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July 2015
Euro area unemployment rate at 10.9%
EU28 at 9.5%

> This News Release has been revised to correct an error in the graph below for Latvia. The data in the tables were not affected. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

The **euro area** (EA19) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 10.9% in July 2015, down from 11.1% in June 2015, and from 11.6% in July 2014. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **euro area** since February 2012. The **EU28** unemployment rate was 9.5% in July 2015, down from 9.6% in June 2015, and from 10.2% in July 2014. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **EU28** since June 2011. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 23.067 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 17.532 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in July 2015. Compared with June 2015, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 232 000 in the **EU28** and by 213 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with July 2014, unemployment fell by 1.648 million in the **EU28** and by 1.116 million in the **euro area**.

Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in July 2015 were recorded in **Germany** (4.7%), the **Czech Republic** and **Malta** (both 5.1%), and the highest in **Greece** (25.0% in May 2015) and **Spain** (22.2%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate in July 2015 fell in twenty-three Member States, increased in three and remained stable in **Belgium** and **Romania**. The largest decreases were registered in **Bulgaria** (11.5% to 9.4%), **Spain** (24.3% to 22.2%), **Greece** (27.0% to 25.0% between May 2014 and May 2015), **Portugal** (14.1% to 12.1%), **Ireland** (11.3% to 9.5%) and **Croatia** (16.9% to 15.1%). The increases were registered in **Finland** (8.7% to 9.7%), **France** (10.3% to 10.4%) and **Austria** (5.7% to 5.8%).

In July 2015, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 5.3%, stable compared to June 2015 and down from 6.2% in July 2014.

Unemployment rates in July 2015, seasonally adjusted

* May 2015   ** June 2015
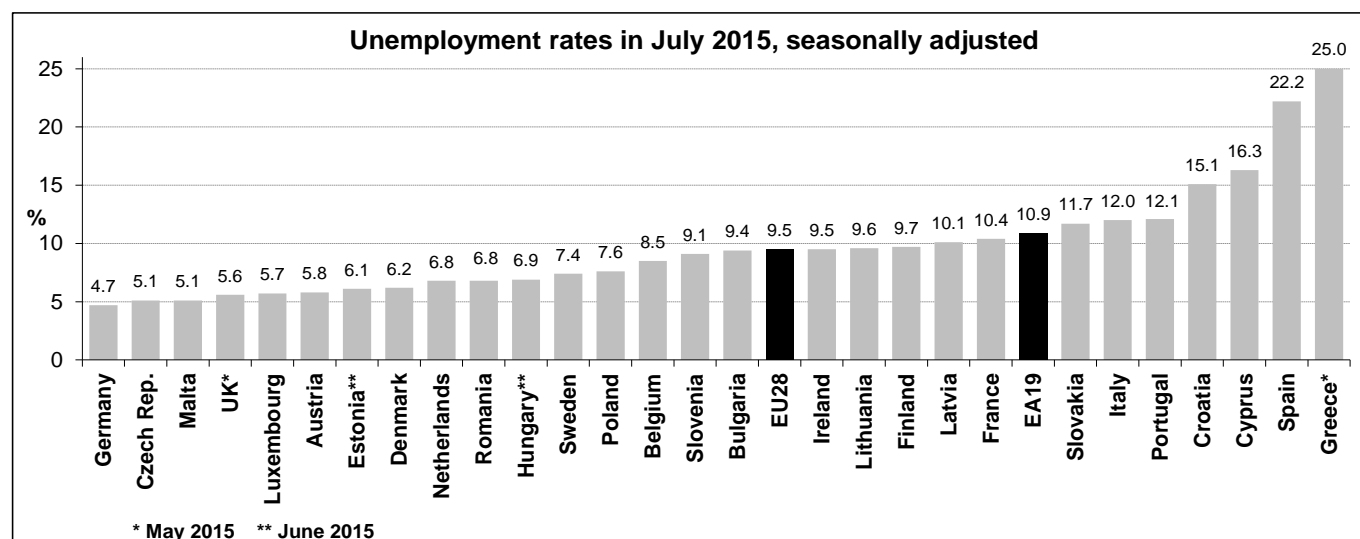
Youth unemployment

In July 2015, 4.634 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 3.093 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with July 2014, youth unemployment decreased by 465 000 in the **EU28** and by 336 000 in the **euro area**. In July 2015, the youth unemployment rate was 20.4% in the **EU28** and 21.9% in the **euro area**, compared with 22.0% and 23.8% respectively in July 2014. In July 2015, the lowest rates were observed in **Germany** (7.0%), **Malta** (8.7%) and **Estonia** (9.5% in June 2015), and the highest in **Greece** (51.8% in May 2015), **Spain** (48.6%), **Croatia** (43.1% in the second quarter 2015) and **Italy** (40.5%).

