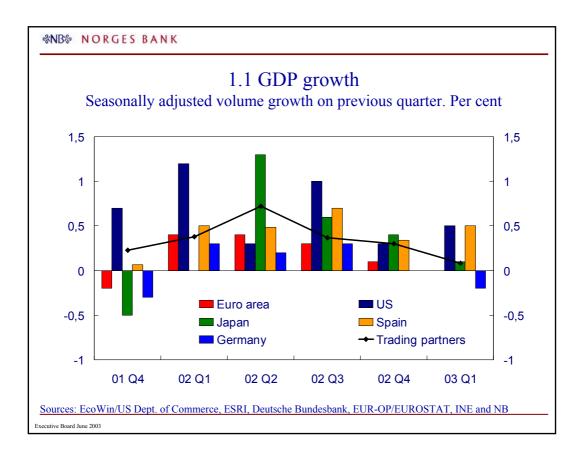
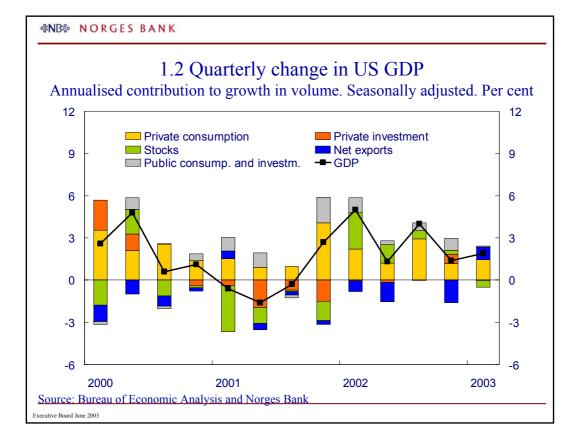
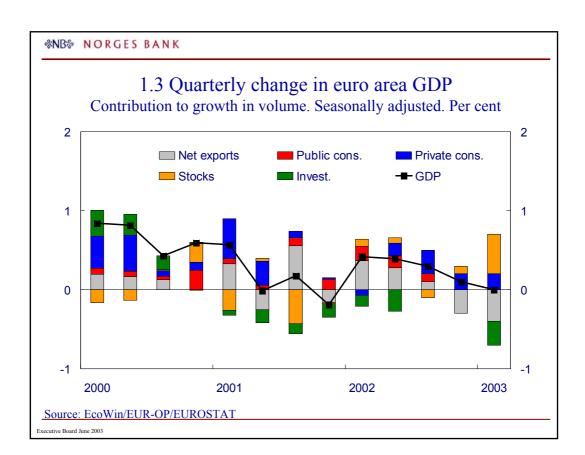
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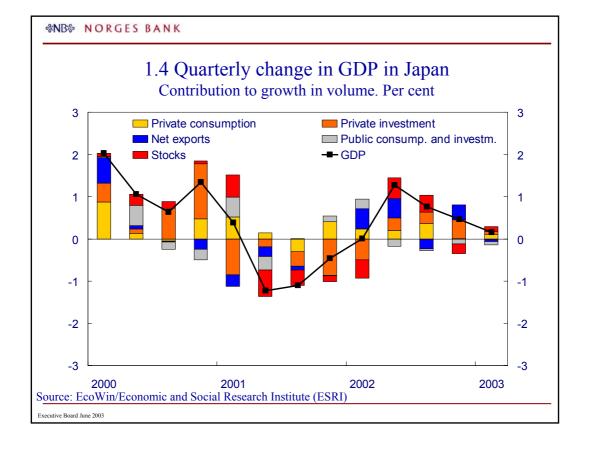
Chapter 1 International economy

