

Is there any economic evidence for the decline of repair?

The role of the commercial repair sector in the German economy

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Funded by:



Data Source

- Bundesamt für Statistik (Destatis)
- Randomized statistical projection based on the official company register
- Timeseries: 2008 – 2016
- Location: Germany
- Focus: commercial repair
- Data quality: better than nothing

The screenshot shows the Destatis website interface. At the top, there is a logo for 'DSTATIS Statistisches Bundesamt' and navigation links for 'Contact', 'Deutsch', and 'Menu'. Below the logo, a breadcrumb trail reads: 'Homepage → Themes → Economic sectors and enterprises → Services → Structural data of the service sector'. The main content area features a large blue and red header with the title 'Services' and 'Structural data of the service sector'. To the right, there is a sidebar with the Destatis logo and the text 'wissen.nutzen.' and 'Fachserie 9 Reihe 4.6'. The main content area is divided into two sections: 'Section H - Transport' and 'Section J - Information'. Each section contains a table of main activities according to WZ 2008. The 'Section H - Transport' table lists activities such as 'Land transport and transport via pipelines', 'Water transport', 'Air transport', 'Warehousing and support activities for transportation', and 'Postal and courier activities'. The 'Section J - Information' table lists activities such as 'Publishing activities', 'Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities', 'Programming and broadcasting activities', and 'Telecommunication'. A sidebar on the right contains the heading 'Diensteleistungen' with the subtitle 'Strukturerhebung im Dienstleistungsbereich Reparatur von Datenverarbeitungsgeräten und Gebrauchsgütern', a yellow square icon with a white Euro symbol and a plus sign, and the year '2016'. At the bottom of the sidebar, there is contact information for Destatis, including the website 'www.destatis.de/de/0143' and the phone number '+49 (0) 611 75 24 05'. The footer of the page contains the copyright notice '© Statistisches Bundesamt (Destatis), 2018' and a statement about the availability of the data.

Main activity according to WZ 2008

Section H - Transport	
Total	
49	Land transport and transport via pipelines
50	Water transport
51	Air transport
52	Warehousing and support activities for transportation
53	Postal and courier activities

Section J - Information	
Total	
58	Publishing activities
59	Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities
60 ²	Programming and broadcasting activities
61	Telecommunication

Diensteleistungen
Strukturerhebung im Dienstleistungsbereich
Reparatur von Datenverarbeitungsgeräten
und Gebrauchsgütern

2016

Errscheinungsfolge: jährlich
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Ihr Kontakt zu uns:
www.destatis.de/de/0143
Telefon: +49 (0) 611 75 24 05

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Vervielfältigung und Verbreitung, auch auszugsweise, mit Quellenangabe gestattet.

What data is missing?

- Statistical uncertainty in the data source
- Private repairs, DIY, making
- Revenues from sales of spare parts
- Indirect effects („keep things running“, abatement costs, Hummingbird effects, Spill-overs)
- Benefits of a specialized long tail economy

Increase in sales from commercial repairs

Turnovers: +37%

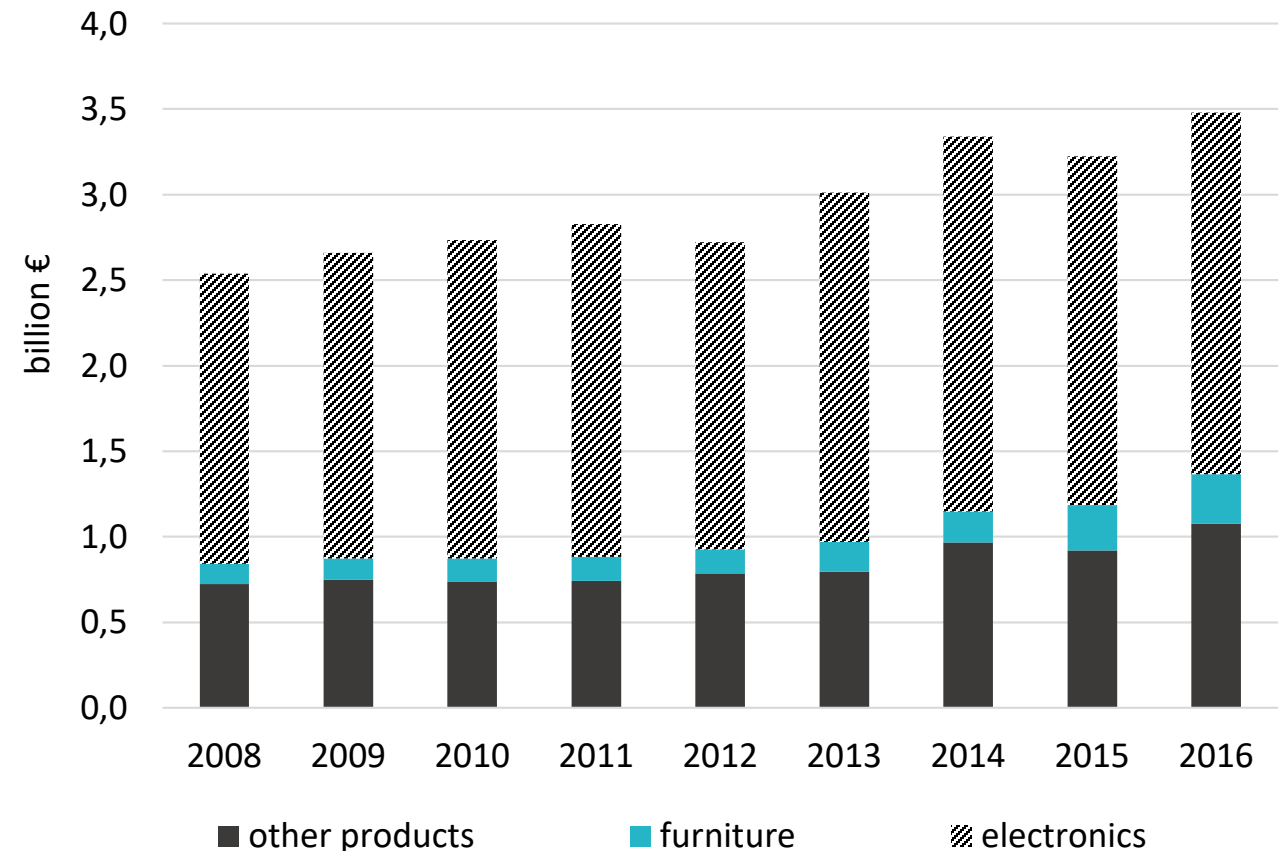
- +25% electronics
- +49% other products*
- +142% furniture

Ambivalent assessment:

- Repair is worth it?
- Repair got more expensive?

*excluding car maintenance and repair

Sales figures from commercial repairs
2008-2016



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Increase in material expenditures

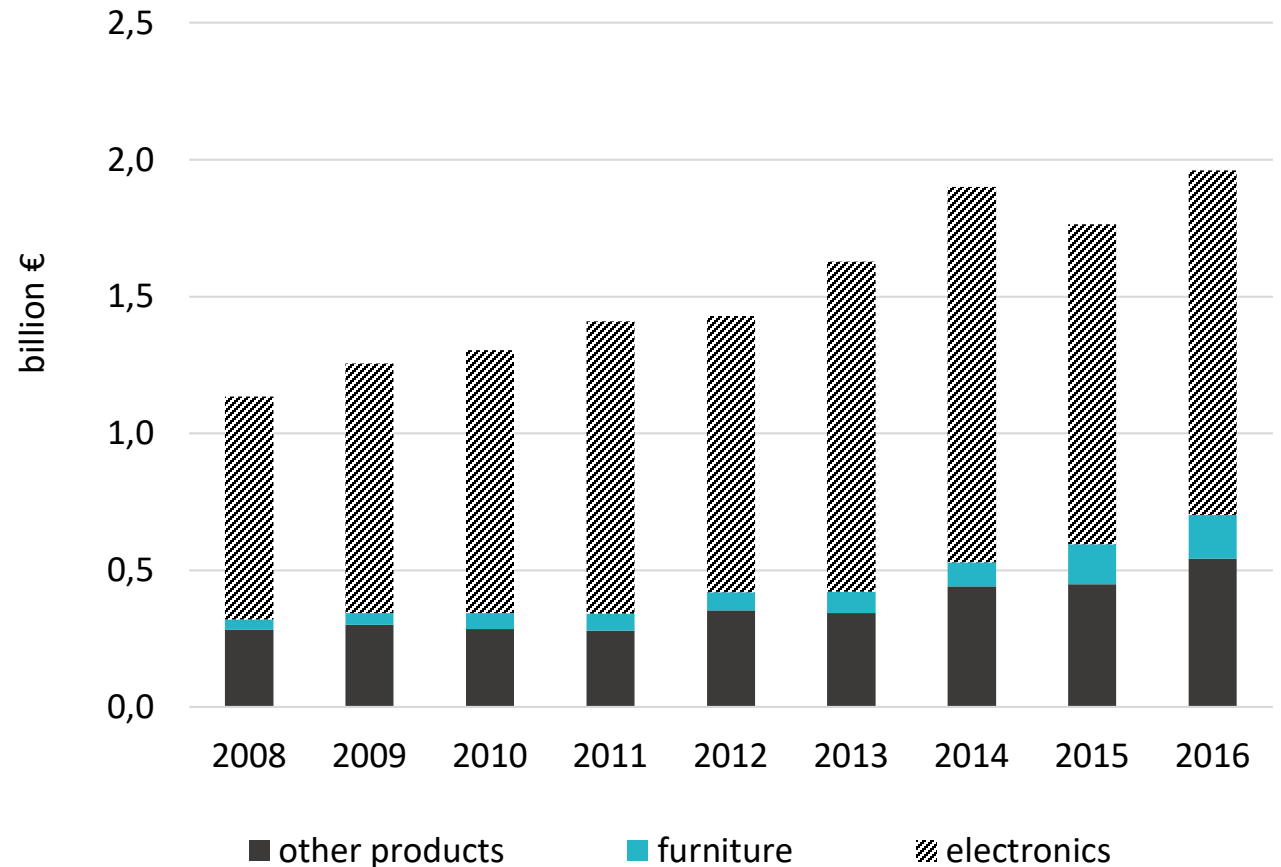
Material expenditures: **+73%**

- **+54%** electronics (at +25% sales)
- **+91%** other products
- **+338%** furniture

Material share (costs) at a repair:

- 2008: 45%
- 2016: 56%

Material expenditures for commercial repairs
2008-2016



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Cost structure for commercial repairs

