

4/2020 – 9 January 2020

November 2019

Euro area unemployment at 7.5%

EU28 at 6.3%

The **euro area** (EA19) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 7.5% in November 2019, stable compared with October 2019 and down from 7.9% in November 2018. This remains the lowest rate recorded in the **euro area** since July 2008. The **EU28** unemployment rate was 6.3% in November 2019, stable compared with October 2019 and down from 6.6% in November 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**.

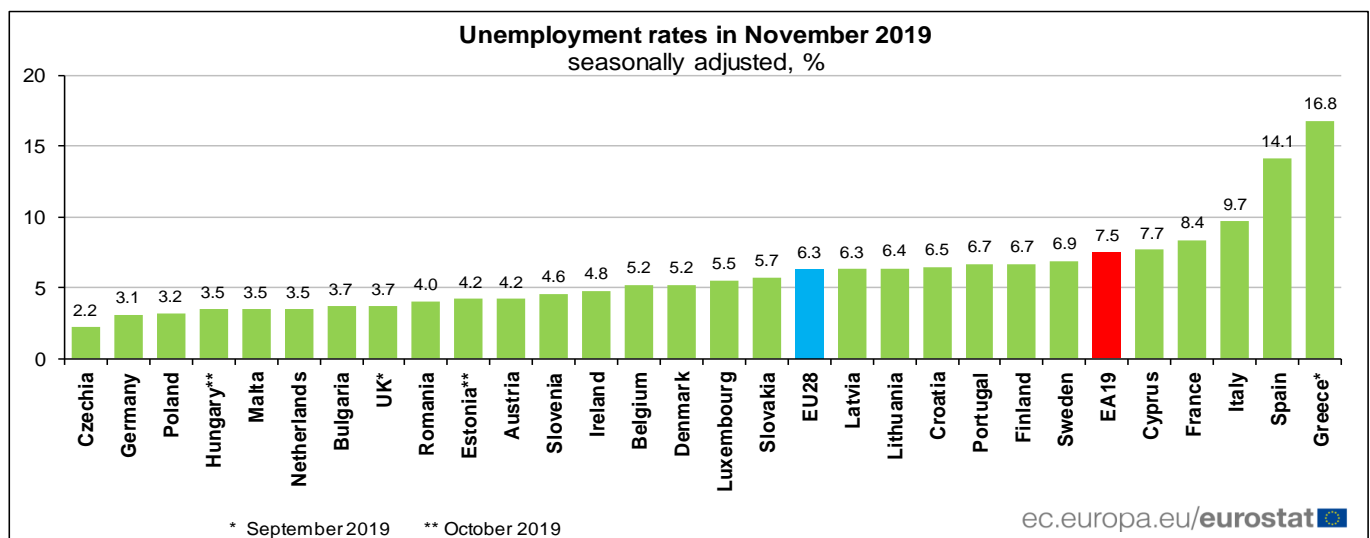
Eurostat estimates that 15.582 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 12.315 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in November 2019. Compared with October 2019, the number of persons unemployed increased by 34 000 in the **EU28** and decreased by 10 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with November 2018, unemployment fell by 768 000 in the **EU28** and by 624 000 in the **euro area**.

Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in November 2019 were recorded in **Czechia** (2.2%), **Germany** (3.1%) and **Poland** (3.2%). The highest unemployment rates were observed in **Greece** (16.8% in September 2019) and **Spain** (14.1%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate fell in 20 Member States, remained stable in the **Netherlands** and **Portugal**, while it increased in **Luxembourg** (from 5.4% to 5.5%), **Slovenia** (from 4.4% to 4.6%), **Czechia** (from 2.0% to 2.2%), **Cyprus** (from 7.5% to 7.7%), **Sweden** (from 6.5% to 6.9%) and **Lithuania** (from 5.8% to 6.4%). The largest decreases were registered in **Greece** (from 18.8% to 16.8% between September 2018 and September 2019), **Bulgaria** (from 4.8% to 3.7%), **Estonia** (from 5.3% to 4.2% between October 2018 and October 2019) and **Croatia** (from 7.5% to 6.5%).

