

## Monthly data

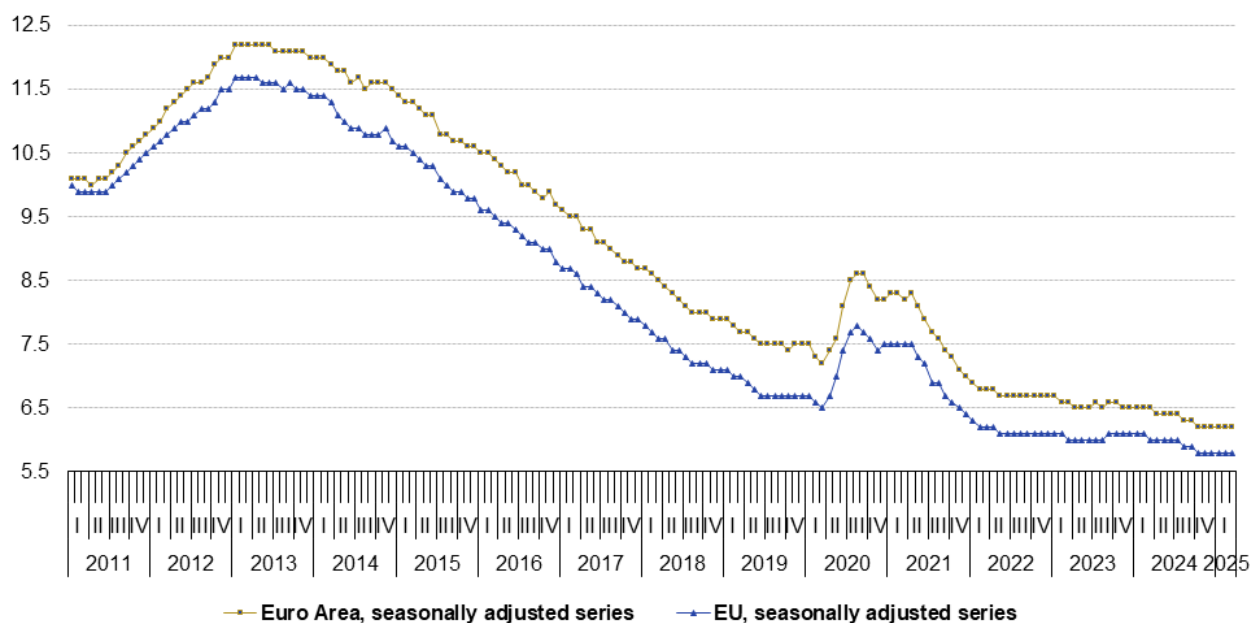
Data up to March 2025  
Planned article update: 3 June 2025.

## Highlights

" Euro area unemployment at 6.2% in March 2025. "

" EU unemployment at 5.8% in March 2025. "

Unemployment rates, EU and EA, seasonally adjusted, January 2011 - March 2025



Source: Eurostat (online data code: une\_rt\_m)

