101/2021 - 7 September 2021

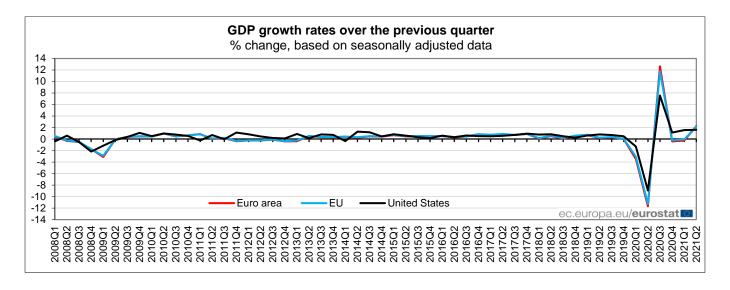
GDP main aggregates and employment estimates for the second quarter of 2021

GDP up by 2.2% and employment up by 0.7% in the euro area

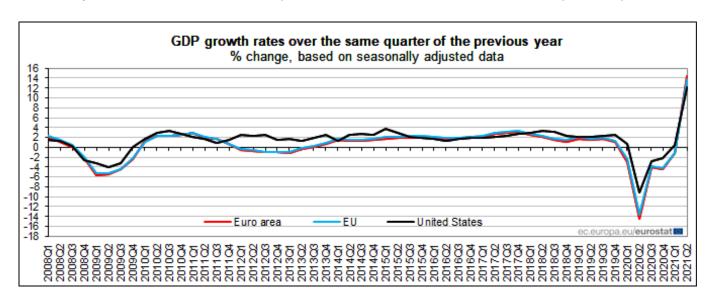
In the EU, GDP up by 2.1% and employment up by 0.7%

GDP growth in the euro area and the EU

In the second quarter of 2021, seasonally adjusted GDP increased by 2.2% in the **euro area** and by 2.1% in the **EU** compared with the previous quarter, according to an estimate published by **Eurostat**, **the statistical office of the European Union**. In the first quarter of 2021, GDP had declined by 0.3% in the **euro area** and 0.1% in the **EU**.



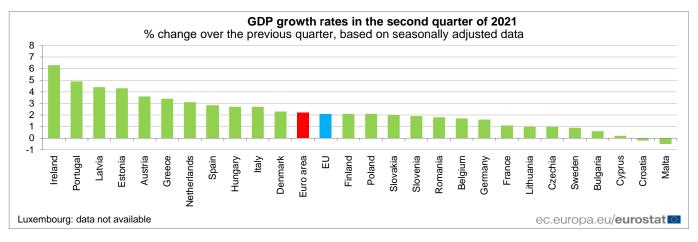
Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, seasonally adjusted GDP increased by 14.3% in the **euro area** and by 13.8% in the **EU** in the second quarter of 2021, after -1.2% in both zones in the previous quarter.



During the second quarter of 2021, GDP in the **United States** increased by 1.6% compared with the previous quarter (after +1.5% in the first quarter of 2021). Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, GDP increased by 12.2% (after +0.5% in the previous quarter).

GDP growth by Member State

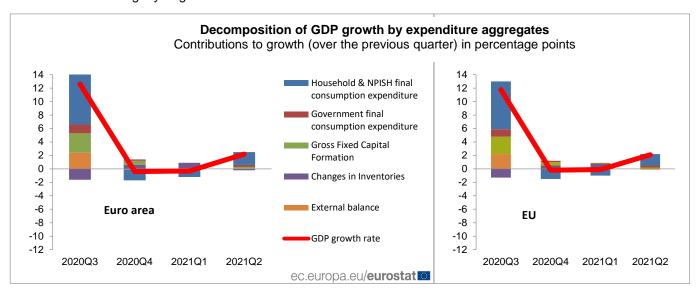
Ireland (+6.3%) recorded the sharpest increase of GDP compared to the previous quarter, followed by **Portugal** (+4.9%), **Latvia** (+4.4%) and **Estonia** (+4.3%). Declines were observed in **Malta** (-0.5%) and **Croatia** (-0.2%).



