

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Official Spokesman  
of the Commission

23, avenue de la Joyeuse Entrée

Brussels 4  
Telephone 35.00.40

---

Brussels, June 1964

P-38/64

INFORMATION MEMO

FOURTH SURVEY OF INDUSTRIAL WAGES IN  
THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

1962

The Statistical Office of the European Communities presents herewith the preliminary results of its survey of industrial wages in the EEC\*. This information will be followed by further details to be published in the "Social Statistics" series.

The current survey relates to 1962 and covers fifteen manufacturing industries.

Table I shows outlay on wages and employers' contributions per hour and refers to firms employing fifty or more workers (twenty or more in Luxembourg).

The survey shows that in 1962 the heaviest labour costs in these industries in the Community were in Germany, with France generally in the second place. Then come Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy - practically at the same level except in a few cases. Luxembourg has the second heaviest costs for the only industry represented (brewing and malting).

Table I: Outlay on wages and employers' contributions per hour  
(operatives)

Industry	Average in Bfrs.					
	Germany (FR)	France	Italy	Nether- lands	Belgium	Luxem- bourg
Sugar	52.66	48.15	44.26	46.38	51.48	-
Brewing and malting	60.43	45.97	45.02	47.37	44.85	51.87
Wool-spinning and weaving	47.29	40.73	40.59	39.44	37.45	-
Cotton-spinning and weaving	46.85	38.26	39.07	41.76	38.56	-
Man-made fibres	63.14	65.40	48.65	54.20	50.01	-
Paper pulp, paper and paper board	57.02	52.15	46.61	50.06	50.15	-
Chemicals	66.40	61.47	50.17	56.11	54.00	-
Pharmaceuticals	51.31	51.27	43.81	42.97	36.55	-
Rubber	59.12	51.35	58.24	47.59	47.69	-
Cement	62.68	60.41	47.47	-	67.31	-
Pottery, porcelain and earthenware	48.33	39.92	40.83	40.17	40.21	-
Machine tools	63.61	57.08	53.82	53.15	57.49	-
Electrical engineering	55.55	50.00	46.47	46.64	49.66	-
Shipbuilding and ship repairs	62.34	56.93	52.12	54.57	66.96	-
Automobiles	71.82	68.49	63.77	-	-	-

\* Detailed results of the first three surveys were published in the "Social Statistics" series, Nos. 3/1961, 3/1962, 1/1963 and 2/1964.

See also Information Memos P/7386 (February 1962) and P/18 (July 1963).

This survey was carried out for the first time in 1959. The present survey covers the same industries for 1962, revealing the development of wage costs over these three years. The following changes were made in the scope of the survey:

- (a) Weaving was added to wool-spinning and cotton-spinning;
- (b) The chemical industry was split up to show pharmaceuticals separately.

In Table II, showing the rise of wages between 1959 and 1962, the figures refer to the same branches for both years, the changes noted above being left out of account.

The figures were calculated from data expressed in national currencies; for Germany and the Netherlands, therefore, they do not reflect the revaluation of the mark and the guilder in 1961.

Table II: Index of outlay on wages and employers' contributions per hour in 1962 (operatives)

1959 = 100

Industry	Germany (FR)	France	Italy	Nether- lands	Belgium	Luxem- bourg
Sugar	133.4	130.9	139.5	132.3	118.1	-
Brewing and malting	129.3	127.6	150.3	134.5	115.8	115.8
Wool-spinning	132.8	123.3	148.3	135.0	118.7	-
Cotton-spinning	134.3	123.3	152.5	125.8	131.6	-
Man-made fibres	137.0	133.8	152.9	-	-	-
Paper pulp, paper and paper board	138.4	128.2	148.6	142.0	118.1	-
Chemicals and pharmaceuticals	132.8	130.6	138.5	143.0	127.7	-
Rubber	136.1	127.8	138.4	138.0	118.0	-
Cement	132.4	130.2	148.0	-	127.7	-
Pottery, porcelain and earthenware	141.1	124.8	146.9	142.6	123.6	-
Machine tools	131.5	124.6	149.7	-	122.6	-
Electrical engineering	137.2	125.4	140.6	135.2	122.8	-
Shipbuilding and ship repairs	130.5	131.7	129.5	135.7	123.4	-
Automobiles	138.7	127.3	131.1	-	-	-

Since 1962, the year to which this survey refers, wages have gone up in varying proportions in all Community countries. Pending a further survey that will evaluate the rise, Table III shows the percentage increase in gross earnings in the Community between 1962 and 1963.

.../...

The percentages were determined from national surveys, which differ considerably in their methods. The figures are given only as a guide. They must be treated with reserve, more especially since they do not relate only to the industries covered by the Community survey but to the whole of industry in each country; there may be appreciable differences from one industry to another. Moreover, the figures are for wages only and not for total labour costs.

Table III: Increase of average gross earnings (nominal)  
per hour in Community countries between 1962 and 1963

Country	Unit	Average hourly earnings in national currency*		Percentage increase 1963 on 1962
		1962	1963	
Germany FR (a)	Pfennig	333.30	359.50	7.9%
France (b)	FF	3.03	3.29	8.6%
Italy (c)	Lit.	293.37	346.37	18.1%
Netherlands(d)	Fl.	2.25	2.41	7.1%
Belgium (e)	Bfrs.	35.00	37.82	8.1%
Luxembourg (f)	Lfrs.	48.04	51.97	8.2%

\* All workers (men and women)

#### Sources

- (a) Statistisches Bundesamt (August)
- (b) Ministère du Travail (September)
- (c) Ministero del Lavoro e della Previdenza Sociale (September)
- (d) Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (October)
- (e) Institut National de la Statistique (October)
- (f) Ministère des Affaires économiques (October).