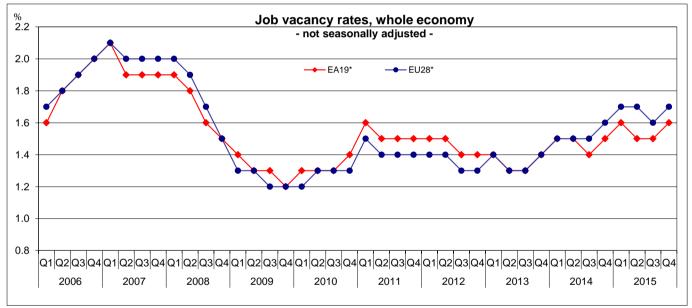


54/2016 - 18 March 2016

Fourth quarter of 2015 **Euro area job vacancy rate up to 1.6%** EU28 rate up to 1.7%

The job vacancy rate in the **euro area** (EA19) was 1.6% in the fourth quarter of 2015, up from 1.5% in the previous quarter and the fourth quarter of 2014, according to figures published by **Eurostat**, the statistical office of the **European Union**. The job vacancy rate in the **EU28** was 1.7% in the fourth quarter of 2015, up from 1.6% in the previous quarter and the fourth quarter of 2014.



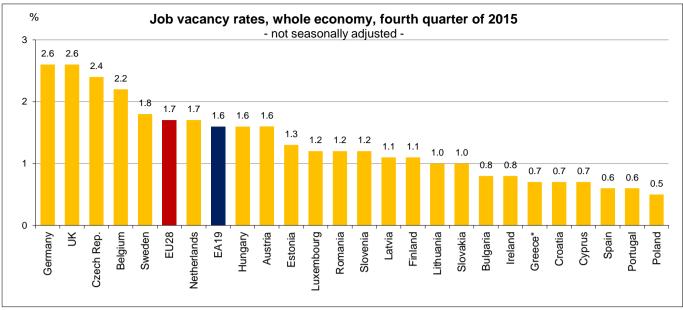
* Data for EU27 up to 2009 Q4, data for EU28 from 2010 Q1. Differences between the two zones are well below 0.01 percentage points. Data up to 2010Q3 are calculated using estimates for Germany.

In the **euro area** and the **EU28**, the job vacancy rate in the fourth quarter of 2015 was 1.2% in industry and construction, and 2.0% in services.

Member States

Among the Member States for which comparable data are available, the highest job vacancy rates in the fourth quarter of 2015 were recorded in **Germany** and the **United Kingdom** (both 2.6%), the **Czech Republic** (2.4%) and **Belgium** (2.2%), and the lowest in **Poland** (0.5%), **Spain** and **Portugal** (both 0.6%).

Among the Member States for which data for the fourth quarter of 2015 are published, the job vacancy rate rose in twenty one, remained stable in four and fell in two compared to the fourth quarter of 2014. The largest increases were registered in the **Czech Republic** (+0.8 percentage points) and **Latvia** (+0.7 pp). The only decreases were recorded in **Malta** (-0.4 pp) and **Estonia** (-0.1 pp).



* Data for Greece refer to the third quarter of 2015.

Denmark, France, Italy and Malta: not shown as data are not strictly comparable

Geographical information

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 definitions

The job vacancy rate (JVR) measures the proportion of total posts that are vacant, expressed as a percentage:

JVR = (number of job vacancies) / (number of occupied posts + number of job vacancies).

A **job vacancy** is defined as a paid post (newly created, unoccupied or about to become vacant) for which the employer is taking active steps to find a suitable candidate from outside the enterprise concerned and is prepared to take more steps and which the employer intends to fill either immediately or in the near future. Under this definition, a job vacancy should be open to candidates from outside an enterprise. However, this does not exclude the possibility of the employer recruiting an internal candidate for the post. A vacant post that is open only to internal candidates should not be treated as a job vacancy. An occupied post is a paid post within an organisation to which an employee has been assigned.

Job vacancy rates cover NACE Rev. 2 sections B to S. This aggregate is referred to as "Whole economy" for the sake of simplification, even if agriculture, activities of households as employers and activities of extraterritorial organisations are excluded. NACE Rev. 2 sections B to S include the industry (B to E), construction (F) and services (G to N) sectors together with (mainly) non-market services (O to S).

The job vacancy rates for the EU and euro area aggregates are based on Member States data, including estimates for recent periods when values are not yet available. If national data are only available for a sub-population, for example excluding smaller units or some activities, this sub-population is used in the computation of the job vacancy rate for the aggregates. Data up to 2010Q3 are calculated using estimates for Germany.

