

April 2015

Euro area unemployment rate at 11.1%

EU28 at 9.7%

The **euro area**¹ (EA19) seasonally-adjusted² unemployment rate³ was 11.1% in April 2015, down from 11.2% in March 2015⁴, and down from 11.7% in April 2014. The **EU28**¹ unemployment rate was 9.7% in April 2015, stable compared with March 2015 and down from 10.3% in April 2014. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

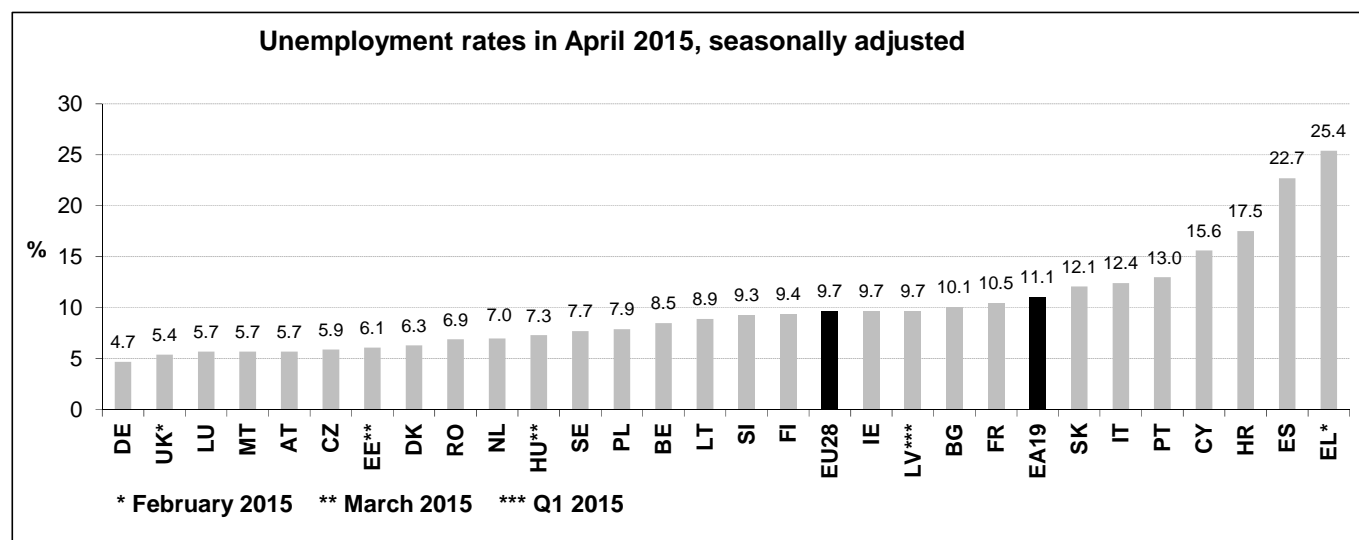
Eurostat estimates that 23.504 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 17.846 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in April 2015. Compared with March 2015, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 126 000 in the **EU28** and by 130 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with April 2014, unemployment fell by 1.545 million in the **EU28** and by 849 000 in the **euro area**.

Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rate in April 2015 was recorded in **Germany** (4.7%), and the highest in **Greece** (25.4% in February 2015) and **Spain** (22.7%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate in April 2015 fell in twenty-two Member States and increased in six. The largest decreases were registered in **Spain** (24.9% to 22.7%), **Lithuania** (11.1% to 8.9%) and **Ireland** (11.8% to 9.7%). The increases were registered in **Belgium** (8.4% to 8.5%), **Romania** (6.8% to 6.9%), **Austria** (5.5% to 5.7%), **France** (10.1% to 10.5%), **Croatia** (17.1% to 17.5%) and **Finland** (8.5% to 9.4%).

In April 2015, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 5.4%, down from 5.5% in March 2015 and down from 6.2% in April 2014.




Youth unemployment

In April 2015, 4.746 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 3.168 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with April 2014, youth unemployment decreased by 478 000 in the **EU28** and by 270 000 in the **euro area**. In April 2015, the youth unemployment rate⁵ was 20.7% in the **EU28** and 22.3% in the **euro area**, compared with 22.5% and 23.9% respectively in April 2014. In April 2015, the lowest rates were observed in **Germany** (7.2%), **Austria** and **Denmark** (both 10.1%), and the highest in **Greece** (50.1% in February 2015), **Spain** (49.6%), **Croatia** (45.5% in the first quarter 2015) and **Italy** (40.9%).

1. The euro area (EA19) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland. The EU28 includes Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), the Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Croatia (HR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE) and the United Kingdom (UK). The tables also include Iceland, Norway and the United States.
2. Non-seasonally adjusted and trend data can be found in the statistical database on the Eurostat website. For further details please refer to the *Unemployment statistics* article in Statistics Explained: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Unemployment_statistics
3. Eurostat produces 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 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.
4. 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; inclusion of new weights in the LFS data due to the 2011 Census. Compared with the rates published in News Release 76/2015 of 30 April 2015, the March 2015 unemployment rates were revised downwards from 11.3% to 11.2% for the EA19 and from 9.8% to 9.7% for the EU28. Among Member States, rates have been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Lithuania (by 0.5 pp), Italy (by 0.4 pp), Portugal (by 0.3 pp), Bulgaria and Croatia (both by 0.2 pp). Revisions of more than 0.1 percentage points upwards have been observed for Romania (by 0.3 pp), Poland and Finland (both by 0.2 pp).
5. 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. For further details please refer to the *Youth unemployment* article in Statistics Explained: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Youth_unemployment
6. Latvia: quarterly data for all series.
Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia: quarterly data for youth unemployment.
7. For Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden and Iceland the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data. For Sweden and Iceland, seasonally adjusted data are available in the online database on the Eurostat website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>
8. For Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Norway 3-month moving averages of LFS data are used instead of pure monthly indicators.

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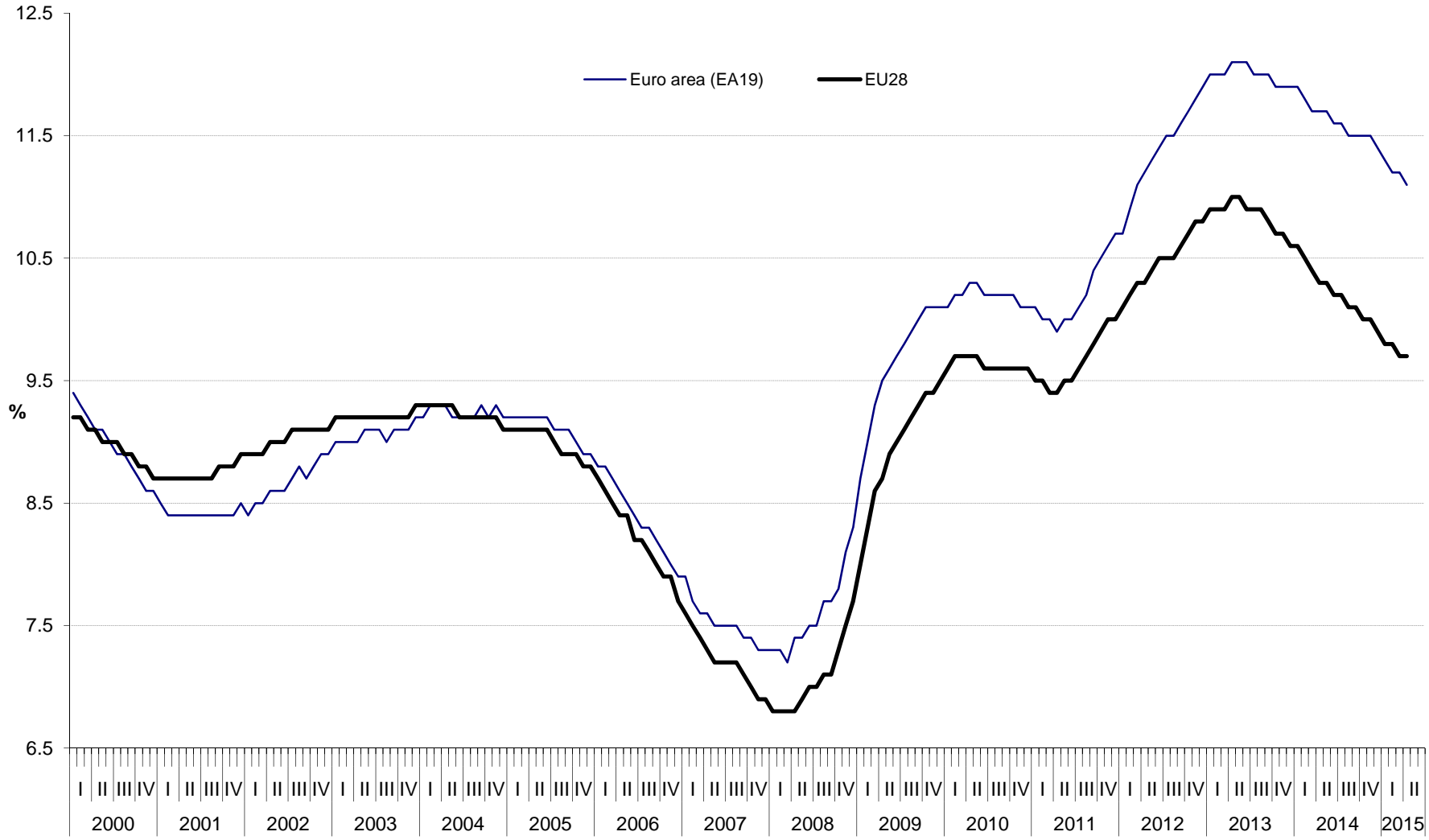
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Euro area and EU28 unemployment rates Seasonally adjusted series



Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Apr 14	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Apr 15	Apr 14	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Apr 15
EA19	11.7	11.3	11.2	11.2	11.1	18 695	18 117	18 011	17 976	17 846
EU28	10.3	9.8	9.8	9.7	9.7	25 049	23 841	23 704	23 630	23 504
Belgium	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	417	424	425	428	425
Bulgaria	11.6	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.1	391	342	342	346	342
Czech Republic	6.3	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.9	335	310	308	311	315
Denmark⁶	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.3	183	180	180	185	186
Germany⁷	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	2 101	2 011	1 998	1 989	1 981
Estonia⁸	7.4**	6.3	6.0	6.1	:	49**	42	41	41	:
Ireland	11.8	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.7	254	216	213	210	208
Greece	27.2*	25.6	25.4	:	:	1 303*	1 221	1 206	:	:
Spain	24.9	23.3	23.1	22.9	22.7	5 711	5 368	5 305	5 244	5 191
France	10.1	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	2 950	3 108	3 109	3 108	3 092
Croatia	17.1	18.3	18.3	18.0	17.5	322	347	347	342	335
Italy	12.5	12.3	12.4	12.6	12.4	3 177	3 128	3 146	3 201	3 161
Cyprus	16.1	16.0	16.1	16.0	15.6	69	70	71	70	68
Latvia⁶	11.5***	9.7	9.7	9.7	:	106***	96	96	96	:
Lithuania	11.1	9.4	9.2	9.0	8.9	163	139	136	133	131
Luxembourg	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	15	15	15	15	15
Hungary⁸	7.8**	7.5	7.4	7.3	:	349**	336	333	331	:
Malta	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.7	11	12	11	11	11
Netherlands⁷	7.7	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.0	684	645	633	626	625
Austria⁷	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.7	239	241	236	242	251
Poland	9.4	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.9	1 637	1 404	1 385	1 368	1 363
Portugal⁸	14.6	13.7	13.5	13.2	13.0	755	704	692	679	668
Romania	6.8	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.9	629	627	631	623	628
Slovenia	9.8	9.4	9.3	9.3	9.3	99	94	94	95	95
Slovakia	13.5	12.4	12.3	12.2	12.1	366	340	337	335	333
Finland⁷	8.5	9.0	9.2	9.3	9.4	228	243	247	250	253
Sweden⁷	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	413	406	405	405	405
United Kingdom⁸	6.7*	5.4	5.4	:	:	2 182*	1 768	1 754	:	:
Iceland⁷	5.1	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	10	8	8	8	8
Norway⁸	3.3**	3.9	4.1	4.1	:	93**	109	112	114	:
United States	6.2	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.4	9 623	8 887	8 680	8 551	8 505

: Data not available

* February 2014

** March 2014

*** Q1 2014

Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Apr 14	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Apr 15	Apr 14	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Apr 15
EA19	23.9	22.8	22.7	22.6	22.3	3 438	3 244	3 219	3 210	3 168
EU28	22.5	21.0	20.9	20.9	20.7	5 224	4 839	4 815	4 795	4 746
Belgium	23.1	22.4	22.5	22.5	22.2	94	90	90	91	90
Bulgaria	24.8	23.1	23.1	23.2	22.3	51	43	43	43	41
Czech Republic	15.9	14.0	14.3	14.8	15.2	57	51	52	54	55
Denmark⁸	12.3	10.6	10.4	10.5	10.1	53	47	46	47	45
Germany⁷	7.9	7.3	7.3	7.3	7.2	334	306	304	302	301
Estonia⁸	18.3	13.8	11.8	11.8	:	11	8	7	7	:
Ireland	25.4	22.3	22.0	21.1	20.0	50	43	42	40	37
Greece	55.4	49.9	50.1	:	:	162	149	149	:	:
Spain	53.1	50.6	50.2	50.0	49.6	856	801	787	780	775
France	23.5	24.6	24.5	24.3	23.7	648	670	666	656	634
Croatia⁶	44.8	45.5	45.5	45.5	:	72	80	80	80	:
Italy	43.3	41.1	42.3	42.5	40.9	693	638	652	663	655
Cyprus⁶	37.1	32.9	32.9	32.9	:	16	14	14	14	:
Latvia⁶	21.0	15.7	15.7	15.7	:	18	13	13	13	:
Lithuania	20.3	17.5	17.2	16.9	16.6	27	23	22	22	22
Luxembourg	20.4	22.7	22.7	22.0	21.7	3	3	3	3	3
Hungary⁸	20.8	18.8	19.2	19.3	:	69	64	64	65	:
Malta	12.0	11.2	11.2	11.1	11.0	4	3	3	3	3
Netherlands⁷	13.2	11.7	11.0	10.8	10.9	182	164	154	152	154
Austria⁷	10.4	8.6	9.0	9.9	10.1	59	48	50	55	57
Poland	24.5	21.8	21.9	21.8	21.7	365	305	304	300	297
Portugal⁸	36.4	34.2	32.9	32.4	31.2	138	129	123	120	117
Romania⁶	24.6	23.6*	:	:	:	161	159*	:	:	:
Slovenia⁶	20.4	17.9	17.9	17.9	:	15	13	13	13	:
Slovakia	30.7	25.7	25.0	24.8	24.6	65	55	54	54	53
Finland⁷	20.1	21.6	21.9	22.1	22.3	66	72	72	73	74
Sweden⁷	23.0	21.7	21.5	21.3	21.2	154	144	143	141	140
United Kingdom⁸	17.4	15.5	15.3	:	:	792	702	695	:	:
Iceland⁷	9.9	9.5	9.4	9.4	9.4	3	3	3	3	3
Norway⁸	7.8	8.7	9.1	9.3	:	29	33	34	35	:

: Data not available

* Q4 2014

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by gender

	Males					Females				
	Apr 14	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Apr 15	Apr 14	Jan 15	Feb 15	Mar 15	Apr 15
EA19	11.6	11.1	11.0	11.0	10.9	11.8	11.4	11.4	11.4	11.3
EU28	10.3	9.7	9.6	9.6	9.6	10.4	9.9	9.9	9.8	9.8
Belgium	9.3	8.8	8.8	8.9	8.8	7.3	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1
Bulgaria	12.6	11.0	11.0	11.0	10.8	10.6	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.3
Czech Republic	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	7.7	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.0
Denmark ⁸	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.4	6.6	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.1
Germany ⁷	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4
Estonia ⁸	8.3	6.8	6.3	6.1	:	6.7	5.7	5.7	6.1	:
Ireland	13.6	11.5	11.4	11.3	11.1	9.7	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0
Greece	24.2	22.6	22.4	:	:	30.7	29.4	29.1	:	:
Spain	24.2	22.3	22.0	21.7	21.3	25.7	24.5	24.5	24.4	24.3
France	10.3	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.7	9.8	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2
Croatia	16.0	18.3	18.2	17.9	17.3	18.5	18.4	18.3	18.1	17.8
Italy	12.0	11.7	11.8	12.1	11.9	13.3	13.1	13.1	13.2	12.9
Cyprus	17.0	16.8	17.0	16.8	16.2	15.0	15.2	15.1	15.1	15.1
Latvia ⁶	12.0	10.2	10.2	10.2	:	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.2	:
Lithuania	12.6	10.4	10.2	9.8	9.5	9.7	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.2
Luxembourg	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8
Hungary ⁸	7.8	7.4	7.3	7.4	:	8.3	7.5	7.6	7.3	:
Malta	6.2	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.3	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
Netherlands ⁷	7.4	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.6	8.1	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.5
Austria ⁷	5.5	5.8	5.7	5.9	6.1	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
Poland	8.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	10.0	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.2
Portugal ⁸	14.5	13.4	12.9	13.0	12.8	14.7	14.0	14.1	13.4	13.1
Romania	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.6	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0
Slovenia	8.9	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.8	10.8	9.8	9.7	9.8	9.8
Slovakia	13.3	11.5	11.4	11.2	11.0	13.7	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4
Finland ⁷	9.1	9.6	9.7	9.8	9.9	7.8	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.8
Sweden ⁷	8.2	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
United Kingdom ⁸	6.6	5.6	5.5	:	:	6.2	5.2	5.2	:	:
Iceland ⁷	5.1	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.1	5.1	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5
Norway ⁸	3.4	4.1	4.2	4.3	:	3.2	3.8	3.9	3.9	:

: Data not available