Press Release

20 April 2022

Business Confidence Indicators (BCI)
Second quarter of 2022

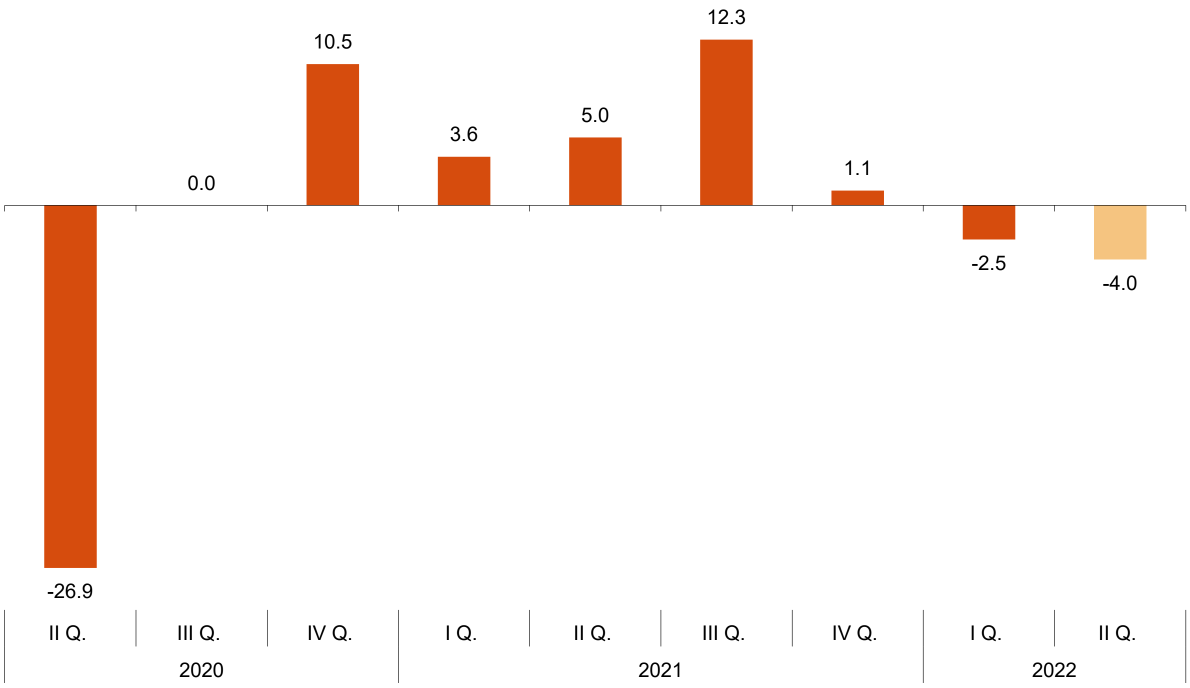
The Harmonised Business Confidence Index (HBCI) decreases 4.0% in the second quarter of 2022 as compared with the first quarter

14.5% of business establishments foresee a favourable quarter and 30.6% are pessimistic about the performance of their business

Evolution of the Harmonised Business Confidence Index

The Harmonised Business Confidence Index (HBCI) decreases by 4.0% in the second quarter of 2022 as compared with the first quarter.

Harmonised Business Confidence Index
Second Quarter 2022. Quarterly rate



Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

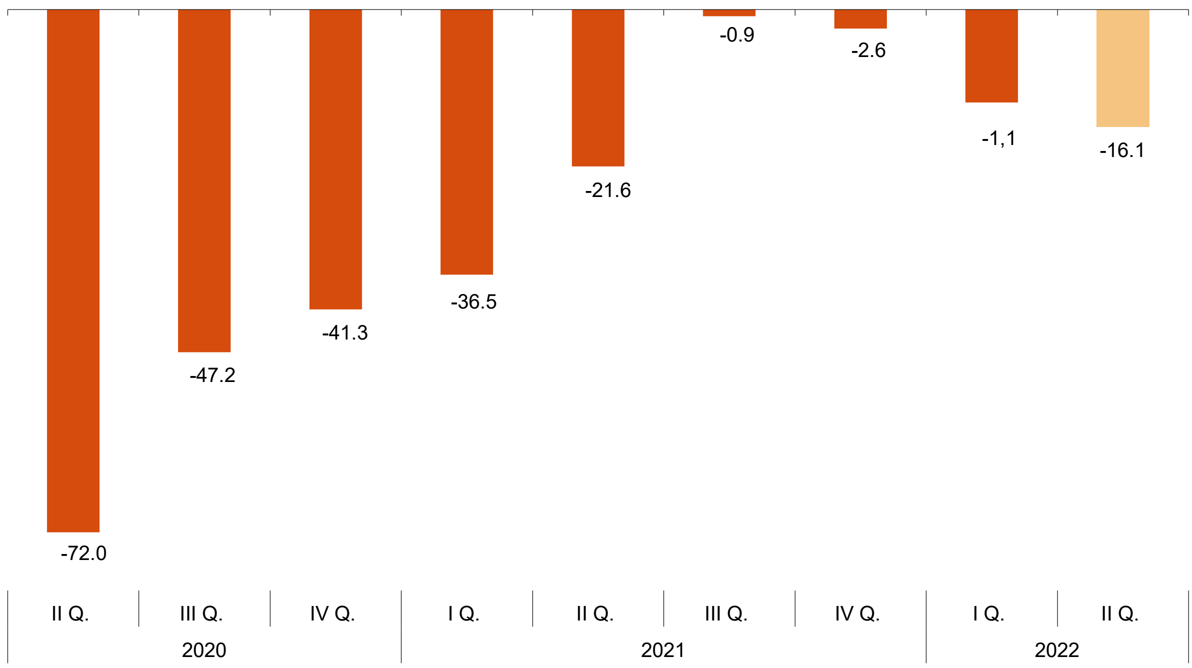
14.5% of business establishments managers considered that the performance of their business during the second quarter of 2022 would be favourable, while 30.6% thought it would be unfavourable. The remaining 54.9% thought that it would be normal.

