

EU-27 employment and unemployment levels stable

Latest labour market trends — third-quarter 2010 data¹

In 2010Q3, the number of persons in employment² and unemployed (seasonally adjusted) in the EU-27 remained unchanged compared with the previous quarter, at 221.3 and 23.1 million respectively (Figure 1). This was the first time since 2008Q1 that unemployment did not increase.

Still, over the year (i.e. from 2009Q3), the number of employed persons continued to fall (-0.2 %) while the number of unemployed grew again (+4.2 %). However, both changed at a lower pace than before.

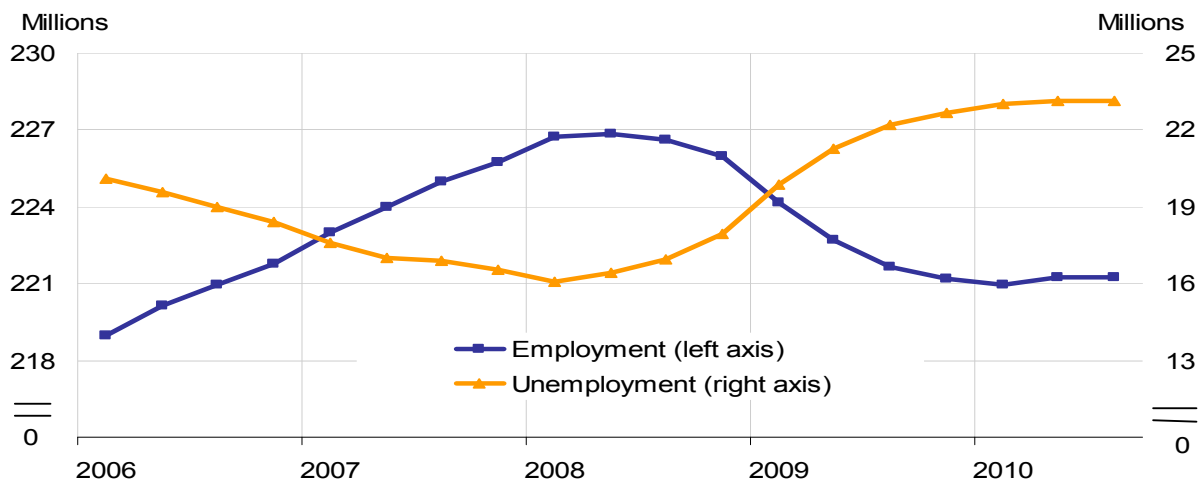
The following data from the EU labour force survey show more details on the latest labour market developments. In 2010Q3, the share of part-time employment (not seasonally adjusted) in the EU-27 reached 19 %, +0.4 percentage points (p.p.) more than in 2009Q3. This increase was the result of a rise in the number of persons working part-time (+0.7 million persons) and a parallel decrease in the number in full-time employment (- 1.2 million).

Over the same period, the share of employees with temporary contracts rose from 14.0 % to 14.4 %, due to both an increase in the number of temporary employees (+1.0 million) and a decrease in the number of permanent employees (-1.7 million).

In 2010Q3, the employment³ rate (not seasonally adjusted) among the population aged 15 to 64 in the EU-27 decreased by 0.2 p.p. compared with 2009Q3 to 64.6 % (down 0.3 p.p. for men and 0.2 p.p. for women, to 70.7 % and 58.5 %, respectively). Over the same period, the unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) rose by 0.3 p.p., reaching 9.3 %. For the first time since 2008Q4, when the unemployment rate started to go up year-on-year, the increase was greater for women (+0.5 p.p., to 9.4 %) than for men (+0.2 p.p., to 9.2 %).

In 2010Q3, for the EU-27, both the youth and the long-term unemployment rates continued to rise (+0.1 p.p. and +0.8 p.p. up on the year before, to 20.5 % and 3.8 %, respectively).

Figure 1: Employment and unemployment, EU-27, seasonally adjusted (million persons)



Sources: Eurostat-NA (online data code: [namq_aux_pem](#)) and EU-LFS (online data code: [une_nb_q](#))

¹ This publication is part of a quarterly series presenting the main results of the EU labour force survey for the EU-27 and for all Member States, candidate countries and EFTA countries, except Liechtenstein.

² National accounts, domestic concept. See also http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/national_accounts/methodology/employment

³ See the LFS resident population concept in the Methodological Notes.

Fewer people losing or leaving their jobs, more people starting new jobs

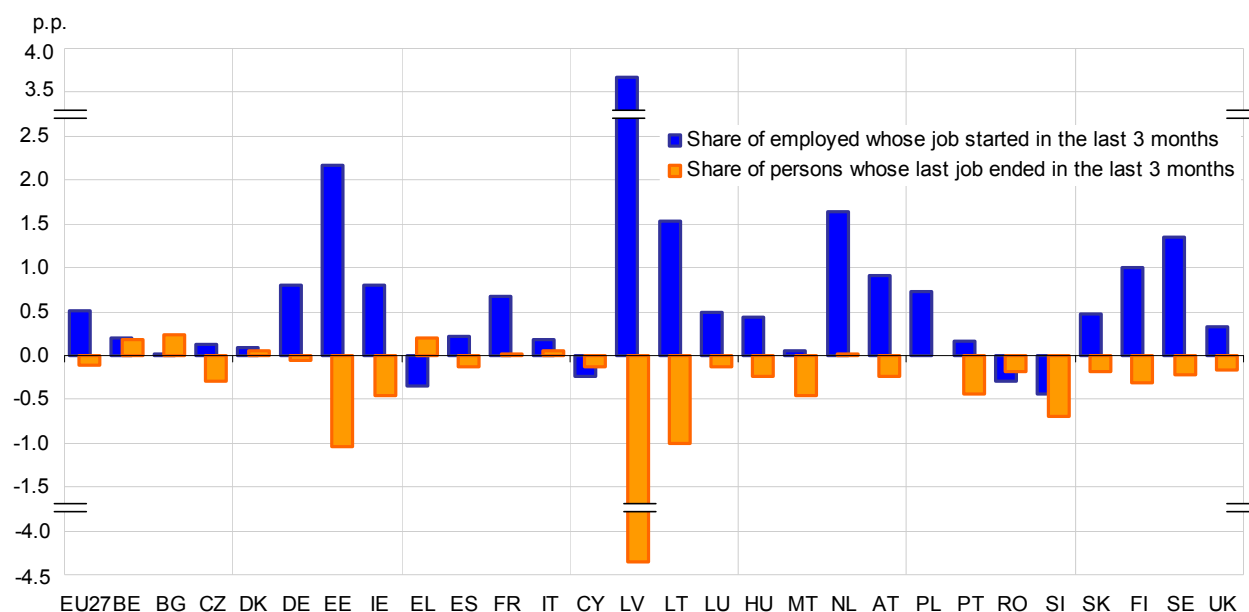
Since the beginning of 2010 there have been signs of improvement in the EU-27 labour market, possibly signalling a recovery in employment and a downturn in unemployment: the number of employed persons who started a new job in the last three months (*employed with a new job*) is increasing and the number of those who either quit or lost a job over the last three months and are no longer employed (*new out of employment*) is going down. By 2010Q3, in the EU-27, the share of those employed with a new job had increased from 2009Q3 by 0.5 p.p. (Figure) to 4.7 % of total employment (Table 12), thus reinforcing the upward trend that started in 2010Q1. At the same time, the share of those new out of employment (among total employment in the previous quarter, i.e. the group they belonged to three months earlier) went down year-on-year in all the first three quarters of 2010. In the third quarter, it decreased by 0.1 p.p. to 2.6 %.