GDP components and contributions to growth

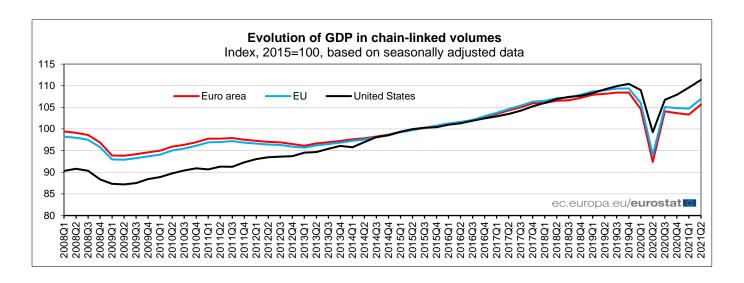
During the second quarter of 2021, household final consumption expenditure increased by 3.7% in the **euro area** and by 3.5% in the **EU** (after -2.1% in the euro area and -1.7% in the EU in the previous quarter). Government final consumption expenditure increased by 1.2% in both zones (after -0.5% both in the previous quarter). Gross fixed capital formation increased by 1.1% in the **euro area** and by 1.0% in the **EU** (after -0.2% and +0.3% respectively). Exports increased by 2.2% in the **euro area** and by 1.8% the **EU** (after +0.7% in both areas). Imports increased by 2.3% in the **euro area** and by 2.2% in the **EU** (after +0.4% and +0.6%).

Household final consumption expenditure had strong positive contributions to GDP growth in both the **euro area** and the **EU** (+1.9 and +1.7 percentage points – pp, respectively). The contributions from government final expenditure (+0.3 pp in both zones) and gross fixed capital formation (+0.2 pp in both zones) were also positive. The contribution from the external balance was close to neutral for both zones, while the contribution from changes in inventories was slightly negative for the **euro area** and neutral for the **EU**.



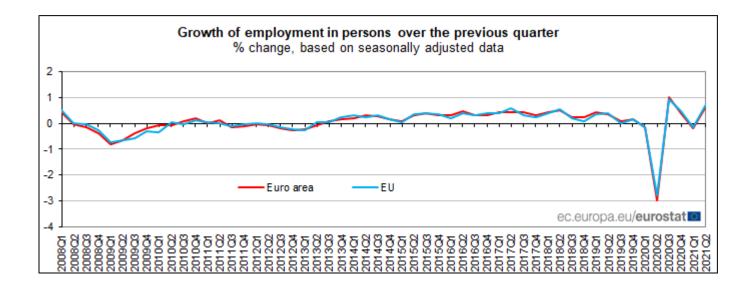
GDP levels in the euro area and EU

Based on seasonally adjusted figures, GDP volumes were 2.5% and 2.2% below their highest level of the fourth quarter 2019 for the **euro area** and **EU.** For the **United States**, GDP was 0.8% higher than the level of the fourth quarter 2019.

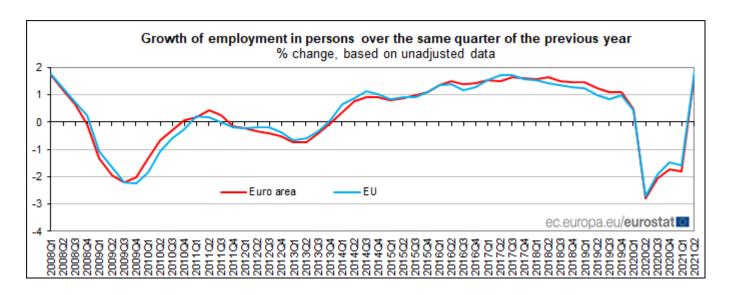


Employment growth in the euro area and EU

The number of employed persons increased by 0.7% in both the **euro area** and in the **EU** in the second quarter of 2021, compared with the previous quarter. In the first quarter of 2021, employment had decreased by 0.2% in both the **euro area** and the **EU**.



Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, employment increased by 1.8% in the **euro area** and by 1.9% in the **EU** in the second quarter of 2021, after -1.8% and -1.6% respectively in the first quarter of 2021.

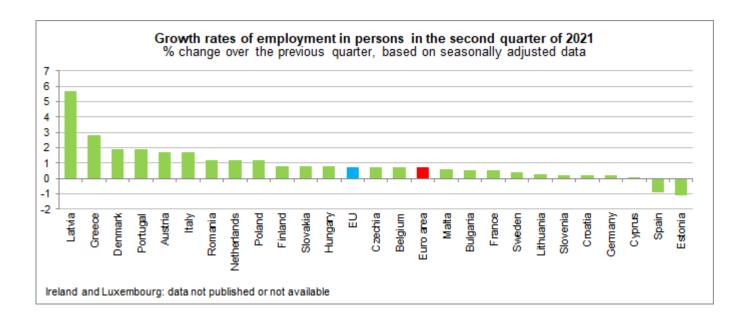


Hours worked increased by 2.7% in the **euro area** and by 2.4% in the **EU** in the second quarter of 2021, compared with the previous quarter. Compared with the same quarter of the previous year the increases were 17.0% in the **euro area** and 14.7% in the **EU** (see annex table on employment in hours worked).

These data provide a picture of labour input consistent with the output and income measure of national accounts.

Employment growth in Member States

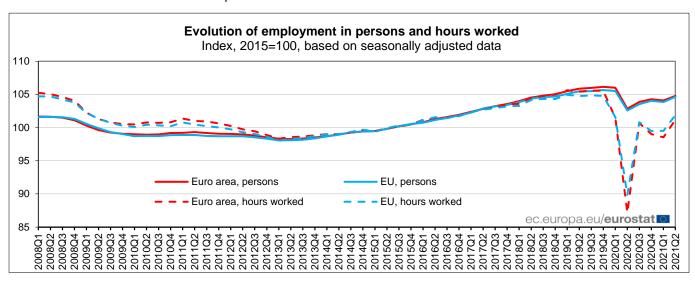
In the second quarter of 2021, **Latvia** (+5.7%), **Greece** (+2.8%), **Denmark** and **Portugal** (both +1.9%) recorded the highest growth of employment in persons compared with the previous quarter. Decreases were observed in **Estonia** (-1.1%) and **Spain** (-0.9%).



Employment levels in the euro area and EU

Based on seasonally adjusted figures, Eurostat estimates that in the second quarter of 2021, 207.5 million people were employed in the **EU**, of which 159.0 million were in the **euro area**.

In relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, employment in persons was 2.1 million in the **euro area** and 2.0 million in the **EU** below the level of the fourth quarter of 2019.

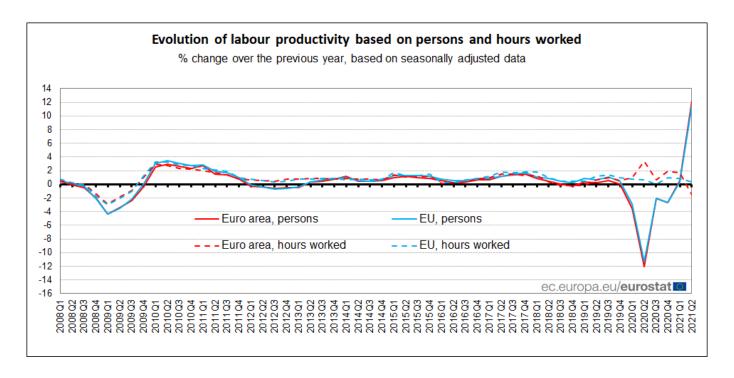


Evolution of labour productivity in the euro area and EU

The combination of GDP and employment data allows an estimation of **labour productivity**. The analysis of growth compared to the same quarter of the previous year shows that productivity growth (based on employed persons) fluctuated around 1% for both zones between 2013 and 2018.

In relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, productivity based on persons increased compared to the same quarter of the previous year with 12.2% for the **euro area** and 11.6% for the **EU**.

Based on hours worked, productivity compared to the same quarter of the previous year decreased by 1.5% for the **euro area** and increased by 0.3% for the **EU**.



Geographical information

The **euro area** (EA19) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union** (EU27) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.

Methods and definitions

European quarterly national accounts are compiled in accordance with the European System of Accounts 2010 (ESA 2010). They include key policy indicators on GDP and employment.

Gross domestic product (GDP) at market prices measures the production activity of resident producer units. Growth rates are based on chain-linked volumes.

Employment covers employees and self-employed working in resident production units (domestic concept). Employment flash estimates are limited to total employment in persons, but regular estimates also cover hours worked and industry breakdowns.

Labour productivity is compiled as the ratio of economic output (GDP, chain-linked volumes with reference year 2010) to labour input (total employment measured in persons or hours worked, for all industries, according to the domestic concept).

Release schedule of main aggregates

This news release presents estimates for euro area and EU GDP and employment aggregates based on national accounts transmission from almost all Member States due after t+2 months.

