) Results after 70 days. – 3) Results after 40 days. – 4) Flash-estimates after t+30 days.

Table 2: Enterprises' results – October 2024

Structure of ÖNACE 2008 ¹	Enterprises	Employees	Gross earnings in m. Euro	Turnover in m. Euro	Turnover- changes	
	End of October 2024		October 2024		nom. in % ²	wd. a. in % ³
Industry	39 927	717 596	3 579.6	28 272.2	-2.7	-8.0
Manufacturing	31 933	663 551	3 287.9	21 548.7	1.5	-
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	5 141	30 879	198.0	5 990.6	-15.9	-
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	2 853	23 166	93.7	732.8	6.8	-
Construction	42 782	307 050	1 281.1	6 566.7	3.2	-2.2
Industry and construction in total	82 709	1 024 646	4 860.7	34 838.9	-1.6	-7.0

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

1) Rounding differences not compensated. – 2) Nominal changes compared to the same period of the previous year. – 3) Working-day adjusted changes compared to the same period of the previous year.

Table 3: branches of industry – value of sold production sold – October 2024

Industry	Sold production in million Euros	Sold production - changes in % ¹
	October 2024	
Industry	27 823.7	-2.4
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	5 874.5	-16.3
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c. ²	2 443.7	-7.5
Manufacture of food products	2 258.4	5.5
Manufacture of basic metals	1 968.6	-1.7
Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	1 770.4	7.1
Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	1 721.7	11.0
Manufacture of electrical equipment	1 278.3	-0.1
Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture	989.7	8.3
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	908.8	-4.6
Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products	876.1	4.0

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

1) Nominal changes compared to the same period of the previous year. – 2) n.e.c.: Not elsewhere classified.

Table 4: Quarterly results of worldwide road freight transport volume (in million tonnes) of Austrian enterprises 2020 to 2024

Reporting year	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	total
2024¹	81.0	94.2	95.3	96.3	366.9
Compared to previous year in %	-4.7	-4.1	-3.0	8.1	-1.0
2023	85.0	98.2	98.3	89.1	370.6
Compared to previous year in %	-4.4	-6.0	-4.0	-5.8	-5.1
2022	89.0	104.5	102.3	94.6	390.4
Compared to previous year in %	1.0	-2.1	-8.9	-1.8	-3.2
2021	88.1	106.8	112.3	96.3	403.5
Compared to previous year in %	16.7	20.1	3.5	-6.1	7.4
2020	75.5	88.9	108.5	102.6	375.6
Compared to previous year in %	-5.5	-15.8	-2.9	-2.3	-6.6

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, road freight transport statistics.

1) Values for the third and fourth quarter 2024 are flash estimates.

Information on methodology, definitions: The main results presented here are based on the one hand on the primary statistical data of the short-term statistics survey in industry and construction and on the other hand on a model-based approach to data supplementation. The latter tries to integrate the characteristic relationships of the monthly business survey and to make efficient use of the information from the various administrative sources. In that way, the structure of the **population (thus 100%)** of the short-term statistics in industry and construction can be presented at activity level as a combination of primary data, secondary data and model-based calculation. Detailed methodological descriptions can be found on our website under [Further documentation](#) (available in German only).

The **enterprise** results are based on all single- and multiple-operational enterprises that can be classified in industry and construction. Data of so-called **establishments** show the results of those establishments whose main area of activity is in industry and construction; irrespective of the economic focus of the enterprises above the establishments.

Flash estimates of economic activity: Flash estimates are based on reported data already available 30 days after the end of the reference month as well as on historical movements and correlations of individual variables. Furthermore, the correlation of data from early reporting units and late reporting units is considered. The model assumes that missing reports show a similar development as the data of the reports already received from the companies.

The term industry in this context corresponds to manufacturing excluding construction (ÖNACE 2008 – sections B to E) and also includes commercial enterprises. Thus, this term is not identical with the term industry according to the classification system of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber.

Road freight transport:

The national survey of road freight transport includes worldwide transport services performed by road freight vehicles registered in Austria. Data is collected using a vehicle- and time-related sample survey. Sampled vehicles are allocated to one week per owner such that owners have to report at most one week per quarter. Until 2015, vehicles (lorry with two or more tonnes load capacity or road tractor) were sampled quarterly. From 2016 onwards, sampling is carried out once a year and in cases of dropouts, quarterly supplements are sampled. This leads to lower sample errors compared with the previous sampling method.

Transport volume: Weight of goods transported in tonnes.

Transport performance: Product of transport volume and kilometres driven.

Flash estimates for transport volume and transport performance in worldwide road freight transport of Austrian enterprises are published on our website one month after the end of the reference quarter. Detailed results are released five months after the end of the reference quarter.

Statistics Austria is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment. As a national statistical institute, it is committed to the statutory principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is headed by Tobias Thomas, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

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