Country notes:

Denmark, France, Italy and Malta: data are not strictly comparable. In France and Italy, only business units with 10 employees or more are surveyed. Moreover, in the case of public administration, education and human health (NACE Rev. 2 sections O, P and Q), public institutions are not covered. France delivers annual data with coverage extended to units with less than 10 employees within the sectors provided. The last available data (reference year 2013) indicate a job vacancy rate of 0.9% for the economy covered. In Malta, only units with 10 employees or more are surveyed. In Denmark, only units within the business economy (NACE Rev 2 sections B to N) are surveyed.

Revisions and timetable

Compared with the rates published in News Release <u>227/2015</u> of 17 December 2015, the job vacancy rates in Germany have been revised mostly downwards as follows (in percentage points):

	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3
Whole economy (NACE Rev. 2 section B to S)	-0.5	-0.7	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4
Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)	0.1	-0.1	0.2	no revision	-0.1
Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)	-1.1	-1.3	-0.9	-0.8	-0.9

The revisions are due to the new extrapolation method used in the estimation of the results of the German Job Vacancy Survey. In particular, the survey results are now corrected for non-responses starting with the fourth quarter of 2010. More information can be found on the <u>website of the Institute for Employment Research</u> in Germany.

The revision of the job vacancy rates in Germany has a sizeable impact on the rates in the euro area and the EU28. Compared with the rates published in the previous news release, the job vacancy rates in the euro area were revised mostly downwards as follows (in percentage points):

	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3
Whole economy (NACE Rev. 2 section B to S)	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	-0.1
Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)	no revision	-0.1	0.1	no revision	no revision
Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3

The rates in the EU28 were revised mostly downwards as follows (in percentage points):

	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3
Whole economy (NACE Rev. 2 section B to S)	-0.1	-0.1	no revision	no revision	-0.1
Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)	no revision	no revision	no revision	-0.1	no revision
Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2

For more information

Eurostat's <u>website section</u> on job vacancy statistics Eurostat's <u>database section</u> on job vacancy statistics Eurostat's <u>Statistics Explained article</u> on job vacancy statistics Eurostat's €-indicators <u>release calendar</u>

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Job vacancy rates – whole economy (%) - Not seasonally adjusted -

	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4
EA19	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6
EU28	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7
Belgium	1.9	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.2
Bulgaria	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8
Czech Republic	1.6	1.7	2.3	2.3	2.4
Germany	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.6
Estonia	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.3
Ireland	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8
Greece	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	:
Spain	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Croatia	0.6	1.5	1.5	0.8	0.7
Cyprus	0.3	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7
Latvia	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.1
Lithuania	0.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Luxembourg	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2
Hungary	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6
Netherlands	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7
Austria	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.6
Poland	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
Portugal	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6
Romania	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2
Slovenia	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2
Slovakia	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
Finland	0.9	2.0	1.3	1.0	1.1
Sweden	1.4	2.1	2.0	1.6	1.8
United Kingdom	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.6
Norway	2.0	2.2	2.3	1.9	1.7
Switzerland	1.1	1.2	1.1	:	:
former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5

: data not available

Job vacancy rates – restricted coverage^{*} (%) - Not seasonally adjusted -

	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4
Denmark	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.5
France	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8
Italy	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5
Malta	2.5	2.3	3.2	3.1	2.1

* see Methods and definitions The source dataset is available <u>here</u>.

Job vacancy rates by main economic activity branches (%)

	Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)				Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)					
	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4
EA19	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.7	2.0
EU28	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.0
Belgium	2.0	2.1	2.8	2.9	2.3	2.5	2.9	3.4	3.5	2.9
Bulgaria	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4
Czech Republic	1.3	1.4	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.7	2.8	3.9	3.7	3.8
Denmark	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6
Germany	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8	3.4	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.4
Estonia	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.7	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.5
Ireland	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.0	1.2	0.9
Greece	1.1	1.4	1.1	0.3	:	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.1	:
Spain	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Croatia	0.3	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.6	1.3	2.1	0.8	0.6
Cyprus	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	1.5	1.3	0.9	0.9
Latvia	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.0
Lithuania	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0
Luxembourg	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.2	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7
Hungary	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.4
Netherlands	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.1
Austria	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	2.2	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.2
Poland	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7
Portugal	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.1
Romania	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9
Slovenia	1.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.6
Slovakia	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Finland	0.5	2.0	1.4	0.7	1.1	1.3	2.4	1.4	1.2	1.3
Sweden	1.0	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.1	2.3
United Kingdom	1.8	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.9
Norway	1.2	1.4	1.9	1.1	0.8	2.1	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.8
Switzerland	1.2	1.1	1.0	:	:	1.3	1.4	1.4	:	:
former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.5	1.5	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.8

- Not seasonally adjusted -

: data not available

Job vacancy rates by main economic activity branches (%)

- restricted coverage -

					, , , , , ,					
	Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)					(NACE R	Services ev. 2 section	on G to N)		
	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4	2014Q4	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4
France	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8
Italy	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6
Malta	1.4	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.9	3.5	2.2

- Not seasonally adjusted -

* see Methods and definitions

The source dataset is available here.