

# Euro-IND State of affairs

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*March 2010*

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## 1 Introduction

The “European and national short term indicators” database (EUROIND) represents the outcome of the Euro-SICS project, launched by Eurostat in 1999. The objective of EUROIND is to provide a comprehensive and detailed portrait of the short-term economic situation in: the euro area; the European Union; the Member States; and, whenever possible, acceding countries, Norway and main European economic partners. EUROIND contains monthly and quarterly indicators and provides different breakdowns, such as by sector, product or country.

EUROIND is continuously evolving, with statistical and geographical coverage being kept up-to-date, in line with the recent developments in infra-annual macro-economic statistics, to meet user needs. This report provides a global quality assessment of the EUROIND database, at the end of February 2010. The quality of the database is assessed under 5 categories, which have been selected and defined in relation to Eurostat’s quality concept and the available information. The items considered are as follows:

- |                         |                           |                       |                         |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1. Relevance:</b>    | ➤ Extractions             | <b>3. Timeliness:</b> | ➤ Freshness             |
|                         | ➤ Consultations           |                       |                         |
| <b>2. Completeness:</b> | ➤ Coverage of the base    | <b>4. Accuracy:</b>   | ➤ Missing values        |
|                         | ➤ Geographical level      |                       | ➤ Strange values        |
|                         | ➤ Distribution by domains |                       |                         |
|                         | ➤ Frequency of the series | <b>5. Clarity:</b>    | ➤ Metadata availability |
|                         | ➤ Length of series        |                       |                         |

EUROIND was completely redesigned in 2002. The theoretical content of the EUROIND database grew from a total of 13,208 series by the end of May 2002 to 28,501 series by the end of June 2002. Since this first restructuring exercise, more than 13,000 series have been added - these are mainly growth rate series, although a few new indicators were also added.

In addition to EUROIND, a restricted data selection, called "Short-term indicators" tables (Shorties), was created in 2003, in order to generate the main tables available on the Euro-indicators/PEEIs page and on other pages of the Eurostat website. 'Shorties' has since been renamed 'Short Term Indicators'.

**Euro-indicators/PEEIs "selected statistis": all data online, longer time series and breakdowns by country... and all free of charge!**

## 2 Relevance of the database

Generally, when assessing the relevance of statistics we evaluate how closely the information contained in the EUROIND database matches user information needs, which necessitates the identification of users and their expectations. However, to quantify the level of relevance, one can also examine how often the data is used; a database that is infrequently consulted would be considered less relevant than one that is frequently consulted. Consequently, this section considers two indicators which measure the frequency of use of the database: the number of extractions and the number of web pages consultations.

### 2.1 Extractions

The Euro-indicators website, available online since October 2001, became one of the dedicated sections of the Eurostat website in October 2004. EUROIND is the underlying database for the Euro-indicators/ PEEIs "selected statistics" on short-term economic statistics.

The total number of extractions is the number of extractions from EUROIND (belonging to the "General and Regional Statistics" theme of the Eurostat website, referred to as "European and national short term indicators" in the free dissemination data tree) using different available downloading tools ("Data explorer" plus the number of extractions using "EVA").

During the month of February 2010, 8,776 extractions were made from EUROIND. Figure 2-1 shows the evolution of number of extractions per day in a given month.

Figures are not adjusted for number of working days or official holidays; this could explain the increase in the number of extractions for August 2009 as well as in December 2009 which contained respectively the summer and Christmas holidays. The number of extractions per day in February 2010 was 313 showing an increase with respect to the preceding month.

**Figure 2-1: Extractions per day from the EUROIND database**

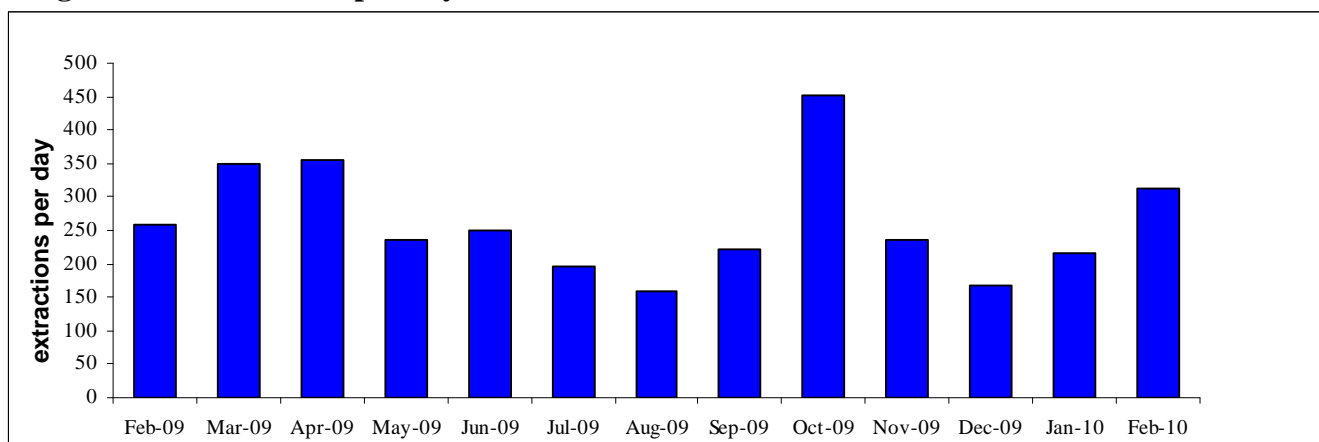


Table 2-1 shows the total number of extractions from EUROIND using Data Explorer plus EVA with a break-down by domain. The number of extractions using Data Explorer prevails over the number of extractions using EVA.

**Table 2-1: Number of extractions in February 2010 from the EUROIND database, by domain.**

	Data Explorer	EVA	Total (Data explorer+EVA)
<b>Balance of Payments</b>	806	8	814
<b>Business and Consumer Surveys</b>	1,723	111	1,834
<b>Consumer Prices</b>	612	31	643
<b>External Trade</b>	484	6	490
<b>Industry, Commerce and Services</b>	1,480	5	1,485
<b>Labour Market</b>	1,263	36	1,299
<b>Monetary and Financial Indicators</b>	530	19	549
<b>National Accounts</b>	1,594	68	1,662
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,492</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>8,776</b>

Figure 2-2 shows the evolution of number of extractions in a given month. The number of extractions shows dips in August 2009 as well as in December 2009 which could be explained by the summer and Christmas holidays. In February 2010 the number of extractions increased with respect to January 2009, to 8,776.

