

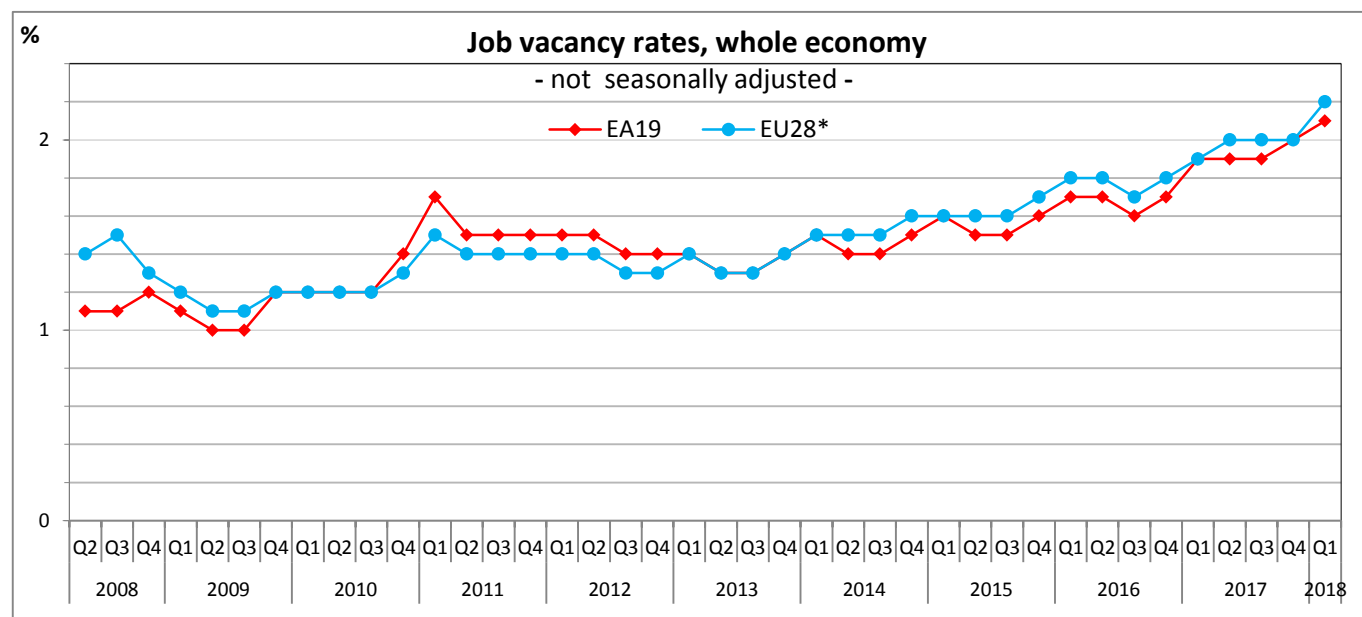
99/2018 - 18 June 2018

First quarter of 2018

## Euro area job vacancy rate at 2.1%

EU28 rate at 2.2%

The job vacancy rate in the **euro area** (EA19) was 2.1% in the first quarter of 2018, up from 2.0% recorded in the previous quarter and from 1.9% in the first quarter of 2017, according to figures published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In the **EU28**, the job vacancy rate was 2.2% in the first quarter of 2018, up from 2.0% recorded in the previous quarter and from 1.9% in the first quarter of 2017.



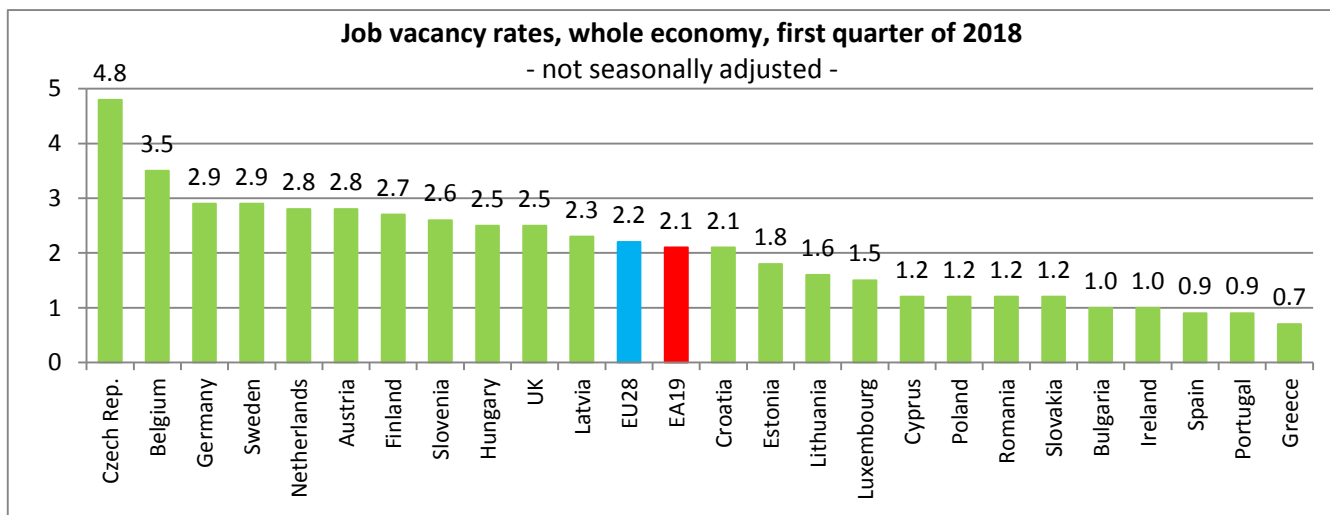
\* Data for EU27 up to Q4 2009, data for EU28 from Q1 2010.

In the **euro area**, the job vacancy rate in the first quarter of 2018 was 1.9% in industry and construction, and 2.4% in services. In the **EU28**, the rate was 2.0% in industry and construction, and 2.4% in services.

### Member States

Among the Member States for which comparable data are available (see country notes), the highest job vacancy rates in the first quarter of 2018 were recorded in the **Czech Republic** (4.8%), **Belgium** (3.5%), **Germany** and **Sweden** (both 2.9%), the **Netherlands** and **Austria** (both 2.8%). In contrast, the lowest rates were observed in **Greece** (0.7%), **Spain** and **Portugal** (both 0.9%), **Bulgaria** and **Ireland** (both 1.0%).

Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, the job vacancy rate in the first quarter of 2018 rose in sixteen Member States, remained stable in **Bulgaria**, **Denmark**, **Ireland**, **Croatia**, **Lithuania**, **Luxembourg**, **Portugal** and **Finland**, but fell in **Greece** (-0.3 percentage points – pp), **Estonia** (-0.2 pp), **Malta** and **Romania** (both -0.1 pp). The largest increases were registered in the **Czech Republic** (+1.7 pp), **Austria** (+0.6 pp), **Latvia**, **Hungary**, the **Netherlands** and **Slovenia** (all +0.5 pp).



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:  

$$JVR = \frac{\text{number of job vacancies}}{\text{number of occupied posts} + \text{number of job vacancies}}$$

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.

### 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. 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 the rates published in News Release [44/20178](#) of 16 March 2018, the job vacancy rate for the fourth quarter of 2017 remains unchanged in both the euro area and the EU28.

### For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) on job vacancy statistics  
 Eurostat [database section](#) on job vacancy statistics  
 Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on job vacancy statistics  
 Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

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## Job vacancy rates – whole economy (%)

