

98/2021 – 1 September 2021

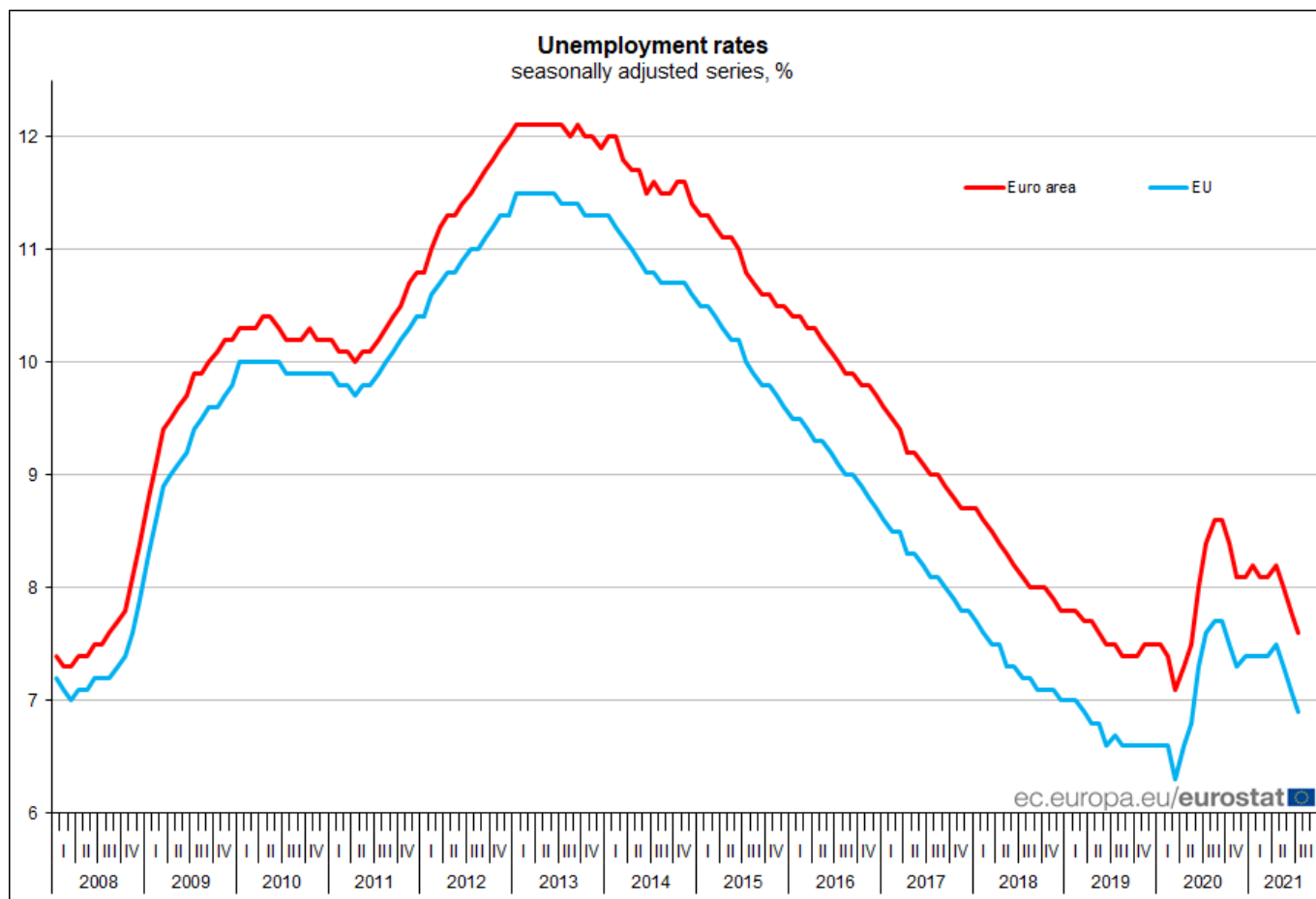
July 2021

Euro area unemployment at 7.6%

EU at 6.9%

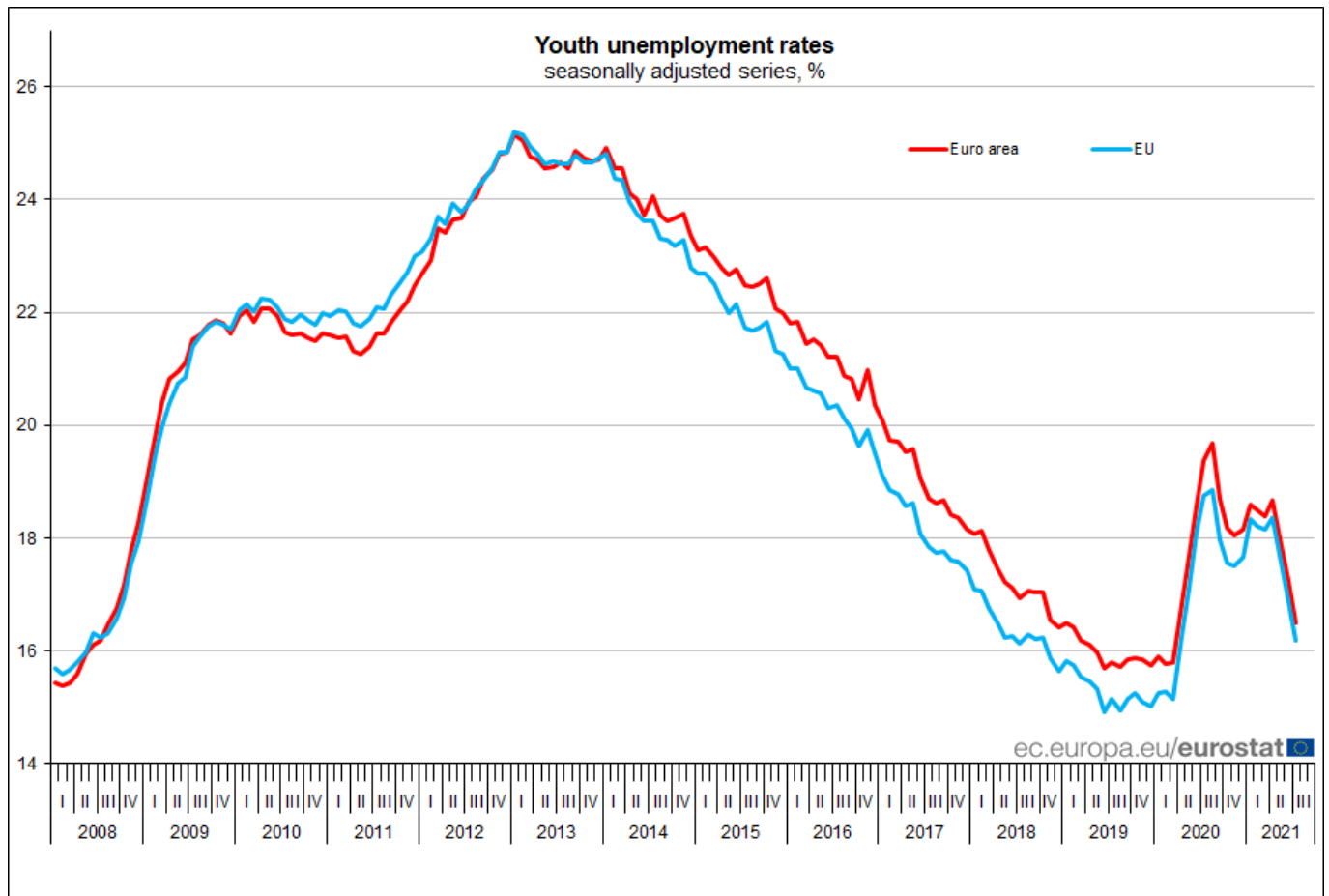
In July 2021, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 7.6%, down from 7.8% in June 2021 and from 8.4% in July 2020. The **EU** unemployment rate was 6.9% in July 2021, down from 7.1% in June 2021 and from 7.6% in July 2020. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 14.613 million men and women in the **EU**, of whom 12.334 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in July 2021. Compared with June 2021, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 430 000 in the **EU** and by 350 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with July 2020, unemployment decreased by 1.521 million in the **EU** and by 1.336 million in the **euro area**.



Youth unemployment

In July 2021, 2.854 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.339 million were in the **euro area**. In July 2021, the youth unemployment rate was 16.2% in the **EU** and 16.5% in the **euro area**, down from 16.9% and 17.2% respectively in the previous month. Compared with June 2021, youth unemployment decreased by 151 000 in the **EU** and by 140 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with July 2020, youth unemployment decreased by 420 000 in the **EU** and by 360 000 in the **euro area**.



Unemployment by gender

In July 2021, the unemployment rate for women was 7.3% in the **EU**, down from 7.5% in June 2021. The unemployment rate for men was 6.5% in July 2021, down from 6.7% in June 2021. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women decreased from 8.3% in June 2021 to 8.1% in July 2021, while the unemployment rate for men decreased from 7.3% in June 2021 to 7.1% in July 2021.

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 first quarter of 2021](#).

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, Finland, Sweden and Iceland: the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

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

Germany: Starting from May 2021 the monthly unemployment rate is calculated on the basis of the labour force survey. The estimated results from January 2020 to April 2021 had been revised on this basis.

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 [89/2021](#) of 30 July 2021, the unemployment rate for June 2021 for the euro area has been revised from 7.7% to 7.8%, while it remained unchanged for the EU. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Ireland (by 0.9 pp), Denmark and Slovenia (both by 0.6 pp), Greece and Italy (both by 0.3 pp) as well as Latvia, Malta, Austria, Romania and Sweden (all by 0.2 pp). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points upwards for Lithuania (by 1.4 pp), France (by 0.7 pp) and Cyprus (by 0.3 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](#)

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Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 20	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Jul 20	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21
Euro area	8.4	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.6	13 670	13 321	13 124	12 684	12 334
EU	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.1	6.9	16 134	15 838	15 561	15 043	14 613
Belgium	6.0	6.7	6.5	6.2	5.9	307	340	328	315	300
Bulgaria	5.2	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.9	170	202	202	197	193
Czechia	2.9	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.8	158	173	167	150	148
Denmark	6.5	5.4	5.1	4.6	4.3	197	164	154	140	130
Germany	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.6	1 739	1 620	1 596	1 575	1 556
Estonia	7.7	6.5	6.8	6.6	6.5	54	45	47	46	45
Ireland	6.7	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.5	157	184	176	170	171
Greece	16.8	17.1	15.6	14.8	14.6	771	766	730	691	678
Spain	16.3	15.5	15.4	15.0	14.3	3 685	3 606	3 579	3 488	3 296
France	8.6	8.3	8.3	8.0	7.9	2 548	2 496	2 489	2 408	2 372
Croatia	8.5	7.7	8.0	7.5	7.3	154	137	142	132	128
Italy	10.1	10.2	9.9	9.4	9.3	2 513	2 551	2 481	2 368	2 339
Cyprus	7.9	9.7	10.5	8.2	5.2	35	45	49	38	23
Latvia	8.8	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.6	85	72	73	73	71
Lithuania	9.4	7.2	7.7	7.8	7.5	137	106	113	113	111
Luxembourg	7.1	6.3	6.2	5.9	5.7	22	20	20	19	18
Hungary	4.5	4.5	3.9	4.0	4.3	216	216	187	193	208
Malta	5.0	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.3	13	10	9	9	9
Netherlands	4.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.1	419	316	309	297	289
Austria	6.8	7.1	6.7	6.2	6.2	308	321	305	287	282
Poland	3.4	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.4	573	674	648	614	586
Portugal	8.1	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.6	405	354	362	353	341
Romania	5.5	5.5	5.3	5.0	5.1	488	448	431	408	420
Slovenia	5.3	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.0	54	48	46	43	41
Slovakia	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.6	191	187	183	178	174
Finland	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	219	221	222	222	221
Sweden	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	498	500	501	500	499
Iceland	6.5	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.4	13	14	14	13	13
United States	10.2	6.1	5.8	5.9	5.4	16 263	9 766	9 224	9 442	8 669

