

27/2022 – 3 March 2022

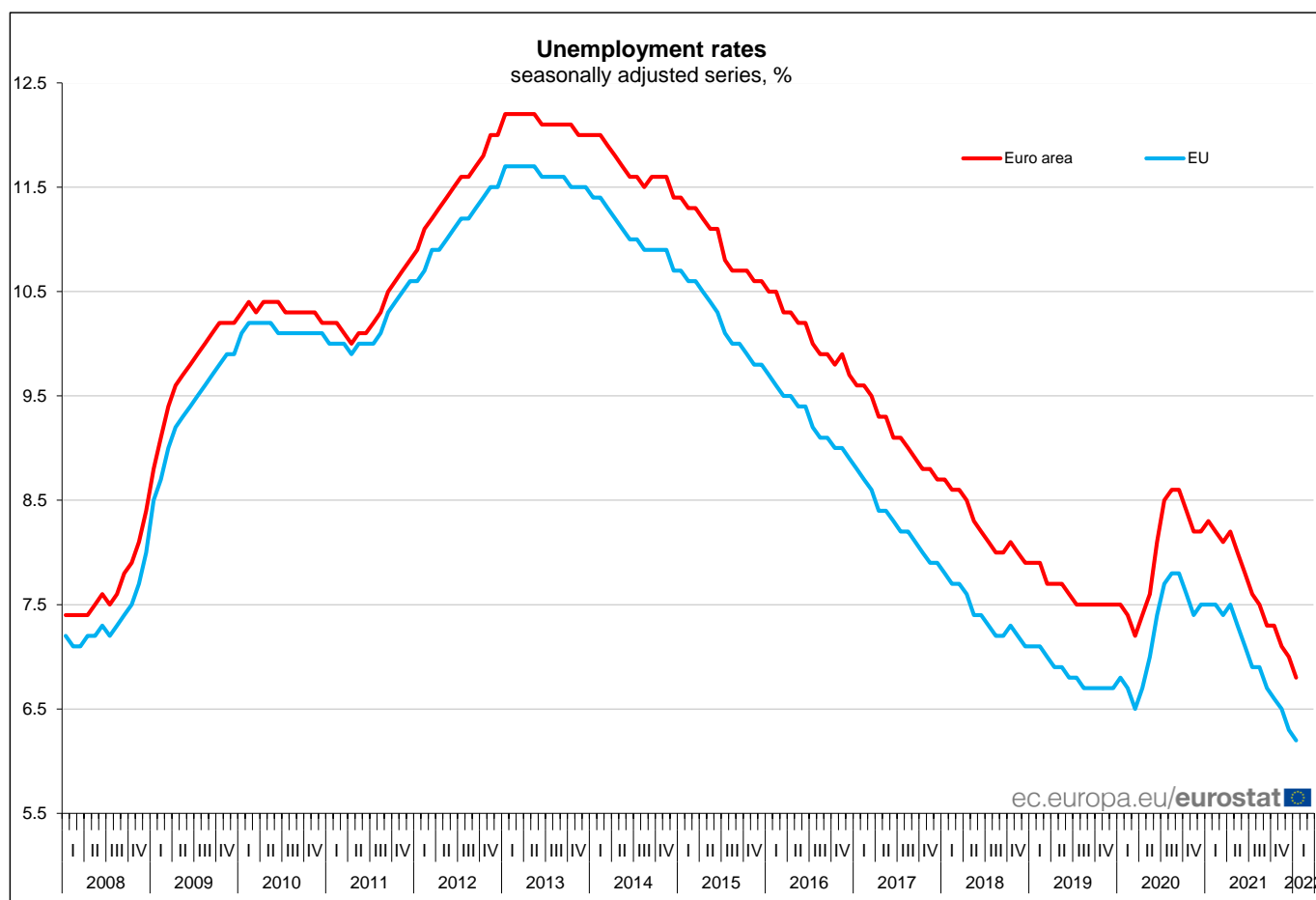
January 2022

Euro area unemployment at 6.8%

EU at 6.2%

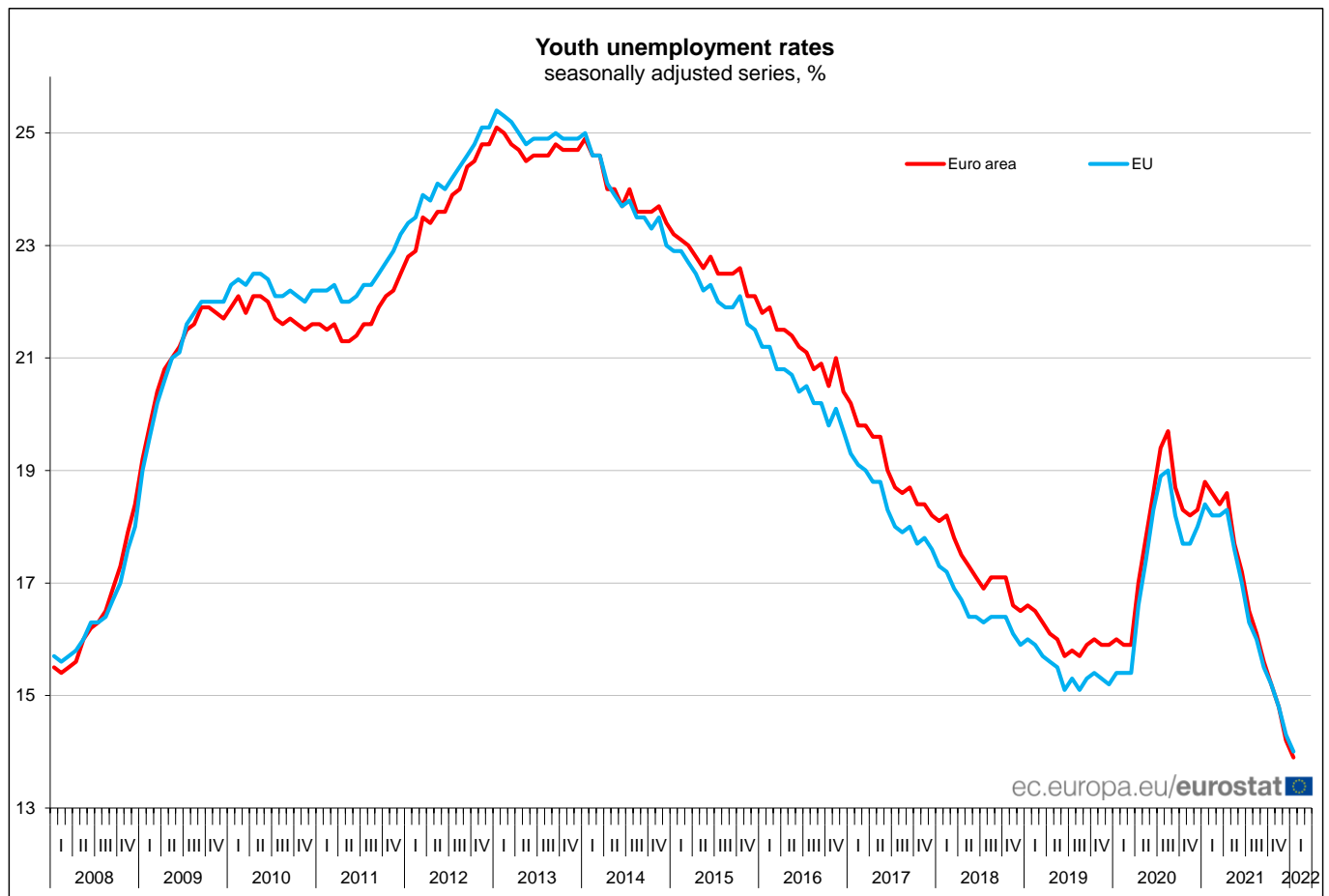
In January 2022, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 6.8%, down from 7.0% in December 2021 and from 8.3% in January 2021. The **EU** unemployment rate was 6.2% in January 2022, down from 6.3% in December 2021 and from 7.5% in January 2021. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 13.346 million men and women in the **EU**, of whom 11.225 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in January 2022. Compared with December 2021, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 216 000 in the **EU** and by 214 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with January 2021, unemployment decreased by 2.522 million in the **EU** and by 2.117 million in the **euro area**.



Youth unemployment

In January 2022, 2.546 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.038 million were in the **euro area**. In January 2022, the youth unemployment rate was 14.0% in the **EU** and 13.9% in the **euro area**, down from 14.3% and 14.2% respectively in the previous month. Compared with December 2021, youth unemployment decreased by 62 000 in the **EU** and by 52 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with January 2021, youth unemployment decreased by 680 000 in the **EU** and by 589 000 in the **euro area**.



