

Change in labour cost, 2007–2009

Summary

Labour cost survey was introduced in 1992 in Hungary following a pilot survey in 1991. At present, data collection is annual but its method differs by coverage. Beside the “large survey” compulsory for each EU member state in every four years, the surveys in the interim years cover only budgetary institutions and large and medium-size corporations.

In 2008, the average monthly labour cost of corporations with 5 and more employees, budgetary institutions and some designated non-profit organizations was HUF 293 thousand (EUR 1,165); within this, the cost level characteristic of the public sector was HUF 331 thousand (EUR 1,316) and that of corporations amounted to HUF 281 thousand (EUR 1,119). The labour cost was outstandingly high in manufacture of coke and refined petroleum products as well as in financial and insurance activities.

In 2008, the labour cost of large and medium-size corporations (employing at least 50 people), budgetary and social security institutions and some designated non-profit organizations exceeded on the average by 6.9% the level in 2007. Within this, monthly gross earnings by SNA rose by 7.8%, monthly social costs by 3.7% and other costs by nearly 15% compared to the previous year. The change in monthly labour cost per capita was above the average in case of corporations and it was smaller in the public sector.

At larger corporations of the business sector, costs of employment grew in 2008 more than the rise in consumer prices, which resulted in a growth of 1.5% in real value as well. At the same time, at budgetary institutions, the costs spent on use of labour did not change in real terms. The rise of industrial producer prices was in 2008 lower than the increase in labour costs.

Change in labour cost, 2008

(previous year = 100.0%)

Denomination of industries	Change in labour cost		
	at current prices	deflated by producer price index	deflated by consumer price index
Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing	11.5	14.6	5.1
Mining and quarrying	10.4	4.8	4.1
Manufacturing	6.2	0.9	0.1
Electricity, gas and water supply	8.1	2.7	1.9
Construction	11.9	5.8	5.5
Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods	8.4	x	2.2
Hotels and restaurants	8.1	x	1.9
Transport, storage, post and telecommunications	5.5	x	-0.5
Financial intermediation	9.5	x	3.2
Real estate, business activities	10.5	x	4.1
Public administration and defence, compulsory social security	5.6	x	-0.5
Education	5.5	x	-0.6
Health and social work	5.5	x	-0.6
Other community, social and personal service activities	7.2	x	1.0
National economy, total	6.9	x	0.8

Further information, data (links):

[Methodology](#)

[Tables](#)

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