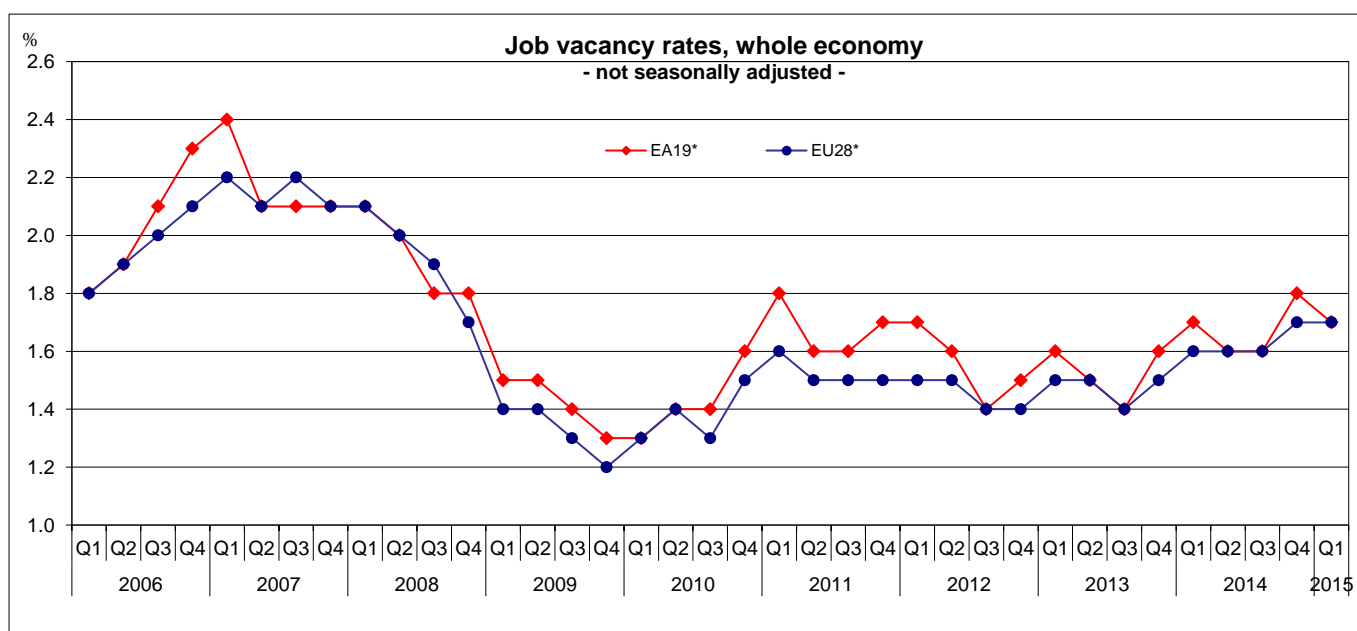


111/2015 - 18 June 2015

First quarter of 2015

Euro area and EU28 job vacancy rates at 1.7%

The job vacancy rate¹ in the **euro area**² (EA19) was 1.7% in the first quarter of 2015, down from 1.8% recorded in the previous quarter but stable compared with the first quarter of 2014, according to figures published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. The job vacancy rate in the **EU28**² was also 1.7% in the first quarter of 2015, stable compared to the previous quarter but up from 1.6% in the first quarter of 2014.



* Data for EA16 up to 2008 Q4, data for EA19 from 2009 Q1. Differences between the two zones are below 0.03 percentage points. 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 first quarter of 2015 was 1.1% in industry and construction and 2.3% in services. In the **EU28**, the rate was 1.2% in industry and construction and 2.2% in services.

