

4/2017 - 9 January 2017

November 2016

## Euro area unemployment at 9.8%

EU28 at 8.3%

The **euro area** (EA19) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 9.8% in November 2016, stable compared to October 2016 and down from 10.5% in November 2015. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **euro area** since July 2009. The **EU28** unemployment rate was 8.3% in November 2016, down from 8.4% in October 2016 and from 9.0% in November 2015. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **EU28** since February 2009. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

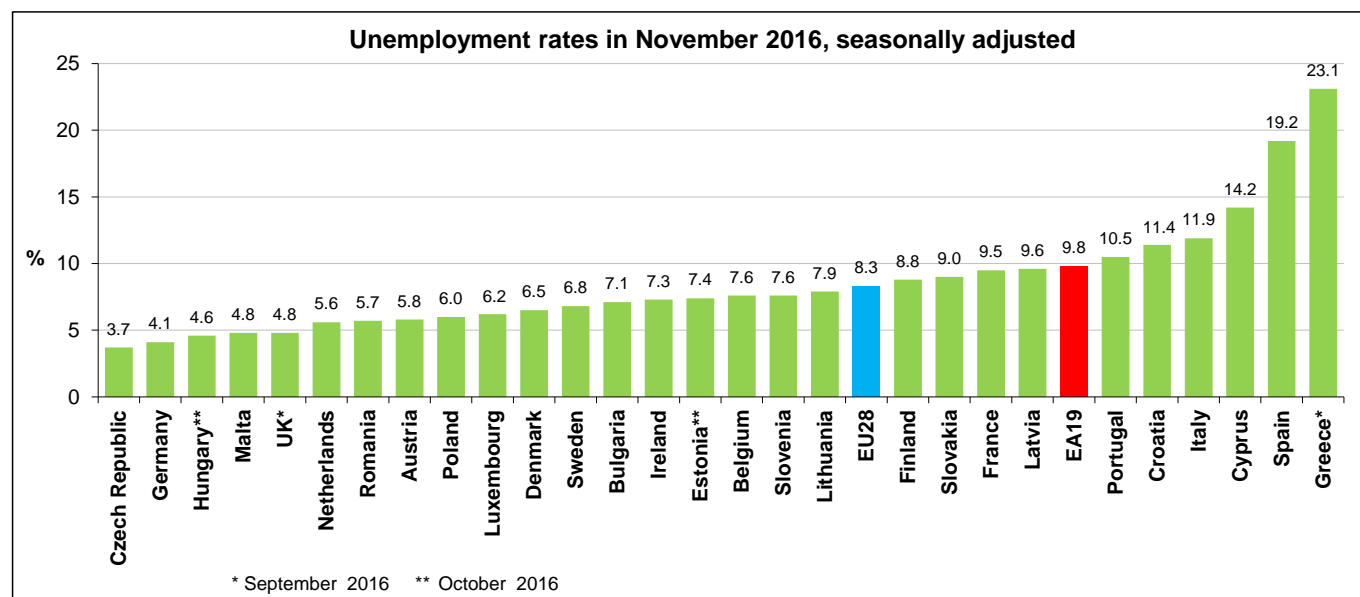
Eurostat estimates that 20.429 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 15.898 million were in the **euro area**, were unemployed in November 2016. Compared with October 2016, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 41 000 in the **EU28** and by 15 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with November 2015, unemployment fell by 1.552 million in the **EU28** and by 972 000 in the **euro area**.

### Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in November 2016 were recorded in the **Czech Republic** (3.7%) and **Germany** (4.1%). The highest unemployment rates were observed in **Greece** (23.1% in September 2016) and **Spain** (19.2%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate in November 2016 fell in twenty-four Member States, while it increased in **Estonia** (from 6.3% to 7.4% between October 2015 and October 2016), **Cyprus** (from 13.2% to 14.2%), **Denmark** (from 6.1% to 6.5%) and **Italy** (from 11.5% to 11.9%). The largest decrease was registered in **Croatia** (from 15.7% to 11.4%).

In November 2016, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 4.6%, down from 4.9% in October 2016 and from 5.0% in November 2015.



