

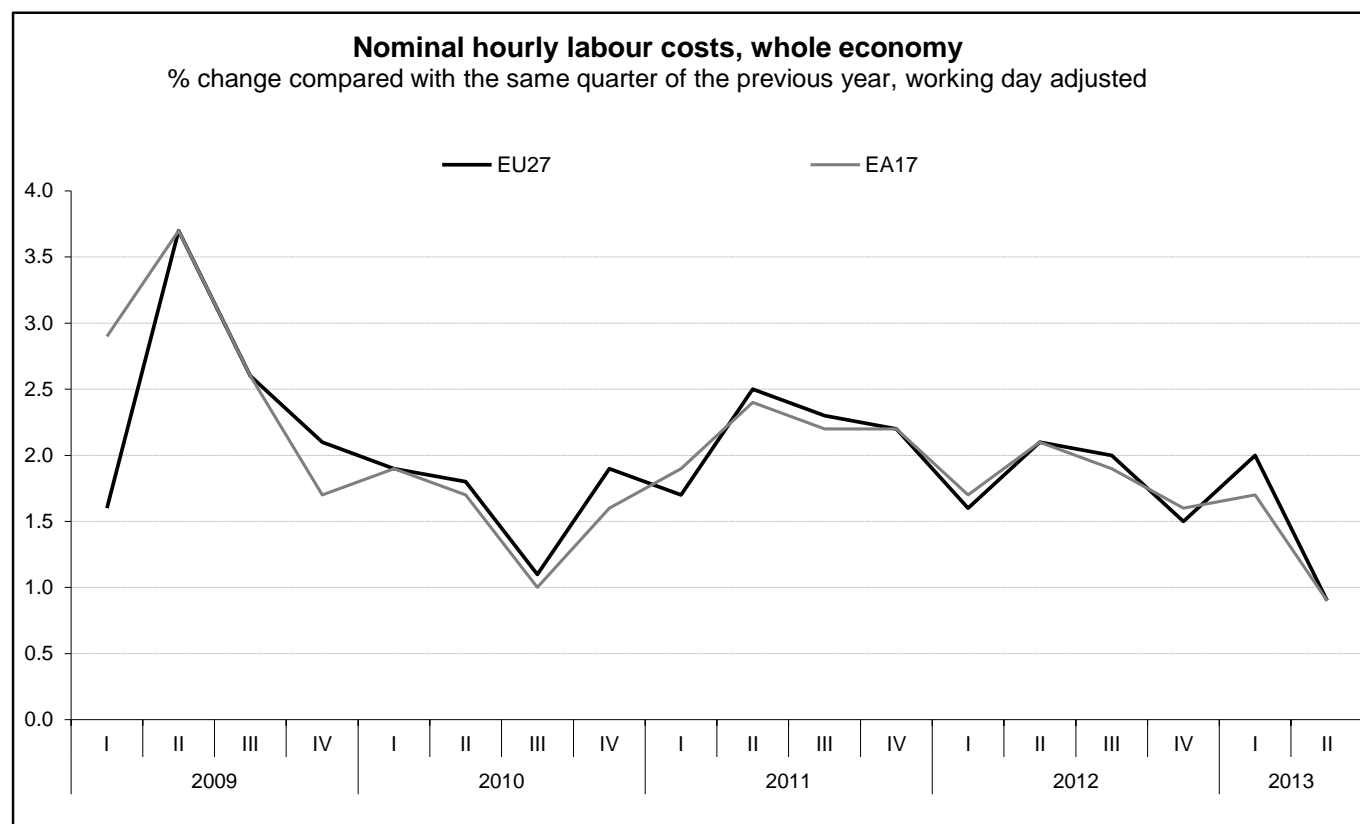
135/2013 - 16 September 2013

Second quarter of 2013

Annual growth in labour costs slowed to 0.9% in both euro area and EU27

Hourly labour costs¹ in the **euro area**² (EA17) rose by 0.9% in the year up to the second quarter of 2013, compared with +1.7% for the first quarter of 2013³. In the **EU27**², the annual rise was also 0.9% up to the second quarter of 2013, compared with +2.0% in the previous quarter³. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

