

41/2018 - 14 March 2018

Fourth quarter of 2017 compared with the third quarter of 2017  
**Employment up by 0.3% in the euro area and by 0.2% in the EU28**  
+1.6% and +1.5% respectively compared with the fourth quarter of 2016

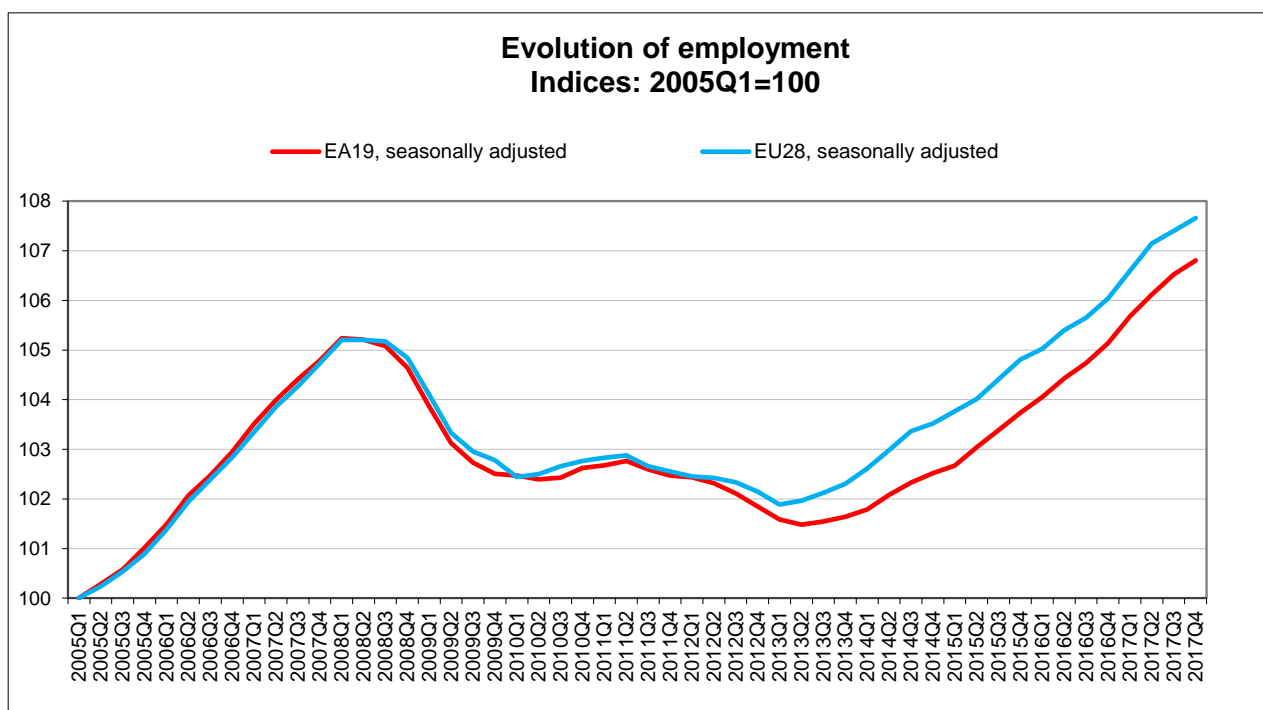
The number of persons employed increased by 0.3% in the **euro area** (EA19) and by 0.2% in the **EU28** in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared with the previous quarter, according to national accounts estimates published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In the third quarter of 2017, employment increased by 0.4% in the **euro area** and by 0.2% in the **EU28**. These figures are seasonally adjusted.

Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, employment increased by 1.6% in the **euro area** and by 1.5% in the **EU28** in the fourth quarter of 2017 (after +1.7% and +1.6% respectively in the third quarter of 2017).

Eurostat estimates that, in the fourth quarter of 2017, 236.8 million men and women were employed in the **EU28**, of which 156.7 million were in the **euro area**. These are the highest levels ever recorded in both areas. These figures are seasonally adjusted.

Over the whole year 2017, employment rose by 1.6% in both areas, compared with +1.3% in the **euro area** and +1.2% in the **EU28** in 2016.