Unemployment by sex

In January 2022, the unemployment rate for women was 6.5% in the **EU**, down from 6.6% in December 2021. The unemployment rate for men was 6.0% in January 2022, down from 6.1% in December 2021. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women decreased from 7.2% in December 2021 to 7.1% in January 2022, while the unemployment rate for men decreased from 6.7% to 6.6%.

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 crisis 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 might be no longer actively looking for a job or no longer available for work. This may still lead 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 third quarter of 2021. LFS data for the fourth quarter of 2021 will be released on 13 April 2022.

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.

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 [16/2022](#) of 1 February 2022, the unemployment rate for December 2021 remained unchanged for the euro area and has been revised from 6.4% to 6.3% for the EU. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Denmark (by 0.6 pp) as well as for France, Malta and Slovenia (all by 0.2 pp). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points upwards for Lithuania (by 1.0 pp), Estonia, Greece and Romania (all by 0.3 pp) as well as for Cyprus (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

María Guadalupe MORENO CABANILLAS
Tel: +352-4301-33 408
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

 **Media requests:** 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/

Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jan 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Jan 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22
Euro area	8.3	7.3	7.1	7.0	6.8	13 342	11 914	11 656	11 439	11 225
EU	7.5	6.6	6.5	6.3	6.2	15 868	14 101	13 802	13 562	13 346
Belgium	6.5	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.6	330	316	305	296	290
Bulgaria	6.2	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7	203	153	155	153	152
Czechia	3.2	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.2	170	130	116	114	118
Denmark	6.0	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.7	182	143	140	140	143
Germany	4.0	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	1 699	1 394	1 379	1 369	1 361
Estonia	7.3	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.3	51	36	37	38	37
Ireland	7.0	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.3	167	136	138	137	138
Greece	16.2	13.3	13.6	13.0	13.3	713	620	642	607	614
Spain	15.8	13.9	13.4	13.0	12.7	3 631	3 222	3 102	3 027	2 952
France	7.9	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.0	2 357	2 264	2 209	2 176	2 114
Croatia	8.1	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.5	146	131	127	124	116
Italy	10.3	9.3	9.1	9.0	8.8	2 518	2 311	2 284	2 243	2 192
Cyprus	7.3	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.1	33	31	31	31	29
Latvia	7.7	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.3	72	67	68	69	68
Lithuania	7.9	6.8	6.7	6.6	7.0	116	100	99	97	102
Luxembourg	6.3	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.7	20	16	16	16	15
Hungary	4.6	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.8	220	193	187	178	185
Malta	4.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	11	9	9	9	9
Netherlands	4.7	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.6	448	382	359	369	354
Austria	7.7	5.8	5.2	4.8	4.9	347	270	241	223	225
Poland	3.6	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.8	621	513	509	498	488
Portugal	7.0	6.4	6.3	5.8	6.0	352	330	325	303	309
Romania	6.0	5.5	5.5	5.7	5.7	494	455	451	472	469
Slovenia	5.4	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.2	54	48	47	45	43
Slovakia	7.1	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	192	177	175	177	174
Finland	8.1	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	222	204	200	199	198
Sweden	9.1	8.4	8.3	8.1	8.0	500	469	461	453	446
Iceland	7.0	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.2	14	10	10	9	9
Norway	4.9*	3.6	3.5	3.3	:	138*	105	100	96	:
Switzerland	5.4	:	:	:	:	266	:	:	:	:
United States	6.4	4.6	4.2	3.9	4.0	10 213	7 348	6 818	6 368	6 607