## Youth unemployment

In November 2016, 4.280 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 3.007 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with November 2015, youth unemployment decreased by 137 000 in the **EU28** and by 42 000 in the **euro area**. In November 2016, the youth unemployment rate was 18.8% in the **EU28** and 21.2% in the **euro area**, compared with 19.5% and 21.8% respectively in November 2015. In November 2016, the lowest rate was observed in **Germany** (6.7%), while the highest were recorded in **Greece** (46.1% in September 2016), **Spain** (44.4%) and **Italy** (39.4%).

### 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 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.

Compared with the rates published in News Release [239/2016](#) of 1 December 2016, the October 2016 unemployment rate has been revised upwards for the EU28 (from 8.3% to 8.4%). Among Member States, rates have been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Cyprus (by 1.8 pp), Poland (by 0.4 pp) and Italy (by 0.2 pp). The unemployment rate has been revised by more than 0.1 pp downwards for Croatia (by 1.2 pp), Belgium (by 0.3 pp), Bulgaria and Portugal (both by 0.2 pp).

### For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) on employment and unemployment

Eurostat [database section](#) on unemployment, including non-seasonally adjusted and trend data

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on unemployment

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on youth unemployment

Eurostat [metadata](#) on adjusted unemployment series

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

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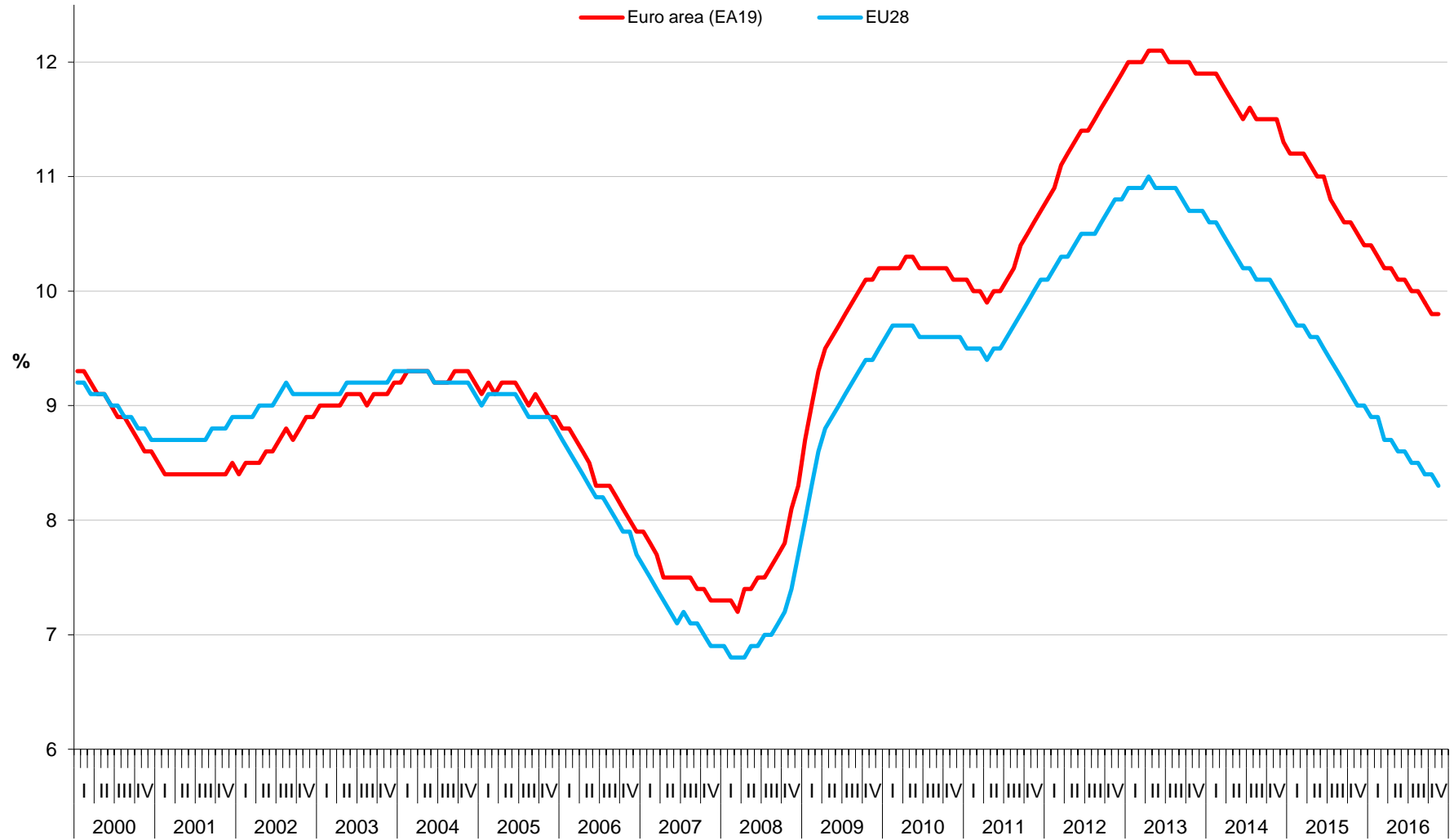
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### Euro area and EU28 unemployment rates Seasonally adjusted series



### Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16
<b>EA19</b>	10.5	10.0	9.9	9.8	<b>9.8</b>	16 870	16 181	16 069	15 913	<b>15 898</b>
<b>EU28</b>	9.0	8.5	8.4	8.4	<b>8.3</b>	21 981	20 795	20 644	20 470	<b>20 429</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	8.7	7.9	7.6	7.6	<b>7.6</b>	432	389	378	375	<b>376</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	7.9	7.5	7.3	7.2	<b>7.1</b>	264	240	236	233	<b>229</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	4.5	3.9	3.9	3.8	<b>3.7</b>	237	208	207	202	<b>201</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.5	<b>6.5</b>	179	192	199	198	<b>197</b>
<b>Germany</b>	4.5	4.2	4.1	4.1	<b>4.1</b>	1 881	1 797	1 787	1 775	<b>1 762</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	6.3**	7.6	7.2	7.4	:	43**	53	50	51	:
<b>Ireland</b>	9.1	7.9	7.7	7.5	<b>7.3</b>	197	173	167	164	<b>161</b>
<b>Greece</b>	24.7*	23.3	23.1	:	:	1 193*	1 121	1 111	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	20.9	19.4	19.3	19.2	<b>19.2</b>	4 772	4 436	4 414	4 392	<b>4 393</b>
<b>France</b>	10.2	10.2	9.9	9.7	<b>9.5</b>	3 010	3 019	2 912	2 849	<b>2 807</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	15.7	11.9	11.5	11.5	<b>11.4</b>	296	216	208	208	<b>207</b>
<b>Italy</b>	11.5	11.5	11.8	11.8	<b>11.9</b>	2 924	2 969	3 053	3 033	<b>3 089</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	13.2	13.1	13.5	13.8	<b>14.2</b>	55	56	57	59	<b>61</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.6	<b>9.6</b>	98	96	95	94	<b>94</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	8.8	7.6	7.6	7.6	<b>7.9</b>	129	111	111	112	<b>117</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.3	<b>6.2</b>	18	17	17	17	<b>17</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	6.4**	5.0	4.8	4.6	:	288**	229	221	211	:
<b>Malta</b>	5.3	4.8	4.8	5.0	<b>4.8</b>	11	10	10	10	<b>10</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	6.7	5.8	5.7	5.6	<b>5.6</b>	596	521	510	502	<b>499</b>
<b>Austria</b>	5.9	6.2	6.0	5.8	<b>5.8</b>	263	278	272	261	<b>258</b>
<b>Poland</b>	7.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	<b>6.0</b>	1 229	1 065	1 055	1 045	<b>1 028</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	12.3	10.9	10.9	10.6	<b>10.5</b>	629	559	557	545	<b>534</b>
<b>Romania</b>	6.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	<b>5.7</b>	607	521	522	522	<b>521</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	8.3	7.8	7.7	7.6	<b>7.6</b>	83	77	76	75	<b>74</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	10.9	9.6	9.4	9.2	<b>9.0</b>	299	263	259	252	<b>247</b>
<b>Finland</b>	9.4	8.7	8.7	8.7	<b>8.8</b>	252	234	234	234	<b>235</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.8	<b>6.8</b>	372	364	363	361	<b>360</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	5.2*	4.7	4.8	:	:	1 710*	1 565	1 574	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	3.5	2.9	2.9	2.8	<b>2.8</b>	7	6	6	6	<b>6</b>
<b>Norway</b>	4.6**	4.9	4.8	4.8	:	129**	137	136	133	:
<b>United States</b>	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.9	<b>4.6</b>	7 963	7 865	7 945	7 794	<b>7 466</b>

The source datasets are available [here](#) (rates) and [here](#) (in 1000 persons).

: Data not available

\* September 2015

\*\* October 2015

### Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16
<b>EA19</b>	21.8	20.9	20.8	20.9	<b>21.2</b>	3 049	2 969	2 952	2 959	<b>3 007</b>
<b>EU28</b>	19.5	18.8	18.6	18.7	<b>18.8</b>	4 417	4 252	4 220	4 238	<b>4 280</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	24.4	20.7	20.7	:	:	96	76	76	:	:
<b>Bulgaria</b>	20.1	20.1	21.1	21.6	<b>22.0</b>	35	30	33	33	<b>33</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	11.0	11.4	10.0	10.6	<b>10.6</b>	37	36	33	36	<b>36</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	10.6	12.2	12.5	12.7	<b>13.1</b>	49	60	61	62	<b>64</b>
<b>Germany</b>	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.8	<b>6.7</b>	288	294	291	288	<b>285</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	16.6	14.8	13.4	12.4	:	9	9	8	7	:
<b>Ireland</b>	20.2	17.6	16.7	16.2	<b>15.4</b>	38	36	35	33	<b>31</b>
<b>Greece</b>	48.9	46.5	46.1	:	:	130	122	118	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	46.5	43.4	43.0	43.8	<b>44.4</b>	698	647	655	665	<b>673</b>
<b>France</b>	24.3	26.2	25.4	25.7	<b>25.9</b>	675	718	698	712	<b>718</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	40.2	30.1	30.1	:	:	68	55	55	:	:
<b>Italy</b>	37.8	37.5	37.4	37.6	<b>39.4</b>	588	586	587	585	<b>627</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	30.3	29.9	29.9	:	:	10	12	12	:	:
<b>Latvia</b>	19.5	17.7	17.6	17.6	<b>17.8</b>	17	13	13	13	<b>13</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	13.7	13.6	13.7	12.7	<b>12.8</b>	17	17	17	16	<b>16</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	17.5	19.1	19.5	19.3	<b>19.1</b>	4	4	4	4	<b>4</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	15.6	12.4	12.3	12.0	:	53	43	43	41	:
<b>Malta</b>	11.3	12.4	12.6	14.3	<b>13.6</b>	3	3	3	4	<b>4</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	11.2	10.6	10.5	10.5	<b>10.3</b>	156	150	149	148	<b>146</b>
<b>Austria</b>	11.6	11.5	11.4	10.9	<b>10.4</b>	65	66	64	61	<b>58</b>
<b>Poland</b>	20.0	18.6	18.7	18.6	<b>18.1</b>	274	249	251	250	<b>244</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	31.9	26.8	28.6	27.8	<b>28.4</b>	119	96	104	100	<b>103</b>
<b>Romania</b>	20.9	20.3	20.3	:	:	140	127	127	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	16.8	15.4	15.4	:	:	12	10	10	:	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	25.5	21.5	21.4	21.2	<b>20.9</b>	52	44	44	44	<b>43</b>
<b>Finland</b>	21.7	20.2	20.1	20.2	<b>20.2</b>	70	66	66	66	<b>66</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	19.4	19.0	18.4	17.9	<b>17.6</b>	126	117	116	114	<b>113</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	13.3	12.8	12.8	:	:	601	563	561	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	7.7	6.2	6.1	5.9	<b>5.8</b>	2	2	2	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Norway</b>	9.8	10.9	10.4	10.5	:	36	40	39	39	:

The source datasets are available [here](#) (rates) and [here](#) (in 1000 persons).

: Data not available

Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia: quarterly data

### Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by gender

	Males					Females				
	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16
EA19	10.3	9.6	9.6	9.5	<b>9.5</b>	10.7	10.4	10.2	10.1	<b>10.1</b>
EU28	8.9	8.3	8.2	8.2	<b>8.2</b>	9.2	8.7	8.6	8.5	<b>8.5</b>
Belgium	9.2	8.1	7.9	7.8	<b>7.8</b>	8.1	7.6	7.3	7.3	<b>7.5</b>
Bulgaria	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.7	<b>7.6</b>	7.6	6.8	6.7	6.6	<b>6.5</b>
Czech Republic	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.2	<b>3.1</b>	5.5	4.6	4.7	4.5	<b>4.5</b>
Denmark	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.9	<b>5.9</b>	6.4	7.0	7.5	7.1	<b>7.1</b>
Germany	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.5	<b>4.5</b>	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.6	<b>3.5</b>
Estonia	6.4	7.8	7.5	8.0	:	6.7	7.4	6.9	6.8	:
Ireland	10.7	9.1	8.8	8.6	<b>8.4</b>	7.1	6.5	6.3	6.1	<b>6.1</b>
Greece	21.1	19.8	19.8	:	:	28.7	27.6	27.3	:	:
Spain	19.5	17.9	17.9	17.8	<b>17.8</b>	22.5	21.1	20.9	20.8	<b>20.7</b>
France	10.7	10.1	9.8	9.6	<b>9.5</b>	9.7	10.3	10.0	9.7	<b>9.6</b>
Croatia	14.3	10.8	10.3	10.2	<b>10.3</b>	17.4	13.3	12.9	12.9	<b>12.8</b>
Italy	10.9	10.7	11.1	11.2	<b>11.4</b>	12.3	12.6	12.8	12.6	<b>12.7</b>
Cyprus	13.5	12.9	13.2	13.6	<b>14.0</b>	12.9	13.4	13.7	14.0	<b>14.4</b>
Latvia	11.2	11.6	11.6	11.2	<b>11.3</b>	8.5	8.0	7.8	7.9	<b>7.9</b>
Lithuania	9.5	8.7	8.8	8.8	<b>9.3</b>	8.1	6.4	6.4	6.5	<b>6.5</b>
Luxembourg	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	<b>5.9</b>	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.7	<b>6.6</b>
Hungary	6.1	5.1	4.7	4.6	:	6.5	4.9	4.9	4.6	:
Malta	5.2	4.6	4.7	4.9	<b>4.7</b>	5.5	5.1	5.0	5.1	<b>5.0</b>
Netherlands	6.2	5.4	5.3	5.1	<b>5.0</b>	7.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	<b>6.2</b>
Austria	6.3	6.6	6.2	6.1	<b>6.2</b>	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.5	<b>5.3</b>
Poland	7.0	6.1	6.1	6.0	<b>5.9</b>	7.1	6.3	6.3	6.2	<b>6.1</b>
Portugal	12.2	10.8	10.8	10.7	<b>10.4</b>	12.3	11.0	11.0	10.6	<b>10.5</b>
Romania	7.3	6.6	6.6	6.6	<b>6.5</b>	5.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	<b>4.7</b>
Slovenia	7.9	7.2	7.1	7.0	<b>7.0</b>	8.9	8.4	8.3	8.2	<b>8.2</b>
Slovakia	9.5	8.7	8.7	8.4	<b>8.2</b>	12.6	10.5	10.3	10.1	<b>9.9</b>
Finland	9.9	8.9	8.8	8.9	<b>9.0</b>	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.5	<b>8.5</b>
Sweden	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.2	<b>7.1</b>	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.4	<b>6.4</b>
United Kingdom	5.1	4.9	4.9	:	:	4.9	4.6	4.6	:	:
Iceland	3.7	2.7	2.6	2.5	<b>2.4</b>	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.2	<b>3.2</b>
Norway	5.1	5.5	5.4	5.3	:	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.1	:

The source dataset is available [here](#).

: Data not available