eurostat

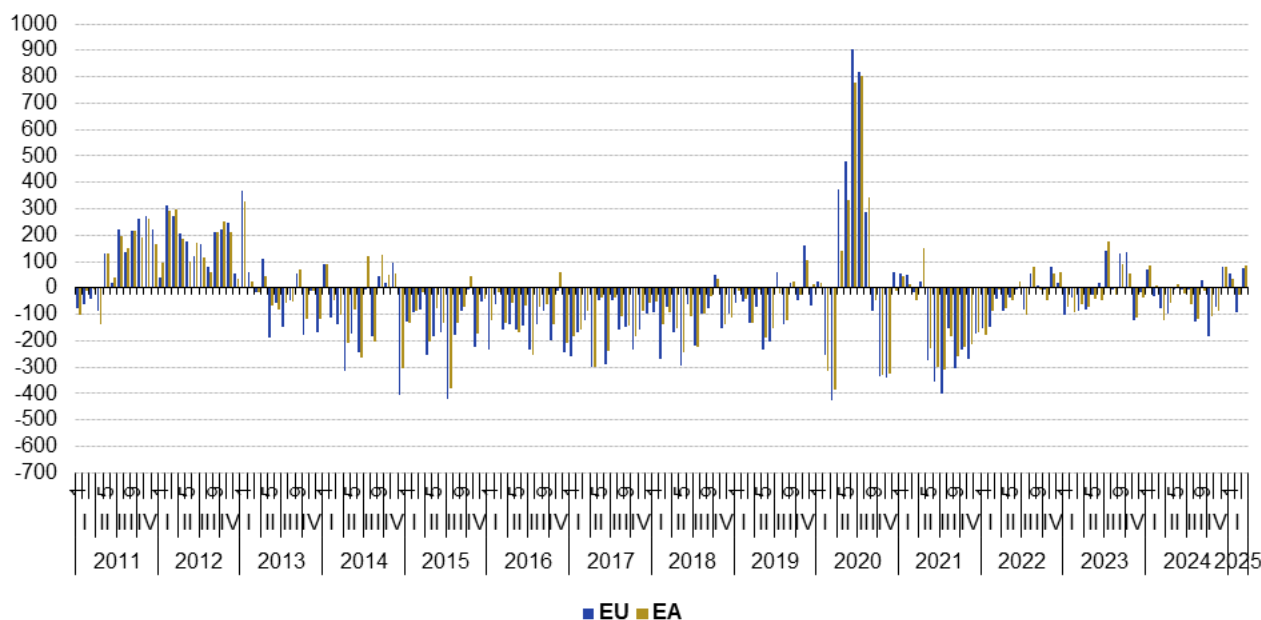
Unemployment rates, EU and EA, seasonally adjusted, January 2011 - March 2025 Source: Eurostat (une\_rt\_m)

This article presents the very latest [unemployment](#) figures for the [European Union \(EU\)](#) , the [euro area](#) and individual EU countries. Additional information about long-term trends can be found in the article [Unemployment](#)

## Unemployment in the EU and the euro area

Eurostat estimates that 12.904 million persons in the EU<sup>1</sup>, of whom 10.818 million in the euro area (EA)<sup>2</sup>, were unemployed in March 2025. Compared with February 2025, unemployment increased by 74 000 in the EU and by 83 000 in the euro area. Compared with March 2024, unemployment decreased by 340 000 in the EU and by 288 000 in the euro area.

### Change in the number of unemployed persons (compared to the previous month, in thousands), seasonally adjusted, January 2011 - March 2025



Source: Eurostat (online data code: une\_rt\_m)



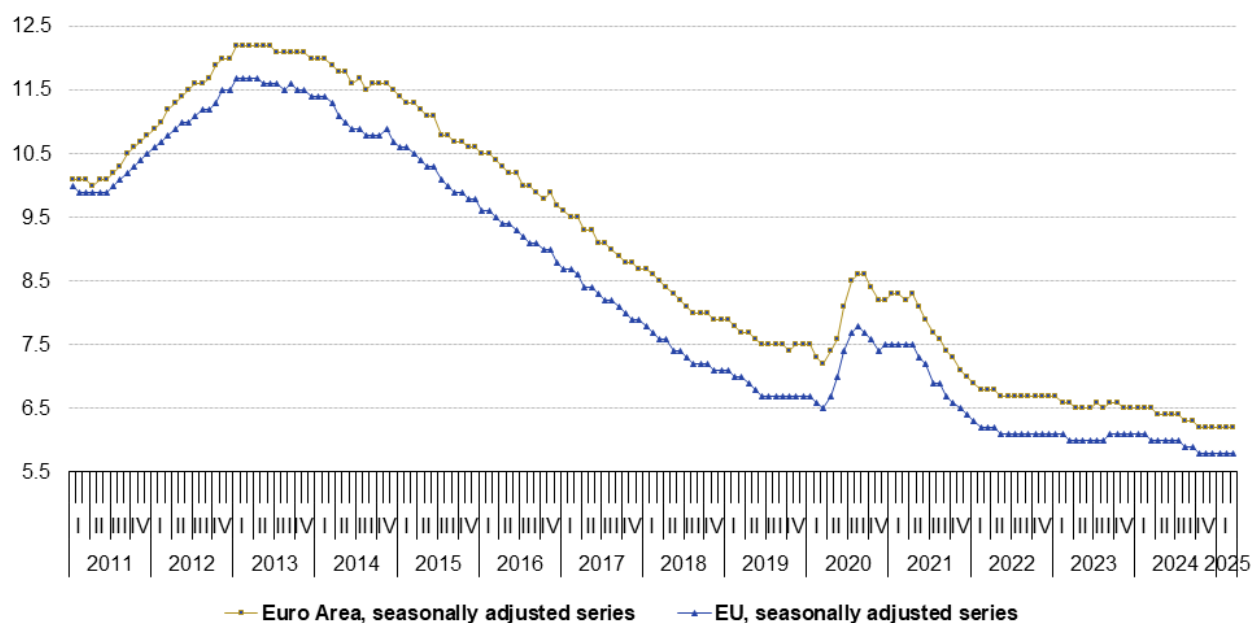
**Figure 1: Change in the number of unemployed persons (compared with the previous month, in thousands), seasonally adjusted, January 2011 - March 2025** Source: Eurostat (une\_rt\_m)

