

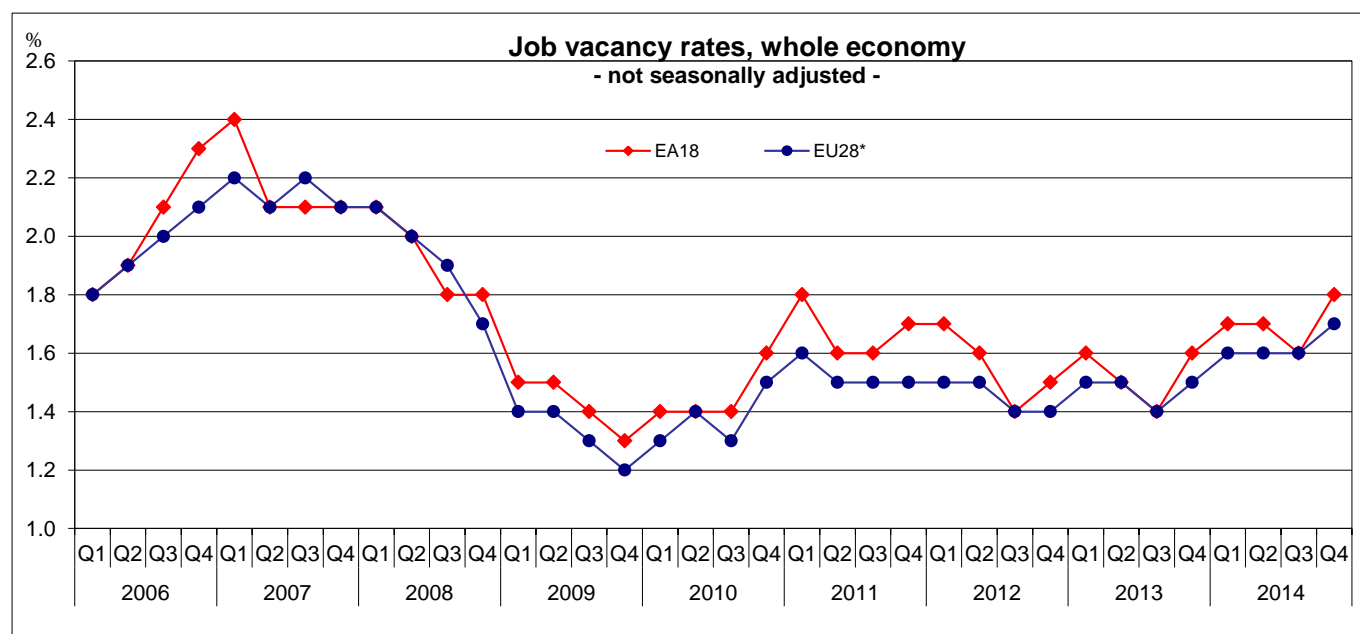
50/2015 - 19 March 2015

Fourth quarter of 2014

## Euro area job vacancy rate up to 1.8%

EU28 up to 1.7%

The job vacancy rate<sup>1</sup> in the **euro area**<sup>2</sup> (EA18) was 1.8% in the fourth quarter of 2014, up from 1.6% recorded both in the previous quarter and in the fourth quarter of 2013, according to figures published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. The job vacancy rate in the **EU28**<sup>2</sup> was 1.7% in the fourth quarter of 2014, up from 1.6% in the previous quarter and from 1.5% in the fourth quarter of 2013.



\* Data for EU27 up to 2009 Q4, data for EU28 from 2010 Q1. Differences between the two zones are well below 0.01 percentage points.

In the **euro area**, the job vacancy rate in the fourth quarter of 2014 was 1.1% in industry and construction and 2.4% in services. In the **EU28**, the rate was 1.1% in industry and construction and 2.2% in services.

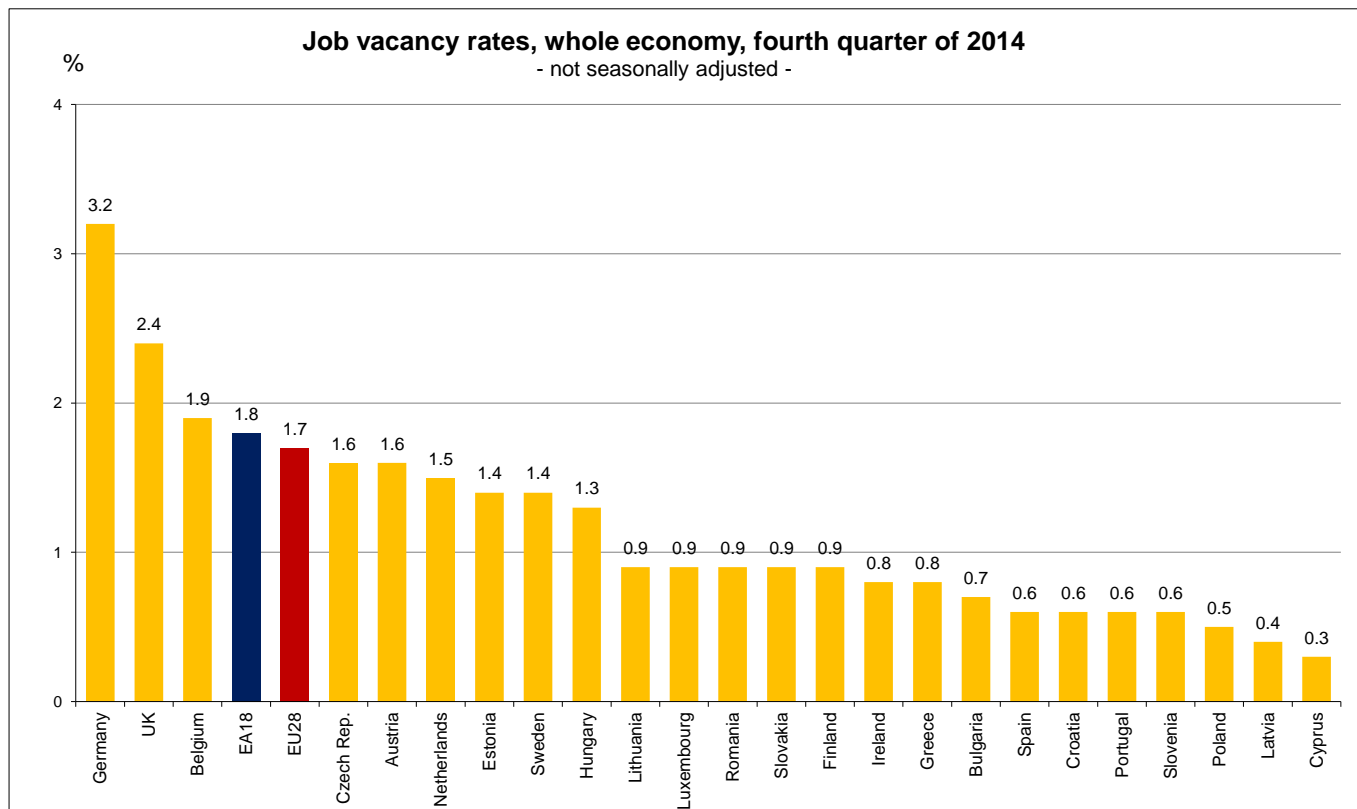
### Member States

Among the Member States for which comparable<sup>4</sup> data are available, the highest job vacancy rates in the fourth quarter of 2014 were recorded in **Germany** (3.2%), the **United Kingdom** (2.4%) and **Belgium** (1.9%), and the lowest in **Cyprus** (0.3%), **Latvia** (0.4%) and **Poland** (0.5%).

Among Member States, the job vacancy rate in the fourth quarter of 2014 rose in twenty one, remained stable in five and fell in two compared to the fourth quarter of 2013. The largest increases were registered in **Malta** (+1.2 percentage points), the **Czech Republic** (+0.7 pp), **Germany** and the **United Kingdom** (both +0.4 pp). The only decreases were recorded in **Belgium** (-0.5 pp) and **Austria** (-0.1 pp).

## Job vacancy rates, whole economy, fourth quarter of 2014

- not seasonally adjusted -



1. The **job vacancy rate (JVR)** measures the proportion of total posts that are vacant, expressed as a percentage:  

$$\text{JVR} = (\text{number of job vacancies}) / (\text{number of occupied posts} + \text{number of job vacancies}).$$
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. 1 sections A to O until the fourth quarter of 2008 and NACE Rev. 2 sections B to S from the first quarter of 2009. These aggregates are referred to as "Whole economy" for the sake of simplification, even if agriculture, activities of households as employers and activities of extraterritorial organisations are excluded. NACE Rev. 2 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).  
For more details see: [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Job\\_vacancy\\_statistics](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Job_vacancy_statistics)
2. Up to 31 December 2014, the euro area (EA18) included Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland. From 1 January 2015 the euro area (EA19) also includes Lithuania.  
The EU28 includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.  
As part of Eurostat's guidelines for the dissemination of data when the euro area is enlarged, the aggregate data series commented on in this News Release refer to the official composition in the most recent quarter for which data is available. **Thus News Releases with data for quarters up to the fourth quarter of 2014 comment on EA18 series, while Releases with data for the first quarter of 2015 onwards will comment on EA19 series.**  
The tables also include data for Norway, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
3. 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 (see footnote 4), this sub-population is used in the computation of the job vacancy rate for the aggregates.
4. The data for Denmark, France, Italy and Malta are not strictly comparable. In France and Italy, 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 Denmark, only units within the business economy (NACE Rev 2 sections B to N) are surveyed. In Malta, only units with 10 employees or more are surveyed.  
France delivers annual data with coverage extended to units with less than 10 employees within the sectors provided. The last available data (reference year 2012) indicate a job vacancy rate of 1.0% for the economy covered.

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### Job vacancy rates – whole economy (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	2013Q4	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4
EA18 <sup>3</sup>	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8
EU28 <sup>3</sup>	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7
Belgium	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.4	1.9
Bulgaria	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7
Czech Republic	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6
Germany	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.7	3.2
Estonia	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.4
Ireland	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Greece	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8
Spain	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Croatia	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.6
Cyprus	0.2	1.1	1.2	0.4	0.3
Latvia	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Lithuania	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9
Luxembourg	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.9
Hungary	1.1	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3
Netherlands	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5
Austria	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6
Poland	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Portugal	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6
Romania	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Slovenia	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6
Slovakia	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Finland	0.7	2.1	1.3	1.0	0.9
Sweden	1.3	1.9	1.8	1.3	1.4
United Kingdom	2.0	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.4
Norway	2.0	2.4	2.6	2.1	2.0
Switzerland	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1
former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.4

### Job vacancy rates – restricted coverage<sup>4</sup> (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	2013Q4	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4
Denmark	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.3
France	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Italy	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4
Malta	1.3	2.0	3.1	2.5	2.5

## 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)				
	2013Q4	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4	2013Q4	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4
EA18	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.9	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.4
EU28	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.8	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.2
Belgium	2.2	2.0	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.6	2.5	3.0	3.4	2.5
Bulgaria	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4
Czech Republic	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.3	2.7
Denmark	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.3
Germany	2.3	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	3.7	4.4	4.3	3.9	4.7
Estonia	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.6
Ireland	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1
Greece	2.5	0.8	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.7	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.0
Spain	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4
Croatia	0.3	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.6
Cyprus	0.3	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.3	1.4	1.5	0.4	0.4
Latvia	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Lithuania	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0
Luxembourg	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.2
Hungary	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	0.7	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1
Netherlands	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.8
Austria	1.1	1.6	1.0	1.1	1.2	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.2
Poland	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6
Portugal	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.0
Romania	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6
Slovenia	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7
Slovakia	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6
Finland	0.7	2.1	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.7	2.5	1.4	1.2	1.3
Sweden	0.9	1.3	1.5	0.9	1.0	1.7	2.1	2.3	1.8	1.8
United Kingdom	1.5	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.7	2.4	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.7
Norway	1.5	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.2	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.2	2.1
Switzerland	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3
former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.5

## Job vacancy rates by main economic activity branches (%)

- restricted coverage<sup>4</sup> -

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)					Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)				
	2013Q4	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4	2013Q4	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4
France	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Italy	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4
Malta	1.4	1.6	2.8	2.0	1.3	1.6	2.6	3.6	3.0	2.0