The two main components of labour costs are wages & salaries and non-wage costs. In the **euro area**, wages & salaries per hour worked grew by 1.1% and the non-wage component by 0.1% in the year up to the second quarter of 2013, compared with +1.8% and +1.4% respectively for the previous quarter. In the **EU27**, hourly wages & salaries rose by 1.0% and the non-wage component by 0.3% in the year up to the second quarter of 2013, compared with +2.0% for both components for the first quarter of 2013.

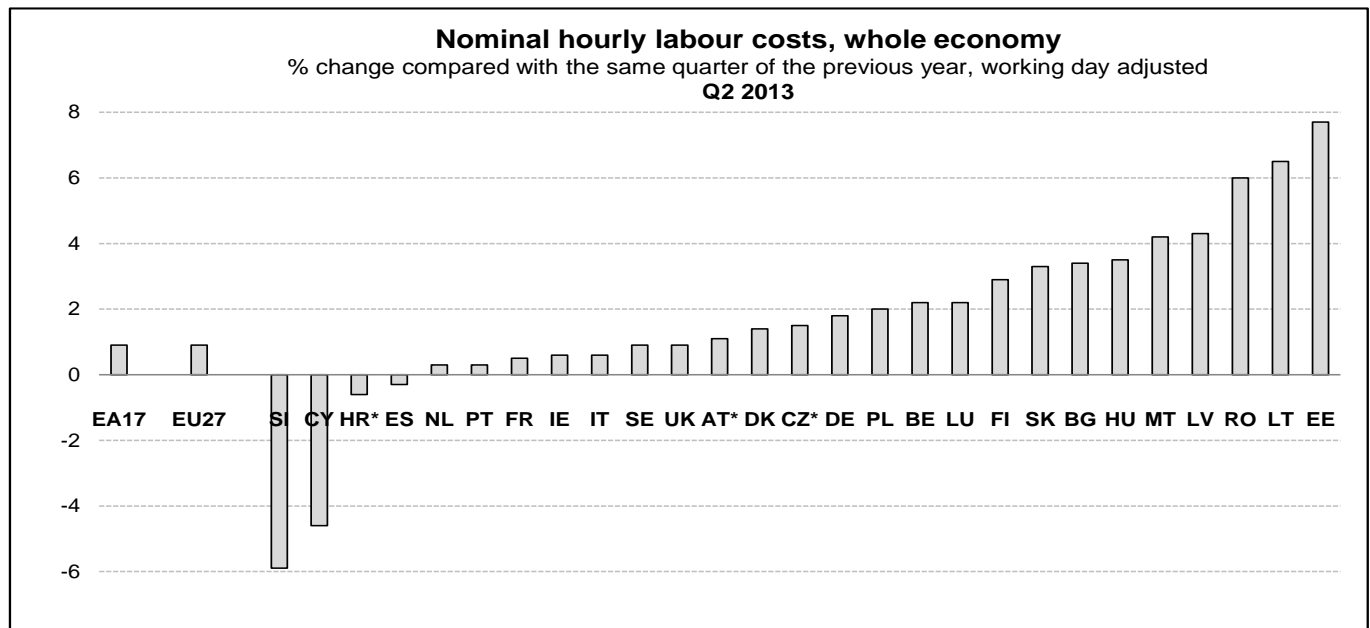


Breakdown by economic activity

In the **euro area**, hourly labour costs rose by 1.8% in industry, 0.7% in construction, 0.8% in services and 0.3% in the mainly non-business economy in the year up to the second quarter of 2013. In the **EU27**, labour costs per hour grew by 1.7% in industry, 0.4% in construction, 0.9% in services and 0.4% in the mainly non-business economy.

