Press Release

12 July 2022

Business Confidence Indicators (BCI)
Third quarter of 2022

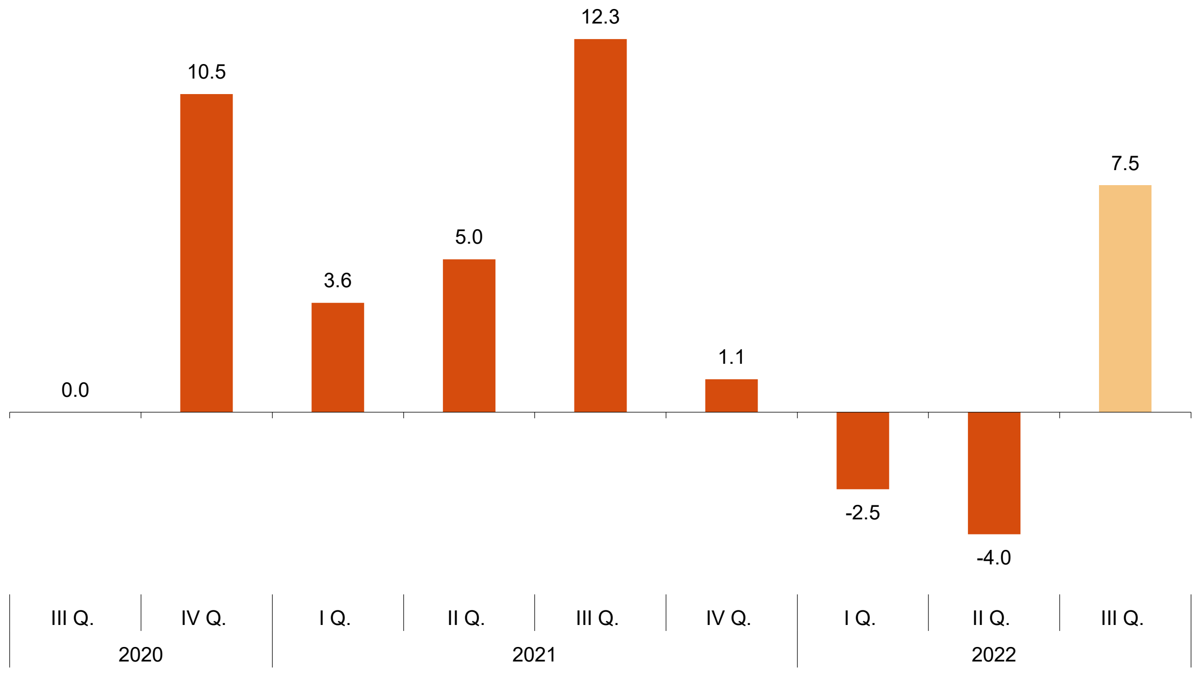
The Harmonised Business Confidence Index (HBCI) increases 7.5% in the third quarter of 2022 as compared with the second quarter

19.6% of business establishments foresee a favourable quarter and 23.8% are pessimistic about the performance of their business

Evolution of the Harmonised Business Confidence Index

The Harmonised Business Confidence Index (HBCI) increases by 7.5% in the third quarter of 2022 as compared with the second quarter.

