

2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2015 compared with 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2015

## Almost 1 in 5 unemployed persons in the EU found a job

First release of labour market flow statistics

Out of all persons in the **European Union (EU)** who were unemployed in the first quarter 2015, 64.6% (14.2 million persons) remained unemployed in the second quarter 2015, while 18.6% (4.1 million) moved into employment and 16.8% (3.7 million) towards economic inactivity in Q2 2015.

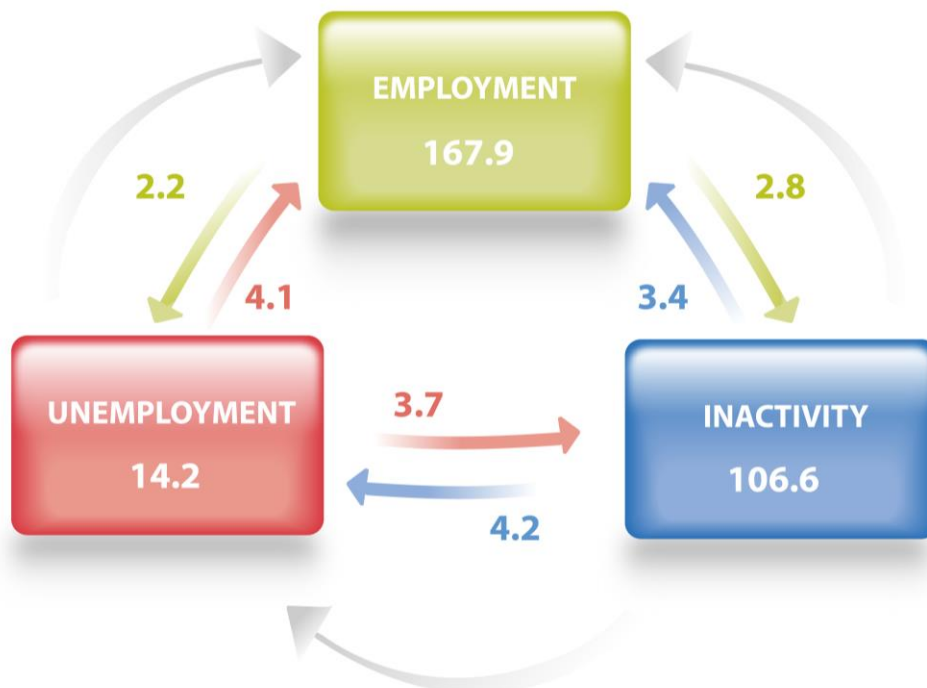
Of all those initially in employment, 97.1% (167.9 million persons) remained in employment, while 1.3% (2.2 million) of those employed in the first quarter were observed to be unemployed in the second quarter, and 1.6% (2.8 million) transitioned into economic inactivity.

Today, **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, publishes for the first time quarterly labour market flows, based on non-seasonally adjusted labour market data from the European Union Labour Force Survey.

Labour market flows show the movements of individuals between employment, unemployment, and economic inactivity and enrich the analysis of the net changes in stocks. These statistics help to understand and interpret changes in the levels of labour market indicators.

While the quality of this brand new data collection is not yet fully explored, the statistics are judged sufficiently reliable for policy analysis and other purposes. They are based on an agreed methodology which may be slightly different from that used at national level. This may result in small differences between these data and those published nationally.

**Transitions in labour market status in the EU\*, Q1-Q2 2015**  
(in millions; population aged 15-74)



\* The graphic gives an overview of all possible transitions and shows the aggregate transitions for Q1-Q2 2015 for 26 EU Member States between the different labour market statuses. Data is shown in absolute numbers to allow a comparison of the actual size of the different flows. The levels indicated for employment, unemployment and inactivity refer to the share remaining in each status between the two quarters, respectively. The grey arrows indicate the net direction of flows between two statuses.

**Transitions in labour market status in the EU\*, Q1-Q2 2015**  
(in % of initial status; population aged 15-74)

FROM	TO		
	Employment Q2 2015	Unemployment Q2 2015	Inactivity Q2 2015
Employment Q1 2015	97.1%	1.3%	1.6%
Unemployment Q1 2015	18.6%	64.6%	16.8%
Inactivity Q1 2015	3.0%	3.7%	93.3%

\* EU aggregate based on 26 Member States.