**Figure 2-2: Number of monthly extractions from the EUROIND database**

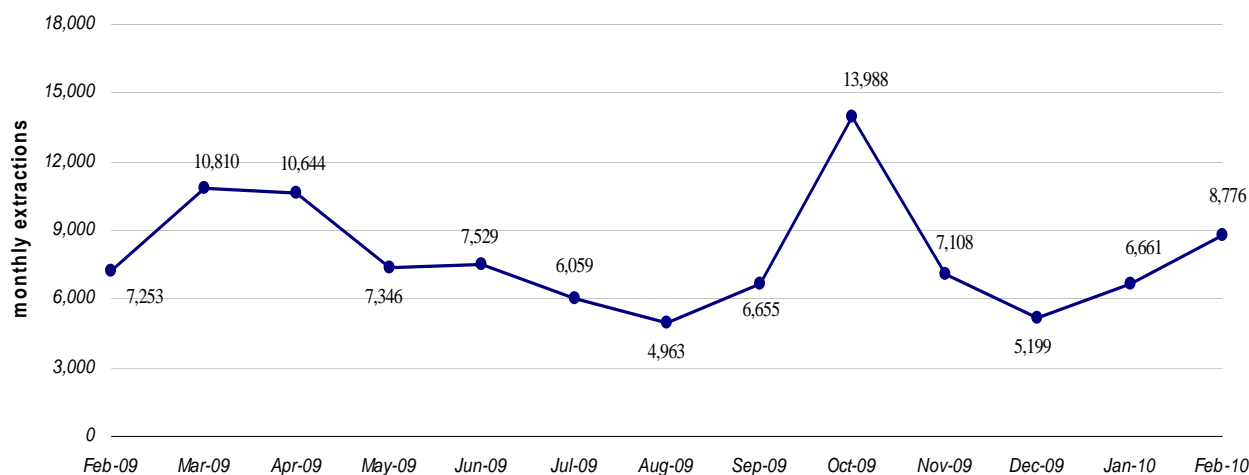
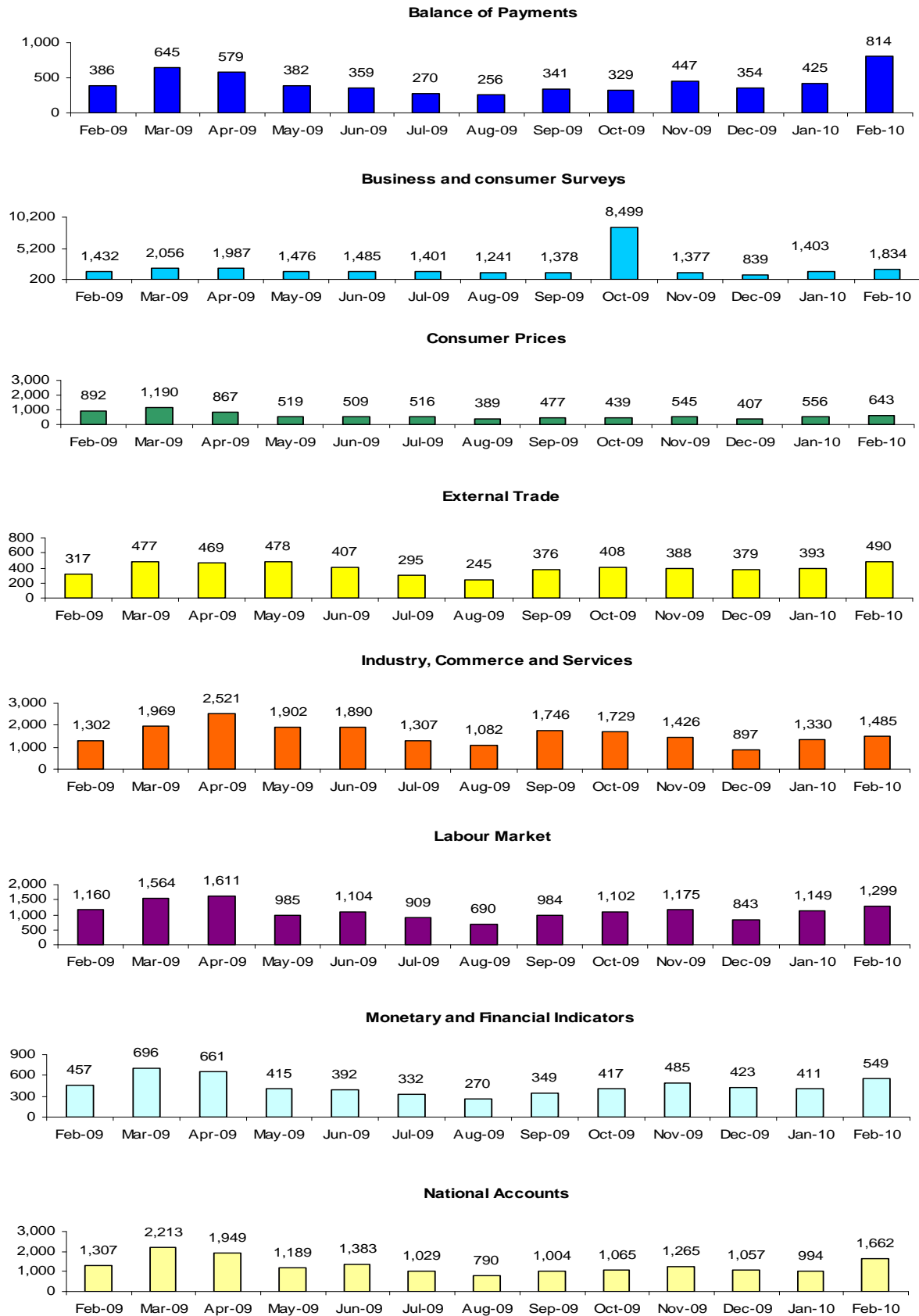


Figure 2-3 shows the number of extractions over time by domain in the last ten months. The number of extractions increased for all domains in February 2010 with respect to January 2010.

**Figure 2-3: Evolution of the Number of monthly extractions from the EURO-IND, by domain.**

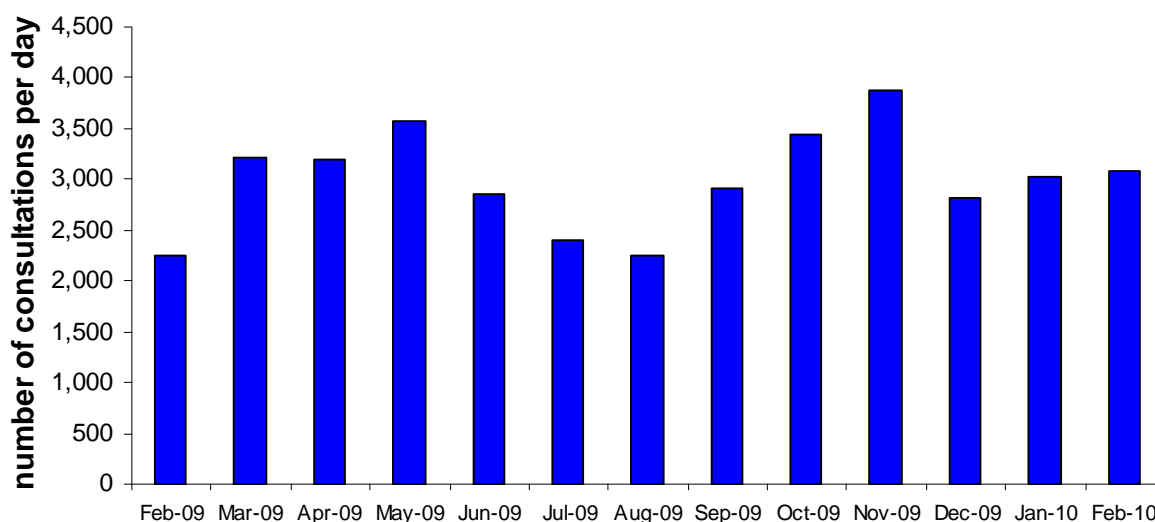


## 2.2 Consultations

The section on Short Term Indicators tables of the Euroindicators/PEEIs page contains 135 TGM multidimensional tables. The number of consultations was of 86,216 in February 2010, with a decrease with respect to January 2010.

Figure 2-4 shows the evolution over time of the number of consultations per day on Short Term Indicators tables until February 2010. There were 3,079 consultations per day (without working day adjustment) in February 2010, showing an increase with respect to January 2010.

**Figure 2-4: Evolution of the Number of consultations per day.**



## 3 Completeness

When assessing the completeness of the database we assume that the choice of domains reflects the needs and the priorities expressed by the users. Five elements have been selected to assess the completeness of EUROIND: coverage of the database, geographical level, distribution by domain, frequency of the series and length of the series.

### 3.1 Coverage of the database

Concerning the coverage of the EUROIND database, as a benchmark, we consider the theoretical content of EUROIND, as defined in the classification plan approved by the Editorial Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2001, which (as mentioned in the introduction) has been successively modified to meet user needs.

We associate a “status” with each series: we call a series *active* when it was updated at least once during the last 12 months; we call it *inactive* if it has not been updated for a “long time”: 6 months for a monthly series, one year for a quarterly series, and two years for an annual series. A series will be in a *stopped* status if it is no longer available; for example, the M1 money supply indicator is no longer available for euro area countries. Finally a series will be considered *not available* if it does not contain values; note that this definition encompasses several cases. The theoretical number of series in each domain is defined by the product of the dimensions. Clearly some series out of the theoretical number can be not available for several well explicable reasons. The following is a non-exhaustive list of possibilities: some extra data is transmitted to Eurostat on a voluntary basis; data could be flagged as confidential and then it would not be possible to disseminate them; a legal act could imply derogations or allow simplified reporting requirements for some (usually smaller) countries. Moreover for European aggregates only, series can be not available if the geographical coverage is not sufficient to allow the production of reliable estimates.

Table 3-1 shows the distribution of series in the EUROIND database by status (as defined above) and domain. By the end of February 2010 the EUROIND database contained 103,275 national and European series:

- **59,937** are active series divided into 8 collections (or domains), 34 tables (or sub-domains) and various geographical levels.
- **11,581** series are inactive.
- **8** series have been stopped. Note that all stopped series can be found in the *Monetary and Financial Indicators* domain.
- **31,749** are not available series.

In January 2008 the *National Accounts* domain in EUROIND was restructured taking into account the methodological developments such as the chain-linking measures for prices and volumes. More in details new chain-linked volume data, with the reference year 2000, were included in the database. Moreover the structure of National Accounts domain of EUROIND was enhanced. New indicators such as the "Net primary income transfers" were added. Nevertheless some aggregates with breakdowns have disappeared from the database because they are not anymore available following the implementation of the Transmission Program adopted in December 2007.

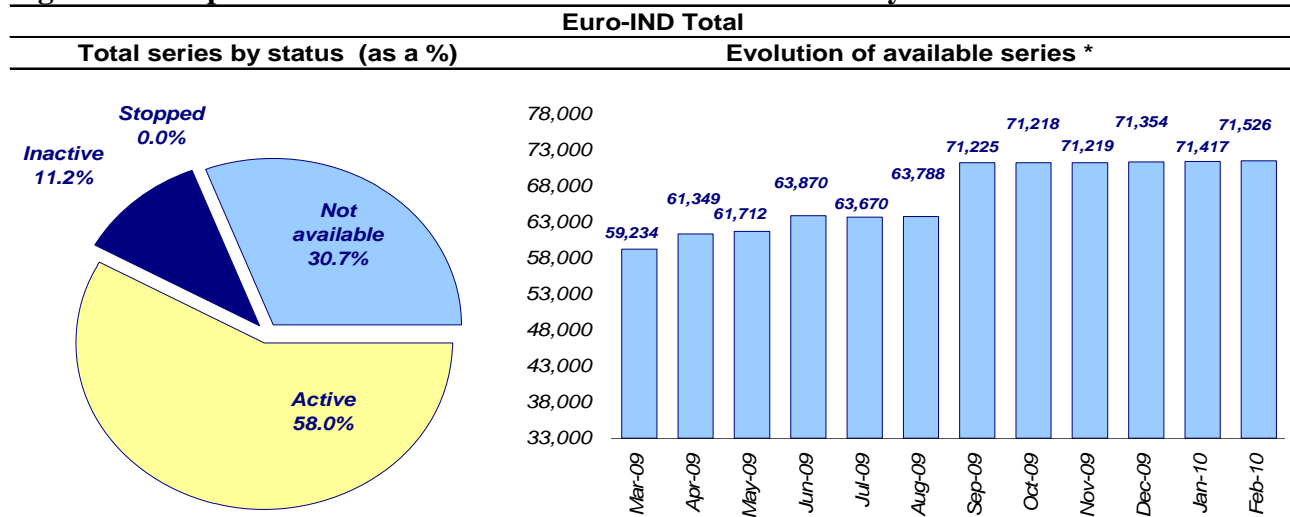
For the EUROIND database, essential changes occurred in the first quarter 2009 when the total number of series covered by EUROIND has risen especially following the implementation of NACE rev2 and the change in the base year in Labour Cost Index and Short Term Business Statistics.

**Table 3-1: Total number of series in the EUROIND database, by status and domain.**

	<i>Active</i>	<i>Inactive</i>	<i>Stopped</i>	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>Balance of Payments</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>791</b>
Current account	696	88	0	0	784
Financial account	7	0	0	0	7
<b>Business &amp; Cons. Surv.</b>	<b>3,762</b>	<b>674</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4,484</b>
Business Climate Indicator	1	3	0	0	4
Construction	702	130	0	0	832
Consumers	912	140	0	4	1,056
Industry	1,232	220	0	0	1,452
Retail sale	306	66	0	0	372
Sentiment indicators	297	55	0	44	396
Services	312	60	0	0	372
<b>Consumer Prices</b>	<b>3,003</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>3,150</b>
Harmonised indices	3,003	75	0	72	3,150
<b>External Trade</b>	<b>8,235</b>	<b>9,315</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,900</b>	<b>21,450</b>
EU15 External trade	0	2,160	0	480	2,640
EU25 External trade	0	3,510	0	780	4,290
EU27 External trade	3,780	0	0	840	4,620
euro area 12 External trade	0	1,755	0	390	2,145
euro area 13 External trade	0	1,890	0	420	2,310
euro area 15 External trade	2,160	0	0	480	2,640
euro area 16 External trade	2,295	0	0	510	2,805
<b>Industry, Comm. and Serv.</b>	<b>11,363</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17,824</b>	<b>29,778</b>
Construction	1,022	168	0	2,590	3,780
Energy	415	37	0	42	494
Industry	7,996	323	0	13,651	21,970
Other statistics	64	3	0	1	68
Retail trade	1,640	40	0	1,522	3,202
<b>Labour Market</b>	<b>20,430</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,048</b>	<b>26,712</b>
Harm. unemployment	714	0	0	6	720
Harm. unemployment rates	714	0	0	6	720
Labour cost	19,002	234	0	6,036	25,272
<b>Monetary &amp; Fin. Indicators</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>634</b>
Exchange rates	18	0	0	0	18
Financial aggregates	75	16	0	0	91
Interest rates	87	21	8	104	220
Monetary aggregates	163	142	0	0	305
<b>National Accounts</b>	<b>12,098</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,753</b>	<b>16,276</b>
Aggregates by branch	5,070	83	0	1,511	6,664
Government accounts	224	6	0	10	240
Income aggregates	1,233	61	0	722	2,016
Main aggregates	5,018	272	0	1,478	6,768
Price and cost indices	553	3	0	32	588
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59,937</b>	<b>11,581</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>31,749</b>	<b>103,275</b>

Figure 3-1 shows the percentage of the total number of series used that are active, inactive, stopped and not available, and the number of available series for the EUROIND database as a whole. 71,526 (69.3%) of EUROIND series are available (active + inactive + stopped series): 59,937 (58.0%) are active, 11,581 (11.2%) are inactive and 8 (0.0%) have been stopped. 31,749 (30.7%) of series are not available from the EUROIND database, which is mostly due to the structure of the database.

**Figure 3-1: Repartition of all series in the EUROIND database by status.**



\* available = active+ inactive + stopped series.

Figure 3-2 shows the percentage of the total number of euro area (EA + EA-12 + EA-13 + EA-15 + EA-16 aggregates<sup>1</sup>) series used that are active, inactive, stopped and not available, and the number of available euro area series in the last 12 months, which are a subset of the series held in the EUROIND database. 5,950 (66.1%) euro area series were available on the site at the end of February 2010. 5,216 (58.0%) series are active, 734 (8.2%) are inactive and none of the series have been stopped; the remaining 3,050 (33.9%) are not available.

**Figure 3-2: Repartition of euro area series in the EUROIND database by status.**

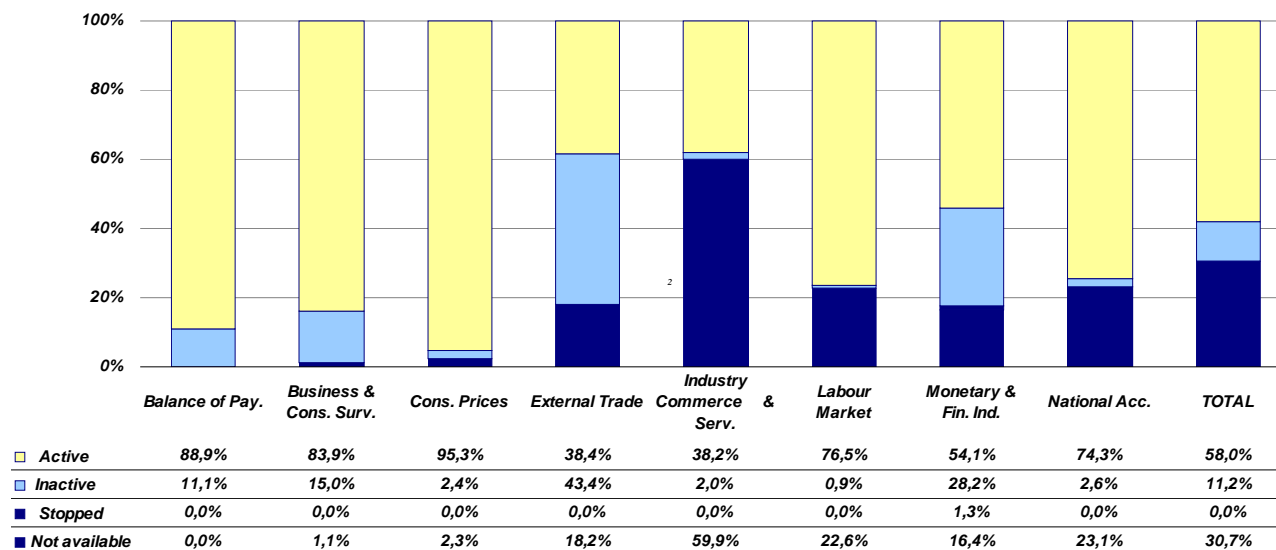


\* available = active+ inactive + stopped series.

<sup>1</sup> See paragraph 3.2 for a definition of aggregates.

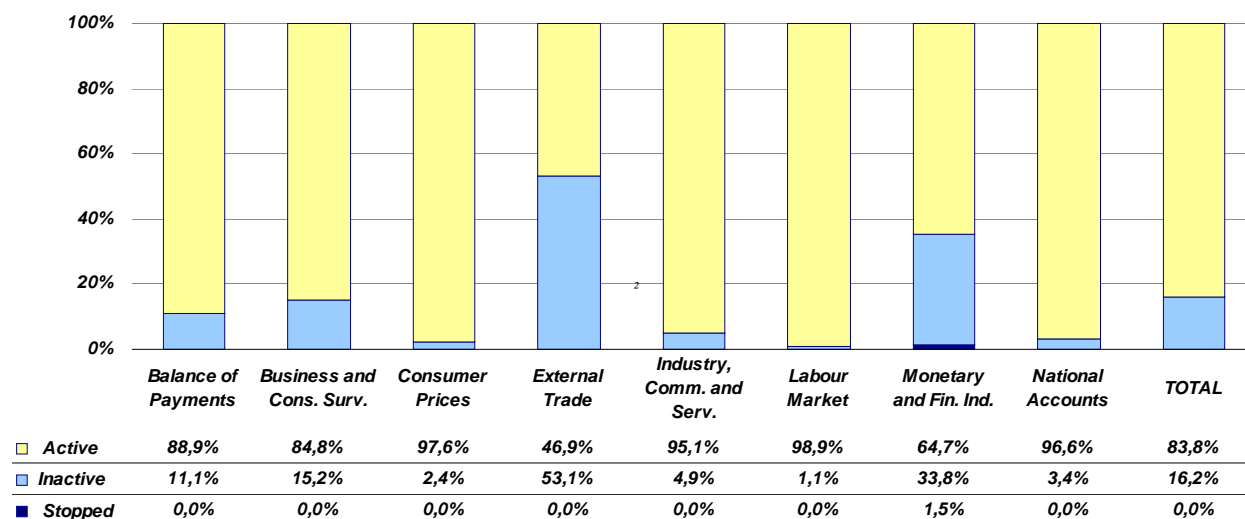
Figure 3-3 shows the series status, in percentage terms, within each domain. Five out of eight domains have a high percentage (over 60%) of active series, with three over 80%.

**Figure 3-3: Series in the EUROIND database by actual status, in percent.**



In some domains such as *Industry, Commerce and Services* the high percent of not available series is caused by the fact that some countries do not have to supply data due to derogations or specific regulations statements (e.g. STS Regulation 1165/98 and its amendment 1158/2005; more information is available in the *Industry, Commerce and Services metadata*<sup>2</sup>). Figure 3-4 presents the status of the available series, in percentage terms, within each domain. Six out of eight domains have over 80% of active available series. The lowest percentage of active available series was recorded in the *External Trade* domain (46.9%). Please note that in this domain the substantial increase in the number of inactive series occurred due to the fact that some indicators are no longer calculated (eg. EA12 and EA13).

**Figure 3-4: Available series in the EUROIND database by actual status, in percent.**



<sup>2</sup> Industry, Commerce and Services reference metadata: [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\\_SDDS/en/is\\_esms.htm](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/en/is_esms.htm)

### 3.2 Geographical level

The total number of geographical entities (countries and groups of countries) covered by EUROIND is 47, which are:

- 9 European aggregates: euro area (EA), euro area 12 (EA-12), euro area 13 (EA-13), euro area 15 (EA-15), euro area 16 (EA-16), European Union - 15 member states (EU-15), European Union - 25 member states (EU-25), European Union - 27 member states (EU-27) and European Union (EU). The EU aggregate is currently used only in the *Consumer Prices* domain; it is an evolving geographical aggregate including at each time t, the “current” number of states in the European Union. The same holds for the EA aggregate, its exact composition is: the 11 countries first participating in the euro area and also includes Greece starting from January 2001, Slovenia – from January 2007, Cyprus and Malta – from January 2008 and Slovakia – from January 2009. The EA-12 consists of the 12 countries forming the euro area until the end of 2006. The EA-13 aggregate refers to 13 countries in the euro area until the end of 2007, including Slovenia. The EA-15 aggregate consist of all 15 euro area countries, including Cyprus and Malta. The EA-16 aggregate consist of all current 16 euro area countries, including Slovakia. Note that if not explicitly indicated, "euro area" refers to the sum of series from EA, EA-12, EA-13, EA-15 and EA-16 in this document.
- the 27 Members of the European Union: Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BU), Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE), and the United Kingdom (UK);
- 9 other countries: Croatia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland, the United States and Japan;
- 2 other specific country groups: BLEU and EURONEXT.

It should be noted that:

- BLEU, Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union, is a group specific to the *Balance of Payments* domain; this aggregate is present for historical reasons, no data is any more produced for BLEU, because data for Belgium and Luxembourg are now separately available.
- EURONEXT is a group of countries consisting of BE, FR, NL and PT, which jointly produce a stock-market indicator, used in the *Monetary and Financial Indicators* domain.

Table 3-2 provides a detailed breakdown of the number of series in the EUROIND database by status and geographical entity. The eight European aggregates (three for the European Union - EU-15, EU-25, EU-27 and five for the euro area – EA, EA-12, EA-13, EA-15, EA-16) have between 1,256 and 2,365 series each, with between 835 and 1,487 series available, and between 729 and 1,484 active series. A large majority of EU Member States have more than 1,600 series available (with between 1,511 and 2,693 available series), and between 1,141 and 2,137 active series. Germany had the highest number of active series and Ireland had the lowest number of active series in February 2010. Note that the numbers of series for the EU-15 and EU-25 aggregates are decreasing because these aggregates are not anymore calculated in some domains.

**Table 3-2: Number of total series in EUROIND, by status and geographical entity.**

	<i>Active</i>	<i>Inactive</i>	<i>Stopped</i>	<i>Not available</i>	<i>Available</i>	<i>Total</i>	
<b>European Aggregates</b>	Euro area (EA)	808	27	0	421	835	1,256
	Euro area 16 (EA-16)	1,484	3	0	865	1,487	2,352
	Euro area 15 (EA-15)	1,326	150	0	862	1,476	2,338
	Euro area 13 (EA-13)	799	276	0	452	1,075	1,527
	Euro area 12 (EA-12)	799	278	0	450	1,077	1,527
	European Union	75	0	0	0	75	75
	European Union (27 Members)	1,429	4	0	932	1,433	2,365
	European Union (25 Members)	788	298	0	461	1,086	1,547
	European Union (15 Members)	729	241	0	548	970	1,518
	BLEU	0	21	0	0	21	21
EURONEXT	1	0	0	0	1	1	
<b>Member States</b>	Belgium	1,938	654	0	770	2,592	3,362
	Bulgaria	1,594	19	0	766	1,613	2,379
	Czech Republic	1,793	167	0	594	1,960	2,554
	Denmark	1,411	415	0	893	1,826	2,719
	Germany	2,137	556	0	669	2,693	3,362
	Estonia	1,766	164	1	557	1,931	2,488
	Ireland	1,141	751	0	1,464	1,892	3,356
	Greece	2,039	642	0	675	2,681	3,356
	Spain	2,071	556	0	735	2,627	3,362
	France	1,826	561	0	975	2,387	3,362
	Italy	1,820	559	0	983	2,379	3,362
	Cyprus	1,897	177	5	784	2,079	2,863
	Latvia	1,764	168	0	559	1,932	2,491
	Lithuania	1,788	169	0	588	1,957	2,545
	Luxembourg	1,994	586	0	757	2,580	3,337
	Hungary	1,709	163	0	682	1,872	2,554
	Malta	1,764	167	0	882	1,931	2,813
	Netherlands	2,125	562	0	675	2,687	3,362
	Austria	2,054	543	0	765	2,597	3,362
	Poland	1,792	157	0	605	1,949	2,554
	Portugal	2,092	552	0	718	2,644	3,362
	Romania	1,656	62	0	665	1,718	2,383
	Slovenia	2,066	312	1	657	2,379	3,036
	Slovakia	2,032	188	0	494	2,220	2,714
	Finland	1,580	600	0	1,182	2,180	3,362
	Sweden	1,228	283	0	1,189	1,511	2,700
United Kingdom	1,713	293	0	709	2,006	2,715	
<b>Other countries</b>	Croatia	504	48	0	743	552	1,295
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	4	0	0	4	4	8
	Turkey	375	26	1	780	402	1,182
	Iceland	224	10	0	797	234	1,031
	Liechtenstein	0	1	0	2	1	3
	Norway	1,177	39	0	836	1,216	2,052
	Switzerland	356	42	0	818	398	1,216
	USA	141	43	0	954	184	1,138
	Japan	127	48	0	832	175	1,007
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>59,937</b>	<b>11,581</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>31,749</b>	<b>71,526</b>	<b>103,275</b>	

### 3.3 Distribution by domain

Currently, the database is divided into 8 domains and 34 sub-domains (see Table 3.5). While considering the breakdown of the series by domain, we take into account the number of available series, i.e. the sum of active, non-active and stopped series.

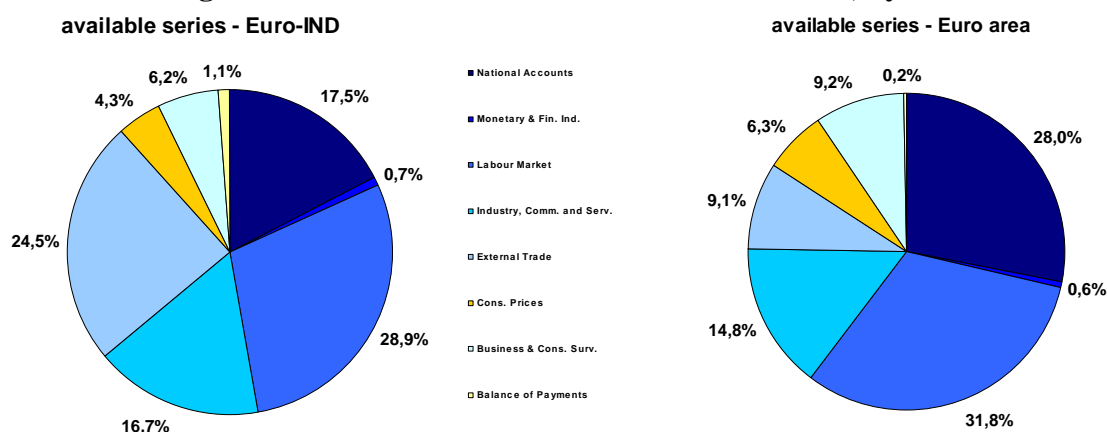
Table 3-3 shows the number of available series in the EUROIND database, by domain, for different geographical entities. The table is divided into three sections: European aggregates, Member States and Other Countries. The table shows that in certain domains, such as *Balance of Payments*, the number of available series in Member States is constant, while in others, such as *National Accounts*, the number of available series varies more by country, ranging from 173 for Bulgaria to 379 for Slovakia.

