

# Private Equity at Work

## Employment – The facts

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 support millions of high-value jobs driving prosperity and growth in the process.

Private equity supports 9.9 million jobs in European companies, making it a major employer in most industry sectors.

# 24,663

**companies in Europe** backed by private equity in 2020 across all industry sectors and all regions

# 17,781

of which were **SMEs employing 854,459 people**

**Note**  
Employment data is based on an extrapolation of a sample of 13,684 portfolio companies

## Employment 2020

# 9.9 million

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

# 4.3%

of Europe's total 233 million workforce

Source: EDC / Eurostat / UK ONS

### Employment by portfolio company stage



Jobs in Buyout stage companies

**6,184,810**

Jobs in Growth stage companies

**2,702,234**

Jobs in Venture stage companies

**556,439**

Others\*

**474,004**

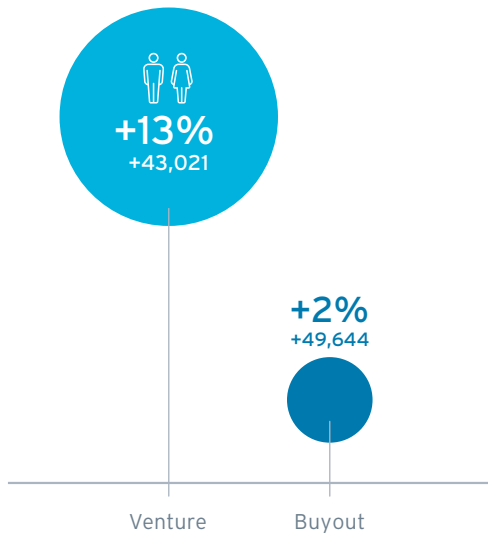
\* Others includes Turnaround/Rescue and Replacement capital

### 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

During what was a tumultuous period, Venture firms particularly managed to grow significantly the workforces in their portfolio companies: +43,021 (+13%).



# +5%

more new jobs created by SMEs in 2020

#### Note

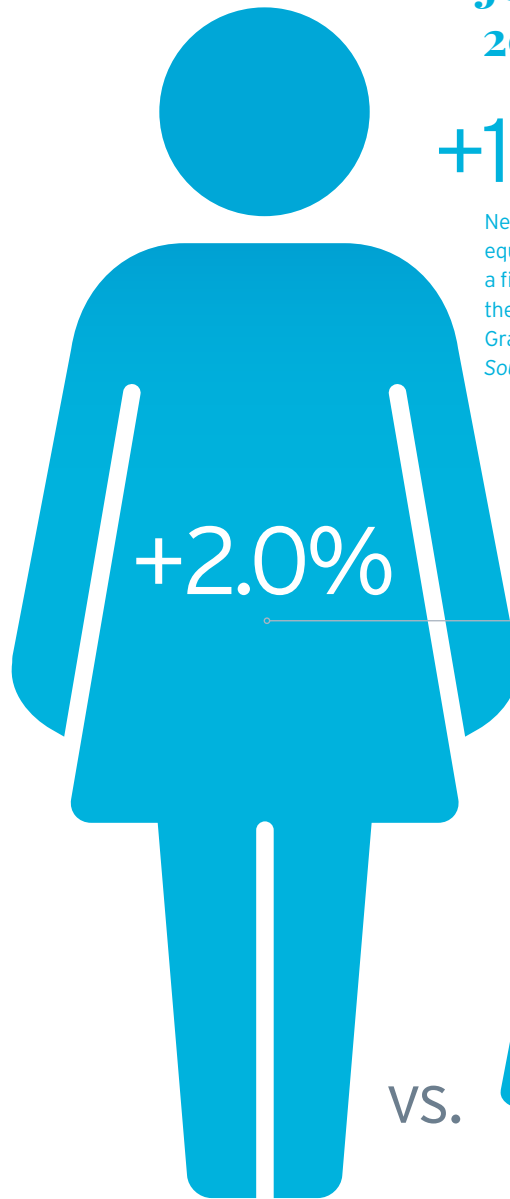
Job creation data is based on portfolio companies in Europe active and backed by Private Equity as of end of 2020

## Job creation 2019-20

# +103,566

Net jobs were created by private equity backed companies in 2020, a figure roughly comparable to the working population of Granada (Spain)

Source: EDC / Eurostat



Job creation of +2.0% in private equity backed companies in 2020

# -1.6%

This compares to the contraction of -1.6% seen in European companies overall

### Sector highlights



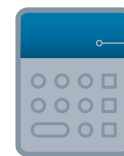
#### Biotech & Healthcare

1,279,903 employees  
+41,309 new jobs  
+7.5% growth



#### Information Communications Technology (ICT)

1,313,427 employees  
+35,126 new jobs  
+4.9% growth



#### Financial & Insurance Activities

267,095 employees  
+11,204 new jobs  
+7.7% growth

This document is a summary report.

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

Invest Europe

Avenue Louise 81  
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium

T +32 2 715 00 20  
[info@investeurope.eu](mailto:info@investeurope.eu)  
[www.investeurope.eu](http://www.investeurope.eu)