: Data not available

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)				
	Jul 20	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Jul 20	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21
Euro area	19.4	18.7	17.9	17.2	16.5	2 699	2 669	2 567	2 479	2 339
EU	18.7	18.4	17.6	16.9	16.2	3 274	3 271	3 133	3 005	2 854
Belgium	17.2	17.1	17.1	17.1	:	65	61	61	61	:
Bulgaria	13.7	14.4	13.4	12.3	11.5	18	19	18	16	16
Czechia	9.9	8.5	7.9	7.1	8.0	26	22	21	19	22
Denmark	13.2	11.5	10.1	8.7	8.2	58	49	43	37	34
Germany	7.4	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.5	320	343	338	332	327
Estonia	25.1	15.2	18.3	18.3	18.6	13	7	9	10	10
Ireland	19.0	18.8	18.4	18.4	17.3	49	57	56	56	59
Greece	36.1	45.3	34.9	29.7	37.6	77	92	68	66	77
Spain	41.3	38.7	37.5	37.0	35.1	582	612	591	570	500
France	23.8	20.3	19.3	18.7	18.6	670	614	585	559	546
Croatia	24.3	23.2	23.2	23.2	:	36	33	33	33	:
Italy	31.9	31.8	29.6	29.3	27.7	450	457	435	436	404
Cyprus	22.0	20.1	20.1	20.1	:	8	8	8	8	:
Latvia	15.9	15.4	15.3	15.1	13.7	9	9	9	9	7
Lithuania	22.3	17.0	19.7	20.8	19.2	22	16	19	20	18
Luxembourg	25.3	20.1	19.1	18.1	17.8	6	5	5	4	4
Hungary	14.2	14.1	14.1	13.5	16.8	47	46	43	43	54
Malta	10.9	10.2	9.7	10.0	10.6	3	3	3	3	3
Netherlands	11.0	8.8	8.7	7.6	7.3	159	128	126	112	107
Austria	13.0	12.5	12.7	11.0	11.0	64	62	63	57	57
Poland	11.0	14.2	13.4	12.6	12.0	117	148	137	127	120
Portugal	26.4	24.7	25.6	25.4	23.5	86	80	89	88	80
Romania	18.0	21.3	:	:	:	105	123	:	:	:
Slovenia	16.0	14.3	14.3	14.3	:	10	9	9	9	:
Slovakia	20.6	23.9	23.5	22.8	21.7	32	35	34	33	30
Finland	21.0	18.8	18.4	17.9	17.5	65	59	57	56	54
Sweden	26.9	24.5	24.4	24.3	24.1	159	153	154	154	154
Iceland	12.1	13.8	13.5	13.2	13.1	3	4	4	4	4

: 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				
	Jul 20	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21	Jul 20	Apr 21	May 21	Jun 21	Jul 21
Euro area	8.2	7.7	7.6	7.3	7.1	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.3	8.1
EU	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.7	6.5	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.5	7.3
Belgium	6.2	6.8	6.6	6.3	5.9	5.8	6.7	6.4	6.1	6.0
Bulgaria	5.7	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.6	4.6	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.0
Czechia	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.4	3.8	4.1	3.9	3.5	3.2
Denmark	6.2	5.3	5.0	4.5	4.2	6.9	5.5	5.2	4.7	4.4
Germany	4.4	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3
Estonia	8.3	7.3	7.3	6.9	6.9	7.1	5.6	6.2	6.2	6.2
Ireland	6.4	7.5	7.1	6.8	6.5	7.1	7.3	6.8	6.7	6.5
Greece	14.1	13.7	12.5	11.6	11.4	20.3	21.5	19.5	18.7	18.5
Spain	14.7	13.6	13.4	13.1	12.3	18.3	17.7	17.5	17.2	16.6
France	8.8	8.3	8.2	7.9	7.8	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.0
Croatia	8.3	7.7	7.9	7.4	7.1	8.8	7.7	8.0	7.6	7.4
Italy	9.3	9.2	9.1	8.5	8.3	11.1	11.5	11.0	10.6	10.6
Cyprus	8.5	8.2	8.3	6.8	4.6	7.2	11.3	12.8	9.7	5.8
Latvia	9.8	8.5	8.9	9.1	9.0	7.7	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.1
Lithuania	10.1	7.4	8.0	8.0	7.9	8.6	7.1	7.4	7.5	7.2
Luxembourg	6.8	5.9	5.8	5.6	5.4	7.4	6.8	6.6	6.2	6.1
Hungary	4.5	4.7	3.2	3.8	4.5	4.5	4.2	4.7	4.1	4.1
Malta	4.6	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	5.5	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.5
Netherlands	4.2	3.2	3.2	3.0	2.9	4.8	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.3
Austria	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.5	6.2	6.5	7.3	6.6	6.0	6.1
Poland	3.1	3.9	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.7	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.5
Portugal	7.9	6.8	6.7	6.3	5.8	8.2	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.4
Romania	5.8	5.7	5.4	5.1	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.7
Slovenia	4.6	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.3	6.0	5.9	5.4	5.0	4.8
Slovakia	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.1	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.1	7.0
Finland	8.2	8.5	8.6	8.5	8.5	7.7	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4
Sweden	9.1	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.7	9.0	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.2
Iceland	6.8	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.8	6.2	7.8	7.4	7.1	7.0

: Data not available

Source dataset: [une_rt_m](#)