

108/2023 – 2 October 2023

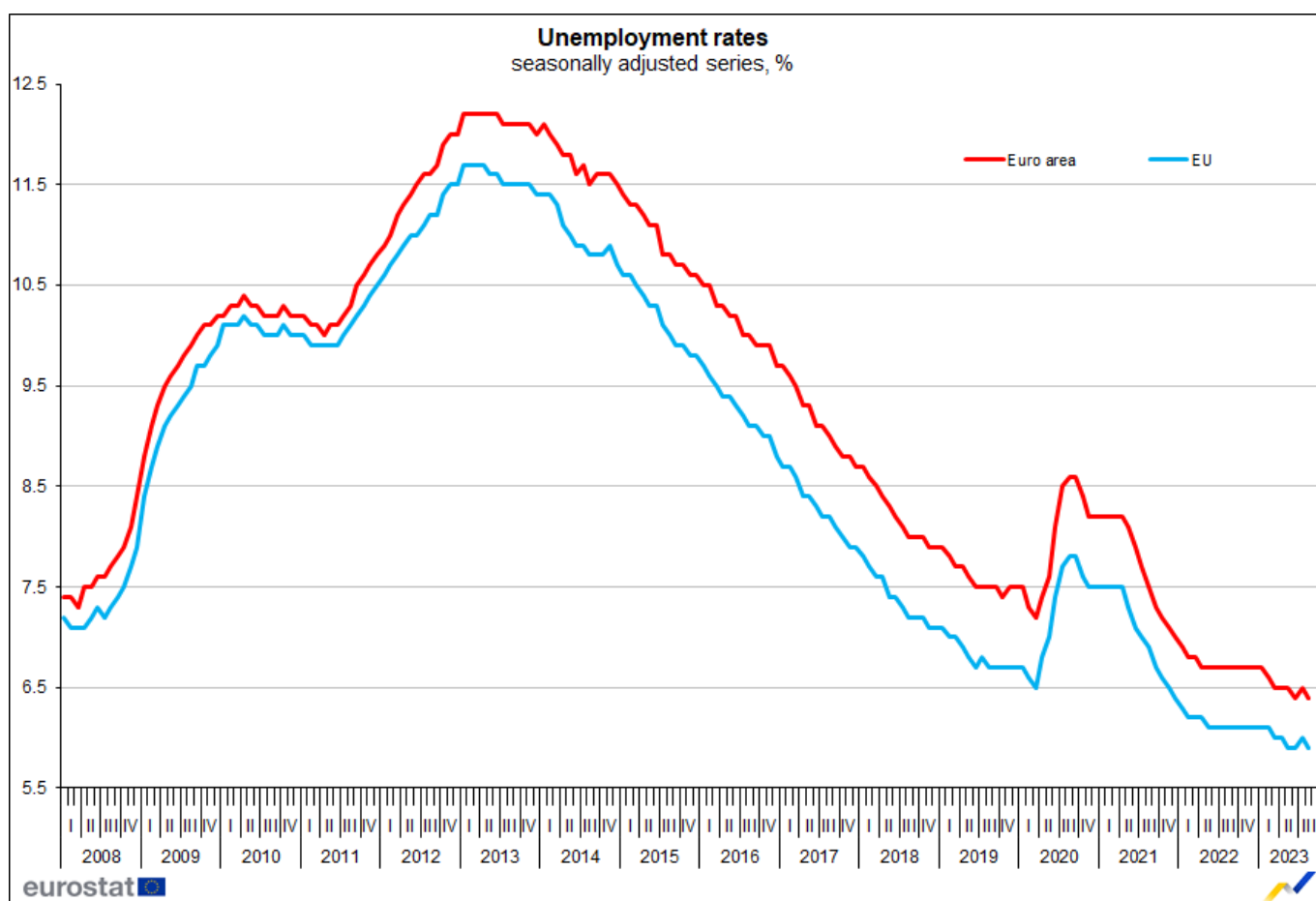
August 2023

## Euro area unemployment at 6.4%

EU at 5.9%

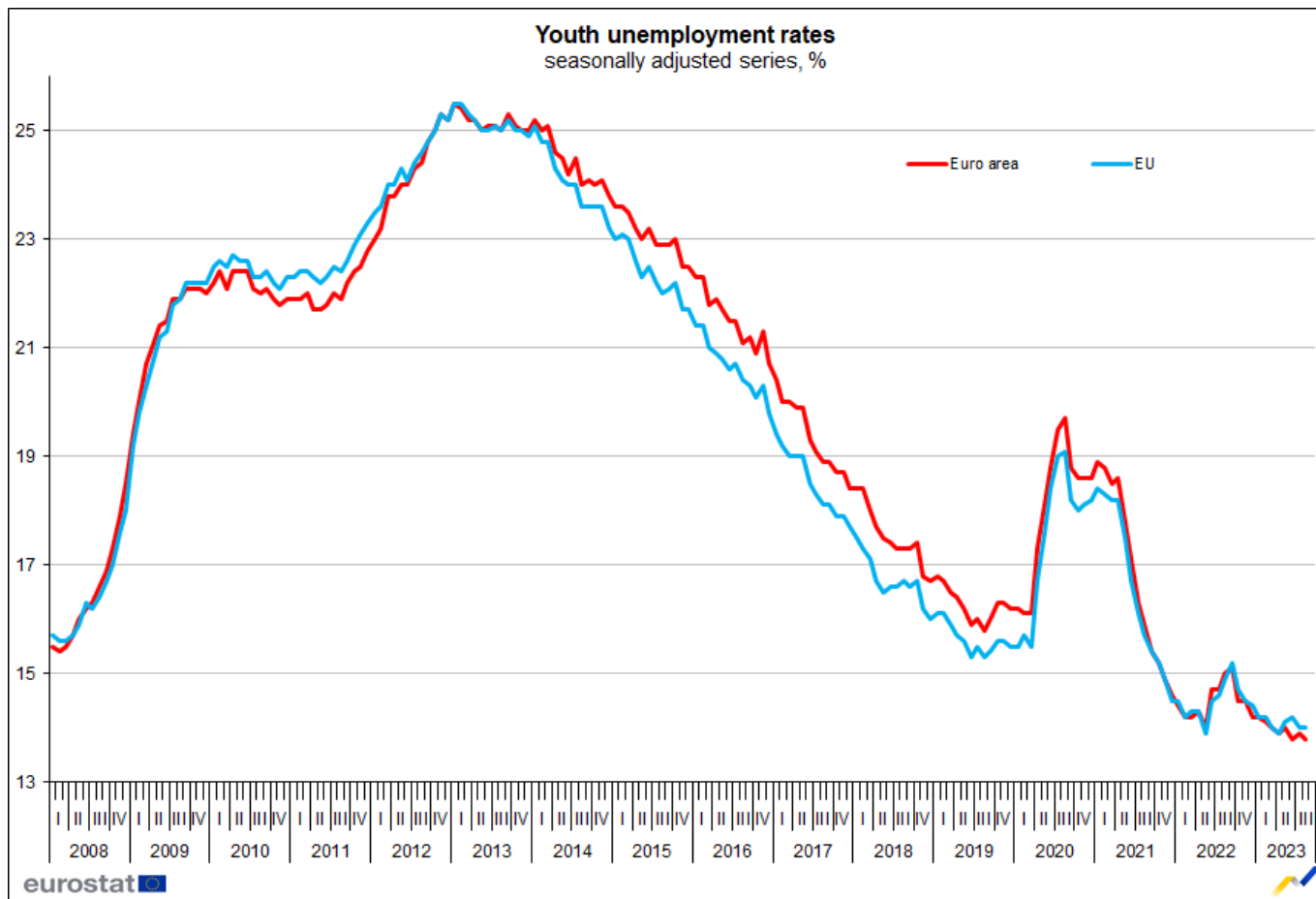
In August 2023, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 6.4%, down from 6.5% in July 2023 and down from 6.7% in August 2022. The **EU** unemployment rate was 5.9% in August 2023, down from 6.0% in July 2023 and from 6.1% in August 2022. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 12.837 million persons in the **EU**, of whom 10.856 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in August 2023. Compared with July 2023, unemployment decreased by 112 thousand in the **EU** and by 107 thousand in the **euro area**. Compared with August 2022, unemployment decreased by 335 thousand in the **EU** and by 407 thousand in the **euro area**.



## Youth unemployment

In August 2023, 2.687 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.194 million were in the **euro area**. In August 2023, the youth unemployment rate was 14.0% in the **EU**, stable compared with July 2023, and 13.8% in the **euro area**, down from 13.9% in the previous month. Compared with July 2023, youth unemployment decreased by 10 thousand in the **EU** and by 24 thousand in the **euro area**. Compared with August 2022, youth unemployment decreased by 141 thousand in the **EU** and by 145 thousand in the **euro area**.



## Unemployment by sex

In August 2023, the unemployment rate for women was 6.2% in the **EU**, stable compared with July 2023. The unemployment rate for men was 5.7% in August 2023, also stable compared with the previous month. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women was 6.7%, down from 6.8% in July 2023, and the unemployment rate for men was 6.1%, also down from 6.2% in the previous month.

## Additional labour market indicators

The estimates in this News Release 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.

To capture in full the labour market situation, 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 2023](#). LFS data for the third quarter of 2023 will be released on 15 December 2023.

## Geographical information

**Euro area (EA20):** Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, 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.

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 as well as Iceland and Norway: the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

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 [97/2023](#) of 31 August 2023, the July 2023 unemployment rate for the EU was revised from 5.9% to 6.0% and the unemployment rate for the euro area was revised from 6.4% to 6.5%. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Estonia (by 0.3 pp) and Sweden (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

Eurostat [Euro indicators dashboard](#)

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

## For further information on data


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## Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Aug 22	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Aug 22	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23
<b>Euro area</b>	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.5	<b>6.4</b>	11 263	10 963	10 874	10 963	<b>10 856</b>
<b>EU</b>	6.1	5.9	5.9	6.0	<b>5.9</b>	13 172	12 910	12 895	12 949	<b>12 837</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.5	<b>5.5</b>	283	296	296	290	<b>291</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.5	<b>4.5</b>	133	134	137	139	<b>138</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.7	<b>2.5</b>	127	132	144	142	<b>131</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	4.5	4.8	4.8	5.6	<b>4.4</b>	142	149	150	174	<b>136</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	<b>3.0</b>	1 342	1 310	1 319	1 326	<b>1 330</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	5.6	6.7	7.1	7.5	<b>7.6</b>	40	50	53	56	<b>57</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.1	<b>4.1</b>	116	112	116	112	<b>111</b>
<b>Greece</b>	12.3	11.2	11.0	10.9	<b>10.9</b>	583	530	524	514	<b>512</b>
<b>Spain</b>	12.8	11.9	11.7	11.6	<b>11.5</b>	2 984	2 840	2 797	2 782	<b>2 756</b>
<b>France</b>	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	<b>7.3</b>	2 192	2 259	2 242	2 271	<b>2 271</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.8	<b>6.9</b>	128	115	119	121	<b>122</b>
<b>Italy</b>	8.1	7.6	7.4	7.5	<b>7.3</b>	2 031	1 928	1 874	1 908	<b>1 846</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	6.8	6.2	6.3	6.6	<b>6.6</b>	33	30	31	33	<b>33</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	7.0	6.4	6.6	6.6	<b>6.6</b>	67	61	62	63	<b>63</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	6.0	6.1	5.8	6.4	<b>6.1</b>	91	94	90	96	<b>94</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	4.6	5.0	5.2	5.2	<b>5.3</b>	15	17	17	18	<b>18</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.6	3.9	3.9	4.0	<b>4.0</b>	175	191	194	195	<b>196</b>
<b>Malta</b>	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.5	<b>2.7</b>	8	8	8	8	<b>8</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.6	<b>3.6</b>	378	353	353	362	<b>364</b>
<b>Austria</b>	5.3	4.7	5.1	5.6	<b>5.3</b>	247	220	239	267	<b>251</b>
<b>Poland</b>	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>	501	484	484	479	<b>475</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	6.0	6.4	6.3	6.3	<b>6.2</b>	314	338	333	334	<b>327</b>
<b>Romania</b>	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5	<b>5.4</b>	449	446	457	455	<b>447</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.6	<b>3.5</b>	41	39	38	36	<b>36</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	<b>5.8</b>	167	163	162	160	<b>159</b>
<b>Finland</b>	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.2	<b>7.2</b>	197	199	201	203	<b>204</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.5	<b>7.6</b>	411	425	428	431	<b>433</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	3.7	3.2	3.2	3.2	:	8	7	7	7	:
<b>Norway</b>	3.2	3.5	3.5	3.5	<b>3.5</b>	95	104	105	105	<b>106</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.1	3.9	3.9	:	:	203	200	196	:	:
<b>United States</b>	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.5	<b>3.8</b>	5 991	6 040	5 968	5 821	<b>6 299</b>

: 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)				
	Aug 22	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Aug 22	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23
<b>Euro area</b>	15.0	14.0	13.8	13.9	<b>13.8</b>	2 339	2 234	2 196	2 218	<b>2 194</b>
<b>EU</b>	14.9	14.1	14.2	14.0	<b>14.0</b>	2 828	2 720	2 744	2 697	<b>2 687</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	17.5	14.2	14.2	:	:	74	60	60	:	:
<b>Bulgaria</b>	10.5	11.9	12.0	12.0	<b>11.8</b>	14	14	14	15	<b>15</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	7.9	9.4	13.5	9.6	<b>8.5</b>	22	26	40	28	<b>24</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	11.0	9.1	9.4	11.8	<b>11.6</b>	51	40	42	53	<b>50</b>
<b>Germany</b>	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7	<b>5.7</b>	264	269	267	265	<b>263</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	17.1	16.4	18.8	22.5	<b>23.5</b>	10	10	12	14	<b>15</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	11.3	9.8	10.6	10.8	<b>11.2</b>	38	35	38	38	<b>39</b>
<b>Greece</b>	29.8	24.9	23.5	22.9	<b>22.5</b>	85	63	61	58	<b>54</b>
<b>Spain</b>	31.8	27.9	27.2	27.2	<b>26.8</b>	515	472	460	465	<b>463</b>
<b>France</b>	18.0	16.6	16.3	16.2	<b>16.0</b>	602	554	545	542	<b>536</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	18.5	20.0	20.0	:	:	26	25	25	:	:
<b>Italy</b>	22.8	22.9	22.2	22.1	<b>22.0</b>	342	351	339	336	<b>332</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	19.9	16.3	16.3	:	:	8	7	7	:	:
<b>Latvia</b>	17.1	9.5	8.9	8.8	<b>9.0</b>	12	6	5	5	<b>5</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	11.4	9.0	9.3	8.4	<b>8.6</b>	11	8	7	7	<b>7</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	17.3	17.8	18.8	18.6	<b>19.2</b>	4	4	5	5	<b>5</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	10.3	11.8	13.2	12.0	<b>12.8</b>	31	36	40	37	<b>39</b>
<b>Malta</b>	8.2	8.8	8.9	8.2	<b>9.0</b>	2	2	2	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	8.6	8.2	8.3	8.6	<b>8.7</b>	150	150	151	155	<b>157</b>
<b>Austria</b>	10.9	10.6	9.5	11.7	<b>11.4</b>	58	58	51	64	<b>62</b>
<b>Poland</b>	11.2	11.6	11.5	11.3	<b>11.1</b>	117	124	122	118	<b>116</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	18.8	18.7	18.3	20.1	<b>20.3</b>	64	73	71	79	<b>78</b>
<b>Romania</b>	22.9	22.3	22.3	:	:	119	107	107	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	9.3	10.4	10.4	:	:	7	8	8	:	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	18.6	20.1	20.2	19.8	<b>19.8</b>	27	29	29	29	<b>28</b>
<b>Finland</b>	14.8	15.9	16.1	16.1	<b>16.1</b>	48	52	52	52	<b>52</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	21.2	21.2	21.1	21.1	<b>21.1</b>	143	146	146	146	<b>146</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.5	:	3	3	3	3	:
<b>Norway</b>	9.4	8.2	10.4	11.0	<b>11.8</b>	39	34	45	48	<b>51</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	7.1	7.7	7.3	:	:	40	46	43	:	:

: Data not available

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

Czechia: break in series for June 2023 due to methodological changes

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

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

	Males					Females				
	Aug 22	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Aug 22	May 23	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23
<b>Euro area</b>	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.2	<b>6.1</b>	7.2	6.8	6.7	6.8	<b>6.7</b>
<b>EU</b>	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	<b>5.7</b>	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.2	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.8	6.2	6.2	6.1	<b>6.1</b>	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	<b>4.8</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.5	<b>4.4</b>	3.8	4.4	4.6	4.6	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	1.9	2.1	2.5	2.2	<b>2.1</b>	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.4	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	4.3	4.9	4.5	5.7	<b>4.0</b>	4.8	4.6	5.0	5.5	<b>4.8</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	<b>3.3</b>	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	5.8	6.3	6.9	7.1	<b>7.3</b>	5.5	7.2	7.4	7.8	<b>7.8</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.3	<b>4.3</b>	4.6	3.9	4.0	3.9	<b>3.9</b>
<b>Greece</b>	9.3	8.5	8.6	8.6	<b>8.2</b>	16.3	14.6	14.1	13.7	<b>14.4</b>
<b>Spain</b>	10.9	10.4	10.2	10.1	<b>10.0</b>	14.9	13.6	13.3	13.2	<b>13.1</b>
<b>France</b>	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.4	<b>7.4</b>	6.9	7.3	7.2	7.3	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	6.3	6.0	6.1	6.2	<b>6.2</b>	7.9	7.2	7.5	7.6	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Italy</b>	7.1	6.7	6.6	6.8	<b>6.6</b>	9.5	8.8	8.4	8.5	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	<b>6.1</b>	7.8	6.2	6.4	7.0	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	7.6	7.8	8.2	8.5	<b>8.6</b>	6.4	5.0	4.9	4.7	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.5	<b>6.4</b>	5.6	5.9	5.5	6.2	<b>5.9</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	4.5	5.0	5.1	5.2	<b>5.3</b>	4.7	5.1	5.3	5.3	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.9	<b>3.9</b>	3.5	3.9	3.9	4.0	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Malta</b>	3.2	2.6	2.5	2.6	<b>2.8</b>	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.4	<b>2.5</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.6	3.2	3.3	3.5	<b>3.5</b>	4.1	3.8	3.7	3.7	<b>3.7</b>
<b>Austria</b>	5.5	4.8	5.2	6.1	<b>5.7</b>	5.0	4.6	5.0	5.2	<b>4.9</b>
<b>Poland</b>	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	5.5	6.0	6.0	6.1	<b>5.8</b>	6.6	6.8	6.6	6.6	<b>6.6</b>
<b>Romania</b>	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8	<b>5.9</b>	4.8	5.0	5.2	5.2	<b>4.9</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	3.8	4.0	3.9	3.7	<b>3.6</b>	4.1	3.5	3.4	3.4	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.7	<b>5.7</b>	6.4	5.9	5.9	5.8	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Finland</b>	7.4	7.7	7.9	8.1	<b>8.2</b>	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.2	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	6.9	7.3	7.3	7.3	<b>7.3</b>	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.8	<b>7.9</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	:	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	:
<b>Norway</b>	3.7	3.1	3.4	3.6	<b>3.7</b>	3.3	3.1	3.4	3.6	<b>3.6</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	3.8	3.8	3.7	:	:	4.5	4.1	4.0	:	:

: Data not available

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