The difference between the percentage of favourable and unfavourable responses, known as Expectations Balance, stood at −16.1 points for Spain as a whole, as compared with the −12.8 in the previous quarter.

Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

Year / Quarter	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
2020 II	3,1	21,8	75,1	-72,0
III	7,7	37,4	54,9	-47,2
IV	8,1	42,5	49,4	-41,3
2021 I	8,6	46,3	45,1	-36,5
II	13,8	50,8	35,4	-21,6
III	21,6	55,9	22,5	-0,9
IV	18,9	59,6	21,5	-2,6
2022 I	14,7	57,8	27,5	-12,8
II	14,5	54,9	30,6	-16,1

Evolution of the Expectations Balance
Second Quarter 2022



Opinions regarding the ending quarter (Situation)

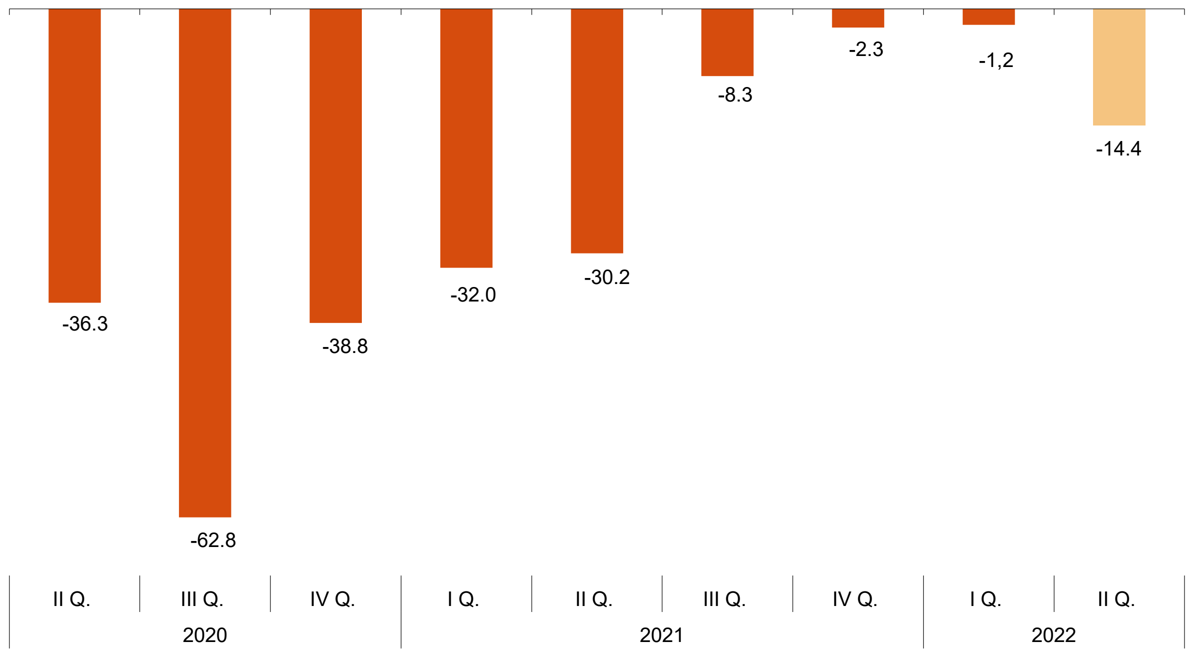
14.8% of business establishments managers expressed a favourable opinion regarding the performance of their business in the first quarter 2022. In turn, 29.2% had an unfavourable opinion.

The difference between the percentage of favourable and unfavourable responses referring to the ending quarter, known as *Situation Balance*, stood at −14.4 points. This figure worsens Expectations previously expressed for that quarter, which stood at −12.8 points.