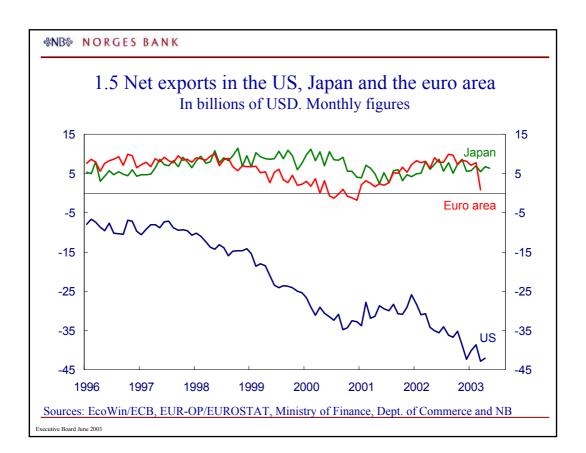
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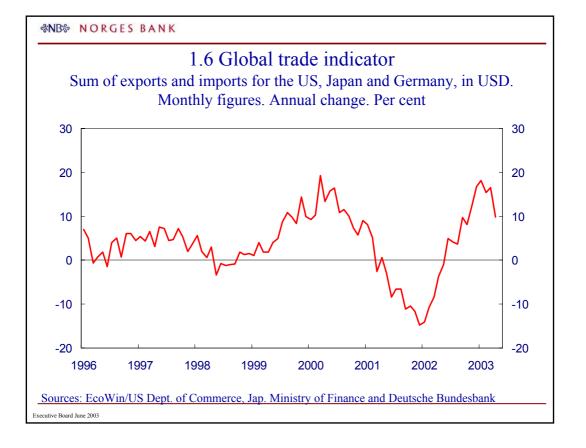