Member States

Among the Member States for which data are available for the second quarter of 2013, the highest annual increases in hourly labour costs for the whole economy were registered in **Estonia (+7.7%)**, **Lithuania (+6.5%)** and **Romania (+6.0%)**. Decreases were recorded in **Slovenia (-5.9%)**, **Cyprus (-4.6%)**, **Croatia (-0.6%)** and **Spain (-0.3%)**.



* Not working day adjusted

- The Labour Cost Index is a short-term indicator showing the development of hourly labour costs incurred by employers. It is calculated dividing the labour cost by the number of hours worked. Therefore, the development of both variables, labour costs and hours worked, affects the evolution of the index.
The quarterly changes in hourly employers' costs are measured for the total labour costs and the main components, namely wages and salaries on one hand, and labour costs other than wages and salaries (non-wage costs) on the other hand. Total labour costs (TOT) cover wage and non-wage costs less subsidies. They do not include vocational training costs or other expenditures such as recruitment costs, spending on working clothes, etc.
Wage and salary costs (WAG) include direct remuneration, bonuses, and allowances paid by an employer in cash or in kind to an employee in return for work done, payments to employees saving schemes, payments for days not worked and remuneration in kind such as food, drink, fuel, company cars, etc.
Labour costs other than wages and salaries (OTH - non-wage costs) include the employers' social contributions plus employment taxes regarded as labour costs less subsidies intended to refund part or all of the employer's cost of direct remuneration.
Eurostat publishes Labour Cost Index data for NACE Rev. 2 sections B to S. The aggregate is referred to as "Whole economy" for the sake of simplification, even if agriculture, activities of households as employers and activities of extraterritorial organisations are excluded. For more breakdowns and further definitions please refer to:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Labour_cost_index_-_recent_trends
- The euro area (EA17) consists of Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.
Up to 30 June 2013, the European Union (EU27) included Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), the 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), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE) and the United Kingdom (UK). From 1 July 2013 the European Union (EU28) also includes Croatia (HR).
As part of Eurostat's guidelines for the dissemination of data when the EU is enlarged, the aggregate data series commented on in this News Release refer to the official composition of the EU in the most recent quarter for which data is available. **Thus News Releases with data for quarters up to the second quarter of 2013 comment on EU27 series, while Releases with data for the third quarter of 2013 onwards will comment on EU28 series.**
Eurostat's guidelines can be found on the Eurostat website:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/GUIDE_ENLARG_2007/EN/GUIDE_ENLARG_2007-EN.PDF
- Compared with News Release 95/2013 of 17 June 2013, annual growth rates for the total economy for the first quarter of 2013 were revised from +1.6% to +1.7% for the EA17 and from +1.9% to +2.0% for the EU27.

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

For further information on data:

Tim ALLEN
Tel: +352-4301-33 444
eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

Sammy LAURITSEN
Tel: +352-4301-35 742
Hubertus VREESWIJK
Tel: +352-4301-34 323

Eurostat news releases on the internet:
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

estat-labour-cost-indices@ec.europa.eu

Selected Principal European Economic Indicators: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/euroindicators>

