



169/2019 – 31 October 2019

September 2019

Euro area unemployment at 7.5%

EU28 at 6.3%

The **euro area** (EA19) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 7.5% in September 2019, stable compared with August 2019 and down from 8.0% in September 2018. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **euro area** since July 2008. The **EU28** unemployment rate was 6.3% in September 2019, stable compared with August 2019 and down from 6.7% in September 2018. This remains the lowest rate recorded in the **EU28** since the start of the EU monthly unemployment series in January 2000. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

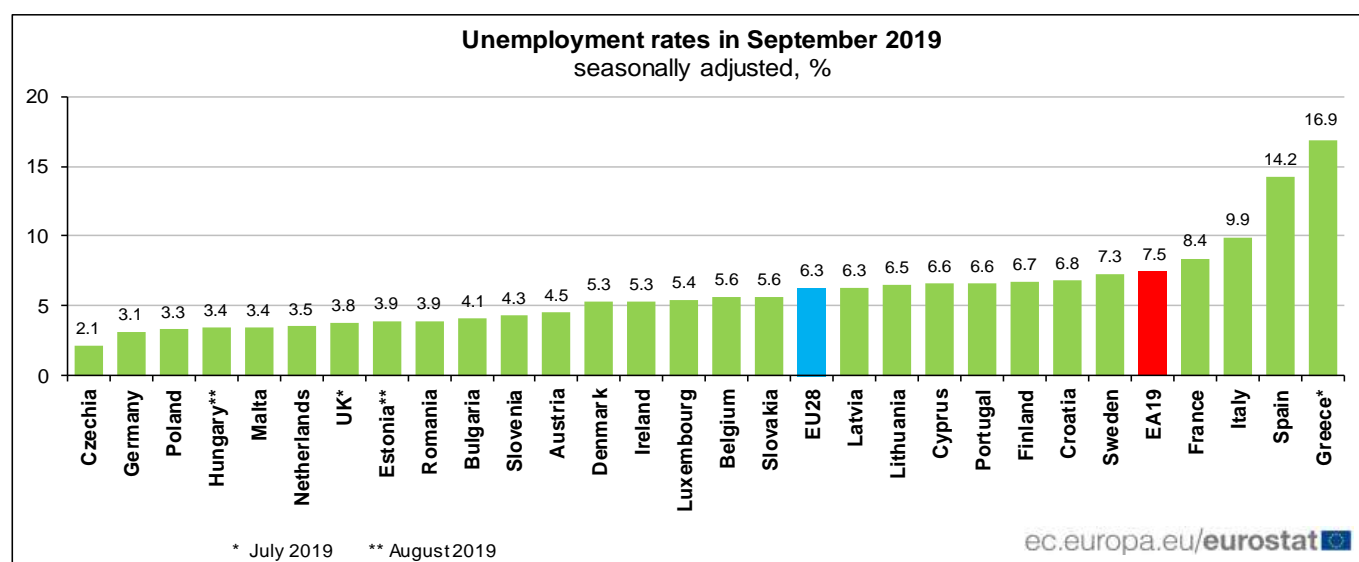
Eurostat estimates that 15.635 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 12.335 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in September 2019. Compared with August 2019, the number of persons unemployed increased by 48 000 in the **EU28** and by 33 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with September 2018, unemployment fell by 889 000 in the **EU28** and by 738 000 in the **euro area**.

Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in September 2019 were recorded in **Czechia** (2.1%) and **Germany** (3.1%). The highest unemployment rates were observed in **Greece** (16.9% in July 2019) and **Spain** (14.2%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate fell in 22 Member States, remained stable in **Belgium**, **Portugal** and **Romania** while it increased in **Lithuania** (from 6.3% to 6.5%), **Denmark** (from 5.0% to 5.3%), and **Sweden** (from 6.3% to 7.3%). The largest decreases were registered in **Greece** (from 19.1% to 16.9% between July 2018 and July 2019), **Cyprus** (from 8.0% to 6.6%) and **Estonia** (from 5.3% to 3.9% between August 2018 and August 2019).

In September 2019, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 3.5%, down from 3.7% in August 2019 and from 3.7% in September 2018.