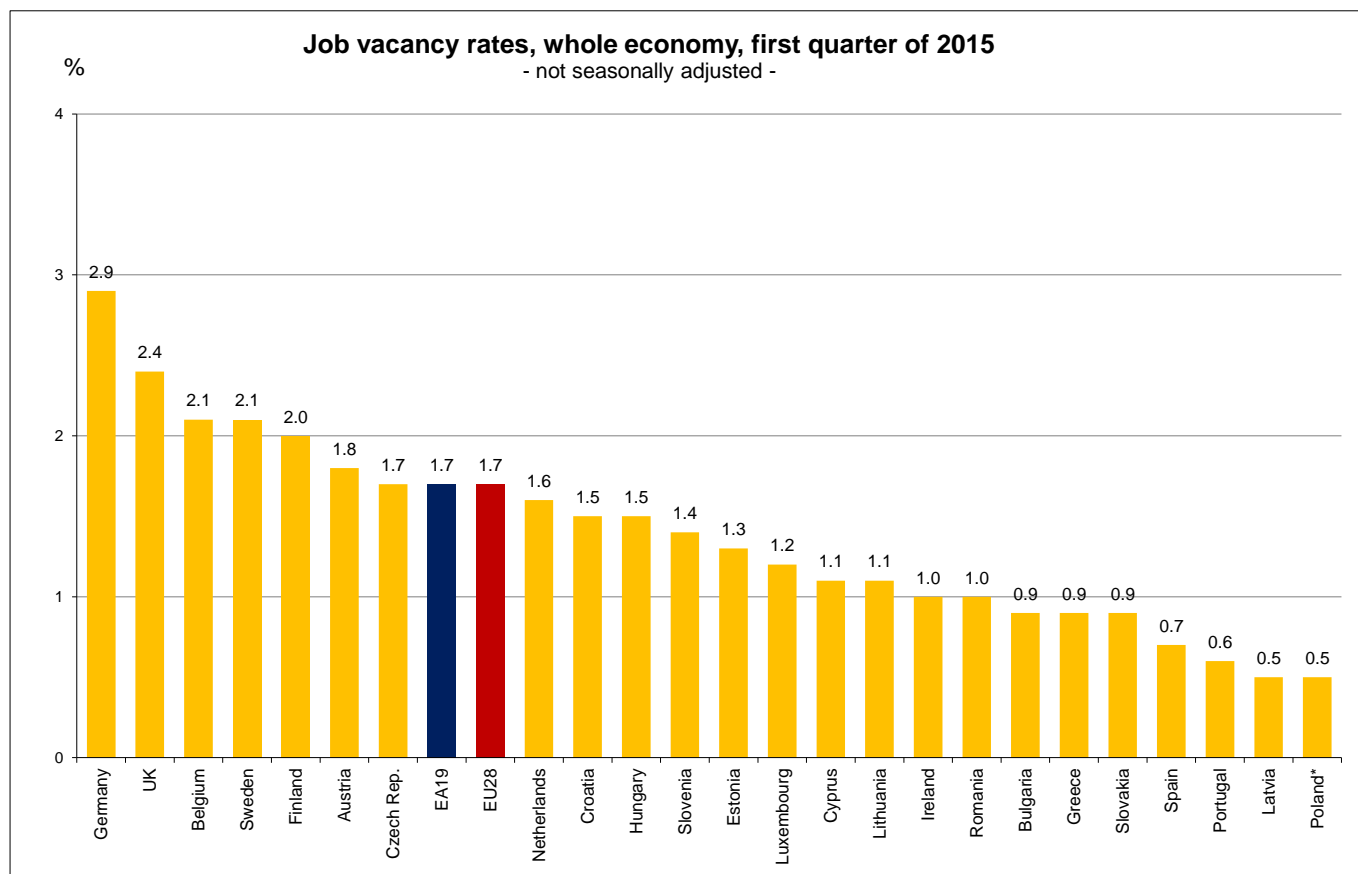
Member States

Among the Member States for which comparable³ data are available, the highest job vacancy rates in the first quarter of 2015 were recorded in **Germany** (2.9%), the **United Kingdom** (2.4%) **Belgium** and **Sweden** (both 2.1%) and **Finland** (2.0%), and the lowest in **Latvia** (0.5%), **Poland** (0.5% in the fourth quarter of 2014), **Portugal** (0.6%) and **Spain** (0.7%).

Among the Member States for which data for the first quarter of 2015 are published⁴, the job vacancy rate rose in sixteen, remained stable in six and fell in five compared to the first quarter of 2014. The largest increases were registered in the **Czech Republic** (+0.7 percentage points), **Malta** (+0.5 pp) and **Croatia** (+0.4 pp). The only decreases were recorded in **Belgium**, **Denmark**, **Estonia**, **France** and **Finland** (all -0.1 pp).

Job vacancy rates, whole economy, first quarter of 2015

- not seasonally adjusted -



* Data for Poland refer to the fourth quarter of 2014.

- 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
- 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, 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.
The tables also include data for Norway, Switzerland and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
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 3), this sub-population is used in the computation of the job vacancy rate for the aggregates.
- 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.
- Poland has not yet published data for this quarter.

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Job vacancy rates – whole economy (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1
EA19	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.7
EU28	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
Belgium	2.2	2.4	2.4	1.9	2.1
Bulgaria	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.9
Czech Republic	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.7
Germany	2.9	2.8	2.7	3.2	2.9
Estonia	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.3
Ireland	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.0
Greece	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.9
Spain	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7
Croatia	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.6	1.5
Cyprus	1.1	1.2	0.4	0.3	1.1
Latvia	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Lithuania	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.1
Luxembourg	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.2
Hungary	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.5
Netherlands	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6
Austria	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.8
Poland	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	c
Portugal	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6
Romania	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0
Slovenia	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.4
Slovakia	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Finland	2.1	1.3	1.0	0.9	2.0
Sweden	1.9	1.8	1.3	1.4	2.1
United Kingdom	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.4
Norway	2.4	2.6	2.1	2.0	2.2
Switzerland	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2
former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.4	:

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: data not available

Job vacancy rates – restricted coverage³ (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1
Denmark	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.4
France	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6
Italy	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.7
Malta	2.0	3.1	2.4	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)				
	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1
EA19	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.3
EU28	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.2	2.2
Belgium	2.0	2.5	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.5	3.0	3.4	2.5	2.9
Bulgaria	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.7
Czech Republic	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.3	2.7	2.8
Denmark	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.6
Germany	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.5	4.4	4.3	3.9	4.7	4.2
Estonia	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5
Ireland	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.3
Greece	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.4	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.5
Spain	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
Croatia	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.3	1.2	0.7	1.1	0.9	0.6	1.3
Cyprus	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.6	1.4	1.5	0.4	0.4	1.5
Latvia	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Lithuania	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2
Luxembourg	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.7
Hungary	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.3
Netherlands	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.8	2.0
Austria	1.6	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.4	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.2	2.5
Poland	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	c	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	c
Portugal	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.0
Romania	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7
Slovenia	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.0	1.9	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.7
Slovakia	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Finland	2.1	1.2	0.8	0.5	2.0	2.5	1.4	1.2	1.3	2.4
Sweden	1.3	1.5	0.9	1.0	1.5	2.1	2.3	1.8	1.8	2.2
United Kingdom	1.7	1.8	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7
Norway	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.2	1.4	2.5	2.6	2.2	2.1	2.3
Switzerland	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4
former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.5	:	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.5	:

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: data not available

Job vacancy rates by main economic activity branches (%)

- restricted coverage³ -

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)					Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)				
	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1	2014Q1	2014Q2	2014Q3	2014Q4	2015Q1
France	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Italy	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.7
Malta	1.5	2.8	2.0	1.4	2.1	2.5	3.6	2.9	2.0	2.9