

## Harmonised Labour Cost Index (HLCI) Fourth quarter 2008

**The cost per hour worked increases 2.9% in the fourth quarter of 2008 as compared with the same period of 2007**

**The increase stands at 4.2% after adjusting for calendar and seasonal effects**

The cost per hour worked increased 2.9% in the fourth quarter of 2008, as compared with the same period of 2007, according to provisional data from the Harmonised Labour Cost Index (HLCI).

After adjusting for calendar and seasonal effects, the interannual rate registered a 4.2% increase.

### National index

Total and by activity section

	General index		Index adjusted for calendar and seasonal effects	
	Index	Rate <sup>(1)</sup>	Index	Rate <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>149.2</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>144.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>
C. Extractive industries	139.8	3.9	131.0	6.1
D. Manufacturing industry	150.9	3.7	144.9	4.7
E. Production and distribution of electrical energy, gas and water supply	141.7	0.5	141.6	2.4
F. Construction	163.1	5.2	154.0	6.2
G. Trade and repairs	144.6	2.0	139.7	3.5
H. Accommodation	149.2	3.1	139.2	3.5
I. Transport, storage and communications	136.1	2.1	134.8	3.4
J. Financial intermediation	135.5	0.5	136.3	2.1
K. Real estate and rental activities; business services	157.3	1.9	152.3	3.8
M. Education	138.5	0.7	139.4	2.8
N. Health and veterinary activities, social services	154.1	4.0	149.2	5.0
O. Other social activities and services provided to the community; personal services	141.8	3.4	137.2	4.2

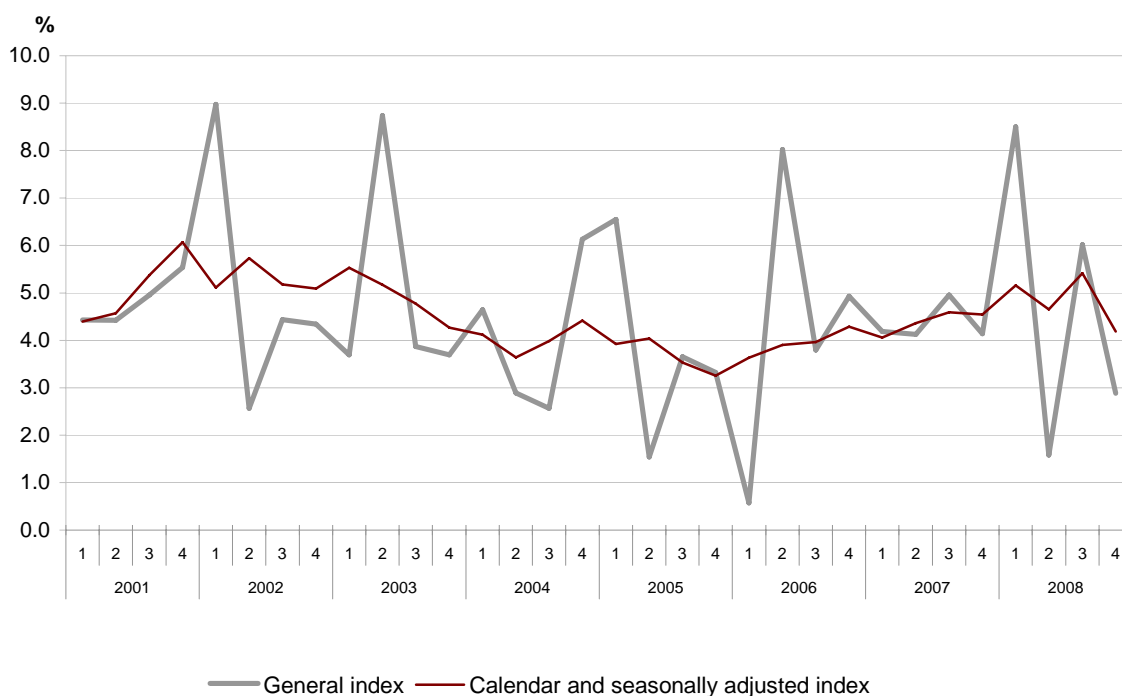
(1) Same quarter from the previous year

On the other hand, the provisional data from the Harmonised Labour Cost Index corresponding to the third quarter of 2008 was reviewed. The general index stood at 149.5, indicating a definitive interannual increase of 6.0% as compared with the same period from the previous year. Once adjusted for calendar and seasonal effects, the growth rate stood at 5.4%.

The data from the Harmonised Labour Cost Index (HLCI) is sent every quarter to the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat) for subsequent publication by this body, thus complying with the statistical requirement established in the action plan of the European Monetary Union.

## Annual variations

General index, calendar and seasonally adjusted index



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