Opinions regarding the ending quarter (Situation)

Year / Quarter		Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
2020	II	10,2	43,3	46,5	-36,3
	III	6,0	25,2	68,8	-62,8
	IV	10,0	41,2	48,8	-38,8
2021	I	12,4	43,2	44,4	-32,0
	II	11,2	47,4	41,4	-30,2
	III	18,8	54,1	27,1	-8,3
	IV	20,3	57,1	22,6	-2,3
2022	I	20,6	56,8	22,6	-2,0
	II	14,8	56,0	29,2	-14,4

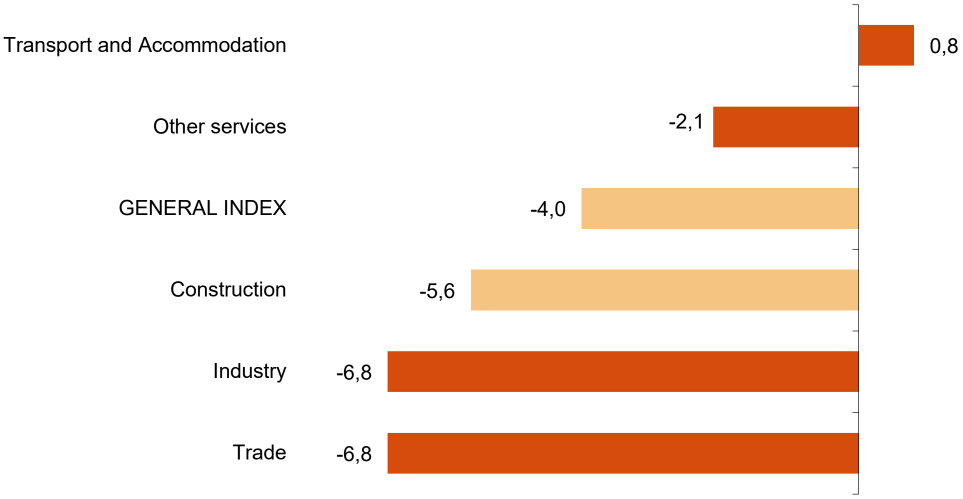
Evolution of the Situation Balance
Second Quarter 2022



Harmonised Business Confidence Index by activity sector

Four of the five sector analysed reduced confidence with respect to the previous quarter. *Trade* and *Industry* (−6.8%) registered the greatest decrease. On the other hand, *Transport and Accommodation* (0.8%) registered the only increase.

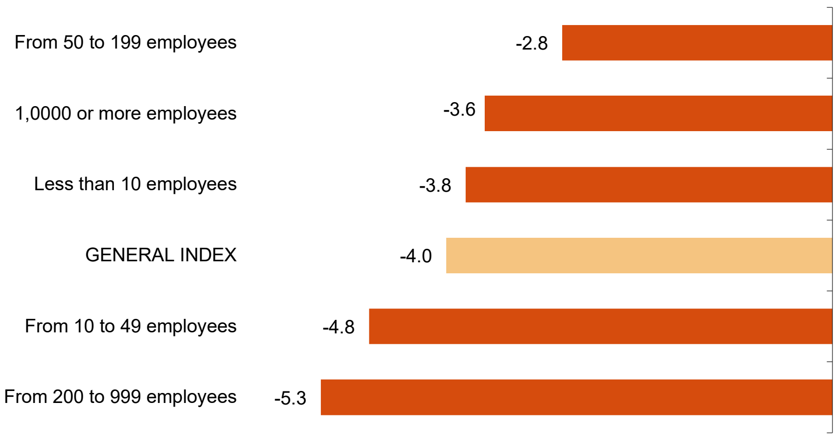
General Index and by activity sector
Second Quarter 2022. Quarterly rate



Harmonised Business Confidence Index by size of establishments

The five sizes of establishments analysed presented a decrease in confidence, as compared with the previous quarter. From 200 to 999 employees (−5.3%) registered the greatest decrease. On the other hand, From 50 to 199 employees (−2.8%) showed the smallest decrease.