Youth unemployment

In September 2019, 3.223 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 2.283 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with September 2018, youth unemployment decreased by 145 000 in the **EU28** and by 109 000 in the **euro area**. In September 2019, the youth unemployment rate was 14.5% in the **EU28** and 15.9% in the **euro area**, compared with 15.0% and 16.7% respectively in September 2018. In September 2019, the lowest rates were observed in **Czechia** (4.4%), **Germany** (5.9%) and the **Netherlands** (7.2%), while the highest were recorded in **Greece** (33.2% in the second quarter of 2019), **Spain** (32.8%) and **Italy** (28.7%).

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, Czechia, 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

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.

When data for the most recent month are not available for a Member State, EU and EA aggregates are calculated using the latest data available for that Member State.

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 [145/2019](#) of 30 September 2019, the August 2019 unemployment rate has been revised for EA19 from 7.4% to 7.5% and for the EU28 from 6.2% to 6.3%. Among Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Spain (by 0.5 pp) and Portugal (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](#)

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

Veronika LANG

Tel: +352-4301-33 444

eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

For further information on data:


Boyan GENEV

Tel: +352-4301-36 409

Thibaut HENRION


Tel: +352-4301-31 686

estat-monthly-unemployment@ec.europa.eu

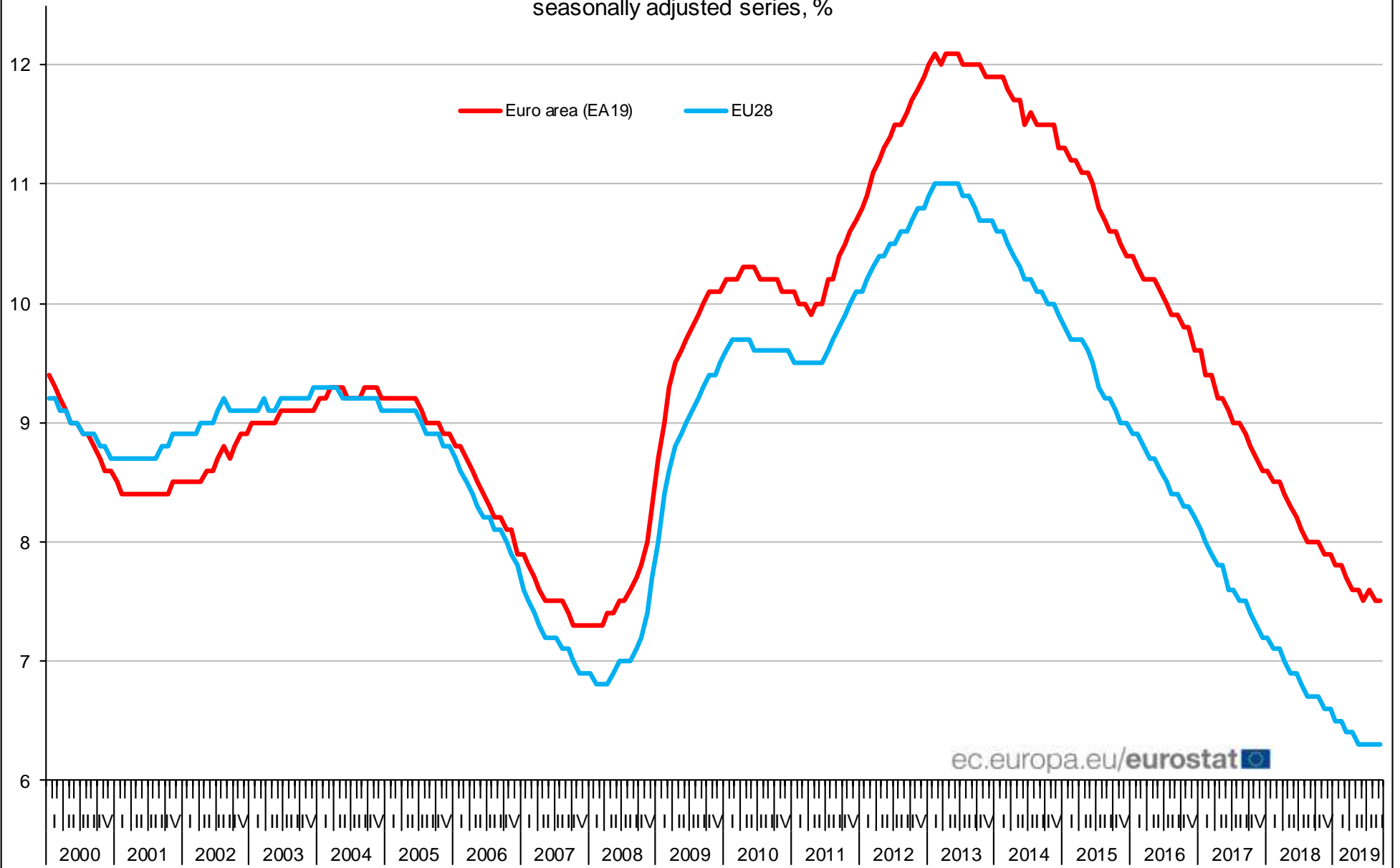
 ec.europa.eu/eurostat/

 [EurostatStatistics](https://www.facebook.com/EurostatStatistics)

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

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

Unemployment rates seasonally adjusted series, %



ec.europa.eu/eurostat 

Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Sep 18	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Sep 18	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19
EA19	8.0	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	13 073	12 358	12 375	12 302	12 335
EU28	6.7	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	16 524	15 584	15 650	15 587	15 635
Belgium	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.6	285	284	283	284	284
Bulgaria	5.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1	169	137	136	135	137
Czechia	2.2	1.9	2.1	2.0	2.1	117	100	112	110	111
Denmark	5.0	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.3	149	142	149	156	162
Germany	3.4	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	1 450	1 341	1 329	1 324	1 324
Estonia	5.3**	4.6	4.2	3.9	:	37**	32	29	28	:
Ireland	5.6	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	134	128	129	128	127
Greece	19.1*	17.1	16.9	:	:	907*	809	797	:	:
Spain	14.8	14.2	14.2	14.3	14.2	3 364	3 256	3 273	3 290	3 269
France	9.0	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	2 681	2 530	2 527	2 523	2 494
Croatia	7.8	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	141	125	125	123	121
Italy	10.3	9.8	9.9	9.6	9.9	2 682	2 530	2 566	2 480	2 554
Cyprus	8.0	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.6	35	32	31	30	29
Latvia	6.9	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.3	68	62	62	62	60
Lithuania	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.6	6.5	93	91	93	96	94
Luxembourg	5.5	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.4	16	17	17	17	16
Hungary	3.8**	3.5	3.4	3.4	:	176**	162	157	160	:
Malta	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	9	9	9	9	9
Netherlands	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	343	313	313	321	323
Austria	4.9	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	221	204	202	202	203
Poland	3.8	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	642	567	562	563	564
Portugal	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.6	341	339	335	332	345
Romania	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.9	356	341	352	343	347
Slovenia	4.9	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.3	51	43	43	43	44
Slovakia	6.3	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	172	155	153	152	152
Finland	7.1	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	194	184	185	185	184
Sweden	6.3	6.8	7.1	7.2	7.3	342	376	386	396	404
United Kingdom	4*	3.8	3.8	:	:	1 344*	1 280	1 287	:	:
Iceland	2.7	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	6	7	7	7	7
Norway	4**	3.6	3.8	3.7	:	112**	101	107	106	:
United States	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.5	5 998	5 988	6 070	6 018	5 755