In March 2025, the euro area [seasonally adjusted](#) unemployment rate was 6.2%, stable compared with February 2025 and down from 6.5% in March 2024. The EU unemployment rate was 5.8% in March 2025, also stable compared with February 2025 and down from 6.0% in March 2024.

<sup>1</sup>In line with Eurostat’s guidelines for disseminating data when the EU is enlarged, aggregate data series in this article refer to the official composition of the EU in the most recent month for which data are available; from February 2020 onwards this is the EU with 27 Member States, (EU) .

<sup>2</sup>In line with Eurostat’s guidelines for disseminating data when the euro area is enlarged, aggregate data series in this article refer to the official composition of the euro area in the most recent month for which data are available; from the reference month of January 2023 onwards this will be the euro area with 20 countries, (EA) .

## Unemployment rates, EU and EA, seasonally adjusted, January 2011 - March 2025



Source: Eurostat (online data code: une\_rt\_m)

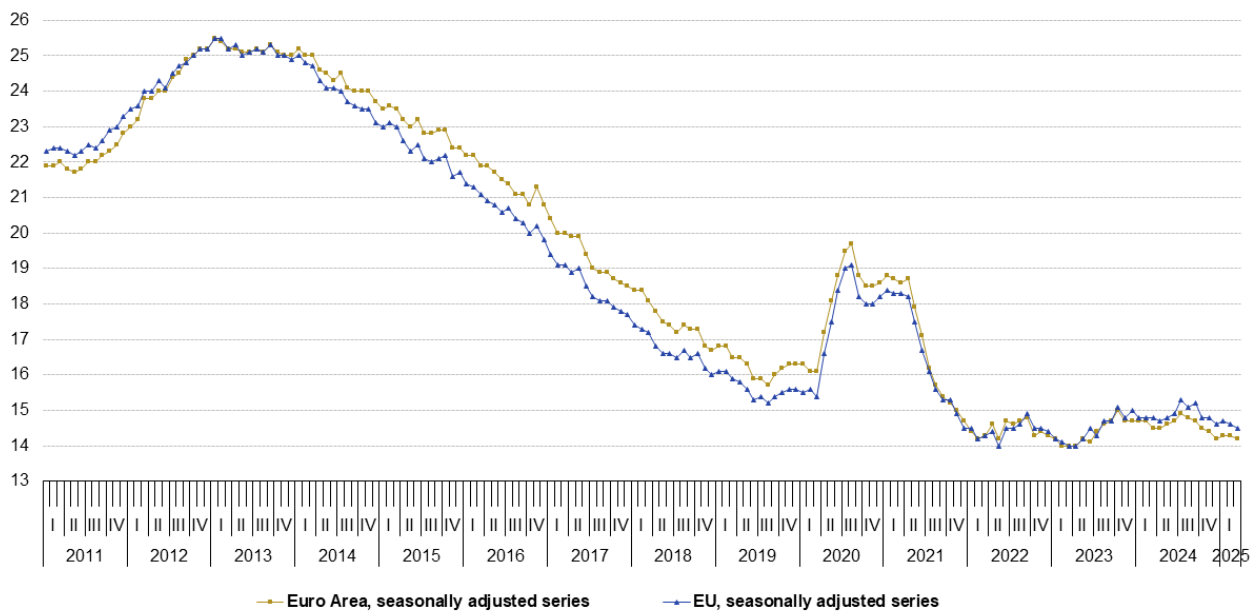
eurostat

**Figure 2: Unemployment rates, EU and EA, seasonally adjusted, January 2011 - March 2025 (%)** Source: Eurostat (une\_rt\_m)

## Youth unemployment

In March 2025, 2.822 million young persons (under 25 years) were unemployed in the EU, of whom 2.265 million were in the euro area. In March 2025, the youth unemployment rate was 14.5% in the EU, down from 14.6% in February 2025, and 14.2% in the euro area, down from 14.3% in the previous month. Compared with February 2025, youth unemployment decreased by 25 000 in the EU and by 19 000 in the euro area. Compared with March 2024, youth unemployment decreased by 63 000 in the EU and by 43 000 in the euro area.

**Youth unemployment rates, EU and EA, seasonally adjusted, January 2011 - March 2025**



Source: Eurostat (online data code: une\_rt\_m)



**Figure 3: Youth unemployment rates, EU and EA, seasonally adjusted, January 2011 - March 2025 (%)**  
 Source: Eurostat (une\_rt\_m)

## Unemployment by sex

In March 2025, the unemployment rate for women was 6.0% in the EU, stable compared with the previous month, and the unemployment rate for men was 5.7%, up from 5.6% in February 2025. In the euro area, the unemployment rate for women was 6.4%, stable compared with the previous month, and the unemployment rate for men was 6.1%, up from 6.0% in February 2025.

## Registered unemployment of refugees from Ukraine

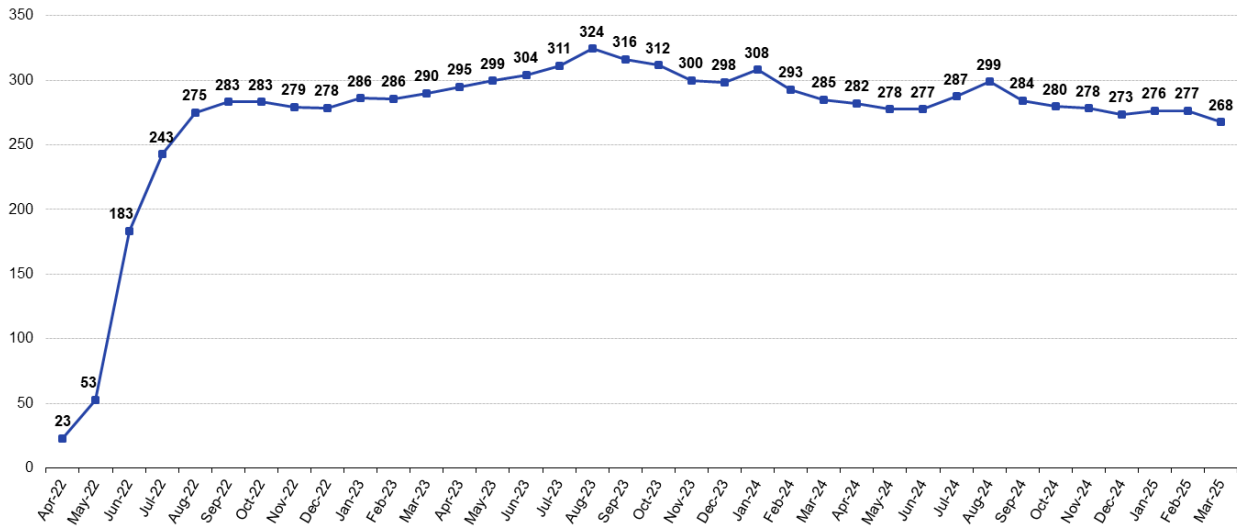
After the outbreak of Russian aggression in Ukraine in February 2022, people fleeing the war have been given temporary protection in the EU under the [EU Temporary Protection scheme](#). The rights for beneficiaries of the scheme include access to employment, subject to rules applicable to the profession and to national labour market policies and general conditions of employment.

Eurostat invited EU countries and EFTA countries to provide data on people fleeing the war in Ukraine with respect to their situation on the labour market. In particular, monthly data were collected on those refugees that are registered as unemployed in the national public employment services.

Since April 2022, a significant number of countries have been able to provide data on registered unemployed refugees. The data coverage comprised up to 19 EU countries and Switzerland for January and February 2025, while for March 2025 data were not yet available for some of those countries. In general, data are available for border countries with Ukraine and the largest EU countries, except Italy, although the coverage varies over the months. The data only cover people registered in the national public employment services and not necessarily all people seeking a job at a certain point in time.

Below, an analysis of the currently available data is presented.

**Registered unemployed refugees from Ukraine per month**  
(in thousands)



\* Data deliveries per month: April 2022 (21 countries), May 2022 (23 countries), June 2022 (25 countries), July 2022 (24 countries), August 2022 (24 countries), September 2022 (25 countries), October 2022 to January 2024 (24 countries per each month), February 2024 to October 2024 (23 countries per each month), November 2024 (22 countries), December 2024 (21 countries), January 2025 (20 countries), February 2025 (20 countries), March 2025 (19 countries).

For more information on countries providing data on unemployed refugees from Ukraine registered in public employment services, please see "Data sources".

\* BE, DE and PL: Register data are available on Ukrainian citizens but not specifically on refugees under EU Temporary Protection. The number of unemployed persons under EU Temporary Protection was estimated using the difference to March 2022 figures that are the most recent ones significant numbers of registered unemployed refugees.

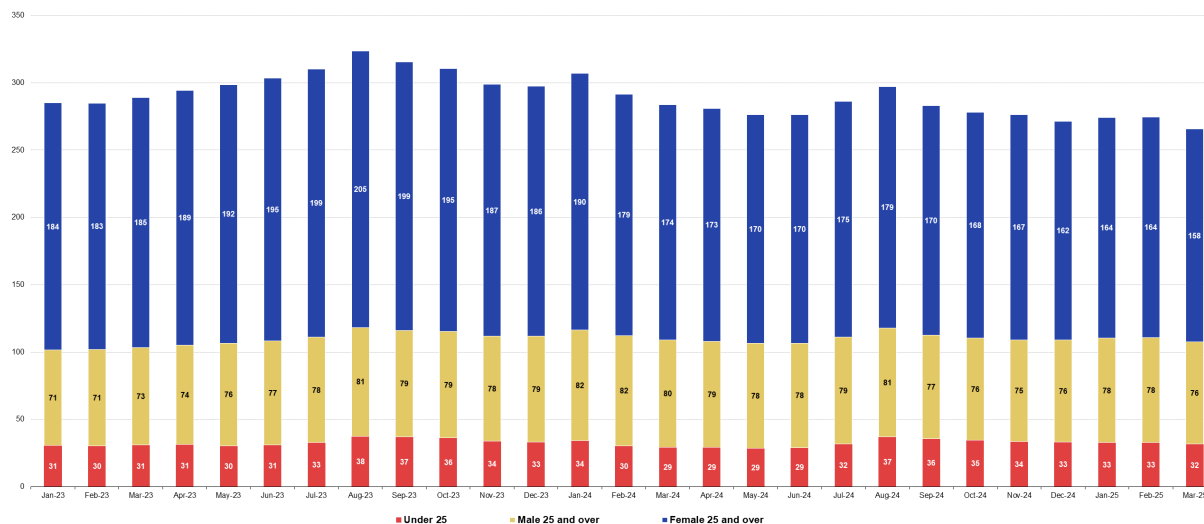


**Figure 4: Registered Unemployed Refugees from Ukraine per month (in thousands) Source: Eurostat unpublished data**

As shown in Figures 4 and 5 the results are as follows:

- In March 2025, 268 000 refugees from Ukraine benefiting from the EU Temporary Protection scheme were registered as unemployed in the 19 countries that provided such data to Eurostat.
- In February 2025, 277 000 refugees from Ukraine benefiting from the EU Temporary Protection scheme were registered as unemployed in the 20 countries that provided such data to Eurostat.
- In January 2025, 276 000 refugees from Ukraine benefiting from the EU Temporary Protection scheme were registered as unemployed in the 20 countries that provided such data to Eurostat.
- Most countries provided not only total numbers, but also information on age and sex. Of the registered unemployed refugees from Ukraine in March 2025 for whom information on age and sex was available, 158 000 were women aged 25 years and over, while 76 000 were men aged 25 years and over (see Figure 5). Moreover, 32 000 persons under the age of 25 years were registered as unemployed in March 2025.

