

124/2023 – 3 November 2023

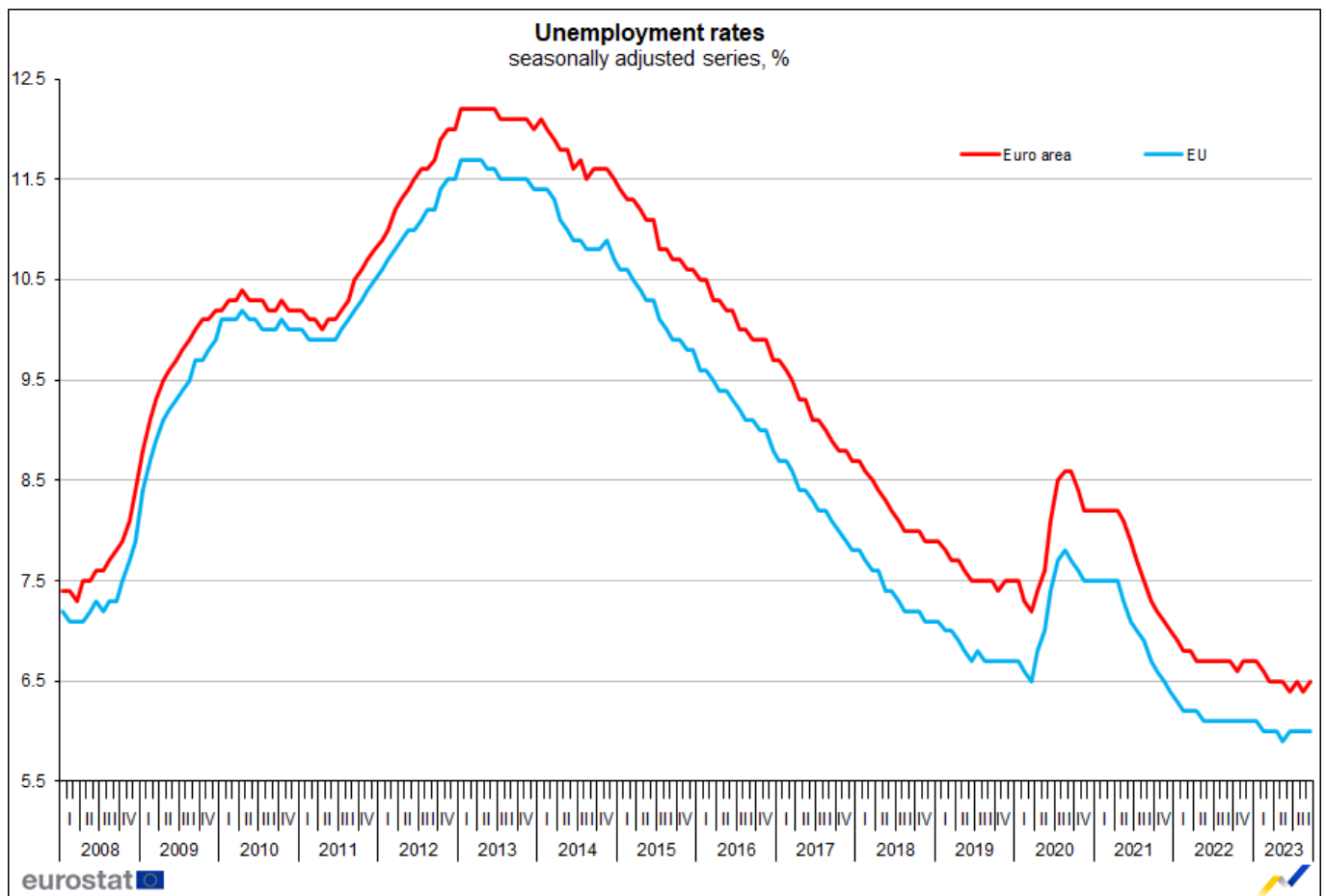
September 2023

Euro area unemployment at 6.5%

EU at 6.0%

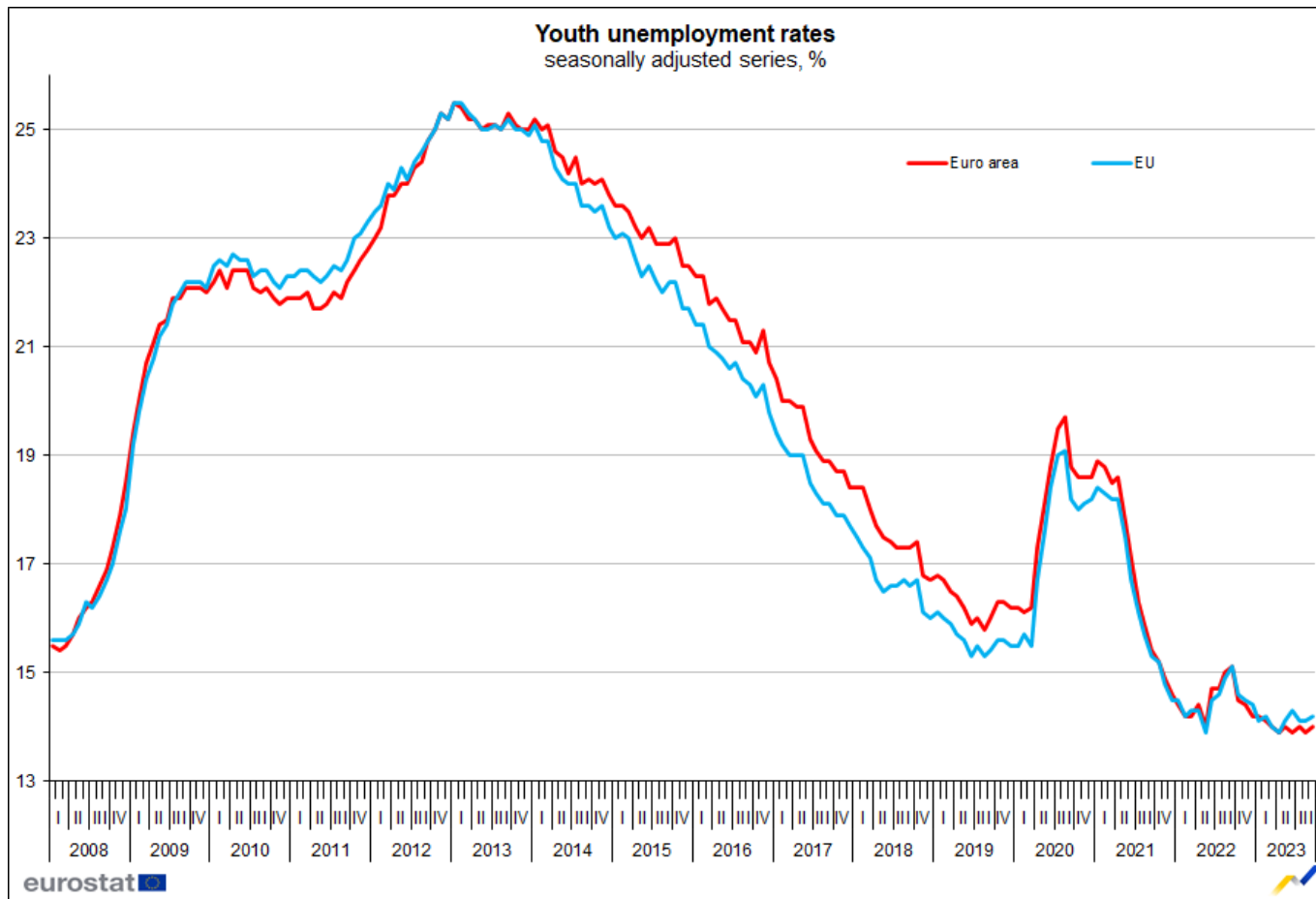
In September 2023, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 6.5%, up from 6.4% in August 2023 and down from 6.7% in September 2022. The **EU** unemployment rate was 6.0% in September 2023, stable compared with August 2023 and down from 6.1% in September 2022. These figures are published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

Eurostat estimates that 13.026 million persons in the **EU**, of whom 11.017 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in September 2023. Compared with August 2023, unemployment increased by 95 thousand in the **EU** and by 69 thousand in the **euro area**. Compared with September 2022, unemployment decreased by 126 thousand in the **EU** and by 212 thousand in the **euro area**.