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

: Data not available

* July 2018

** August 2018

Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Sep 18	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Sep 18	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19
EA19	16.7	15.6	15.8	15.7	15.9	2 392	2 249	2 279	2 250	2 283
EU28	15.0	14.3	14.5	14.4	14.5	3 368	3 188	3 219	3 193	3 223
Belgium	15.3	14.1	15.5	15.5	15.5	61	57	59	59	59
Bulgaria	12.2	9.2	8.9	8.6	8.7	18	13	13	12	12
Czechia	5.9	6.2	5.5	4.5	4.4	17	18	16	13	12
Denmark	10.3	8.7	9.6	9.7	10.0	45	38	42	42	44
Germany	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.9	255	253	254	255	256
Estonia	18.8	17.0	13.6	13.6	:	11	10	8	8	:
Ireland	13.5	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.8	39	42	43	43	43
Greece	37.8	33.2	:	:	:	90	78	:	:	:
Spain	34.0	32.7	32.6	32.9	32.8	514	505	504	513	515
France	20.5	19.5	19.5	19.4	19.3	592	548	545	539	535
Croatia	22.5	19.3	18.7	18.7	18.7	34	29	28	28	28
Italy	31.9	27.8	28.9	27.6	28.7	484	424	451	416	442
Cyprus	18.4	16.5	:	:	:	7	6	:	:	:
Latvia	10.1	14.9	13.3	12.1	12.0	7	8	7	6	6
Lithuania	10.3	10.3	11.8	12.3	12.4	12	11	12	12	12
Luxembourg	14.0	14.8	14.4	14.0	13.0	3	4	4	3	3
Hungary	9.9	11.3	9.9	10.6	:	33	36	32	34	:
Malta	10.2	9.0	9.1	8.9	9.3	3	3	3	3	3
Netherlands	7.5	6.5	6.7	6.9	7.2	109	97	100	103	106
Austria	9.1	9.3	9.8	9.9	9.0	48	48	50	50	46
Poland	12.1	11.1	10.6	10.3	10.1	153	136	129	125	122
Portugal	19.6	18.6	19.4	18.2	19.4	73	69	72	68	74
Romania	16.1	16.2	:	:	:	98	99	:	:	:
Slovenia	9.7	7.3	7.8	7.8	7.8	7	5	5	5	5
Slovakia	14.2	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.8	27	27	26	26	27
Finland	17.4	17.0	17.2	17.2	17.2	55	54	54	54	54
Sweden	17.0	18.8	19.7	20.0	19.7	106	114	116	118	120
United Kingdom	11.3	11.3	11.6	:	:	476	471	475	:	:
Iceland	6.8	7.6	7.6	8.0	8.1	2	2	2	3	3
Norway	10.0	9.9	10.0	9.7	:	37	37	37	37	:

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

: Data not available

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

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by gender

	Males					Females				
	Sep 18	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Sep 18	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19
EA19	7.7	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	8.3	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9
EU28	6.5	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.9	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.6
Belgium	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2
Bulgaria	5.6	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8
Czechia	1.8	1.4	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.7	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5
Denmark	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.8	5.0	5.1	4.8	5.3	5.5	5.7
Germany	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6
Estonia	5.7	4.2	3.5	3.3	:	5.8	5.0	5.0	4.6	:
Ireland	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.1	4.9
Greece	15.0	13.9	13.7	:	:	23.7	21.2	21.0	:	:
Spain	13.3	12.6	12.6	12.5	12.3	16.4	15.9	16.1	16.3	16.4
France	9.0	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	9.0	8.5	8.6	8.5	8.5
Croatia	7.1	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	8.7	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.4
Italy	9.5	9.0	9.1	8.8	9.1	11.4	10.7	10.9	10.6	10.9
Cyprus	7.6	6.9	6.6	6.4	6.3	8.5	7.4	7.3	7.2	6.9
Latvia	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.5	5.9	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.1
Lithuania	7.1	6.8	7.0	7.3	7.2	5.5	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.7
Luxembourg	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.6
Hungary	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.4	:	4.1	3.5	3.5	3.5	:
Malta	3.7	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.5
Netherlands	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.8	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4
Austria	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.2
Poland	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.6
Portugal	6.1	5.8	5.7	5.7	6.1	7.1	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.2
Romania	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.3	4.3	3.2	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.3
Slovenia	4.4	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	5.5	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5
Slovakia	5.9	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	6.7	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.5
Finland	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.9	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1
Sweden	6.3	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.6	6.3	6.7	6.8	6.9	7.0
United Kingdom	4.1	4.0	4.0	:	:	3.9	3.5	3.6	:	:
Iceland	2.8	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.5	2.5	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.4
Norway	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.0	:	3.8	3.3	3.5	3.4	:

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

: Data not available