



European Semiconductor Industry Association

Latest Semiconductor sales data, for immediate release

Brussels, June 1st, 2006

European sales data weaker in April

European sales data for April show a slight decrease compared to the March figures. This is mainly due to a drop in Microprocessor sales. This could be partly explained by inventory corrections. The decline observed in ASP can also be attributed to the MPU figures.

Amongst memory products DRAM performed well.

In terms of applications, data processing and consumer ICs have been under pressure this month, whilst Automotive and Communication fulfilled expectations.

The overall market performance was still in line with the recently published spring 2006 forecast of WSTS.

European Semiconductor sales in April 2006 amounted to US\$ 3.232 billion according to the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics (WSTS), down -0.2% versus the previous month. This corresponds to a 2.7% decline compared to the same month last year. On a YTD basis, semiconductor sales declined in 2006 by -4.7% versus the year 2005.

The exchange rate of the Euro compared to the US\$ has a varying impact on the growth data in the recent months. Measured in Euro, semiconductor sales in April were EURO 2.674 billion, down 0.5% on previous month and up 5.2% versus the same month a year ago. On a YTD basis, semiconductor sales show in 2006 a growth of 3.0% versus 2005.

On a worldwide basis, semiconductor sales in April were US\$ 19.600 billion, down 0.4% versus the previous month. This results in an increase of 8.1% versus the same month in 2005 and on a YTD basis it results in a growth rate of 6.3%.

(for more data please see the tables and graphs on following pages)

About ESIA: The European Semiconductor Industry Association (ESIA), part of the European Electronic Component manufacturers' Association (EECA), represents the European-based manufacturers of semiconductor devices. The semiconductor industry provides the enabling technology, which is at the forefront of the development of the digital economy. The sector supports over 86,000 jobs in a market valued at around €31.6 bn in 2005.

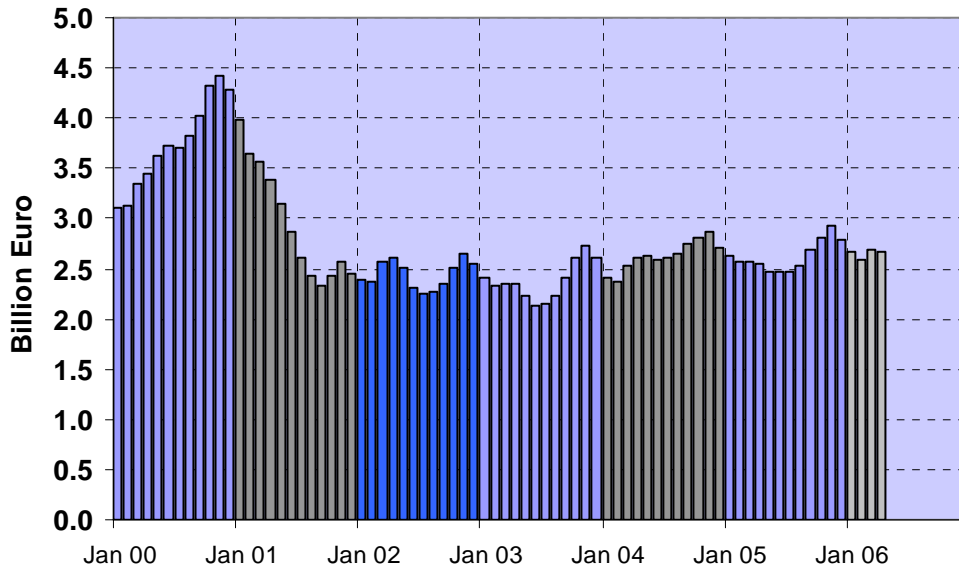
About WSTS: Established in 1986, the World Semiconductor Trade Statistics is a non-profit corporation whose mission is to provide timely, accurate and authentic semiconductor market data on industry product shipments in a product line format serving the broad marketing and executive needs. In 2005 WSTS members are 74 semiconductor companies from all over the world, representing 85% of the world semiconductor market. More information on the WSTS website at www.wsts.org

