

QUARTERLY LABOUR COST INDEX, SECOND QUARTER OF 2012

Preliminary data of NSI for the Second Quarter of 2012 indicated that the total hourly labour cost rose by 4.8% compared to the Second Quarter of 2011. The total hourly labour cost grew by 2.5% in industry and by 8.9% in services. In construction the total hourly labour costs decreased by 2.1%.

The breakdown by economic activities showed that the highest annual growths in total labour costs were recorded in 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles' - 16.3%, 'Other service activities' - 14.7% and 'Professional, scientific and technical activities' - 10.8%, while the lowest annual growths were registered in 'Public administration and defence; compulsory social security' and 'Financial and insurance activities' respectively 0.5% and 2.0%. The highest decrease in total labour costs was observed in 'Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply' by 3.9% and 'Construction' by 2.1%.

In the structure of the total labour costs, the wages and salaries costs per hour worked grew by 5.9% in comparison with a year earlier, while the other (non-wage) costs rose by 0.2%. Among the economic activities in the Second Quarter of 2012 compared to the Second Quarter of 2011 the growth rate of wages and salaries component ranged from (-3.9%) in 'Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply' to 17.4% in 'Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles'.



Figure 1. Total labour cost index (Working day adjusted, 2008 = 100)



Methodological notes

Labour Cost Index is a short-term indicator measuring the quarterly development of hourly labour costs incurred by the employers as a result of engaging the labour work force. The Quarterly Survey on employees, hours worked, wages and salaries and other expenditures paid by the employer is the main source used for the labour cost index data calculation.

Labour cost index (LCI) is defined as a Laspeyres index of labour costs per hour worked. Since first quarter of 2009 it is calculated broken down by economic activities at section level according to the new NACE Rev.2 classification and with a reference year 2008=100. Indices are based on Regulation (EC) 450/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council according to which requirements Labour costs indices shall be provided separately for the following three labour costs categories:

Total labour costs (TOT), which includes wages and salaries paid by the employer in cash or in kind, employers' actual and imputed social contribution plus taxes regarded as labour costs;

Wage and salary costs (WAG) covers wages and salaries paid in cash or in kind;

Labour costs other than wages and salaries (OTH – non-wage costs) include the employers' actual and imputed social contribution plus taxes regarded as labour costs;

Economic activity coverage (NACE Rev.2):

• **Total (sections B to S)** - Mining and quarrying (B), Manufacturing (C), Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (D), Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (E), Construction (F), Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (G), Transportation and storage (H), Accommodation and food service activities (I), Information and communication (J), Financial and insurance activities (K), Real estate activities (L), Professional, scientific and technical activities (M), Administrative and support service activities (N), Public administration and defence; compulsory social security (O), Education (P), Human health and social work activities (Q), Arts, entertainment and recreation (R), Other service activities (S);

• **Industry (section B to E)** - Mining and quarrying (B), Manufacturing (C), Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply (D), Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities (E);

• Services (sections G to N) - Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (G), Transportation and storage (H), Accommodation and food service activities (I), Information and communication (J), Financial and insurance activities (K), Real estate activities (L), Professional, scientific and technical activities (M), Administrative and support service activities (N).

More methodological information on the labour cost index and data could be found on NSI official web page – http://www.nsi.bg





Annex

Hourly labour cost index for the period second of 2010 - second quarter of 2012 (Working day adjusted)