Harmonised Business Confidence Index
Third Quarter 2022. Quarterly rate



Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

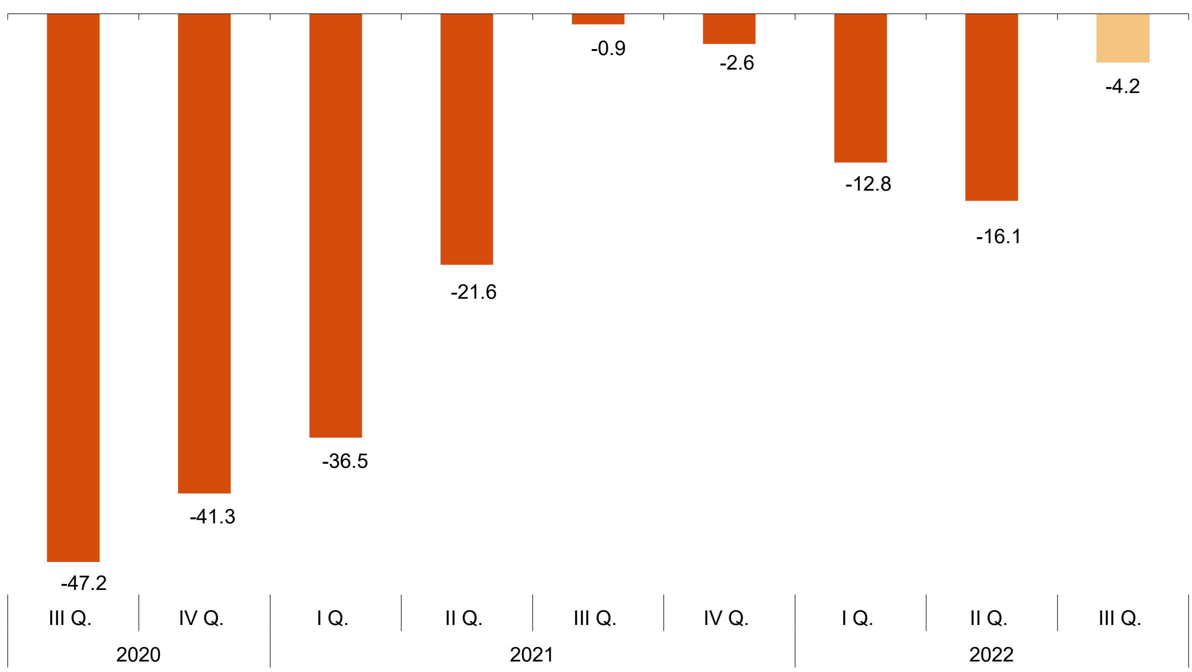
19.6% of business establishments managers considered that the performance of their business during the third quarter of 2022 would be favourable, while 23.8% thought it would be unfavourable. The remaining 56.6% thought that it would be normal.

The difference between the percentage of favourable and unfavourable responses, known as Expectations Balance, stood at −4.2 points for Spain as a whole, as compared with the −16.1 in the previous quarter.

Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

Year / Quarter	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavoruable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
2020 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
III	19.6	56.6	23.8	-4.2

Evolution of the Expectations Balance
Third Quarter 2022



Opinions regarding the ending quarter (Situation)

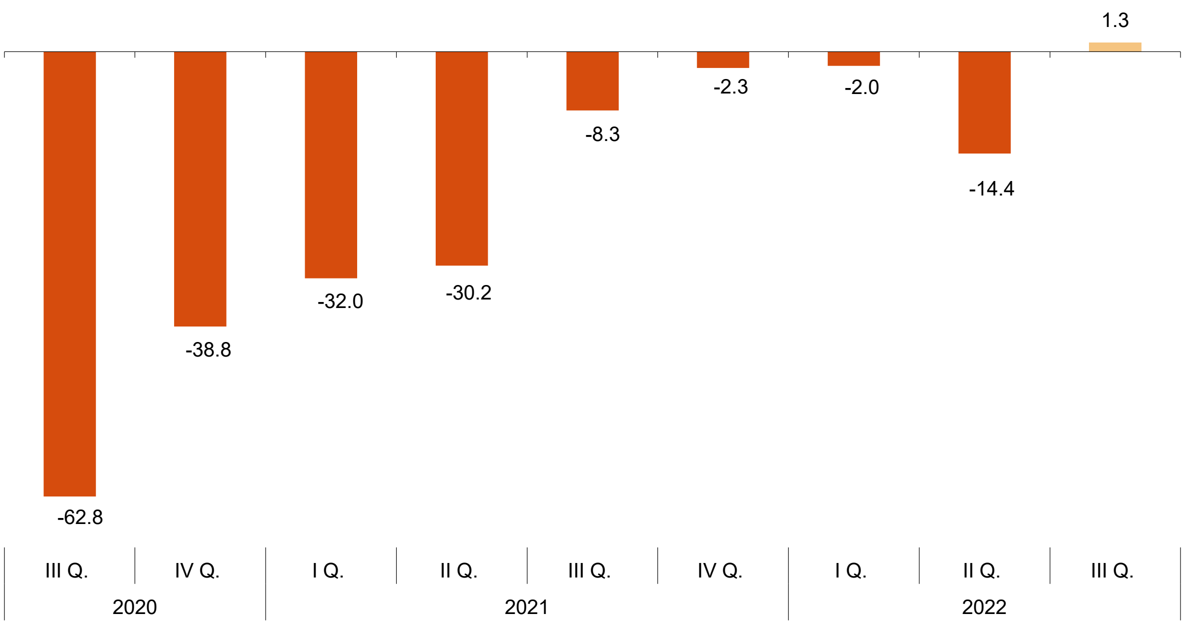
21.9% of business establishments managers expressed a favourable opinion regarding the performance of their business in the second quarter of 2022. In turn, 20.6% had an unfavourable opinion.