A further estimation is done at around t+110 days after some countries transmit updated estimates. To increase the timeliness of key indicators, Eurostat also publishes flash estimates for GDP (after around 30 and 45 days) and employment (after around 45 days). Their compilation is based on estimates provided by most EU Member States on a voluntary basis.

Revisions and timetable

The reliability of GDP and employment flash estimates was tested by dedicated working groups and revisions are continuously monitored. Further information can be found on Eurostat website. The method used for compilation of European GDP and employment estimates is the same as for previous releases.

With these estimates, euro area and EU employment and GDP figures for earlier quarters are revised.

Flash estimates of employment and GDP growth were published in News Release <u>94/2021</u> issued on 17 August 2021. They were based on a more limited data set than the one used for the present News Release and additionally, on preliminary estimates which have now been revised by some Member States. Revisions for the last quarter are highlighted in bold in the table below:

Growth rates		to the previou	s quarter (Q/Q-	1)	to the previous year (Q/Q-4)							
Estimates	Pre	vious	Cur	rent	Prev	ious	Current					
Zone	Euro area	EU	Euro area	EU	Euro area	EU	Euro area	EU				
GDP	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.1	13.6	13.2	14.3	13.8				
Employment	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9				

All estimates presented in this release may be revised with the t+110 database update scheduled for 18 October 2021.

For more information

Eurostat website section on national accounts, notably information on European GDP and employment estimates

Eurostat database section on national accounts and Eurostat metadata on quarterly national accounts

Eurostat Statistics Explained articles on <u>measuring quarterly GDP</u>, presentation of <u>updated quarterly estimates</u> and the <u>impact of COVID-19 on main GDP aggregates including employment</u>

Note on the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on national accounts, guidance on quarterly national accounts (including flash) estimates in the context of the COVID-19 crisis and country specific metadata on the impact of COVID-19 on GDP estimates

European System of Accounts 2010

Eurostat €-indicators release calendar

European Statistics Code of Practice

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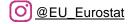
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ec.europa.eu/eurostat

Growth rates of GDP in volume

(based on seasonally adjusted* data)

	Percent		compared s	with the		age change quarter of t		
	2020Q3	2020Q4	2021Q1	2021Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4	2021Q1	2021Q2
Euro area	12.6	-0.4	-0.3	2.2	-4.0	-4.4	-1.2	14.3
EU	11.8	-0.2	-0.1	2.1	-3.9	-4.1	-1.2	13.8
Belgium	11.8	-0.1	1.1	1.7	-4.3	-4.9	-0.5	14.9
Bulgaria	4.3	2.2	2.5	0.6	-5.2	-3.8	-1.8	9.9
Czechia	6.8	0.7	-0.4	1.0	-5.4	-5.3	-2.5	8.2
Denmark	6.1	0.9	-0.9	2.3	-1.3	-0.5	-0.7	8.5
Germany	9.0	0.7	-2.0	1.6	-3.7	-2.9	-3.1	9.4
Estonia	2.4	2.6	3.9	4.3	-3.8	-1.5	3.4	13.9
Ireland	9.8	-4.6	8.7	6.3	11.3	4.4	10.6	21.1
Greece	3.9	3.5	4.5	3.4	-10.0	-6.8	-2.3	16.2
Spain	17.1	0.0	-0.4	2.8	-8.6	-8.9	-4.2	19.8
France	18.6	-1.1	0.0	1.1	-3.6	-4.3	1.5	18.7
Croatia	5.9	4.1	5.4	-0.2	-10.1	-6.9	-1.0	16.1
Italy	16.0	-1.8	0.2	2.7	-5.2	-6.5	-0.7	17.3
Cyprus	9.4	1.3	1.7	0.2	-4.5	-4.4	-2.1	12.9
Latvia	6.8	1.0	-1.6	4.4	-2.8	-1.8	-1.2	10.8
Lithuania	6.1	-0.3	2.2	1.0	0.1	-1.1	1.4	9.2
Luxembourg	9.2	1.9	1.4	:	-0.1	1.7	4.9	:
Hungary	10.6	1.6	2.0	2.7	-4.9	-4.1	-1.9	17.7
Malta	6.7	4.8	1.9	-0.5	-10.6	-7.9	-1.6	13.3
Netherlands**	7.5	0.0	-0.8	3.1	-2.6	-3.1	-2.2	9.7
Austria	11.0	-2.5	-0.2	3.6	-3.8	-5.7	-3.8	11.9
Poland	7.7	-0.3	1.3	2.1	-2.1	-2.6	-1.3	11.0
Portugal	13.4	0.2	-3.2	4.9	-5.6	-6.1	-5.3	15.5
Romania	4.8	4.0	2.5	1.8	-5.4	-2.3	-0.4	13.6
Slovenia	12.1	-0.2	1.5	1.9	-2.0	-3.5	2.8	15.7
Slovakia	9.0	0.5	-1.4	2.0	-2.7	-2.7	0.3	10.2
Finland**	4.6	0.5	0.1	2.1	-2.7	-1.5	-1.5	7.5
Sweden	7.5	0.2	0.8	0.9	-1.9	-1.8	-0.2	9.5
Iceland***	2.4	5.2	-3.3	4.2	-6.8	-5.4	-3.9	8.6
Norway	4.3	0.8	-0.6	1.1	-0.2	-1.1	-0.2	5.7
Switzerland	7.2	0.1	-0.5	:	-1.4	-1.7	-0.5	:
United States	7.5	1.1	1.5	1.6	-2.9	-2.3	0.5	12.2