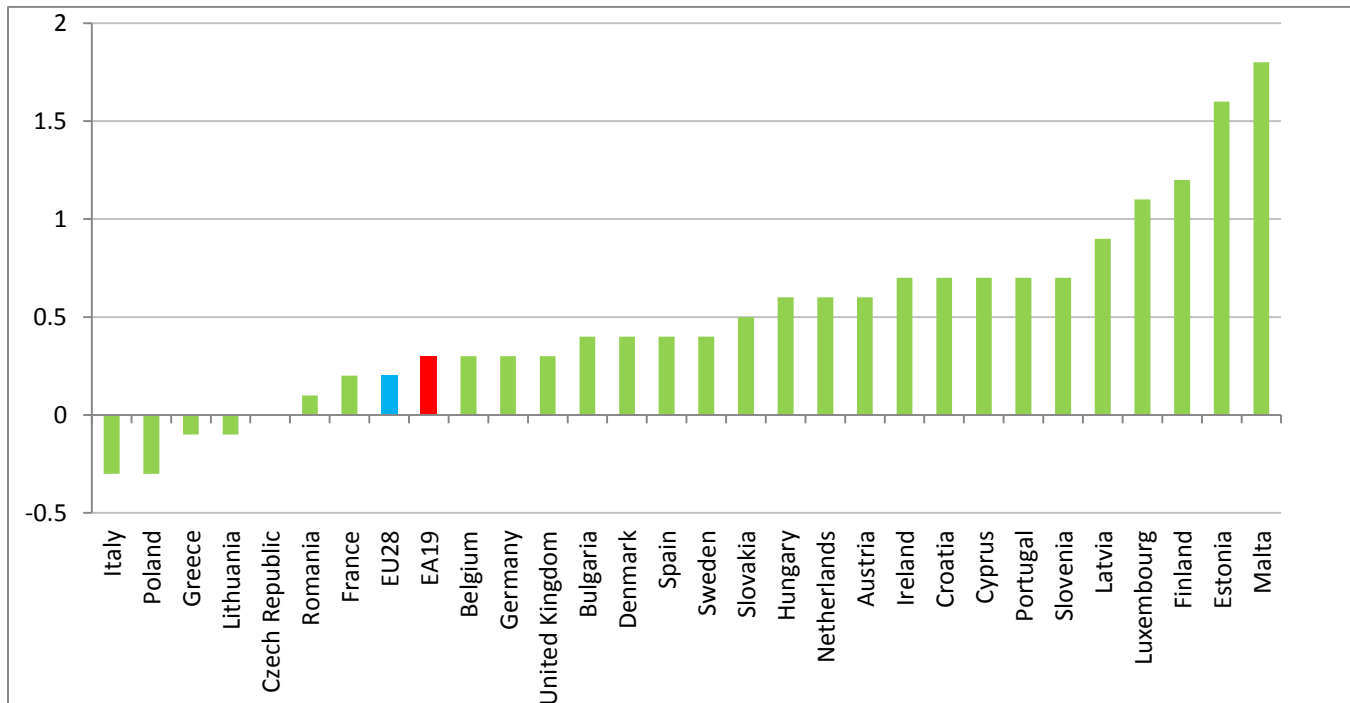
These data on employment provide a picture of labour input consistent with the output and income measure of national accounts.



## Employment growth in Member States

Among Member States for which data are available for the fourth quarter of 2017, **Malta** (+1.8%), **Estonia** (+1.6%), **Finland** (+1.2%), **Luxembourg** (+1.1%) and **Latvia** (+0.9%) recorded the highest increases compared with the previous quarter. In contrast, decreases were observed in **Italy**, **Poland** (both -0.3%), **Greece** and **Lithuania** (both -0.1%), while employment remained stable in the **Czech Republic**.

**Member States' growth rates for employment in the fourth quarter of 2017**  
% change over the previous quarter, seasonally adjusted



### 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

**Employment** covers employees and self-employed working in resident production units (i.e. the domestic employment concept). Unless otherwise stated, all employment estimates in this release use *persons* as the measurement unit. ESA2010 acknowledges other possible measures for employment: jobs and total hours worked.

