

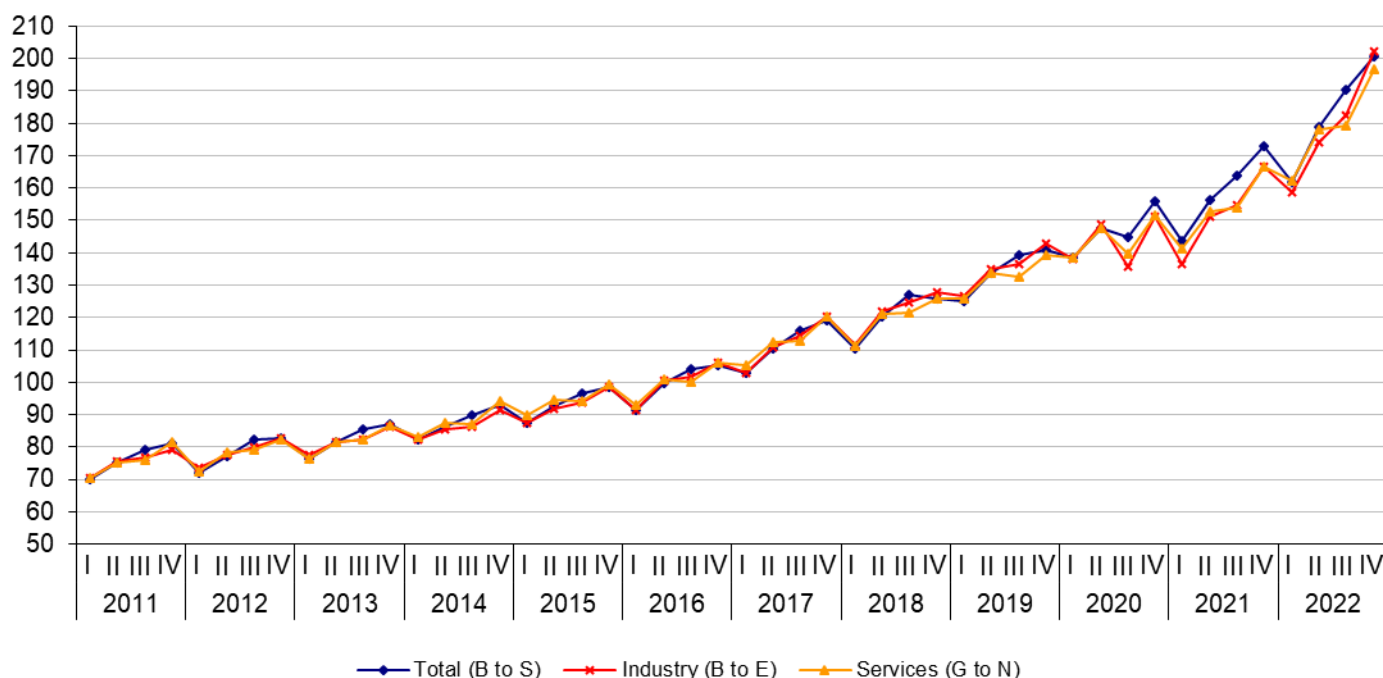
QUARTERLY LABOUR COST INDEX FOURTH QUARTER OF 2022

By 16.1% rose the total hourly labour cost for the fourth quarter of 2022 compared to the fourth quarter of 2021 (preliminary data). The total hourly labour cost increased by 21.3% in industry, 17.8% in services and 11.0% in construction.

The breakdown by economic activities showed that the highest annual growth in total labour costs was recorded in ‘Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply’ - by 33.3%, ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ - by 32.9%, and ‘Arts, entertainment and recreation’ - by 25.2%.

In the structure of the total labour costs, the wages and salaries costs per hour worked grew by 16.5% in comparison with a year earlier, while the other (non-wage) costs rose by 13.8%. Among the economic activities in the third quarter of 2022 compared to the third quarter of 2021, the growth rate of wages and salaries component ranged from 34.3% in ‘Accommodation and food service activities’ to 1.0% in ‘Human health and social work activities’.

**Figure 1. Total labour cost index - %
(Working day adjusted, 2016 = 100)**





Methodological notes

The Labour Cost Index is a short-term indicator measuring the quarterly development of hourly labour costs incurred by employers as a result of engaging the labour workforce. 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.

