



# SYNTHESIS INE @ COVID-19

November. 16 . 2021

Statistics Portugal makes available the weekly report for monitoring the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This report covers the press releases concerning:

- International trade statistics – September 2021, published on November 09;
- Business turnover, employment, wages and hours worked indices in industry – September 2021, published on November 09;
- New housing construction cost index – September 2021, published on November 09;
- Indices of Production, employment and wages in construction – September 2021, published on November 10;
- Employment statistics – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2021, published on November 10;
- Business turnover, employment, wages and hours worked indices in services – September 2021, published on November 11;
- Consumer price index – October 2021, published on November 11;
- Employment statistics - Gross monthly earnings per worker – 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, published on November 11;
- Vital Statistics - Monthly data – October 2021, published on November 12;
- Labour cost index – 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, published on November 12.

For further details, see the links available throughout this press release.

## Exports and imports rose by 10.3% and 17.5% in nominal terms

In September 2021:

- Exports and imports of goods registered year-on-year increases of 10.3% and 17.5%, respectively (+16.9% and +21.9% in the previous month, in the same order);
- Compared to September 2019, there were also positive rates of change: 10.8% in exports and 7.8% in imports;
- The increases in exports and imports of *Industrial supplies* (28.1% and 33.7%, respectively, compared to September 2020, and 25.0% and 31.3%, in the same order, compared to September 2019) are noteworthy;

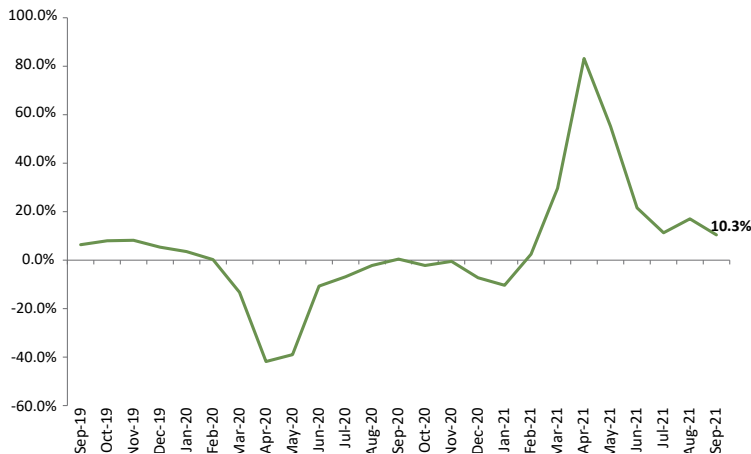


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- Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, exports and imports grew by 7.8% and 10.2%, respectively (+13.1% and +16.3% in the previous month, in the same order);
- Also excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, compared to September 2019, there were increases of 9.0% in exports and 5.9% in imports;

Exports - Total  
(year-on-year rate of change)



Imports - Total  
(year-on-year rate of change)



- The deficit of trade balance in goods amounted to €1,719 million, which represents an increase of €559 million compared to September 2020 and a reduction of €13 million compared to September 2019;
- Excluding *Fuels and lubricants*, the trade balance stood at €-1,061 million, which corresponds to an increase in the deficit by €201 million compared to September 2020 and a reduction of €77 million compared to September 2019.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021:

- Compared to the same period in 2020, exports and imports increased by 12.4% and 20.2%, respectively (+16.2% and +24.5%, in the same order, in the quarter ending August 2021);
- Compared with the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2019, exports and imports registered increases of 9.0% and 5.4%, respectively.

In the cumulative period January to September 2021, in comparison with the same period in 2019:

- There was an increase of 4.8% in exports (+20.1% vis-à-vis January-September 2020) and a decrease of 1.5% in imports (+18.1% compared to the same period in 2020);
- With the emphasis on:
  - »The increases in *Industrial supplies*: 9.4% in exports (+26.3% compared to 2020); and 16.4% in imports (+32.4% compared to 2020);
  - »The decreases in *Transport equipment*: -11.8% in exports (+13.3% compared to 2020) and -32.8% in imports (+4.9% compared to 2020).

More information is available at:  
[International trade statistics – September 2021](#)  
 (09 November 2021)

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Industry turnover grew by 11.6%

In September, the Industrial Turnover Index (ITI) registered a year-on-year rate of change of 11.6% (-2.2 percentage points (p.p.) than in the previous month).

By type of market, sales in the industry recorded the following rates of change compared to the same month of 2020:

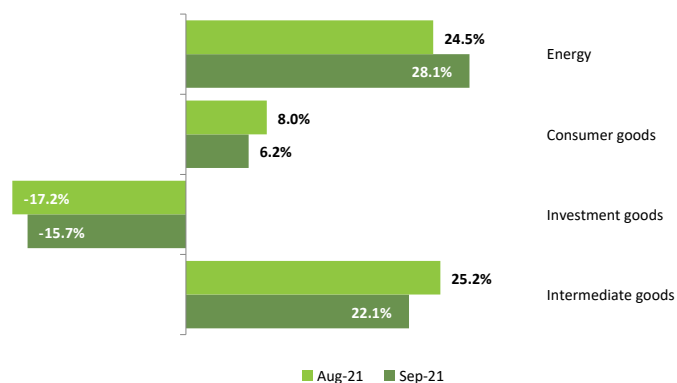
- Domestic market: 8.3% (11.5% in August);
- Non-domestic market: 16.2% (17.6%).



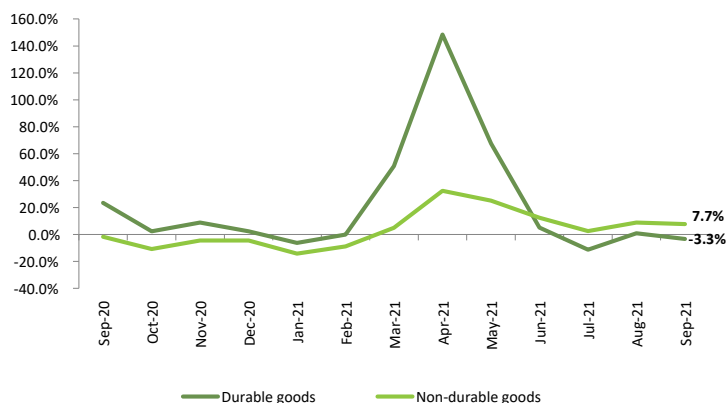
Industry Turnover Index  
(year-on-year rate of change)  
Total