### For more information

Employment in national accounts - [methodology](#)

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

**Baiba GRANDOVSKA**

Tel: +352-4301-33 444

[eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu)

 [EurostatStatistics](#)

 [@EU\\_Eurostat](#)

For further information on data:


**Jenny RUNESSON**


Tel: +352-4301-36 130

**Christine GERSTBERGER**

Tel: +352-4301-30 175

[estat-gdp-query@ec.europa.eu](mailto:estat-gdp-query@ec.europa.eu)

 [ec.europa.eu/eurostat/](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/)

 **Media requests:** Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33408 / [eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu)

## Employment growth rates\*

	Percentage change compared to the previous quarter				Percentage change compared to the same quarter of the previous year			
	2017				2017			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>EA19</b>	0.5	0.4	0.4	<b>0.3</b>	1.6	1.6	1.7	<b>1.6</b>
<b>EU28</b>	0.5	0.5	0.2	<b>0.2</b>	1.5	1.7	1.6	<b>1.5</b>
Member States								
<b>Belgium</b>	0.3	0.5	0.2	<b>0.3</b>	1.5	1.6	1.2	<b>1.3</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	0.3	0.1	1.0	<b>0.4</b>	1.2	0.9	2.7	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	0.3	0.4	0.8	<b>0.0</b>	1.5	1.3	2.0	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	0.4	0.4	0.4	<b>0.4</b>	1.6	1.6	1.6	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Germany</b>	0.5	0.3	0.4	<b>0.3</b>	1.5	1.5	1.5	<b>1.5</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	3.0	-0.3	1.3	<b>1.6</b>	2.2	0.1	2.6	<b>5.7</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	0.4	0.2	0.4	<b>0.7</b>	2.9	1.6	1.4	<b>1.7</b>
<b>Greece</b>	1.4	1.2	0.2	<b>-0.1</b>	1.2	2.4	2.3	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Spain</b>	0.7	0.8	0.7	<b>0.4</b>	2.4	2.7	2.7	<b>2.6</b>
<b>France</b>	0.3	0.3	0.2	<b>0.2</b>	0.9	0.9	1.1	<b>1.1</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	0.1	1.6	1.3	<b>0.7</b>	0.0	1.6	3.3	<b>3.8</b>
<b>Italy</b>	0.4	0.3	0.4	<b>-0.3</b>	1.2	1.0	1.5	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	0.1	0.9	1.3	<b>0.7</b>	3.1	3.2	4.1	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	0.2	-0.7	0.5	<b>0.9</b>	-0.5	-0.9	0.4	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	-0.5	0.5	-0.5	<b>-0.1</b>	-0.4	-0.3	-0.8	<b>-0.5</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	0.8	0.9	0.7	<b>1.1</b>	3.2	3.3	3.2	<b>3.5</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	0.7	0.3	0.3	<b>0.6</b>	2.5	1.9	1.6	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Malta</b>	1.4	1.2	1.4	<b>1.8</b>	5.8	4.5	5.1	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	0.6	0.5	0.5	<b>0.6</b>	1.9	2.2	2.4	<b>2.1</b>
<b>Austria</b>	0.4	0.5	0.4	<b>0.6</b>	1.8	1.8	1.5	<b>1.8</b>
<b>Poland</b>	0.7	0.7	-0.3	<b>-0.3</b>	1.8	1.9	1.4	<b>0.5</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	1.1	0.7	0.6	<b>0.7</b>	3.3	3.5	3.0	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Romania</b>	0.9	3.0	-2.0	<b>0.1</b>	0.9	5.1	2.5	<b>1.8</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	0.7	0.7	0.7	<b>0.7</b>	2.9	2.8	2.7	<b>2.7</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	0.4	0.7	0.6	<b>0.5</b>	2.1	2.1	2.3	<b>2.2</b>
<b>Finland</b>	0.5	0.3	0.1	<b>1.2</b>	0.9	1.1	0.6	<b>2.2</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	0.9	0.5	0.4	<b>0.4</b>	2.5	2.1	2.6	<b>2.1</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	0.4	0.4	0.0	<b>0.3</b>	1.2	1.1	0.9	<b>1.0</b>
EFTA countries								
<b>Norway</b>	0.4	0.3	0.4	<b>0.4</b>	0.7	0.8	1.2	<b>1.4</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	0.0	0.6	0.1	<b>0.0</b>	0.6	1.3	1.0	<b>0.6</b>

\* Percentage change in the number of persons employed in resident production units compared with the previous quarter based on seasonally adjusted data. Percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year based on non-seasonally adjusted data. The source dataset can be found [here](#) (quarterly change), [here](#) (annual change) and [here](#) (levels).

## T1a TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

t/t-1 PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER – SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

NACE Rev 2	Total economy				Agriculture, forestry and fishing				Industry (mining, manufacturing, electricity, water and waste)				of which: Manufacturing				Construction				Trade, transport, accommodation and food service activities			
Section					A				B, C, D and E				C				F				G, H and I			
	2017				2017				2017				2017				2017				2017			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
EA19	0.5	0.4	0.4	<b>0.3</b>	0.4	-0.5	-0.8	<b>0.2</b>	0.4	0.3	0.3	<b>0.1</b>	0.4	0.3	0.4	<b>0.1</b>	0.7	0.2	0.5	<b>0.7</b>	0.4	0.6	0.3	<b>0.2</b>
EU28	0.5	0.5	0.2	<b>0.2</b>	1.6	-0.8	-0.8	<b>-0.3</b>	0.6	0.6	0.1	<b>0.1</b>	0.8	0.7	0.1	<b>0.0</b>	0.8	0.2	0.7	<b>-0.2</b>	0.4	0.7	0.2	<b>0.1</b>

## T1b TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

t/t-1 PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE PREVIOUS QUARTER – SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

NACE Rev 2	Information and communication				Financial and insurance activities				Real estate activities				Professional and support service activities				Administration and other public services				Arts, entertainment and other services			
Section	J				K				L				M and N				O, P and Q				R, S, T and U			
	2017				2017				2017				2017				2017				2017			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
EA19	1.3	0.8	0.3	<b>0.7</b>	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	<b>-0.6</b>	0.5	1.2	0.8	<b>0.2</b>	1.1	0.7	0.9	<b>0.8</b>	0.3	0.3	0.3	<b>0.4</b>	0.6	0.6	0.6	<b>-0.7</b>
EU28	1.5	1.4	-0.5	<b>0.2</b>	-0.2	0.1	-0.4	<b>1.2</b>	1.2	0.0	0.6	<b>-0.7</b>	0.7	1.0	0.6	<b>0.8</b>	0.2	0.3	0.2	<b>0.5</b>	0.5	0.6	1.1	<b>-0.6</b>

## T2a TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

t/t-4 PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE SAME QUARTER OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR – NON-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

NACE Rev 2	Total economy				Agriculture, forestry and fishing				Industry (mining, manufacturing, electricity, water and waste)				of which: Manufacturing				Construction				Trade, transport, accommodation and food service activities			
Section					A				B, C, D and E				C				F				G, H and I			
	2017				2017				2017				2017				2017				2017			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
EA19	1.6	1.6	1.7	<b>1.6</b>	0.9	0.4	-1.1	<b>-0.8</b>	0.9	1.1	1.3	<b>1.2</b>	0.8	1.0	1.3	<b>1.2</b>	1.3	1.1	1.5	<b>2.3</b>	1.7	1.8	1.9	<b>1.4</b>
EU28	1.5	1.7	1.6	<b>1.5</b>	-0.4	1.5	0.3	<b>-0.7</b>	1.1	1.4	1.7	<b>1.4</b>	1.3	1.5	2.0	<b>1.6</b>	1.9	1.1	1.9	<b>1.5</b>	1.7	1.8	1.6	<b>1.3</b>

## T2b TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

t/t-4 PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER THE SAME QUARTER OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR – NON-SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

NACE Rev 2	Information and communication				Financial and insurance activities				Real estate activities				Professional and support service activities				Administration and other public services				Arts, entertainment and other services			
Section	J				K				L				M and N				O, P and Q				R, S, T and U			
	2017				2017				2017				2017				2017				2017			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
EA19	3.4	3.4	3.2	<b>3.1</b>	-0.5	-0.8	-0.9	<b>-1.3</b>	0.9	2.5	2.4	<b>2.9</b>	3.3	3.2	3.3	<b>3.7</b>	1.3	1.2	1.3	<b>1.3</b>	0.9	1.3	2.1	<b>1.2</b>
EU28	3.8	4.7	3.3	<b>2.3</b>	-0.1	-0.2	-0.7	<b>0.6</b>	-0.3	0.2	2.2	<b>1.2</b>	3.2	3.2	3.0	<b>3.4</b>	1.0	1.0	1.0	<b>1.2</b>	1.2	1.4	2.2	<b>1.6</b>