The Labour Cost Index (LCI) is defined as a Laspeyres index of labour costs per hour worked. Since the first quarter of 2019, it has been calculated as a breakdown by economic activities at a section level according to the new NACE Rev. 2 classification and with the reference year 2016 = 100. Indices are based on Regulation (EC) No. 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 include wages and salaries paid by the employer in cash or in kind, employers' actual and imputed social contributions plus taxes, regarded as labour costs;

Wage and salary costs (WAG) cover 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 contributions plus taxes, regarded as labour costs.

Since the second quarter of 2020, the amounts received under government measures to support employers' labour costs are excluded.

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 the NSI official website - <http://www.nsi.bg/en>.



Table 1

Hourly labour cost index for the period fourth quarter of 2020 - fourth quarter of 2022
(Working day adjusted)

(Percentage change compared to corresponding period of the previous year)

Code NCEA - 2008 ¹	Economic activities	Q4 2020			Q1 2021*			Q2 2021*			Q3 2021*			Q4 2021*			Q1 2022*			Q2 2022*			Q3 2022*			Q4 2022*		
		TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	WAG	OTH	TOT	WAG	OTH
B to S	All NACE branches except agriculture, fishing, private households with employed persons	10.7	10.7	10.9	3.8	4.3	1.4	5.8	6.3	3.4	13.0	13.3	11.7	11.0	11.5	8.3	12.6	12.7	12.2	14.4	14.6	13.5	16.3	16.4	15.9	16.1	16.5	13.8
B to E	Industry (except construction)	5.7	5.7	5.6	-1.0	-0.5	-3.3	1.5	2.1	-1.3	13.9	14.5	11.3	10.4	10.9	7.9	16.0	15.6	17.8	15.1	15.2	14.4	18.1	18.3	17.0	21.3	21.8	19.0
G to N	Services (excluding public administration)	9.0	9.2	7.7	2.1	2.7	-1.3	3.4	4.0	-0.1	10.1	10.5	7.6	10.0	10.6	6.7	14.8	15.1	13.0	16.8	17.0	15.3	16.4	16.5	15.9	17.8	18.3	15.1
B	Mining and quarrying	15.9	17.0	11.7	5.7	7.0	1.1	1.1	2.0	-2.1	12.7	15.1	4.5	5.3	6.4	1.0	11.5	11.3	12.3	17.5	17.8	16.3	19.4	17.8	25.1	22.9	24.8	15.3
C	Manufacturing	4.0	4.0	3.9	-2.0	-1.8	-3.3	1.7	2.1	-0.4	15.7	15.9	14.6	12.7	12.9	11.7	17.9	17.5	19.9	15.4	15.6	14.5	18.8	19.2	16.9	19.5	20.1	16.5
D	Electricity,gas,steam and air conditioning supply	5.7	5.2	7.6	1.1	3.5	-8.1	-0.4	1.4	-7.3	5.9	8.2	-2.2	5.9	8.6	-3.7	10.3	9.7	13.0	14.1	13.7	15.6	14.7	14.5	15.6	33.3	32.8	35.4
E	Water supply,sewerage,waste management and remediation activities	16.6	16.9	15.1	3.1	3.2	2.7	3.6	3.9	2.1	8.1	7.6	10.6	-3.2	-3.5	-1.7	7.0	6.4	9.4	9.9	10.3	8.1	12.8	13.0	11.8	21.1	21.5	19.2
F	Construction	6.1	5.9	7.1	6.1	7.1	1.2	9.5	10.4	5.1	10.8	11.1	9.3	11.3	11.6	9.6	10.7	10.5	11.3	11.5	11.0	14.1	16.0	15.9	16.6	11.0	10.8	11.8
G	Wholesale and retail trade;repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	11.6	12.0	9.4	1.6	2.1	-0.9	2.9	3.3	1.3	10.0	10.4	7.8	10.0	10.3	8.8	15.2	15.2	15.4	18.2	18.7	15.7	18.2	18.5	16.4	17.9	18.5	14.5
H	Transportation and storage	3.2	2.6	5.9	-0.9	-0.6	-2.2	-0.9	-0.9	-1.2	9.9	10.0	9.3	10.2	10.5	9.3	7.8	7.2	10.2	14.5	15.3	11.3	16.5	17.6	11.9	16.4	17.7	10.7
I	Accommodation and food service activities	2.5	1.0	9.9	-10.4	-9.9	-12.7	-3.5	-0.2	-17.1	14.8	14.9	14.4	13.0	14.7	5.5	19.3	20.0	16.1	17.7	17.8	17.2	23.4	23.6	22.3	32.9	34.3	25.9
J	Information and communication	10.5	11.0	7.7	7.1	8.1	0.6	9.1	9.8	4.1	11.6	12.4	5.9	11.7	12.9	2.9	14.2	14.9	9.1	14.8	14.9	14.4	14.1	14.1	14.4	15.1	15.2	14.8
K	Financial and insurance activities	10.6	11.7	4.5	-3.7	-3.2	-6.4	-4.6	-4.4	-5.7	3.7	4.5	-0.6	1.0	1.1	0.3	18.8	19.3	15.6	17.3	17.0	19.1	12.2	11.6	15.9	21.6	22.2	17.8
L	Real estate activities	15.7	19.1	-1.2	-1.0	-1.5	2.0	-0.5	-0.7	0.5	-5.5	-6.1	-1.9	-1.1	-2.4	6.7	8.9	9.5	5.8	12.5	13.4	8.0	17.2	17.7	14.1	14.5	16.2	5.1
M	Professional,scientific and technical activities	6.9	6.8	7.6	3.0	3.7	-0.7	2.2	2.5	0.3	8.5	9.1	5.1	7.4	8.6	0.7	15.1	15.7	11.4	15.1	15.2	14.6	16.6	16.3	18.3	16.4	16.2	17.5
N	Administrative and support service activities	9.4	9.6	8.3	9.7	10.1	7.6	12.0	12.9	7.8	14.0	14.3	12.5	16.3	16.6	14.4	19.6	20.1	16.9	22.1	22.3	20.9	16.5	16.1	18.4	18.3	18.7	16.4
O	Public administration and defence;compulsory social security	20.7	21.5	18.4	17.6	18.5	14.6	23.0	23.2	22.5	8.9	9.1	8.2	12.1	11.5	13.7	3.3	1.8	8.7	13.6	14.0	12.0	19.0	19.3	17.8	9.2	10.9	4.2
P	Education	25.8	25.0	29.0	0.5	0.4	1.0	9.1	8.7	10.9	23.3	23.4	22.7	9.2	9.8	6.9	5.3	5.1	6.4	12.4	12.5	12.3	15.5	15.1	16.5	13.9	13.8	14.6
Q	Human health and social work activities	25.6	25.2	27.9	25.1	25.7	22.0	21.0	22.3	14.5	15.7	15.1	18.8	17.3	18.8	9.4	7.9	8.2	6.2	2.0	1.8	3.0	7.0	7.6	4.1	1.4	1.0	4.0
R	Arts,entertainment and recreation	-3.6	-4.6	1.4	6.3	6.1	7.5	-2.7	-0.9	-11.3	27.2	28.2	22.1	18.0	18.0	17.9	10.1	10.4	8.1	19.6	19.4	20.4	18.0	17.4	21.4	25.2	25.2	25.0
S	Other service activities	7.0	6.7	8.6	6.1	5.5	9.0	2.1	2.2	1.5	13.6	13.7	13.1	14.3	13.9	16.2	12.2	14.3	2.6	19.4	19.7	17.9	18.0	18.7	14.4	18.9	20.7	10.4

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 2

Labour Cost Index - Total labour costs for the period 2018 - 2022
(Working day adjusted, 2016 = 100)