General index and by size of establishment
Second Quarter 2022. Quarterly rate

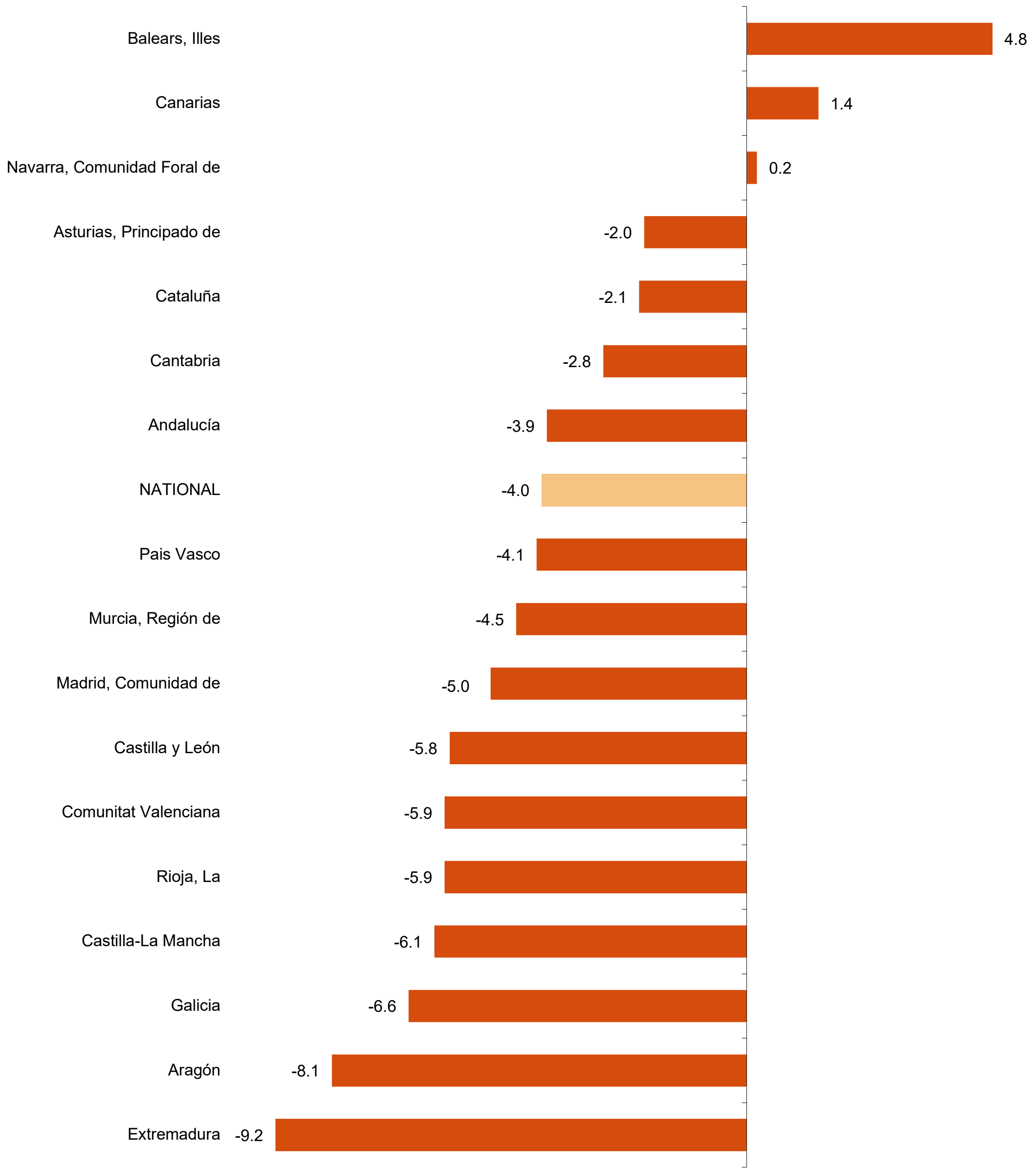


Harmonised Business Confidence Index. Results by Autonomous Communities

Business confidence decreased in the second quarter of 2022 as compared with previous quarter in 14 autonomous communities and increased in three.

The largest decreases were recorded in Extremadura (−9.2%), Aragón (−8.1%) y Galicia (−6.6%). The largest increases were recorded in Illes Balears (4.8%), Canarias (1.4%) y Comunidad Foral de Navarra (0.2%).

National index and by Autonomous Communities
Second Quarter 2022. Quarterly rate



Employment. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

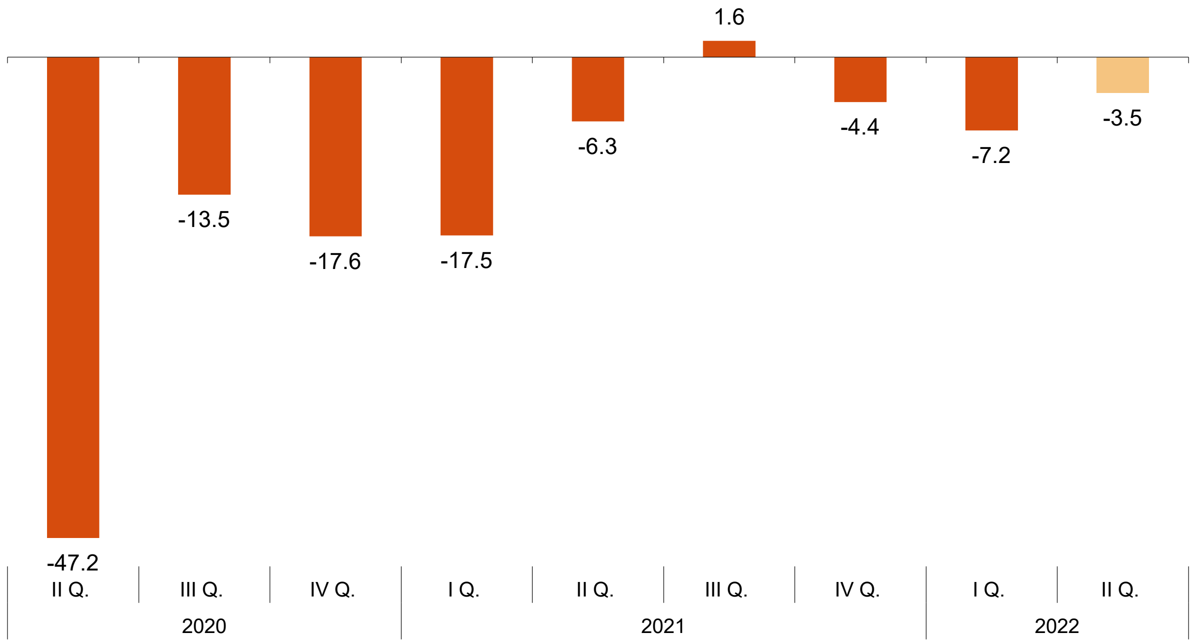
9.8% of business establishments managers consider that employment, referring to personnel hired in their business, will increase in the second quarter of 2022, while 13.3% believe that it will decrease. The remaining 76.9% consider that it will remain stable.