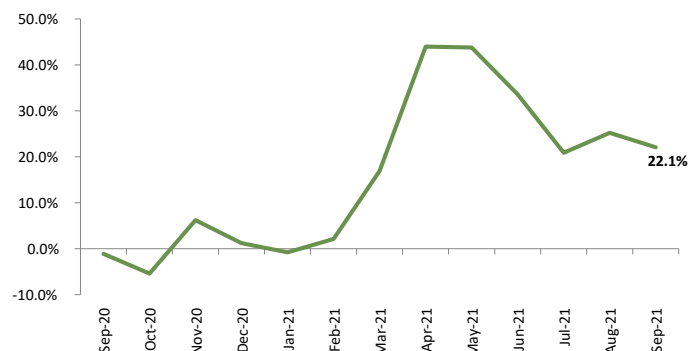
Industry Turnover Index - Major industrial groupings  
(year-on-year rate of change)



Industry Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change)  
Consumer goods



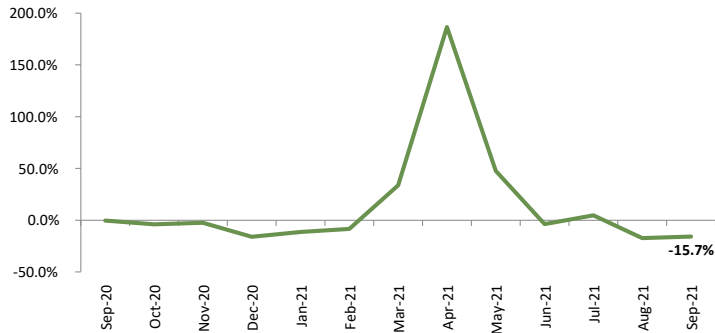
Industry Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change)  
Intermediate goods



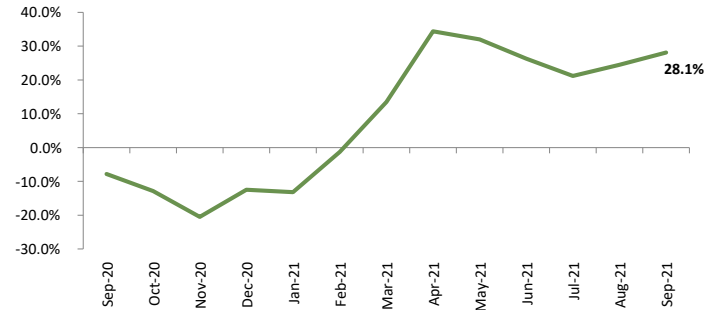
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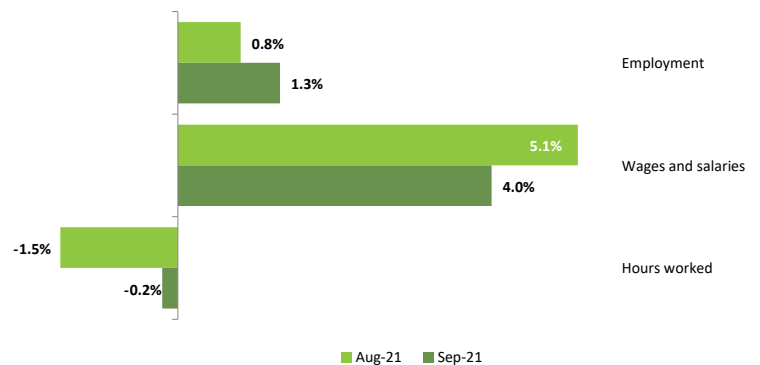
Industry Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change)  
Investment goods



Industry Turnover Index (year-on-year rate of change)  
Energy



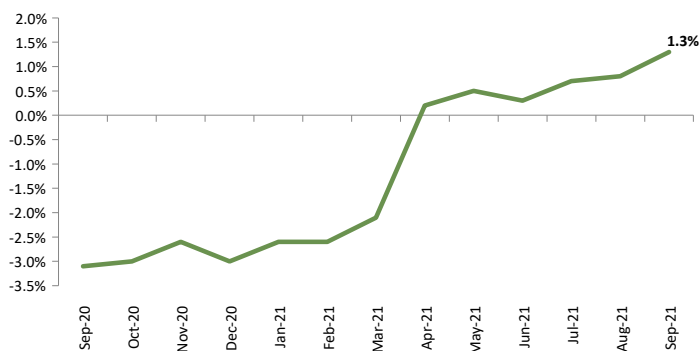
Employment, Wages, and Hours worked Index  
(year-on-year rate of change)



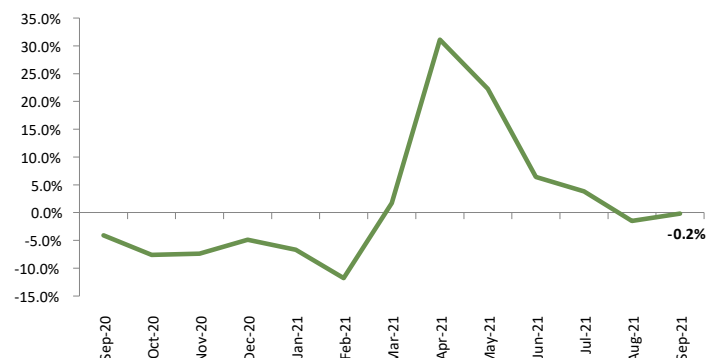
In September 2021, the following year-on-year rates of change were also recorded concerning the indices for the Industry sector:

- Employment: 1.3%;
- Wages and salaries: 4.0%;
- Hours worked (adjusted for calendar effects): -0.2%.

Industry Employment Index (year-on-year rate of change)  
Total



Industry Employment Index (year-on-year rate of change)  
Hours worked



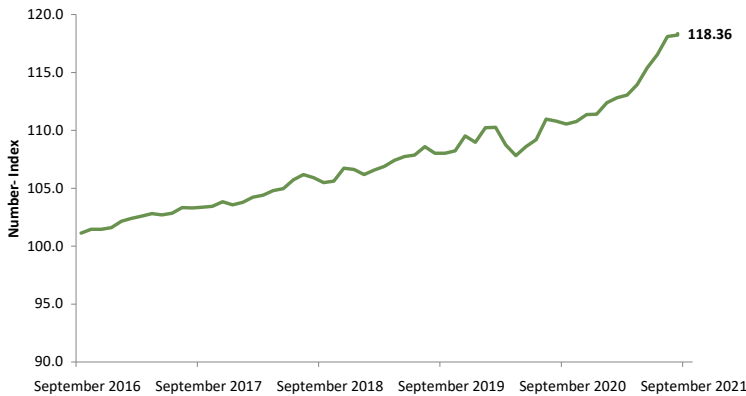
The ITI registered a month-on-month growth of 21.9% in September 2021 (24.3% in September 2020).

