

Glossary:Unemployment

Statistics Explained

An **unemployed** person is defined by [Eurostat](#) , according to the guidelines of the [International Labour Organization](#) , as:

- someone aged 15 to 74 (in Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, Iceland, Norway: 16 to 74 years);
- without work during the reference week;
- available to start work within the next two weeks (or has already found a job to start within the next three months);
- actively having sought employment at some time during the last four weeks.

The **unemployment rate** is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the [labour force](#) .

Related concepts

- [Employment](#)

Statistical data

- [Unemployment statistics](#)