Geographical coverage

The **euro area (EA19)** includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union (EU28)** includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Methods and definition

Eurostat produces harmonised unemployment rates for individual EU Member States, the euro area and the EU. These unemployment rates are based on the definition recommended by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The measurement is based on a harmonised source, the European Union Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Based on the ILO definition, Eurostat defines **unemployed persons** as persons aged 15 to 74 who:
- are without work;
- are available to start work within the next two weeks;
- and have actively sought employment at some time during the previous four weeks.

The **unemployment rate** is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

The **labour force** is the total number of people employed plus unemployed. In this news release unemployment rates are based on employment and unemployment data covering persons aged 15 to 74.

The **youth unemployment rate** is the number of people aged 15 to 24 unemployed as a percentage of the labour force of the same age. Therefore, the youth unemployment rate should not be interpreted as the share of jobless people in the overall youth population.

Country notes: Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden and Iceland: the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Norway: 3-month moving averages of LFS data are used instead of pure monthly indicators.

Revisions and timetable

The data in this News Release can be subject to revisions, caused by updates to the seasonally adjusted series whenever new monthly data are added; the inclusion of the most recent LFS data in the calculation process; update of seasonal adjustment models with complete annual data; inclusion of new weights in the LFS data due to the 2011 Census.

Compared with the rates published in News Release [135/2015](#) of 31 July 2015, the June 2015 unemployment rates remained unchanged at 9.6% for the EU28 and at 11.1% for the EA19. Among Member States, rates have been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Ireland, Italy, Malta and Romania (all by 0.2 pp). Revisions of more than 0.1 percentage points upwards have been observed for Denmark (by 0.2 pp) and Lithuania (by 1.0 pp).

For more information

Eurostat's [website section](#) on employment and unemployment
Eurostat's [database section](#) on unemployment, including non-seasonally adjusted and trend data
Eurostat's [Statistics Explained article](#) on unemployment
Eurostat's [Statistics Explained article](#) on youth unemployment
Eurostat's [metadata](#) on adjusted unemployment series
Eurostat's €-indicators [release calendar](#)

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Euro area and EU28 unemployment rates
Seasonally adjusted series

— Euro area (EA19) — EU28

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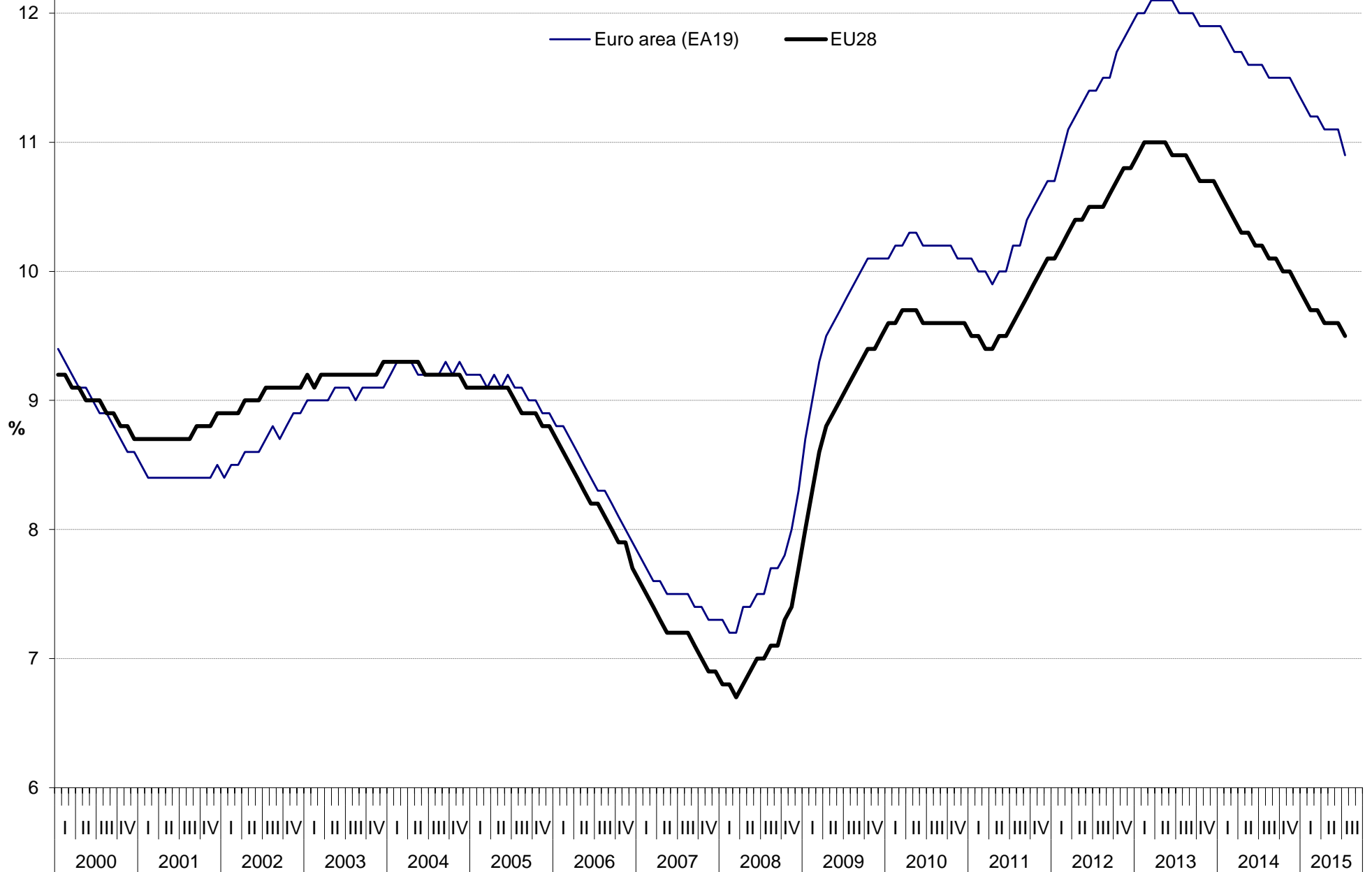
Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 14	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15	Jul 14	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15
EA19	11.6	11.1	11.1	11.1	**10.9**	18 648	17 790	17 741	17 745	**17 532**
EU28	10.2	9.6	9.6	9.6	**9.5**	24 715	23 434	23 358	23 299	**23 067**
Belgium	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.6	**8.5**	425	430	429	431	**426**
Bulgaria	11.5	9.8	9.7	9.6	**9.4**	386	326	323	319	**313**
Czech Republic	5.9	5.3	5.1	5.0	**5.1**	314	280	270	266	**270**
Denmark	6.6	6.3	6.2	6.2	**6.2**	191	185	182	182	**183**
Germany	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.7	**4.7**	2 090	1 989	1 984	1 977	**1 967**
Estonia	7.2**	6.5	6.4	6.1	**:**	48**	44	44	42	**:**
Ireland	11.3	9.7	9.6	9.5	**9.5**	242	209	207	206	**206**
Greece	27.0*	25.6	25.0	:	**:**	1 300*	1 216	1 201	:	**:**
Spain	24.3	22.7	22.5	22.4	**22.2**	5 579	5 217	5 179	5 152	**5 095**
France	10.3	10.2	10.3	10.3	**10.4**	3 026	2 995	3 012	3 016	**3 034**
Croatia	16.9	16.2	15.8	15.4	**15.1**	321	307	299	293	**288**
Italy	12.9	12.3	12.4	12.5	**12.0**	3 290	3 153	3 172	3 217	**3 074**
Cyprus	16.4	16.0	16.0	16.2	**16.3**	71	69	69	70	**70**
Latvia	10.8	9.5	9.7	10.1	**10.1**	107	95	97	100	**100**
Lithuania	10.7	9.5	9.5	9.5	**9.6**	157	139	139	139	**140**
Luxembourg	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.6	**5.7**	16	15	15	15	**15**
Hungary	8.2**	7.1	7.0	6.9	**:**	363**	319	315	311	**:**
Malta	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.3	**5.1**	11	11	10	10	**10**
Netherlands	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.9	**6.8**	648	625	617	611	**603**
Austria	5.7	5.8	6.0	5.9	**5.8**	246	255	262	256	**254**
Poland	8.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	**7.6**	1 526	1 360	1 350	1 332	**1 318**
Portugal	14.1	12.8	12.4	12.3	**12.1**	732	656	634	630	**625**
Romania	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	**6.8**	630	632	632	627	**630**
Slovenia	9.7	9.2	9.2	9.2	**9.1**	97	92	93	92	**90**
Slovakia	13.2	11.9	11.8	11.8	**11.7**	358	327	325	323	**321**
Finland	8.7	9.4	9.5	9.6	**9.7**	232	252	254	257	**259**
Sweden	7.9	7.6	7.5	7.5	**7.4**	411	397	393	390	**386**
United Kingdom	6.3*	5.6	5.6	:	**:**	2 036*	1 832	1 841	:	**:**
Iceland	4.8	4.2	4.1	4.1	**4.1**	9	8	8	8	**8**
Norway	3.3**	4.3	4.3	4.5	**:**	88**	118	119	124	**:**
United States	6.2	5.4	5.5	5.3	**5.3**	9 680	8 505	8 681	8 288	**8 292**