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, the industry sales were up 12.4% year-on-year (in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter they had grown 35.3%, a rate influenced by the comparison with a period in 2020 heavily affected by the pandemic).

More information is available at:  
[Business turnover, employment, wages, and hours worked indices in Industry – September 2021](#)  
 (09 November 2021)

Construction costs increased by 7.1% year-on-year

Construction Costs Index for New Housing  
(100=2015)



The Construction Cost Index for New Housing (CCINH) registered, in September 2021, a year-on-year growth of 7.1% (+0.4 percentage points than the previous month).

The price of materials and the cost of labour presented, respectively, rates of change of 8.9% and 4.6% in comparison with the same period of the previous year.

Construction Costs Index for New Housing  
(year-on-year rate of change)



In terms of the month-on-month rates of change, the estimated rates for September 2021 were:

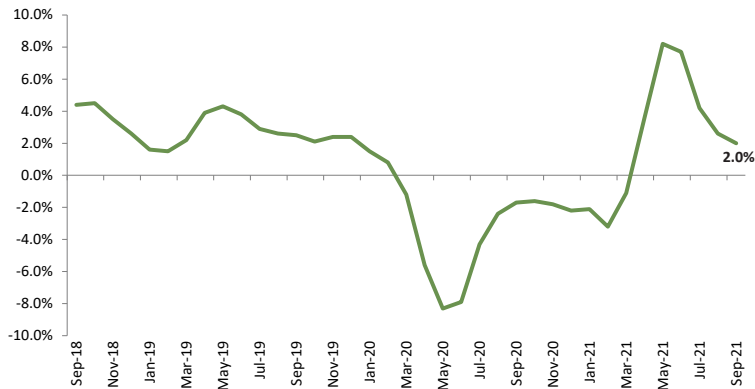
- CCINH: 0.1% (same value as in the previous month);
- Price of materials: -0.2% (0.6% in the previous month);
- Labour costs: 0.5% (-0.6% in the previous month).

More information is available at:  
[New housing construction costs index – September 2021](#)  
(09 November 2021)



Production in Construction grew by 2.0%

Index of Production in Construction  
(year-on-year rate of change)



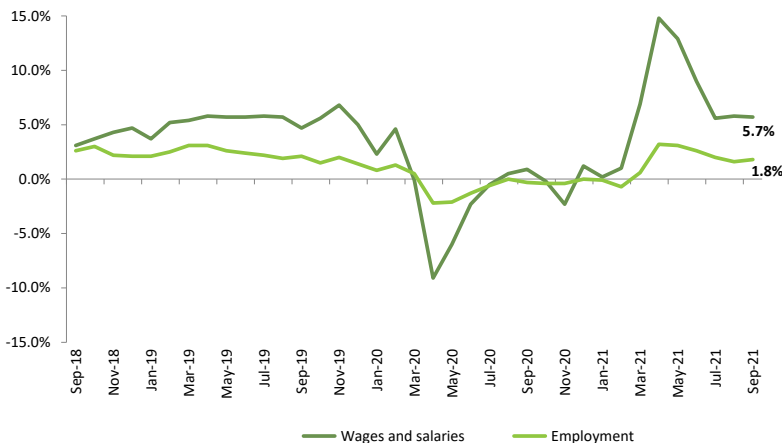
In September 2021:

- The index of production in construction grew by 2.0% year-on-year (-0.4 percentage points (p.p.) than in the previous month).

The following rates of change were registered concerning its segments:

- » Building Construction: 0.1% (nil rate of change in August);
- » Civil engineering: 4.9% (6.0% in August);

Indices of employment, wages and salaries in Construction  
(year-on-year rate of change)



- The Employment index registered year-on-year growth of 1.8% (1.6% in the previous month; it rose by 0.3% in August (0.1% in September 2020);
- The Wages and salaries index registered a year-on-year increase of 5.7% (5.8% in the previous month) and a decrease of 2.9% compared to August (-2.8% in September 2020).

More information is available at:

[Indices of Production, Employment, and Wages in Construction – September 2021](#)  
(10 November 2021)

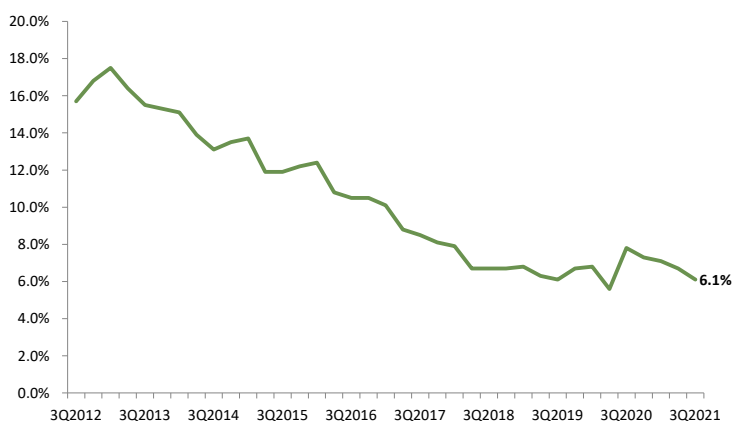
## The unemployment rate went down to 6.1%

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021:

- The unemployed population, estimated at 318,700 people:
  - » It decreased by 7.8% (27.0 thousand) in comparison with the previous quarter;
  - » It reduced by 21.0% (84.8 thousand) compared to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020;
- The unemployment rate was estimated at 6.1%, which stands for:
  - » 0.6 fewer percentage points (p.p.) than in the previous quarter;
  - » 1.9 fewer p.p. than in the same period of 2020;
  - » 0.2 fewer p.p. than in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2019;

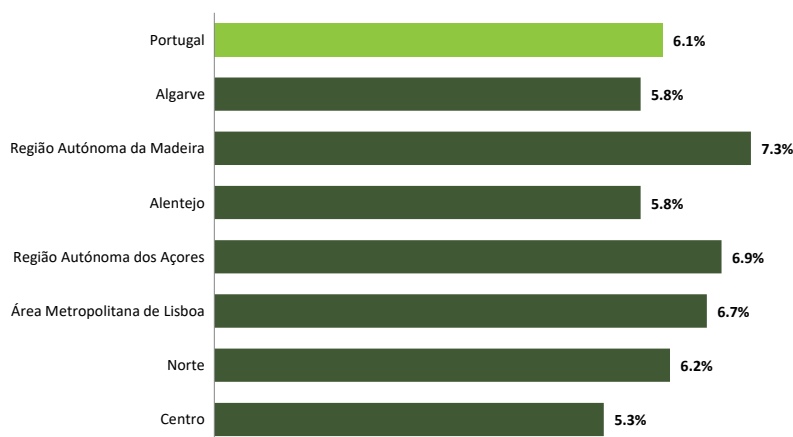


Unemployment rate



- The unemployment rate was higher than the national average in four regions of the country: Região Autónoma da Madeira, Região Autónoma dos Açores, Área Metropolitana de Lisboa, and Norte;

Unemployment rates by NUTS II region, 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021

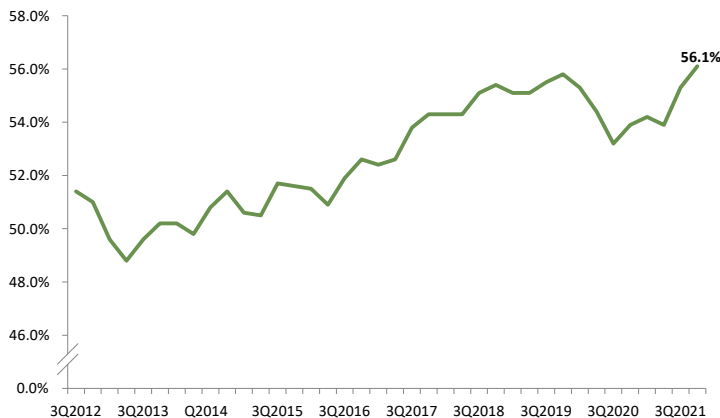


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- The employed population (4,878.1 thousand people) registered increases of:
  - » 1.4% (67.6 thousand) in comparison with the previous quarter;
  - » 4.7% (219.7 thousand) compared to the same period in 2020 (similar to that observed in each third quarter since 2013);
  - » 1.5% (71.5 thousand) compared to the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2019 (pre-pandemic COVID-19 period);
- The employment rate stood at 56.1%, which represents an increase of 0.8 p.p. in comparison with the previous quarter;
- The employed population absent from work in the reference week (877.0 thousand) increased by 120.8% (479.9 thousand) compared with the previous quarter, 7.6% (62.1 thousand) compared with the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2020, and 14.6% (111.5 thousand) compared with the same quarter of 2019;

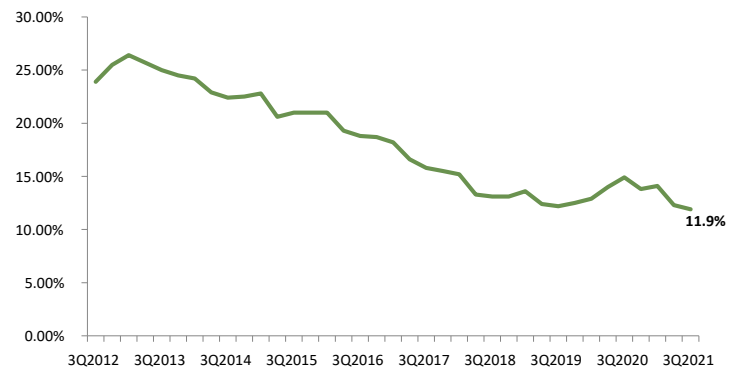
Employment rate



- The main reason for absence from work was *Holidays or public holidays*, as is usually the case in each third quarter of each year;
- The volume of hours effectively worked registered a quarterly decrease of 9.3%, but a year-on-year increase of 2.3%;
- Around 13% of the employed population (617.6 thousand people) always or almost always worked from home, using information and communication technologies (teleworking);

- Each employed person who worked at least one hour in the reference week worked, on average, 39 hours per week;
- Labour underutilisation comprised 642.4 thousand people, corresponding to:
  - » -1.8% (11.8 thousand) compared with the previous quarter;
  - » -20.1% (-162.0 thousand) vis-à-vis the same period of 2020;
- The labour underutilisation rate, estimated at 11.9%, decreased from the previous quarter (0.4 p.p.) and by comparison with the same quarter of 2020 (3.2 p.p.);
- The inactive population aged 16 and over (3,612.2 thousand people) originated the following rates of change:
  - » -0.9% (32.9 thousand) compared with the previous quarter;
  - » -3.0% (111.8 thousand) vis-à-vis the same quarter of 2020.

Labour underutilisation rate



More information is available at:  
[Employment statistics – 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021](#)  
(10 November 2021)



## The Services turnover increased by 13.0%

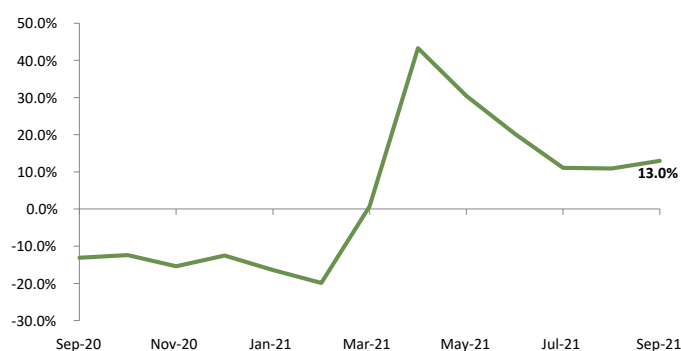
The Services Turnover Index<sup>1</sup> (STI) registered a nominal year-on-year rate of change of 13.0% in September (+2.1 percentage points (p.p.) than in the previous month).

The September 2021 index remained lower (1.8%) than the corresponding month of 2019.

