

# Private Equity at Work

## Employment

Private equity is a cornerstone of the European economy present in every region and every major business sector across the continent.

From technology and life sciences start-ups to manufacturing small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and large consumer-focused multinationals, private equity backed companies create and support millions of high-value jobs driving prosperity and growth in the process.

Private equity supports 10.5 million jobs in European companies, making it a major employer in most industry sectors.

# 26,157

**companies in Europe** backed by private equity in 2021 across all industry sectors and all regions

# 18,851

of which were **SMEs employing 874,785 people**

**Note**  
Employment data is based on an extrapolation of a sample of 14,641 portfolio companies

## Employment 2021

# 10.5 million

**Employees** worked in private equity backed European companies

# 4.5%

of Europe's total 235 million workforce

Source: EDC / Eurostat / UK ONS

### Employment by portfolio company stage



Jobs in Buyout stage companies

**6,519,716**

Jobs in Growth stage companies

**3,044,947**

Jobs in Venture stage companies

**581,720**

Other\*

**335,847**

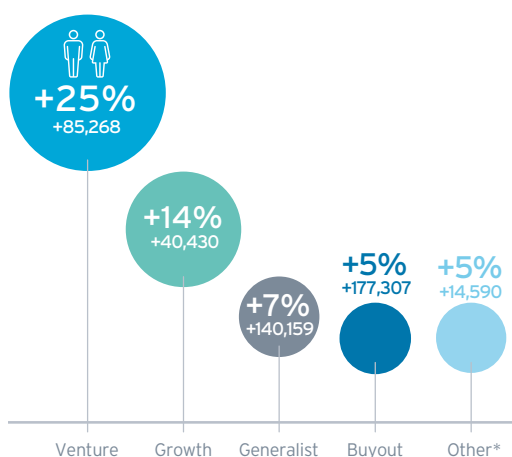
\* Other includes Turnaround/Rescue and Replacement capital

## Job creation – The facts

Private equity builds successful businesses. Successful businesses invest more in growth. And growth leads to job creation.

### Job creation by type of private equity firm

All stages of private equity are contributing to job creation. During what was a rather uncertain period, Venture firms particularly managed to grow significantly the workforces in their portfolio companies: +85,268 (+25%). Typically backing larger companies, Buyout firms increased employment in theirs by +177,307 (+5%).



\* Other includes Mezzanine & Turnaround/Rescue

# +12%

more new jobs created by SMEs in 2021

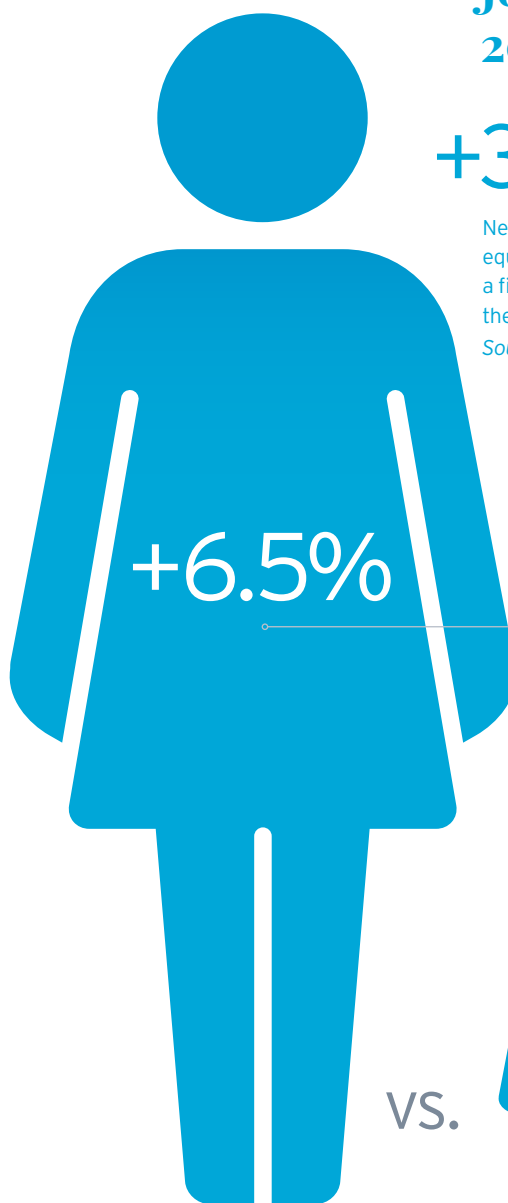
#### Note

Job creation data is based on portfolio companies in Europe active and backed by Private Equity as of end of 2021

## Job creation 2020-21

# +341,910

Net jobs were created by private equity backed companies in 2021, a figure roughly comparable to the population of Bilbao, Spain  
Source: EDC / Eurostat



Job creation of +6.5% in private equity backed companies in 2021

# +1.2%

This compares to the +1.2% seen in European companies overall

VS.



## Sector highlights

### Information Communications Technology (ICT)



1,436,143 employees  
+87,708 new jobs  
+13.6% growth

### Financial & Insurance Activities



325,559 employees  
+13,131 new jobs  
+8.3% growth

### Biotech & Healthcare



1,229,342 employees  
+46,785 new jobs  
+7.2% growth

### This document is a summary report.

For a copy of the full research report, please visit [www.investeurope.eu](http://www.investeurope.eu)

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