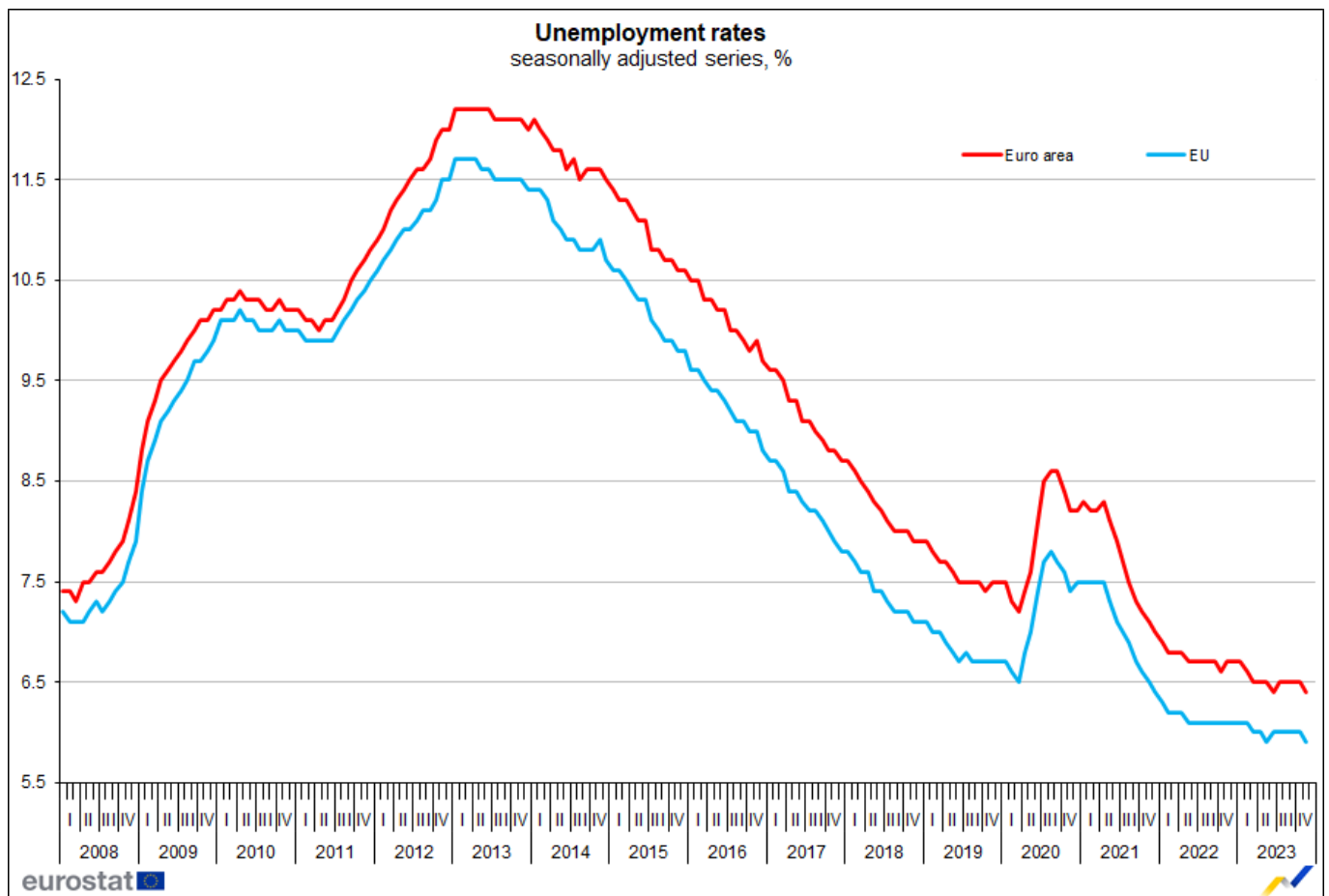## November 2023
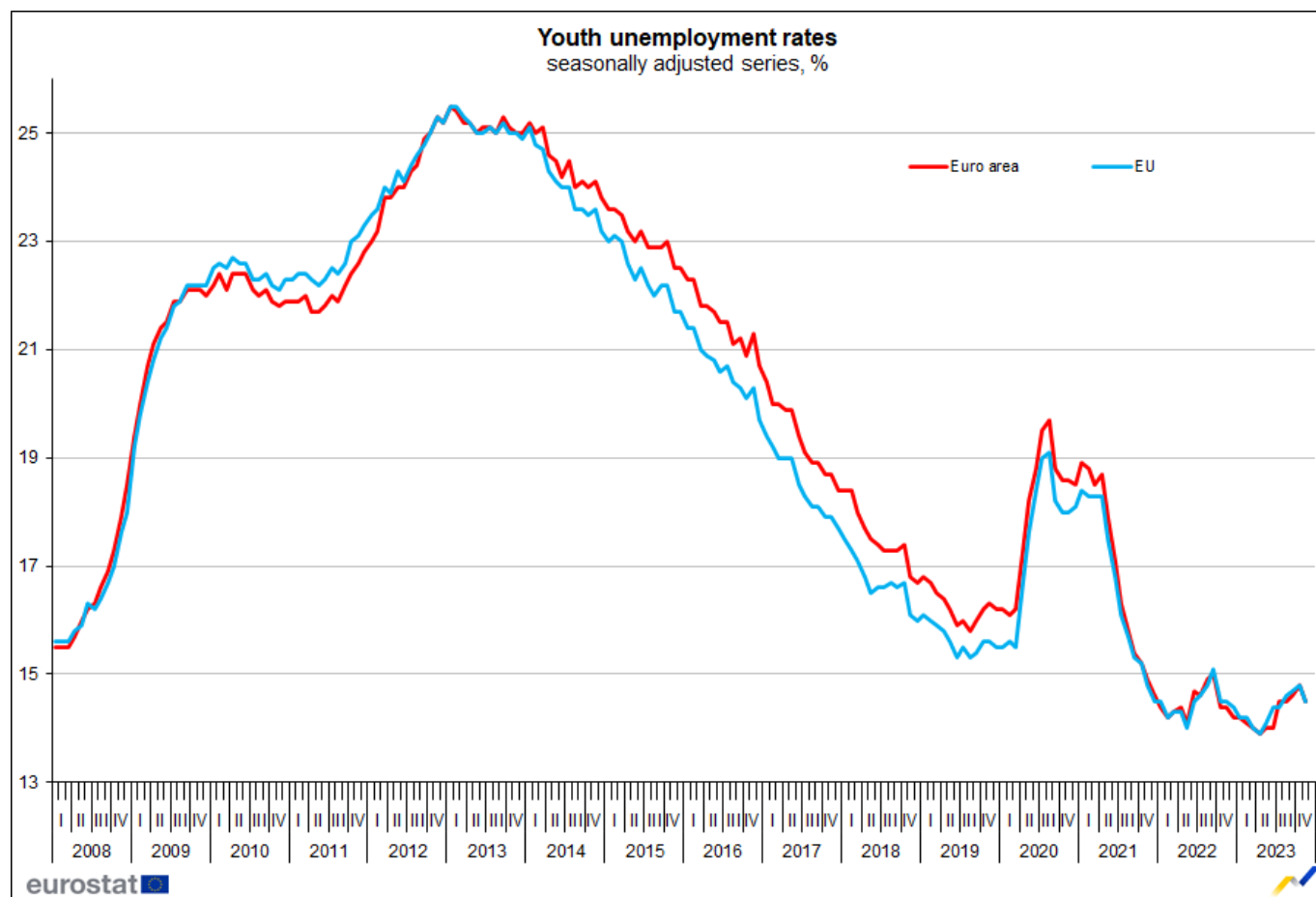# Euro area unemployment at 6.4%
EU at 5.9%