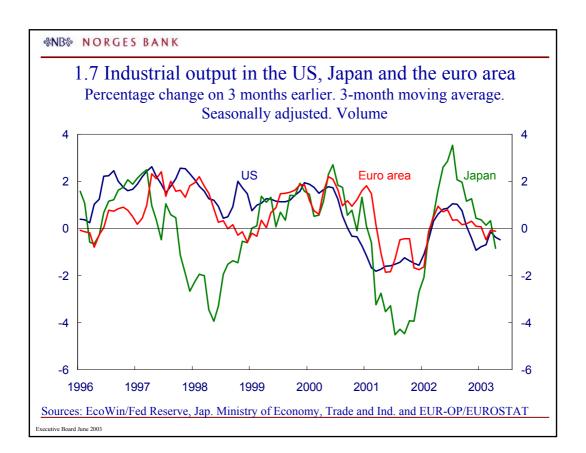


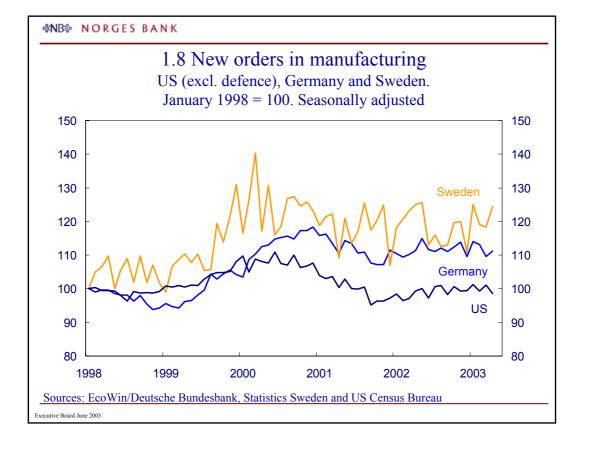


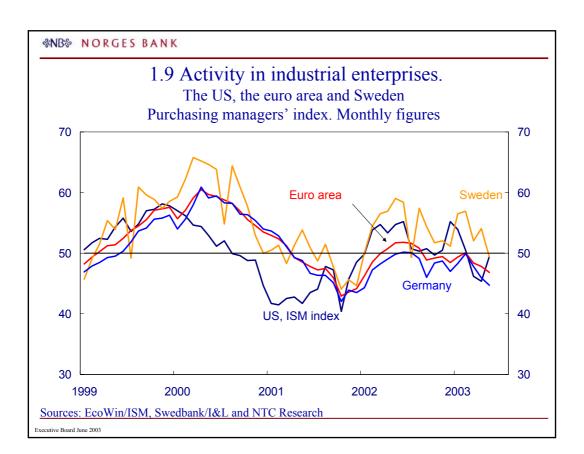


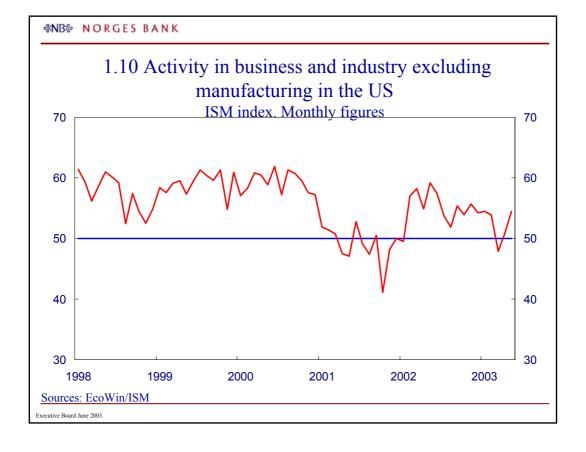


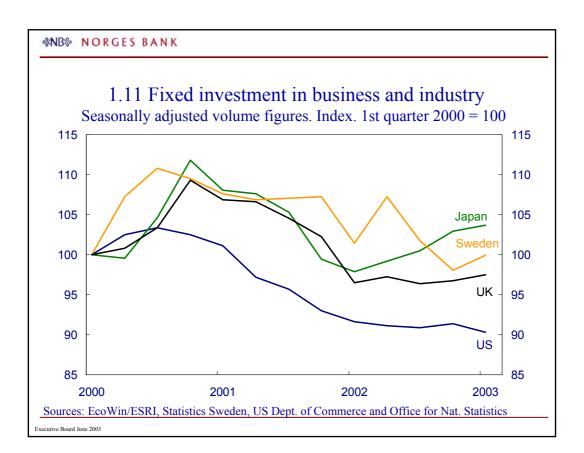


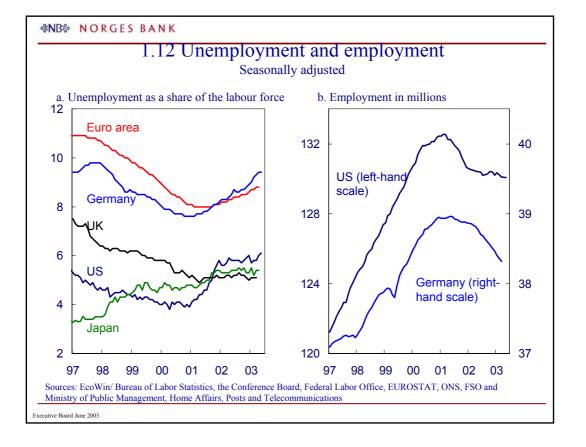


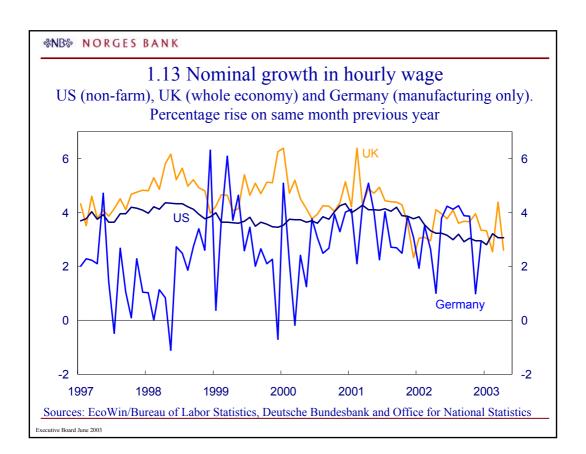


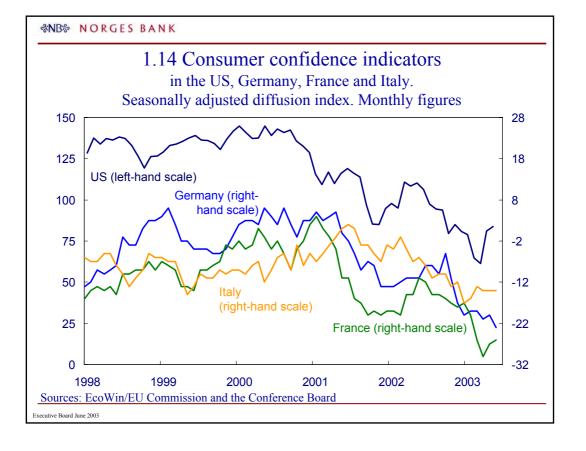


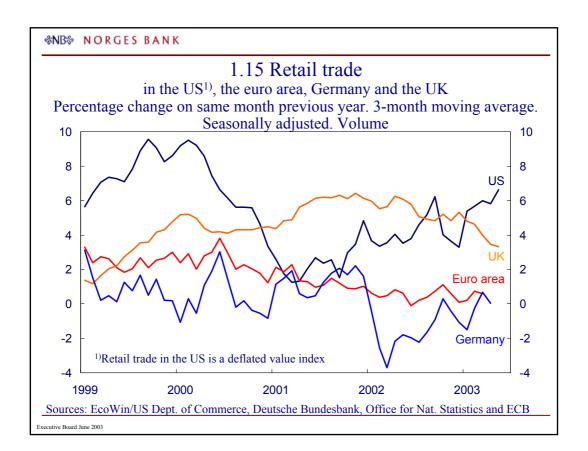


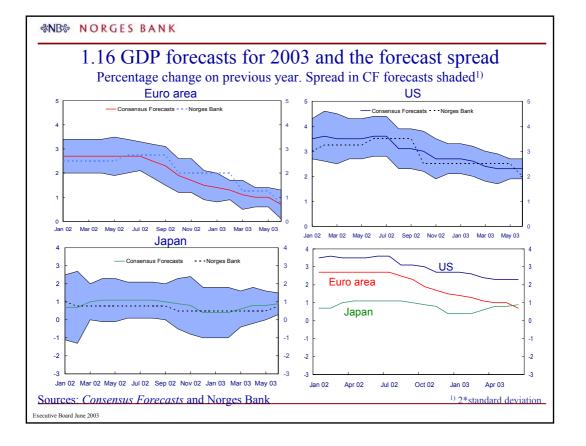


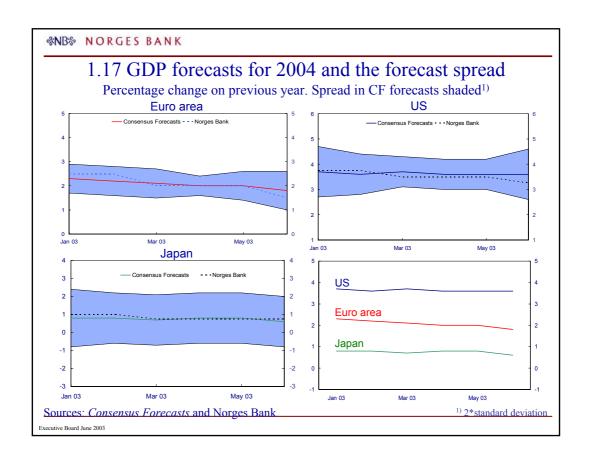












1.18 ECB forecasts

- New forecasts in Monthly Bulletin 12 June
- Outlook less favourable than expected. Marked downward revision of growth forecasts and some downward revision of inflation forecast for 2004
 - GDP growth¹⁾: 2003: 0.7 (1.6) 2004: 1.6 (2.4)
 - Price inflation¹⁾: 2003: 2.0 (1.8) 2004 1.3 (1.6)
- Stresses again the importance of reforms
- Limited growth impulses from monetary policy, little scope for manoeuvre in fiscal policy must carry out structural reforms.

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1.19 Projections for GDP growth abroad.

Percentage change on previous year. Change since last *Inflation Report* in brackets

	2003	2004	2005
US	2 (- ½)	31/4 (- 1/4)	3½ (½)
Japan	3/4 (1/4)	³ / ₄ (0)	11/4 (1/4)
Germany	0 (- 1/2)	11/4 (- 1/4)	21/4 (0)
France	1 (- ½)	$1\frac{1}{2}$ (- $\frac{3}{4}$)	2½ (0)
UK	13/4 (- 1/2)	2½ (0)	2½ (0)
Sweden	1½ (-¾)	$2\frac{1}{2}(0)$	2½ (0)
Trading partners 1)	11/4 (- 1/4)	21/4 (0)	23/4 (1/4)
Euro area ²⁾	3/4 (- 1/2)	1½ (-½)	$2\frac{1}{2}(0)$

¹⁾ Export weightings 25 trading partners compared with 18 previously

¹⁾ Previous forecast in brackets. Figures are midpoints in ECB forecast ranges

²⁾ Purchasing parity-adjusted GDP weights from the IMF

1.20 Key rates and expected change in selected countries

	Key rate	Change since 01.01.03	Change since Executive Board meeting 30.04.03	Expecte 3 mths	d level in 12 mths ¹⁾
US	1.25	0	None	3/4	1
Japan	Towards zero	0	None	0	0
Euro area	2.0	-0.75	-0.5	13/4	13/4
UK	3.75	-0.25	None	3 1/4	3 1/4
Sweden	3.0	-0.75	-0.50	2 ½	2 3/4
Denmark	2.0	-0.75	-0.50	1 3/4	2
Switzerland	0.00-0.75	-0.5	None	n.a.	n.a.
Iceland	5.3	-0.5	None	n.a.	n.a.
Canada	3.25	0.5	None	2 1/4	2 3/4
Australia	4.75	0	None	4 1/4	4 1/4
New Zealand	5.25	-0.50	-0.25	4 1/2	4 3/4

Sources: Reuters, Bloomberg and Norges Bank

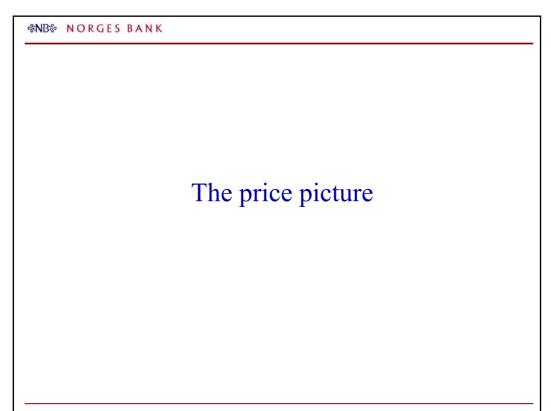
1) Not adjusted for any maturity premium

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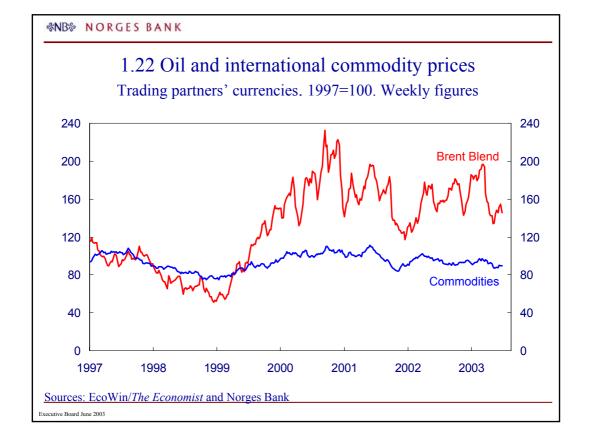
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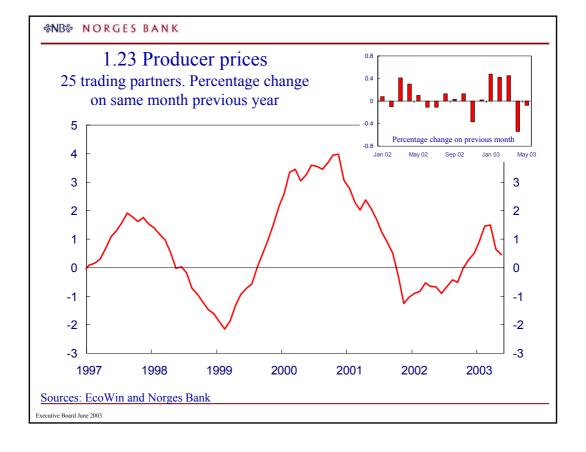
1.21 Uncertainty factors

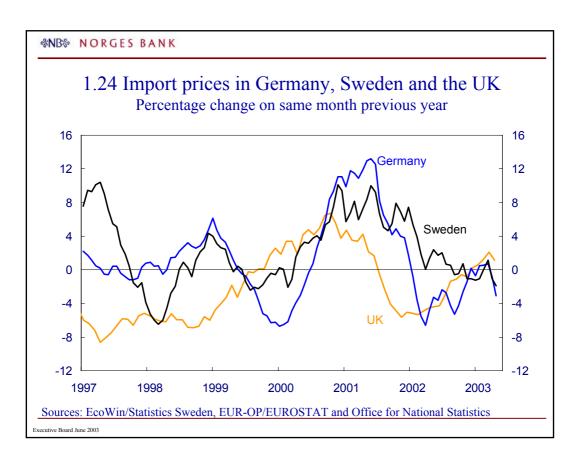
- Following the Iraq war, uncertainty is reduced. This has resulted in
 - Some decline in the oil price
 - Higher equity prices, less expensive corporate funding
 - But long yields remain low
- There are still important uncertainty factors
 - The US saving ratio will it rise sharply?
 - Will capital stocks be adjusted more than we anticipate?
 - Further, marked fall in the USD?
 - SARS (appears to be abating, but had a strong impact in Q1?)

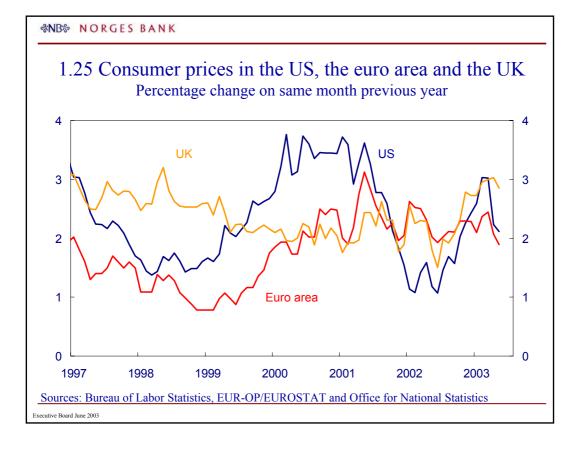


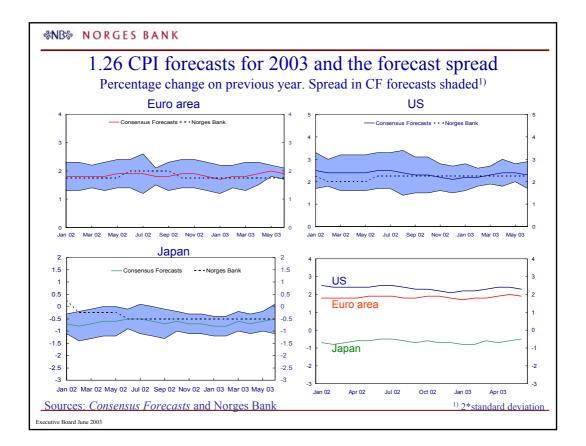
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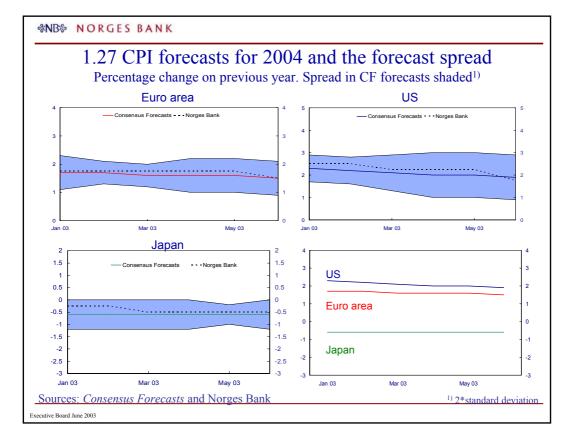












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1.28 Forecast for consumer price inflation abroad. Percentage change on previous year. Change since last *Inflation Report* in brackets

	2003	2004	2005
US	21/4 (0)	13/4 (-1/2)	2½ (0)
Japan	-1/2 (0)	$-\frac{1}{2}(0)$	-1/4 (0)
Germany	1 (-1/4)	3/4 (-3/4)	1¾ (0)
France	13/4 (0)	$1\frac{1}{2}(0)$	2 (0)
UK	3 (1/2)	$2\frac{1}{2}(0)$	2½ (0)
Sweden	21/4 (-1/4)	11/4 (-3/4)	2 (0)
Trading partners 1)	2 (0)	1½ (-¼)	2 (0)
Euro area ²⁾	13/4 (0)	1½ (-¼)	2 (0)

¹⁾ Import weights 25 trading partners compared with 18 previously

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²⁾ Eurostat weights (country's share of euro area consumption)

