

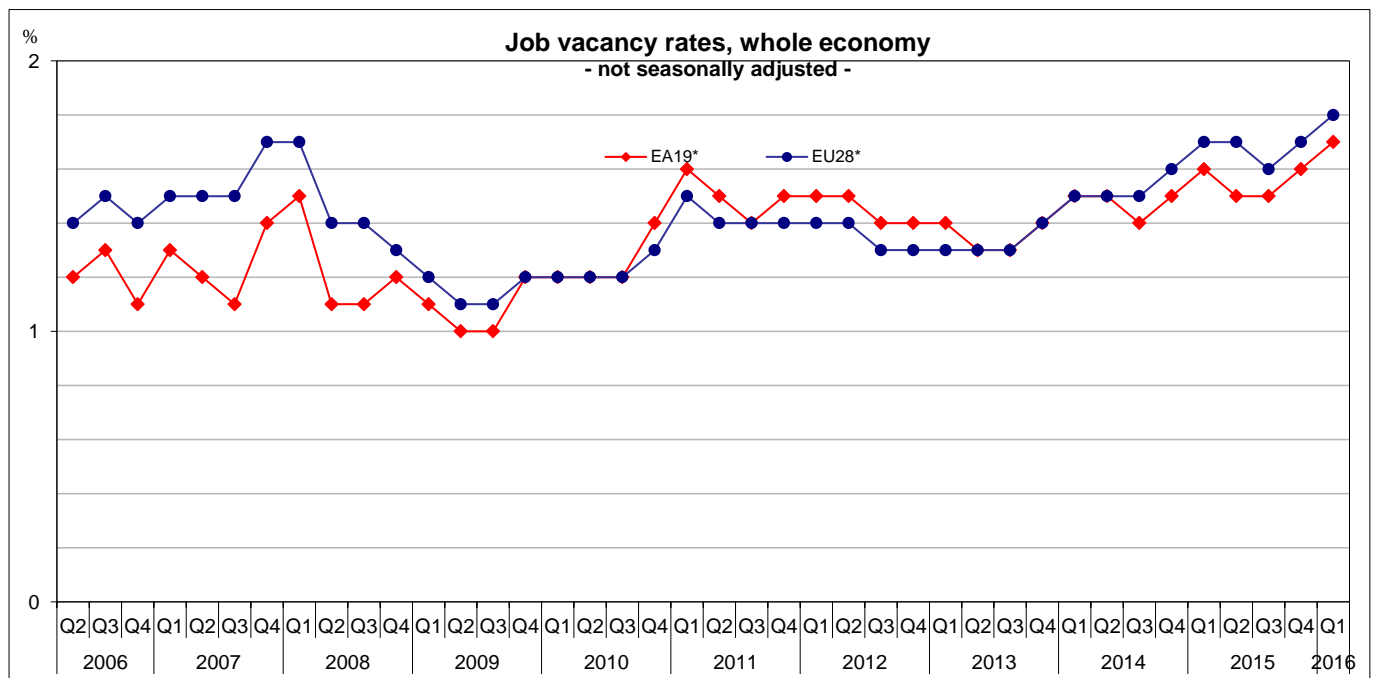
123/2016 - 20 June 2016

First quarter of 2016

Euro area job vacancy rate up to 1.7%

EU28 rate up to 1.8%

The job vacancy rate in the **euro area** (EA19) was 1.7% in the first quarter of 2016, up from 1.6% in both the previous quarter and the first quarter of 2015, according to figures published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. The job vacancy rate in the **EU28** was 1.8% in the first quarter of 2016, up from 1.7% in both the previous quarter and the first quarter of 2015.