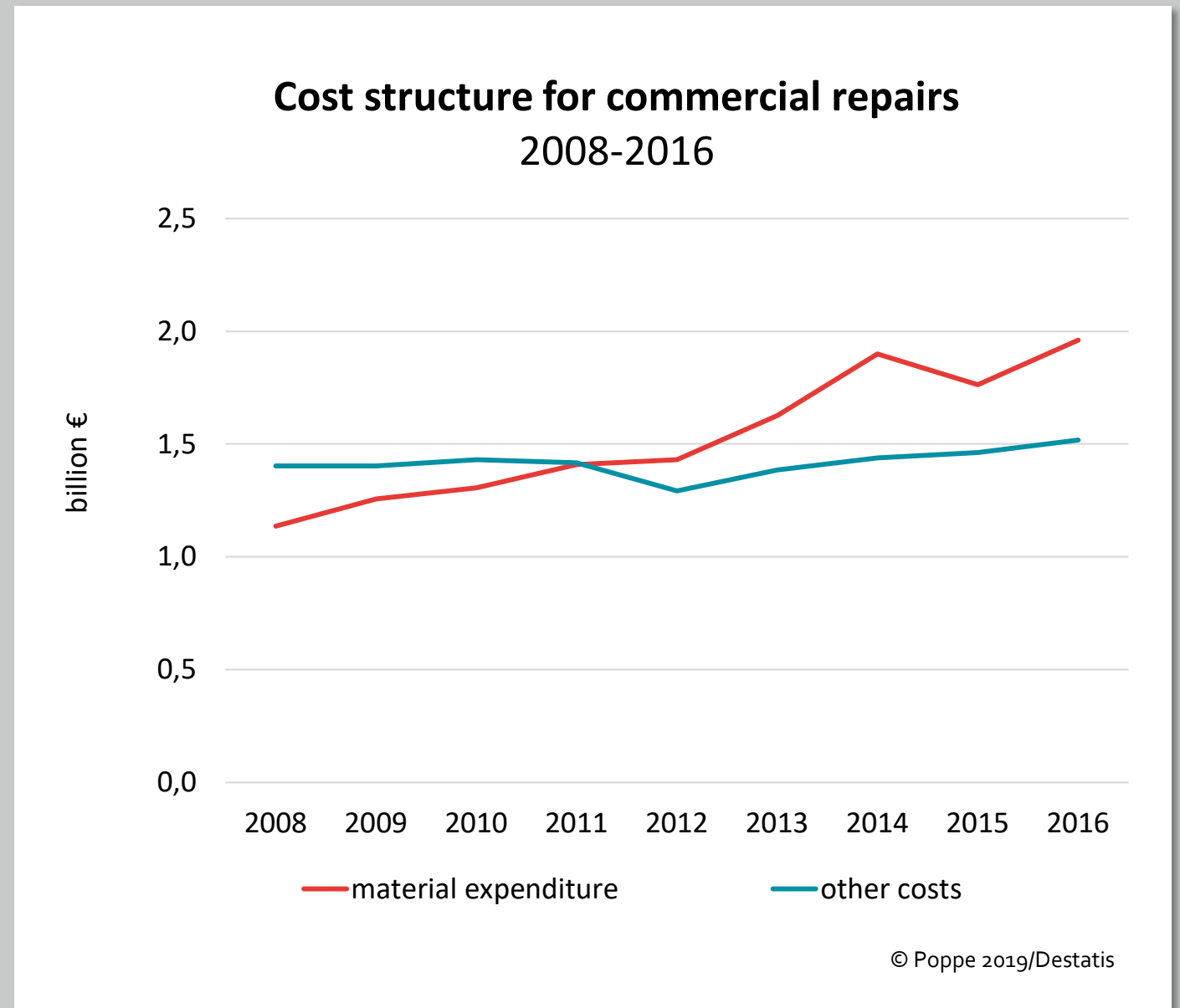
The increase of material expenditure outgrows other factors.

What caused the rising sales rate?

- Caused by 88% increase of material expenditure
- Caused by 12% increase of other costs

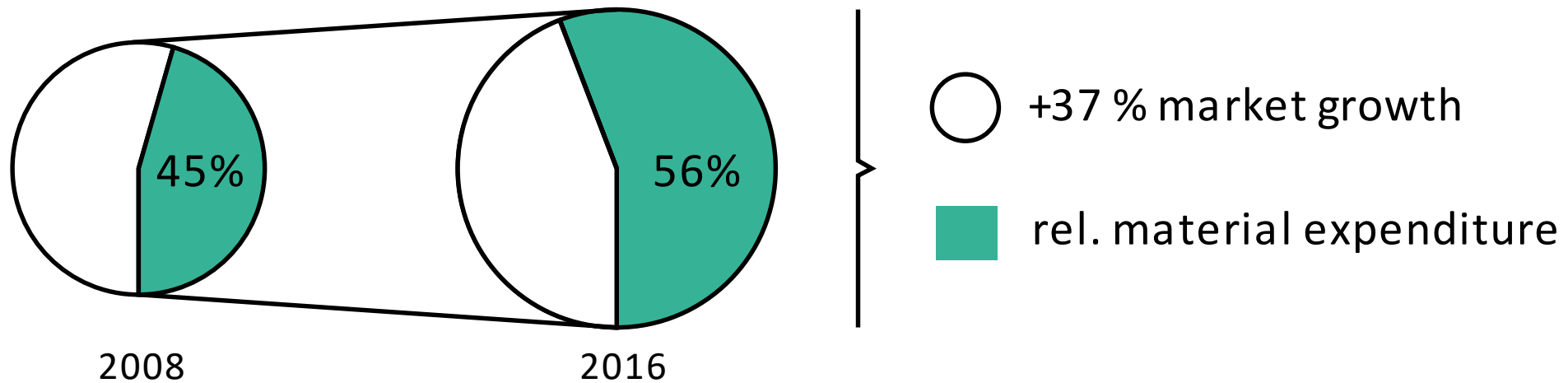
Ambivalent assessment:

- Good or bad news?



Increase in material expenditures per sales

2008 - 2016



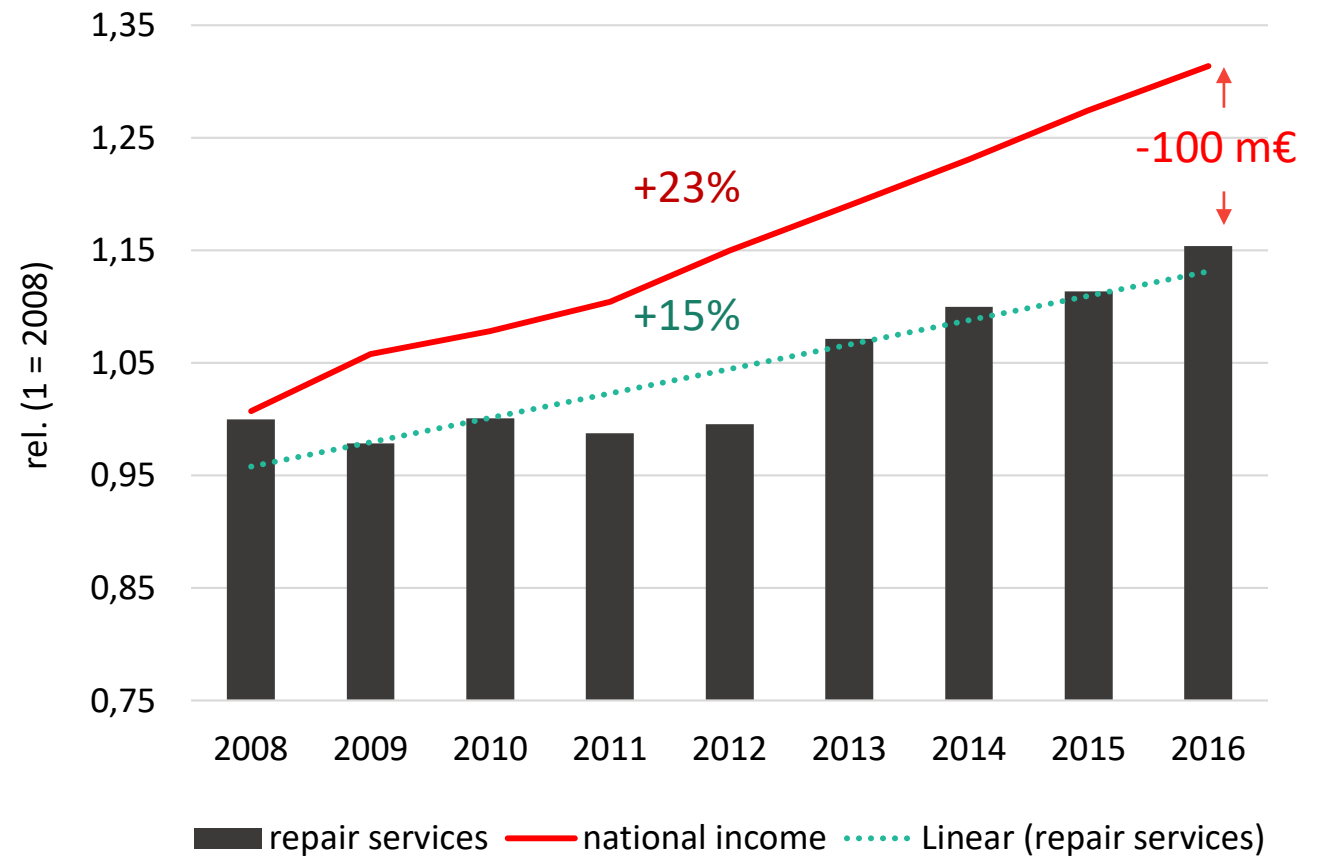
GDP share from commercial repairs

- **Increase** in gross value added from 1.28 billion € - 1.48 billion € (+15%)
- **Decline** in relative share of GDP from 0.05% to 0.047%

Ambivalent assessment:

➤ Good or bad news?

Gross value added by commercial repairs
2008-2016

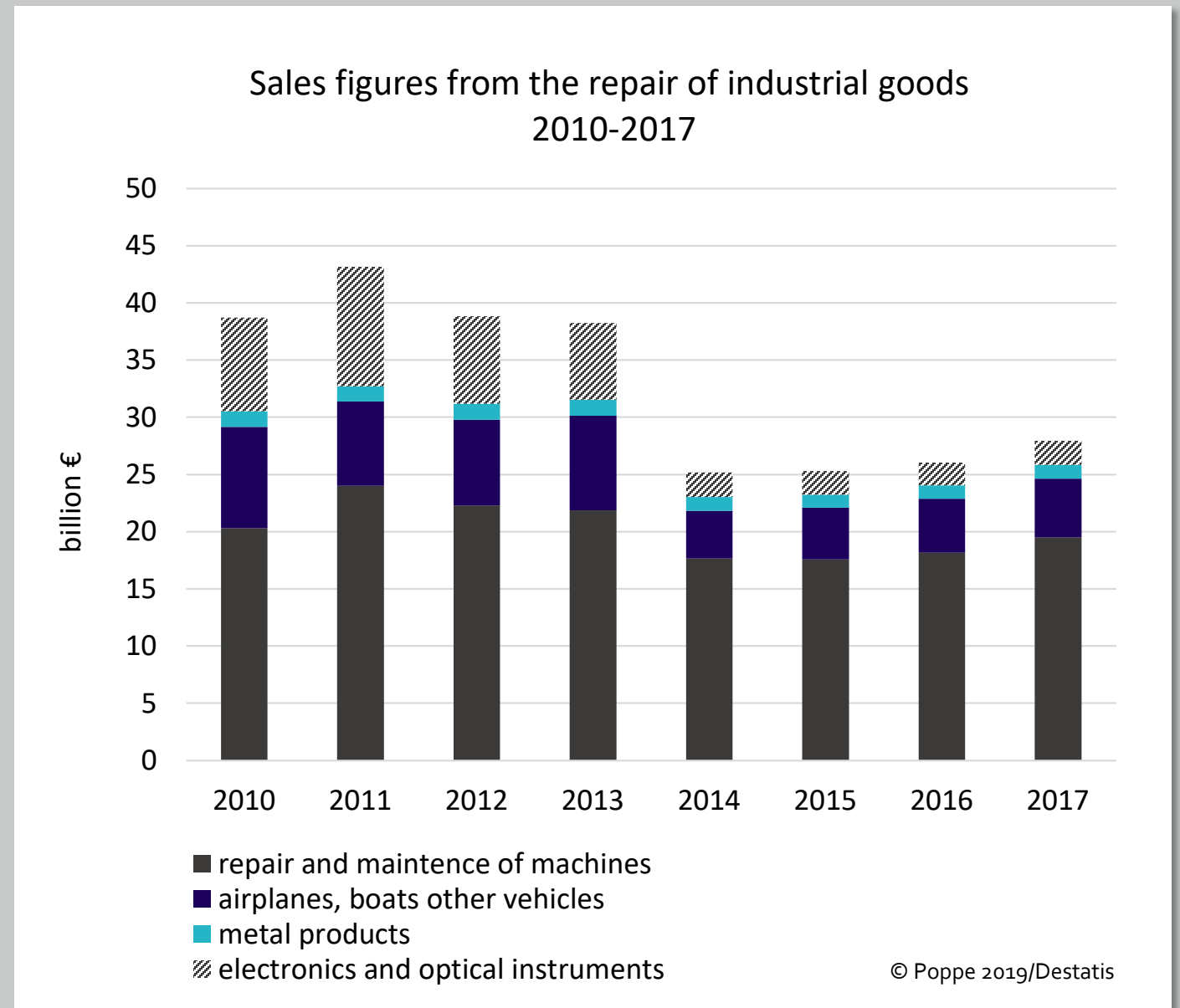


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Decline in sales from industrial repairs

Turnovers: **-28%**

- **-4%** repair & maintenance of machines
- **-42%** airplanes, boates, other vehicles
- **-13%** metal products
- **-74%** electronics and other instruments



Increase in sales from commercial repairs

Turnovers: +37%

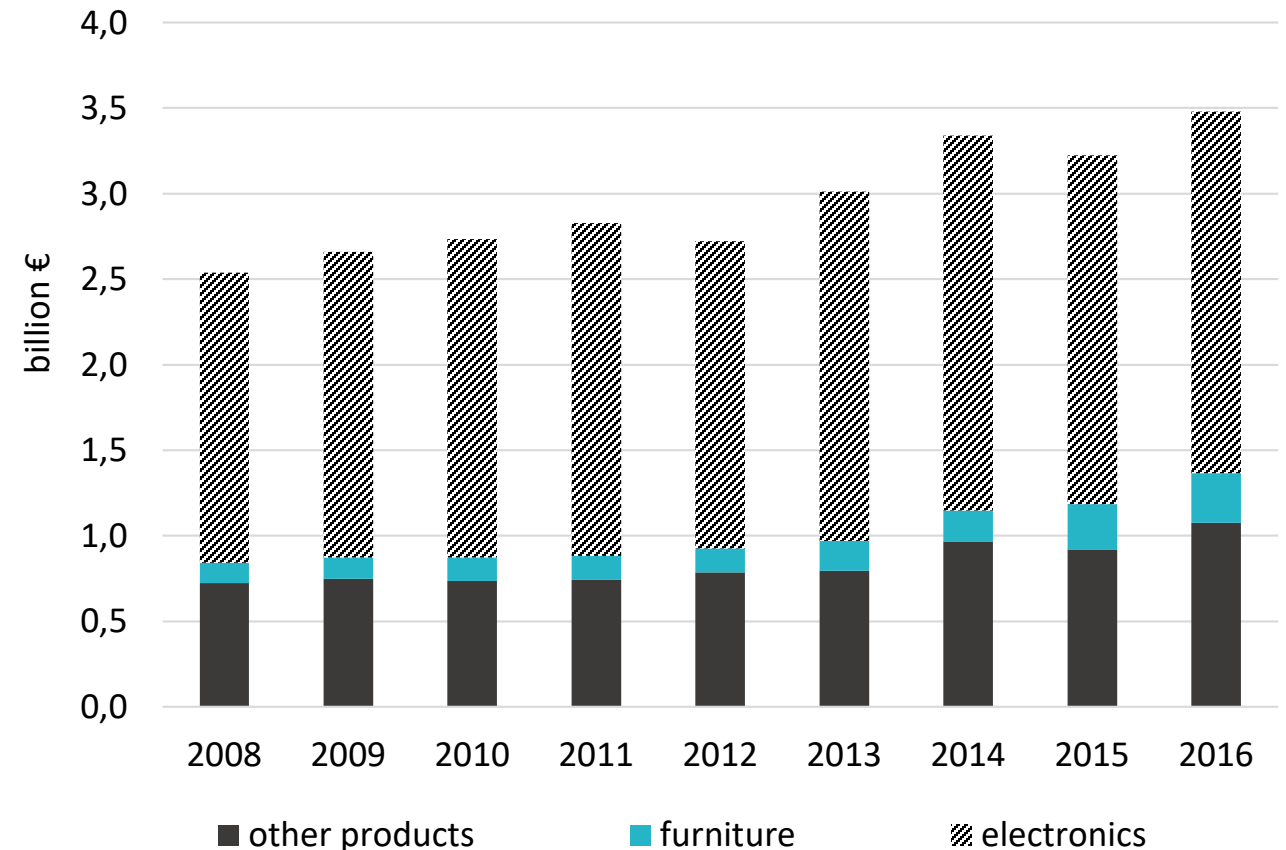
- +25% electronics
- +49% other products*
- +142% furniture

Employment: -7%

- +11% electronics
- -44% other products
- +81% furniture

*excluding car maintenance and repair

Sales figures from commercial repairs
2008-2016



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Is there any economic evidence for the decline of repair?

The market for commercial repairs is growing, but repair conditions are worsening due to rising material costs.

What is the economic role of repair, that is not measured by economic indicators?

Join the movement

Launch of the EU Right to Repair Campaign/movement

- launched at the Fixfest – Repair Festival Berlin in 2019-09
- Join us at: <https://repair.eu>

International Repair Day at 19.10.2019

- <https://openrepair.org/international-repair-day/>