Registered unemployed refugees from Ukraine by age and sex  
(in thousands)



\* Data deliveries per month for the last 3 months: January 2025 (19 countries), February 2025 (19 countries), March 2025 (18 countries).

For more information on countries providing data on unemployed refugees from Ukraine registered in public employment services, please see "Data sources".

\* BE, DE and PL Register data are available on Ukrainian citizens but not specifically on refugees under EU Temporary Protection. The number of unemployed persons under EU Temporary Protection was estimated using the difference to March 2022 figures that are the most recent ones without significant numbers of registered unemployed refugees.

Source: Eurostat unpublished data

Figure 5: Registered Unemployed Refugees from Ukraine by age and sex (in thousands) Source: Eurostat unpublished data

## Source data for tables and graphs

The detailed tables are available [here](#).

## Data sources

These estimates are based on the globally used International Labour Organisation (ILO) standard definition of unemployment, which counts as unemployed people without a job who have been actively seeking work in the last 4 weeks and are available to start work within the next two weeks.

To capture in full the labour market situation, the data on unemployment have been complemented by additional indicators, e.g. underemployed part-time workers, persons seeking work but not immediately available and persons available to work but not seeking, released together with LFS data for the fourth quarter of 2024. LFS data for the first quarter of 2025 will be released on 13 June 2025.

An unemployed person is defined by Eurostat, according to the guidelines of the International Labour Organization, as someone aged 15-74 years without work during the reference week who is available to start work within the next two weeks and who has actively sought employment at some time during the last 4 weeks. The unemployment rate is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

In addition to the unemployment measures covered here, Eurostat also publishes statistics for persons who fulfil only partially the definition of unemployment. These persons are not included in the official ILO unemployment concept and have a varying degree of attachment to the labour market. The indicators on [Labour market slack - employment supply and demand mismatch](#) supplement the unemployment rate to provide a more complete picture of the labour market.

The quarterly LFS results are always used as a benchmark to ensure international comparability. As for most Member States the results from the LFS for a full quarter are available 75 days after the end of the reference period, the most recent figures are usually provisional. For many countries monthly unemployment data are calculated by Eurostat, while several countries actually supply those figures directly from the LFS.

The following LFS data are used in the calculations of the monthly unemployment rates published in this article:

- For Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Austria, Finland and Sweden as well as Norway: monthly LFS data up to and including March 2025.
- For Estonia and Portugal: monthly data (3 month moving average) up to and including February, March and April 2025.
- For Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Ireland, France, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia: quarterly data up and including Q4 2024.
- For Spain: quarterly data up and including Q1 2025.

France: Estimates are calculated using inputs from the French public employment service. An [updated national methodology](#) (in French) is in use since January 2025, affecting the time series consistency of the input data. To ensure the comparability of monthly unemployment figures published in this article, Eurostat compiled the evolution between December 2024 and January 2025 youth unemployment figures using statistical models.

Monthly unemployment and employment series are calculated first at the level of 4 categories for each Member State (males and females 15-24 years, males and females 25-74 years). These series are then seasonally adjusted and all the national and European aggregates are calculated. Monthly unemployment figures are published by Eurostat as rates (as a percentage of the labour force) or levels (in thousands), by gender and for two age groups (persons aged 15-24 years, and those aged 25-74 years). The figures are available as unadjusted, [seasonally adjusted](#) and [trend](#) series. There are monthly estimates for all EU Member States. Data for the EU aggregate start in 2000 and for the euro area in April 1998; the starting point for individual Member States varies.

Member States may publish other rates such as register-based unemployment rates, or rates based on the national LFS or corresponding surveys. These rates may vary from those published by Eurostat due to a different definition or methodological choices.

The figures on registered unemployment of refugees from Ukraine are purely register-based unemployment data. Countries' definitions may differ.