Nominal hourly labour costs

% change compared with same quarter of previous year – working day adjusted

	Whole economy (NACE Rev. 2 sections B to S)														
	Q2 2012			Q3 2012			Q4 2012			Q1 2013			Q2 2013		
	TOTAL	WAGES	OTHER	TOTAL	WAGES	OTHER	TOTAL	WAGES	OTHER	TOTAL	WAGES	OTHER	TOTAL	WAGES	OTHER
EA17	2.1	2.3	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.4	0.9	1.1	0.1
EU27	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.9	1.0	0.3
EU28	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.5	1.4	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.0	0.9	1.0	0.3
BE	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.1
BG	7.3	8.3	2.7	7.9	8.7	3.9	7.5	8.4	3.1	4.7	4.5	5.3	3.4	3.2	4.9
CZ*	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.5	1.3	1.3	1.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	1.5	1.5	1.4
DK	1.8	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.4	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.2
DE	3.2	3.7	1.2	3.0	3.3	1.9	3.0	3.5	1.4	3.7	3.3	5.1	1.8	2.0	1.4
EE	4.5	4.2	4.5	6.0	6.4	6.2	6.7	6.6	7.7	7.5	8.0	7.4	7.7	7.8	7.0
IE	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.6	1.4	4.9	1.3	1.0	4.9	0.8	0.7	2.1	0.6	0.5	2.1
EL	-8.7	-8.3	-9.4	-13.3	-10.9	-16.6	-5.1	-3.8	-7.1	-9.5	-10.1	-7.5	:	:	:
ES	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.7	0.3	-3.4	-4.4	-0.7	-0.9	-1.4	0.5	-0.3	-0.6	0.8
FR	2.1	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.2	1.9	2.1	1.7	0.1	1.6	-3.1	0.5	1.9	-2.7
HR*	3.6	3.6	3.6	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.8	1.8	1.8	4.1	4.1	4.1	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6
IT	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.0	1.6	1.2	1.4	0.9	2.5	2.4	3.1	0.6	0.5	0.7
CY	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.0	0.0	-0.3	-0.8	-0.7	-0.9	-1.5	-2.0	1.5	-4.6	-4.6	-4.3
LV	4.7	4.7	4.9	3.4	3.6	2.7	3.7	3.9	3.1	4.7	4.7	5.5	4.3	4.3	4.1
LT	3.2	2.6	4.6	5.3	5.0	6.3	4.7	4.0	6.5	4.8	4.4	5.9	6.5	6.0	8.0
LU	2.2	2.2	2.6	3.2	3.2	3.5	2.2	2.2	2.7	4.9	4.7	5.0	2.2	2.2	2.3
HU	4.5	c	c	5.8	5.3	8.9	5.1	4.5	7.9	4.7	5.1	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4
MT	3.8	3.9	3.1	2.3	2.5	1.6	3.7	3.9	4.0	5.2	5.7	3.1	4.2	4.3	3.0
NL	2.0	1.0	5.5	2.6	1.3	7.6	1.8	0.6	6.1	0.9	0.3	3.0	0.3	-0.3	2.3
AT*	7.5	7.6	7.4	5.5	5.6	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.4	4.9	4.7	5.6	1.1	1.0	1.6
PL	3.8	3.8	3.7	4.4	4.4	4.5	1.8	1.8	1.9	3.8	3.8	3.9	2.0	2.0	2.2
PT	-9.6	-10.1	-8.0	-9.6	-7.6	-16.0	-8.1	-6.9	-11.8	-1.9	-1.6	-3.0	0.3	-0.1	1.8
RO	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.6	7.6	7.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	6.0	6.0	6.0
SI	3.1	3.9	-1.9	-0.9	-0.7	-2.1	-1.9	-1.6	-4.0	-3.8	-3.8	-3.7	-5.9	-5.9	-5.9
SK	3.6	3.4	4.1	1.5	1.4	3.0	3.8	3.7	3.6	5.5	5.1	7.0	3.3	2.3	6.2
FI	5.2	5.2	5.3	4.5	3.8	4.3	4.1	3.8	3.9	2.5	3.4	2.0	2.9	4.0	2.6
SE	4.0	3.5	5.0	3.8	3.3	4.8	3.6	3.2	4.7	2.2	2.5	1.6	0.9	1.2	0.2
UK	1.1	0.6	1.8	0.9	0.8	2.2	0.2	-0.4	2.0	1.8	1.5	4.3	0.9	0.6	0.9

Labour cost data are subject to revision, in particular for the latest quarters, when new source data become available.