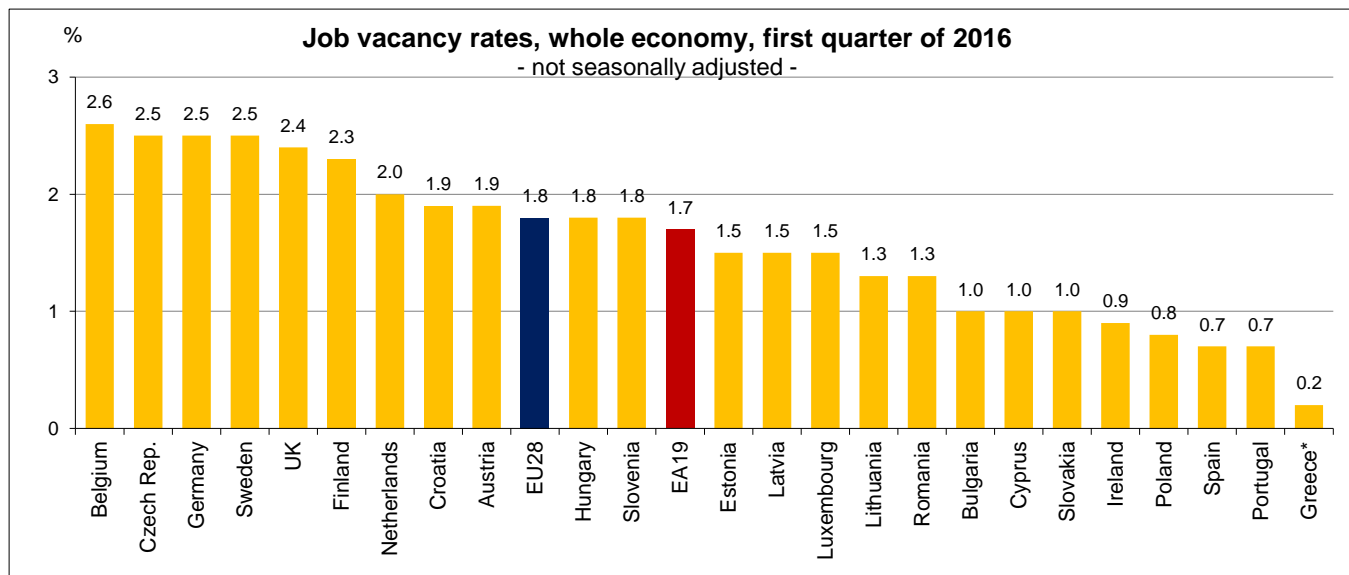
* Data for EU27 up to 2009 Q4, data for EU28 from 2010 Q1.

In the **euro area**, the job vacancy rate in the first quarter of 2016 was 1.4% in industry and construction, and 2.0% in services. In the **EU28**, the rate was 1.4% in industry and construction, and 2.1% in services.

Member States

Among the Member States for which comparable data are available, the highest job vacancy rates in the first quarter of 2016 were recorded in **Belgium** (2.6%), the **Czech Republic**, **Germany** and **Sweden** (all 2.5%), and the lowest in **Greece** (0.2% in the fourth quarter of 2015), **Spain** and **Portugal** (both 0.7%) and **Poland** (0.8%).

Compared with a year ago, the job vacancy rate in the first quarter of 2016 rose in twenty two Member States, remained stable in three and fell in three. The largest increases were registered in **Malta** (+1.2 percentage points), **Latvia** (+1.0 pp) and the **Czech Republic** (+0.8 pp). The only decreases were recorded in **Greece** (-0.6 pp between the fourth quarter of 2014 and the fourth quarter of 2015), **Ireland** and **Cyprus** (both -0.1 pp).



* Data for Greece refer to the fourth quarter of 2015.

Denmark, France, Italy and Malta: not shown as data are not strictly comparable.

Geographical information

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 **European Union** (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.

Methods and definitions

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. 2 sections B to S. This aggregate is 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).

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, this sub-population is used in the computation of the job vacancy rate for the aggregates. Data up to 2010Q3 are calculated using estimates for Germany.

Country notes:

Denmark, France, Italy and Malta: data 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. France delivers annual data with coverage extended to units with less than 10 employees within the sectors provided. The last available data (reference year 2013) indicate a job vacancy rate of 0.9% for the economy covered. In Malta, only units with 10 employees or more are surveyed. In Denmark, only units within the business economy (NACE Rev 2 sections B to N) are surveyed.