In fifteen EU countries, both indicators moved in the same direction as in the EU-27 as a whole. These countries are the Czech Republic, Estonia, Ireland, Spain, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Austria, Portugal, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Among this group, the Baltic states registered

both the highest increase in the share of employed with a new job (+3.7 p.p. for Latvia, +2.2 p.p. for Estonia and +1.5 p.p. for Lithuania) and the strongest drop in the share of those new out of employment (-4.3 p.p. for Latvia, -1.0 p.p. for both Estonia and Lithuania). In another five Member States (Denmark, Germany, France, the Netherlands and Poland), the share of those employed with a new job rose (particularly in the Netherlands: +1.6 p.p.) while the share of those new out of employment remained stable.

In five other EU countries the two indicators moved in the same direction, either both upwards (Belgium and Italy) or both downwards (Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia), thus giving ambiguous messages about a possible recovery in their national labour markets. Slovenia, in particular, had the strongest contraction in the share of the employed with a new job among the EU-27 Member States (-0.4 p.p.). Finally, these indicators do not yet point to recovery for the labour markets in Bulgaria and Greece. In these two countries the share of those who quit or lost their job in the last three months in 2010Q3 was higher than one year before, while the share of the employed who started a new job in the last three months decreased (for Greece) or merely remained stable (for Bulgaria).

Figure 2: Persons whose job started or ended in the last three months, as a share of total employment*: year-on-year changes (percentage points)



* Persons whose job started in the last three months as a share of total employment in the current quarter, persons whose jobs ended in the last three months as a share of total employment in the previous quarter. For the Netherlands, the share of persons whose job started in the last three months refers to persons who worked at least 12 hours in the reference week.

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_egdn2](#))

Table 1. Activity rates, 2010Q3, by age group, sex and nationality, %

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Total	71.3	44.3	84.9	49.9	71.4	43.4	85.0	49.4
Nationals	71.2	44.1	85.4	49.8	71.4	43.2	85.6	49.3
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	77.2	54.7	85.0	54.7	76.1	51.8	84.2	53.6
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	69.1	43.7	76.8	51.6	69.1	43.6	77.0	49.3
Men	77.9	47.4	91.8	59.0	78.3	46.2	92.4	58.2
Nationals	77.5	47.1	91.8	58.9	77.9	45.8	92.4	58.1
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	85.3	59.9	93.8	61.2	84.5	58.0	93.5	59.4
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	81.4	49.3	91.0	60.3	81.7	49.4	91.4	59.0
Women	64.7	41.2	78.0	41.5	64.5	40.6	77.5	41.0
Nationals	64.9	41.1	78.9	41.3	64.9	40.5	78.8	40.9
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	69.5	50.1	76.5	47.6	68.1	46.6	75.4	47.2
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	57.2	38.2	63.1	43.5	56.7	38.0	62.9	40.0

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_argan](#))

Table 2. Labour force and activity rates, by country and sex

15-64 years	Labour force (1000)	Activity rates (%)					
		2010Q3			2009Q3		
		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
EU-27	236 045	71.3	77.9	64.7	71.3	78.1	64.5
EA-16	153 865	71.4	78.3	64.5	71.6	78.6	64.5
Belgium	4 873	67.9	73.8	61.9	66.9	72.7	61.1
Bulgaria	3 386	67.1	71.4	62.8	67.7	72.4	63.0
Czech Republic	5 211	70.5	79.1	61.7	70.4	78.8	61.8
Denmark	2 884	79.6	82.4	76.9	81.3	84.7	78.0
Germany	41 010	76.7	82.5	70.8	77.1	82.6	71.4
Estonia	667	73.7	76.9	70.7	74.6	78.9	70.5
Ireland	2 102	70.1	77.8	62.4	70.9	78.6	63.2
Greece	4 941	68.3	78.8	57.8	68.1	79.4	56.8
Spain	22 968	73.5	80.9	65.9	72.9	80.8	64.8
France	28 352	70.9	75.3	66.7	70.8	75.2	66.6
Italy	24 299	61.4	72.7	50.2	62.1	73.7	50.5
Cyprus	397	74.4	82.4	66.8	74.2	82.6	66.1
Latvia	1 147	74.1	76.5	71.7	73.5	77.4	69.8
Lithuania	1 621	71.4	73.1	69.8	70.3	72.3	68.3
Luxembourg	229	68.8	76.8	60.8	68.8	76.7	60.7
Hungary	4 256	62.9	68.8	57.2	61.9	68.5	55.6
Malta	175	61.0	77.7	43.6	59.2	76.8	40.8
Netherlands	8 627	78.3	83.9	72.6	79.7	85.3	74.0
Austria	4 261	76.0	82.0	70.0	76.3	82.1	70.5
Poland	17 568	66.1	72.9	59.5	65.2	72.5	58.1
Portugal	5 263	74.0	78.1	69.9	73.4	78.0	68.9
Romania	9 736	64.9	72.5	57.4	65.0	73.0	57.1
Slovenia	1 014	71.4	75.7	66.8	73.0	76.8	68.9
Slovakia	2 707	68.9	76.2	61.6	68.8	76.6	60.9
Finland	2 648	74.8	77.0	72.5	75.0	76.5	73.5
Sweden	4 911	80.5	83.2	77.6	79.4	82.0	76.8
United Kingdom	30 793	76.1	82.4	69.9	76.0	82.3	69.8
Iceland	172	84.9	86.9	82.8	85.7	88.7	82.5
Norway	2 525	78.1	80.6	75.6	78.8	81.1	76.3
Switzerland	4 385	82.9	88.9	76.8	82.5	87.8	77.1
Croatia	1 694	61.3	67.1	55.6	62.6	67.8	57.6
FYR of Macedonia¹	941	65.0	78.3	51.3	64.8	78.4	50.8
Turkey	25 214	52.9	75.6	30.6	52.4	75.7	29.4

¹ Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_argan](#))