Growth rates to the previous quarter and to the same quarter of the previous year presented in this table are generally both based on seasonally and calendar adjusted figures since unadjusted data are usually not transmitted for the compilation of GDP flash estimates. Percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year calculated from calendar adjusted data.

Source datasets: namq_10_gdp and naidq_10_gdp (for United States data); gross value added by industry is available in namq_10_a10_

The seasonal adjustment does not include a calendar adjustment for Iceland.

Growth rates of employment in persons*

	Perce	ntage chang the previo	ge compare us quarter	d with		ntage chang ne quarter o		
	2020Q3	2020Q4	2021Q1	2021Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4	2021Q1	2021Q2
Euro area	1.0	0.4	-0.2	0.7	-2.0	-1.7	-1.8	1.8
EU	0.9	0.5	-0.2	0.7	-1.9	-1.5	-1.6	1.9
Belgium	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.7	-0.5	-0.3	0.2	1.7
Bulgaria	-0.5	-0.4	-0.7	0.5	-2.6	-1.9	-2.5	0.1
Czechia	0.1	-0.6	0.1	0.7	-1.7	-2.2	-1.6	0.2
Denmark	1.5	0.5	-0.6	1.9	-1.0	-0.6	-1.0	3.3
Germany	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-1.3	-1.3	-1.5	0.0
Estonia	-0.9	2.2	1.4	-1.1	-4.5	-3.4	-2.3	1.6
Ireland	3.2	0.4	-1.8		-1.6	-2.7	-4.2	:
Greece	1.2	-0.2	-3.1	2.8	-1.6	-1.5	-5.8	0.6
Spain	3.0	1.2	1.0	-0.9	-5.0	-4.2	-2.5	4.3
France	1.4	0.4	0.0	0.5	-1.5	-1.1	-0.8	1.9
Croatia	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2	-1.4	-2.4	-2.1	1.7
Italy	0.7	0.3	-0.8	1.7	-2.6	-1.9	-2.4	1.9
Cyprus	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	-2.0	-1.3	0.3	1.2
Latvia	1.7	-0.5	-3.9	5.7	-2.7	-3.4	-7.0	2.9
Lithuania	-1.2	0.5	0.8	0.3	-2.7	-2.3	-2.6	0.7
Luxembourg	1.4	0.6	0.5	:	2.0	1.7	1.9	:
Hungary	2.1	1.2	1.1	0.8	-2.3	-1.5	-0.4	5.2
Malta	0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.6	1.4	0.1	-1.3	1.4
Netherlands	1.6	-0.2	-0.1	1.2	-0.3	-1.0	-1.6	2.5
Austria	3.0	0.0	-0.5	1.7	-1.4	-1.7	-1.9	4.3
Poland	0.5	0.8	-0.4d	1.2	-0.6	0.7	0.2d	2.3
Portugal	1.3	1.9	-0.8	1.9	-2.5	-0.6	-1.2	4.3
Romania	0.2	1.9	-10.2b	1.2	-2.4	-1.5	-10.3b	-7.8
Slovenia	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	-1.4	-1.1	-0.9	1.4
Slovakia	-0.1	0.0	-1.0	0.8	-2.5	-2.0	-2.5	-0.4
Finland	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.8	-2.7	-1.9	-1.0	3.9
Sweden	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.4	-1.9	-1.2	-0.8	1.8
Iceland	:	:	:	:	-5.2	-7.1	-5.6	0.9
Norway	0.0	0.9	-0.4	0.4	-2.4	-1.6	-2.1	0.8
Switzerland	1.4	0.5	:	:	-0.4	0.0	:	:

[:] Data not available; b: Break in time series; d: definition differs

See predefined tables: $\underline{\text{tec00108}}$ (quarterly change), $\underline{\text{teina305}}$ (annual change), $\underline{\text{tec00109}}$ (levels) Source dataset: $\underline{\text{namq}}$ $\underline{\text{10}}$ $\underline{\text{a10}}$ $\underline{\text{e}}$ (including breakdowns by industry)

^{*} Percentage change in the number of persons employed in resident production units compared with the previous quarter based on seasonally adjusted data. Percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year based on non-seasonally adjusted data

Growth rates of employment in hours worked*

	Perce		ge compare us quarter	d with		ntage chang		
	2020Q3	2020Q4	2021Q1	2021Q2	2020Q3	2020Q4	2021Q1	2021Q2
Euro area	15.5	-1.6	-0.5	2.7	-4.3	-5.5	-3.2	17.0
EU	12.2	-1.3	0.0	2.4	-3.7	-4.5	-2.3	14.7
Belgium	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	9.3	-1.3	-0.2	-1.5	-2.6	-4.1	-2.5	3.2
Czechia	9.5	-6.1	1.6	2.1	-1.8	-7.5	-2.3	8.1
Denmark	6.4	0.3	1.0	2.5	-1.8	-1.5	0.6	11.1
Germany	7.1	-1.9	-0.6	1.6	-3.8	-4.0	-4.2	6.8
Estonia	6.3	0.3	4.2	0.2	-1.8	-3.7	2.6	12.0
Ireland	5.7	1.3	-1.1	:	-4.5	-2.8	-6.3	:
Greece	32.0	-5.1	-0.6	2.5	-2.2	-9.8	-7.4	30.3
Spain	24.7	1.0	-2.0	4.4	-6.5	-5.5	-3.5	29.2
France	23.2	-2.7	0.3	1.2	-3.4	-5.7	-1.7	21.3
Croatia	0.7	0.5	-3.8	5.0	-1.4	-2.2	-2.2	1.9
Italy	18.0	-1.6	0.1	3.9	-6.5	-7.2	-1.1	21.7
Cyprus	12.4	-1.4	-0.2	-0.5	-5.3	-6.3	-3.6	10.8
Latvia	11.1	-4.2	-4.5	8.8	-3.3	-6.4	-9.4	10.5
Lithuania	4.9	-1.1	1.5	2.2	-3.8	-6.0	-2.5	8.9
Luxembourg	8.9	0.1	-4.6	:	-1.0	-1.7	-2.6	:
Hungary	11.8	0.1	0.9	1.0	-5.1	-2.9	-2.6	15.5
Malta	9.3	1.2	0.4	1.1	-7.7	-8.3	-1.5	12.7
Netherlands	5.6	-2.1	1.5	1.0	-0.9	-2.5	-2.7	7.1
Austria	14.6	-5.5	1.9	4.8	-3.6	-10.0	-2.8	16.5
Poland	2.4	0.2	2.7d	2.3	-0.3	0.5	3.7d	8.2
Portugal	24.5	2.3	-5.5	7.6	-5.1	-5.4	-6.7	29.3
Romania	0.5	1.1	-8.0b	1.2	-2.3	-1.2	-7.9b	-6.2
Slovenia	16.3	-7.3	2.5	1.4	0.9	-4.3	-4.6	13.2
Slovakia	13.2	-2.5	-2.3	2.8	-6.2	-8.2	-7.8	12.1
Finland	5.0	-1.0	0.0	0.9	-1.9	-1.5	-3.3	6.5
Sweden	1.7	0.9	1.0	-0.1	-4.6	-2.5	-2.9	4.6
Iceland	:	:	:	:	-6.3	-7.4	-6.2	2.3
Norway	3.9	0.2	-0.7	0.5	-3.0	-1.7	-4.4	5.5

Source dataset: namq 10 a10 e (including breakdowns by industry)

Data not available; b: Break in time series d: definition differs
Percentage change in the number of hours worked in resident production units compared with the previous quarter based on seasonally adjusted data. Percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year based on non-seasonally adjusted data.