: Data not available

* Not working day adjusted

c Confidential

TOTAL = total labour costs

WAGES = wage and salary costs

OTHER = non-wage costs

Nominal hourly labour costs for the business and mainly non-business economy

% change compared with same quarter of previous year – working day adjusted

	Business economy (NACE Rev. 2 section B to N)							Mainly non-business economy (NACE Rev. 2 section O to S)						
	Q2/12	Q3/12	Q4/12	Q1/13	Q2 2013			Q2/12	Q3/12	Q4/12	Q1/13	Q2 2013		
	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	WAG	OTH
EA17	2.6	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.1	1.4	0.3	1.1	1.2	0.3	1.3	0.3	0.5	-0.3
EU27	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.1	1.3	0.4	0.9	1.1	0.1	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.0
EU28	2.7	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.1	1.3	0.4	1.0	1.1	0.1	1.7	0.4	0.4	0.0
BE	3.3	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.2	0.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.6
BG	8.7	9.7	8.2	4.2	2.7	2.6	3.6	2.4	2.6	5.0	6.8	6.2	5.8	9.1
CZ*	4.9	3.8	1.8	5.0	1.6	1.6	1.6	4.3	6.5	-0.4	6.5	1.0	1.0	1.0
DK	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.8	1.7	1.9	2.0	2.1	1.8	0.6	0.7	0.8	-0.1
DE	3.3	3.4	3.1	3.9	1.7	1.9	1.3	2.5	2.2	3.0	3.3	2.1	2.2	1.8
EE	4.8	6.5	7.1	7.6	9.1	9.1	8.8	3.8	4.7	5.1	7.0	3.9	4.5	2.4
IE	1.3	2.8	2.5	1.6	1.1	1.0	3.3	-0.1	-0.8	-1.4	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5	-0.2
EL	-3.4	-8.2	-3.1	-11.0	:	:	:	-16.9	-20.9	-8.8	-6.9	:	:	:
ES	0.9	1.0	0.3	-0.1	0.3	0.0	1.4	-0.5	-0.3	-11.7	-2.4	-1.7	-2.0	-0.6
FR	2.1	2.2	1.7	-0.1	0.3	2.1	-3.4	2.1	2.9	2.6	0.7	0.8	1.6	-0.8
HR*	3.4	1.0	2.2	5.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	4.1	0.5	1.3	1.9	-2.8	-2.8	-2.8
IT	1.8	2.9	2.3	3.0	1.9	1.6	2.7	0.4	-0.1	-0.5	1.7	-1.8	-1.4	-2.9
CY	1.4	0.8	0.7	1.0	-2.9	-2.9	-2.8	-0.2	-1.6	-3.6	-6.5	-8.0	-8.0	-7.8
LV	4.8	3.8	3.7	4.8	4.2	4.4	3.5	4.6	3.3	3.4	4.2	4.4	4.1	5.6
LT	3.8	5.1	6.0	5.9	8.1	7.3	10.0	2.0	6.2	1.8	2.2	3.3	3.3	3.3
LU	2.2	3.3	2.3	5.4	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.9	1.9	3.1	1.9	1.9	1.7
HU	6.1	6.7	6.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	0.6	3.6	1.8	8.2	3.9	3.9	3.7
MT	3.1	3.6	3.6	5.6	4.6	4.5	5.4	5.3	0.2	4.0	4.4	3.5	3.9	0.9
NL	1.8	2.5	1.5	1.3	0.2	-0.7	3.5	2.2	2.7	2.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.0
AT*	6.8	4.1	3.8	4.3	2.3	2.1	2.8	10.0	8.8	10.5	6.3	-1.8	-2.0	-1.3
PL	3.8	4.4	1.9	3.8	1.9	1.9	2.1	3.4	4.7	1.4	3.9	2.3	2.3	2.3
PT	-0.1	-11.5	-0.5	-1.6	1.7	0.7	5.6	-21.0	-6.9	-18.7	-2.4	-1.7	-1.3	-2.8
RO	7.3	6.5	5.7	5.5	3.4	3.4	3.4	6.1	9.6	14.1	19.4	15.1	15.1	15.1
SI	4.3	0.3	-0.7	-1.8	-5.7	-5.7	-5.6	0.2	-3.4	-4.7	-8.3	-6.3	-6.3	-6.6
SK	3.0	1.1	3.3	5.2	2.9	2.0	6.3	5.0	2.8	5.1	6.2	4.4	3.2	6.2
FI	5.5	5.0	4.6	2.7	1.8	3.1	1.0	4.8	3.8	3.5	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.6
SE	4.1	4.0	3.8	1.7	1.2	1.7	0.2	3.8	3.4	3.3	3.1	0.3	0.4	0.2
UK	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.1	0.9	0.8	-1.4	-0.8	-3.0	1.8	0.2	-0.2	1.2