- Not seasonally adjusted -

|                                      | 2017Q1 | 2017Q2 | 2017Q3 | 2017Q4 | 2018Q1     |
|--------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|
| <b>EA19</b>                          | 1.9    | 1.9    | 1.9    | 2.0    | <b>2.1</b> |
| <b>EU28</b>                          | 1.9    | 2.0    | 2.0    | 2.0    | <b>2.2</b> |
| <b>Belgium</b>                       | 3.2    | 3.3    | 3.6    | 3.4    | <b>3.5</b> |
| <b>Bulgaria</b>                      | 1.0    | 0.8    | 0.8    | 0.8    | <b>1.0</b> |
| <b>Czech Republic</b>                | 3.1    | 3.6    | 4.1    | 4.4    | <b>4.8</b> |
| <b>Germany</b>                       | 2.6    | 2.7    | 2.7    | 2.8    | <b>2.9</b> |
| <b>Estonia</b>                       | 2.0    | 2.2    | 2.3    | 1.9    | <b>1.8</b> |
| <b>Ireland</b>                       | 1.0    | 1.1    | 1.1    | 1.0    | <b>1.0</b> |
| <b>Greece</b>                        | 1.0    | 0.7    | 0.5    | 0.1    | <b>0.7</b> |
| <b>Spain</b>                         | 0.8    | 0.8    | 0.8    | 0.7    | <b>0.9</b> |
| <b>Croatia</b>                       | 2.1    | 1.8    | 1.4    | 1.5    | <b>2.1</b> |
| <b>Cyprus</b>                        | 1.1    | 0.8    | 1.4    | 1.0    | <b>1.2</b> |
| <b>Latvia</b>                        | 1.8    | 1.8    | 1.9    | 1.9    | <b>2.3</b> |
| <b>Lithuania</b>                     | 1.6    | 1.5    | 1.6    | 1.5    | <b>1.6</b> |
| <b>Luxembourg</b>                    | 1.5    | 1.5    | 1.6    | 1.4    | <b>1.5</b> |
| <b>Hungary</b>                       | 2.0    | 2.2    | 2.4    | 2.4    | <b>2.5</b> |
| <b>Netherlands</b>                   | 2.3    | 2.6    | 2.5    | 2.6    | <b>2.8</b> |
| <b>Austria</b>                       | 2.2    | 2.6    | 2.6    | 2.3    | <b>2.8</b> |
| <b>Poland</b>                        | 1.0    | 1.0    | 1.1    | 1.0    | <b>1.2</b> |
| <b>Portugal</b>                      | 0.9    | 0.9    | 0.9    | 0.8    | <b>0.9</b> |
| <b>Romania</b>                       | 1.3    | 1.3    | 1.2    | 1.1    | <b>1.2</b> |
| <b>Slovenia</b>                      | 2.1    | 2.3    | 2.3    | 2.0    | <b>2.6</b> |
| <b>Slovakia</b>                      | 1.0    | 1.0    | 1.1    | 1.2    | <b>1.2</b> |
| <b>Finland</b>                       | 2.7    | 1.6    | 1.5    | 1.8    | <b>2.7</b> |
| <b>Sweden</b>                        | 2.7    | 2.5    | 2.0    | 2.1    | <b>2.9</b> |
| <b>United Kingdom</b>                | 2.4    | 2.6    | 2.6    | 2.6    | <b>2.5</b> |
| <b>Norway</b>                        | 2.1    | 2.3    | 2.0    | 2.0    | <b>2.4</b> |
| <b>Switzerland</b>                   | 1.2    | 1.2    | 1.2    | 1.2    | <b>1.4</b> |
| <b>Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia</b> | 1.6    | 1.5    | 1.5    | 1.3    | <b>1.7</b> |

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

- Not seasonally adjusted -

|                | 2017Q1 | 2017Q2 | 2017Q3 | 2017Q4 | 2018Q1     |
|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|
| <b>Denmark</b> | 1.9    | 2.0    | 1.9    | 1.8    | <b>1.9</b> |
| <b>France</b>  | 1.0    | 1.1    | 1.0    | 1.2    | <b>1.2</b> |
| <b>Italy</b>   | 1.1    | 1.0    | 1.0    | 0.8    | <b>1.2</b> |
| <b>Malta</b>   | 2.0    | 2.2    | 1.6    | 1.1    | <b>1.9</b> |