: Data not available

* December 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)				
	Jan 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Jan 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22
Euro area	18.8	15.2	14.8	14.2	13.9	2 627	2 247	2 180	2 090	2 038
EU	18.4	15.2	14.8	14.3	14.0	3 226	2 783	2 710	2 608	2 546
Belgium	19.3	16.4	16.4	16.4	:	70	70	70	70	:
Bulgaria	17.9	15.7	15.5	14.7	15.1	26	19	18	17	18
Czechia	10.9	7.2	6.5	7.3	6.8	29	19	17	19	18
Denmark	12.4	10.7	9.9	10.0	10.3	52	46	43	44	45
Germany	7.9	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.7	335	262	258	254	252
Estonia	18.1	16.1	18.3	18.4	17.8	9	8	9	9	9
Ireland	16.0	11.7	12.5	12.7	13.0	43	40	43	45	48
Greece	45.5	32.9	37.0	28.7	31.4	104	76	83	58	63
Spain	39.5	31.3	31.2	30.5	29.4	567	477	466	449	431
France	20.9	16.7	15.4	15.1	14.8	592	518	474	464	451
Croatia	22.1	16.5	16.5	16.5	:	32	22	22	22	:
Italy	33.2	27.8	27.5	26.6	25.3	457	410	407	395	371
Cyprus	18.6	16.5	16.5	16.5	:	7	6	6	6	:
Latvia	14.6	13.3	12.3	11.5	10.9	8	8	7	6	6
Lithuania	15.5	10.7	10.4	10.6	11.5	15	11	11	11	13
Luxembourg	20.4	14.7	14.7	15.4	13.3	5	4	4	4	4
Hungary	15.4	14.5	12.4	11.6	11.6	49	45	38	36	37
Malta	10.1	7.9	8.6	8.9	8.8	3	2	2	2	2
Netherlands	10.6	8.5	7.8	7.8	7.6	175	145	133	134	131
Austria	12.3	10.3	9.8	8.2	9.0	61	52	49	40	44
Poland	13.9	10.4	11.0	11.2	10.8	146	111	118	120	115
Portugal	23.8	22.1	22.3	20.5	21.1	75	71	73	67	67
Romania	20.9	21.0*	:	:	:	115	111*	:	:	:
Slovenia	14.8	10.0	10.0	10.0	:	8	8	8	8	:
Slovakia	23.0	19.1	19.5	20.3	20.4	35	27	28	29	29
Finland	19.9	16.6	16.3	15.9	15.8	62	52	51	50	49
Sweden	24.3	24.1	23.7	23.4	23.0	147	151	149	146	144
Iceland	13.2	8.6	8.9	9.2	9.1	4	3	3	3	3
Norway	11.4	9.8	9.5	9.2	:	41	37	36	35	:
Switzerland	8.6	:	:	:	:	50	:	:	:	:

: Data not available

* 2021 Q3 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 sex

	Males					Females				
	Jan 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Jan 21	Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22
Euro area	8.0	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.6	8.6	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.1
EU	7.3	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.0	7.8	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.5
Belgium	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.0	5.9	6.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3
Bulgaria	6.5	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.8	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.4
Czechia	2.4	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.9	4.2	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.6
Denmark	5.7	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.8	6.5	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.5
Germany	4.3	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8
Estonia	7.9	5.6	6.0	5.6	5.4	6.8	4.9	4.7	5.4	5.2
Ireland	6.9	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1	7.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.4
Greece	13.4	10.1	10.2	10.1	10.4	19.8	17.5	17.8	16.6	16.8
Spain	14.0	12.3	11.8	11.5	11.2	17.9	15.6	15.1	14.7	14.3
France	8.3	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.8
Croatia	8.1	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.4	8.1	7.6	7.5	7.4	6.6
Italy	9.7	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.0	11.1	10.4	10.1	9.7	9.8
Cyprus	8.0	6.3	6.1	6.0	5.9	6.5	7.0	7.1	7.3	6.3
Latvia	8.3	8.0	7.9	8.0	8.0	7.1	6.3	6.8	6.8	6.6
Lithuania	8.2	7.7	7.7	7.4	8.0	7.5	5.8	5.7	5.9	6.0
Luxembourg	5.7	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.3	7.0	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.1
Hungary	4.2	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	5.0	4.4	4.1	3.7	3.9
Malta	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	4.4	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.8
Netherlands	4.5	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.4	4.9	4.3	3.9	4.0	3.9
Austria	7.7	5.8	5.3	4.9	5.3	7.6	5.9	5.2	4.8	4.3
Poland	3.7	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8	3.5	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.8
Portugal	6.9	6.0	6.1	5.8	6.0	7.1	6.7	6.4	5.8	5.9
Romania	6.4	5.9	5.9	6.1	5.6	5.4	5.0	4.8	5.1	5.8
Slovenia	4.6	4.4	4.2	3.9	3.7	6.4	4.9	5.2	5.1	4.8
Slovakia	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.2	7.9	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.6
Finland	8.6	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7
Sweden	9.0	8.0	7.8	7.5	7.3	9.2	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.7
Iceland	6.3	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.1	7.7	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.2
Norway	5.4	3.7	3.6	3.6	:	4.3	3.5	3.2	3.0	:
Switzerland	4.8	:	:	:	:	6.0	:	:	:	:

: Data not available

Source dataset: [une_rt_m](#)