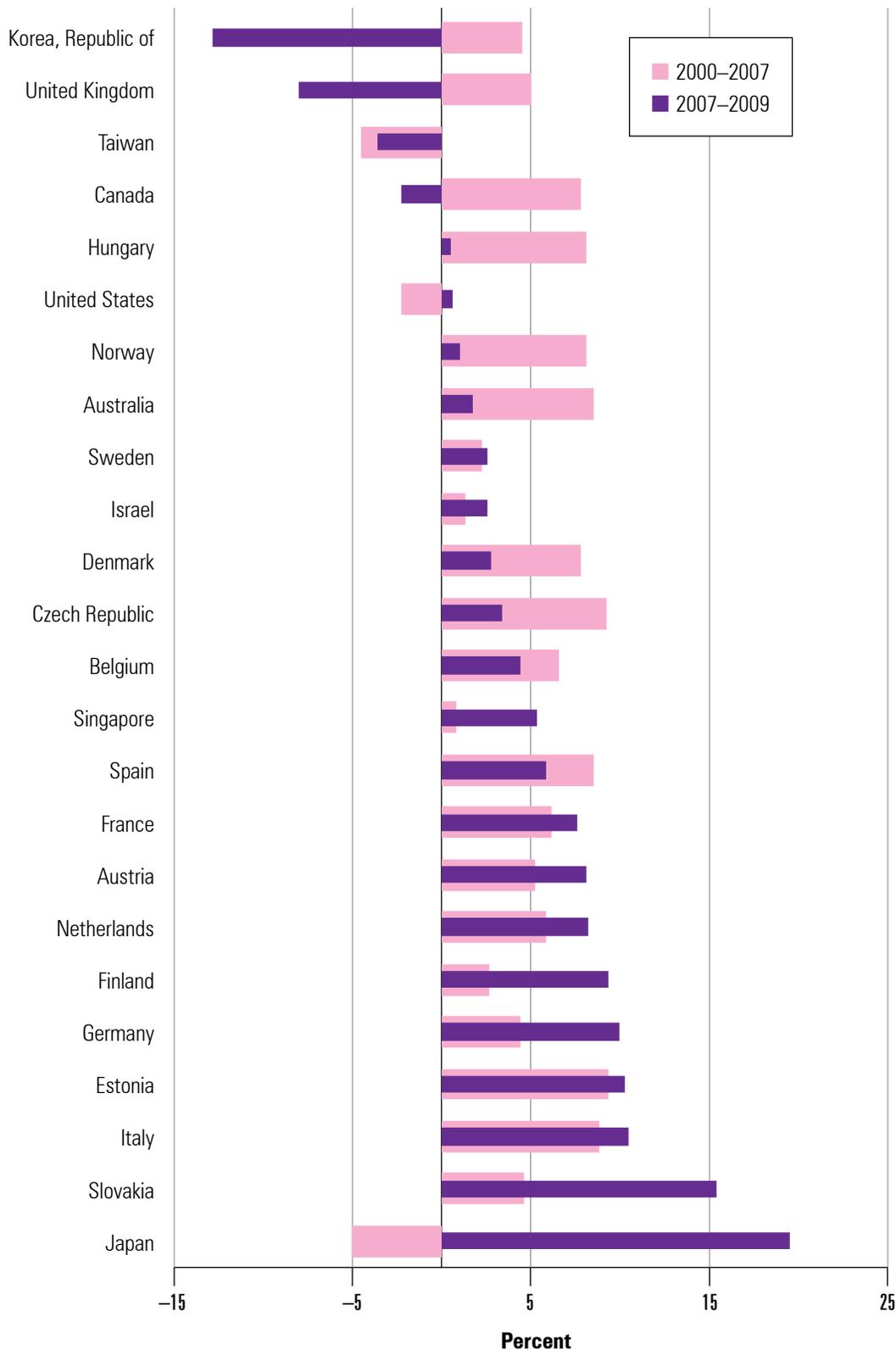


# Growth in manufacturing unit labor costs in U.S. dollars, selected countries, average annual rates, 2000–2007 and 2007–2009



**CHART**  
**3.11**

To gauge international competitiveness, unit labor costs (compensation per unit of output) can be converted to U.S. dollars. Competitiveness increases as unit labor costs decrease.

- Growth in manufacturing unit labor costs converted to U.S. dollars was faster from 2007 to 2009 than the growth between 2000 and 2007 in most countries. Japan and Slovakia had the sharpest increases in unit labor costs.

SOURCES: Bureau of Labor Statistics and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development