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Turnover in industry and construction in December 2022 +7.7 % according to flash estimate

Moderate growth at the end of the year

Vienna, 2023-01-30 – The flash estimates for industry and construction (ÖNACE B to F) by Statistics Austria show an increase of the turnover index (+7.7 %) in December 2022. Furthermore, the index of persons employed grew by 2.1 %, the index of hours worked decreased by 1.7 % compared to the same month of the previous year. Road freight transport volume declined by 2.1 % in the fourth quarter 2022.

“By the end of 2022, the previously strong growth of Austria’s industry and construction sector has slowed down. Despite slowing momentum, however, industry and construction enterprises remain on course for growth. According to a flash estimate, their turnover in December 2022 was 7.7 % higher than in the corresponding month of the previous year,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Considering the industrial and the construction sector separately, the **flash estimates for December 2022** show an increase of the turnover index in industry (+8.1 %) and in construction (+5.7 %) compared to the same month of the previous year. The index of hours worked decreased in industry (-2.3 %), in construction there was likewise a decline (-0.2 % compared to December 2021). The index of persons employed shows a slight incline in industry (+1.8 %) and in construction (+3.4 %; see table 1).

Industry and construction with nominal turnover increase of 15.8 % in October 2022

In **October 2022**, a total of 80 343 enterprises in the entire industry and construction sector turned over € 38.4 bn (+15.8 %). At the same time, the number of employees rose by 1.7 % to 1 039 996. The 42 272 Austrian **construction** enterprises achieved a turnover of € 6.2 bn in October 2022. This corresponds to an increase of 9.5 % in nominal terms compared to October 2021 (see table 2).

Significant production boost in industry in October 2022

Compared to the same month of the previous year, sold production in industry (sections B to E of ÖNACE 2008) increased nominally by 26.6 % to € 29.9 bn in **October 2022**. The highest increase in production by far within the ten largest branches of industry was recorded in manufacture of beverages with 39.4 % to €0.9 bn. Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products (+27.7 % to € 1.0 bn), electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply with +26.3 % to € 10.0 bn, manufacture of electrical equipment (+18.5 % to € 1.2 bn) as well as manufacture of food products (+17.8 % to € 1.9 bn) also recovered strongly. Among the ten largest branches of Austrian industry no subsection showed a negative development (see table 3).

Decline in road freight transport of Austrian enterprises in the fourth quarter 2022

For the fourth quarter 2022, the flash estimates for transport volume of Austrian enterprises showed a decrease by 2.1 % to 94.4 million tonnes compared to the fourth quarter 2021 (96.3 million tonnes; see table 4). Total transport performance on Austrian and foreign territory declined by 1.4 % to 6.4 billion tonne-kilometres (tkm) and the number of laden journeys remained constant at 6.9 million. Transport performance on Austrian territory increased by 1.4 % (to 4.6 billion tkm), whereas outside Austria it declined by 7.9 % to 1.8 billion tkm.

Road freight transport of Austrian enterprises in 2022: decrease in preliminary yearly results

Considering the flash estimates for the third and fourth quarter, preliminary yearly results can be published. In the reporting year 2022, Austrian enterprises were accountable for a total transport volume of 389.4 million tonnes, a decrease of 3.5 % compared to 2021 (403.5 million tonnes). The total transport performance declined by 1.5 % to 26.9 billion tkm (2021: 27.3 billion tkm). Within the domestic territory, it fell by 1.5 % to 19.3 billion tkm and on foreign territory, it decreased by 1.3 % to 7.6 billion 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](#). Further information about [road freight transport of Austrian enterprises](#) can be found on 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 also available.

Table 1: Short-term business statistics indicators (final, preliminary and flash estimates at t+30 days for December 2022; Turnover index, index of persons employed and index of hours worked in industry and construction (base year 2015); ÖNACE 2008

2022	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	177.3	15.2	175.7	15.9	188.4	11.0
Turnover index ¹ November ³	191.5	15.8	189.3	16.9	206.5	9.1
Turnover index ¹ December ⁴	181.7	7.7	179.3	8.1	198.6	5.7
Index of persons employed ¹ October ²	113.5	1.8	109.9	1.9	126.0	1.4
Index of persons employed ¹ November ³	114.7	2.9	111.7	3.5	124.9	1.1
Index of persons employed ¹ December ⁴	110.6	2.1	109.2	1.8	115.7	3.4
Index of hours worked ¹ October ²	111.6	1.9	106.9	1.7	127.3	2.5
Index of hours worked ¹ November ³	117.2	2.3	112.9	2.5	131.7	1.8
Index of hours worked ¹ December ⁴	96.2	-1.7	95.5	-2.3	98.4	-0.2