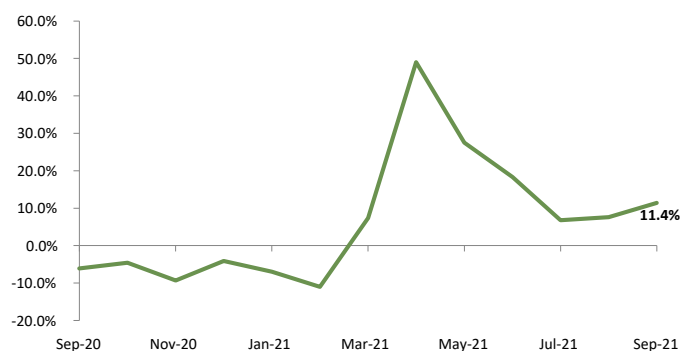
The remaining indices concerning Services presented the following year-on-year rates of change in September 2021:

- Employment: 1.8% (1.1% in August);
- Wages and salaries: 2.6% (3.2% in August);
- Hours worked (adjusted of calendar effects): null rate of change (2.0% in August).

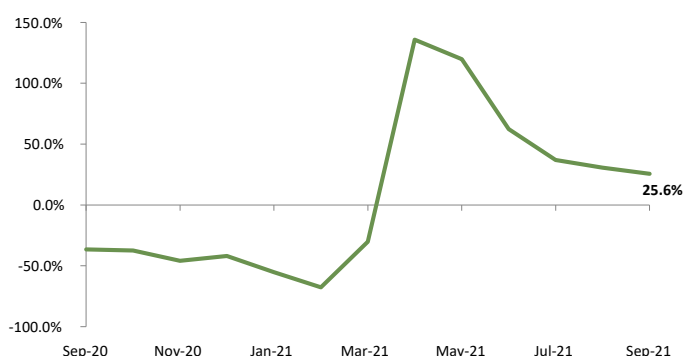
Services Turnover Index  
(year-on-year rate of change)  
Total



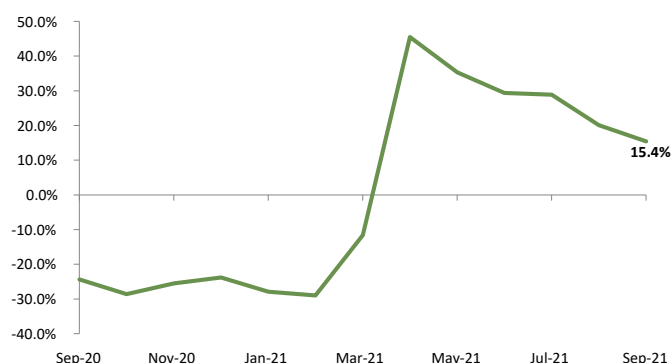
Turnover Index  
(year-on-year rate of change)  
Wholesale trade, trade and repair of vehicles and motorcycles



Turnover Index  
(year-on-year rate of change)  
Accommodation and food services



Turnover Index  
(year-on-year rate of change)  
Transportation and storage



Concerning the month-on-month rate of change, in September 2021 the STI increased by 3.0% (2.6% in August).

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, there was an 11.7% increase in the STI compared to the same period of 2020 (30.4% in the previous quarter, a rate influenced by the comparison with a period of 2020 strongly affected by the pandemic).

<sup>1</sup> Nominal data adjusted for seasonal and calendar effects.

More information is available at:

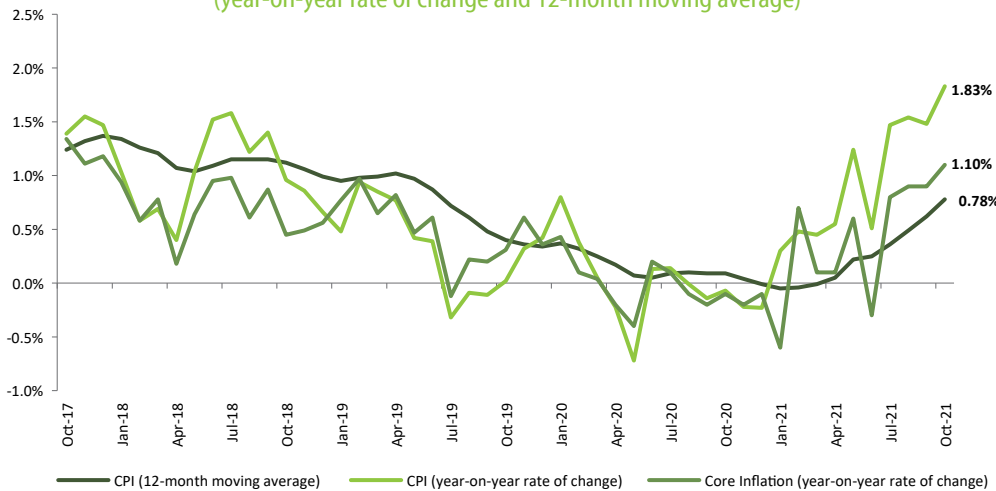
[Business turnover, employment, wages, and hours worked in Services – September 2021](#)  
(11 November 2021)

The CPI year-on-year rate of change rose to 1.8%

## Consumer Price Index

In October 2021, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) registered the following year-on-year rates of change:

Consumer price and core inflation indices  
(year-on-year rate of change and 12-month moving average)



- Total CPI: 1.8% (1.5% in the previous month);
- Core inflation index (total index excluding unprocessed food products and energy): 1.1% (0.9% in September);
- Energy products index: 13.4% (10.5% in the previous month);
- Unprocessed food products index: -0.7% (-0.4% in September).

In October 2021, the CPI also registered the following rates of change:

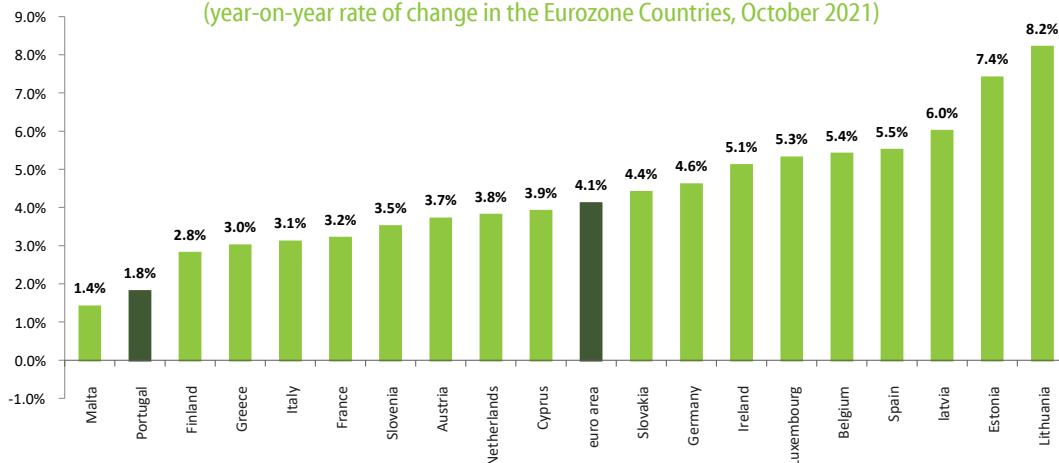
- Month-on-month: 0.5% (0.9% in the previous month and 0.1% in October 2020);
- Month-on-month, excluding unprocessed food products and energy: 0.3% (1.2% in the previous month and 0.1% in October 2020);
- Average over the last twelve months: 0.8% (0.6% in the previous month).



## Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices

The Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) registered the following rates of change in Portugal, in October 2021:

Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices  
(year-on-year rate of change in the Eurozone Countries, October 2021)



- Year-on-year: 1.8% (-2.3 p.p. than the value estimated by Eurostat for the Euro Area);
- Month-on-month: 0.4% (0.8% in the previous month and -0.1% in October 2020);
- Average of the last twelve months: 0.4% (0.2% in the previous month).

More information is available at:  
[Consumer price index – October 2021](#)  
(11 November 2021)

Average monthly gross earnings per employee increased by 2.6% in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, to €1,300

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, compared to the same period in 2020:

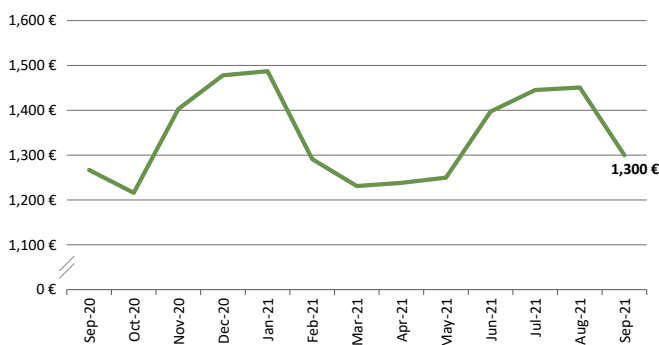
- The average total monthly gross earnings per employee (job) increased by 2.6% to €1,300;
- The regular earnings component (excluding holiday and Christmas allowances) grew by 2.1% to €1,104;
- Basic earnings rose by 2.2% to €1,039.

In real terms, i.e., taking into account the variation in the Consumer Price Index, the monthly earnings registered the following year-on-year increases:

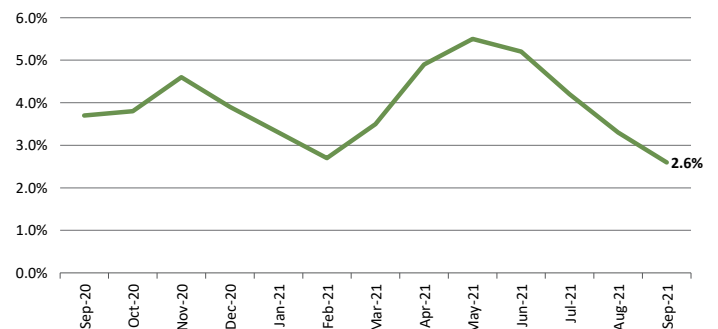
- Total gross earnings: 1.1%;
- Regular gross earnings: 0.6%;
- Basic gross earnings: 0.7%.



Total average monthly gross earnings per employee



Total average monthly gross earnings per employee (year-on-year rate of change)



In September 2021, the number of enterprises covered by employment protection mechanisms in the context of the pandemic, in particular the simplified layoff scheme, became residual (0.1% of enterprises, corresponding to 0.6% of employees).

The results presented refer to about 4.2 million employees, corresponding to beneficiaries of Social Security and subscribers of Caixa Geral de Aposentações.

More information is available at:  
[Gross monthly earnings per worker - 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021](#)  
 (11 de novembro)

## Mortality, live births and marriages

In September, the mortality decreased compared to the same month in 2020

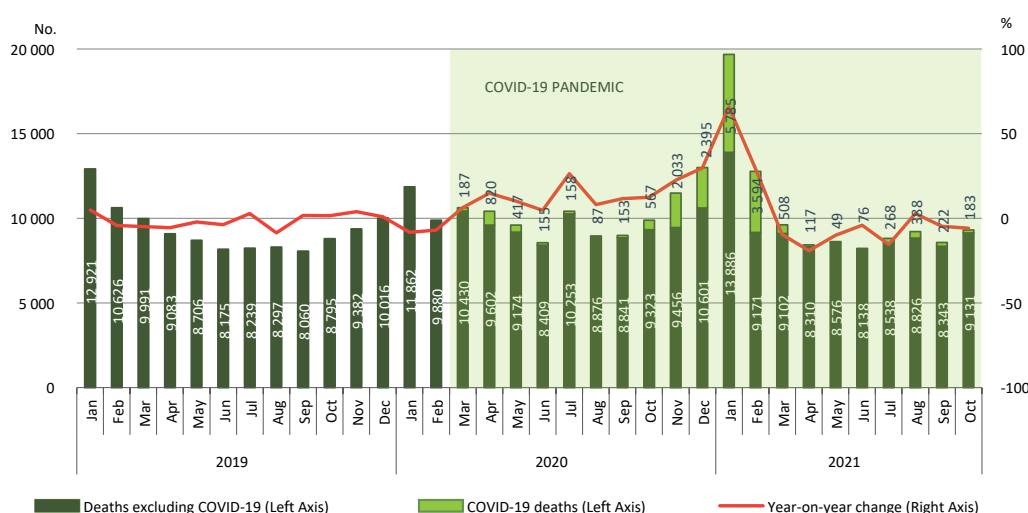
### Mortality

In October 2021, the number of deaths was 9,314, which represents an increase of 749 deaths compared to the previous month and a reduction of 576 deaths compared to October 2020.

The number of COVID-19 deaths decreased to 183 (down 39 from September 2021), representing 2.0% of total deaths.

From January to October 2021, 103,211 deaths occurred, which corresponds to increases of 10,318 and 4,017 deaths compared to the same periods of 2019 and 2020, respectively.