**Table 3-3: Number of available series in EUROIND, by domain and geographical entity.**

	<i>Balance of Payments</i>	<i>Business &amp; Cons. Surv.</i>	<i>Cons. Prices</i>	<i>External Trade</i>	<i>Industry, Comm. &amp; Services</i>	<i>Labour Market</i>	<i>Monetary &amp; Fin. Ind.</i>	<i>National Accounts</i>	<i>Total</i>	
European Aggregates	Euro area (EA)	0	0	75	0	7	378	33	342	835
	Euro area 16 (EA-16)	14	136	75	135	426	378	0	323	1.487
	Euro area 15 (EA-15)	0	138	75	135	427	378	0	323	1.476
	Euro area 13 (EA-13)	0	138	75	135	10	378	0	339	1.075
	Euro area 12 (EA-12)	0	138	75	135	10	378	0	341	1.077
	European Union	0	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	75
	European Union (27 Members)	21	135	75	135	361	387	4	315	1.433
	European Union (25 Members)	21	137	75	135	10	387	0	321	1.086
	European Union (15 Members)	21	0	75	135	361	36	0	342	970
	BLEU	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
EURONEXT	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
Member States	Belgium	21	137	75	945	336	738	11	329	2.592
	Bulgaria	21	137	75	135	316	738	18	173	1.613
	Czech Republic	21	137	75	270	333	738	28	358	1.960
	Denmark	21	137	75	405	333	450	28	377	1.826
	Germany	21	137	75	945	468	666	11	370	2.693
	Estonia	21	137	75	270	311	738	24	355	1.931
	Ireland	21	137	75	945	296	81	11	326	1.892
	Greece	21	137	75	945	391	738	11	363	2.681
	Spain	21	137	75	945	396	684	11	358	2.627
	France	21	137	75	945	393	432	11	373	2.387
	Italy	21	137	75	945	268	549	11	373	2.379
	Cyprus	21	137	75	540	284	738	15	269	2.079
	Latvia	21	137	75	270	310	738	27	354	1.932
	Lithuania	21	137	75	270	315	738	25	376	1.957
	Luxembourg	21	109	75	945	343	738	10	339	2.580
	Hungary	21	137	75	270	393	738	28	210	1.872
	Malta	21	80	75	540	232	738	15	230	1.931
	Netherlands	21	137	75	945	400	738	11	360	2.687
	Austria	21	137	75	945	396	639	11	373	2.597
	Poland	21	137	75	270	376	738	28	304	1.949
	Portugal	21	137	75	945	395	738	11	322	2.644
	Romania	21	137	75	135	391	738	22	199	1.718
	Slovenia	21	137	75	675	347	738	15	371	2.379
	Slovakia	21	137	75	405	442	738	23	379	2.220
Finland	21	137	75	945	348	270	11	373	2.180	
Sweden	21	137	75	405	356	261	9	247	1.511	
United Kingdom	21	137	75	405	329	738	24	277	2.006	
Other Countries	Croatia	21	0	39	0	254	36	2	200	552
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4
	Turkey	21	0	75	0	149	36	8	113	402
	Iceland	21	0	75	0	2	12	2	122	234
	Liechtenstein	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
	Norway	21	0	75	0	285	504	3	328	1.216
	Switzerland	0	0	75	0	118	0	3	202	398
	USA	21	0	39	0	16	36	6	66	184
	Japan	21	0	0	0	20	24	6	104	175
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>791</b>	<b>4.436</b>	<b>3.078</b>	<b>17.550</b>	<b>11.954</b>	<b>20.664</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>12.523</b>	<b>71.526</b>	

Figure 3-5 shows the percentage of available series in the EUROIND database, by domain. The *Labour Market* domain supplies the majority of the available series in EUROIND (28.9%), followed by *External Trade* (24.5%), *National Accounts* (17.5%) and *Industry, Commerce and Services* (16.7%) together these four domains provide 87.6% of the available series in EUROIND. When considering only series for the euro area, *Labour Market* (31.8%) supplies the largest share followed by *National Accounts* (28.0%) and *Industry Commerce and Services* (14.8%). Three other domains provide contributions between 6.3% and 9.2% of the total number of available series and the remaining two have contributions of less than 1%.

**Figure 3-5: Percentage of available series in the EUROIND database, by domain.**



### 3.4 Frequency of the series

Table 3-4 shows the available (*active + inactive + stopped*) series, by periodicity and domain, where the percentages express the ratio between the number of series by periodicity and the domain. 34,418 (48.1%) of the available series in the EUROIND database are presented on a monthly basis and 36,748 (51.4%) of the available series are presented on a quarterly basis. 360 series (0.5%) are annual, and are all in the *National Accounts* domain.

**Table 3-4: Available series in the EUROIND database, by frequency and domain.**

	Yearly		Quarterly		Monthly		Total N
	N	%(1)	N	%(1)	N	%(1)	
Balance of Payments	0	0,0%	777	98,2%	14	1,8%	791
Business and Cons. Surv.	0	0,0%	1.186	26,7%	3.250	73,3%	4.436
Consumer Prices	0	0,0%	0	0,0%	3.078	100,0%	3.078
External Trade	0	0,0%	0	0,0%	17.550	100,0%	17.550
Industry, Comm. and Serv.	0	0,0%	3.386	28,3%	8.568	71,7%	11.954
Labour Market	0	0,0%	19.236	93,1%	1.428	6,9%	20.664
Monetary and Fin. Ind.	0	0,0%	0	0,0%	530	100,0%	530
National Accounts	360	2,9%	12.163	97,1%	0	0,0%	12.523
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>0,5%</b>	<b>36.748</b>	<b>51,4%</b>	<b>34.418</b>	<b>48,1%</b>	<b>71.526</b>

(1) percentages express the ratio with the total number of series in the domain

Table 3-5 shows the distribution of quarterly and monthly available series by domain and sub-domain. There were 71,166 monthly and quarterly series in February 2010. The table shows the proportions of monthly and quarterly series for every domain.

**Table 3-5: Distribution of available series in the EUROIND database, by frequency, domain and sub-domain**

	Quarterly		Monthly			Quarterly		Monthly	
	N	% <sup>(1)</sup>	N	% <sup>(1)</sup>		N	% <sup>(1)</sup>	N	% <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Balance of Payments</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>1,1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>Labour market</b>	<b>19.236</b>	<b>27,0</b>	<b>1.428</b>	<b>2,0</b>
Current account	777	1,1	7	0,0	Harm. unemployment	0	0,0	714	1,0
Financial account	0	0,0	7	0,0	Harm. unempl. rates	0	0,0	714	1,0
					Labour cost	19.236	27,0	0	0,0
<b>Business &amp; Cons. Surv.</b>	<b>1.186</b>	<b>1,7</b>	<b>3.250</b>	<b>4,6</b>	<b>Monetary &amp; fin. indic.</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>0,7</b>
Business Climate Indicator	0	0,0	4	0,0	Exchange rates	0	0,0	18	0,0
Construction	64	0,1	768	1,1	Financial aggregates	0	0,0	91	0,1
Consumers	198	0,3	854	1,2	Interest rates	0	0,0	116	0,2
Industry	924	1,3	528	0,7	Monetary aggregates	0	0,0	305	0,4
Retail sale	0	0,0	372	0,5	<b>National accounts</b>	<b>12.163</b>	<b>17,1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>
Sentiment indicators	0	0,0	352	0,5	Aggregates by industry	5.153	7,2	0	0,0
Services	0	0,0	372	0,5	Government accounts <sup>(2)</sup>	0	0,0	0	0,0
					Income aggregates	1.294	1,8	0	0,0
<b>Consumer Prices</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>3.078</b>	<b>4,3</b>	Main aggregates <sup>(3)</sup>	5.160	7,3	0	0,0
Harmonised indices	0	0,0	3.078	4,3	Price and cost indices	556	0,8	0	0,0
<b>External Trade</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>17.550</b>	<b>24,7</b>					
EU15 External trade	0	0	2.160	2,160					
EU25 External trade	0	0	3.510	3,510					
EU27 External trade	0	0	3.780	3,780					
euro area 12 External trade	0	0	1.755	1,755					
euro area 13 External trade	0	0	1.890	1,890					
euro area 15 External trade	0	0	2.160	2,160					
euro area 16 External trade	0	0	2.295	2,295					
<b>Industry, Comm. and Ser</b>	<b>3.386</b>	<b>4,8</b>	<b>8.568</b>	<b>12,0</b>					
Construction	781	1,1	409	0,6					
Energy	0	0,0	452	0,6					
Industry	2.537	3,6	5.782	8,1					
Other statistics	0	0,0	67	0,1					
Retail trade	68	0,1	1.612	2,3					
					<b>TOTAL<sup>(1) (2)</sup></b>	<b>36.748</b>	<b>51,6</b>	<b>34.418</b>	<b>48,4</b>

(1) Percentages express the ratio with the total number of quarterly and monthly series

(2) The 187 Government accounts series are available on a yearly basis. These series are not included in the total.

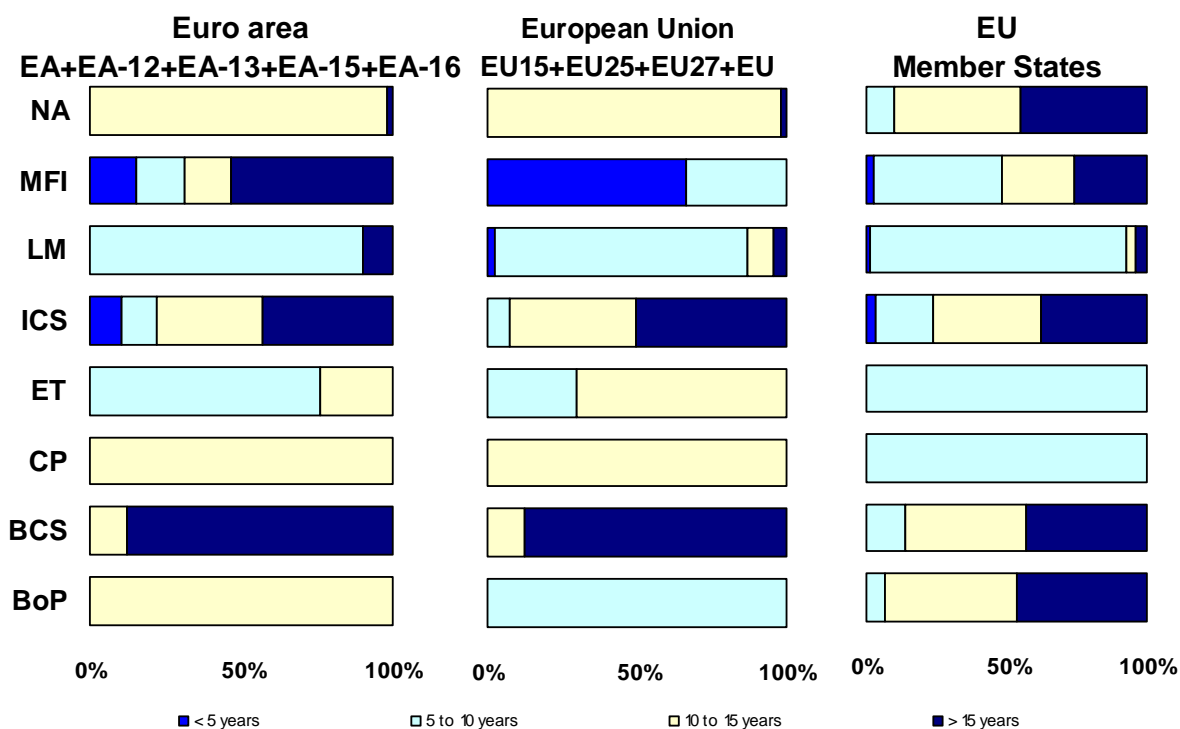
(3) Main aggregates contain also 108 yearly series. These series are not included in the total.

### 3.5 Length of the series

Eurostat aims to provide indicator series that span more than 15 years, so that the data cover at least two complete economic cycles. In this part of the report only active series will be considered.

Figure 3-6 shows the distribution of the active series in EUROIND by length and domain, for the euro area, the European Union and the EU Member States.

**Figure 3-6: Distribution of active series in the EUROIND database, by length and domain.**



Similar information is presented in Table 3-6. The table has been split into three groups: European aggregates and EU Member States on the top, Other countries in the middle, and EUROIND database as a whole on the bottom. The length of the active series in the whole EUROIND database varies substantially from one domain to another. In particular for European aggregates and EU Member States, 87.4% of the domain *Labour Market*, 54.0% of the domain *External Trade*, 39.6% of the domain *Monetary and Financial Indicators* and 19.4% of the domain *Industry, Commerce and Services* contain series that are shorter than 10 years in length. 61.9% of the *Business and Consumer Surveys* domain and 49.4% of the *Balance of Payments* domain have series with more than 15 years of observations.

Looking at Other Countries, 85.2% of the *Labour Market* domain, 37.9% of the domain *Industry, Commerce and Service* and 30.4% of the domain *Monetary and Financial Indicators*, contain series that are shorter than 10 years in length. 66.2% of the *National Accounts* domain and 50.0% of the *Balance of Payments* domain have series with more than 15 years of observations.

Finally, for the whole EUROIND database, 87.3% of the domain *Labour Market*, 54.0% of the domain *External Trade*, 39.1% of the domain *Monetary and Financial Indicators* and 20.6% of the domain *Industry, Commerce and Services* contain series that are shorter than 10 years in length. 61.9% of the *Business and Consumer Surveys* domain and 49.5% of the *Balance of Payments* domain have series with more than 15 years of observations.

**Table 3-6: Distribution of active series, by length and domain for European aggregates and EU Member States, Other countries, and EUROIND.**

	<i>Less than 5 years</i>		<i>5 to 10 years</i>		<i>10 to 15 years</i>		<i>More than 15 years</i>	
	<i>N</i>	<i>%<sup>(1)</sup></i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%<sup>(1)</sup></i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%<sup>(1)</sup></i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%<sup>(1)</sup></i>
<b>European aggregates and EU Member States</b>								
<b>Balance of Payments</b>	0	0,0	63	10,8	231	39,8	287	49,4
<b>Business and Consumer Surveys</b>	0	0,0	675	17,9	757	20,1	2.330	61,9
<b>Consumer Prices</b>	0	0,0	106	4,0	2.519	96,0	0	0,0
<b>External Trade</b>	0	0,0	4.445	54,0	3.790	46,0	0	0,0
<b>Industry, Commerce and Services</b>	355	3,4	1.699	16,0	4.956	46,7	3.604	34,0
<b>Labour Market</b>	210	1,1	17.079	86,3	1.665	8,4	828	4,2
<b>Monetary and Financial Indicators</b>	14	4,4	112	35,2	114	35,8	78	24,5
<b>National Accounts</b>	10	0,1	927	8,3	5.794	52,2	4.379	39,4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>1,1</b>	<b>25.106</b>	<b>44,0</b>	<b>19.826</b>	<b>34,8</b>	<b>11.506</b>	<b>20,2</b>
<b>Other Countries</b>								
<b>Balance of Payments</b>	0	0,0	23	18,9	38	31,1	61	50,0
<b>Business and Consumer Surveys</b>	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0
<b>Consumer Prices</b>	25	6,6	50	13,2	303	80,2	0	0,0
<b>Industry, Commerce and Services</b>	66	8,8	218	29,1	319	42,6	146	19,5
<b>Labour Market</b>	102	15,7	450	69,4	0	0,0	96	14,8
<b>Monetary and Financial Indicators</b>	0	0,0	7	30,4	8	34,8	8	34,8
<b>National Accounts</b>	6	0,6	178	18,0	150	15,2	654	66,2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>6,8</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>31,8</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>28,1</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>33,2</b>
<b>Euro-IND</b>								
<b>Balance of Payments</b>	0	0,0	86	12,2	269	38,3	348	49,5
<b>Business and Consumer Surveys</b>	0	0,0	675	17,9	757	20,1	2.330	61,9
<b>Consumer Prices</b>	25	0,8	156	5,2	2.822	94,0	0	0,0
<b>External Trade</b>	0	0,0	4.445	54,0	3.790	46,0	0	0,0
<b>Industry, Commerce and Services</b>	421	3,7	1.917	16,9	5.275	46,4	3.750	33,0
<b>Labour Market</b>	312	1,5	17.529	85,8	1.665	8,1	924	4,5
<b>Monetary and Financial Indicators</b>	14	4,1	120	35,0	123	35,9	86	25,1
<b>National Accounts</b>	16	0,1	1.105	9,1	5.944	49,1	5.033	41,6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>1,3</b>	<b>26.033</b>	<b>43,4</b>	<b>20.645</b>	<b>34,4</b>	<b>12.471</b>	<b>20,8</b>

Percentages in the TOTAL lines express the ratio with the total number of series.

(1) Domain percentages express the ratio with the total number of series by domain.

Table 3-7 presents the active series by length and geographical entity. Percentages are expressed as the proportion of the total number of series per geographical entity. At the end of February 2010, 12,471 (20.8 %) of the active series of the EUROIND database cover 15 years or more, and 33,116 (55.2%) cover at least 10 years. Focusing on the euro area (EA + EA-12 + EA-13 + EA-15 + EA-16 aggregates), 713 (13.7%) series cover 15 years or more while 3,100 (59.4%) series cover at least 10 years. In order to increase the length of the series, backward recalculation of euro area data has become a priority for Eurostat.

