COVID impact on labour input indicators

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1. INTRODUCTION

- Regular production of national accounts successfully maintained by NSIs and Eurostat during the pandemic

- Coverage was stable, revisions limited

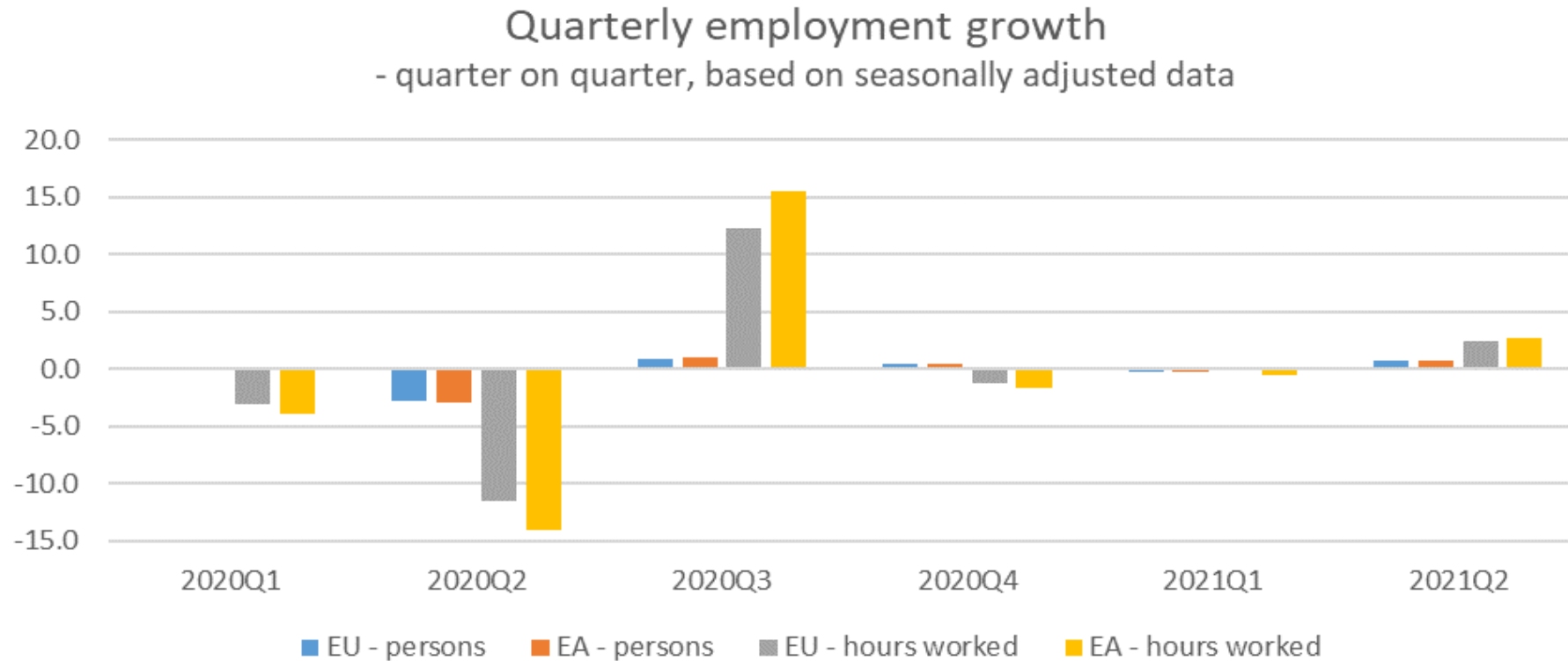- Several guidance notes for official statisticians were published on Eurostat's website

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2. EMPLOYMENT FLASH ESTIMATES

- Coverage remained stable for the flash estimates.

- Revisions (QoQ growth rate):

EA 19	t+45	t+65	t+110	t+155	EU	t+45	t+65	t+110	t+155
2020Q1	-0.24	-0.20	-0.20	-0.28	**2020Q1**	-0.18	-0.11	-0.12	-0.21
2020Q2	-2.83	-2.92	-2.90	-2.95	**2020Q2**	-2.64	-2.72	-2.75	-2.78
2020Q3	0.93	1.01	1.01	0.98	**2020Q3**	0.92	0.93	0.87	0.89
2020Q4	0.34	0.34	0.36	0.40	**2020Q4**	0.25	0.38	0.40	0.42
2021Q1	-0.34	-0.28	-0.23	-0.19	**2021Q1**	-0.30	-0.24	-0.21	-0.17
2021Q2	0.48	0.68			**2021Q2**	0.58	0.74		