Table 3. Employment rates, 2010Q3, by age group, sex and nationality, %

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Total	64.6	35.2	77.9	46.6	64.4	34.8	77.5	45.9
Nationals	64.9	35.2	78.8	46.7	65.0	34.9	78.7	46.0
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	68.3	43.6	75.7	49.6	66.3	39.5	73.8	48.6
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	56.1	31.0	63.3	42.5	55.5	30.7	62.7	40.0
Men	70.7	37.6	84.4	54.7	70.9	37.0	84.5	53.9
Nationals	70.8	37.5	85.0	54.9	71.1	36.9	85.4	54.1
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	76.3	48.7	84.7	55.1	74.7	45.6	83.3	53.4
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	66.0	35.3	74.9	48.7	65.5	34.9	74.4	46.9
Women	58.5	32.8	71.3	39.0	58.0	32.5	70.3	38.3
Nationals	59.1	32.9	72.7	38.9	58.8	32.8	72.1	38.3
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	60.5	39.2	67.0	43.6	58.3	34.5	64.9	43.1
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	46.5	26.8	52.0	36.7	45.7	26.6	51.4	33.4

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_ergan](#))

Table 4. Employment and employment rates, by country and sex

15-64 years	Employment (1000)	Confidence limits	Employment rates (%)					
			2010Q3			2009Q3		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
EU-27	213 869	± 510	64.6 ± 0.2	70.7	58.5	64.8	71.0	58.7
EA-16	138 849	± 346	64.4 ± 0.2	70.9	58.0	64.8	71.3	58.3
Belgium	4 450	± 63	62.0 ± 0.9	67.6	56.3	61.4	67.0	55.8
Bulgaria	3 062	± 77	60.6 ± 1.5	64.1	57.2	63.1	67.4	58.9
Czech Republic	4 838	± 43	65.4 ± 0.6	74.3	56.4	65.2	73.7	56.5
Denmark	2 671	± 20	73.8 ± 0.6	76.2	71.3	76.3	78.9	73.7
Germany	38 218	± 203	71.5 ± 0.4	76.5	66.3	71.0	75.8	66.1
Estonia	563	± 21	62.1 ± 2.3	64.5	59.9	63.4	65.1	61.8
Ireland	1 808	± 23	60.3 ± 0.8	64.5	56.1	61.8	66.1	57.5
Greece	4 320	± 81	59.7 ± 1.1	71.1	48.4	61.7	74.0	49.3
Spain	18 396	± 130	58.9 ± 0.4	65.2	52.4	59.7	66.4	53.0
France	25 763	± 151	64.4 ± 0.4	68.7	60.3	64.4	68.7	60.3
Italy	22 438	± 136	56.7 ± 0.3	67.6	45.8	57.5	68.9	46.1
Cyprus	373	± 9	70.0 ± 1.7	77.5	62.8	70.0	78.0	62.3
Latvia	938	± 22	60.6 ± 1.4	61.0	60.2	59.8	60.9	58.8
Lithuania	1 329	± 39	58.5 ± 1.7	58.0	59.0	60.4	59.6	61.2
Luxembourg	220	± 8	66.1 ± 2.4	74.7	57.6	65.8	73.8	57.5
Hungary	3 791	± 32	56.0 ± 0.5	61.2	51.0	55.5	61.2	49.9
Malta	163	± 5	56.8 ± 1.7	72.2	40.7	55.1	71.6	37.9
Netherlands	8 256	± 47	74.9 ± 0.4	80.3	69.5	77.0	82.4	71.5
Austria	4 070	± 45	72.6 ± 0.8	78.2	67.1	72.3	77.8	66.9
Poland	15 946	± 103	60.0 ± 0.4	66.5	53.6	59.9	66.9	53.0
Portugal	4 656	± 56	65.5 ± 0.8	70.1	60.9	65.8	70.5	61.1
Romania	9 034	± 310	60.2 ± 2.1	67.0	53.6	60.4	67.2	53.5
Slovenia	941	± 20	66.3 ± 1.4	70.3	62.0	68.3	71.9	64.6
Slovakia	2 324	± 24	59.2 ± 0.6	65.5	52.8	60.1	67.4	52.8
Finland	2 453	± 17	69.3 ± 0.5	71.1	67.5	69.3	70.5	68.0
Sweden	4 523	± 20	74.1 ± 0.3	76.6	71.6	72.9	75.0	70.8
United Kingdom	28 326	± 147	70.0 ± 0.4	75.3	64.8	69.8	74.7	65.0
Iceland	161	± 3	79.2 ± 1.4	81.3	77.0	80.4	82.8	77.9
Norway	2 436	± 17	75.4 ± 0.5	77.6	73.1	76.2	78.2	74.1
Switzerland	4 177	± 46	78.9 ± 0.9	85.1	72.6	79.0	84.4	73.6
Croatia	1 494	± 78	54.0 ± 2.8	59.6	48.6	57.1	62.0	52.2
FYR of Macedonia	641	± 34	44.2 ± 2.3	53.0	35.3	44.1	53.6	34.4
Turkey	22 609	± 106	47.5 ± 0.2	68.2	27.0	45.9	66.6	25.5

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_ergan](#))

Table 5. Share of part-time employment in total employment, 2010Q3, by age group, sex and economic activity, %

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Total	19.0	28.2	16.4	26.3	20.2	26.8	18.5	25.4
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	22.3	31.9	16.0	33.4	19.8	26.1	12.5	34.0
Industry, incl. Energy	7.0	7.6	6.2	11.9	8.3	8.1	7.6	12.6
Construction	6.7	6.0	5.6	13.5	7.2	5.8	6.5	12.9
Trade, transport and communication services	20.4	39.6	16.2	25.3	21.4	37.3	18.3	24.6
Business activities and financial services	20.7	23.9	18.4	31.1	22.3	25.1	20.7	30.3
Other services	26.3	31.0	24.7	31.6	27.9	30.2	27.4	29.5
Men	8.7	21.7	5.6	16.1	8.4	19.9	5.8	14.4
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	16.7	27.6	10.5	27.5	12.9	22.3	5.8	26.4
Industry, incl. Energy	3.1	5.4	2.0	7.4	3.2	5.5	2.3	7.3
Construction	4.1	5.4	3.0	9.8	4.1	5.3	3.2	9.1
Trade, transport and communication services	10.6	33.3	6.1	15.3	10.2	30.4	6.6	14.3
Business activities and financial services	10.1	22.0	6.4	21.4	10.1	23.7	7.0	18.9
Other services	12.2	28.2	9.0	18.8	12.2	26.5	10.1	15.6
Women	31.5	36.0	29.4	40.1	34.7	35.0	33.7	40.5
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	31.1	41.2	24.8	41.7	33.8	36.9	26.5	46.7
Industry, incl. Energy	17.2	14.0	16.2	26.8	22.3	15.8	21.9	30.4
Construction	33.9	14.3	33.2	48.8	40.1	14.4	40.9	49.7
Trade, transport and communication services	33.4	46.1	29.6	41.1	36.3	44.4	34.1	40.9
Business activities and financial services	32.1	25.8	30.6	46.0	35.1	26.5	34.1	47.8
Other services	33.4	32.3	32.3	39.5	36.1	31.9	36.0	38.6

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_epgn62](#))