The difference between the percentage of favourable and unfavourable responses referring to the ending quarter, known as *Situation Balance*, stood at 1.3 points. This figure improves Expectations previously expressed for that quarter, which stood at −16.1 points.

Opinions regarding the ending quarter (Situation)

Year / Quarter	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavoruable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
2020 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
III	21.9	57.5	20.6	1.3

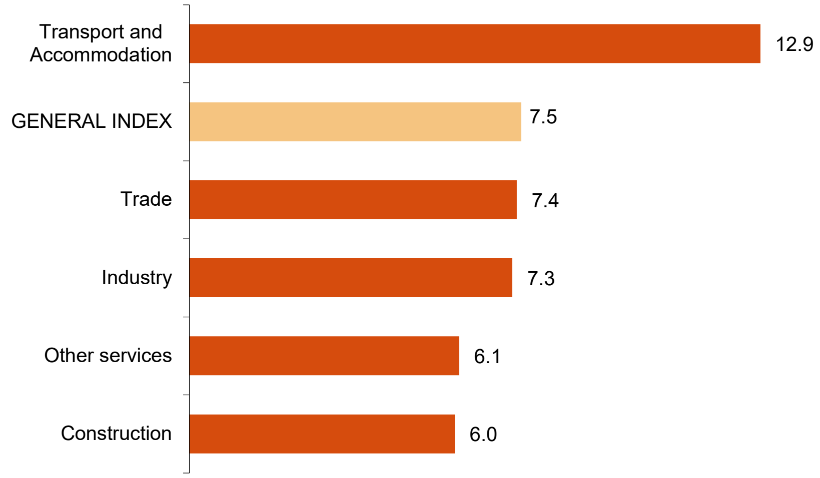
Evolution of the Situation Balance
Third Quarter 2022



Harmonised Business Confidence Index by activity sector

The five sectors analyzed increased confidence with respect to the previous quarter. *Transport and Accommodation* (12.9%) registered the greatest increase. On the other hand, *Construction* (6.0%) registered the lowest increase.

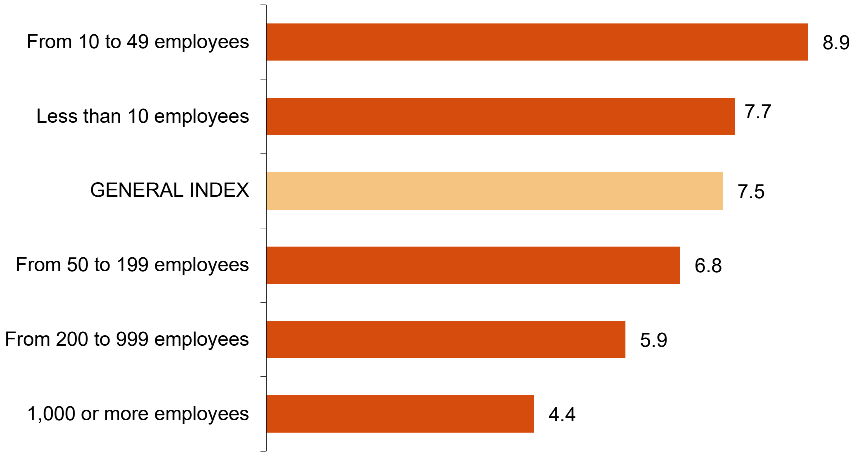
General Index and by activity sector
Third Quarter 2022. Quarterly rate



Harmonised Business Confidence Index by size of establishments

The five sizes of establishments analyzed presented an increase in confidence, as compared with the previous quarter. From 10 to 49 employees (8.9%) showed the largest increase and 1,000 or more employees the smallest increase (4.4%).