\* see "country notes" under Methods and definitions

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

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

- Not seasonally adjusted -

|                                      | Industry and construction<br>(NACE Rev. 2 section B to F) |        |        |        |            | Services<br>(NACE Rev. 2 section G to N) |        |        |        |            |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------|--------|--------|------------|--|--------|--------|--------|------------|
|                                      | 2017Q1  | 2017Q2 | 2017Q3 | 2017Q4 | 2018Q1     | 2017Q1                                   | 2017Q2 | 2017Q3 | 2017Q4 | 2018Q1     |
| <b>EA19</b>                          | 1.5   | 1.6    | 1.6    | 1.7    | <b>1.9</b> | 2.2                                      | 2.3    | 2.2    | 2.3    | <b>2.4</b> |
| <b>EU28</b>                          | 1.6   | 1.7    | 1.7    | 1.8    | <b>2.0</b> | 2.2                                      | 2.3    | 2.3    | 2.3    | <b>2.4</b> |
| <b>Belgium</b>                       | 3.1   | 3.2    | 3.0    | 3.1    | <b>3.0</b> | 4.4                                      | 4.6    | 4.7    | 5.0    | <b>5.1</b> |
| <b>Bulgaria</b>                      | 0.6   | 0.6    | 0.7    | 0.7    | <b>0.6</b> | 0.9                                      | 0.6    | 0.5    | 0.5    | <b>0.9</b> |
| <b>Czech Republic</b>                | 3.2   | 3.9    | 4.5    | 4.9    | <b>5.3</b> | 4.3                                      | 5.0    | 5.7    | 6.1    | <b>6.8</b> |
| <b>Denmark</b>                       | 1.6   | 1.8    | 2.0    | 1.7    | <b>1.7</b> | 2.1                                      | 2.1    | 1.9    | 1.8    | <b>2.0</b> |
| <b>Germany</b>                       | 2.0   | 2.2    | 2.2    | 2.5    | <b>2.7</b> | 3.4                                      | 3.4    | 3.5    | 3.6    | <b>3.5</b> |
| <b>Estonia</b>                       | 1.6   | 2.1    | 2.1    | 1.7    | <b>1.5</b> | 2.3                                      | 2.4    | 2.4    | 2.1    | <b>1.9</b> |
| <b>Ireland</b>                       | 0.5   | 0.6    | 0.6    | 0.5    | <b>0.7</b> | 1.1                                      | 1.2    | 1.2    | 1.1    | <b>1.0</b> |
| <b>Greece</b>                        | 0.2   | 0.5    | 0.4    | 0.2    | <b>0.5</b> | 2.1                                      | 1.5    | 1.0    | 0.2    | <b>1.2</b> |
| <b>Spain</b>                         | 0.4   | 0.4    | 0.3    | 0.3    | <b>0.4</b> | 0.6                                      | 0.6    | 0.5    | 0.5    | <b>0.7</b> |
| <b>Croatia</b>                       | 1.8   | 1.6    | 1.5    | 1.1    | <b>1.8</b> | 2.6                                      | 1.9    | 1.2    | 1.2    | <b>2.6</b> |
| <b>Cyprus</b>                        | 1.1   | 1.1    | 1.0    | 1.2    | <b>0.9</b> | 1.4                                      | 0.9    | 1.6    | 1.1    | <b>1.7</b> |
| <b>Latvia</b>                        | 2.2   | 2.2    | 2.2    | 2.3    | <b>2.9</b> | 1.5                                      | 1.5    | 1.7    | 1.7    | <b>2.1</b> |
| <b>Lithuania</b>                     | 1.8   | 1.8    | 1.9    | 1.7    | <b>1.9</b> | 1.6                                      | 1.5    | 1.7    | 1.5    | <b>1.5</b> |
| <b>Luxembourg</b>                    | 0.7   | 0.7    | 0.7    | 0.7    | <b>0.9</b> | 2.0                                      | 2.1    | 2.1    | 1.9    | <b>2.1</b> |