Revisions and timetable

Compared with News Release [54/2016](#) of 18 March 2016 the job vacancy rates of the EA19 and EU28 have been revised downwards before 2010 Q4. This revision is due to methodological changes introduced in the estimation of the number of vacant posts in Germany. In particular, vacancies for 'workfare positions' (subsidised jobs not covered by social security) have been excluded and a new extrapolation method has been implemented. More information can be found on the [website of the Institute for Employment Research](#) in Germany.

For more information

Eurostat's [website section](#) on job vacancy statistics

Eurostat's [database section](#) on job vacancy statistics

Eurostat's [Statistics Explained article](#) on job vacancy statistics

Eurostat's €-indicators [release calendar](#)

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Job vacancy rates – whole economy (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4	2016Q1
EA19	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.7
EU28	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.8
Belgium	2.1	2.7	2.7	2.2	2.6
Bulgaria	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.0
Czech Republic	1.7	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.5
Germany	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.5
Estonia	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.5
Ireland	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9
Greece	0.8*	0.9	0.7	0.2	:
Spain	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7
Croatia	1.4	1.6	0.9	0.7	1.9
Cyprus	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7	1.0
Latvia	0.5	0.5	0.4	1.1	1.5
Lithuania	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.3
Luxembourg	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.5
Hungary	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8
Netherlands	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.0
Austria	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.6	1.9
Poland	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8
Portugal	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7
Romania	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3
Slovenia	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.8
Slovakia	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
Finland	2.0	1.3	1.0	1.1	2.3
Sweden	2.1	2.0	1.6	1.8	2.5
United Kingdom	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.5	2.4
Norway	2.2	2.3	1.9	1.7	2.0
Switzerland	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4

: data not available

* 2014Q4

Job vacancy rates – restricted coverage^{*} (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4	2016Q1
Denmark	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.8
France	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.8
Italy	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.8
Malta	2.4	3.2	3.1	2.1	3.6

* see Methods and definitions

The source dataset is available [here](#).

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)				
	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4	2016Q1	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4	2016Q1
EA19	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.9	2.0
EU28	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4	2.0	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.1
Belgium	2.1	2.8	2.9	2.3	2.6	2.9	3.4	3.5	2.9	3.4
Bulgaria	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.9
Czech Republic	1.4	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.8	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.9
Denmark	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.9
Germany	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.0	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.4	3.1
Estonia	1.1	1.2	1.1	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.8
Ireland	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.1
Greece	1.4	1.1	0.3	0.2	:	1.5	1.7	1.1	0.2	:
Spain	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5
Croatia	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.5	1.3	1.2	2.1	0.8	0.6	2.2
Cyprus	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.5	1.3	0.9	0.9	1.2
Latvia	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0	1.9	0.4	0.4	0.4	1.0	1.3
Lithuania	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.4
Luxembourg	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.7	2.0
Hungary	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.7
Netherlands	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.3
Austria	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.2	2.8
Poland	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9
Portugal	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.1	1.3
Romania	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9
Slovenia	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.2	2.2	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.6	2.1
Slovakia	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.9
Finland	2.0	1.4	0.7	1.1	2.7	2.4	1.4	1.2	1.3	2.7
Sweden	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.7	2.2	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.7
United Kingdom	1.9	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.6
Norway	1.4	1.9	1.1	0.8	1.3	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.8	2.2
Switzerland	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2
former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.5	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.9

: data not available

Job vacancy rates by main economic activity branches (%)

– restricted coverage* –

- Not seasonally adjusted -

	Industry and construction (NACE Rev. 2 section B to F)					Services (NACE Rev. 2 section G to N)				
	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4	2016Q1	2015Q1	2015Q2	2015Q3	2015Q4	2016Q1
France	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.9
Italy	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	1.0
Malta	2.4	2.3	2.0	1.7	2.7	2.5	3.9	3.5	2.2	3.3

* see Methods and definitions
The source dataset is available [here](#).