

32. Operating expenses

Operating expenses for the period amount to €2,520.9 million compared to €2,074.6 million for the first half of 2015.

They account for 95.5% of revenue compared to 94.3% for the corresponding period of 2015.

The item may be broken down as follows:

(€'000)	1st half 2016	1st half 2015	Variation
Purchases	515,600	379,950	135,650
Subcontracts	645,419	640,018	5,401
Services	739,948	637,851	102,097
Personnel expenses	420,235	262,169	158,066
Other operating expenses	73,038	56,510	16,528
Amortisation, depreciation, provisions and impairment losses	126,615	98,134	28,481
Total	2,520,855	2,074,632	446,223

The difference in the individual items compared to the corresponding period of 2015 is mainly due to the different cost structures that vary from contract to contract and may, in some cases, entail changes in the industrial operating model from one year to another. Moreover, as these are large-scale infrastructural works that take several years to complete, resort to normal production factors depends on the stage of completion of each contract in any given year. These changes may generate significant variations in the percentage of the related cost categories depending on the contract and the year, while not affecting the total percentage of operating costs of total revenue.