Market data by region¹

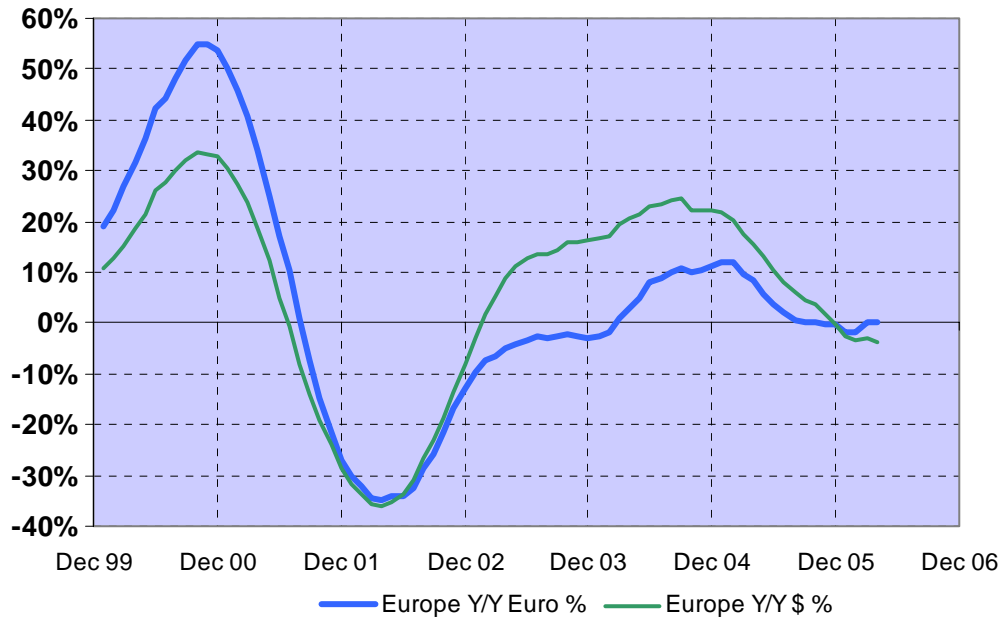
| Market data for the 3 month moving average ending: | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Region | sales (in billions) | | Month on Month growth | | Year on Year growth | | YTD growth | |
| | Mar 06 | Apr 06 | Mar 06 | Apr 06 | Mar 06 | Apr 06 | Mar 06 | Apr 06 |
| in \$: | | | | | | | | |
| Europe | 3.238 | 3.232 | 4.1% | -0.2% | -4.1% | -2.7% | -4.1% | -4.7% |
| Americas | 3.731 | 3.594 | 0.4% | -3.7% | 14.9% | 11.4% | 14.9% | 10.8% |
| Japan | 3.790 | 3.749 | 3.9% | -1.1% | -1.1% | 1.4% | -1.1% | 0.2% |
| Asia Pacific | 8.928 | 9.025 | 1.7% | 1.1% | 12.9% | 14.4% | 12.9% | 11.9% |
| World | 19.687 | 19.600 | 2.2% | -0.4% | 7.2% | 8.1% | 7.2% | 6.3% |
| In EURO: | | | | | | | | |
| Europe | 2.689 | 2.674 | 3.4% | -0.5% | 4.5% | 5.2% | 4.5% | 3.0% |
| Rate (\$/Euro) | 1.204 | 1.229 | -8.9% | -4.8% | < Euro against \$ versus prev. Year | | | |

1) Unless otherwise indicated, except YTD growth, all figures are 3-month-average data

EUROPE - Monthly European Semiconductor sales in billion Euro (3-month-average data)



European Semiconductor sales growth in % - Annualized growth trend (Y/Y) in Euro and Dollar (12-month-average data)



WSTS monthly data in full product detail is available via subscription. For more information please contact the EECA-ESIA office (email address: EECA-ESIA) or visit our website at <http://www.eeca.org/esia.htm>.

EECA-ESIA is a chartered member of the World Semiconductor Council (<http://www.semiconductorcouncil.org>) and licensee of WSTS data for Europe, Middle East and Africa.

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