

173/2018 - 14 November 2018

**Improved timeliness of employment data**

With this release, Eurostat begins publishing a flash estimate of employment in the euro area and EU28 around 45 days after the end of the reference quarter. The complete publication of European employment estimates including the Member States' data will be advanced from about 75 to 65 days after the end of the reference quarter.

Employment flash estimates for the third quarter of 2018

## Employment up by 0.2% in both the euro area and the EU28

+1.3% in euro area and +1.2% in EU28 compared with third quarter 2017

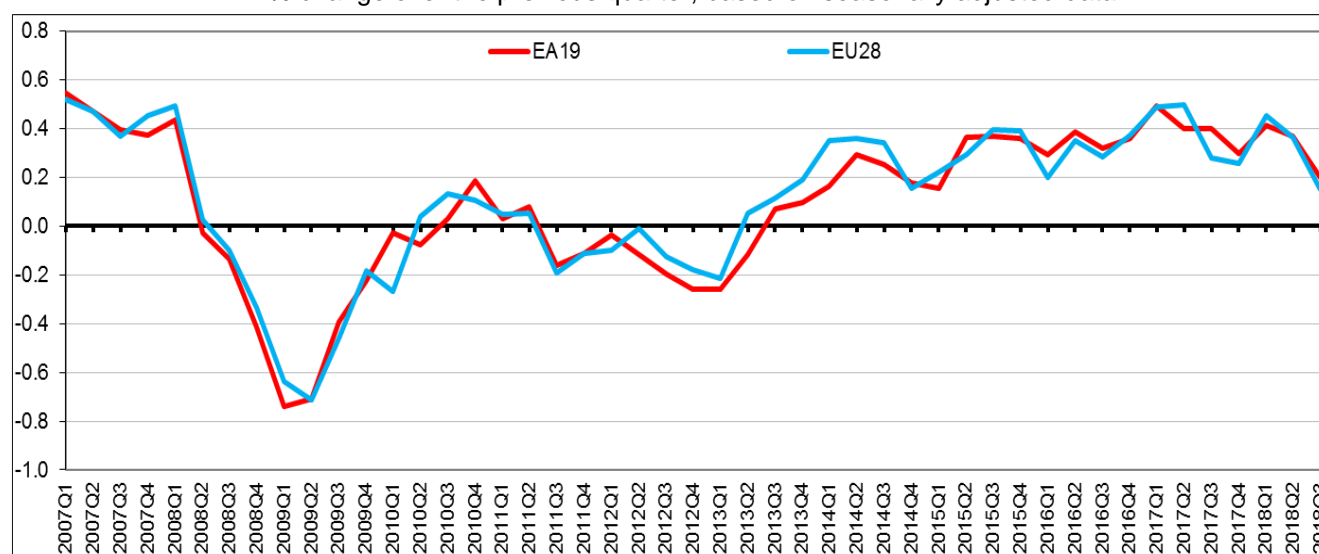
The number of persons employed increased by 0.2% in both the **euro area** (EA19) and the **EU28** in the third quarter of 2018 compared with the previous quarter, according to a flash estimate published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. In the second quarter of 2018, employment increased by 0.4% in both the **euro area** and the **EU28**. These figures are seasonally adjusted.

Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, employment increased by 1.3% in the **euro area** and by 1.2% in the **EU28** in the third quarter of 2018 (after +1.5% and +1.4% respectively in the second quarter of 2018).

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

### Growth rate of employment in persons

% change over the previous quarter, based on seasonally adjusted data



## Growth rates of employment in persons

|             | Percentage change compared with the previous quarter<br>(based on seasonally adjusted data) |      |     |            | Percentage change compared with the same quarter of the previous year<br>(based on unadjusted data) |      |     |            |
|-------------|---|------|-----|------------|---|------|-----|------------|
|             | 2017  | 2018 |     |            | 2017  | 2018 |     |            |
|             | Q4  | Q1   | Q2  | Q3         | Q4  | Q1   | Q2  | Q3         |
| <b>EA19</b> | 0.3   | 0.4  | 0.4 | <b>0.2</b> | 1.6   | 1.5  | 1.5 | <b>1.3</b> |
| <b>EU28</b> | 0.3   | 0.5  | 0.4 | <b>0.2</b> | 1.5   | 1.5  | 1.4 | <b>1.2</b> |

The source dataset can be found [here](#) (quarterly change), [here](#) (annual change) and [here](#) (levels).

### 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, Czechia, 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. European System of Accounts (ESA 2010) acknowledges other possible measures for employment: jobs and total hours worked.

The flash estimate of the third quarter of 2018 employment growth presented in this release is based on the data of 21 Member States, covering 95% of EA19 and 91% of EU28 total employment.

### Release schedule of main aggregates

This news release presents **the first flash estimates for euro area and EU employment** that will from now on be published about 45 days after the end of each quarter.

These flash estimates use employment estimates provided by EU Member States on the basis of "gentleman's agreements".

### Revisions and timetable

The employment flash estimates have been tested and found to be sufficiently reliable. Further information can be found on the website via the links indicated below.

With these flash estimates, euro area and EU employment for earlier quarters are not revised.

All figures presented in this release may be revised with the next regular estimate scheduled for 7 December 2018.

### For more information

The [flash methodology for employment](#)

Eurostat [website section](#) on national accounts, notably information on [employment estimates](#)

Eurostat [database section](#) on national accounts and Eurostat [Statistics Explained](#) article on employment flash estimates

Eurostat [metadata](#) on quarterly national accounts

[European System of Accounts 2010](#)

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)

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


 [EurostatStatistics](#)

For further information on data:

**Jenny RUNESSON**  
Tél: +352-4301-36 130  
**Véronique DENEUVILLE**  
Tel: +352 4301-34 214

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

 [@EU\\_Eurostat](#)

 **Media requests:** Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33 408 / [eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu)