| Country | Unemployment benefits (III) | | |
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| | *Maximum duration of the eligibility for unemployment benefits* | | |
| | *Situation 1/1/2008* | *Situation 1/7/2013* | *Regulatory changes* |
| AT | Maximum eligibility: 52 weeks (depending on insurance duration and age) plus 209 weeks in case of participation in a work foundation. | Maximum eligibility: 52 weeks (depending on insurance duration and age) plus 209 weeks in case of participation in a work foundation. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| BE | No limit (except in case of active search for employment). | No limit (provided the beneficiary actively looks for work and notably follows a pathway to work). | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| BG | The maximum duration depends on the number of insurance years and the maximum duration of the benefit is 12 months with more than 25 insurance years.<br><br>Those who have terminated the labour contract of their own accord or have been summarily dismissed receive unemployment benefit for a maximum period of 4 months. | The maximum duration depends on the number of insurance years and the maximum duration of the benefit is 12 months with more than 25 insurance years.<br><br>Those who have terminated the labour contract of their own accord or have been summarily dismissed receive unemployment benefit for a maximum period of 4 months. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| CH | Maximum number:<br>400 daily allowances if contribution period of 12 months at least;<br>520 daily allowances as from 55 years if contribution period of 18 months at least;<br>520 daily allowances if the insured person receives a pension from the invalidity insurance (1st pillar) or the compulsory accident insurance and if the insured person proves a contribution period of 18 months at least;<br>260 daily allowances for persons exempted from the contribution period conditions. | Maximum number:<br>200 daily allowances for persons under 25 with no maintenance obligations towards children;<br>260 daily allowances if contribution period of 12 months at least;<br>400 daily allowances if contribution period of 18 months at least;<br>520 daily allowances as from 55 years if contribution period of 22 months at least;<br>520 daily allowances if the insured person receives an invalidity pension corresponding to an invalidity degree of at least 40% and if the insured person proves a contribution period of 22 months at least; | Tightened provisions; shorter maximum durations and/or longer contribution periods required to benefit from the same benefit duration. |

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| | The government can increase up to 520 the maximum number of daily allowances during a maximum of 6 months in the cantons where there is a high unemployment rate, if the cantons ask for it and if they contribute to the costs at the rate of 20% | 90 daily allowances for persons exempted from the contribution period conditions. | |
| CY | 156 days. | 156 days. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| CZ | Up to the age of 50 years: 6 months.<br><br>From 50 to 55 years of age: 9 months.<br><br>Over the age of 55 years: 12 months.<br><br>In case of retraining: During the whole period of retraining. | Up to the age of 50 years:<br>5 months.<br><br>From 50 to 55 years of age:<br>8 months.<br><br>Over the age of 55 years:<br>11 months.<br><br>In case of retraining:<br>During the whole period of retraining. | In 2008 each age group received one month more of the benefit than in 2013. |
| DE | Maximum duration of unemployment benefit are 48 months of benefits depending on insurance period and age.<br>Unemployment benefit II (Arbeitslosengeld II) and social benefit (Sozialgeld) are in principle unlimited if the conditions of eligibility are met. | Maximum duration of unemployment benefit are 48 months of benefits depending on insurance period and age.<br>Unemployment benefit II (Arbeitslosengeld II) and social benefit (Sozialgeld) are in principle unlimited if the conditions of eligibility are met. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| DK | 4 years. For unemployed persons aged 55, the period can be extended until their 60th birthday if they fulfil the conditions for early retirement at this age. At the age of 60 the duration of payment will be limited. | 2 years within a 3-year period. | The duration of benefits in 2008 was significantly longer than in 2013. |
| EE | Unemployment Insurance Benefit (töötuskindlustushüvitis):<br>Depending on insurance period a maximum of 360 calendar days.<br><br>Unemployment Allowance (töötutoetus): 270 calendar days. | Unemployment Insurance Benefit (töötuskindlustushüvitis):<br>Depending on insurance period a maximum of 360 calendar days.<br><br>Unemployment Allowance (töötutoetus): 270 calendar days. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| | Unemployment insurance benefit: | Unemployment insurance benefit: | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC |

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| ES | Maximum duration of 2 years (older unemployed possible extension till retirement).<br><br>Unemployment assistance (allowance):<br>Maximum duration of 18 months. | Maximum duration of 2 years (older unemployed possible extension till retirement).<br><br>Unemployment assistance (allowance):<br>Maximum duration of 18 months. | database. |
| FI | The unemployment benefit is limited to 500 calendar days.<br><br>Unemployment assistance:<br>no limit. | The unemployment benefit is limited to 500 calendar days.<br><br>Unemployment assistance:<br>no limit. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| FR | Unemployment benefit:<br>Maximum of 3 years. (Depending on length of insurance). | Unemployment benefit:<br>Maximum of 3 years. (Depending on length of insurance). | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| EL | Unemployment benefit:<br>Proportional to periods of employment. Maximum duration 12 months (+3 additional months at reduced rate, possibility of 12 additional months if 4,050 days of work).<br>So, maximum duration of unemployment benefit is 24 months, maximum duration of combined benefit (additional 3 months at reduced rate) is 27 months. | Unemployment benefit:<br>Proportional to periods of employment. Maximum duration 12 months (possibility of 12 additional months if 4,050 days of work). So, maximum duration is 24 months. | The unemployment benefit as such was not subject to regulatory changes; however, an additional benefit of 3 months at a reduced rate of the allowance had been in place in 2008 and was abolished by 2013. |
| HR | No information available in the MISSOC database. | Unemployment:<br>The maximum duration is 450 days with a possibility of an additional 12 months period if the unemployed person was registered with the Croatian Employment Service (Hrvatski zavod za zapošljavanje) continuously for more than 12 months and s/he exhausted the right to unemployment benefit. | |
| HU | Unemployment benefit:<br>Maximum 270 days.<br><br>(1 day of Job-seeker Benefit (Álláskeresési járadék) is paid for every 5 days of being employed.) | Unemployment benefit:<br>Maximum 90 days.<br>(1 day of Job-seeker Benefit (Álláskeresési járadék) is paid for every 10 days of prior insurance.) | The maximum duration of unemployment benefit in 2008 was three times longer than in 2013.<br><br>Difference in calculating the duration of benefit, in 2008 based on employment days (5) and in 2013 based on insurance days (10). |
| IE | Unemployment benefit: | Unemployment benefit: | Unemployment benefit in 2008 lasted significantly longer than in 2013. |

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| | 390 days.<br><br>Unemployment assistance:<br><br>No limit up to the age of 66. | 234 days.<br><br>Unemployment assistance:<br><br>No limit up to the age of 66. | |
| IS | Unemployment benefit:<br><br>3 years | Unemployment benefit:<br><br>3 years. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| IT | Unemployment benefit:<br>210 days (300 days for the unemployed aged over 50 years) | Unemployment benefit:<br>8 months. 12 months for those aged over 50. (Duration gradually increasing until 2016) | In 2008 the entitlement to unemployment benefit expired faster than in 2013. |
| LI | Unemployment benefit:<br><br>500 daily cash benefits. | Unemployment benefit:<br><br>500 daily cash benefits. | No regulatory changes as to maximum duration but with regard to requirements for fulfilling maximum duration. |
| LT | Unemployment insurance benefit:<br>Maximum 9 months. | Unemployment insurance benefit:<br>Maximum 9 months. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| LU | 365 calendar days. | 365 calendar days. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| LV | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>9 months. | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>9 months. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| MT | Maximum period:<br>156 days. | Maximum period:<br>156 days. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| NL | Salary-related benefit (loongerelateerde uitkering):<br>Maximum period:<br>38 months.<br><br>Short-term benefit:<br>(kortdurende uitkering):<br>Maximum 6 months. | Unemployment benefit:<br>Maximum period:<br>38 months.<br><br>Person who only fulfills week conditions:<br>Maximum 3 months. | The maximum duration of the short-term benefit (for those satisfying only the weeks' condition) was reduced from 6 to 3 months by 2013. |
| NO | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>104 weeks. | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>104 weeks. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |

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| PL | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>18 months. | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>12 months. | In 2008 the maximum period of entitlement to unemployment benefits was subject to certain conditions, 6 months longer than in 2013. |
| PT | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>900 days of payment; 60 extra days every 5 years of registered income during the last 20 years preceding unemployment. | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>540 days of payment; 60 extra days every 5 years of registered income during the last 20 years preceding unemployment. | In 2008, the maximum duration of entitlement was significantly longer than in 2013. |
| RO | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>12 months. | Maximum period of entitlement:<br>12 months. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| SE | 300 days and 450 days for applicants who have a child under the age of 18 years old. The period cannot be prolonged. | 300 days and 450 days for applicants who have a child under the age of 18 years old. The period cannot be prolonged. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| SL | Depends upon length of insurance:<br>• 3 months for insurance of 1 to 5 years,<br>• 6 months for insurance of 5 to 15 years,<br>• 9 months for insurance of 15 to 25 years,<br>• 12 months for insurance of 25 years or more,<br>• 18 months for insured persons over 50 years of age and insurance period of more than 25 years,<br>24 months for insured persons over 55 years of age with on insurance period of more than 25 years | Depends upon length of insurance and partly also on age:<br>• insurance period between 9 months and 5 years: 3 months,<br>• insurance period between 5 and 15 years: 6 months,<br>• insurance period between 15 and 25 years: 9 months,<br>• insurance period of 25 years or more: 12 months (19 months if over age 50; 25 months if over age 55).<br><br>Only for unemployed persons younger than 30 years: insurance period of at least 6 months: 2 months. | Longer entitlement periods for older workers with long careers. |
| SK | Maximum period of entitlement:<br><br>6 months. | Maximum period of entitlement:<br><br>6 months. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |
| UK | Contribution-based Jobseekers' Allowance: Limited to 182 days in any jobseeking period. Income-based Jobseekers' Allowance: Unlimited duration as long as entitlement conditions continue to be satisfied. Income-based Jobseekers' Allowance: Unlimited duration as long as entitlement conditions continue to be satisfied. | Contribution-based Jobseekers' Allowance: Limited to 182 days in any jobseeking period. Income-based Jobseekers' Allowance: Unlimited duration as long as entitlement conditions continue to be satisfied. Income-based Jobseekers' Allowance: Unlimited duration as long as entitlement conditions continue to be satisfied. | No regulatory change apparent from the MISSOC database. |