

34/2022 - 20 March 2023

Fourth quarter of 2022

Euro area job vacancy rate at 3.1%

EU rate at 2.8%

In the fourth quarter of 2022, the job vacancy rate was 3.1% in the **euro area**, stable from the previous quarter and up from 2.8% in the fourth quarter of 2021, according to figures published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. The job vacancy rate in the **EU** was 2.8% in the fourth quarter of 2022, down from 2.9% in the previous quarter and up from 2.6% in the fourth quarter of 2021.



In the **euro area**, the job vacancy rate in the fourth quarter of 2022 was 2.9% in industry and construction and 3.4% in services. In the **EU**, the rate was 2.6% in industry and construction and 3.1% 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 2022 were recorded in **Austria** (4.6%), **Belgium** and the **Netherlands** (4.5% in both of them). By contrast, the lowest rates were observed in **Romania** and **Bulgaria** (0.8% in both of them), **Poland**, **Greece** and **Spain** (0.9% in all of them).

Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, the job vacancy rate increased in twelve Member States, remained stable in **Estonia**, **France**, **Hungary** as well as **Slovenia** and decreased in eleven Member States. The largest increases were observed in **Austria** (+0.6 pp), **Germany** and **Portugal** (both +0.5 pp). The largest decreases were recorded in **Czechia** (-0.7 pp), **Cyprus**, **Latvia** and **Finland** (-0.5 pp in all of them).



Geographical information

Up to 31 December 2022, the **euro area** (EA19) included Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland. From 1 January 2023 the **euro area** (EA20) also includes Croatia. The aggregate data series commented on in this release refers to EA19.

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.

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 sections A: 'Agriculture, forestry and fishing', T: 'Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services producing activities of households for own use' and U: 'Activities of extraterritorial organisations and bodies' are excluded. 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 Denmark, only units within the business economy (NACE Rev 2 sections B to N) are surveyed. In France, 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 France and Italy.

Revisions and timetable

Compared with the rates published in News Release [138/2022](#) of 15 December 2022, the job vacancy rate for the third quarter of 2022 remained unchanged in the euro area and the EU.

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 [Euro indicators dashboard](#)
- Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)
- European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

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Job vacancy rates – whole economy (%)

- not seasonally adjusted –

	2021Q4	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3	2022Q4
Euro area 19	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1
Euro area 20	2.8	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1
EU	2.6	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.8
Belgium	4.7	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.5
Bulgaria	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8
Czechia	4.9	5.3	4.9	4.5	4.2
Germany	3.9	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.4
Estonia	1.8	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.8
Ireland	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.3
Greece	0.7	0.8	1.2	1.1	0.9
Spain	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Croatia	1.5	2.1	1.7	1.3	1.4
Cyprus	2.4	3.2	2.7	2.2	1.9
Latvia	3.0	3.2	2.9	2.9	2.5
Lithuania	1.8	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.7
Luxembourg	2.2	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.4
Hungary	2.5	2.7	3.0	2.8	2.5
Malta	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.4
Netherlands	4.2	4.9	5.1	4.9	4.5
Austria	4.0	4.7	4.8	5.0	4.6
Poland	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9
Portugal	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.5
Romania	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8
Slovenia	2.5	3.2	3.3	3.1	2.5
Slovakia	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0
Finland	2.5	3.9	3.0	2.5	2.0
Sweden	2.5	3.6	3.6	2.7	2.6
Iceland	2.5	3.5	5.3	3.7	2.6
Norway	2.8	3.5	3.8	3.1	3.4
Switzerland	1.9	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.2

Job vacancy rates – restricted coverage* (%)

- not seasonally adjusted –

	2021Q4	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3	2022Q4
Denmark	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.4	2.9
France	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.4
Italy	1.7	2.4	2.3	2.0	1.9

* 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)				
	2021Q4	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3	2022Q4	2021Q4	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3	2022Q4
Euro area 19	2.6	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.4
Euro area 20	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.3
EU	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.1
Belgium	4.6	4.8	4.7	5.0	4.2	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.4	5.9
Bulgaria	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7
Czechia	6.0	6.4	6.0	5.5	5.2	6.7	7.2	6.5	5.8	5.4
Denmark	3.1	3.5	3.0	3.1	2.9	3.3	3.6	4.0	3.5	3.0
Germany	3.5	3.9	4.1	3.7	4.1	4.6	5.0	5.5	5.3	5.2
Estonia	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.8	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9
Ireland	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.9	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.3
Greece	1.8	0.4	0.7	3.7	1.7	0.5	1.3	2.1	0.6	0.9
Spain	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7
Croatia	1.3	1.9	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.3	2.5	1.8	0.9	1.1
Italy	1.8	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	1.6	2.6	2.4	2.0	1.8
Cyprus	2.0	1.4	1.8	1.3	1.2	2.8	4.4	3.5	2.8	2.1
Latvia	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.2	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.1
Lithuania	1.7	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.5	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.0	1.8
Luxembourg	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.2	3.0	3.2	3.8	3.9	3.6
Hungary	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.2	2.5	3.0	2.7	2.4
Malta	2.4	2.3	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0
Netherlands	4.9	5.3	5.6	5.3	4.9	4.6	5.7	5.8	5.4	4.9
Austria	4.2	5.4	4.9	5.2	4.3	5.2	5.9	6.2	6.4	6.0
Poland	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.0
Portugal	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.5	2.1	2.2	2.7	2.5
Romania	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
Slovenia	3.1	4.4	3.8	3.5	2.8	3.2	3.5	4.2	3.8	3.1
Slovakia	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8
Finland	1.9	3.1	1.7	2.1	1.5	3.5	5.1	3.8	3.0	2.6
Sweden	2.3	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.2	3.0	3.8	4.0	3.3	2.8
Iceland	3.6	5.0	5.0	6.0	3.7	3.6	5.2	8.6	4.7	3.8
Norway	2.7	3.2	2.9	2.4	2.5	3.3	4.3	4.6	3.6	4.0
Switzerland	2.1	2.5	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.5

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)				
	2021Q4	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3	2022Q4	2021Q4	2022Q1	2022Q2	2022Q3	2022Q4
France	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.3

* see "country notes" under Methods and definitions

Source dataset: [jvs_q_nace2](#)