Overview on the evolution of main expenditure components

GDP AND EXPENDITURE COMPONENTS

PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND THE SAME QUARTER OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - CHAIN-LINKED VOLUMES

		GDP			Household & NPISH final consumption expenditure			Govern	Government final consumption expenditure			Gross Fixed Capital Formation				Exports				Imports					
	2020		2020 2021		20:	20	20:	21	202	20	20:	21	20	2020		2021		0	20	21	20:	20	20:	21	
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
t/t-1	EA	12.6	-0.4	-0.3	2.2	14.4	-3.1	-2.1	3.7	5.6	0.7	-0.5	1.2	13.9	2.8	-0.2	1.1	16.6	4.1	0.7	2.2	11.8	4.8	0.4	2.3
t/t-1	EU	11.8	-0.2	-0.1	2.1	13.6	-2.8	-1.7	3.5	4.9	1.0	-0.5	1.2	12.1	2.5	0.3	1.0	16.9	4.2	0.7	1.8	12.7	4.7	0.6	2.2
t/t-4	EA	-4.0	-4.4	-1.2	14.3	-4.5	-7.5	-5.4	12.6	2.9	3.3	2.9	7.1	-4.2	-10.2	-6.2	18.2	-8.6	-4.8	-0.5	24.8	-9.4	-9.2	-6.1	20.4
t/t-4	EU	-3.9	-4.1	-1.2	13.8	-4.1	-7.0	-4.9	12.2	2.5	3.2	2.8	6.7	-4.0	-9.2	-5.1	16.5	-8.0	-3.8	-0.1	24.9	-8.4	-7.4	-4.6	21.2

CONTRIBUTIONS OF EXPENDITURE COMPONENTS TO VARIATION IN GDP

GDP VOLUME VARIATION OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER AND THE SAME QUARTER OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

	Changes in Inventories*							NPISH f		Govern	Government final consumption expenditure			Gross	Fixed Ca	pital Forr	nation		Exp	orts		Imports			
	2020			202	2021 2020		20	20:	21	202	20	202	21	2020 2021		20)20	20	21	2020		2021			
		Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
t/t-1	EA	-1.6	0.6	0.8	-0.2	7.5	-1.6	-1.1	1.9	1.3	0.2	-0.1	0.3	2.9	0.6	0.0	0.2	7.4	1.9	0.3	1.0	-4.9	-2.0	-0.2	-1.0
t/t-1	EU	-1.3	0.5	0.7	0.0	7.1	-1.5	-0.9	1.7	1.1	0.2	-0.1	0.3	2.6	0.5	0.1	0.2	7.7	2.0	0.3	0.9	-5.4	-2.0	-0.2	-1.0
t/t-4	EA	-1.3	-0.6	-0.1	-0.2	-2.4	-4.0	-2.8	6.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	1.7	-0.9	-2.4	-1.4	3.8	-4.1	-2.3	-0.3	10.8	4.1	4.3	2.9	-8.3
t/t-4	EU	-1.2	-0.6	-0.2	0.1	-2.2	-3.7	-2.5	6.3	0.5	0.7	0.6	1.6	-0.9	-2.1	-1.2	3.5	-4.0	-1.9	-0.1	11.0	3.8	3.5	2.2	-8.8

GDP AND EXPENDITURE COMPONENTS

Levels SECOND QUARTER 2021 - IN MILLIONS OF EURO - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - AT CURRENT PRICES

	GDP	Household & NPISH final consumption expenditure	Government final consumption expenditure	Gross Fixed Capital Formation	Changes in Inventories*	Domestic Demand	Exports	Imports	External Balance
EA	3 006 726.0	1 535 323.0	669 353.1	656 085.4	22 516.9	2 883 278.0	1 452 124.0	1 328 676.0	123 447.5
EU	3 543 104.0	1 802 961.0	788 992.5	777 298.9	32 205.1	3 401 457.0	1 756 428.0	1 614 781.0	141 646.8

^{*} Changes in inventories include acquisitions less disposals of valuables.

Source dataset: namq_10_gdp