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

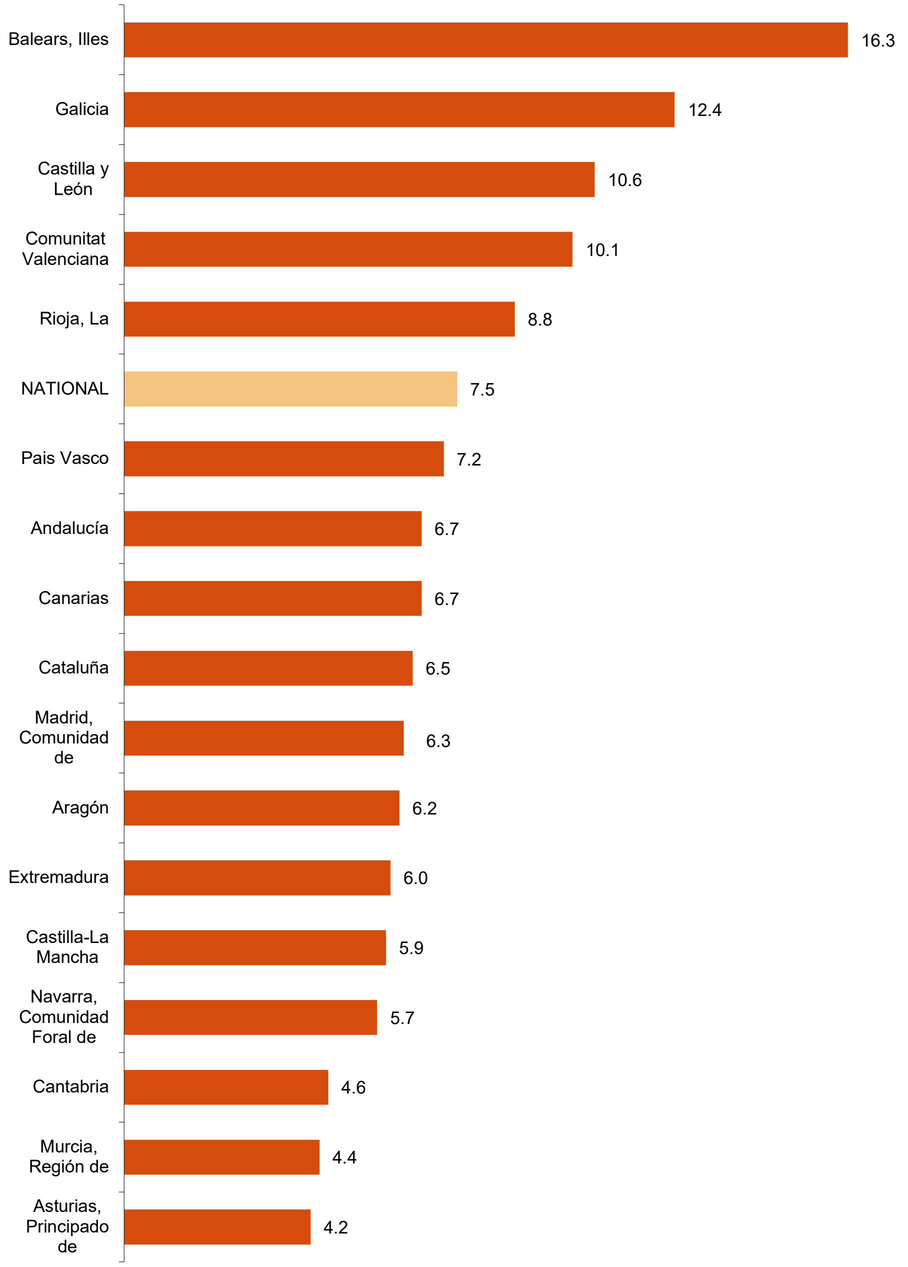


Harmonised Business Confidence Index. Results by Autonomous Communities

Business confidence increased in the third quarter of 2022 as compared with previous quarter in all autonomous communities.

The largest increases were recorded in Illes Balears (16.3%), Galicia (12.4%) and Castilla y León (10.6%).

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



Employment. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

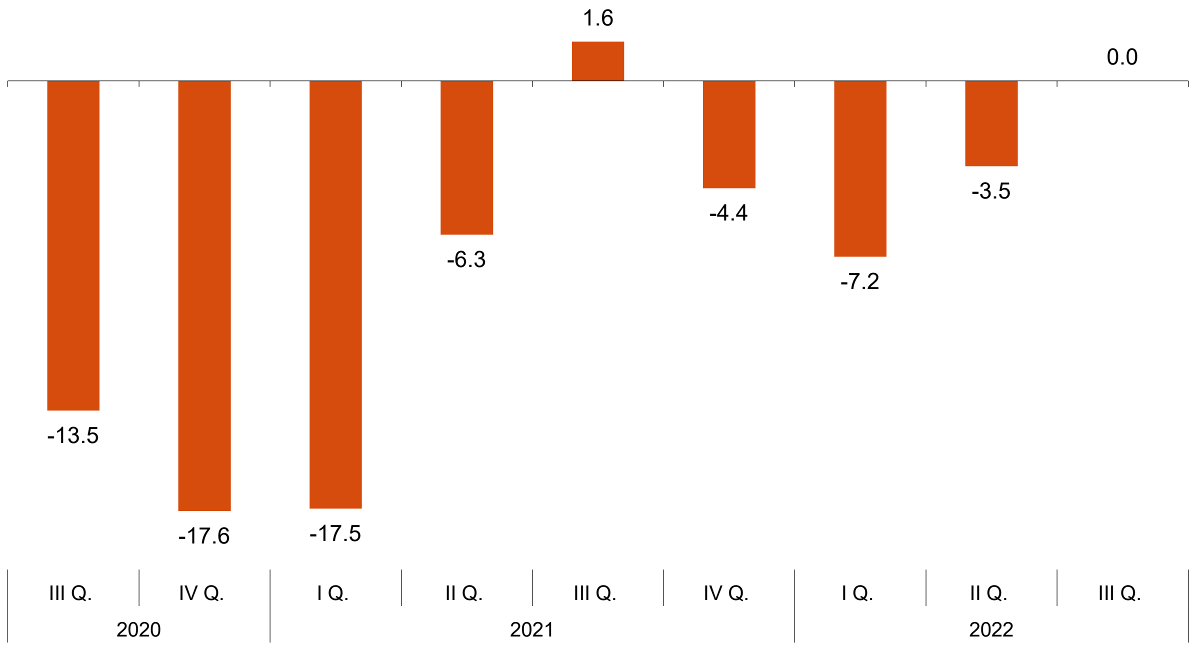
11.9% of business establishments managers consider that employment, referring to personnel hired in their business, will increase in the third quarter of 2022, while 11.9% believe that it will decrease. The remaining 76.2% consider that it will remain stable.

The difference between the percentage of favourable and unfavourable responses stands at 0.0 points.

Employment. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

Year / Quarter		Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavoruable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
2020	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
	III	11.9	76.2	11.9	0.0

Evolution of the Balance of Employment Expectations
Third quarter 2022



Prices. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

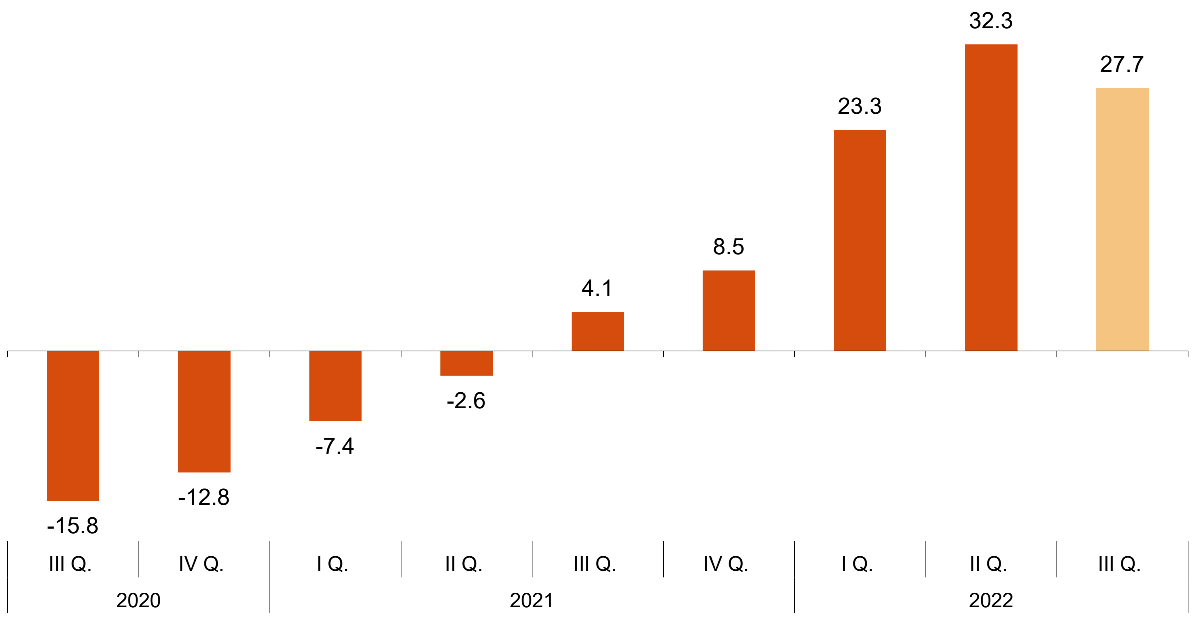
32.5% of business establishments managers foresee that the price level of their business will increase in the third quarter of 2022, while 4.8% estimate that it will decrease. The remaining 62.7% consider that it will remain stable.

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 27.7 points, above the 32.2 obtained in the previous quarter.

Prices. Opinions regarding the coming quarter (Expectations)

Year / Quarter	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavoruable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
2020 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
III	32.5	62.7	4.8	27.7

Evolution of the Balance of Price Expectations
Third quarter 2022



qProductive capacity in the *Industry*

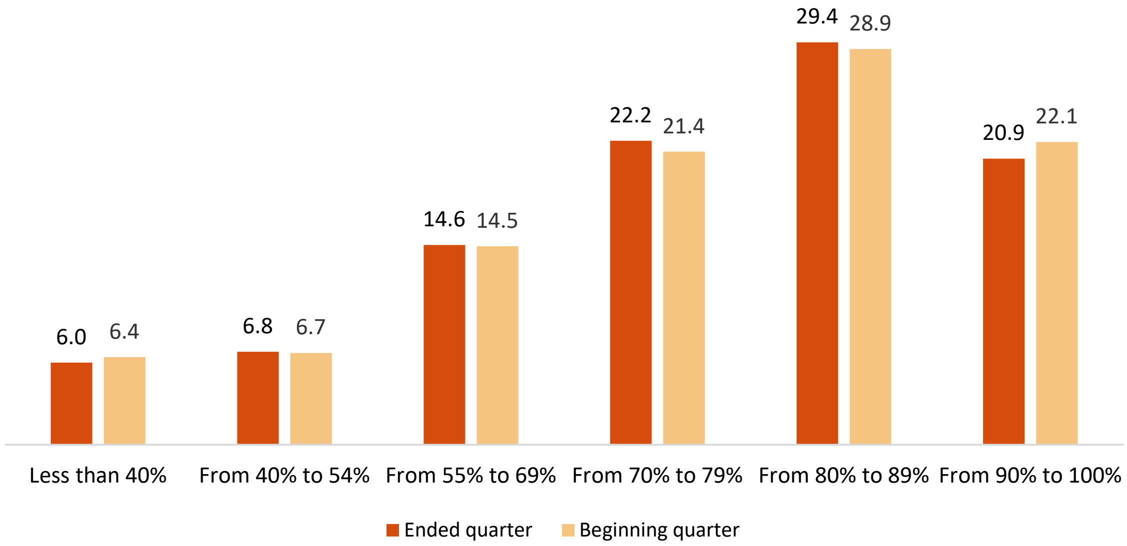
6.4% of industrial establishments expect to use less than 40% of their production capacity in the third quarter of 2022, compared to 6.0% in the previous quarter.

On the other hand, 22.1% of industrial establishments expect to use more than 90% of their production capacity in the beginning of the quarter, compared to the 20.0% declared last quarter.

Utilization of productive capacity in the *Industry*

	Situation Ended quarter	Expectation Beginning quarter
Less than 40%	6.0	6.4
From 40% to 54%	6.8	6.7
From 55% to 69%	14.6	14.5
From 70% to 79%	22.2	21.4
From 80% to 89%	29.4	28.9
From 90% to 100%	20.9	22.1

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



Review and update of data

The data published today are final and will not be subject to further revision. There have been 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 establishment managers have about their situation.

The BCI survey collects opinions from establishment 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 Andalucia, 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 Melilla.

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 establishment 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 standardized methodological 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
Third quarter of 2022

1. Harmonized Business Confidence Index by sectors

Year / Quarter		TOTAL	Industry	Construction	Trade	Transport and accomodation	Other Services
2020	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
	III	131.0	121.9	140.4	131.4	138.7	130.1

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	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
	III	131.0	132.7	134.5	128.5	121.1	119.8

3. Harmonized Business Confidence Index by Autonomous Communities

Year / Quarter		NATIONAL	Andalucía	Aragón	Asturias, Principado de	Balears, Illes	Canarias
2020	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
	III	131.0	130.1	130.5	127.1	148.7	128.4

Year / Quarter		Cantabria	Castilla y León	Castilla-La Mancha	Cataluña	Comunitat Valenciana	Extremadura
2020	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
	III	137.4	135.4	138.3	136.6	124.8	125.1

Year / Quarter		Galicia	Madrid, Comunidad de	Murcia, Región de	Navarra, Comunidad Foral	País Vasco	Rioja, La
2020	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
	III	127.3	129.3	118.8	130.6	131.0	124.9

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

Activity sectors	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
TOTAL	19.6	56.6	23.8	-4.2
Industry	18.6	55.6	25.8	-7.2
Construction	18.0	56.5	25.5	-7.5
Trade	17.1	53.7	29.2	-12.1
Transport and accommodation	26.0	47.5	26.5	-0.5
Other services	19.7	62.2	18.1	1.6

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

Size of the establishment	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
TOTAL	19.6	56.6	23.8	-4.2
Less than 10 employees	15.6	53.9	30.5	-14.9
From 10 to 49 employees	21.6	55.9	22.5	-0.9
From 50 to 199 employees	24.4	56.2	19.4	5.0
From 200 to 999 employees	21.6	58.7	19.7	1.9
1,000 or more employees	18.8	70.6	10.6	8.2

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

	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
NATIONAL	19.6	56.6	23.8	-4.2
Andalucía	19.3	53.0	27.7	-8.4
Aragón	14.4	57.4	28.2	-13.8
Asturias, Principado de	12.6	58.1	29.3	-16.7
Balears, Illes	34.1	51.6	14.3	19.8
Canarias	25.7	50.9	23.4	2.3
Cantabria	16.5	59.9	23.6	-7.1
Castilla y León	21.6	51.0	27.4	-5.8
Castilla- La Mancha	19.4	52.9	27.7	-8.3
Cataluña	23.3	60.1	16.6	6.7
Comunitat Valenciana	22.6	53.5	23.9	-1.3
Extremadura	15.2	53.9	30.9	-15.7
Galicia	15.7	64.4	19.9	-4.2
Madrid, Comunidad de	19.5	62.4	18.1	1.4
Murcia, Región de	14.0	53.2	32.8	-18.8
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	19.4	53.0	27.6	-8.2
País Vasco	21.4	54.3	24.3	-2.9
Rioja, La	14.9	56.1	29.0	-14.1

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

Activity sectors	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
TOTAL	21.9	57.5	20.6	1.3
Industry	23.2	54.3	22.5	0.7
Construction	21.1	57.2	21.7	-0.6
Trade	17.8	56.3	25.9	-8.1
Transport and accommodation	25.3	51.4	23.3	2.0
Other services	22.7	62.3	15.0	7.7

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

Size of the establishment	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
TOTAL	21.9	57.5	20.6	1.3
Less than 10 employees	16.9	56.9	26.2	-9.3
From 10 to 49 employees	24.3	57.0	18.7	5.6
From 50 to 199 employees	26.7	55.8	17.5	9.2
From 200 to 999 employees	25.0	56.6	18.4	6.6
1,000 or more employees	24.1	68.1	7.8	16.3