Table 6. Part-time employment, by country and sex

15 years and above	Part-time employment (1000)	Confidence limits	Share of total employment (%)					
			2010Q3			2009Q3		
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
EU-27	41 453	± 321	19.0	8.7	31.5	18.7	8.3	31.2
EA-16	28 493	± 214	20.2	8.4	34.7	19.9	8.1	34.4
Belgium	1 034	± 47	23.0	8.3	41.0	23.0	8.6	40.6
Bulgaria	68	± 9	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4
Czech Republic	283	± 15	5.8	2.9	9.6	5.5	2.8	9.1
Denmark	708	± 21	26.0	15.0	38.1	26.1	15.5	37.8
Germany	10 166	± 126	26.1	9.9	45.2	26.2	10.2	45.0
Estonia	57	± 8	9.9	6.4	13.3	10.5	8.0	13.0
Ireland	415	± 11	22.4	11.8	34.7	21.3	11.0	33.4
Greece	280	± 17	6.4	3.8	10.2	5.8	3.1	9.9
Spain	2 372	± 60	12.8	5.2	22.4	12.3	4.7	22.0
France	4 531	± 113	17.5	6.7	29.4	17.1	5.9	29.5
Italy	3 352	± 82	14.7	5.5	28.3	14.2	5.3	27.5
Cyprus	34	± 3	8.9	6.3	12.0	8.3	5.1	12.4
Latvia	82	± 11	8.6	6.6	10.5	9.2	8.1	10.2
Lithuania	92	± 11	6.8	5.0	8.5	8.2	6.2	10.1
Luxembourg	38	± 4	17.0	3.9	34.3	17.3	5.0	33.6
Hungary	228	± 14	6.0	4.0	8.2	5.9	4.3	7.9
Malta	21	± 2	12.7	6.6	24.1	11.6	5.3	24.1
Netherlands	4 109	± 46	48.9	25.5	76.5	48.3	25.0	75.7
Austria	1 031	± 27	24.8	8.8	43.5	24.1	8.6	42.2
Poland	1 316	± 53	8.1	5.6	11.2	8.3	5.7	11.5
Portugal	558	± 35	11.2	7.9	15.0	11.2	7.2	15.8
Romania	1 100	± 123	11.6	10.9	12.4	10.4	9.2	11.9
Slovenia	112	± 8	11.6	8.8	14.9	11.4	8.8	14.4
Slovakia	100	± 9	4.3	3.0	5.8	3.6	2.7	4.8
Finland	341	± 13	13.7	9.7	18.1	13.1	8.6	17.9
Sweden	1 182	± 24	25.5	13.3	39.2	26.2	13.5	40.2
United Kingdom	7 843	± 193	27.0	12.8	43.4	26.1	11.7	42.6
Iceland	33	± 2	19.5	9.8	30.2	20.7	9.0	34.0
Norway	688	± 18	27.5	14.4	42.1	28.0	14.6	42.8
Switzerland	1 474	± 33	34.5	13.1	60.1	34.8	13.6	59.8
Croatia	150	± 26	9.7	7.3	12.7	8.7	6.7	11.0
FYR of Macedonia	32	± 4	5.0	4.0	6.6	4.7	4.1	5.8
Turkey	2 249	± 122	9.7	5.5	20.2	10.0	5.6	21.5

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_epgn62](#))

Table 7. Share of employees with temporary contracts, 2010Q3, by age group, sex and economic activity, %

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Total	14.4	43.6	11.5	7.9	16.1	53.0	12.7	7.3
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	32.5	55.3	30.3	25.1	39.7	62.8	37.0	31.9
Industry, incl. Energy	11.2	45.3	8.6	4.8	11.2	52.3	7.9	3.9
Construction	18.2	43.7	15.1	9.9	19.5	49.9	15.5	10.4
Trade, transport and communication services	14.4	38.7	10.3	6.8	16.4	49.3	11.3	6.6
Business activities and financial services	13.4	42.7	10.6	9.4	14.9	52.7	11.8	8.0
Other services	14.9	50.0	12.9	8.2	17.2	59.2	15.1	7.4
Men	13.9	43.5	10.8	8.0	15.3	52.6	11.7	7.4
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	30.8	52.7	28.6	23.8	37.8	60.5	35.2	29.5
Industry, incl. Energy	10.5	45.4	7.6	4.5	10.6	51.9	7.1	3.7
Construction	19.2	43.7	16.0	10.8	20.4	49.9	16.3	11.3
Trade, transport and communication services	12.8	37.8	8.9	6.5	14.7	48.8	9.9	6.5
Business activities and financial services	13.9	44.0	10.8	11.0	15.5	53.4	12.2	9.3
Other services	14.9	53.0	12.7	8.6	16.7	63.7	14.6	7.3
Women	15.0	43.7	12.2	7.8	16.9	53.4	13.8	7.3
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	36.7	62.4	34.4	28.6	44.2	68.7	41.2	37.8
Industry, incl. Energy	12.8	45.0	10.7	5.8	13.0	53.7	10.0	4.4
Construction	9.9	42.4	7.3	3.4	11.3	51.3	8.5	2.9
Trade, transport and communication services	16.4	39.6	12.1	7.4	18.4	49.7	13.1	6.8
Business activities and financial services	12.9	41.4	10.4	7.5	14.3	52.1	11.4	6.5
Other services	14.9	48.5	12.9	8.0	17.4	57.2	15.4	7.4

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_etgan2](#))

Table 8. Employees with temporary contracts, by country and sex

15 years and above	Employees with temp. contracts (1000)	Share of total employees (%)					
		2010Q3			2009Q3		
		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
EU-27	26 081	14.4	13.9	15.0	14.0	13.2	14.8
EA-16	18 988	16.1	15.3	16.9	15.8	14.7	17.0
Belgium	319	8.3	6.9	9.9	8.0	6.5	9.8
Bulgaria	149	5.5	6.2	4.8	5.5	6.1	4.8
Czech Republic	370	9.2	7.9	10.7	8.7	7.3	10.3
Denmark	223	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.2	8.5	9.9
Germany	5 104	14.9	14.7	15.1	14.6	14.5	14.7
Estonia	22	4.2	5.6	(2.9)	3.3	(3.7)	(2.9)
Ireland	154	10.1	9.6	10.6	9.2	8.4	10.0
Greece	369	13.0	11.5	15.1	12.7	11.2	14.6
Spain	3 950	25.6	24.5	26.7	25.9	24.2	27.9
France	3 604	15.7	15.0	16.5	15.1	13.7	16.6
Italy	2 198	12.9	11.7	14.4	12.6	11.1	14.6
Cyprus	43	13.6	7.4	20.3	14.0	8.5	20.0
Latvia	64	7.5	9.3	5.9	5.5	7.1	4.0
Lithuania	37	3.1	3.5	(2.6)	3.0	3.6	(2.4)
Luxembourg	18	9.1	7.7	10.8	8.3	7.5	9.2
Hungary	348	10.4	11.1	9.5	9.2	9.9	8.4
Malta	9	6.5	5.2	8.6	5.5	4.7	7.0
Netherlands	1 326	18.7	17.6	19.9	18.6	16.7	20.7
Austria	364	10.2	10.6	9.7	9.8	9.8	9.9
Poland	3 525	28.2	28.7	27.6	27.1	27.6	26.6
Portugal	888	23.2	22.7	23.6	22.0	21.1	23.0
Romania	71	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Slovenia	141	17.8	16.3	19.5	17.5	16.4	18.7
Slovakia	130	6.6	6.4	6.8	4.8	5.0	4.6
Finland	368	17.1	14.4	19.8	15.7	12.1	19.0
Sweden	715	17.3	15.6	19.0	16.4	14.5	18.4
United Kingdom	1 569	6.3	6.0	6.6	5.8	5.4	6.1
Iceland	21	15.0	14.4	15.6	12.6	12.1	13.1
Norway	205	8.9	7.4	10.5	8.7	7.4	10.1
Switzerland	478	13.1	13.3	13.0	13.3	13.1	13.4
Croatia	156	13.1	13.1	13.2	12.2	11.9	12.4
FYR of Macedonia	74	15.9	18.5	12.2	15.0	16.9	12.4
Turkey	1 816	13.0	12.9	13.1	12.2	12.3	11.6

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_etgan2](#))

Table 9. Average actual weekly hours worked in all jobs by persons who worked at least one hour in the reference week, by full-time/part-time distinction, sex and economic activity

	EU-27				EA-16			
	Total		Full-time Part-time		Total		Full-time Part-time	
	2010Q3	2009Q3	2010Q3	2010Q3	2010Q3	2009Q3	2010Q3	2010Q3
Total	37.9	38.0	41.7	21.2	37.4	37.4	41.6	21.0
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	41.8	42.3	46.9	24.2	43.8	44.4	49.4	20.9
Industry, incl. Energy	39.7	39.4	41.0	21.9	39.1	38.6	40.7	21.5
Construction	41.3	41.5	42.6	21.4	40.5	40.6	42.0	20.8
Trade, transport and communication services	38.5	38.7	43.1	20.4	38.4	38.5	43.3	20.6
Business activities and financial services	37.2	37.1	41.5	20.4	36.8	36.7	41.5	20.5
Other services	34.7	34.8	39.5	21.5	34.1	34.1	39.2	21.3
Men	41.0	41.0	42.8	21.7	40.8	40.7	42.6	21.1
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	45.2	45.6	49.1	25.6	47.3	47.8	51.0	21.7
Industry, incl. Energy	40.8	40.5	41.4	22.5	40.4	39.9	41.0	22.1
Construction	42.0	42.2	42.8	22.7	41.3	41.4	42.1	21.5
Trade, transport and communication services	41.5	41.6	44.0	20.3	41.7	41.8	44.2	20.1
Business activities and financial services	40.6	40.6	42.8	20.6	40.6	40.5	42.8	20.8
Other services	38.3	38.5	40.6	21.7	37.9	38.1	40.2	21.8
Women	34.0	34.0	39.9	21.0	33.1	33.1	39.8	20.9
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	36.5	37.0	42.6	23.0	36.9	37.4	45.1	20.2
Industry, incl. Energy	36.9	36.6	39.9	21.6	35.4	34.8	39.5	21.3
Construction	32.9	33.2	39.6	19.8	31.7	31.8	39.7	20.1
Trade, transport and communication services	34.5	34.8	41.4	20.4	34.0	34.2	41.5	20.7
Business activities and financial services	33.4	33.4	39.5	20.4	32.8	32.7	39.5	20.5
Other services	32.9	32.8	38.7	21.4	32.0	31.9	38.4	21.2

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data codes: [lfsg_ewhan2](#), [lfsg_ewh2n2](#))

Table 10. Persons who worked at least one hour in the reference week and corresponding average actual weekly hours in all jobs, by country and sex

15 years and above	Persons who worked at least 1 hour (1000)	Average actual weekly hours					
		2010Q3			2009Q3		
		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
EU-27	183 760	37.9 ± 0.1	41.0	34.0	38.0	41.0	34.0
EA-16	116 201	37.4 ± 0.1	40.8	33.1	37.4	40.7	33.1
Belgium	3 561	37.7 ± 0.4	41.2	33.1	37.5	40.7	33.5
Bulgaria	2 786	40.9 ± 0.2	41.2	40.6	41.2	41.6	40.8
Czech Republic	4 238	40.5 ± 0.2	42.4	37.8	41.2	43.0	38.5
Denmark	2 117	36.2 ± 0.3	39.0	32.8	35.9	38.3	33.1
Germany	34 165	36.2 ± 0.2	40.6	30.8	36.0	40.3	30.7
Estonia	504	39.6 ± 0.6	40.8	38.3	38.7	39.8	37.6
Ireland	1 628	35.9 ± 0.0	40.0	30.8	36.1	40.1	30.9
Greece	4 038	42.6 ± 0.4	44.3	39.8	43.0	45.0	39.8
Spain	14 884	38.7 ± 0.1	41.3	35.4	38.9	41.5	35.4
France	19 429	37.5 ± 0.2	40.3	34.3	37.5	40.6	33.9
Italy	18 787	38.1 ± 0.1	40.8	33.9	38.1	40.7	34.0
Cyprus	315	40.2 ± 0.3	41.9	38.0	40.7	43.1	37.8
Latvia	890	39.7 ± 0.5	40.5	38.8	40.2	41.2	39.3
Lithuania	1 247	39.8 ± 0.3	40.6	39.0	39.6	40.7	38.6
Luxembourg	171	39.3 ± 0.7	42.5	35.1	38.4	41.4	34.0
Hungary	3 547	39.8 ± 0.1	40.8	38.6	39.8	40.8	38.6
Malta	156	38.3 ± 0.6	40.2	34.4	39.5	41.8	34.5
Netherlands	6 608	32.7 ± 0.1	37.9	26.3	32.5	37.5	26.4
Austria	3 449	38.2 ± 0.4	42.3	33.0	38.3	42.4	33.2
Poland	14 855	41.9 ± 0.2	44.1	39.0	42.1	44.2	39.3
Portugal	4 236	39.8 ± 0.6	41.5	37.9	39.6	41.5	37.5
Romania	9 279	40.3 ± 0.3	41.3	39.1	40.6	41.7	39.2
Slovenia	784	39.7 ± 0.4	41.1	37.9	39.7	41.1	37.9
Slovakia	2 102	39.5 ± 0.3	40.6	38.0	39.8	40.9	38.2
Finland	1 888	37.9 ± 0.2	40.1	35.4	37.8	40.0	35.5
Sweden	3 374	37.4 ± 0.3	39.7	34.5	36.9	39.4	34.0
United Kingdom	24 722	35.8 ± 0.1	40.0	30.7	36.0	40.2	30.9
Iceland	132	40.6 ± 0.7	44.2	36.3	41.0	44.9	36.1
Norway	1 764	35.3 ± 0.3	38.2	31.8	35.4	38.5	31.8
Switzerland	3 409	37.8 ± 0.2	43.3	31.0	36.9	42.8	29.8
Croatia	1 441	40.1 ± 0.5	41.2	38.9	40.5	41.7	39.1
FYR of Macedonia	614	42.8 ± 0.6	43.8	41.3	42.7	43.8	41.0
Turkey	22 068	46.0 ± 0.5	48.6	39.6	50.5	53.5	42.5

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data codes: [lfsg_ewhan2](#), [lfsg_ewh2n2](#))

Table 11. Share of persons whose job started within the past 3 months, 2010Q3, by economic activity, age group and sex, %

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Total	4.7	19.0	3.6	1.6	5.1	21.2	3.9	1.6
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	3.8	15.8	3.5	1.3	5.5	23.8	5.2	2.0
Industry, incl. Energy	3.9	18.1	2.9	1.1	4.1	19.4	3.1	1.0
Construction	6.2	17.5	5.2	2.7	6.6	18.7	5.5	3.2
Trade, transport and communication services	5.7	19.2	4.0	1.7	6.1	22.1	4.3	1.5
Business activities and financial services	5.0	20.9	4.0	2.1	5.2	22.6	4.1	2.1
Other services	3.9	19.4	3.0	1.4	4.2	20.9	3.2	1.4
Men	4.7	18.5	3.6	1.6	4.9	20.7	3.8	1.6
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	4.1	15.2	3.8	1.4	5.5	21.6	5.2	1.9
Industry, incl. Energy	3.8	17.7	2.8	1.1	4.0	18.5	3.0	0.9
Construction	6.4	17.6	5.4	2.9	6.9	18.8	5.7	3.4
Trade, transport and communication services	5.1	18.1	3.6	1.5	5.4	21.2	3.9	1.3
Business activities and financial services	5.1	22.7	4.1	2.0	5.2	24.3	4.3	1.9
Other services	3.8	20.1	2.9	1.2	3.8	22.1	2.9	1.2
Women	4.8	19.5	3.6	1.6	5.2	21.8	3.9	1.7
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	3.4	16.9	3.0	1.2	5.5	30.3	5.2	2.3
Industry, incl. Energy	4.2	19.2	3.2	1.3	4.7	21.9	3.5	1.2
Construction	3.8	16.3	3.0	1.2	4.1	17.9	3.4	0.5
Trade, transport and communication services	6.6	20.3	4.5	1.9	7.1	23.1	5.0	1.8
Business activities and financial services	4.9	19.2	3.8	2.3	5.1	20.9	4.0	2.4
Other services	4.0	19.1	3.1	1.4	4.3	20.4	3.4	1.5

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_egdn2](#))

Table 12. Persons whose job started within the past 3 months, by country and sex

15 years and above	Persons whose job started within past 3 months (1000)	Share of total employment (%)					
		2010Q3			2009Q3		
		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
EU-27	10 189	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.2	4.0	4.5
EA-16	7 072	5.1	4.9	5.2	4.5	4.2	4.9
Belgium	180	4.0	3.7	4.5	3.8	3.6	4.1
Bulgaria	90	2.9	3.1	2.7	2.9	3.1	2.6
Czech Republic	149	3.0	2.7	3.5	2.9	2.5	3.5
Denmark	190	7.0	6.7	7.4	6.9	5.7	8.3
Germany	1 957	5.1	5.1	5.2	4.3	4.1	4.5
Estonia	37	6.3	7.3	5.5	4.2	4.7	(3.7)
Ireland	85	4.6	4.7	4.6	3.8	3.7	4.0
Greece	81	1.8	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.5
Spain	1 254	6.8	6.5	7.1	6.5	6.1	7.1
France	1 742	6.7	7.1	6.4	6.1	5.8	6.4
Italy	728	3.2	2.8	3.7	3.0	2.8	3.4
Cyprus	15	3.9	3.6	4.3	4.1	3.5	4.9
Latvia	83	8.6	10.0	7.4	5.0	5.7	4.3
Lithuania	61	4.5	5.9	3.2	3.0	3.2	2.7
Luxembourg	10	4.4	4.4	4.4	3.9	3.7	4.2
Hungary	129	3.4	3.7	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9
Malta	6	3.6	3.3	(4.3)	3.6	2.9	(5.0)
Netherlands	292	3.8	3.7	4.0	1.8	1.6	2.2
Austria	235	5.7	5.6	5.8	4.8	4.7	4.9
Poland	702	4.3	4.6	4.0	3.6	3.7	3.5
Portugal	172	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3
Romania	163	1.7	1.9	1.4	2.0	2.3	1.7
Slovenia	37	3.9	4.1	3.6	4.3	4.4	4.2
Slovakia	63	2.7	2.5	3.0	2.2	2.0	2.5
Finland	213	8.6	8.1	9.2	7.6	6.6	8.7
Sweden	427	9.3	8.6	10.0	7.9	7.4	8.5
United Kingdom	1 088	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.4	3.3	3.5
Iceland	12	7.2	7.2	7.2	6.9	6.9	6.8
Norway	142	5.7	5.3	6.1	5.3	4.8	5.8
Switzerland	234	5.5	5.2	5.8	3.3	3.0	3.6
Croatia	(29)	(2.0)	(1.7)	(2.4)	2.6	(2.3)	(3.1)
FYR of Macedonia	25	3.8	4.0	(3.6)	4.0	4.3	(3.7)
Turkey	3 003	12.9	12.9	13.1	12.4	12.6	12.1

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_egdn2](#))

Table 13. Unemployment rates, 2010Q3, by age group, sex and nationality, %

	EU-27					EA-16				
	15-74		15-24	25-54	55-74	15-74		15-24	25-54	55-74
	Total	Long-term				Total	Long-term			
Total	9.3	3.8	20.5	8.3	6.1	9.7	4.2	20.0	8.8	6.6
Nationals	8.7	3.6	20.1	7.7	5.8	8.9	3.9	19.3	8.0	6.2
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	11.5	3.9	20.2	10.9	8.9	12.8	4.6	23.6	12.3	9.0
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	18.8	7.7	29.0	17.6	17.3	19.6	8.1	29.7	18.5	18.1
Men	9.2	3.8	20.7	8.0	6.6	9.4	4.1	20.1	8.5	6.9
Nationals	8.6	3.6	20.4	7.4	6.2	8.6	3.8	19.4	7.6	6.4
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	10.4	3.3	18.7	9.7	9.7	11.6	3.9	21.4	11.0	9.7
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	18.9	7.5	28.3	17.8	19.0	19.7	7.9	29.3	18.6	19.7
Women	9.4	3.7	20.3	8.5	5.6	10.0	4.3	19.9	9.3	6.3
Nationals	8.9	3.5	19.9	8.0	5.3	9.3	4.0	19.1	8.5	5.9
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	12.8	4.6	21.9	12.4	7.8	14.3	5.4	25.9	13.8	8.1
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	18.7	7.9	30.0	17.5	15.1	19.4	8.5	30.1	18.3	15.7