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

Eurostat estimates that 12.954 million persons in the **EU**, of whom 10.970 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in November 2023. Compared with October 2023, unemployment decreased by 144 thousand in the **EU** and by 99 thousand in the **euro area**. Compared with November 2022, unemployment decreased by 283 thousand in the **EU** and by 282 thousand in the **euro area**.

Unemployment rates
seasonally adjusted series, %

Youth unemployment

In November 2023, 2.814 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.321 million were in the **euro area**. In November 2023, the youth unemployment rate was 14.5% both in the **EU** and in the **euro area**, down from 14.8% in both regions in the previous month. Compared with October 2023, youth unemployment decreased by 60 thousand in the **EU** and by 54 thousand in the **euro area**. Compared with November 2022, youth unemployment increased by 36 thousand in the **EU** and by 49 thousand in the **euro area**.

Youth unemployment rates
seasonally adjusted series, %

Unemployment by sex

In November 2023, the unemployment rate for women was 6.2% in the **EU**, down from 6.3% in October 2023. The unemployment rate for men was 5.7% in November 2023, stable compared with the previous month. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women was 6.8%, down from 6.9% in October 2023, and the unemployment rate for men was 6.1%, 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 third quarter of 2023. LFS data for the fourth quarter of 2023 will be released on 15 March 2024.

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 133/2023 of 30 November 2023, the October 2023 unemployment rate for the EU and the euro area remained unchanged. Among EU Member States, the rate has not been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) for any of the countries.

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

Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Nov 22	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23	Nov 22	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23
Euro area	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.5	**6.4**	11 252	11 016	11 060	11 069	**10 970**
EU	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	**5.9**	13 237	13 001	13 071	13 098	**12 954**
Belgium	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.6	**5.6**	304	279	285	294	**294**
Bulgaria	3.9	4.5	4.4	4.4	**4.3**	119	135	133	132	**130**
Czechia	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.8	**2.4**	143	130	140	148	**126**
Denmark	4.7	4.3	4.7	5.3	**4.8**	148	132	148	168	**154**
Germany	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	**3.1**	1 336	1 344	1 353	1 360	**1 365**
Estonia	5.4	7.3	6.5	6.2	**6.1**	39	55	48	46	**45**
Ireland	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.7	**4.8**	120	123	130	132	**133**
Greece	11.9	10.6	10.1	9.4	**9.4**	561	492	472	442	**430**
Spain	12.9	11.9	12.0	12.0	**11.9**	3 034	2 858	2 873	2 881	**2 865**
France	7.2	7.4	7.3	7.3	**7.3**	2 194	2 265	2 242	2 240	**2 241**
Croatia	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.4	**6.4**	117	112	112	110	**109**
Italy	7.9	7.5	7.6	7.7	**7.5**	1 980	1 904	1 930	1 975	**1 909**
Cyprus	7.2	6.0	5.9	5.9	**5.8**	35	29	29	29	**29**
Latvia	6.9	6.6	6.5	6.5	**6.6**	66	62	62	62	**63**
Lithuania	6.1	6.7	6.9	6.5	**6.5**	92	104	107	103	**104**
Luxembourg	4.9	5.3	5.5	5.6	**5.7**	16	18	19	19	**19**
Hungary	3.7	4.0	4.0	4.1	**4.1**	183	198	195	202	**205**
Malta	2.9	2.5	2.6	2.5	**2.5**	9	8	8	8	**8**
Netherlands	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.6	**3.5**	364	364	371	361	**357**
Austria	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.1	**4.9**	258	256	258	239	**231**
Poland	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	**2.8**	503	481	480	481	**477**
Portugal	6.5	6.3	6.6	6.6	**6.6**	337	335	348	352	**349**
Romania	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.4	**5.4**	482	448	449	446	**442**
Slovenia	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.1	**4.2**	36	39	40	43	**44**
Slovakia	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	**5.8**	167	161	161	160	**159**
Finland	6.9	7.3	7.3	7.4	**7.4**	194	208	208	209	**209**
Sweden	7.3	7.7	7.8	7.9	**7.9**	412	443	447	451	**454**
Iceland	4.1	3.1	4.1	3.1	**2.8**	9	7	9	7	**6**
Norway	3.3	3.6	3.6	3.6	**3.7**	99	107	108	109	**110**
Switzerland	4.4	4.0	4.2	:	**:**	216	203	211	:	**:**
United States	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.9	**3.7**	5 991	6 299	6 301	6 473	**6 305**

: Data not available

Source datasets: une_rt_m (rates) and une_rt_m (in 1 000 persons)

eurostat ▦

Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Nov 22	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23	Nov 22	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23
Euro area	14.4	14.5	14.6	14.8	**14.5**	2 272	2 311	2 330	2 375	**2 321**
EU	14.5	14.6	14.7	14.8	**14.5**	2 778	2 804	2 838	2 874	**2 814**
Belgium	15.7	17.5	17.5	:	:	65	74	74	:	:
Bulgaria	8.7	13.4	12.8	12.5	**12.0**	11	16	16	15	**15**
Czechia	10.4	7.9	9.2	7.0	**6.2**	28	21	25	21	**17**
Denmark	10.2	11.5	12.5	13.7	**11.7**	47	50	57	64	**57**
Germany	5.9	5.6	5.6	5.6	**5.6**	271	254	254	254	**254**
Estonia	17.2	20.8	20.1	19.2	**18.4**	10	13	12	11	**11**
Ireland	10.5	11.2	12.5	12.6	**12.8**	36	41	46	48	**49**
Greece	31.1	26.7	24.6	23.8	**27.3**	81	67	66	67	**67**
Spain	29.5	27.7	27.8	28.0	**27.9**	480	481	488	498	**500**
France	16.8	17.7	17.5	17.6	**17.4**	565	597	590	596	**591**
Croatia	18.9	19.0	19.0	:	:	24	23	23	:	:
Italy	23.6	22.8	22.0	23.6	**21.0**	357	342	331	362	**312**
Cyprus	17.9	17.7	17.7	:	:	7	7	7	:	:
Latvia	17.8	12.4	13.4	14.0	**14.6**	12	8	9	10	**11**
Lithuania	12.6	12.0	14.1	13.3	**13.3**	12	12	13	15	**15**
Luxembourg	17.7	18.1	19.3	19.4	**20.0**	4	5	5	5	**5**
Hungary	11.0	12.9	12.2	13.5	**13.7**	34	39	37	42	**42**
Malta	9.3	6.7	6.8	7.1	**7.4**	3	2	2	2	**2**
Netherlands	7.8	8.7	8.8	8.4	**8.2**	139	157	160	151	**148**
Austria	10.3	11.4	11.9	10.5	**9.7**	56	62	65	55	**50**
Poland	12.1	10.7	10.4	10.5	**10.6**	127	113	110	112	**114**
Portugal	18.9	20.4	21.3	21.3	**23.5**	69	79	82	82	**91**
Romania	22.2	21.1	21.1	:	:	116	102	102	:	:
Slovenia	8.9	11.8	11.8	:	:	6	9	9	:	:
Slovakia	20.3	20.6	20.9	20.8	**20.7**	29	29	29	29	**29**
Finland	15.4	16.7	16.8	16.9	**17.0**	50	55	55	55	**56**
Sweden	21.5	21.7	21.8	22.0	**22.1**	146	148	149	150	**151**
Iceland	6.3	3.0	14.5	11.4	**5.9**	2	1	5	3	**2**
Norway	8.4	11.8	10.5	11.4	**11.2**	35	51	45	49	**49**
Switzerland	7.3	8.2	9.2	:	:	42	49	54	:	:

: 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)

eurostat ▪

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by sex

	Males					Females				
	Nov 22	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23	Nov 22	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Nov 23
Euro area	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	**6.1**	7.1	6.8	6.9	6.9	**6.8**
EU	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	**5.7**	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	**6.2**
Belgium	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.9	**5.9**	5.4	4.7	5.0	5.2	**5.2**
Bulgaria	4.0	4.6	4.6	4.6	**4.5**	3.7	4.3	4.2	4.1	**4.0**
Czechia	2.3	2.2	2.5	2.3	**2.0**	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.6	**3.0**
Denmark	5.2	3.6	4.4	4.9	**4.1**	4.2	5.0	4.9	5.7	**5.6**
Germany	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	**3.3**	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	**2.8**
Estonia	6.2	6.9	5.9	5.9	**5.8**	4.7	7.7	7.1	6.4	**6.4**
Ireland	4.2	4.7	4.8	4.9	**4.9**	4.7	4.2	4.5	4.5	**4.6**
Greece	9.2	8.3	8.0	7.6	**7.5**	15.3	13.6	12.7	11.7	**11.7**
Spain	11.4	10.4	10.5	10.4	**10.3**	14.7	13.6	13.6	13.7	**13.6**
France	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.3	**7.2**	6.9	7.4	7.3	7.3	**7.3**
Croatia	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.7	**5.6**	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.2	**7.2**
Italy	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.8	**6.7**	9.2	8.4	8.7	8.9	**8.5**
Cyprus	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	**6.4**	8.3	5.7	5.5	5.4	**5.2**
Latvia	8.8	7.9	7.8	7.7	**7.8**	4.9	5.3	5.3	5.4	**5.4**
Lithuania	6.7	7.6	7.8	7.4	**7.5**	5.5	5.9	6.0	5.5	**5.6**
Luxembourg	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.5	**5.7**	4.8	5.4	5.6	5.6	**5.7**
Hungary	3.8	4.0	3.9	4.1	**4.1**	3.7	4.1	4.0	4.1	**4.2**
Malta	3.0	2.4	2.5	2.4	**2.3**	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6	**2.7**
Netherlands	3.3	3.5	3.6	3.5	**3.5**	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.6	**3.6**
Austria	6.0	5.7	5.9	5.5	**5.4**	4.9	5.1	5.0	4.5	**4.4**
Poland	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	**2.8**	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	**2.8**
Portugal	6.0	5.9	6.2	6.2	**6.3**	6.9	6.7	7.0	7.1	**6.9**
Romania	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.7	**5.8**	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.1	**4.9**
Slovenia	3.3	3.6	3.7	4.0	**4.1**	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.3	**4.4**
Slovakia	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	**5.7**	6.2	6.0	5.9	6.0	**5.9**
Finland	7.2	8.1	8.1	8.2	**8.2**	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	**6.5**
Sweden	7.1	7.6	7.6	7.7	**7.7**	7.5	7.9	8.0	8.1	**8.1**
Iceland	4.0	2.6	4.1	3.5	**2.9**	4.1	3.7	4.1	2.7	**2.7**
Norway	3.1	3.8	3.7	3.9	**3.9**	3.1	3.5	3.3	3.5	**3.4**
Switzerland	4.2	3.7	3.9	:	**:**	4.6	4.4	4.5	:	**:**

: Data not available

Source dataset: une_rt_m

eurostat