

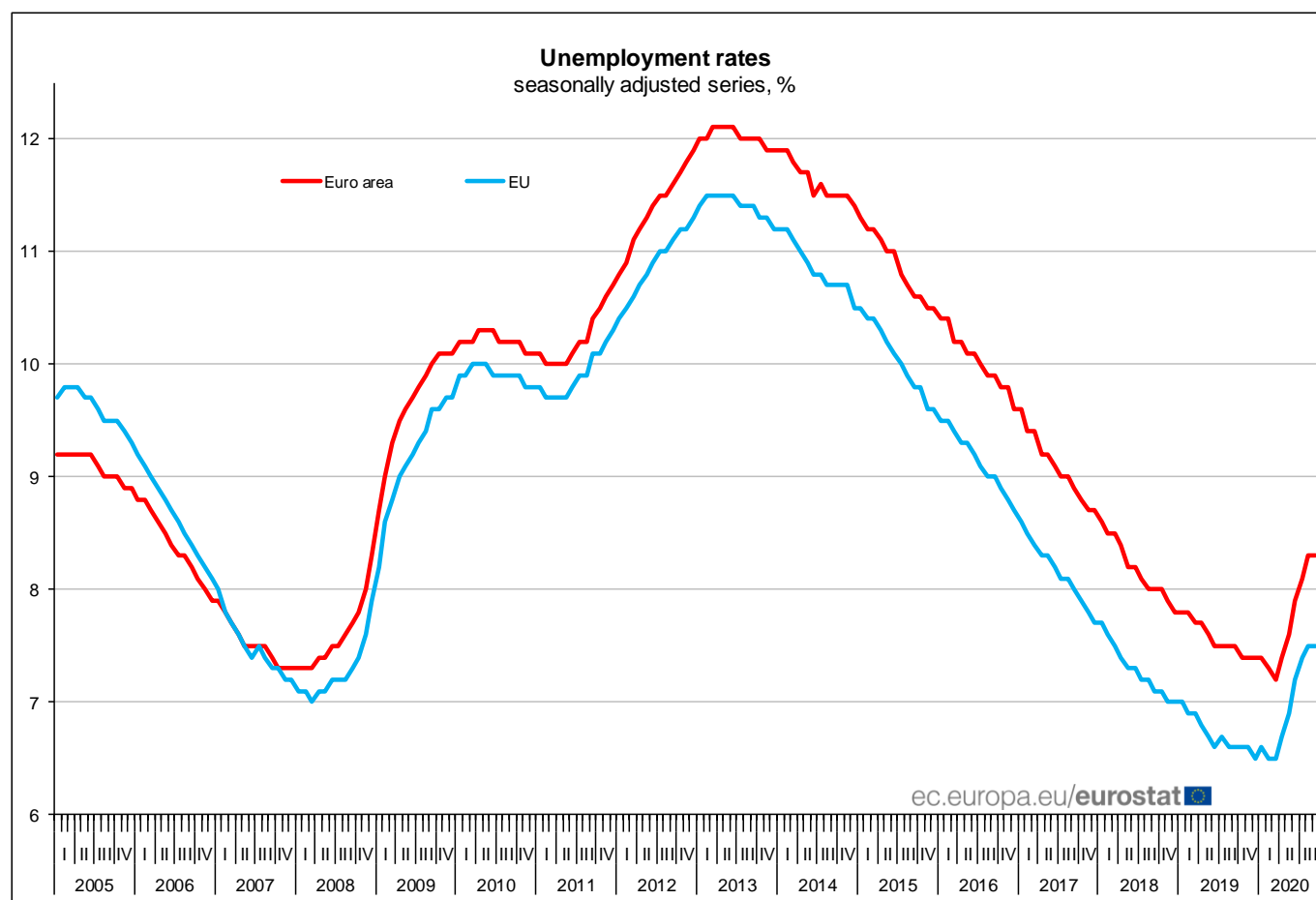
September 2020

## Euro area unemployment at 8.3%

EU at 7.5%

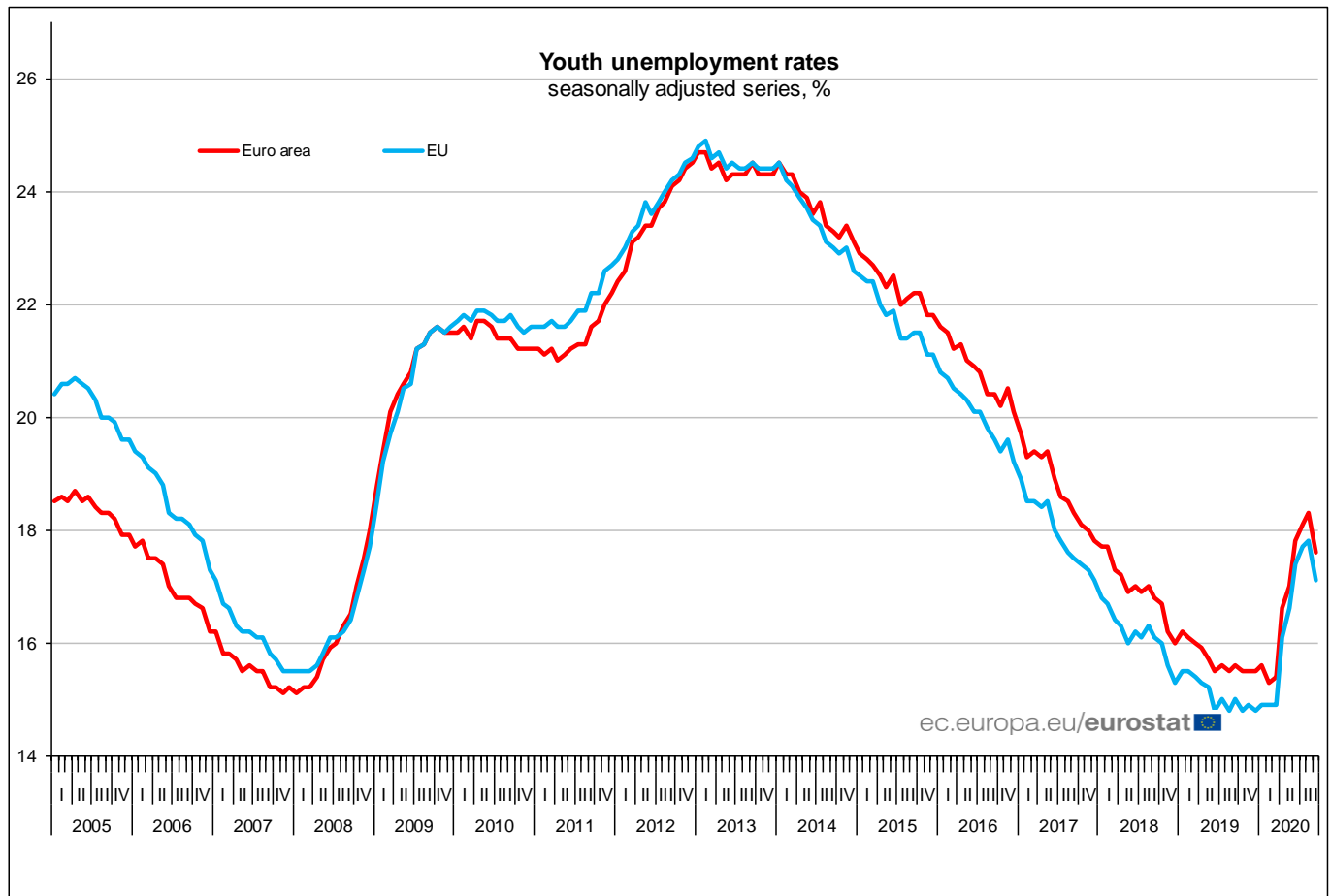
In September 2020, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 8.3%, stable compared with August 2020 and up from 7.5% in September 2019. The **EU** unemployment rate was 7.5% in September 2020, stable compared with August 2020 and up from 6.6% in September 2019. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 15.990 million men and women in the **EU**, of whom 13.612 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in September 2020. Compared with August 2020, the number of persons unemployed increased by 42 000 in the **EU** and by 75 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with September 2019, unemployment rose by 1.811 million in the **EU** and by 1.376 million in the **euro area**.



## Youth unemployment

In September 2020, 2.995 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.451 million were in the **euro area**. In September 2020, the youth unemployment rate was 17.1% in the **EU** and 17.6% in the **euro area**, down from 17.8% and 18.3% respectively in the previous month. Compared with August 2020, youth unemployment decreased by 97 000 in the **EU** and by 77 000 in the **euro area**. This decrease should be interpreted with caution: it might be explained by some young persons not actively seeking employment until the situation improves in the labour market. Compared with September 2019, youth unemployment increased by 259 000 in the **EU** and by 202 000 in the **euro area**.



## Unemployment by gender

In September 2020, the unemployment rate for women was 7.9% in the **EU**, stable compared with August 2020. The unemployment rate for men was 7.1% in September 2020, also stable compared with August 2020. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women increased from 8.8% in August 2020 to 8.9% in September 2020 while it decreased from 7.9% to 7.8% for men.

## Additional labour market indicators

These estimates are based on the globally used International Labour Organisation standard definition of unemployment, which counts as unemployed people without a job who have been actively seeking work in the last four weeks and are available to start work within the next two weeks. The COVID-19 outbreak and the measures applied to combat it have triggered a sharp increase in the number of claims for unemployment benefits across the EU. At the same time, a significant part of those who had registered in unemployment agencies were no longer actively looking for a job or no longer available for work, for instance, if they had to take care of their children. This leads to discrepancies in the number of registered unemployed and those measured as unemployed according to the ILO definition.

To capture in full the unprecedented labour market situation triggered by the COVID-19 outbreak, the data on unemployment have been complemented by additional indicators, e.g. underemployed part-time workers, persons seeking work but not immediately available and persons available to work but not seeking, released together with LFS data for the second quarter of 2020.

## Geographical information

**Euro area (EA19):** Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

**European Union (EU27):** 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.

## Methods and definitions

Eurostat publishes 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 data 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.

Series have been **seasonally adjusted** using the seasonal factors estimated in the period up to December 2019 included. Those seasonal factors will be kept unchanged ('controlled concurrent adjustment method') until the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak can be integrated in seasonal adjustment models.

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.

Germany: due to the introduction of the new German system of integrated household surveys, including the LFS, the monthly unemployment rate for September 2020 is an estimation based on the figures recorded in previous periods, taking into account current developments.

## 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 [142/2020](#) of 1 October 2020, the August unemployment rate for the euro area has been revised upwards by 0.2 percentage points (pp) and for the EU by 0.1 pp. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points downwards for Greece (by 0.3 pp, June 2020 data). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Spain (by 0.5 pp) and Austria (by 0.4 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 articles on [unemployment](#) and on [youth unemployment](#)

Eurostat [metadata](#) on adjusted unemployment series and [methodological note](#) regarding COVID-19 outbreak

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

### Eurostat Press Office

Romina BRONDINO  
Tel: +352-4301-33 408  
[eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu](mailto: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](mailto:estat-monthly-unemployment@ec.europa.eu)

 **Media requests:** [eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu) / Tel: +352-4301-33 408



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[ec.europa.eu/eurostat/](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/)

## Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Sep 19	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20	Sep 19	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20
<b>Euro area</b>	7.5	7.9	8.1	8.3	<b>8.3</b>	12 236	12 719	13 233	13 537	<b>13 612</b>
<b>EU</b>	6.6	7.2	7.4	7.5	<b>7.5</b>	14 179	15 160	15 662	15 948	<b>15 990</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.1	<b>5.2</b>	265	251	249	258	<b>261</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	<b>6.2</b>	134	194	199	201	<b>198</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.8	<b>2.8</b>	113	144	143	149	<b>147</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	5.2	6.0	6.3	6.2	<b>6.1</b>	158	180	190	188	<b>184</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.1	4.4	4.5	4.5	<b>4.5</b>	1 343	1 928	1 969	1 989	<b>1 996</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	4**	8.0	7.8	8.0	:	28**	56	54	56	:
<b>Ireland</b>	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.2	<b>5.4</b>	117	115	119	121	<b>126</b>
<b>Greece</b>	17.1*	18.0	16.8	:	:	805*	843	774	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	14.1	16.0	16.5	16.7	<b>16.5</b>	3 243	3 510	3 705	3 836	<b>3 814</b>
<b>France</b>	8.4	6.6	7.1	7.5	<b>7.9</b>	2 475	1 884	2 041	2 189	<b>2 322</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	6.4	8.6	8.4	8.3	<b>8.2</b>	115	156	153	152	<b>149</b>
<b>Italy</b>	9.7	9.4	9.8	9.7	<b>9.6</b>	2 498	2 358	2 489	2 461	<b>2 439</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	6.6	7.4	6.9	7.4	<b>8.0</b>	29	33	31	33	<b>36</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	6.0	8.9	9.0	8.8	<b>8.4</b>	58	87	88	86	<b>82</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	6.7	8.8	9.0	9.6	<b>9.8</b>	97	129	132	141	<b>144</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	5.5	7.6	7.2	6.8	<b>6.7</b>	17	24	23	21	<b>21</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.5**	4.9	4.6	4.4	:	161**	230	214	207	:
<b>Malta</b>	3.6	4.3	4.1	4.1	<b>4.0</b>	10	11	11	11	<b>11</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.5	4.3	4.5	4.6	<b>4.4</b>	323	404	419	426	<b>413</b>
<b>Austria</b>	4.4	5.9	5.6	5.4	<b>5.5</b>	201	272	260	251	<b>255</b>
<b>Poland</b>	3.1	3.3	3.2	3.1	<b>3.1</b>	518	556	544	529	<b>525</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	6.5	7.3	7.9	8.1	<b>7.7</b>	341	370	404	414	<b>399</b>
<b>Romania</b>	4.1	5.3	5.4	5.3	<b>5.2</b>	368	474	484	479	<b>471</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	4.7	5.3	4.8	4.7	<b>4.7</b>	48	53	49	48	<b>48</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	5.7	6.7	6.8	6.9	<b>6.8</b>	157	179	183	187	<b>185</b>
<b>Finland</b>	6.9	7.8	8.1	8.2	<b>8.3</b>	189	214	220	226	<b>228</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	6.9	9.2	9.2	9.2	<b>9.2</b>	381	508	508	507	<b>507</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	3.8*	3.9	4.3	:	:	1 285*	1 326	1 452	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	3.5	4.5	5.0	5.0	<b>5.6</b>	7	9	10	10	<b>12</b>
<b>Norway</b>	3.7**	5.2	5.2	5.3	:	106**	147	147	150	:
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.3	4.8	:	:	:	210	233	:	:	:
<b>United States</b>	3.5	11.1	10.2	8.4	<b>7.9</b>	5 772	17 704	16 342	13 551	<b>12 619</b>

: Data not available

\* July 2019

\*\* August 2019

Source datasets: [une\\_rt\\_m](#) (rates) and [une\\_rt\\_m](#) (in 1 000 persons)

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

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Sep 19	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20	Sep 19	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20
<b>Euro area</b>	15.6	17.8	18.1	18.3	<b>17.6</b>	2 249	2 388	2 468	2 528	<b>2 451</b>
<b>EU</b>	15.0	17.4	17.7	17.8	<b>17.1</b>	2 736	2 955	3 045	3 092	<b>2 995</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	13.0	15.7	18.3	18.3	<b>18.3</b>	53	56	62	62	<b>62</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	8.2	16.4	17.2	18.3	<b>18.3</b>	13	22	24	26	<b>26</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	5.1	8.7	8.9	8.5	<b>8.1</b>	14	23	23	22	<b>21</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	10.1	12.6	12.8	12.0	<b>11.9</b>	45	55	56	52	<b>51</b>
<b>Germany</b>	5.6	6.1	6.1	6.1	<b>6.0</b>	242	263	264	262	<b>258</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	9.3	23.2	23.7	20.9	:	5	13	13	11	:
<b>Ireland</b>	11.7	15.9	17.1	17.5	<b>18.9</b>	34	36	40	41	<b>46</b>
<b>Greece</b>	34.8	37.8	37.8	:	:	82	80	79	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	32.2	42.1	41.8	42.2	<b>40.4</b>	500	554	586	621	<b>595</b>
<b>France</b>	19.3	20.5	20.3	19.9	<b>19.6</b>	544	519	529	536	<b>544</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	16.4	24.5	23.6	23.6	<b>23.6</b>	24	38	36	36	<b>36</b>
<b>Italy</b>	28.7	30.0	31.2	31.4	<b>29.7</b>	437	412	443	457	<b>423</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	16.4	19.8	19.9	19.9	<b>19.9</b>	6	7	7	7	<b>7</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	9.8	18.0	17.6	16.3	<b>15.5</b>	6	11	11	10	<b>9</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	13.1	21.8	23.1	25.4	<b>27.7</b>	14	23	23	25	<b>27</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	16.7	27.0	25.3	23.2	<b>23.1</b>	4	7	6	5	<b>5</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	12.3	15.2	14.1	12.4	:	40	49	45	39	:
<b>Malta</b>	9.1	9.6	9.1	9.4	<b>8.8</b>	3	3	2	3	<b>2</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	7.2	10.7	11.0	11.3	<b>10.7</b>	106	156	159	164	<b>157</b>
<b>Austria</b>	9.0	10.8	10.4	10.1	<b>9.4</b>	46	55	52	51	<b>48</b>
<b>Poland</b>	9.0	10.2	9.7	9.2	<b>8.7</b>	113	107	104	102	<b>98</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	18.8	27.4	26.2	26.8	<b>24.0</b>	71	88	86	87	<b>80</b>
<b>Romania</b>	17.5	16.9	:	:	:	106	99	:	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	8.2	16.9	13.7	13.7	<b>13.7</b>	6	9	8	8	<b>8</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	16.9	19.9	20.4	20.2	<b>18.4</b>	28	30	31	31	<b>28</b>
<b>Finland</b>	18.4	20.6	20.8	20.9	<b>20.7</b>	59	64	65	65	<b>65</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	19.9	27.9	27.7	27.4	<b>27.1</b>	126	167	165	163	<b>161</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	11.4	12.9	13.6	:	:	471	523	541	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	9.4	11.0	9.9	10.5	<b>10.7</b>	3	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Norway</b>	10.1	12.8	13.3	12.9	:	38	48	49	48	:
<b>Switzerland</b>	8.2	8.6	:	:	:	48	48	:	:	:

: Data not available

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

Source datasets: [une\\_rt\\_m](#) (rates) and [une\\_rt\\_m](#) (in 1 000 persons)

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

	Males					Females				
	Sep 19	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20	Sep 19	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20
<b>Euro area</b>	7.2	7.6	7.8	7.9	<b>7.8</b>	7.8	8.2	8.6	8.8	<b>8.9</b>
<b>EU</b>	6.4	7.0	7.1	7.1	<b>7.1</b>	6.9	7.5	7.8	7.9	<b>7.9</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.4	<b>5.4</b>	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.9	<b>4.9</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.3	6.1	6.3	6.5	<b>6.5</b>	3.7	5.8	6.0	6.0	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	1.9	2.5	2.3	2.6	<b>2.4</b>	2.4	2.9	3.2	3.0	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	4.9	5.7	6.0	6.1	<b>6.0</b>	5.5	6.3	6.5	6.3	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.5	4.4	4.4	4.5	<b>4.5</b>	2.6	4.4	4.5	4.5	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	3.7	8.7	8.2	8.1	:	4.9	7.2	7.3	7.8	:
<b>Ireland</b>	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.2	<b>5.4</b>	4.5	5.0	5.2	5.3	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Greece</b>	13.8	16.0	14.0	:	:	20.7	20.6	20.2	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	12.3	14.6	14.7	14.8	<b>14.6</b>	16.1	17.6	18.4	18.9	<b>18.7</b>
<b>France</b>	8.5	6.9	7.2	7.5	<b>7.7</b>	8.3	6.3	6.9	7.5	<b>8.0</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	6.0	8.2	8.0	8.0	<b>7.8</b>	7.0	9.0	8.8	8.8	<b>8.7</b>
<b>Italy</b>	8.8	8.6	9.0	9.0	<b>8.7</b>	10.8	10.5	10.9	10.6	<b>10.8</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	5.7	7.5	7.4	8.2	<b>8.7</b>	7.6	7.2	6.3	6.5	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	6.5	10.4	10.5	10.2	<b>9.8</b>	5.4	7.5	7.5	7.4	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	7.7	9.9	10.3	10.9	<b>11.1</b>	5.6	7.7	7.7	8.2	<b>8.5</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	5.5	7.9	7.4	7.0	<b>6.8</b>	5.5	7.4	7.0	6.6	<b>6.5</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.4	4.7	4.3	4.4	:	3.7	5.3	4.9	4.5	:
<b>Malta</b>	3.3	3.9	3.9	3.9	<b>3.8</b>	4.2	4.8	4.5	4.4	<b>4.2</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.5	4.2	4.2	4.3	<b>4.2</b>	3.4	4.5	4.8	4.9	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Austria</b>	4.7	6.1	5.8	5.8	<b>5.8</b>	4.1	5.7	5.4	5.1	<b>5.2</b>
<b>Poland</b>	2.8	3.2	3.1	3.0	<b>2.9</b>	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.4	<b>3.3</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	6.0	7.1	7.7	8.0	<b>7.5</b>	7.1	7.6	8.1	8.1	<b>8.0</b>
<b>Romania</b>	4.5	5.6	6.1	5.9	<b>5.7</b>	3.4	5.0	4.5	4.5	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	4.6	4.6	4.2	4.2	<b>4.3</b>	4.9	6.1	5.6	5.3	<b>5.2</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	5.5	6.7	6.8	6.9	<b>6.9</b>	5.9	6.6	6.7	6.8	<b>6.8</b>
<b>Finland</b>	7.4	8.3	8.5	8.7	<b>8.8</b>	6.4	7.4	7.5	7.7	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	6.8	9.3	9.3	9.2	<b>9.2</b>	7.0	9.1	9.1	9.1	<b>9.1</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	4.0	4.1	4.7	:	:	3.5	3.7	3.8	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	3.6	4.6	5.4	5.4	<b>6.5</b>	3.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Norway</b>	4.2	5.5	5.5	5.6	:	3.5	4.8	4.8	4.9	:
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.1	5.0	:	:	:	4.4	4.6	:	:	:

: Data not available

Source dataset: [une\\_rt\\_m](#)