In November 2019, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 3.5%, down from 3.6% in October 2019 and from 3.7% in November 2018.



Youth unemployment

In November 2019, 3.222 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 2.258 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with November 2018, youth unemployment decreased by 111 000 in the **EU28** and by 89 000 in the **euro area**. In November 2019, the youth unemployment rate was 14.3% in the **EU28** and 15.6% in the **euro area**, compared with 14.8% and 16.3% respectively in November 2018. In November 2019, the lowest rates were observed in **Czechia** (5.2%), **Germany** (5.9%) and **Bulgaria** (7.0%), while the highest were recorded in **Greece** (32.5% in the third quarter of 2019), **Spain** (32.1%) and **Italy** (28.6%).

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 [182/2019](#) of 29 November 2019, the October 2019 unemployment rate for EA19 and EU28 remained unchanged. Among Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Slovenia (by 0.4 pp) and Cyprus (by 0.2 pp). The unemployment rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points downwards for Belgium (by 0.5 pp), Bulgaria (by 0.4 pp) and Austria (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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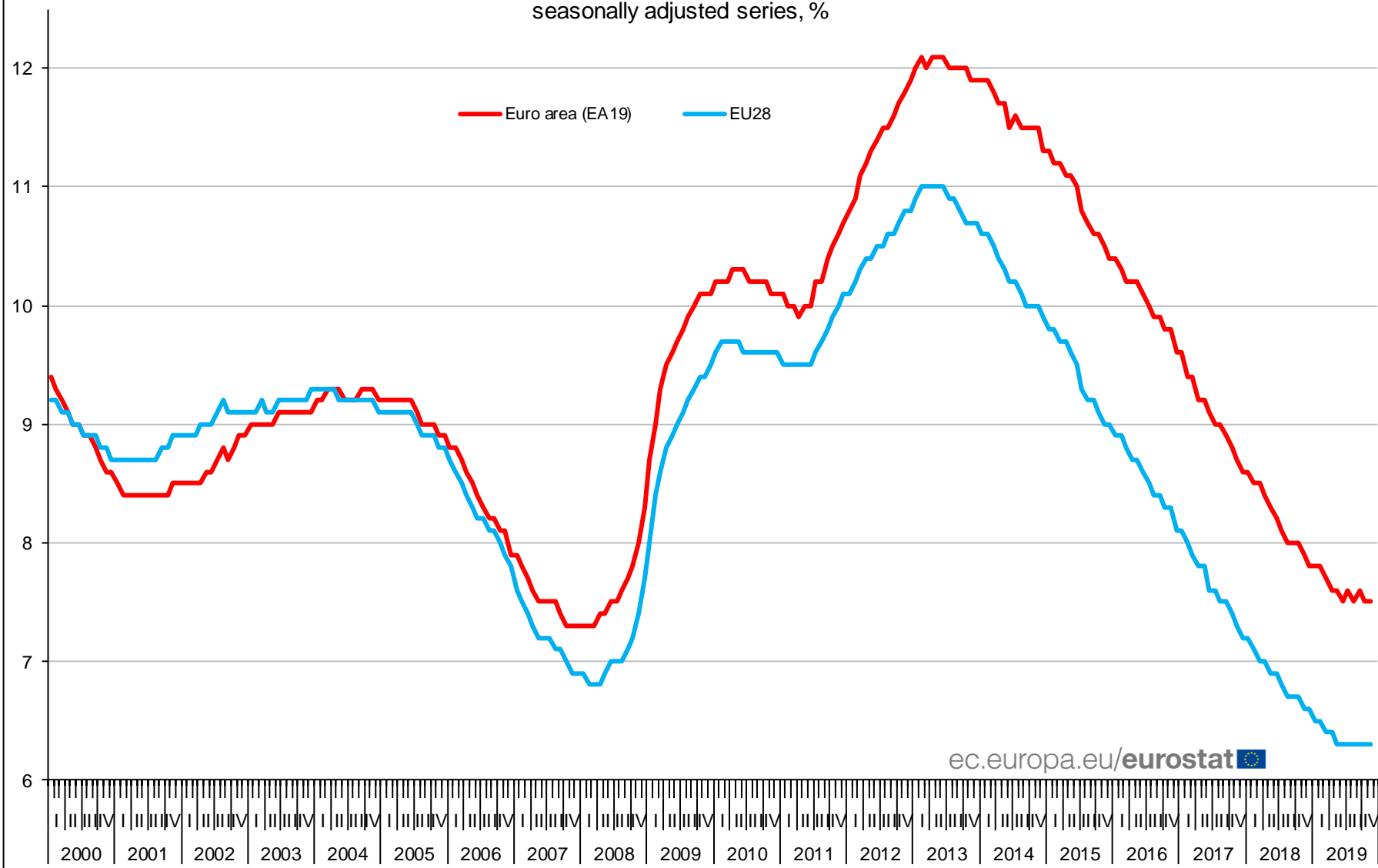
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Unemployment rates seasonally adjusted series, %



ec.europa.eu/eurostat 

Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Nov 18	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Nov 18	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19
EA19	7.9	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.5	12 939	12 346	12 376	12 325	12 315
EU28	6.6	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3	16 350	15 574	15 600	15 548	15 582
Belgium	5.8	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.2	294	267	264	261	262
Bulgaria	4.8	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.7	159	131	128	126	125
Czechia	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2	108	106	115	118	116
Denmark	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.2	159	151	159	158	160
Germany	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	1 417	1 344	1 349	1 355	1 357
Estonia	5.3**	3.9	4.3	4.2	:	37**	28	30	29	:
Ireland	5.6	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	135	120	119	118	118
Greece	18.8*	16.9	16.8	:	:	892*	795	792	:	:
Spain	14.5	14.3	14.2	14.2	14.1	3 303	3 299	3 265	3 274	3 255
France	8.9	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.4	2 656	2 538	2 520	2 511	2 500
Croatia	7.5	6.8	6.7	6.5	6.5	134	121	119	116	115
Italy	10.5	9.6	9.9	9.7	9.7	2 728	2 491	2 566	2 522	2 535
Cyprus	7.5	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.7	33	32	32	33	35
Latvia	6.9	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.3	67	60	59	60	61
Lithuania	5.8	6.7	6.6	6.4	6.4	85	97	96	94	95
Luxembourg	5.4	5.7	5.4	5.5	5.5	16	17	17	17	17
Hungary	3.7**	3.4	3.5	3.5	:	171**	161	163	165	:
Malta	3.6	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5	9	9	9	9	9
Netherlands	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	326	321	323	323	324
Austria	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.2	215	203	204	198	191
Poland	3.8	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	647	538	536	542	549
Portugal	6.7	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.7	345	332	341	338	347
Romania	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0	374	348	370	365	366
Slovenia	4.4	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.6	45	50	50	48	47
Slovakia	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	167	158	158	158	157
Finland	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	188	185	185	184	184
Sweden	6.5	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	353	379	381	383	384
United Kingdom	4*	3.8	3.7	:	:	1 354*	1 276	1 264	:	:
Iceland	2.8	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	6	7	7	7	7
Norway	4**	3.7	3.9	3.8	:	112**	107	110	108	:
United States	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.5	6 007	6 018	5 755	5 830	5 812