| <b>Hungary</b>                       | 2.3   | 2.6    | 2.8    | 2.9    | <b>3.1</b> | 1.9                                      | 2.2    | 2.4    | 2.4    | <b>2.4</b> |
| <b>Netherlands</b>                   | 2.3   | 2.6    | 2.8    | 3.0    | <b>3.3</b> | 2.6                                      | 2.9    | 2.8    | 2.9    | <b>3.2</b> |
| <b>Austria</b>                       | 2.3   | 2.4    | 2.2    | 2.1    | <b>2.8</b> | 2.7                                      | 3.5    | 3.6    | 3.5    | <b>3.8</b> |
| <b>Poland</b>                        | 1.3   | 1.3    | 1.4    | 1.3    | <b>1.4</b> | 1.1                                      | 1.0    | 1.1    | 1.0    | <b>1.3</b> |
| <b>Portugal</b>                      | 0.8   | 1.0    | 0.9    | 0.7    | <b>0.8</b> | 1.5                                      | 1.5    | 1.4    | 1.4    | <b>1.4</b> |
| <b>Romania</b>                       | 1.1   | 1.1    | 1.1    | 1.0    | <b>1.1</b> | 0.9                                      | 1.0    | 0.9    | 0.9    | <b>1.0</b> |
| <b>Slovenia</b>                      | 3.0   | 3.1    | 2.8    | 2.4    | <b>3.1</b> | 2.4                                      | 2.7    | 2.8    | 2.5    | <b>3.3</b> |
| <b>Slovakia</b>                      | 1.0   | 1.0    | 1.1    | 1.3    | <b>1.3</b> | 0.8                                      | 0.9    | 1.0    | 0.9    | <b>1.1</b> |
| <b>Finland</b>                       | 3.6   | 1.8    | 1.7    | 1.6    | <b>2.3</b> | 2.9                                      | 2.0    | 2.1    | 2.2    | <b>3.2</b> |
| <b>Sweden</b>                        | 1.9   | 2.1    | 1.8    | 1.8    | <b>2.3</b> | 3.1                                      | 2.9    | 2.5    | 2.8    | <b>3.3</b> |
| <b>United Kingdom</b>                | 2.0   | 2.1    | 2.1    | 2.1    | <b>2.0</b> | 2.6                                      | 2.8    | 2.9    | 2.9    | <b>2.7</b> |
| <b>Norway</b>                        | 1.4   | 1.4    | 1.5    | 1.5    | <b>2.0</b> | 2.3                                      | 2.4    | 2.2    | 2.3    | <b>2.7</b> |
| <b>Switzerland</b>                   | 1.3   | 1.3    | 1.3    | 1.4    | <b>1.7</b> | 1.4                                      | 1.4    | 1.3    | 1.4    | <b>1.5</b> |
| <b>Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia</b> | 2.0   | 2.0    | 1.9    | 1.8    | <b>1.9</b> | 2.0                                      | 2.0    | 1.9    | 1.5    | <b>2.1</b> |

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

- restricted coverage<sup>1</sup> -

- Not seasonally adjusted -

|               | Industry and construction<br>(NACE Rev. 2 section B to F) |        |        |        |            | Services<br>(NACE Rev. 2 section G to N) |        |        |        |            |
|---------------|---|--------|--------|--------|------------|--|--------|--------|--------|------------|
|               | 2017Q1  | 2017Q2 | 2017Q3 | 2017Q4 | 2018Q1     | 2017Q1                                   | 2017Q2 | 2017Q3 | 2017Q4 | 2018Q1     |
| <b>France</b> | 0.8   | 0.9    | 0.9    | 1.0    | <b>1.1</b> | 1.1                                      | 1.1    | 1.0    | 1.2    | <b>1.2</b> |
| <b>Italy</b>  | 0.9   | 0.9    | 0.8    | 0.9    | <b>1.0</b> | 1.3                                      | 1.1    | 1.0    | 0.7    | <b>1.3</b> |
| <b>Malta</b>  | 1.9   | 2.1    | 1.4    | 0.8    | <b>2.0</b> | 2.4                                      | 3.0    | 1.9    | 1.4    | <b>2.1</b> |

\* see "country notes" under Methods and definitions

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