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

	Favourable (%) (optimistic)	Normal (%)	Unfavourable (%) (pessimistic)	Balance (optimistic - pessimistic)
NATIONAL	21.9	57.5	20.6	1.3
Andalucía	20.5	56.1	23.4	-2.9
Aragón	19.5	60.0	20.5	-1.0
Asturias, Principado de	14.4	58.6	27.0	-12.6
Balears, Illes	31.0	56.4	12.6	18.4
Canarias	23.5	55.3	21.2	2.3
Cantabria	16.5	60.3	23.2	-6.7
Castilla y León	22.0	52.0	26.0	-4.0
Castilla- La Mancha	19.0	53.9	27.1	-8.1
Cataluña	26.0	59.6	14.4	11.6
Comunitat Valenciana	25.3	54.8	19.9	5.4
Extremadura	17.2	52.6	30.2	-13.0
Galicia	16.5	63.9	19.6	-3.1
Madrid, Comunidad de	24.7	61.5	13.8	10.9
Murcia, Región de	21.5	54.3	24.2	-2.7
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	24.0	53.8	22.2	1.8
País Vasco	24.3	57.2	18.5	5.8
Rioja, La	17.2	56.6	26.2	-9.0

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	11.9	76.2	11.9	0.0
Industry	11.7	78.1	10.2	1.5
Construction	8.4	77.9	13.7	-5.3
Trade	10.6	76.8	12.6	-2.0
Transport and accommodation	17.0	69.9	13.1	3.9
Other services	12.0	76.8	11.2	0.8

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	11.9	76.2	11.9	0.0
Less than 10 employees	5.9	82.2	11.9	-6.0
From 10 to 49 employees	13.6	74.6	11.8	1.8
From 50 to 199 employees	19.1	69.1	11.8	7.3
From 200 to 999 employees	17.6	69.6	12.8	4.8
1,000 or more employees	11.8	77.8	10.4	1.4

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	14.8	74.0	11.2	3.6
Industry	14.5	74.7	10.8	3.7
Construction	13.7	73.0	13.3	0.4
Trade	10.5	76.8	12.7	-2.2
Transport and accommodation	22.2	68.0	9.8	12.4
Other services	15.1	74.5	10.4	4.7

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	14.8	74.0	11.2	3.6
Less than 10 employees	8.1	81.4	10.5	-2.4
From 10 to 49 employees	17.3	70.9	11.8	5.5
From 50 to 199 employees	23.2	65.8	11.0	12.2
From 200 to 999 employees	20.5	66.5	13.0	7.5
1,000 or more employees	12.5	76.5	11.0	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	32.5	62.7	4.8	27.7
Industry	35.8	59.6	4.6	31.2
Construction	42.3	52.9	4.8	37.5
Trade	47.9	46.6	5.5	42.4
Transport and accommodation	31.7	62.5	5.8	25.9
Other services	18.6	77.3	4.1	14.5

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	32.5	62.7	4.8	27.7
Less than 10 employees	34.1	59.9	6.0	28.1
From 10 to 49 employees	37.9	58.1	4.0	33.9
From 50 to 199 employees	31.1	65.4	3.5	27.6
From 200 to 999 employees	27.0	68.6	4.4	22.6
1,000 or more employees	18.1	76.9	5.0	13.1

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	39.6	55.9	4.5	35.1
Industry	50.2	46.5	3.3	46.9
Construction	45.3	48.6	6.1	39.2
Trade	56.2	38.9	4.9	51.3
Transport and accommodation	39.0	55.9	5.1	33.9
Other services	22.2	73.5	4.3	17.9

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	39.6	55.9	4.5	35.1
Less than 10 employees	39.7	54.8	5.5	34.2
From 10 to 49 employees	44.9	50.9	4.2	40.7
From 50 to 199 employees	38.8	57.5	3.7	35.1
From 200 to 999 employees	37.7	58.0	4.3	33.4
1,000 or more employees	25.7	71.4	2.9	22.8

18. Utilization of productive capacity in industry

	Situation Ended quarter	Expectation Beginning quarter
Less than 40%	6.0	6.4
From 40% to 54%	6.8	6.7
From 55% to 69%	14.6	14.5
From 70% to 79%	22.2	21.4
From 80% to 89%	29.4	28.9
From 90% to 100%	20.9	22.1