Labour cost data are subject to revision, in particular for the latest quarters, when new source data become available.

: Data not available

* Not working day adjusted

TOT = total labour costs

WAG = wage and salary costs

OTH = non-wage costs

Nominal hourly labour costs by main economic activity branches for the business economy

% change compared with same quarter of previous year – working day adjusted

	Industry (NACE Rev. 2 sections B to E)							Construction (NACE Rev. 2 section F)						Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)							
	Q2/12	Q3/12	Q4/12	Q1/13	Q2 2013			Q2/12	Q3/12	Q4/12	Q1/13	Q2 2013			Q2/12	Q3/12	Q4/12	Q1/13	Q2 2013		
	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	TOT	WAG	OTH
EA17	2.9	2.8	2.6	3.1	1.8	2.1	1.1	2.9	2.6	2.0	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.0	2.4	2.0	2.0	1.4	0.8	1.0	-0.1
EU27	3.0	2.8	2.7	3.2	1.7	1.9	1.0	3.0	2.7	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.6	-0.3	2.4	2.1	2.0	1.8	0.9	1.1	0.2
EU28	3.0	2.8	2.7	3.1	1.7	1.9	1.0	3.0	2.7	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.6	-0.3	2.4	2.1	2.0	1.8	0.9	1.1	0.2
BE	3.9	2.6	2.7	2.4	1.8	1.9	1.7	3.8	2.8	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.5	3.0	2.4	2.6	2.4	2.0	1.9	2.0
BG	3.4	4.1	4.5	4.2	3.8	3.7	3.9	2.2	1.7	-0.5	-0.4	4.9	4.5	7.6	12.6	14.0	11.5	4.8	1.9	1.8	3.0
CZ*	5.9	4.2	0.7	5.3	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.5	0.4	0.0	5.0	2.7	2.7	2.7	4.5	4.0	3.0	4.8	1.3	1.3	1.3
DK	1.5	0.8	0.4	1.8	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.2	0.0	0.2	-1.3	-0.8	-0.6	-1.4	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.3	1.9	1.8	2.2
DE	3.1	3.1	3.1	5.1	2.0	2.2	1.5	3.2	4.1	2.0	1.2	0.0	0.1	-0.3	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.4	1.8	1.9	1.2
EE	6.7	6.7	7.6	8.2	6.8	7.0	6.2	9.0	10.6	12.9	10.6	12.3	12.9	10.7	3.1	5.6	5.9	6.8	9.7	9.6	9.8
IE	3.2	5.8	1.4	1.3	-1.0	c	c	-5.6	6.4	5.5	-1.1	7.0	6.5	13.7	2.0	1.1	2.3	2.1	0.9	0.6	1.6
EL	-7.3	-9.3	-9.4	-4.6	:	:	:	-9.8	-13.7	-5.2	-6.1	:	:	:	-1.9	-7.4	-1.3	-13.0	:	:	:
ES	3.1	2.3	1.6	2.1	1.1	1.3	1.2	4.1	2.2	0.8	0.2	1.7	1.4	2.3	-0.5	0.2	-0.2	-1.1	0.0	-0.6	1.3
FR	2.5	2.2	2.1	0.2	0.8	2.5	-2.7	1.7	2.4	1.6	-0.6	-0.6	1.4	-5.7	2.1	2.2	1.5	-0.2	0.3	2.0	-3.5