Deaths and year-on-year rate of change, Portugal, January 2019 to October 2021

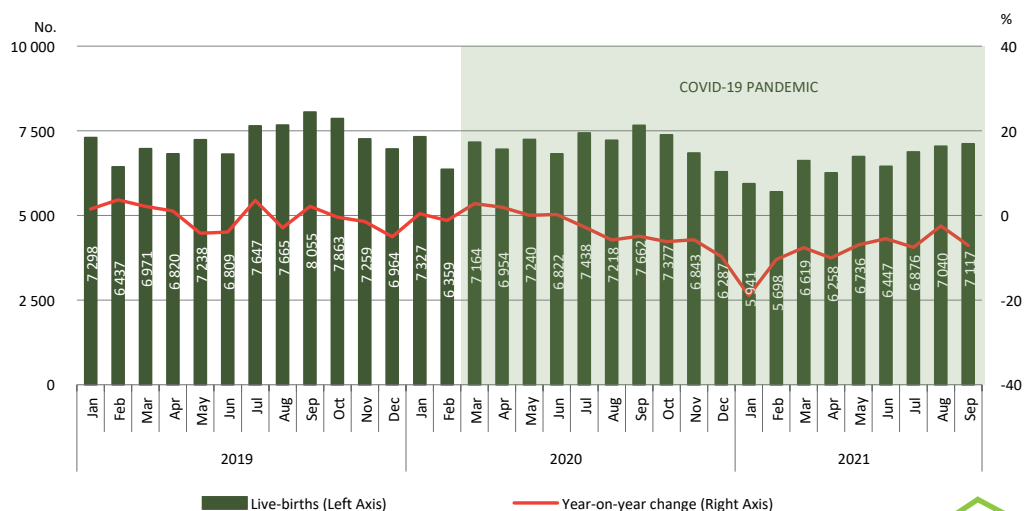


### Live births

In September 2021, 7,117 live births were registered, corresponding to a reduction of 7.1% compared to the same month in 2020.

The total number of live births registered from January to September 2021 was 58,732, which is 6,208 fewer and 5,452 fewer live births than in the same periods of 2019 and 2020, respectively.

Live births and year-on-year rate of change, Portugal, January 2019 to September 2021



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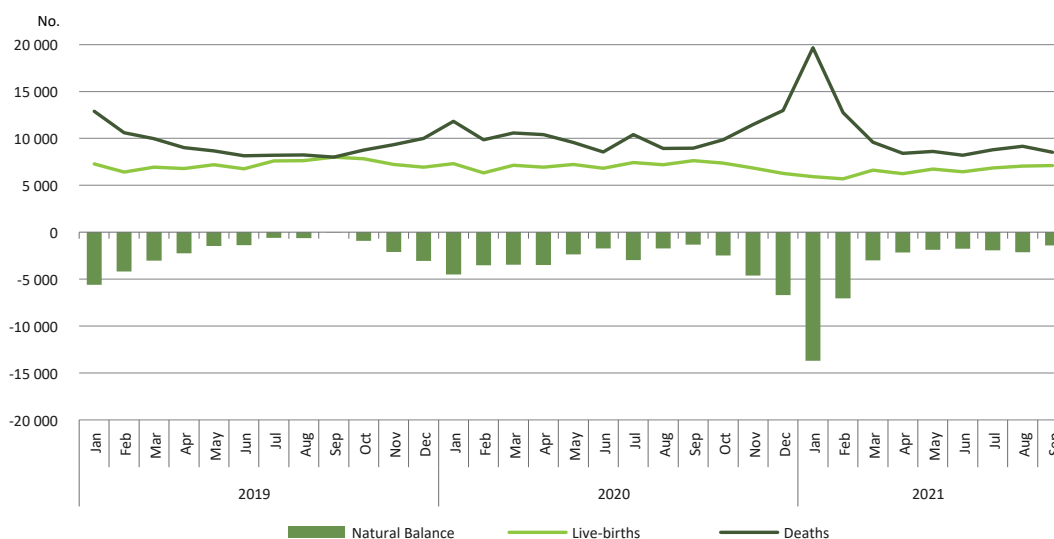
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## Natural balance

The natural balance in September 2021 was -1,427, which corresponds to a worsening in relation to the same month in 2020, when the value was -1,331.

The accumulated natural balance up to September 2021 was -35,074, worsening compared to that observed in the same period of 2019 (-19,150) and 2020 (-25,112).

Live births, deaths and natural balance, Portugal, January 2019 to September 2021

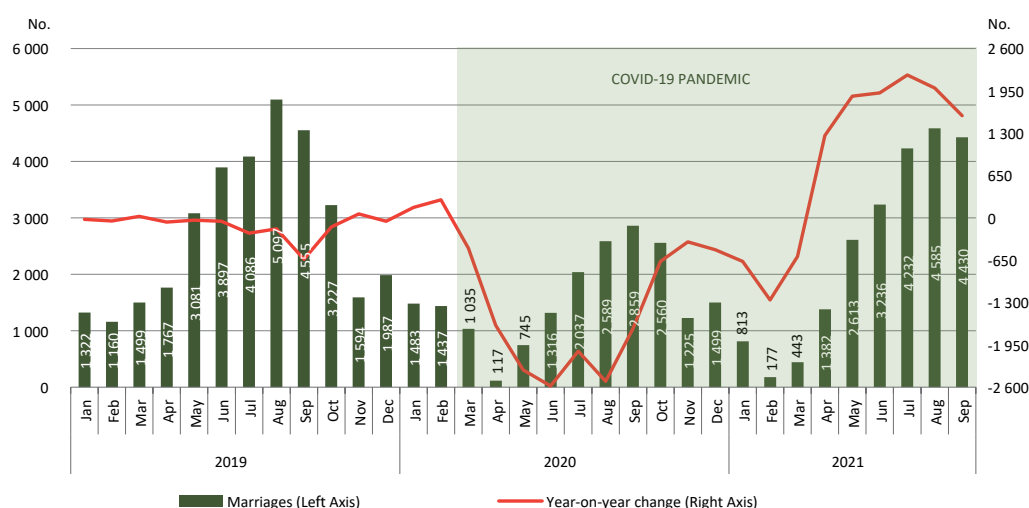


## Marriages

In September 2021, 4,430 marriages were celebrated, corresponding to 1.5 times the number of marriages celebrated in the same month of the previous year (+1,571).

From January to September 2021, 21,911 marriages were celebrated, 8,293 more than in the same period of 2020 and 4,353 less than in the same period of 2019.

Marriages and year-on-year rate of change, Portugal, January 2019 to September 2021



More information is available at:  
[Vital statistics – Monthly data, October 2021](#)  
 (12 November 2021)



## Labour Cost Index rose by 3.8% in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021, on a year-on-year basis:

- The Labour Cost Index (LCI), adjusted for working days, increased by 3.8% (-2.7% in the previous quarter);
- Wage costs per hour effectively worked rose by 3.4% (-5.1% in the previous quarter). All sectors of activity recorded increases;
- Other costs, also per hour effectively worked, grew by 5.3% (+7.0% in the previous quarter).

The following contributed to other costs in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021:

- The increase in employer contributions arising from the progressive reduction of enterprises covered by the simplified layoff scheme in the private sector of the economy;
- The reduction in hours worked per employee in the *Public Administration*.

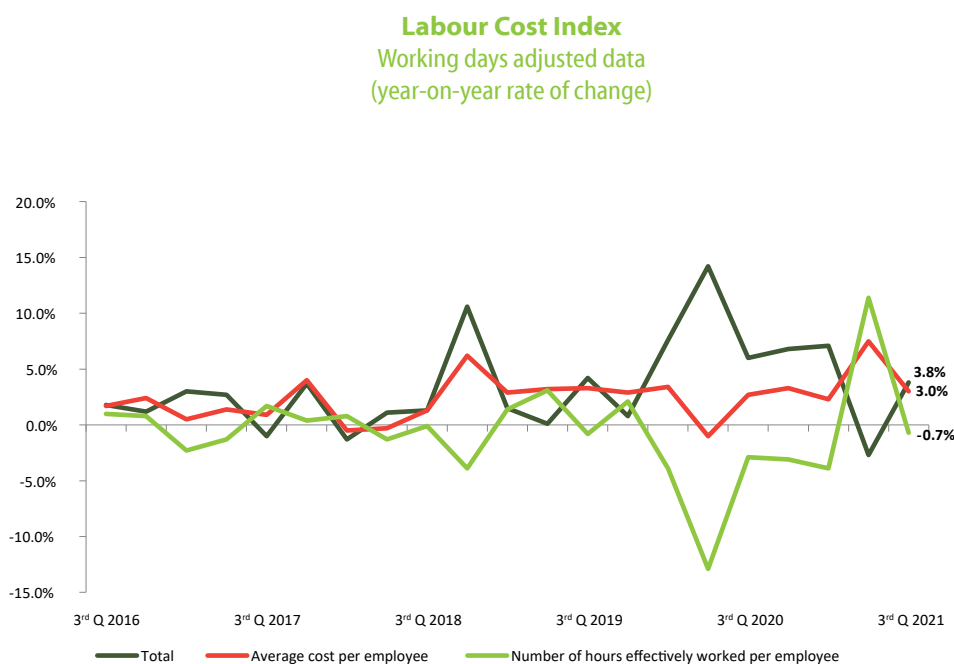
The evolution observed in the LCI also resulted from the combination of the following rates of change:

- A 3.0% increase in the average cost per employee;

This increase was across all economic activities and much smaller than the increases observed in the previous quarter. The smallest rate of change was recorded in the public sector: 1.1%;

- A reduction of 0.7% in the number of hours effectively worked per employee;

The only sector where this reduction did not occur was the Services sector. The most intense reduction occurred in Public Administration (4.1%).

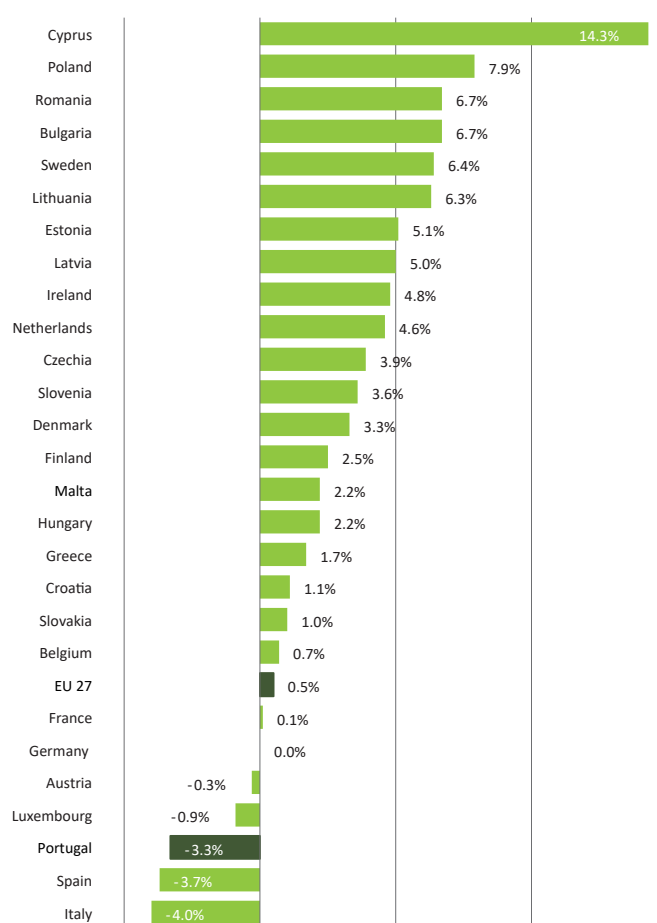


## Comparison with the European Union

The year-on-year rate of change in the LCI for the European Union as a whole (27 countries) was 0.5% in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021. This is the most recent information made available by Eurostat on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2021 on the year-on-year rate of change in the LCI by Member State and for the EU.

Portugal registered a year-on-year decrease of 3.3%.

### Labour Cost Index in EU countries Working days adjusted data – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2021 (year-on-year rate of change)



More information is available at:  
[Labour cost index – 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2021](#)  
 (12 November 2021)

The series “INE@COVID-19 Synthesis” began in April 2020, with the purpose of making available an aggregation of some of the most relevant official statistical findings released each week, taking into account the pandemic situation that was then declared in Portugal.

Statistics Portugal intends to continue to contribute this way to the monitoring of the social and economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic by decision makers in public and private bodies and also by the general public.

The same intention also led to the creation of the “Special INE COVID-19” area in Statistics Portugal’s portal, which also includes other aggregated contents under the same theme.

Press releases between 15-11-2021 and 19-11-2021:

Press releases	Reference period	Release date
Tourism activity	September 2021	15 November 2021
Demographic statistics	2020	16 November 2021
Industrial production price index	October 2021	17 November 2021
Agricultural forecasts	October 2021	18 November 2021
Monthly Economic Survey	October 2021	18 November 2021
Physical Energy Flow Accounts	2019	19 November 2021
Transport activities - Air Transport Flash Statistics	September 2021	19 November 2021