(Vorking day adjusted) (Percentage change compared to corresponding period of the previous year)															/ear)														
Code	Economic activities		q2 2010 ²			q3 2010 ²			q4 2010 ²			q1 2011 ²			q2 2011 ²			q3 2011 ²			q4 2011 ²			q1 2012 ²			q2 2012 ²		
NCEA - 2008 ¹			WAG	отн	тот	WAG	OTH	тот	WAG	отн	TOT	WAG	отн	тот	WAG	отн													
B to S	All NACE branches except agriculture, fishing, private households with employed persons	9.2	10.1	4.5	9.7	10.8	4.7	8.3	9.6	2.1	7.4	7.4	7.5	9.8	9.5	11.7	7.7	7.6	7.8	9.3	9.1	10.5	6.0	7.0	1.7	4.8	5.9	0.2	
B to E	Industry (except construction)	6.4	7.7	0.2	6.9	8.3	1.4	8.1	9.9	0.5	4.9	5.0	4.1	8.5	8.6	8.9	7.8	7.5	7.9	6.8	6.4	8.1	4.0	5.1	-0.3	2.5	2.7	0.3	
G to N	Services (excluding public administration)	11.7	12.9	5.4	11.7	13.2	3.5	9.1	10.5	2.0	12.1	12.3	11.5	15.1	14.5	17.0	12.9	12.9	13.5	15.4	15.4	16.2	9.7	10.5	5.3	8.9	10.5	2.8	
В	Mining and quarrying	10.4	11.6	5.9	10.7	12.5	6.2	14.3		6.4		0.2	6.4				11.9						12.3		6.1	6.3		1.6	
С	Manufacturing	6.7	8.6	-1.7	6.6	7.9	0.9	5.8	7.2	-0.8	5.3	5.5	4.3	8.8	8.6	10.0	8.2	8.0	8.8	8.9	8.6	10.1	3.9	4.5	0.6	3.6	3.8	2.1	
D	Electricity,gas,steam and air conditioning supply	-0.1	-1.1	2.7	7.1	9.0	0.0	15.7	20.3	-0.2	6.3	6.8	2.0	6.3	8.4	2.4	4.7	3.9	5.6	-3.4	-5.1	2.1	0.3	4.4	-9.3	-3.9	-3.9	-7.8	
E	Water supply,sewerage,waste management and remediation activities	13.1	13.5	10.7	6.5	7.2	3.1	9.6	10.4	5.8	2.7	2.4	4.1	9.6	9.1	12.7	4.1	4.5	2.4	2.1	1.2	6.6	2.1	2.3	1.0	-0.5	-0.1	-2.5	
F	Construction	7.9	8.8	3.4	6.5	6.9	4.2	3.5	4.2	0.1	3.8	3.5	5.3	7.3	6.6	11.5	5.3	5.7	3.3	9.6	9.7	9.1	-0.3	1.0	-6.0	-2.1	-1.5	-5.1	
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	7.8	8.3	4.4	8.4	9.4	3.3	5.2	6.3	0.2	18.1	17.7	21.1	20.8	20.7	22.8	18.4	18.2	19.7	20.1	19.9	20.9	12.9	14.4	5.7	16.3	17.4	10.9	
н	Transportation and storage	10.0	10.4	9.0	8.9	11.3	-2.1	7.4	9.3	-0.4	10.4	11.7	4.9	10.6	11.6	5.8	7.6	7.3	9.6	8.5	7.5	14.1	1.7	2.1	0.7	-0.8	-0.2	-3.1	
I	Accommodation and food service	11.9	12.4	9.5	10.0	10.5	6.9	9.8	10.9	4.7	4.0	3.0	9.6	8.4	7.5	13.6	8.6	8.3	10.4	7.7	7.0	11.4	9.6	10.2	6.6	9.9	10.7	6.1	
J	Information and communication	30.7	34.8	6.1	34.4	39.1	11.7	26.0	28.9	9.1	16.2	17.5	5.5	25.0	22.7	30.8	20.1	20.8	17.7	29.1	31.7	22.3	14.1	13.6	13.9	8.5	13.6	-8.1	
к	Financial and insurance activities	8.1	11.2	-4.9	6.3	6.9	-	6.3	7.1	1.1		0.3	4.4				5.0			6.6				3.5	1.5	2.0		-3.8	
L	Real estate activities	18.0	19.4	10.2	16.4	17.4	9.8	15.8	17.9	5.0	7.6	7.4	7.8	1.8	1.1	6.0	-5.0	-5.1	-4.4	-7.7	-7.9	-5.9	-0.6	-0.3	-1.3	3.1	3.6	1.0	
М	Professional, scientific and technical activities	18.3	19.8	10.2	21.1	22.6	13.0	27.4	29.6	16.3	18.4	19.4	12.9	22.0	22.0	22.0	20.1	20.1	20.7	25.3	25.9	21.3	13.9	15.5	5.1	10.8	12.2	3.1	
Ν	Administrative and support service activities	6.4	6.9	3.7	1.1	1.7	-2.2	-8.8	-8.7	-9.7	3.0	2.5	5.7	3.4	2.4	8.7	1.3	1.1	2.7	4.7	4.4	7.2	13.9	14.8	9.6	8.3	9.2	4.1	
0	Public administration and defence;compulsory social security	9.8	9.1	12.3	13.1	14.1	9.2	11.8	14.2	3.4	6.9	6.5	8.6	2.2	1.0	6.3	3.2	2.3	6.8	3.1	1.5	9.0	4.3	4.6	2.9	0.5	1.4	-2.1	
Р	Education	7.9	8.3	6.2	10.4	10.5	9.8	6.3	6.7	4.4	3.5	3.0	5.7	3.5	2.8	6.7	-2.5	-2.7	-2.0	2.2	1.6	4.6	2.1	2.6	-0.1	-0.8	0.1	-5.2	
Q	Human health and social work activities	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.0	8.1	7.3	8.7	9.1	6.7	0.2	-0.7	4.8	2.7	1.9	7.1	0.5	0.6	-0.2	0.2	0.1	0.9	2.3	3.4	-3.2	2.5	3.6	-2.5	
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.4	1.2	2.3			-	-8.3	-8.1			8.0			10.9									0.5				-	
	Other service activities				24.1			18.4	20.3	9.7	0.4	-1.7	10.8	-0.4	-2.1	9.4	-5.5	-6.5	-0.3	-2.3	-3.8	6.4	17.3	19.0	4.9	14.7	16.4	8.7	

¹ NCEA - 2008 - National Classification of economic activities comparable with NACE Rev.2.

² Preliminary data.

TOT- Total labour costs

WAG – Wages and salaries costs

OTH - Other (non-wage) costs

Table 1.



Labour Cost Index - Total labour costs for the period 2008 - 2012 (Working day adjusted, 2008=100)



¹ NCEA - 2008 - National Classification of economic activities comparable with NACE Rev.2.

² Preliminary data.



Table 2.