The difference between the percentage of favourable and unfavourable responses stands at −3.5 points.

Employment. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

Year / Quarter		It will increase (%)	It will remain the same (%)	It will decrease (%)	Balance (increase - decrease)
2020	II	2,6	47,6	49,8	-47,2
	III	10,8	64,9	24,3	-13,5
	IV	6,6	69,2	24,2	-17,6
2021	I	5,0	72,5	22,5	-17,5
	II	8,4	76,9	14,7	-6,3
	III	12,6	76,4	11,0	1,6
	IV	10,1	75,4	14,5	-4,4
2022	I	7,3	78,2	14,5	-7,2
	II	9,8	76,9	13,3	-3,5

Evolution of the Balance of Employment Expectations
Second Quarter 2022



Prices. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

37.4% of business establishments managers foresee that the price level of their business will increase in the second quarter of 2022, while 5.2% estimate that it will decrease. The remaining 57.3% consider that it will remain stable.

The balance between the percentage of responses that consider the prices will rise and that of reponses that consider that they will fall stands at 32.3 points, above the 23.3 obtained in the previous quarter.

Prices. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

Year / Quarter	It will increase (%)	It will remain the same (%)	It will decrease (%)	Balance (increase - decrease)
2020 II	3,9	67,3	28,8	-24,9
III	4,3	75,6	20,1	-15,8
IV	3,2	80,8	16,0	-12,8
2021 I	7,7	77,2	15,1	-7,4
II	7,3	82,8	9,9	-2,6
III	11,4	81,3	7,3	4,1
IV	15,4	77,7	6,9	8,5
2022 I	30,1	63,1	6,8	23,3
II	37,5	57,3	5,2	32,3

Evolution of the Balance of Price Expectations
Second Quarter 2022

Productive capacity in the *Industry*

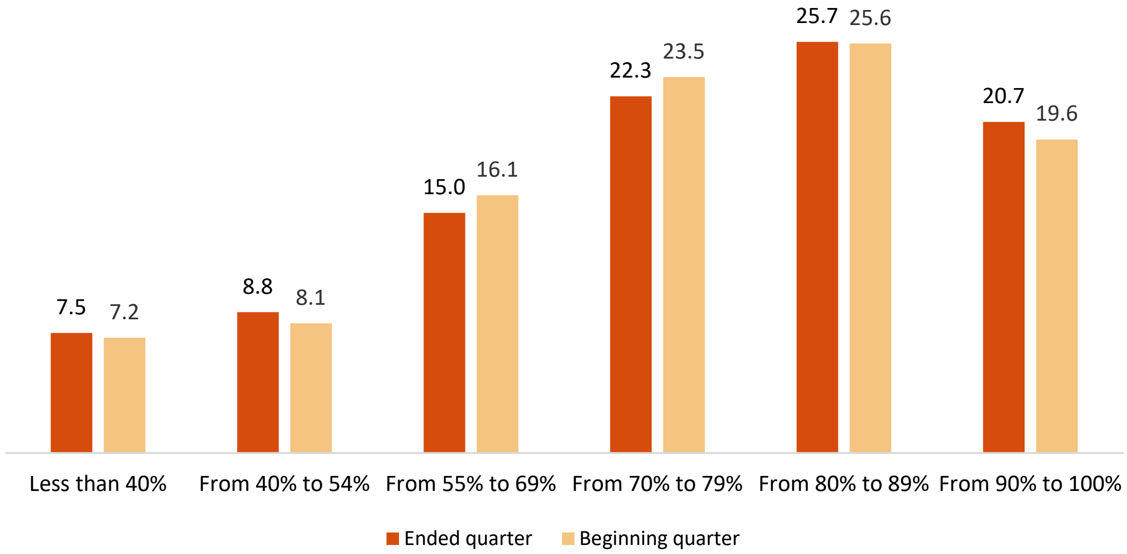
7.2% of industrial establishments expect to use less than 40% of their production capacity in the second quarter of 2022, compared to 7.5% in the previous quarter.