The source datasets are available here (rates) and here (in 1000 persons).
: Data not available   * May 2014   ** June 2014

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Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 14	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15	Jul 14	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15
EA19	23.8	22.4	22.2	22.3	**21.9**	3 429	3 196	3 153	3 161	**3 093**
EU28	22.0	20.7	20.6	20.6	**20.4**	5 099	4 763	4 721	4 711	**4 634**
Belgium	20.9	19.9	19.5	19.3	**18.0**	86	82	81	81	**75**
Bulgaria	23.3	20.3	19.5	18.8	**18.1**	47	40	38	36	**35**
Czech Republic	16.5	13.5	12.8	13.0	**13.4**	59	48	45	46	**47**
Denmark	12.5	10.4	10.4	11.4	**11.7**	55	46	47	52	**53**
Germany	7.7	7.2	7.1	7.1	**7.0**	324	301	299	297	**295**
Estonia	13.7	11.1	10.1	9.5	**:**	8	7	6	6	**:**
Ireland	23.4	20.7	20.5	20.7	**20.7**	46	39	38	38	**39**
Greece	49.5	52.5	51.8	:	**:**	156	152	147	:	**:**
Spain	54.1	49.4	49.1	48.9	**48.6**	856	780	769	751	**728**
France	24.3	23.9	23.8	23.8	**24.1**	669	649	645	644	**654**
Croatia	45.6	43.1	43.1	43.1	**:**	76	69	69	69	**:**
Italy	43.1	41.7	42.0	43.1	**40.5**	710	657	641	667	**616**
Cyprus	35.3	31.9	31.9	31.9	**:**	15	13	13	13	**:**
Latvia	20.4	14.4	15.2	15.5	**15.4**	17	12	13	13	**12**
Lithuania	19.0	18.2	18.4	18.6	**19.4**	25	23	23	23	**24**
Luxembourg	22.2	18.8	18.6	18.3	**18.6**	4	3	3	3	**3**
Hungary	21.5	18.6	18.6	17.9	**:**	72	63	64	61	**:**
Malta	12.0	8.9	8.9	8.7	**8.7**	3	3	3	3	**2**
Netherlands	12.8	10.9	11.1	11.1	**11.3**	175	154	156	157	**159**
Austria	9.9	10.5	10.7	10.6	**10.8**	55	59	60	59	**61**
Poland	24.0	21.4	21.0	20.4	**20.1**	348	292	283	271	**264**
Portugal	34.8	31.6	30.8	31.6	**31.0**	134	117	112	114	**113**
Romania	23.4	23.3*	:	:	**:**	160	163*	:	:	**:**
Slovenia	20.2	16.7	16.7	16.7	**:**	14	12	12	12	**:**
Slovakia	30.2	25.9	25.7	25.5	**24.8**	64	55	55	55	**53**
Finland	20.2	23.2	23.7	24.2	**24.5**	67	77	78	79	**80**
Sweden	22.8	21.2	21.1	21.0	**20.9**	152	138	136	135	**134**
United Kingdom	15.8	15.9	16.1	:	**:**	711	721	731	:	**:**
Iceland	9.9	8.8	8.8	8.9	**9.0**	3	3	3	3	**3**
Norway	7.5	10.2	10.7	11.1	**:**	27	39	41	43	**:**

