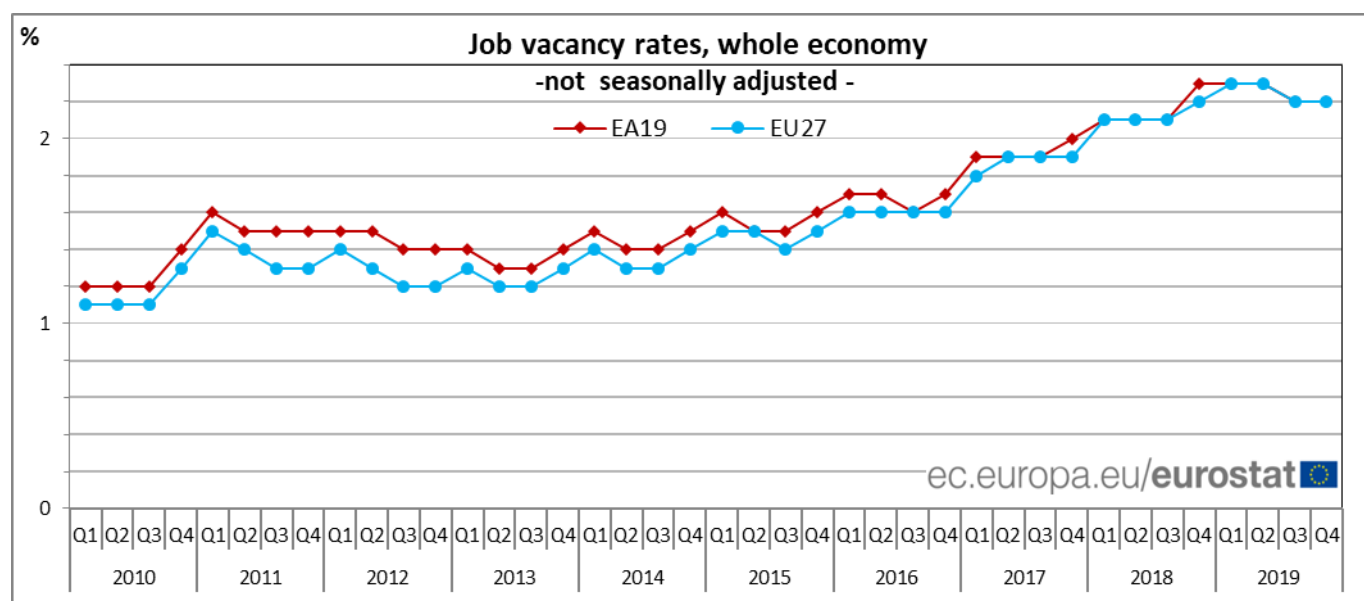


Fourth quarter of 2019

Euro area job vacancy rate at 2.2%

EU27 rate at 2.2%

The job vacancy rate in the **euro area** (EA19) was 2.2% in the fourth quarter of 2019, stable compared with the previous quarter and down from 2.3% in the fourth quarter of 2018, according to figures published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In the **EU27**, the job vacancy rate was 2.2% in the fourth quarter of 2019, stable compared with the previous quarter and the fourth quarter of 2018.

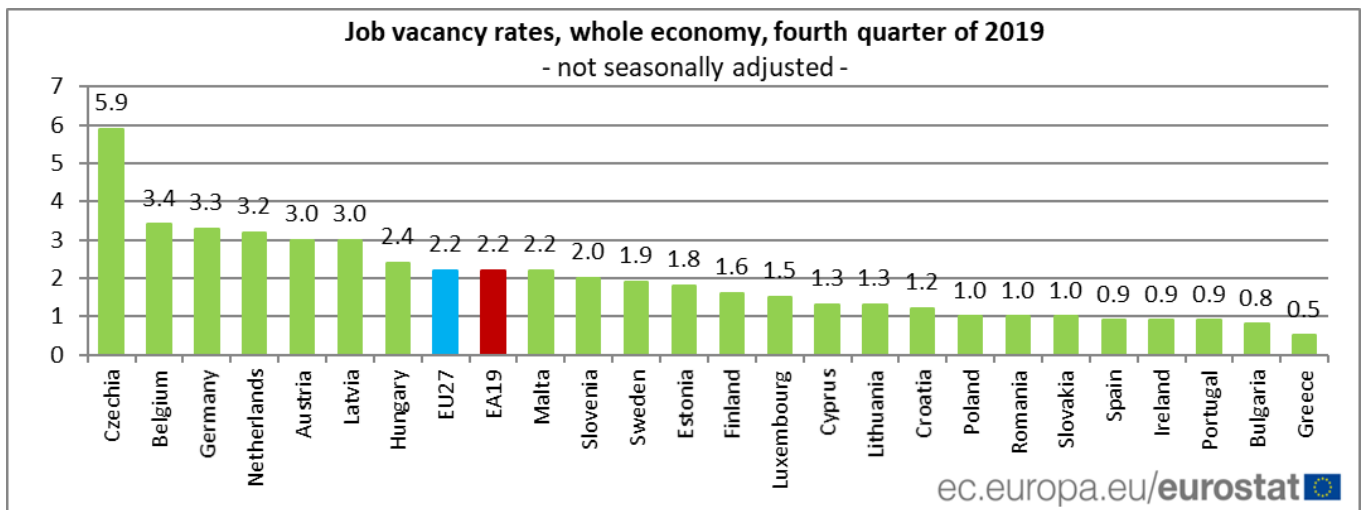


In the **euro area**, the job vacancy rate in the fourth quarter of 2019 was 1.9% in industry and construction, and 2.5% in services. In the **EU27**, the rate was 1.9% in industry and construction, and 2.4% in services.

Member States

Among the Member States for which comparable data are available (see country notes), the highest job vacancy rates in the fourth quarter of 2019 were recorded in **Czechia** (5.9%), **Belgium** (3.4%), **Germany** (3.3%) and the **Netherlands** (3.2%). In contrast, the lowest rates were observed in **Greece** (0.5%), **Bulgaria** (0.8%), **Ireland**, **Spain** and **Portugal** (all 0.9%).

Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, the job vacancy rate in the fourth quarter of 2019 rose in **Greece**, **Spain**, **Cyprus**, **Latvia** and the **Netherlands**, remained stable in eight Member States, but fell in fourteen Member States. The largest increases were registered in **Latvia** (+0.7 pp), **Cyprus** and the **Netherlands** (both +0.3 pp). The largest decreases were registered in **Malta** (-0.4 pp), **Hungary** and **Slovakia** (both -0.3 pp).



Denmark, France, and Italy: 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** (EU27) 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 and Sweden.

As of 1 February 2020, the United Kingdom is no longer part of the European Union. Information on dissemination of European statistics after Brexit can be found on [Eurostat website](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/).

Methods and definitions

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

$JVR = (\text{number of job vacancies}) / (\text{number of occupied posts} + \text{number of job vacancies})$.

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.

Country notes:

Denmark, France, and Italy: 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. 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 189/2019 of 16 December 2019, the job vacancy rate for the third quarter of 2019 remains unchanged in both the euro area and the EU28.

For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) on job vacancy statistics

Eurostat [database section](#) on job vacancy statistics

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on job vacancy statistics

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

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Job vacancy rates – whole economy (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4
EA19	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2
EU27	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.2
EU28	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2
Belgium	3.4	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.4
Bulgaria	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8
Czechia	6.0	6.4	6.2	6.2	5.9
Germany	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.3
Estonia	1.8	1.9	1.9	2.0	1.8
Ireland	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.9
Greece	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5
Spain	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Croatia	1.4	2.0	1.6	1.3	1.2
Cyprus	1.0	2.0	1.7	2.0	1.3
Latvia	2.3	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0
Lithuania	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3
Luxembourg	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.5
Hungary	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4
Malta	2.6	2.5	3.0	2.3	2.2
Netherlands	2.9	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.2
Austria	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0
Poland	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Portugal	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9
Romania	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0
Slovenia	2.2	2.7	2.3	2.2	2.0
Slovakia	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.0
Finland	1.8	2.8	2.1	2.2	1.6
Sweden	2.1	2.9	2.7	2.0	1.9
United Kingdom	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Norway	2.1	2.6	2.9	2.2	2.2
Switzerland	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5
North Macedonia	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.5	1.8

Job vacancy rates – restricted coverage^{*} (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4
Denmark	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.9
France	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4
Italy	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0

* see "country notes" under Methods and definitions

Source dataset: [jvs_q_nace2](#)

Job vacancy rates by main economic activity branches (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)					Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)				
	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4
EA19	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5
EU27	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.4
EU28	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.5
Belgium	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.1	5.0	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.7
Bulgaria	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.6
Czechia	6.5	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.4	8.5	9.0	9.0	9.1	8.8
Denmark	1.7	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.7	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0
Germany	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.6	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0
Estonia	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.0
Ireland	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.0
Greece	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.6
Spain	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5
Croatia	1.0	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.0	1.2	2.4	1.6	1.2	1.0
Cyprus	1.1	2.0	1.2	2.1	1.0	1.2	2.3	2.1	2.1	1.7
Latvia	2.7	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.6	2.1	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.6
Lithuania	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2
Luxembourg	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.8	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.1
Hungary	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.2
Malta	2.6	3.1	3.7	2.6	2.4	2.9	2.7	3.6	2.7	2.3
Netherlands	3.1	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5
Austria	3.0	3.5	3.1	3.0	3.2	4.2	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.9
Poland	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.0
Portugal	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.4
Romania	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9
Slovenia	2.5	3.5	2.6	2.5	2.1	2.8	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.5
Slovakia	1.4	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8
Finland	1.5	3.1	2.2	2.0	1.6	2.4	3.0	2.4	2.7	1.9
Sweden	2.1	2.2	2.3	1.8	1.6	2.5	3.0	2.9	2.5	2.3
United Kingdom	2.2	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.9	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.8
Norway	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.0	1.7	2.1	3.0	3.3	2.5	2.4
Switzerland	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.7
North Macedonia	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.7	2.1	2.0	2.0	2.2

Job vacancy rates by main economic activity branches (%)

- restricted coverage* -

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)					Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)				
	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4	2018Q4	2019Q1	2019Q2	2019Q3	2019Q4
France	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4
Italy	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0

* see "country notes" under Methods and definitions

Source dataset: [jvs_q_nace2](#)