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3. EMPLOYMENT REGULAR ESTIMATES

- Strong effect on hours worked

Quarterly employment growth
- quarter on quarter, based on seasonally adjusted data

Legend: EU - persons, EA - persons, EU - hours worked, EA - hours worked

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4. EMPLOYMENT ANNUAL DATA

- Hours worked decreased in all MS

Annual employment growth 2020

BE, CH: no hours worked data 2020
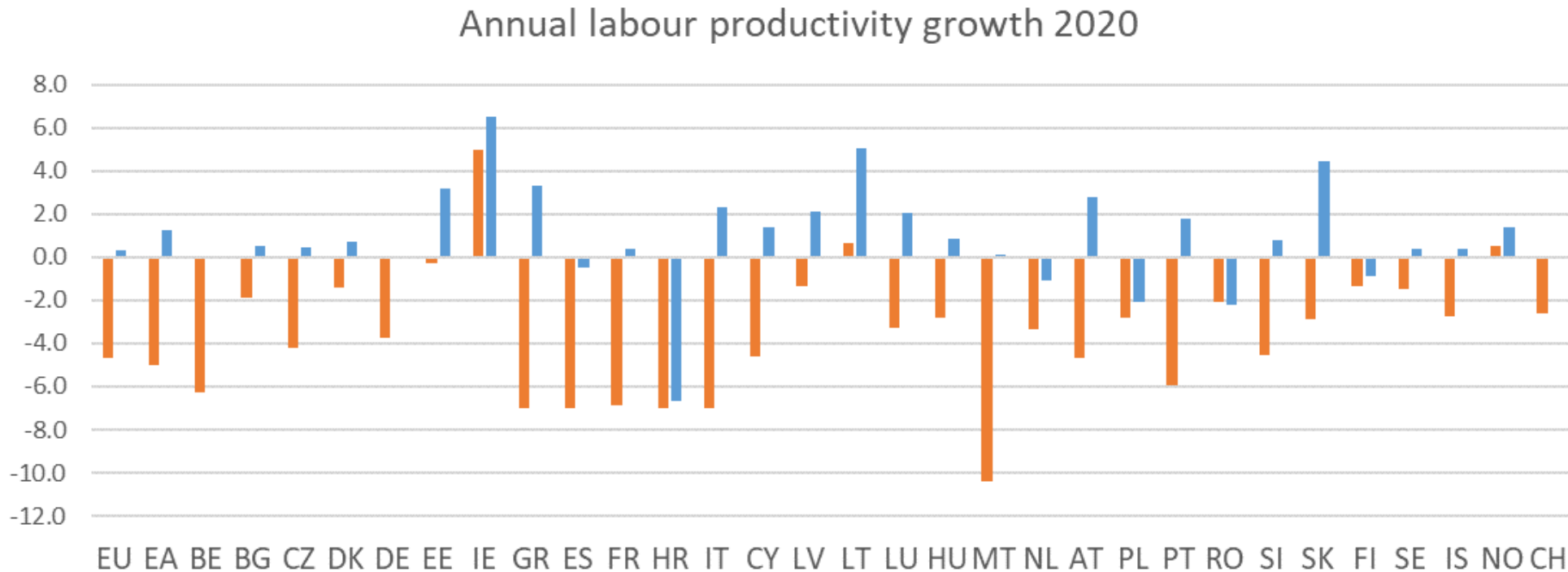
Hours worked ■ Persons ■
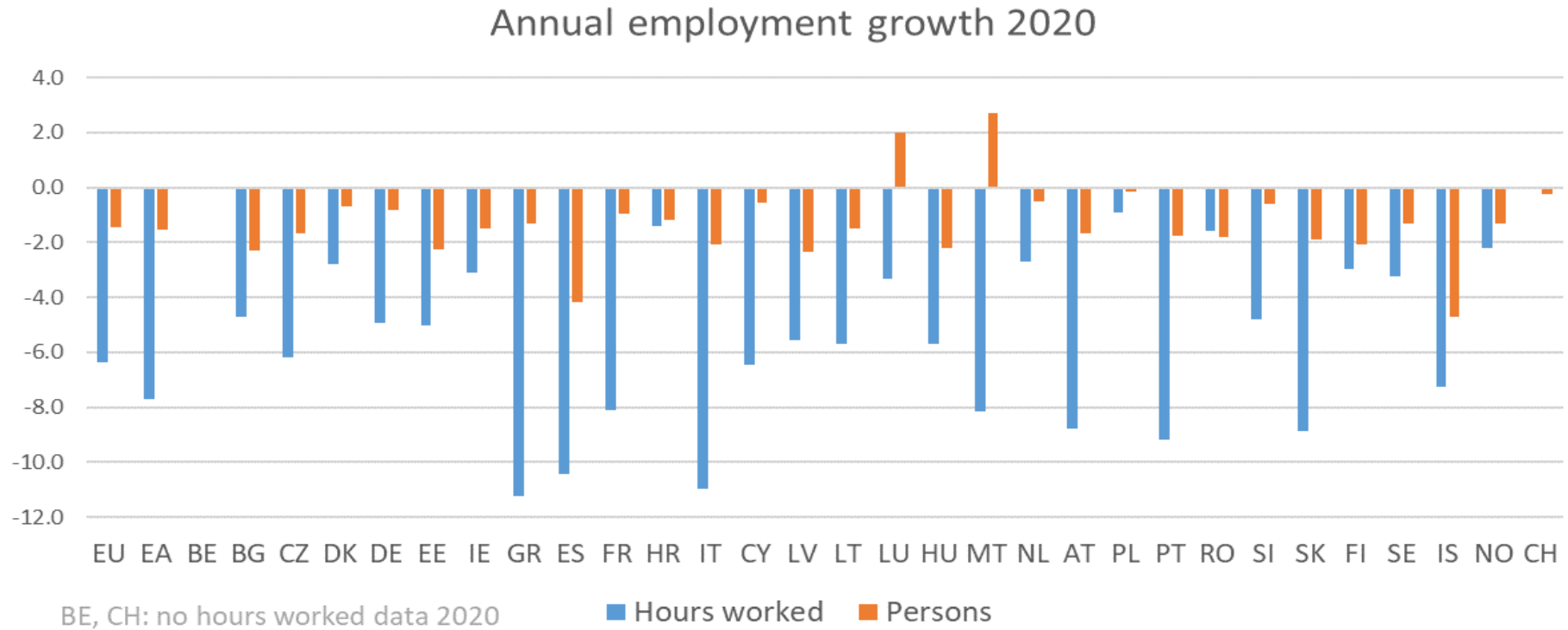
5. QUARTERLY LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY

- Diverging trends: LP based on persons or on hours worked

Quarterly labour productivity growth
% change on the same quarter of the previous year, based on seasonally adjusted data

LP EU PS — LP EA PS — LP EU HW — LP EA HW
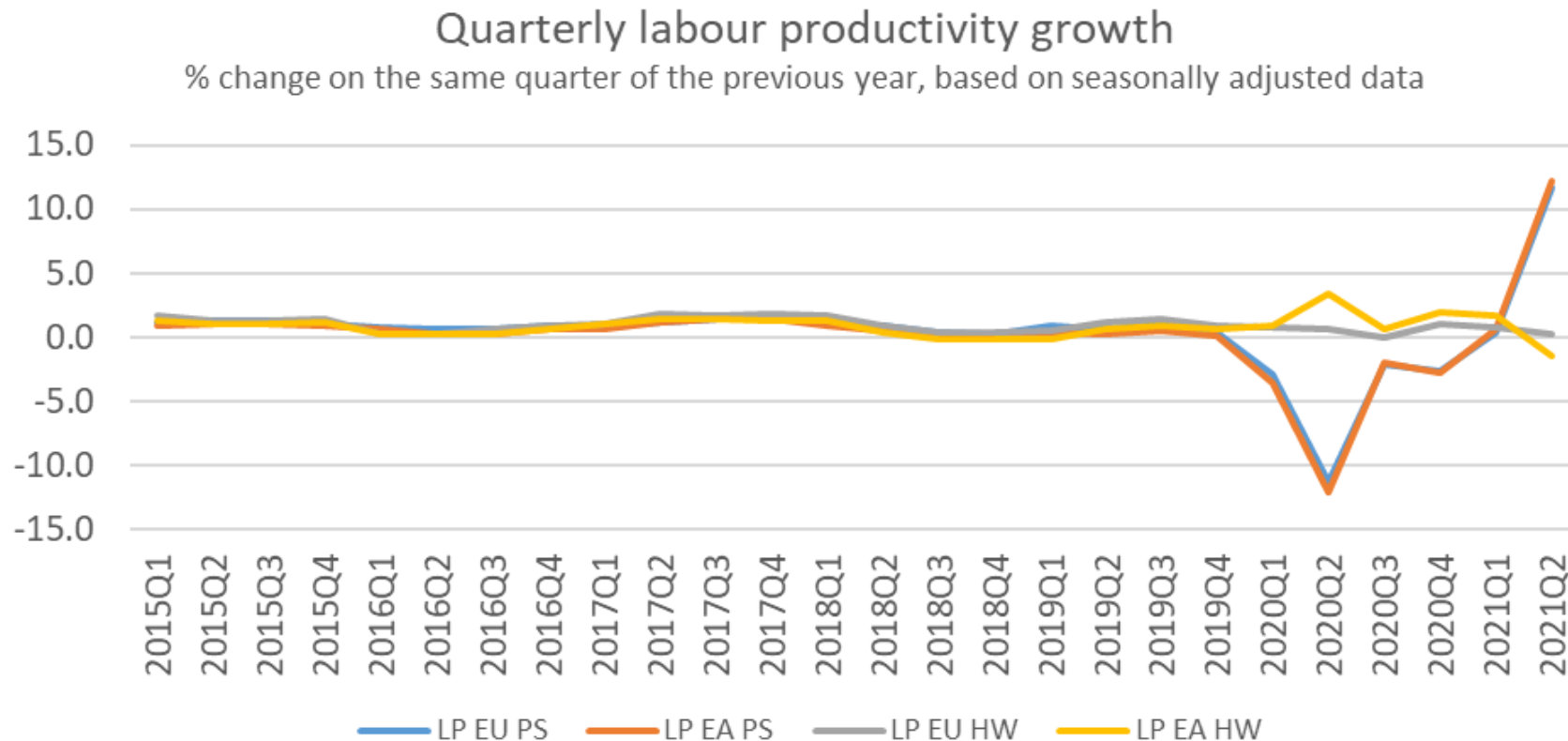
6. ANNUAL LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY

LP based on persons fell strongly in most MS

Annual labour productivity growth 2020

BE, CH: no hours worked data 2020 ■ Based on persons ■ Based on hours worked

7.   DATA SOURCES FOR EMPLOYMENT IN NA

1	LFS as the only source	CZ, EE, HR, LV, RO, SE
2	LFS as the main source (with replacement of some industries)	EL, LT
3	Combination of sources for labour supply and demand (amongst others the LFS)	
3.1	Precedence to labour supply sources (i.e. LFS)	ES, PL, PT
3.2	Not giving precedence to either	BG, HU
3.3	Precedence to labour demand sources (business surveys, registers)	DE, IE, IT, NL, SK, FI
4	No (or minimal) use of LFS	BE, DK, FR, CY, LU, MT, AT, SI

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8. CHANGES IN LFS

- 1 January 2021, the Integrated European Social Statistics (IESS) regulation entered into force and introduced changes in the EU-LFS

- The effect of these changes are impossible to estimate (even the direction of the changes cannot be predicted) and will vary across countries

- The new standards will provide higher quality in the LFS data and enhanced comparability

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9. CHANGES AND DIFFERENCES TO NA

- Target population, temporal references, data collection modes, editing standards.

- Definition of Labour Status (Employment, Unemployment, Outside the labour force) agreed upon two principles:
objective criteria preferred against self-perception and
actual features against legal situation

10. POSSIBLE SOURCES OF DIFFERENCES TO NA EMPLOYMENT

- Exclusion of production for self-consumption from employment

- More objective (and cross country identical) criteria for absence from work, based on the reception of a job-related income or benefit, or on the total expected duration of the absence (especially for parental leave and seasonal workers)

11. BREAKS IN TIME SERIES

- **The break in time series exercises**:

  - For the main indicators, back-calculations will be provided for/by all MS for the period 2009Q1-2020Q4

- Indicators to be covered directly by the countries

  - Employment and unemployment levels in thousands by sex and age groups [15-24, 25-64, 65-74 and, for employment only, 20-64]

  - Based on this Eurostat will estimate all aggregations and rates and further indicators if not directly provided

12. ICSE-18 TASK FORCE

- Implementation of the new international classification of status in employment (ICSE-18) in the EU-LFS

  - The Eurostat NA teams are part of the task force

  - SNA update in 2025

  - ESA update in 2029

Thank you

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