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

: Data not available

* September 2018

** October 2018

Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Nov 18	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Nov 18	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19
EA19	16.3	15.6	15.7	15.6	15.6	2 347	2 239	2 261	2 250	2 258
EU28	14.8	14.4	14.4	14.3	14.3	3 333	3 218	3 227	3 213	3 222
Belgium	13.2	12.9	12.9	:	:	51	53	53	:	:
Bulgaria	10.7	7.4	7.1	7.0	7.0	15	11	11	11	10
Czechia	5.2	4.8	4.9	5.5	5.2	15	14	14	16	14
Denmark	10.3	9.6	9.9	9.9	9.6	46	42	45	46	45
Germany	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	250	251	252	252	251
Estonia	12.1	13.5	10.1	9.0	:	7	8	6	5	:
Ireland	13.1	12.4	12.1	12.2	12.5	38	36	36	36	37
Greece	39.6	32.5	32.5	:	:	94	76	76	:	:
Spain	33.1	33.0	32.7	32.6	32.1	503	516	513	518	512
France	20.1	19.2	19.1	19.0	18.9	584	540	537	540	539
Croatia	20.3	17.0	17.0	:	:	31	26	26	:	:
Italy	31.9	27.8	28.8	28.2	28.6	486	420	443	428	433
Cyprus	18.9	17.2	17.2	:	:	7	6	6	:	:
Latvia	12.6	10.2	9.8	10.2	10.5	8	6	6	7	7
Lithuania	10.6	11.8	12.3	11.0	10.7	12	13	13	13	12
Luxembourg	14.1	15.9	14.9	15.4	15.6	3	4	4	4	4
Hungary	10.2	10.7	12.4	13.0	:	34	35	40	41	:
Malta	9.4	8.8	9.4	10.1	10.9	3	3	3	3	4
Netherlands	6.9	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.3	101	103	106	109	110
Austria	8.8	9.6	8.8	8.3	8.6	47	48	45	42	43
Poland	11.9	10.5	10.2	9.9	9.5	150	134	129	125	118
Portugal	19.1	18.2	18.9	17.9	19.0	71	68	72	68	72
Romania	15.4	17.5	17.5	:	:	96	105	105	:	:
Slovenia	6.7	8.1	8.1	:	:	5	6	6	:	:
Slovakia	13.3	16.6	17.0	16.8	16.7	24	28	28	28	28
Finland	17.2	17.2	17.1	17.0	16.9	55	54	54	54	54
Sweden	19.6	19.7	19.8	20.1	19.5	120	126	126	126	127
United Kingdom	11.3	11.9	11.4	:	:	477	490	470	:	:
Iceland	7.0	9.0	9.4	9.6	9.9	2	3	3	3	3
Norway	10.2	9.7	10.2	10.0	:	37	37	38	38	:

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				
	Nov 18	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Nov 18	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19
EA19	7.6	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	8.3	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9
EU28	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.9	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6
Belgium	6.2	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8
Bulgaria	5.3	4.1	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.3	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5
Czechia	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.4
Denmark	5.2	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.5	5.7
Germany	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Estonia	4.1	3.3	3.6	4.0	:	5.0	4.6	4.9	4.3	:
Ireland	5.6	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.7	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2
Greece	14.4	13.7	13.7	:	:	23.8	20.9	20.8	:	:
Spain	12.9	12.6	12.3	12.3	12.2	16.3	16.4	16.3	16.4	16.3
France	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.6	9.0	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.3
Croatia	6.6	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.8	8.5	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2
Italy	9.8	8.8	9.0	8.7	8.8	11.5	10.7	11.0	11.1	11.0
Cyprus	7.2	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.5	7.8	8.4	8.5	8.7	9.1
Latvia	7.6	6.9	6.7	6.8	7.2	6.2	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.4
Lithuania	6.4	7.9	7.6	7.3	7.4	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.4	5.5
Luxembourg	5.4	5.6	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.8	5.5	5.6	5.6
Hungary	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.3	:	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.8	:
Malta	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.7
Netherlands	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3
Austria	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2
Poland	3.7	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.7	3.9	3.4	3.5	3.7	3.9
Portugal	6.1	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.9	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.5
Romania	4.7	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.5
Slovenia	3.9	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.6
Slovakia	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	6.6	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.8
Finland	7.0	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	6.7	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1
Sweden	6.5	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.4	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0
United Kingdom	4.0	4.0	4.0	:	:	3.8	3.5	3.5	:	:
Iceland	3.0	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.8	2.6	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3
Norway	3.8	4.1	4.3	4.2	:	3.6	3.3	3.4	3.3	:

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

: Data not available