HR*	4.9	1.7	2.9	6.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.0	1.2	5.0	6.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	0.5	1.3	4.7	0.0	0.0	-0.1
IT	2.4	3.3	3.0	2.5	2.2	1.9	3.0	3.6	3.5	4.7	4.7	2.8	2.2	4.2	1.2	2.5	1.3	3.2	1.5	1.2	2.2
CY	0.5	0.7	0.6	-1.3	-6.1	-6.1	-5.9	1.5	1.1	2.0	-5.2	-5.6	-5.7	-5.6	1.6	0.8	0.4	2.3	-1.7	-1.7	-1.8
LV	4.0	4.4	4.8	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.2	1.7	3.3	2.8	6.1	8.5	8.6	8.3	5.4	3.5	3.4	4.5	3.5	3.8	2.3
LT	4.7	5.1	5.7	4.3	5.8	5.4	7.0	5.9	5.6	3.6	16.5	12.4	9.8	18.2	3.0	5.1	6.5	4.9	8.4	7.9	9.8
LU	2.1	1.3	2.5	3.2	3.7	3.9	2.6	2.8	2.9	3.3	5.2	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.1	3.7	2.1	5.8	2.1	2.1	2.6
HU	8.2	7.4	7.4	4.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	2.8	2.3	1.8	6.3	6.8	6.8	6.3	4.7	6.6	6.0	2.4	3.0	3.0	3.0
MT	3.4	-0.1	4.5	6.2	3.8	4.0	3.3	-0.2	3.5	3.0	-2.5	2.6	2.6	1.3	3.3	5.0	3.3	6.2	5.0	4.8	6.5
NL	2.1	2.6	2.3	2.8	c	c	c	4.2	2.2	0.7	-3.4	c	c	c	1.5	2.6	1.4	1.4	c	c	c
AT*	5.7	5.9	3.1	4.8	3.4	3.2	3.8	5.4	2.5	2.4	4.0	2.7	2.6	2.8	7.7	3.5	4.4	4.1	1.6	1.5	2.2
PL	3.8	5.7	4.1	4.6	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.4	0.5	-3.1	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	4.2	3.9	0.8	3.8	2.1	2.0	2.4
PT	-7.1	-1.9	-2.9	-2.4	1.0	-0.2	6.0	1.9	-12.3	0.8	1.0	4.7	3.5	9.0	4.3	-17.0	0.7	-1.6	1.4	0.6	4.7
RO	8.3	6.7	6.0	7.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.5	4.9	1.0	2.2	3.6	3.6	3.6	6.9	6.6	6.1	5.0	2.2	2.2	2.2
SI	8.5	2.4	0.9	3.6	-5.6	-5.4	-6.6	-3.5	-6.3	-1.9	-4.1	-3.6	-3.8	-2.5	2.6	-0.3	-1.8	-5.2	-6.0	-6.1	-5.3
SK	5.8	2.3	5.8	8.7	4.9	4.5	6.2	5.2	2.6	-8.2	1.3	0.4	-0.4	2.5	0.6	-0.1	2.9	3.0	1.6	0.3	6.7
FI	5.0	5.4	5.8	1.9	2.6	4.6	1.2	6.8	4.9	4.9	6.9	2.8	3.3	2.0	5.7	4.7	3.8	2.7	1.2	2.1	0.8
SE	4.4	4.6	4.9	1.0	0.3	0.9	-0.9	4.4	3.7	3.8	2.7	1.6	2.3	-0.2	3.9	3.8	3.4	1.8	1.5	1.9	0.6
UK	2.2	1.4	2.6	2.6	0.7	0.8	-0.4	3.4	3.8	-3.2	-0.2	-2.0	-1.6	-4.9	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.6

Labour cost data are subject to revision, in particular for the latest quarters, when new source data become available.

: Data not available

* Not working day adjusted

c Confidential

TOT = total labour costs

WAG = wage and salary costs

OTH = non-wage costs