**Table 3-7 Active series in the EUROIND database, by length and geographical entity.**

		< 1 year		1 to 5 years		5 to 10 years		10 to 15 years		> 15 years	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
European Aggregates	Euro area (EA)	0	0,0	5	0,6	347	42,9	396	49,0	60	7,4
	Euro area 16 (EA-16)	1	0,1	41	2,8	487	32,8	577	38,9	378	25,5
	Euro area 15 (EA-15)	0	0,0	47	3,5	493	37,2	602	45,4	184	13,9
	Euro area 13 (EA-13)	0	0,0	0	0,0	349	43,7	411	51,4	39	4,9
	Euro area 12 (EA-12)	0	0,0	0	0,0	346	43,3	401	50,2	52	6,5
	European Union	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	75	100,0	0	0,0
	European Union (27 Members)	3	0,2	8	0,6	434	30,4	694	48,6	290	20,3
	European Union (25 Members)	3	0,4	6	0,8	350	44,4	426	54,1	3	0,4
	European Union (15 Members)	0	0,0	0	0,0	16	2,2	472	64,7	241	33,1
	EURONEXT	0	0,0	0	0,0	1	100,0	0	0,0	0	0,0
Member States	Belgium	0	0,0	0	0,0	973	50,2	398	20,5	567	29,3
	Bulgaria	0	0,0	4	0,3	883	55,4	557	34,9	150	9,4
	Czech Republic	0	0,0	0	0,0	866	48,3	784	43,7	143	8,0
	Denmark	0	0,0	18	1,3	401	28,4	304	21,5	688	48,8
	Germany	0	0,0	18	0,8	301	14,1	914	42,8	904	42,3
	Estonia	0	0,0	8	0,5	894	50,6	481	27,2	383	21,7
	Ireland	0	0,0	1	0,1	456	40,0	542	47,5	142	12,4
	Greece	0	0,0	10	0,5	1.383	67,8	446	21,9	200	9,8
	Spain	0	0,0	78	3,8	990	47,8	399	19,3	604	29,2
	France	6	0,3	54	3,0	237	13,0	822	45,0	707	38,7
	Italy	0	0,0	0	0,0	765	42,0	343	18,8	712	39,1
	Cyprus	0	0,0	5	0,3	1.222	64,4	665	35,1	5	0,3
	Latvia	0	0,0	0	0,0	878	49,8	724	41,0	162	9,2
	Lithuania	0	0,0	0	0,0	827	46,3	684	38,3	277	15,5
	Luxembourg	0	0,0	2	0,1	1.018	51,1	677	34,0	297	14,9
	Hungary	0	0,0	0	0,0	838	49,0	798	46,7	73	4,3
	Malta	1	0,1	23	1,3	1.356	76,9	365	20,7	19	1,1
	Netherlands	0	0,0	0	0,0	995	46,8	492	23,2	638	30,0
	Austria	90	4,4	2	0,1	769	37,4	715	34,8	478	23,3
	Poland	0	0,0	8	0,4	1.003	56,0	618	34,5	163	9,1
	Portugal	0	0,0	16	0,8	751	35,9	883	42,2	442	21,1
	Romania	0	0,0	7	0,4	1.026	62,0	538	32,5	85	5,1
	Slovenia	1	0,0	26	1,3	1.053	51,0	906	43,9	80	3,9
	Slovakia	27	1,3	27	1,3	906	44,6	550	27,1	522	25,7
	Finland	0	0,0	3	0,2	443	28,0	438	27,7	696	44,1
	Sweden	18	1,5	21	1,7	295	24,0	320	26,1	574	46,7
United Kingdom	0	0,0	1	0,1	755	44,1	409	23,9	548	32,0	
Other Countries	Croatia	0	0,0	2	0,4	322	63,9	177	35,1	3	0,6
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	2	50,0	2	50,0
	Turkey	0	0,0	100	26,7	84	22,4	112	29,9	79	21,1
	Iceland	12	5,4	4	1,8	0	0,0	180	80,4	28	12,5
	Norway	18	1,5	38	3,2	430	36,5	268	22,8	423	35,9
	Switzerland	0	0,0	25	7,0	88	24,7	36	10,1	207	58,1
	USA	0	0,0	0	0,0	1	0,7	40	28,4	100	70,9
	Japan	0	0,0	0	0,0	1	0,8	3	2,4	123	96,9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>0,3</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>1,0</b>	<b>26.033</b>	<b>43,4</b>	<b>20.645</b>	<b>34,4</b>	<b>12.471</b>	<b>20,8</b>	

## 4 Timeliness of data

The current principles of computer management applied to the EuroIND database make it difficult to have accurate information on the timeliness of data. To take account of the national release calendars, under the existing legal acts, other indicators are under construction and will be presented in future releases of this report.

To assess the timeliness of data two criteria are considered:

1. Punctuality - the delay between the announced and actual publication date;
2. Freshness - the delay between the date the user consults the database and the reference period of the most up-to-date data.

The punctuality of data applies to two important dates:

- the publication date of the series, at national or European level;
- the date of loading data into the EUROIND database.

The publication date does not appear in the EUROIND database but can be gathered from the publication calendars of the different Member States. In order to define the match with the first date, the easiest way would be through a dynamic link with the national release calendars. The loading date is also not available for the EUROIND database and only the latest update of the domain is known.

### 4.1 Freshness

The freshness of data is defined as the number of days between the date of the last value available in one series and the date at which the database was checked. Although freshness has been expressed in number of days, it should be noted that we consider series with different periodicity. Consequently, freshness does not truly reflect the timeliness of the data. However, it does give some indication for pointing out the main problems in the series. It is therefore used as a proxy for timeliness.

In order to have a more accurate picture of freshness, it is useful to distinguish between series with different periodicity, as well as looking at the series overall. Table 4-1 shows the freshness of active and inactive series in the EUROIND database, considering number of days. Percentages are expressed as the proportion of the total number of yearly, quarterly, or monthly series respectively. Note that freshness is not calculated for forecasting series and could be not defined for some other series.

At the end of February 2010, 32.1% of the total series recorded a delay of less than 90 days, 48.4% a delay between 90 and 180 days and the remaining 19.5% a delay of more than 180 days. 54.2% of monthly series recorded a delay of less than 60 days.

Table 4-2 shows the freshness of quarterly and monthly active and inactive series in the EUROIND database by frequency and domain, in number of days. Table 4-3 shows some statistics on freshness of active and inactive series in the EUROIND database, by frequency and domain, in number of days. Note that the 0 values are a consequence of the nature of indicators in EUROIND; for example the domains *Consumer Prices*, *External Trade* and *Monetary and Financial Indicators* contain only monthly indicators. For the same reason some domains are not present in Table 4-2. High values in Table 4-3 are related to the presence of inactive series, while constant values reveal a regular updating.

**Table 4-1: Freshness of active and inactive series in the EUROIND database, by periodicity.**

	< 60 days		60 to < 90 days		90 to < 180 days		180 to < 365 days		+ 365 days		SUBTOTAL
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Yearly	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	239	100,0	239
Quarterly	3.982	11,1	0	0,0	28.662	80,2	1.909	5,3	1.185	3,3	35.738
Monthly	18.638	54,2	0	0,0	5.378	15,6	923	2,7	9.471	27,5	34.410
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22.620</b>	<b>32,1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>34.040</b>	<b>48,4</b>	<b>2.832</b>	<b>4,0</b>	<b>10.895</b>	<b>15,5</b>	<b>70.387</b>

**Table 4-2: Freshness of active and inactive series in the EUROIND database by frequency and domain.**

	< 60 days		60 to < 90 days		90 to < 180 days		180 to < 365 days		+ 365 days		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
<b>Quarterly</b>											
Balance of Payments	0	0,0	0	0,0	605	77,9	84	10,8	88	11,3	
Business and Consumer Surv.	2	1,1	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	174	98,9	
Industry, Commerce and Serv.	1.386	40,9	0	0,0	1.623	47,9	106	3,1	271	8,0	
Labour Market	702	3,6	0	0,0	16.830	87,5	1.470	7,6	234	1,2	
National Accounts	1.892	15,6	0	0,0	9.604	79,0	249	2,0	418	3,4	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.982</b>	<b>11,1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>28.662</b>	<b>80,2</b>	<b>1.909</b>	<b>5,3</b>	<b>1.185</b>	<b>3,3</b>	
<b>Monthly</b>											
Balance of Payments	14	100,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	
Business and Consumer Surv.	2.750	84,6	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	500	15,4	
Consumer Prices	3.003	97,6	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0	75	2,4	
External Trade	4.130	23,5	0	0,0	4.105	23,4	780	4,4	8.535	48,6	
Industry, Commerce and Serv.	7.215	84,2	0	0,0	1.028	12,0	141	1,6	184	2,1	
Labour Market	1.190	83,3	0	0,0	238	16,7	0	0,0	0	0,0	
Monetary and Financial Ind.	336	64,4	0	0,0	7	1,3	2	0,4	177	33,9	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18.638</b>	<b>54,2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>5.378</b>	<b>15,6</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>2,7</b>	<b>9.471</b>	<b>27,5</b>	

**Table 4-3: Freshness statistics of active and inactive series in the EUROIND database, by number of days.**

	Yearly				Quarterly				Monthly			
	Mean	Median	Max	Min	Mean	Median	Max	Min	Mean	Median	Max	Min
Balance of payments	0	0	0	0	365	151	2.981	151	59	59	59	59
Business and consumer surveys	0	0	0	0	841	790	3.346	59	156	28	1.400	28
Consumer prices	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	28	1.155	28
External trade	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	453	273	1.155	59
Industry, commerce and services	0	0	0	0	158	151	5.538	59	85	59	5.538	28
Labour market	0	0	0	0	163	151	1.155	59	48	28	151	28
Monetary and financial indicators	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	477	28	2.130	0
National accounts	436	424	1.155	424	186	151	4.807	59	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>1.155</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>5.538</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>5.538</b>	<b>0</b>

## 5 Accuracy of the data

Measures of accuracy focus on two main elements: the number of missing values and the number of strange values in the series. Some new indicators are under construction: number of outliers, revision analysis, importance of the irregular component in the series, etc. They will be presented in future releases of the “State of Affairs”.