Code NCEA - 2008 ¹	Economic activities	2018				2019				2020				2021*				2022*			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
B to S	All NACE branches except agriculture, fishing, private households with employed persons	110.2	120.2	127.0	125.9	125.1	133.8	139.2	140.7	138.4	147.7	144.9	155.8	143.7	156.2	163.7	172.8	161.8	178.7	190.4	200.7
B to E	Industry (except construction)	111.5	121.9	124.7	128.0	126.7	135.0	136.6	142.9	138.2	148.9	135.8	151.0	136.7	151.2	154.7	166.7	158.6	174.0	182.6	202.2
G to N	Services (excluding public administration)	111.2	120.9	121.6	125.8	125.7	133.9	132.4	139.2	138.4	147.7	139.7	151.7	141.3	152.7	153.8	166.8	162.2	178.2	179.1	196.5
B	Mining and quarrying	114.9	121.5	119.5	140.7	125.3	128.3	123.4	144.7	131.6	148.0	128.8	167.6	139.0	149.6	145.2	176.5	155.0	175.8	173.4	216.9
C	Manufacturing	113.3	122.1	127.1	127.3	129.2	135.8	139.8	143.4	140.9	149.7	136.8	149.2	138.1	152.2	158.3	168.1	162.8	175.6	188.0	200.8
D	Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	98.6	122.0	113.9	125.9	112.2	137.6	126.1	138.6	124.1	147.4	131.7	146.6	125.4	146.8	139.5	155.2	138.4	167.5	160.0	206.9
E	Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	107.6	118.3	116.9	126.3	121.2	125.5	125.3	141.7	133.2	141.8	135.2	165.2	137.3	146.8	146.2	159.9	146.9	161.4	164.8	193.6
F	Construction	112.3	117.0	116.6	124.9	125.8	132.7	130.2	143.9	136.3	140.7	135.6	152.7	144.6	154.1	150.3	170.0	160.0	171.8	174.5	188.6
G	Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	109.8	119.2	119.8	123.6	124.3	132.2	131.1	136.5	138.6	145.6	138.6	152.3	140.9	149.9	152.4	167.6	162.3	177.2	180.2	197.6
H	Transportation and storage	112.4	121.3	121.5	121.8	127.0	135.5	135.9	137.7	137.7	147.6	133.5	142.2	136.4	146.2	146.6	156.7	147.0	167.5	170.8	182.4
I	Accommodation and food service activities	112.6	122.2	120.9	124.8	127.6	135.2	132.1	138.8	146.4	149.2	129.6	142.4	131.1	143.9	148.8	160.9	156.4	169.5	183.5	213.8
J	Information and communication	113.3	123.6	125.3	130.3	127.8	136.1	136.1	144.7	141.6	150.1	148.4	160.0	151.7	163.8	165.5	178.7	173.3	188.1	188.9	205.7
K	Financial and insurance activities	104.4	114.0	112.3	121.8	115.2	128.7	119.5	128.8	128.0	147.7	131.3	142.5	123.2	140.9	136.2	143.9	146.4	165.3	152.8	174.9
L	Real estate activities	101.0	107.4	114.6	112.6	116.7	124.9	123.9	133.2	130.7	140.2	141.5	154.1	129.4	139.4	133.7	152.5	140.9	156.9	156.7	174.5
M	Professional, scientific and technical activities	109.5	121.0	125.6	131.6	125.5	132.5	132.9	145.6	135.4	146.5	140.9	155.6	139.5	149.7	153.0	167.1	160.5	172.3	178.4	194.5
N	Administrative and support service activities	120.7	130.9	127.3	132.8	136.6	142.0	139.5	143.9	142.9	153.1	149.2	157.4	156.8	171.5	170.1	183.1	187.5	209.3	198.1	216.6
O	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	109.3	120.4	128.5	124.1	125.9	131.8	139.3	144.2	135.7	137.4	161.9	174.1	159.5	169.0	176.3	195.2	164.9	191.9	209.7	213.2
P	Education	99.2	112.1	177.8	120.0	116.8	132.5	200.7	140.0	147.5	157.1	205.5	176.1	148.2	171.4	253.3	192.2	156.1	192.8	292.4	219.0
Q	Human health and social work activities	107.3	118.5	124.0	122.4	120.6	130.6	135.7	135.4	131.1	144.7	147.6	170.2	163.9	175.2	170.7	199.6	176.9	178.6	182.7	202.4
R	Arts, entertainment and recreation	114.4	123.3	139.3	134.0	125.0	136.7	153.6	150.6	140.3	152.4	132.3	145.1	149.2	148.2	168.3	171.2	164.2	177.2	198.7	214.3
S	Other service activities	113.7	121.4	126.7	136.1	129.2	134.7	138.2	141.1	140.0	153.0	143.0	151.0	148.6	156.2	162.5	172.6	166.7	186.5	191.8	205.2

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

* Preliminary data.