

63/2021 – 1 June 2021

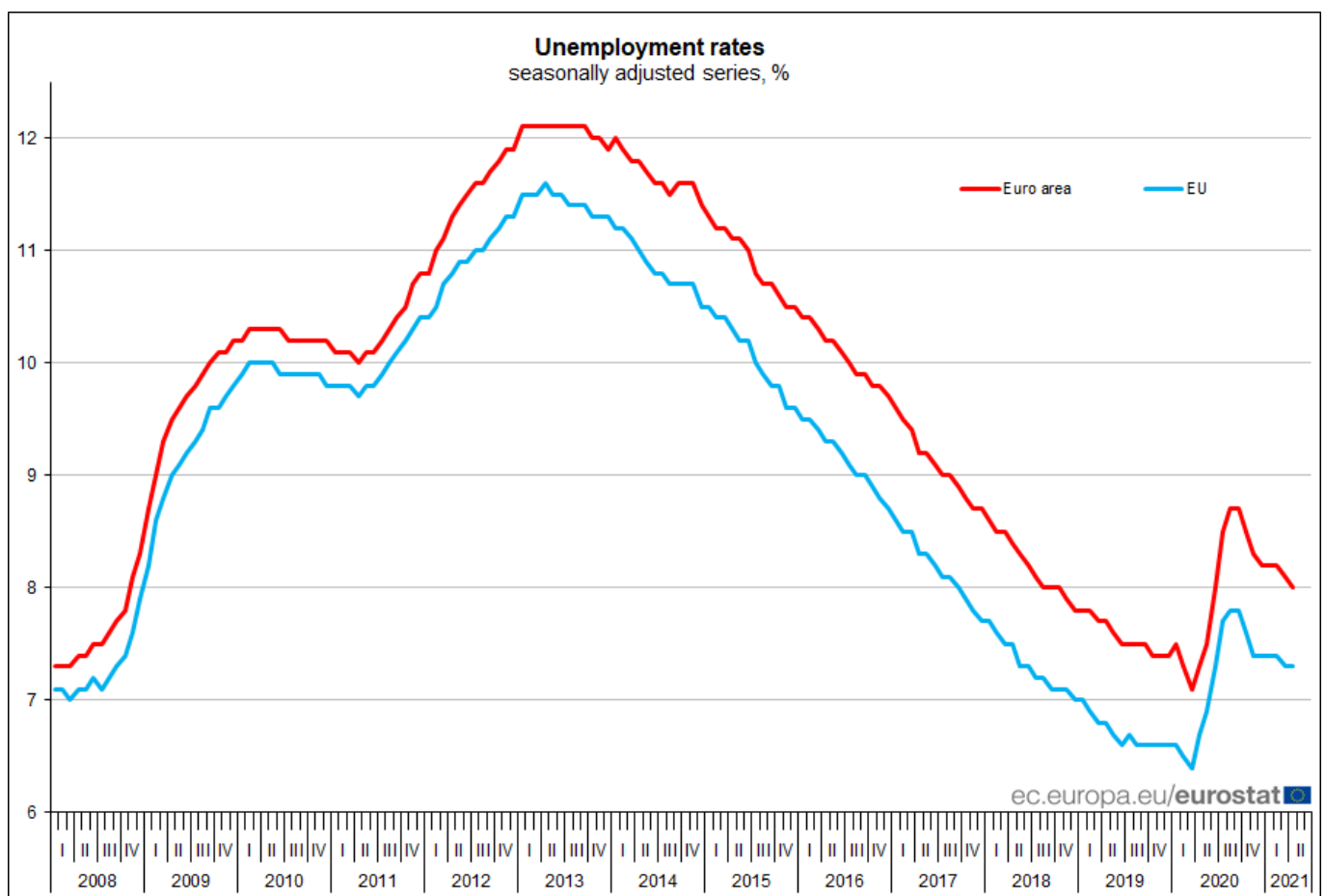
April 2021

## Euro area unemployment at 8.0%

EU at 7.3%

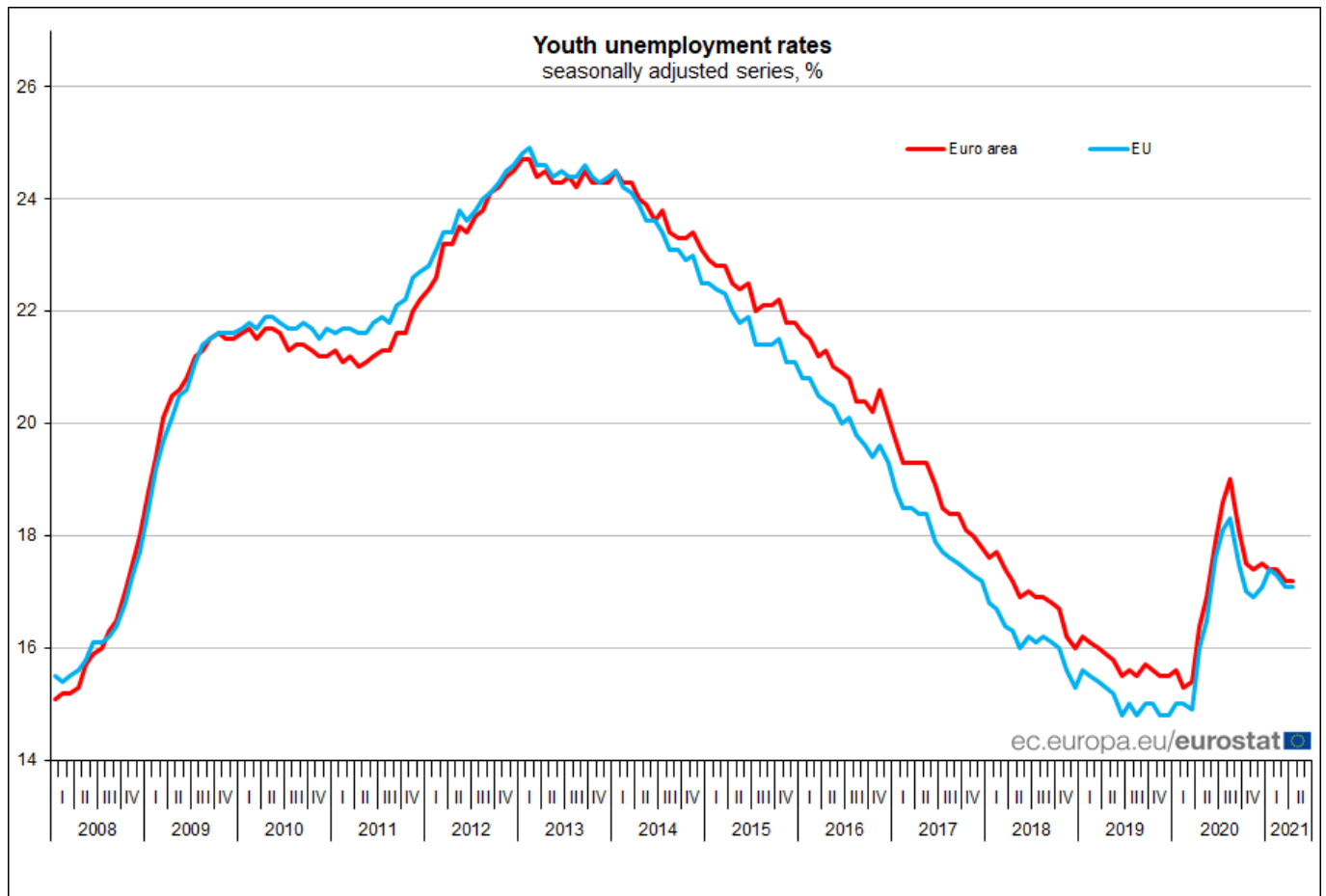
In April 2021, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 8.0%, down from 8.1% in March 2021 and up from 7.3% in April 2020. The **EU** unemployment rate was 7.3% in April 2021, stable compared with March 2021 and up from 6.7% in April 2020. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 15.380 million men and women in the **EU**, of whom 13.030 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in April 2021. Compared with March 2021, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 165 000 in the **EU** and by 134 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with April 2020, unemployment rose by 1.406 million in the **EU** and by 1.275 million in the **euro area**.



## Youth unemployment

In April 2021, 2.939 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.348 million were in the **euro area**. In April 2021, the youth unemployment rate was 17.1% in the **EU** and 17.2% in the **euro area**, stable in both areas compared with the previous month. Compared with March 2021, youth unemployment decreased by 21 000 in the **EU** and by 18 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with April 2020, youth unemployment increased by 211 000 in the **EU** and by 126 000 in the **euro area**.



## Unemployment by gender

In April 2021, the unemployment rate for women was 7.6% in the **EU**, down from 7.7% in March 2021. The unemployment rate for men was 7.0% in April 2021, stable compared with March 2021. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women decreased from 8.5% in March 2021 to 8.4% in April 2021 while the unemployment rate for men remained stable at 7.7%.

## Additional labour market indicators

These estimates are based on the globally used International Labour Organisation (ILO) 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 fourth 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. For Austria, April 2021 data are estimated using previous series from January 2004 until December 2020.

Denmark, Estonia and Portugal: 3-month moving averages of LFS data are used instead of pure monthly indicators. Italy and Portugal: the data are provisional up to April 2021 included.

Germany: due to the introduction of the new German system of integrated household surveys, including the LFS, the monthly unemployment rate for April 2021 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 [54/2021](#) of 30 April 2021, the unemployment rate for March 2021 remained unchanged for the euro area and for the EU. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Lithuania (by 2.4 pp), Latvia (by 1.0 pp), Belgium (by 0.4 pp), Malta (by 0.3 pp) and Denmark (by 0.2 pp). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points upwards for Cyprus (by 0.9 pp), Slovenia (by 0.4 pp), Italy and Romania (both by 0.3 pp) and Hungary (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 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

Veronika LANG  
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

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

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

 [@EU\\_Eurostat](https://www.instagram.com/EU_Eurostat)

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

### Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Apr 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	Apr 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21
<b>Euro area</b>	7.3	8.2	8.2	8.1	<b>8.0</b>	11 755	13 406	13 371	13 164	<b>13 030</b>
<b>EU</b>	6.7	7.4	7.4	7.3	<b>7.3</b>	13 974	15 815	15 770	15 545	<b>15 380</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	4.9	5.5	5.5	5.4	<b>5.3</b>	243	281	279	275	<b>270</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	5.9	5.6	5.5	5.1	<b>4.7</b>	192	187	182	169	<b>154</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	2.2	3.2	3.2	3.3	<b>3.4</b>	117	174	170	175	<b>182</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	5.0	6.1	6.1	5.8	<b>5.7</b>	151	184	183	176	<b>173</b>
<b>Germany</b>	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	<b>4.4</b>	1 765	2 009	1 993	1 972	<b>1 950</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	5.9	7.1	6.8	6.8	<b>6.8</b>	41	50	48	48	<b>48</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	4.7	5.8	5.7	5.8	<b>5.8</b>	110	142	139	137	<b>135</b>
<b>Greece</b>	16.4*	15.8**	:	:	:	771*	726**	:	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	15.2	15.7	15.5	15.3	<b>15.4</b>	3 351	3 608	3 560	3 488	<b>3 469</b>
<b>France</b>	7.4	7.9	8.0	7.9	<b>7.3</b>	2 146	2 350	2 387	2 322	<b>2 125</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	7.8	7.2	7.1	7.1	<b>7.5</b>	140	127	125	126	<b>132</b>
<b>Italy</b>	7.4	10.5	10.5	10.4	<b>10.7</b>	1 800	2 581	2 590	2 582	<b>2 670</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	7.5	7.2	7.4	8.0	<b>9.4</b>	34	32	34	36	<b>43</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	8.3	7.8	7.7	7.7	<b>7.8</b>	81	73	72	71	<b>72</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	7.9	7.4	6.8	6.5	<b>7.0</b>	116	109	100	94	<b>101</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	7.4	6.7	6.6	6.6	<b>6.6</b>	23	21	21	21	<b>21</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	4.0	4.7	4.5	4.1	<b>4.3</b>	189	226	216	195	<b>208</b>
<b>Malta</b>	4.4	4.1	3.9	3.8	<b>3.8</b>	12	11	11	10	<b>10</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.5	<b>3.4</b>	314	337	340	326	<b>316</b>
<b>Austria</b>	4.9	5.7	5.7	5.6	<b>5.6</b>	217	260	260	259	<b>257</b>
<b>Poland</b>	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	<b>3.1</b>	523	531	540	534	<b>524</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	6.4	6.9	6.8	6.6	<b>6.9</b>	320	345	343	332	<b>349</b>
<b>Romania</b>	5.3	5.9	5.9	5.8	<b>5.7</b>	474	490	489	485	<b>474</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	5.2	5.4	5.3	5.2	<b>5.2</b>	53	53	52	51	<b>51</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	6.6	7.2	7.3	7.4	<b>7.3</b>	178	196	200	202	<b>198</b>
<b>Finland</b>	7.3	8.1	8.0	8.0	<b>7.9</b>	197	221	219	217	<b>217</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	7.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	<b>9.1</b>	435	492	495	498	<b>501</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	5.7	7.3	7.4	7.5	<b>7.6</b>	11	15	15	15	<b>16</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.6	:	:	:	:	227	:	:	:	:
<b>United States</b>	14.8	6.3	6.2	6.0	<b>6.1</b>	23 068	10 230	10 046	9 622	<b>9 766</b>

: Data not available

\* December 2019

\*\* Decemes 2020

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)				
	Apr 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	Apr 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21
<b>Euro area</b>	16.4	17.4	17.4	17.2	<b>17.2</b>	2 222	2 403	2 396	2 366	<b>2 348</b>
<b>EU</b>	16.0	17.4	17.3	17.1	<b>17.1</b>	2 728	3 011	2 990	2 960	<b>2 939</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	15.7	13.8	13.8	13.8	:	56	49	49	49	:
<b>Bulgaria</b>	17.8	17.1	16.9	14.9	<b>12.1</b>	23	25	24	20	<b>15</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	6.4	11.3	8.9	10.3	<b>8.3</b>	17	30	23	28	<b>22</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	10.5	12.8	13.3	13.4	<b>12.3</b>	45	54	55	57	<b>53</b>
<b>Germany</b>	5.9	6.4	6.3	6.1	<b>6.0</b>	257	272	266	259	<b>252</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	11.8	17.2	15.1	15.0	<b>14.9</b>	6	8	7	7	<b>7</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	13.1	15.6	14.7	14.8	<b>15.9</b>	33	43	39	37	<b>35</b>
<b>Greece</b>	36.3	:	:	:	:	84	:	:	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	37.0	39.5	38.8	37.7	<b>38.0</b>	490	580	566	539	<b>526</b>
<b>France</b>	21.4	18.5	19.2	19.5	<b>19.5</b>	566	516	542	546	<b>534</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	25.2	20.6	20.6	20.6	:	38	29	29	29	:
<b>Italy</b>	26.2	33.8	33.4	33.8	<b>33.7</b>	342	468	461	479	<b>488</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	19.9	18.8	18.8	18.8	:	7	7	7	7	:
<b>Latvia</b>	17.2	15.7	16.2	15.6	<b>14.4</b>	11	9	9	8	<b>8</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	19.5	13.1	11.2	10.5	<b>11.5</b>	20	13	11	10	<b>11</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	24.7	22.1	21.6	21.4	<b>21.7</b>	6	5	5	5	<b>5</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	14.2	15.3	13.5	11.5	<b>13.9</b>	42	49	41	37	<b>46</b>
<b>Malta</b>	10.1	10.5	9.7	9.1	<b>8.4</b>	3	3	3	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	8.4	9.1	9.4	8.9	<b>8.8</b>	119	133	137	129	<b>128</b>
<b>Austria</b>	11.1	9.7	9.6	9.5	<b>9.5</b>	58	50	49	49	<b>48</b>
<b>Poland</b>	9.6	14.2	14.8	13.9	<b>12.6</b>	105	153	159	147	<b>130</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	21.0	23.0	22.9	22.2	<b>24.0</b>	72	72	72	70	<b>77</b>
<b>Romania</b>	17.0	16.0*	:	:	:	100	100*	:	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	16.6	14.4	14.4	14.4	:	10	8	8	8	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	20.0	20.7	20.6	20.8	<b>20.8</b>	31	32	33	33	<b>32</b>
<b>Finland</b>	20.0	20.3	20.1	20.0	<b>20.0</b>	63	63	62	62	<b>62</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	23.7	24.6	24.7	24.9	<b>25.2</b>	141	147	149	152	<b>154</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	12.4	14.3	15.1	15.9	<b>16.3</b>	4	4	4	4	<b>5</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	9.3	:	:	:	:	52	:	:	:	:

: Data not available

\* 2020 Q4 data

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				
	Apr 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21	Apr 20	Jan 21	Feb 21	Mar 21	Apr 21
<b>Euro area</b>	7.1	7.8	7.8	7.7	<b>7.7</b>	7.6	8.7	8.7	8.5	<b>8.4</b>
<b>EU</b>	6.5	7.1	7.1	7.0	<b>7.0</b>	6.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	<b>7.6</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.0	5.6	5.5	5.4	<b>5.3</b>	4.7	5.4	5.4	5.4	<b>5.3</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	5.9	6.0	6.0	5.6	<b>5.0</b>	5.8	5.2	4.9	4.6	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.7	<b>2.8</b>	2.5	4.2	4.0	3.9	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	4.6	5.8	5.8	5.7	<b>5.6</b>	5.5	6.5	6.3	6.0	<b>5.7</b>
<b>Germany</b>	4.1	4.5	4.5	4.5	<b>4.4</b>	3.8	4.6	4.6	4.5	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	6.0	7.5	7.5	7.5	<b>7.5</b>	5.9	6.7	6.1	6.1	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	4.9	6.0	5.8	5.8	<b>5.8</b>	4.5	5.6	5.6	5.7	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Greece</b>	13.8	:	:	:	:	19.6	:	:	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	14.0	13.8	13.6	13.4	<b>13.7</b>	16.5	17.7	17.6	17.4	<b>17.4</b>
<b>France</b>	7.7	8.1	8.3	8.4	<b>8.1</b>	7.1	7.7	7.7	7.3	<b>6.5</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	7.6	7.1	7.0	7.0	<b>7.3</b>	8.1	7.3	7.2	7.3	<b>7.6</b>
<b>Italy</b>	7.0	9.8	9.7	9.5	<b>9.8</b>	8.0	11.3	11.5	11.7	<b>11.9</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	7.2	7.6	8.0	8.2	<b>9.0</b>	7.8	6.7	6.7	7.6	<b>10.0</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	9.5	8.4	8.2	8.0	<b>7.8</b>	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.4	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	8.8	7.3	6.6	6.2	<b>6.9</b>	7.0	7.4	7.0	6.8	<b>7.0</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	7.5	6.5	6.4	6.4	<b>6.4</b>	7.3	6.9	6.9	6.8	<b>6.8</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.7	4.2	4.4	3.8	<b>4.4</b>	4.3	5.3	4.7	4.4	<b>4.2</b>
<b>Malta</b>	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.8	<b>3.8</b>	4.6	4.2	4.0	3.8	<b>3.7</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4	<b>3.2</b>	3.3	3.7	3.7	3.6	<b>3.5</b>
<b>Austria</b>	4.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	<b>5.8</b>	5.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Poland</b>	3.1	3.3	3.3	3.2	<b>3.0</b>	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.0	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	5.3	6.8	6.6	6.4	<b>6.6</b>	7.5	7.0	7.1	6.8	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Romania</b>	5.6	6.2	6.1	6.1	<b>6.0</b>	5.0	5.6	5.7	5.5	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.1	<b>4.0</b>	5.9	6.5	6.6	6.6	<b>6.6</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.5	<b>6.4</b>	6.7	8.1	8.4	8.5	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Finland</b>	7.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	<b>8.2</b>	7.0	7.6	7.6	7.6	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	8.1	8.8	8.8	8.8	<b>8.9</b>	7.8	9.1	9.2	9.2	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	5.6	6.5	6.4	6.3	<b>6.3</b>	5.8	8.2	8.6	8.9	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.8	:	:	:	:	4.5	:	:	:	:

: Data not available

Source dataset: une\_rt\_m