The source datasets are available here (rates) and here (in 1000 persons).
: Data not available   *Q1 2015
Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia: quarterly data

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Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by gender

	Males					Females				
	Jul 14	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15	Jul 14	Apr 15	May 15	Jun 15	Jul 15
EA19	11.4	10.9	10.9	10.9	**10.7**	11.8	11.3	11.2	11.3	**11.2**
EU28	10.1	9.5	9.5	9.5	**9.4**	10.3	9.8	9.7	9.7	**9.6**
Belgium	9.0	9.1	9.1	9.1	**9.0**	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	**8.0**
Bulgaria	12.4	10.3	10.2	10.1	**10.0**	10.4	9.2	9.1	8.9	**8.7**
Czech Republic	4.9	4.4	4.3	4.2	**4.2**	7.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	**6.2**
Denmark	6.4	6.3	6.1	5.9	**6.0**	6.8	6.3	6.4	6.6	**6.5**
Germany	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.1	**5.1**	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.3	**4.3**
Estonia	8.3	6.3	6.4	6.1	**:**	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.2	**:**
Ireland	12.8	11.0	10.8	10.7	**10.6**	9.4	8.1	8.1	8.1	**8.1**
Greece	23.4	22.5	22.4	:	**:**	30.1	29.5	28.2	:	**:**
Spain	23.3	21.4	21.1	21.0	**20.7**	25.5	24.3	24.2	24.1	**24.0**
France	10.4	10.6	10.6	10.6	**10.6**	10.2	9.9	9.9	10.0	**10.1**
Croatia	16.0	16.2	15.8	15.4	**15.1**	17.8	16.1	15.7	15.4	**15.1**
Italy	12.1	11.7	11.9	12.0	**11.5**	14.0	13.1	13.0	13.3	**12.7**
Cyprus	17.6	15.9	15.8	16.1	**16.2**	15.0	16.1	16.2	16.3	**16.4**
Latvia	11.7	10.8	11.3	11.6	**11.4**	9.9	8.2	8.2	8.6	**8.8**
Lithuania	12.2	10.7	10.7	10.8	**10.8**	9.1	8.3	8.2	8.3	**8.3**
Luxembourg	5.8	5.3	5.2	5.2	**5.3**	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.1	**6.2**
Hungary	7.7	7.0	6.8	6.6	**:**	8.1	7.1	7.2	7.2	**:**
Malta	6.1	5.5	5.4	5.3	**5.1**	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.2	**5.1**
Netherlands	7.1	6.6	6.6	6.6	**6.4**	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.2	**7.1**
Austria	5.9	6.2	6.3	6.1	**6.1**	5.5	5.5	5.7	5.5	**5.4**
Poland	8.3	7.5	7.5	7.3	**7.2**	9.4	8.3	8.2	8.1	**8.0**
Portugal	13.4	12.4	12.4	12.1	**12.1**	14.9	13.2	12.3	12.4	**12.2**
Romania	7.3	7.6	7.6	7.6	**7.8**	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.7	**5.6**
Slovenia	8.8	8.2	8.1	8.0	**7.9**	10.6	10.5	10.6	10.6	**10.5**
Slovakia	12.8	11.0	10.9	10.8	**10.7**	13.6	13.1	13.1	13.0	**13.0**
Finland	9.3	9.9	10.0	10.2	**10.3**	8.0	8.8	8.9	9.0	**9.0**
Sweden	8.2	7.7	7.6	7.5	**7.4**	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.4	**7.4**
United Kingdom	6.2	5.8	5.8	:	**:**	5.7	5.4	5.4	:	**:**
Iceland	4.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	**4.0**	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.3	**4.3**
Norway	3.5	4.6	4.6	4.9	**:**	3.2	3.9	3.9	4.0	**:**

The source dataset is available here.
: Data not available

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