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA. Annual average 2015 = 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 2022

Structure of ÖNACE 2008 ¹	Enterprises	Employees	Gross earnings in m. Euro	Turnover in m. Euro	Turnover-changes	
	End of October 2022		October 2022		nom. in % ²	wd. a. in % ³
Industry	38 071	722 731	3 124.4	32 126.7	17.1	16.8
Manufacturing	31 067	671 442	2 895.2	21 399.1	13.5	-
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	4 078	28 751	150.7	10 074.5	26.8	-
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	2 926	22 538	78.4	653.1	1.4	-
Construction	42 272	317 265	1 098.9	6 247.4	9.5	8.8
Industry and construction in total	80 343	1 039 996	4 221.3	38 374.1	15.8	15.4

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: Key branches of industry – value of sold production sold – October 2022

Structure of OENACE 2008	Sold production in million Euros	Sold production - changes in % ¹
	October 2022	
Industry	31 648,4	16,8
Electricity, Gas, steam and air conditioning supply	9 965,7	26,3
Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.	2 354,0	9,3
Manufacture of basic metals	2 131,0	16,7
Manufacture of food products	1 928,6	17,8
Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	1 753,3	8,5
Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers	1 498,5	11,0
Manufacture of electrical equipment	1 238,5	18,5
Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials	1 047,5	8,7
Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products	1 005,2	27,7
Manufacture of beverages	915,2	39,4

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

1) Nominal changes compared to the same period of the previous year.

Table 4: Quarterly results of road freight transport volume (in million tonnes) of Austrian enterprises 2018 to 2022

Reporting year	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter	4th quarter	total
2022¹	87.9	104.2	102.9	94.4	389.4
Compared to previous year in %	-0.2	-2.4	-8.3	-2.1	-3.5
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
2019	79.9	105.6	111.7	105.0	402.2
Compared to previous year in %	0.3	-2.6	5.2	6.0	2.3
2018	79.6	108.4	106.2	99.1	393.3
Compared to previous year in %	1.8	6.2	-0.9	-0.3	1.7

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, road freight transport statistics.

1) Values for the third and fourth quarter 2022 are flash estimates. The flash estimate for the second quarter 2022 was replaced by the preliminary quarterly result.

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.

Starting with the **reporting month January 2021**, a new concept for the registration and deregistration of statistical units was implemented in the Statistical Business Register (SBR) of Statistics Austria, which can explain the in some cases significant differences in the number of enterprises and establishments compared

to the same month of the previous year. In line with the European concepts, the thresholds for the registration of units in the SBR were adjusted downwards respectively. Currently, all units with a turnover of 50 euros per month, 150 euros per quarter or 500 euros per year are registered as active (previously: 1 000 euros per month, 3 000 euros per quarter or 10.00 euros per year). This has increased the basic population in the manufacturing sector by about 10 000 enterprises. In this context, however, it is important to point out that the registration and deletion concept is permanently being improved and that, as a result, abrupt changes in some areas cannot be completely avoided.

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 is based on the assumption 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.

Quality of the flash estimates: An essential aspect for the quality of the estimates is the automatic outlier detection and correction procedure. 30 days after the end of the reference period about 60 % of all reports have been received, however, standard data editing procedures are not completed at this early stage of data processing. Therefore, reported data considerably differing from standard reports have to be corrected automatically. The outlier detection is based on a RegArima-model. The sensitivity of this outlier detection procedure was heuristically calibrated such, that not too many correctly reported values were replaced, and most incorrect reports were eliminated as well.

Thus, the quality of the t+30 estimate depends, on the extent to which the most significant erroneous reports could be identified and corrected. Furthermore, the underlying model assumes a correlation of early and late reported data. This dependence did not change significantly in the observation period 2013-2020. Structural breaks caused by crises such as the Corona pandemic could cause problems in the identification of outliers (suddenly occurring zero values that are recognized as outliers and replaced). Furthermore, due to the current situation, follow-up reports and major revisions cannot be ruled out.

Road freight transport:

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 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. More information about road freight transport flash estimates can be found in the article [Erhebung zum Straßengüterverkehr – Neuer Stichprobenplan und Entwicklung von Schnellschätzern](#) (available in German only) by Karner, T., Weninger, B., Schuster, S. and Fleck, S. in Statistischen Nachrichten, Heft 4, 2018 (PDF, 0.4 MB).

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