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data codes: [lfsq_urgan](#), [lfsq_upgal](#))

Table 14. Unemployment and unemployment rates, by country and sex

15-74 years	Unemployment (1000)			Unemployment rates (%)							
				2010Q3				2009Q3			
	Total	Confidence limits	Long-term	Total		Men	Women	Total		Men	Women
				Total	Long-term			Total	Long-term		
EU-27	22 237	± 228	9 054	9.3 ± 0.1	3.8	9.2	9.4	9.0	3.0	9.0	8.9
EA-16	15 042	± 191	6 501	9.7 ± 0.2	4.2	9.4	10.0	9.4	3.4	9.1	9.7
Belgium	424	± 37	208	8.7 ± 0.8	4.2	8.4	9.0	8.2	3.6	7.8	8.8
Bulgaria	327	± 23	156	9.5 ± 0.6	4.5	10.1	8.8	6.7	2.8	6.8	6.5
Czech Republic	374	± 18	161	7.1 ± 0.3	3.0	6.0	8.5	7.3	2.0	6.4	8.5
Denmark	214	± 12	44	7.3 ± 0.4	1.5	7.3	7.2	6.1	0.5	6.6	5.4
Germany	2 797	± 81	1 316	6.7 ± 0.2	3.2	7.1	6.3	7.8	3.5	8.1	7.4
Estonia	106	± 12	56	15.5 ± 1.6	8.1	16.1	14.9	14.6	4.1	17.0	12.2
Ireland	294	± 11	146	13.8 ± 0.5	6.8	16.8	10.0	12.6	3.5	15.6	8.9
Greece	622	± 27	287	12.4 ± 0.5	5.7	9.7	16.1	9.3	3.8	6.6	13.1
Spain	4 575	± 102	1 712	19.8 ± 0.4	7.4	19.3	20.4	17.9	4.4	17.8	18.2
France	2 596	± 100	1 066	9.1 ± 0.3	3.7	8.7	9.6	9.0	3.3	8.6	9.4
Italy	1 864	± 68	934	7.6 ± 0.3	3.8	6.8	8.7	7.3	3.3	6.5	8.6
Cyprus	24	± 3	5	5.8 ± 0.7	1.3	5.7	5.9	5.5	0.4	5.4	5.6
Latvia	210	± 18	97	18.0 ± 1.3	8.3	20.0	15.9	18.4	4.9	21.2	15.5
Lithuania	292	± 21	123	17.8 ± 1.1	7.5	20.3	15.3	13.8	3.2	17.4	10.3
Luxembourg	9	± 2	(2)	3.9 ± 0.9	(1.0)	2.8	5.3	4.4	(0.9)	3.7	5.3
Hungary	466	± 20	244	10.9 ± 0.5	5.7	11.0	10.7	10.3	4.2	10.5	10.1
Malta	12	± 2	6	6.8 ± 1.0	3.4	6.9	6.6	6.9	3.1	6.7	7.2
Netherlands	373	± 16	103	4.3 ± 0.2	1.2	4.2	4.3	3.5	0.8	3.4	3.5
Austria	191	± 15	46	4.4 ± 0.3	1.1	4.6	4.2	5.1	1.0	5.2	5.1
Poland	1 627	± 56	526	9.2 ± 0.3	2.9	8.7	9.7	8.1	2.6	7.6	8.6
Portugal	609	± 37	327	11.1 ± 0.7	5.9	9.8	12.6	10.0	4.3	9.3	10.8
Romania	703	± 63	266	6.9 ± 0.6	2.6	7.4	6.3	6.8	2.2	7.6	5.9
Slovenia	73	± 7	34	7.1 ± 0.7	3.3	7.0	7.1	6.2	1.7	6.3	6.1
Slovakia	384	± 17	256	14.1 ± 0.9	9.4	13.9	14.3	12.5	6.6	11.9	13.3
Finland	195	± 9	54	7.3 ± 0.3	2.0	7.6	6.9	7.5	1.5	7.7	7.4
Sweden	391	± 12	72	7.8 ± 0.2	1.4	7.8	7.8	8.1	1.1	8.4	7.7
United Kingdom	2 486	± 79	809	7.9 ± 0.2	2.6	8.4	7.2	8.0	2.0	9.1	6.7
Iceland	12	± 2	2	6.5 ± 1.0	1.3	6.2	6.8	6.0	:	6.5	5.4
Norway	89	± 8	19	3.4 ± 0.3	0.7	3.7	3.1	3.2	0.4	3.5	2.8
Switzerland	210	± 15	71	4.7 ± 0.3	1.6	4.1	5.3	4.1	1.2	3.8	4.5
Croatia	200	± 22	101	11.6 ± 1.2	5.8	11.0	12.2	8.7	5.0	8.3	9.2
FYR of Macedonia	301	± 26	254	31.7 ± 2.2	26.7	32.1	31.0	31.7	26.0	31.5	32.1
Turkey	2 614	± 95	688	10.2 ± 0.4	2.7	9.6	11.5	12.2	3.0	11.9	13.0

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data codes: [lfsq_urgan](#), [lfsq_upgal](#))

Table 15. Inactive willing to work as a share of total population, 2010Q3, by age group, sex and nationality, %

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Total	5.0	7.6	4.6	3.9	4.9	7.2	4.6	3.5
Nationals	4.8	7.4	4.4	3.8	4.6	7.0	4.4	3.4
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	5.6	9.1	5.3	4.1	5.8	9.0	5.7	3.9
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	7.6	10.0	7.3	6.4	7.6	10.0	7.3	6.4
Men	3.9	7.1	3.0	3.8	3.7	6.7	3.0	3.3
Nationals	3.9	7.0	3.0	3.8	3.6	6.6	2.9	3.2
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	3.3	7.1	2.6	4.2	3.3	6.7	2.8	3.7
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	5.3	9.0	4.3	6.5	5.3	8.9	4.3	6.4
Women	6.1	8.1	6.2	3.9	6.0	7.7	6.3	3.7
Nationals	5.8	7.9	5.8	3.8	5.7	7.3	5.9	3.6
Non-nationals — citizens of other EU-27 countries	7.8	10.8	7.9	4.0	8.2	10.8	8.5	4.1
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	9.9	10.9	10.1	6.3	9.9	11.2	10.1	6.3

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_igaww](#))