Youth unemployment

In September 2023, 2.741 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.232 million were in the **euro area**. In September 2023, the youth unemployment rate was 14.2% in the **EU**, up from 14.1% in August 2023, and 14.0% in the **euro area**, up from 13.9% in the previous month. Compared with August 2023, youth unemployment increased by 38 thousand in the **EU** and by 21 thousand in the **euro area**. Compared with September 2022, youth unemployment decreased by 133 thousand in the **EU** and by 119 thousand in the **euro area**.



Unemployment by sex

In September 2023, the unemployment rate for women was 6.3% in the **EU**, up from 6.2% in August 2023. The unemployment rate for men was 5.7% in September 2023, stable compared with the previous month. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women was 6.8% and the unemployment rate for men was 6.2%, both stable compared with 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 2 October 2023, the August 2023 unemployment rate for the EU was revised from 5.9% to 6.0%, while the unemployment rate for the euro area remained unchanged. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Estonia and Greece (by 0.3 pp each) and Croatia (by 0.2 pp). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Spain (by 0.4 pp) and Portugal (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)				
	Sept 22	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Sept 22	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23
Euro area	6.7	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.5	11 229	10 923	11 035	10 948	11 017
EU	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	13 152	12 948	13 027	12 931	13 026
Belgium	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.6	285	296	291	291	297
Bulgaria	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	131	137	139	138	139
Czechia	2.3	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.7	118	146	143	129	139
Denmark	4.6	4.8	5.6	4.4	4.8	144	150	175	136	151
Germany	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	1 348	1 315	1 320	1 322	1 321
Estonia	5.3	7.1	7.5	7.3	7.4	38	53	56	55	55
Ireland	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.2	116	117	114	113	116
Greece	12.1	11.1	10.7	10.6	10.0	572	525	505	492	468
Spain	12.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	12.0	3 017	2 841	2 859	2 860	2 891
France	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.3	2 170	2 243	2 272	2 272	2 264
Croatia	6.9	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.8	119	113	115	116	116
Italy	8.0	7.4	7.6	7.3	7.4	1 994	1 881	1 918	1 858	1 893
Cyprus	6.7	6.2	6.6	6.6	6.2	33	30	32	32	31
Latvia	7.1	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	68	62	63	63	62
Lithuania	6.1	5.8	6.4	6.1	6.2	92	90	96	94	95
Luxembourg	4.7	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.6	16	18	18	18	19
Hungary	3.7	3.9	3.9	4.0	3.9	179	193	194	195	192
Malta	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.7	2.8	8	8	8	8	8
Netherlands	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	382	353	362	364	371
Austria	5.2	5.1	5.7	5.3	5.5	242	239	268	251	260
Poland	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	510	485	480	477	477
Portugal	6.1	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.5	320	335	336	336	344
Romania	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	448	457	455	447	444
Slovenia	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.6	39	38	37	36	37
Slovakia	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	167	162	160	159	159
Finland	6.9	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	196	202	204	205	205
Sweden	7.3	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.8	411	434	438	443	448
Iceland	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	8	8	8	8	8
Norway	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	96	105	105	106	106
Switzerland	4.2	3.9	:	:	:	205	196	:	:	:
United States	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.8	3.8	5 726	5 968	5 821	6 299	6 301

: 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)				
	Sept 22	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Sept 22	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23
Euro area	15.1	13.9	14.0	13.9	14.0	2 351	2 211	2 237	2 211	2 232
EU	15.1	14.3	14.1	14.1	14.2	2 874	2 763	2 718	2 703	2 741
Belgium	17.5	14.2	14.0	14.0	14.0	74	60	57	57	57
Bulgaria	9.8	11.9	12.0	11.8	11.4	14	14	15	15	15
Czechia	8.3	14.0	9.5	7.9	9.4	23	41	28	22	25
Denmark	13.7	9.4	11.8	11.6	12.4	63	42	53	50	56
Germany	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	268	271	270	269	269
Estonia	14.0	18.6	22.3	20.7	20.8	8	11	14	13	13
Ireland	11.3	10.6	10.9	11.4	11.9	38	38	38	39	42
Greece	34.2	23.7	22.6	21.9	19.4	85	62	57	52	51
Spain	31.5	27.6	27.9	27.6	27.8	509	470	479	478	487
France	17.5	16.4	16.2	16.1	16.0	584	545	542	536	533
Croatia	18.3	19.5	20.2	20.2	20.2	24	23	24	24	24
Italy	24.0	22.2	22.1	21.9	21.9	360	340	337	332	333
Cyprus	19.8	16.3	16.0	16.0	16.0	8	7	7	7	7
Latvia	18.1	9.0	8.9	9.2	9.7	12	5	5	5	6
Lithuania	11.5	9.3	8.4	8.6	8.6	12	7	7	7	7
Luxembourg	17.9	18.9	18.7	19.3	20.6	4	5	5	5	5
Hungary	10.7	13.3	12.1	12.7	12.0	33	40	38	39	37
Malta	8.2	8.6	8.0	8.8	9.0	2	2	2	2	2
Netherlands	8.4	8.3	8.6	8.7	8.8	147	151	155	157	160
Austria	11.7	9.5	11.7	11.4	12.2	61	52	64	62	68
Poland	12.1	11.6	11.3	11.2	11.1	127	123	119	117	116
Portugal	18.7	18.3	20.1	20.3	19.7	65	71	79	78	76
Romania	22.9	22.3	:	:	:	119	107	:	:	:
Slovenia	9.3	10.4	12.8	12.8	12.8	7	8	8	8	8
Slovakia	19.3	20.2	19.8	19.8	20.1	27	29	29	28	29
Finland	15.0	16.2	16.2	16.2	16.1	49	53	53	53	52
Sweden	21.3	21.4	21.6	21.7	21.9	144	148	149	151	152
Iceland	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.4	3	3	3	3	3
Norway	10.7	10.4	10.9	11.8	10.5	45	45	47	51	45
Switzerland	7.1	7.3	:	:	:	40	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				
	Sept 22	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Sept 22	Jun 23	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23
Euro area	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.2	7.1	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8
EU	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.3
Belgium	5.8	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.2	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9
Bulgaria	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	3.7	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
Czechia	2.0	2.5	2.2	2.1	2.5	2.6	3.1	3.5	3.0	3.0
Denmark	4.9	4.5	5.7	4.0	4.9	4.3	5.0	5.5	4.9	4.6
Germany	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7
Estonia	5.3	6.9	7.1	7.0	7.1	5.4	7.4	7.8	7.7	7.7
Ireland	4.2	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.0	3.9	3.9	4.0
Greece	9.4	8.6	8.5	8.1	8.0	15.5	14.1	13.4	13.7	12.4
Spain	11.1	10.4	10.5	10.4	10.5	14.9	13.5	13.6	13.6	13.7
France	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	6.8	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.2
Croatia	6.1	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	7.7	7.3	7.5	7.6	7.6
Italy	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.5	9.2	8.5	8.6	8.3	8.7
Cyprus	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.0	7.5	6.3	6.9	7.0	6.5
Latvia	7.9	8.2	8.5	8.6	8.6	6.2	4.9	4.7	4.6	4.5
Lithuania	6.5	6.2	6.5	6.4	6.6	5.8	5.5	6.2	5.9	5.9
Luxembourg	4.7	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.6	4.8	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.6
Hungary	3.7	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.0
Malta	3.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	2.9	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.6	2.6
Netherlands	3.6	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.6	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8
Austria	5.1	5.2	6.1	5.7	5.9	5.2	5.0	5.2	4.9	5.0
Poland	3.1	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.7
Portugal	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.8	6.9
Romania	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.8	4.6	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.9
Slovenia	3.7	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
Slovakia	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.8	6.4	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7
Finland	7.3	7.9	8.1	8.2	8.2	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3
Sweden	7.0	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.8	8.0	8.1	8.2
Iceland	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5
Norway	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3
Switzerland	3.9	3.7	:	:	:	4.5	4.0	:	:	:

: Data not available

Source dataset: [une_rt_m](#)