Countries providing data on unemployed refugees from Ukraine registered in public employment services per month in the last 12 reference months (see [country codes](#)):

March 2024: AT, BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, LT, LU, LV, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

April 2024: AT, BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, HR, HU, IE, LT, LU, LV, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

May 2024: AT, BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, LT, LU, LV, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

June 2024: AT, BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, LT, LU, LV, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

July 2024: AT, BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, LT, LU, LV, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

August 2024: AT, BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, LT, LU, LV, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

September 2024: AT, BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, HR, HU, IE, LV, LT, LU, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

October 2024: BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, LV, LT, LU, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

November 2024: BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, IE, LV, LT, LU, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

December 2024: BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, HR, IE, LV, LT, LU, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

January 2025: BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, HR, IE, LV, LT, LU, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

February 2025: BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, HR, IE, LV, LT, LU, PL, RO, SE, SI, SK, CH

March 2025: BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, HR, IE, LV, LT, LU, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK, CH

## Context

The unemployment rate is an important indicator with both social and economic dimensions. Rising unemployment results in a loss of income for individuals, increased pressure with respect to government spending on [social benefits](#) and a reduction in tax revenue. From an economic perspective, unemployment may be viewed as unused labour capacity.

The [International Labour Organization](#) definition of the unemployment rate is the most widely used labour market indicator because of its international comparability and relatively timely availability. Besides the unemployment rate, indicators such as [employment](#) and [job vacancies](#) also give useful insights into labour market developments.

The [time series](#) on unemployment are used by the European Commission, other public institutions, and the media as an [economic indicator](#) ; banks may use the data for [business cycle](#) analysis. Finally, the general public might also be interested in changes in unemployment.

The unemployment rate is considered to be a [lagging indicator](#) . When there is an economic downturn, it usually takes several months before the unemployment rate begins to rise. Once the economy starts to pick up again, employers usually remain cautious about hiring new staff and it may take several months before unemployment rates start to fall.

Male, youth and long-term unemployment appear to be more susceptible to cyclical economic changes than overall unemployment. Indeed, social policymakers often face the challenge of remedying these situations by designing ways to increase employment opportunities for various groups of society, those working in particular economic activities, or those living in specific regions.

The EU is committed to implementing the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) and pursues progress towards them together with EU priorities, including employment targets on the EU level. Unemployment rates (of youth) are targeted via a range of policies, including proposals aimed at education and training institutions, or measures for the creation of a (work) environment conducive to higher activity rates and higher labour productivity. There are also initiatives aimed at improving the entry rate of young people into the labour market.

## Notes

### Explore further

#### Other articles

- [Unemployment statistics and beyond](#)
- [Job vacancy statistics](#)
- [Labour market slack - employment supply and demand mismatch](#)

#### Database

- [Employment and unemployment \(Labour force survey\) \(employ\)](#) , see:

LFS main indicators (lfsi)

Unemployment - LFS adjusted series (une)

LFS series - detailed quarterly survey results (from 1998)

Total unemployment - LFS series (lfsq\_unemp)

LFS series - Detailed annual survey results (lfsa)

Total unemployment - LFS series (lfsa\_unemp)



## Thematic section

- [Employment and unemployment \(Labour force survey\)](#)

## Publications

- [Impact of the crisis on unemployment so far less pronounced in the EU than in the US – Statistics in focus 20/2010](#)
- [Sharp increase in unemployment in the EU – Statistics in focus 53/2009](#)
- [Unemployment news release, 1 April 2025 \(Latest release\)](#)

## Selected datasets

- [Employment and unemployment \(Labour force survey\) \(t\\_employ\)](#) , see:

LFS main indicators (t\_lfsi)

Unemployment - LFS adjusted series (t\_une)

LFS series - detailed annual survey results (t\_lfsa)

Unemployment rates of the population aged 25-64 years by level of education (tps00066)

## Methodology

- [EU Labour Force Survey - Methodology](#)
- [ESMS metadata file — une\\_esms](#)
- [Sources and methods for the monthly unemployment rate](#)

## External links

- [International Labour Organization - ILO Global Job Crisis Observatory](#)
- [OECD Statistics Portal - Labour](#)