Table 16. Inactive willing to work, by country and sex

15-64 years	Inactive willing to work (1000)	Share of total population 15-64 (%)					
		2010Q3			2009Q3		
		Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
EU-27	16 498	5.0	3.9	6.1	5.0	3.9	6.2
EA-16	10 452	4.9	3.7	6.0	4.9	3.8	6.1
Belgium	202	2.8	2.3	3.3	2.9	2.4	3.4
Bulgaria	295	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.1	5.0	5.1
Czech Republic	173	2.3	1.7	3.0	2.5	1.9	3.1
Denmark	149	4.1	3.8	4.4	3.8	3.1	4.5
Germany	2 036	3.8	3.0	4.6	4.2	3.4	5.1
Estonia	53	5.9	5.3	6.5	6.0	5.4	6.5
Ireland	117	3.9	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.4
Greece	111	1.5	0.8	2.3	1.6	0.8	2.5
Spain	1 655	5.3	3.4	7.3	5.6	3.9	7.4
France	1 051	2.6	2.2	3.1	2.6	2.2	3.0
Italy	3 921	9.9	7.4	12.4	9.7	7.0	12.4
Cyprus	18	3.3	2.7	3.9	2.4	1.7	3.1
Latvia	123	7.9	7.2	8.6	8.4	6.4	10.2
Lithuania	62	2.7	2.5	3.0	4.4	5.2	3.5
Luxembourg	17	5.3	2.9	7.6	5.5	3.4	7.7
Hungary	344	5.1	4.5	5.6	4.9	4.5	5.4
Malta	18	6.2	4.1	8.4	5.6	3.8	7.4
Netherlands	491	4.5	3.8	5.1	4.0	3.4	4.7
Austria	393	7.0	5.8	8.2	6.6	5.4	7.8
Poland	1 683	6.3	4.8	7.8	6.5	4.9	8.1
Portugal	108	1.5	1.1	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.9
Romania	516	3.4	2.3	4.6	3.4	1.6	5.3
Slovenia	66	4.6	3.8	5.5	5.2	4.5	5.9
Slovakia	102	2.6	2.1	3.1	2.3	1.7	2.8
Finland	144	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.1
Sweden	214	3.5	3.2	3.9	3.5	3.2	3.9
United Kingdom	2 433	6.0	5.2	6.8	5.9	4.9	6.8
Iceland	6	2.9	2.7	3.1	2.1	1.7	2.5
Norway	131	4.0	3.7	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.4
Switzerland	893	16.9	10.9	22.9	8.4	6.4	10.5
Croatia	117	4.2	3.6	4.9	3.7	3.1	4.2
FYR of Macedonia	60	4.1	3.4	4.9	5.3	4.1	6.5
Turkey	2 145	4.5	3.6	5.4	4.4	3.6	5.2

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS (online data code: [lfsq_igaww](#))

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Sources: All statistics presented in this publication are derived from the European Union Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS), except the seasonally adjusted employment series in Figure 1, which are taken from the national accounts (NA). The EU-LFS is a quarterly, large sample survey providing results for the population in private households in the EU, EFTA, and the candidate countries (except Liechtenstein). The achieved sampling rates in 2010Q1 vary between 0.18% and 1.67%. The figures in this publication are not seasonally adjusted, except for Figure 1.

Symbols: Figures in brackets lack reliability due to the small sample size; ':' colon indicates unavailable or extremely unreliable data. Quarter 3 of the year 2010 is written as 2010Q3.

Country codes: The European Union (27 countries) is written as EU-27 and includes Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), the Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE) and the United Kingdom (UK). The Euro Area (16 countries) is written as EA-16 and consists of Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland. The EFTA countries are Iceland (IS), Norway (NO) and Switzerland (CH). The candidate countries are Croatia (HR), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (MK), and Turkey (TR). The abbreviation MK used for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is a provisional code that does not prejudice in any way the definitive nomenclature for this country, which will be agreed following the conclusions of negotiations currently taking place on this subject at the United Nations.

Rounding: Although data in percentages are presented rounded to the first decimal, calculations of changes over time take into account all available decimal digits. For this reason, estimates of changes may differ slightly from the variations that can be obtained by using the figures as presented in the tables.

Definitions: The concepts and definitions used in the survey follow the guidelines of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

- **Employment (LFS concept)** covers persons aged 15 years and over (16 and over in Italy, Spain and UK; 15-74 years in Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Hungary, Romania, Finland, Sweden and Norway; 16-74 in Iceland) who during the reference week performed work, even for just one hour a week, for pay, profit or family gain or were not at work (**temporarily absent from work**) but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent for example because of illness, holiday, temporary lay-off, flexible working time arrangements, industrial dispute or education and training.
- **Unemployment** covers persons aged 15-74 (16-74 in Italy, Spain, UK and Iceland) who were without work during the reference week, were currently available for work and had either been actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months.
- **Long-term unemployment** covers persons unemployed for one year or more.

- **Inactive willing to work** refers to persons who are neither employed nor unemployed but are seeking employment or, if not seeking, would nevertheless like to work.
- **Activity rates** show the active population, i.e. the sum of the employed and the unemployed, as a percentage of the population of the same age.
- **Employment rates** show employed persons as a percentage of the population of the same age.
- **Unemployment rates** show unemployed persons as a percentage of the active population of the same age.
- **Youth unemployment rate** is the unemployment rate among persons aged 15 to 24.

In calculating the shares of part-time employment (Tables 6 and 7), employees with temporary contracts (Tables 8 and 9), and persons whose job started within the last three months (Tables 12 and 13), non-responses to the relevant variables are excluded. The job characteristics in Tables 6 to 13 refer to the main job, unless explicitly specified otherwise.

Main conceptual differences between national accounts (NA) and EU-LFS employment: EU-LFS employment figures refer to the resident population aged 15 years or more living in private households. They exclude conscripts in military or community service. NA employment figures refer to domestic employment, with no limit as to age or type of household, also including the non-resident population contributing to GDP and conscripts in military or community service. Further details can be found at http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/national_accounts/documents/employment/LFS-ESA.PDF

Coverage: The data for France exclude overseas regions.

Aggregates: When data are unavailable for a country, the relevant aggregates are calculated from the data for the same country one year before.

Confidence limits: All confidence limits are calculated at a confidence level of 95%. The country limits are derived from coefficients of variation calculated by the National Statistical Institutes. When a coefficient is not available, the coefficient for the last quarter available is taken. For calculating limits of aggregates, it is assumed that the EU-LFS is a stratified sample with the country as the first stratum.

Economic activity: In Tables 6, 8, 10 and 12, breakdowns are based on the industry of the main job. The aggregation to six sectors is based on the new Rev.2 of the NACE classification.

Seasonal adjustment: EU-27 seasonal adjustment for NA employment is done indirectly, i.e. seasonally adjusted series are calculated from seasonally adjusted Member State data. These are produced directly by Member States using different methods of seasonal adjustment, following either the X11 or the TRAMO/SEATS methods (more information at http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/EN/namq_esms.htm). EU-27 seasonal adjustment for unemployment figures is also done indirectly. Seasonal adjustment for most Member States is carried out by Eurostat using TRAMO/SEATS. Data for Germany, Italy, Finland and Sweden are seasonally adjusted by the National Statistical Institutes of the countries concerned.

Further information

Eurostat Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

Data on “Employment and unemployment (Labour force survey (LFS))”

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/employment_unemployment_lfs/data/database

More information about “Employment and unemployment (Labour force survey (LFS))”

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/employment_unemployment_lfs/introduction

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