On the other hand, 19.6% of industrial establishments expect to use more than 90% of their production capacity in the beginning of the quarter, compared to the 20.7% declared last quarter.

Utilization of productive capacity in the *Industry*

	Situation Ended quarter	Expectation Beginning quarter
Less than 40%	7.5	7.2
From 40% to 54%	8.8	8.1
From 55% to 69%	15.0	16.1
From 70% to 79%	22.3	23.5
From 80% to 89%	25.7	25.6
From 90% to 100%	20.7	19.6

Situation and Expectations by sections of productive capacity in the *Industry*
Second Quarter 2022



Review and update of data

The data published today are final and will not be suject to further revisión. There have benn no updates to previous publications. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

The objective of this survey is to find out, at a given time, the vision that establishments managers have about their situation.

The BCI survey collects opinions from establishments managers regarding the performance of their business for each last quarter and on their expectations for each coming quarter.

The methodology is based on the Japanese TANKAN index, that is, there is no weighting or elevation depending on the characteristics of the establishment since the opinion of each informant counts equally.

The survey methodology enables the integration of analogous data compiled by the statistics services of the Autonomous Communities, once their consistency is checked so they can be incorporated into the general process of the survey. There are currently agreements signed to this effect with Andalucía, Illes Balears, Canarias, Castilla y León, Cataluña, la Rioja, Extremadura and Comunitat Valenciana.

Type of survey: quarterly continuous survey.

Base period: First quarter of 2013.

Population scope: all establishments whose main activity is included in the following sections of CNAE-2009: B to N (both inclusive, except for division 70), R (only divisions 92 and 93) and S (only divisions 95 and 96).

Geographical scope: the entire national territory except Ceuta and Melila.

Sample size: The sample is representative both nationally and by Autonomous Community and is made up of some 8,000 establishments.

Reference period: the reference is quarterly and questions are asked about the quarter ending and about the coming quarter.

Collection method: completion of the questionnaire by establishments managers themselves using one of the following methods: internet (IRIA system), e-mail, fax, telephone or by postal mail.

For more information you can access the methodology at:

https://www.ine.es/en/metodologia/t37/t3730199_en.pdf

And the standardises methdological report at:

https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30199

INE's statistics are produced according to the European Statistics Code of Practice, that underlies **the policy and strategy of the institution quality. For further information, take a look at the section** Quality at INE and Code of Practice **at INE Website.**

Business Confidence Indicators
Second quarter of 2022

1. Harmonized Business Confidence Index by sectors

Year / Quarter		TOTAL	Industry	Construction	Trade	Transport and accommodation	Other Services
2020	II	95,5	94,7	101,1	98,0	91,5	93,8
	III	95,5	91,3	105,3	104,9	87,2	92,4
	IV	105,5	102,8	120,0	111,8	94,5	102,8
2021	I	109,3	110,1	123,7	113,4	94,0	107,5
	II	114,8	115,4	130,6	116,8	99,7	113,7
	III	128,9	124,8	142,9	135,5	123,5	125,0
	IV	130,3	123,9	144,4	135,6	131,0	126,4
2022	I	127,0	121,9	140,3	131,2	121,9	125,2
	II	121,9	113,6	132,4	122,3	122,9	122,6

2. Harmonized Business Confidence Index by size

Year / Quarter		TOTAL	Less than 10 employees	From 10 to 49 employees	From 50 to 199 employees	From 200 to 999 employees	1,000 or more employees
2020	II	95,5	94,0	95,9	95,6	90,8	94,5
	III	95,5	98,3	97,5	93,2	88,5	84,6
	IV	105,5	107,1	107,7	102,1	100,6	97,7
2021	I	109,3	108,7	109,5	108,7	108,7	104,7
	II	114,8	115,7	115,2	114,1	111,4	106,8
	III	128,9	130,7	131,9	125,3	122,0	118,4
	IV	130,3	133,1	133,1	127,5	122,6	115,7
2022	I	127,0	128,0	129,7	123,8	120,7	119,1
	II	121,9	123,2	123,5	120,3	114,3	114,8

3. Harmonized Business Confidence Index by Autonomous Communities

Year / Quarter		NATIONAL	Andalucía	Aragón	Asturias, Principado de	Balears, Illes	Canarias
2020	II	95,5	96,2	95,0	96,7	90,1	85,7
	III	95,5	96,9	97,3	102,0	86,9	86,4
	IV	105,5	107,7	109,6	114,9	93,1	93,5
2021	I	109,3	108,2	114,8	112,2	96,7	94,3
	II	114,8	113,3	119,4	117,4	103,6	97,6
	III	128,9	128,3	133,2	134,8	122,9	112,4
	IV	130,3	130,7	131,0	137,8	130,6	123,7
2022	I	127,0	126,9	133,7	124,5	122,0	118,6
	II	121,9	121,9	122,9	122,0	127,9	120,3

Year / Quarter		Cantabria	Castilla y León	Castilla-La Mancha	Cataluña	Comunitat Valenciana	Extremadura
2020	II	100,9	99,9	103,0	93,9	90,2	94,5
	III	104,6	100,6	106,7	94,9	89,9	103,5
	IV	121,5	112,1	113,0	106,9	100,7	112,1
2021	I	120,7	114,9	117,4	112,1	108,4	111,4
	II	129,2	119,7	127,2	120,8	110,4	119,1
	III	139,5	139,3	138,0	132,6	122,9	130,7
	IV	140,6	137,6	140,6	133,4	126,3	132,3
2022	I	135,2	130,0	139,1	131,1	120,5	130,0
	II	131,4	122,4	130,6	128,3	113,4	118,0

Year / Quarter		Galicia	Madrid, Comunidad de	Murcia, Región de	Navarra, Comunidad Foral	País Vasco	Rioja, La
2020	II	97,0	94,1	95,8	100,8	98,4	91,9
	III	93,1	90,3	94,0	98,3	95,3	94,8
	IV	104,8	99,4	101,9	105,1	101,9	103,0
2021	I	107,6	106,8	105,4	111,7	110,0	103,7
	II	110,2	110,7	108,8	117,4	117,4	107,4
	III	124,8	124,4	121,1	130,2	132,0	125,3
	IV	124,9	124,1	122,2	130,6	130,2	126,8
2022	I	121,3	128,0	119,1	123,3	127,4	122,0
	II	113,3	121,6	113,8	123,5	122,2	114,8

4. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations) by sectors

Activity sectors	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
TOTAL	14,5	54,9	30,6	-16,1
Industry	14,3	51,2	34,5	-20,2
Construction	12,9	55,0	32,1	-19,2
Trade	12,3	50,3	37,4	-25,1
Transport and accommodation	18,7	46,0	35,3	-16,6
Other services	15,0	62,9	22,1	-7,1

5. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations) by size

Size of the establishment	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
TOTAL	14.5	54.9	30.6	-16.1
Less than 10 employees	11.9	51.5	36.6	-24.7
From 10 to 49 employees	15.0	53.0	32.0	-17.0
From 50 to 199 employees	19.0	54.8	26.2	-7.2
From 200 to 999 employees	15.9	59.5	24.6	-8.7
1,000 or more employees	14.3	73.4	12.3	2.0

6. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations) By Autonomous Communities

	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
NATIONAL	14.5	54.9	30.6	-16.1
Andalucía	15.0	51.8	33.2	-18.2
Aragón	14.5	50.5	35.0	-20.5
Asturias, Principado de	11.5	51.6	36.9	-25.4
Balears, Illes	20.8	55.4	23.8	-3.0
Canarias	17.1	51.9	31.0	-13.9
Cantabria	13.2	56.7	30.1	-16.9
Castilla y León	14.7	46.8	38.5	-23.8
Castilla- La Mancha	12.8	55.9	31.3	-18.5
Cataluña	17.8	60.2	22.0	-4.2
Comunitat Valenciana	14.8	51.8	33.4	-18.6
Extremadura	13.2	48.4	38.4	-25.2
Galicia	11.6	51.2	37.2	-25.6
Madrid, Comunidad de	14.1	65.5	20.4	-6.3
Murcia, Región de	12.9	50.0	37.1	-24.2
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	15.3	54.8	29.9	-14.6
País Vasco	14.3	59.6	26.1	-11.8
Rioja, La	10.7	48.5	40.8	-30.1

7. Opinions regarding the last quarter (Situation) by sectors

Activity sectors	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
TOTAL	14.8	56.0	29.2	-14.4
Industry	17.1	52.7	30.2	-13.1
Construction	14.8	59.2	26.0	-11.2
Trade	13.1	52.3	34.6	-21.5
Transport and accommodation	13.4	45.7	40.9	-27.5
Other services	15.1	62.7	22.2	-7.1

8. Opinions regarding the last quarter (Situation) by size

Size of the establishment	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
TOTAL	14.8	56.0	29.2	-14.4
Less than 10 employees	10.6	52.2	37.2	-26.6
From 10 to 49 employees	16.7	55.4	27.9	-11.2
From 50 to 199 employees	19.7	55.6	24.7	-5.0
From 200 to 999 employees	16.7	60.9	22.4	-5.7
1,000 or more employees	16.6	71.7	11.7	4.9

9. Opinions regarding the last quarter (Situation) by Autonomus Communities

	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
NATIONAL	14.8	56.0	29.2	-14.4
Andalucía	15.2	52.1	32.7	-17.5
Aragón	13.8	55.3	30.9	-17.1
Asturias, Principado de	14.9	51.5	33.6	-18.7
Balears, Illes	12.4	55.4	32.2	-19.8
Canarias	20.0	53.3	26.7	-6.7
Cantabria	14.7	57.0	28.3	-13.6
Castilla y León	14.3	48.0	37.7	-23.4
Castilla- La Mancha	13.4	54.0	32.6	-19.2
Cataluña	18.4	60.2	21.4	-3.0
Comunitat Valenciana	15.2	55.2	29.6	-14.4
Extremadura	10.7	54.0	35.3	-24.6
Galicia	10.6	53.7	35.7	-25.1
Madrid, Comunidad de	14.7	64.6	20.7	-6.0
Murcia, Región de	15.3	56.1	28.6	-13.3
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	16.9	52.9	30.2	-13.3
País Vasco	15.3	56.7	28.0	-12.7
Rioja, La	11.5	53.6	34.9	-23.4

10. Employment. Opinions with regard to the quarter that is beginning by sectors

Activity Sectors	It will increase	It will remain the same	It will decrease	Balance (increase - decrease)
TOTAL	9.8	76.9	13.3	-3.5
Industry	8.1	76.9	15.0	-6.9
Construction	7.3	73.9	18.8	-11.5
Trade	6.7	79.4	13.9	-7.2
Transport and accommodation	16.4	71.3	12.3	4.1
Other services	10.9	78.6	10.5	0.4

11. Employment. Opinions with regard to the quarter that is beginning by size

Size of the establishment	It will increase	It will remain the same	It will decrease	Balance (increase - decrease)
TOTAL	9.8	76.9	13.3	-3.5
Less than 10 employees	5.4	82.4	12.2	-6.8
From 10 to 49 employees	10.6	76.0	13.4	-2.8
From 50 to 199 employees	16.1	67.8	16.1	0.0
From 200 to 999 employees	13.6	71.8	14.6	-1.0
1,000 or more employees	9.8	79.9	10.3	-0.5

12. Employment. Opinions with regard to the quarter that has ended by sectors

Activity Sectors	It will increase	It will remain the same	It will decrease	Balance (increase - decrease)
TOTAL	10.6	75.1	14.3	-3.7
Industry	12.5	73.5	14.0	-1.5
Construction	11.9	72.6	15.5	-3.6
Trade	8.6	76.8	14.6	-6.0
Transport and accommodation	10.7	74.0	15.3	-4.6
Other services	10.2	76.2	13.6	-3.4

13. Employment. Opinions with regard to the quarter that has ended by size

Size of the establishment	It will increase	It will remain the same	It will decrease	Balance (increase - decrease)
TOTAL	10.6	75.1	14.3	-3.7
Less than 10 employees	4.9	81.4	13.7	-8.8
From 10 to 49 employees	12.0	73.0	15.0	-3.0
From 50 to 199 employees	16.7	68.6	14.7	2.0
From 200 to 999 employees	17.1	67.5	15.4	1.7
1,000 or more employees	11.6	75.3	13.1	-1.5

14. Prices. Opinions with regard to the quarter that is beginning by sectors

Activity Sectors	It will increase	It will remain the same	It will decrease	Balance (increase - decrease)
TOTAL	37,5	57,3	5,2	32,3
Industry	49,1	47,4	3,5	45,6
Construction	46,2	46,7	7,1	39,1
Trade	50,1	44,5	5,4	44,7
Transport and accommodation	37,9	57,3	4,8	33,1
Other services	20,7	73,9	5,4	15,3

15. Prices. Opinions with regard to the quarter that is beginning by size

Size of the establishment	It will increase	It will remain the same	It will decrease	Balance (increase - decrease)
TOTAL	37.5	57.3	5.2	32.3
Less than 10 employees	38.2	54.8	7.0	31.2
From 10 to 49 employees	44.1	52.4	3.5	40.6
From 50 to 199 employees	36.1	59.3	4.6	31.5
From 200 to 999 employees	33.9	61.3	4.8	29.1
1,000 or more employees	19.4	77.5	3.1	16.3

16. Prices. Opinions with regard to the quarter that has ended by sectors

Activity Sectors	It will increase	It will remain the same	It will decrease	Balance (increase - decrease)
TOTAL	39,2	54,8	6,0	33,2
Industry	52,4	44,1	3,5	48,9
Construction	41,4	51,3	7,3	34,1
Trade	52,8	40,5	6,7	46,1
Transport and accommodation	31,9	60,8	7,3	24,6
Other services	25,8	68,1	6,1	19,7

17. Prices. Opinions with regard to the quarter that has ended by size

Size of the establishment	It will increase	It will remain the same	It will decrease	Balance (increase - decrease)
TOTAL	39.2	54.8	6.0	33.2
Less than 10 employees	37.1	55.0	7.9	29.2
From 10 to 49 employees	46.6	48.4	5.0	41.6
From 50 to 199 employees	38.4	56.1	5.5	32.9
From 200 to 999 employees	37.8	57.4	4.8	33.0
1,000 or more employees	28.4	68.7	2.9	25.5

18. Utilization of productive capacity in industry

	Situation	Expectation
	Ended quarter	Beginning quarter
Less than 40%	7.5	7.2
From 40% to 54%	8.8	8.1
From 55% to 69%	15.0	16.1
From 70% to 79%	22.3	23.5
From 80% to 89%	25.7	25.6
From 90% to 100%	20.7	19.6