### 5.1 Missing values

We define a value in a series as *missing* for a time period t (month, quarter or year) if no observation is available "for that time t". Note that some missing values could be present in a series by construction; for example business and consumer surveys are not carried out in some countries in the month of October.

Table 5-1 shows the distribution of series with missing values by domain. During February 2010, missing values were present in only 1,474 (2.1%) of the total available series. 488 series have more than 10 missing values, 241 series have between 2 and 10 missing values and 745 series have only 1 missing value.

**Table 5-1: Distribution of series with missing values in the EUROIND database, by domain.**

	Series without missing values		Series with missing values			1	2 to 10	over 10
	N	% <sup>(1)</sup>	N	% <sup>(1)</sup>	→	N	N	N
<b>Balance of Payments</b>	770	97,3	21	2,7	→	5	14	2
<b>Business and Consumer Surveys</b>	3.980	89,7	456	10,3	→	180	144	132
<b>Consumer Prices</b>	3.078	100,0	0	0,0	→	0	0	0
<b>External Trade</b>	17.490	99,7	60	0,3	→	0	0	60
<b>Industry, Commerce and Services</b>	11.602	97,1	352	2,9	→	58	16	278
<b>Labour Market</b>	20.196	97,7	468	2,3	→	468	0	0
<b>Monetary and Financial Indicators</b>	447	84,3	83	15,7	→	29	42	12
<b>National Accounts</b>	12.489	99,7	34	0,3	→	5	25	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70.052</b>	<b>97,9</b>	<b>1.474</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>488</b>

(1) Percentages express the ration with the total number of series in the domain

Table 5-2 shows the distribution of series with missing values, by geographical entity. The table is divided into three sections: European aggregates, Member States and Other Countries. Series of the European Union aggregate do not have missing values. Member States have between 0.2% and 18.8% of series with missing values, the majority of which have less than 1.5%, while only six of them have more than 2.0% of series with missing values.

**Table 5-2: Distribution of series with missing values in EUROIND, by geographical entity.**

	Series without missing values		Series with missing values		→	1	From 2 to 10	More than 10	
	N	%	N	%					N
<b>European Aggregates</b>	Euro area (EA)	829	99,3	6	0,7	→	0	0	6
	Euro area 16 (EA-16)	1.486	99,9	1	0,1	→	0	1	0
	Euro area 15 (EA-15)	1.467	99,4	9	0,6	→	0	2	7
	Euro area 13 (EA-13)	1.066	99,2	9	0,8	→	0	2	7
	Euro area 12 (EA-12)	1.067	99,1	10	0,9	→	0	2	8
	European Union	75	100,0	0	0,0	→	0	0	0
	European Union (27 Members)	1.431	99,9	2	0,1	→	0	2	0
	European Union (25 Members)	1.085	99,9	1	0,1	→	0	1	0
	European Union (15 Members)	908	93,6	62	6,4	→	0	1	61
	BLEU	21	100,0	0	0,0	→	0	0	0
	EURONEXT	1	100,0	0	0,0	→	0	0	0
<b>Member States</b>	Belgium	2.587	99,8	5	0,2	→	1	1	3
	Bulgaria	1.600	99,2	13	3,7	→	2	10	1
	Czech Republic	1.926	98,3	34	1,7	→	8	13	13
	Denmark	1.803	98,7	23	1,3	→	8	2	13
	Germany	2.682	99,6	11	0,4	→	5	4	2
	Estonia	1.883	97,5	48	2,5	→	12	29	7
	Ireland	1.802	95,2	90	4,8	→	63	7	20
	Greece	2.656	99,1	25	0,9	→	15	7	3
	Spain	2.606	99,2	21	0,8	→	19	0	2
	France	2.365	99,1	22	0,9	→	15	3	4
	Italy	2.375	99,8	4	0,2	→	1	1	2
	Cyprus	2.060	99,1	19	0,9	→	10	2	7
	Latvia	1.893	98,0	39	2,0	→	0	5	34
	Lithuania	1.935	98,9	22	1,1	→	12	3	7
	Luxembourg	2.094	81,2	486	18,8	→	477	7	2
	Hungary	1.828	97,6	44	2,4	→	16	16	12
	Malta	1.923	99,6	8	0,4	→	4	4	0
	Netherlands	2.658	98,9	29	1,1	→	8	7	14
	Austria	2.574	99,1	23	0,9	→	20	3	0
	Poland	1.936	99,3	13	0,7	→	1	12	0
	Portugal	2.404	90,9	240	9,1	→	18	12	210
	Romania	1.689	98,3	29	1,7	→	11	17	1
	Slovenia	2.366	99,5	13	0,5	→	0	11	2
Slovakia	2.200	99,1	20	0,9	→	1	19	0	
Finland	2.166	99,4	14	0,6	→	2	12	0	
Sweden	1.490	98,6	21	1,4	→	12	2	7	
United Kingdom	1.991	99,3	15	0,7	→	1	9	5	
<b>Other Countries</b>	Croatia	551	99,8	1	0,2	→	0	1	0
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	4	100,0	0	0,0	→	0	0	0
	Turkey	401	99,8	1	0,2	→	0	0	1
	Iceland	229	97,9	5	2,1	→	3	2	0
	Liechtenstein	1	100,0	0	0,0	→	0	0	0
	Norway	1.187	97,6	29	2,4	→	0	5	24
	Switzerland	398	100,0	0	0,0	→	0	0	0
	USA	179	97,3	5	2,7	→	0	2	3
	Japan	173	98,9	2	1,1	→	0	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>70.052</b>	<b>97,9</b>	<b>1.474</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>488</b>	

## 5.2 Strange values

In a time series concerning quantitative economic results the values 0 and 1 are usually very rare. When they are observed, and if they appear repeatedly, they can be considered as strange and if too frequent reflect a problem in the series.

Table 5-3 shows the distribution of series with strange values in the EUROIND database, by domain.

In the EUROIND database, the phenomenon of strange values is of minor importance as only 0.9% of total available series (except *Business and Consumer Surveys* series and series expressed in growth rates, since 0 or 1 are quite normal values for this kind of data) show more than 10 strange values; 0.2% of the series records between 5 and 10 strange values, 0.7% - between 1 and 4 strange values and the remaining series (98.2%) do not have strange values.

**Table 5-3: Distribution of series with strange values in the EUROIND database, by domain.**

	Series without strange values		Series with strange values			1 to 4		5 to 10		over 10	
	N	%	N	%	→	N	%	N	%	N	%
Balance of Payments	711	89,9	80	10,1	→	37	4,7	8	1,0	35	4,4
Consumer Prices	1.026	100,0	0	0,0	→	0	0,0	0	0,0	0	0,0
External Trade	9.661	99,1	89	0,9	→	86	0,9	3	0,0	0	0,0
Industry, Commerce and Services	5.903	99,0	60	1,0	→	9	0,2	10	0,2	41	0,7
Labour Market	7.111	99,5	38	0,5	→	1	0,0	2	0,0	35	0,5
Monetary and Financial Indicators	350	94,3	21	5,7	→	11	3,0	3	0,8	7	1,9
National Accounts	8.918	96,5	323	3,5	→	108	1,2	26	0,3	189	2,0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>33.680</b>	<b>98,2</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>→</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0,2</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>0,9</b>

## 6 Clarity of data

Dissemination is a “vital” step in the information chain. Data have to be made available to all potential users in an appropriate form. As an indication of the clarity of data in the EUROIND database we consider the availability of metadata, which accompanies statistics with the necessary information on concepts and methods.

### 6.1 Metadata situation

Metadata, as well as the statistics, are always evolving and subject to improvements and modifications. Table 6-1 provides the dates for when metadata was last updated. At present, only the state of affairs for the European Union and the euro area is available and illustrated in the table. It is an objective to make national metadata available in the Euro-indicators section.

Table 6-1: Metadata.

<b>DOMAIN / Collection / Table</b>	<b>Methodology updated by table</b>
<b>EUROINDICATORS</b>	29/10/2009
<b>Balance of Payments</b>	10/09/2009
<b>Business and Consumer Surveys</b>	16/07/2008
<b>Consumer Prices</b>	03/08/2009
<b>External Trade</b>	26/08/2008
<b>Industry, Commerce and Services</b>	14/05/2009
<b>Energy</b>	27/08/2008
<b>Labour Market</b>	
<i>Harmonised Unemployment - Monthly data</i>	10/09/2009
<i>Labour cost index - Quarterly data</i>	16/06/2009
<b>Monetary and Financial Indicators</b>	21/09/2009
<b>National Accounts</b>	12/05/2009
<b>Government Accounts</b>	10/10/2009