**Outflow from unemployment, Q1-Q2 2015**  
(in % of unemployed persons aged 15-74 in Q1 2015)

	Into employment in Q2 2015	Into unemployment in Q2 2015	Into inactivity in Q2 2015
<b>EU*</b>	<b>18.6%</b>	<b>64.6%</b>	<b>16.8%</b>
Belgium	:	:	:
Bulgaria	10.7%	82.3%	7.1%
Czech Republic	22.2%	63.2%	14.6%
Denmark	38.4%	44.3%	17.3%
Germany	:	:	:
Estonia	29.2%	59.2%	11.6%
Ireland	16.4%	67.3%	16.2%
Greece	8.6%	90.8%	0.6%
Spain	17.9%	70.0%	12.1%
France	22.9%	60.7%	16.3%
Croatia	16.3%	81.0%	(2.7%)
Italy	16.1%	48.3%	35.7%
Cyprus	20.5%	67.3%	12.2%
Latvia	24.0%	55.2%	20.7%
Lithuania	18.4%	74.6%	7.0%
Luxembourg	17.2%	50.2%	32.6%
Hungary	23.1%	66.7%	10.2%
Malta	-	83.2%	-
Netherlands	21.9%	53.5%	24.6%
Austria	26.3%	54.4%	19.3%
Poland	15.8%	65.0%	19.2%
Portugal	25.0%	58.6%	16.3%
Romania	17.7%	69.9%	12.4%
Slovenia	19.3%	58.3%	22.4%
Slovakia	13.4%	84.0%	2.5%
Finland	25.6%	53.3%	21.0%
Sweden	29.6%	57.0%	13.4%
United Kingdom	18.7%	67.0%	14.4%
Iceland	49.0%	36.0%	(15.0%)
Norway	26.6%	40.8%	32.6%
Switzerland	34.8%	47.2%	18.0%
FYR of Macedonia	15.6%	81.2%	(3.2%)
Turkey	40.0%	36.7%	23.2%

\* EU aggregate based on 26 Member States.

: Data not available.

- Data not published due to small sample size.

Data shown in brackets are calculated as the balance of the flows

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

### Geographical information

Data for the **European Union** (EU) presented in this news release cover 26 out of the 28 Member States: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, 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.

Data for Luxembourg are available from Q1 2015 on only.

Data are not available for Belgium and Germany.

### Methods and definitions

The quality of this data is not yet fully explored, but the statistics are judged sufficiently reliable for policy analysis and other purposes. The methodology applied aims at producing comparable figures across countries and may differ from national approaches. Data are derived from the EU-LFS by exploiting the quarterly overlap of a share of the sample; this overlapping data is weighted to be compatible with stock data derived from the EU-LFS for the initial quarter as well as the final quarter with the exception of inactivity in the initial quarter. Further information on the methodology is available in the Eurostat Statistics Explained article on [labour market flow statistics](#).

**Employed persons** are all persons who worked at least one hour for pay or profit during the reference week or were temporarily absent from such work.

**Unemployed persons** are all persons who were not employed during the reference week, had actively sought work during the past four weeks, and were ready to begin working immediately or within two weeks.

The **inactive population** consists of all persons who are classified neither as employed nor as unemployed. It can include in particular students, pensioners and housewives or -men, for example, provided that they are not working at all and not available or looking for work either; some of these may be of working-age.

### Revisions and time table

Data in this news release have a provisional nature and can be subject to revisions due to improvements and refinements in the methods used.

### For more information

Eurostat [database](#) on labour market statistics.

Eurostat [metadata](#) on labour market transitions.

Eurostat Statistics Explained article on [labour market flow statistics](#) in the EU.

Issued by:

**Eurostat Press Office**

**Vincent BOURGEAIS**  
Tel: +352-4301-33 444

[eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu)


 [ec.europa.eu/eurostat](https://www.ec.europa.eu/eurostat)

Production of data:

**Hannah KIIVER**  
Tel: +352-4301-38 438  
**Frank ESPELAGE**  
Tel: +352-4301-37 406

[estat-lfs-user-support@ec.europa.eu](mailto:estat-lfs-user-support@ec.europa.eu)

 [@EU Eurostat](https://twitter.com/EU_Eurostat)

 **Media requests:** Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33 408 / [eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu)