



Monitoring Report on the Employment and Social Situation in the EU Following the Outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Winter 2020/21 Report

OVERVIEW OF KEY INDICATORS FOR THE EU27

GDP growth

	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3
% change on previous quarter	0.3	0.2	-3.3	-11.3	11.5
% change on same quarter of previous year	1.6	1.3	-2.6	-13.9	-4.2

Employment growth

	2019 Q3	2019 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2	2020 Q3
% change on previous quarter	0.0	0.2	-0.2	-2.8	0.9
% change on same quarter of previous year	0.8	1.0	0.4	-2.9	-2.0

Unemployment (rate (%) and total (mlns), seasonally adjusted)

	2019M11	2019M12	2020M01	2020M02	2020M03	2020M04	2020M05	2020M06	2020M07	2020M08	2020M09	2020M10	2020M11
Total unemployment (millions)	14.1	14.0	13.9	13.9	14.1	13.8	14.6	15.2	16.6	16.5	16.3	16.2	15.9
Unemployment rate (%)	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	7.0	7.2	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.5

Other Labour Market indicators

	2019q1	2019q2	2019q3	2019q4	2020q1	2020q2	2020q3
Labour market slack (% of extended labour force 20-64, seasonally adjusted)	27,7	26,8	26,6	26,4	26,9	29,7	29,4
Absence from work (million persons aged 20-64, seasonally adjusted)	18,0	18,4	18,5	18,5	23,0	35,0	17,0
Index of total actual hours worked in the main job (2006 = 100)	101,8	100,9	101,4	101,8	96,9	85,7	99,0

Developments in household income

	2019 Q2	2019 Q3	2020 Q4	2020 Q1	2020 Q2
<i>GDI growth (% change on same quarter of previous year)</i>	2.2	2.5	1.3	1.3	-5.4

	2019M11	2019M12	2020M01	2020M02	2020M03	2020M04	2020M05	2020M06	2020M07	2020M08	2020M09	2020M10	2020M11
<i>Financial distress in lowest income quartile (% of low income group)</i>	22.6	22.7	22.9	23.0	23.3	23.4	23.3	23.2	23.2	23.3	23.2	23.0	23.3

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Synopsis

This report uses a wide range of more timely sources of data and analysis¹ to provide a regular update on the very latest evolution in the employment and social situation, with preference given to timeliness and relevance of data/indicators rather than their precision, together with some initial estimates and research findings of the expected impact of the pandemic on employment, household incomes and poverty or inequality.

GDP rebounded strongly in the EU the third quarter, increasing by 11.5% compared to the previous quarter and reflecting the gradual loosening of the containment measures during the summer. Nevertheless, it remains well below the level observed one year before (down 4.2%) and growth is expected to slow down again in the fourth quarter due to the pick up in the spread of infections and the renewed implementation of containment measures.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the main labour market indicators is now increasingly visible. The rise in unemployment in the initial phase of the pandemic in the second quarter was contained by short-time work schemes and other measures, but also reflected an underlying general decline in activity rates. Although the number of people in employment in the EU increased by 0.9% in the third quarter, overall employment remained 2% below the level one year before. Compared to February, when the rate troughed and just before the pandemic hit in Europe, the unemployment rate in the EU was up 1 pp in November, to 7.5%, slightly down on the peak rate of 7.8% in July.

¹ Including the [Employment and Social Developments in Europe Quarterly Review](#) produced by DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and other relevant reports produced by Eurostat.

The aggregate financial situation of households, as measured through gross household disposable income (GHI), worsened considerably in the second quarter of 2020, with household disposable income in the EU27 down by 5.4% compared to a year earlier. Figures on “financial distress” derived from harmonised EU consumer surveys indicate that the share of people reporting financial distress slightly decreased overall between May and November 2020 after previously rising for 12 months, but remains particularly high for those on low incomes, for whom it has not reduced noticeably since the April peak. Figures suggest the financial impact of the crisis is being felt much more strongly by those in the lower half of the income distribution.

In many Member States there has been an (often sharp) uptick in unemployment benefit recipients during the crisis, but as yet not much to signal in terms of changing trends in the number of recipients of standard social assistance benefits. Special emergency support measures such as short time work schemes and similar measures, together with other main emergency measures aimed at providing support to the self-employed and to households, have been extensively deployed across EU countries and have played an important role in mitigating the employment and social effects of the crisis.

Eurostat reports that initial analysis on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on employment income indicates that, without any government compensation, the estimated income loss for EU workers is around 5 % of their total earnings. This loss is largely due to employed people that were absent from work or working reduced hours. The income loss due to unemployment seems to be concentrated more on vulnerable sub-groups, such as the young and temporary workers. Employment income losses are generally skewed towards the left of the distribution, with losses linked to the lockdown much higher for low wage earners than for people in high income groups. However, wage compensation schemes have played an important part in mitigating the loss of employment income, limiting the overall income loss at EU level to about 2 %, and in reducing the impact on low wage earners. For many countries, the low-income group receives the highest share from the wage compensation schemes.

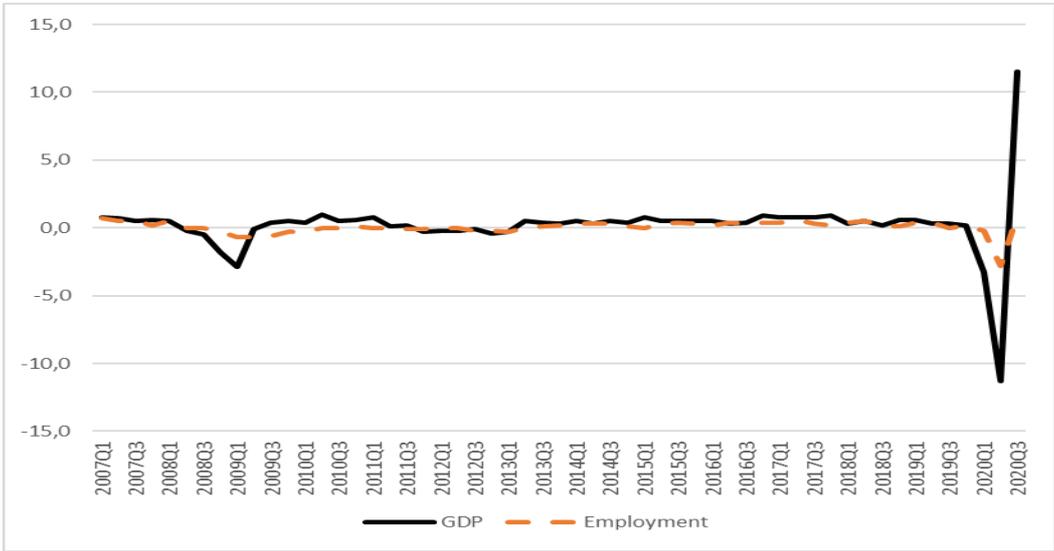
Detailed developments in the social situation following the COVID-19 outbreak

Economic and labour market developments

Economic output rebounded in the EU27 in the third quarter of 2020, with GDP up by 11.5% compared with the second quarter, reflecting a gradual loosening of confinement measures during the summer. This was by far the sharpest increase observed since the time series started in 1995. However, GDP was well below the level observed a year before (down 4.2% for the EU27). The Commission Autumn Forecast expects GDP to have declined by 7.4% overall in 2020 and to rise by 4.1% in 2021. Moreover, following the resurgence of the pandemic and the renewal of containment measures, economic activity is expected to have slowed down again in the fourth quarter.

This improvement in economic activity in the third quarter followed sharp declines in the preceding two quarters. In the first quarter of 2020, EU GDP fell by 3.3% compared to the previous quarter, and by 2.7% compared to a year earlier (Figure 1). The contraction in GDP continued, and was even sharper, in the second quarter (11.4% quarter-over-quarter and 13.9% compared to a year earlier).

Figure 1: Real GDP and employment growth (% change on previous quarter) in the EU27 (2020 composition), 2007-2020



Source: Eurostat, National Accounts, data seasonally adjusted

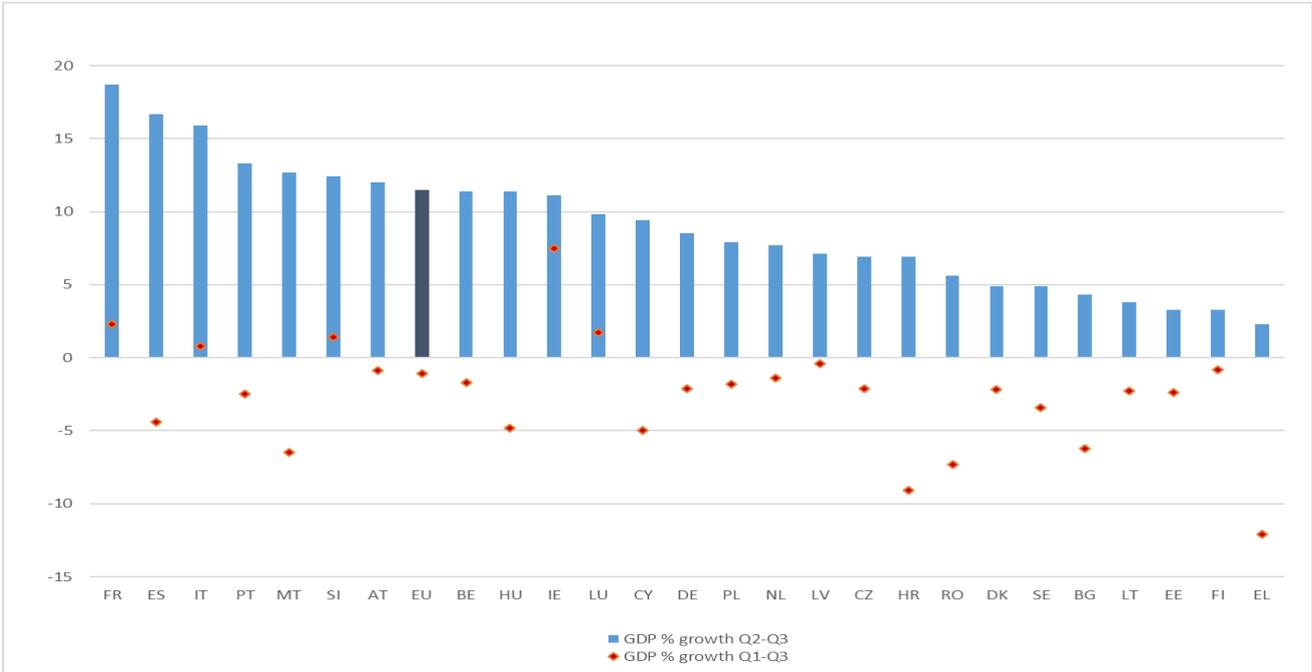
GDP volumes recovered significantly in the third quarter of 2020 compared to the previous quarter, with GDP increasing in all Member States (Figure 2). Among Member States, France (+18.7%), Spain (+16.7%) and Italy (+15.9%) recorded the sharpest increases in GDP. However, these countries were also among those having experienced the strongest decreases in the second quarter. Greece (+2.3%), Estonia and Finland (both +3.3%), and

Lithuania (+3.8%) recorded the lowest third quarter increases in GDP. Except for Greece, which registered a decrease of 14.1% in the second quarter, these other countries had less pronounced declines during the second quarter.

Despite the rebound in growth in the third quarter, for most MS the cumulative effect of the crisis meant GDP growth remained negative in the third quarter compared to the first quarter, with only a few recording positive growth, most notably Ireland. The most heavily impacted countries have been Greece, Croatia, Romania, Malta and Bulgaria.

Reasons for the asymmetric impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on GDP across Member States include the difference in economic structures, with some countries more dependent on sectors that have been hit hardest in the pandemic, and the differences in the duration and strictness of lockdown measures.

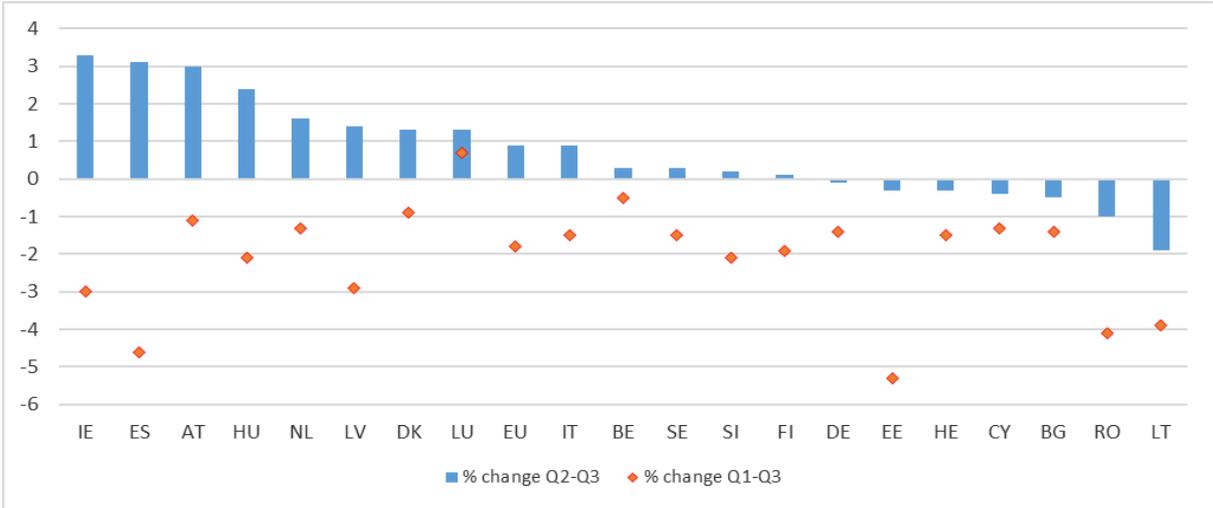
Figure 2: Recent GDP changes in EU Member States (% change).



Source: Eurostat, national accounts, data seasonally and calendar adjusted. Figures for SK not available. Note: GDP % growth Q1-Q3 own calculations, Eurostat, national accounts, Chain linked volumes million (2015).

In the third quarter of 2020 the number of people in employment in the EU increased by 0.9% compared to the second quarter, to a seasonally adjusted total of 205.2 million. However, total employment in the EU was still 2% lower compared to a year earlier, with approximately 4 million fewer people employed. Employment increased in many MS in the third quarter, but continued to decrease in a few, most notably Lithuania, Romania and Bulgaria (Figure 3). Despite the improvement of the employment situation in most countries in the third quarter, the cumulative effect of the crisis means that employment levels remained below those in the first quarter of 2020, just before the pandemic hit, Luxembourg being the only exception. Cumulative employment effects of the crisis have been especially marked in Estonia, Spain, Lithuania and Romania.

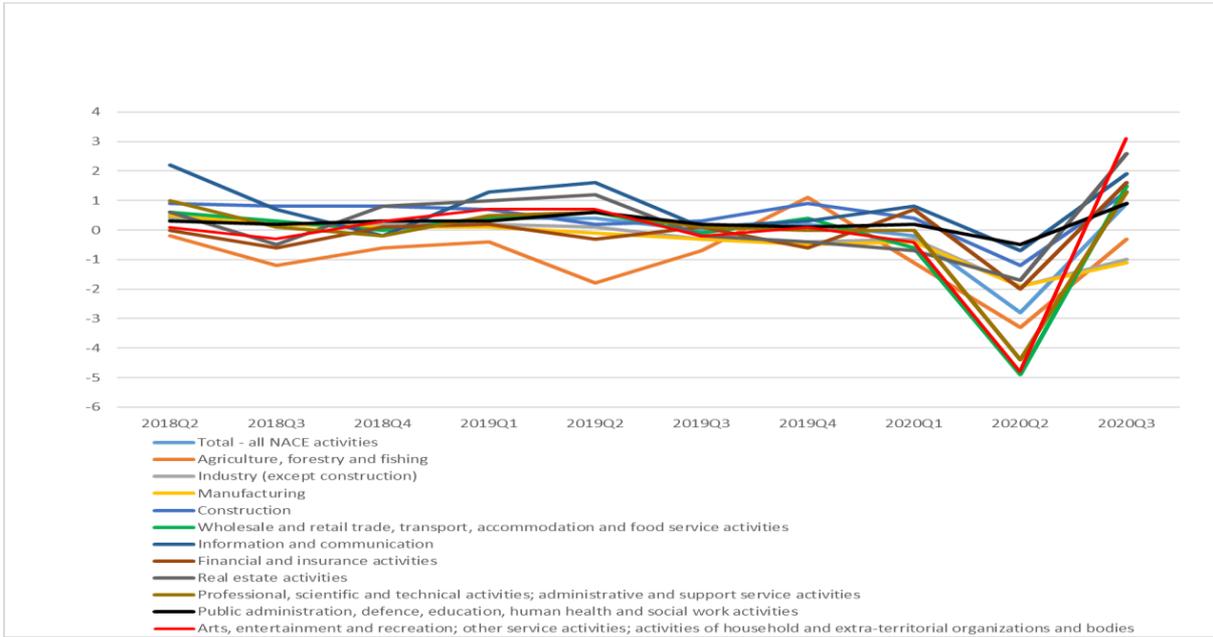
Figure 3: Employment changes (as %) in EU Member States in 2020 Q3 and compared to the first quarter of 2020



Source: Eurostat national accounts, data seasonally adjusted. Figures for CZ, EL, FR, MT, PL, PT, SK not available. Note: % change Q1-Q3 own calculations, Eurostat, national accounts, total employment thousand persons.

In terms of sectoral developments, in the third quarter the sharpest increases in employment (Figure 4) were recorded in the *arts, entertainment and recreation activities* (3.1%), *real estate* (2.6%), *information and communication activities* (1.6%), *financial and insurance* (1.6%), and *wholesale and retail trade, transport and accommodation* (1.5%) sectors. However, employment continued to decline in *agriculture, forestry and fishing* (down 0.3%), *industry (except construction)* (down 1%) and *manufacturing* (down 1.1%).

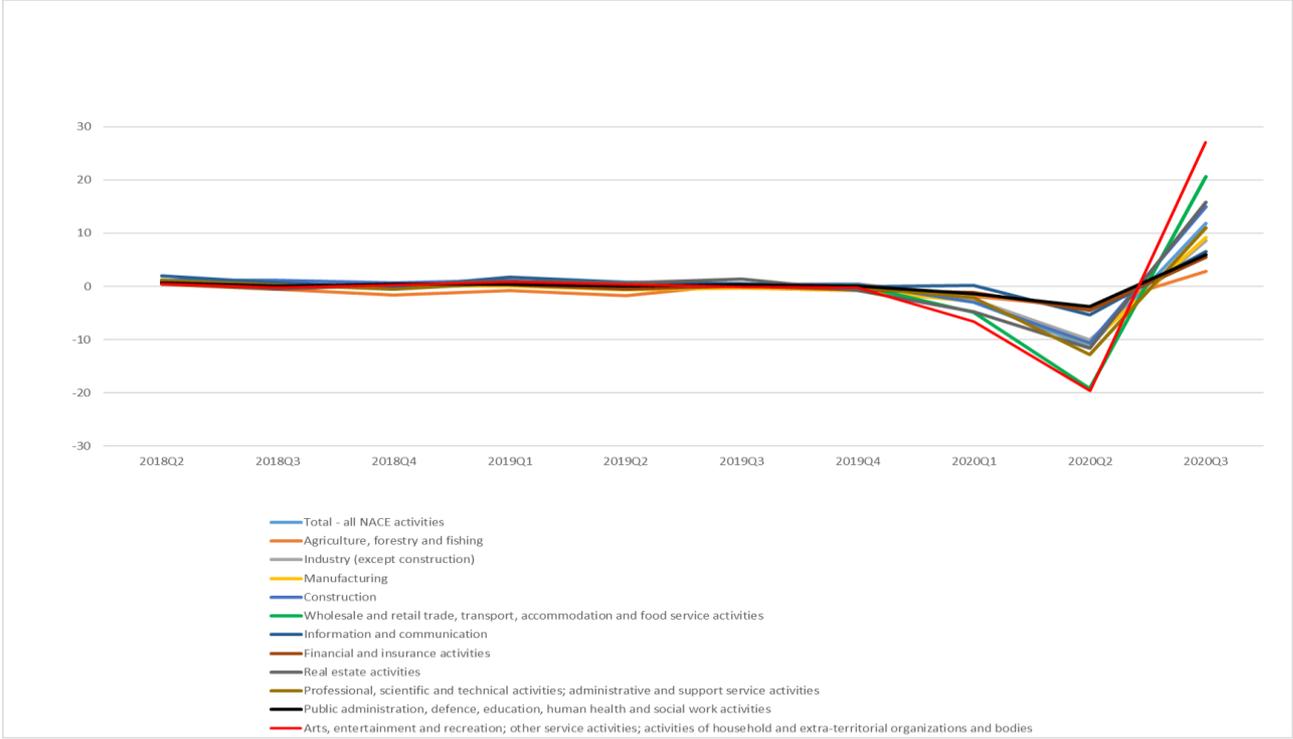
Figure 4: Employment change breakdowns by sector in the EU27, 2018 Q2 - 2020 Q3 (% change on previous period (based on persons))



Source: Eurostat national accounts, seasonally adjusted

Concerning hours worked (Figure 5), the greatest increases in the third quarter took place again in the *arts, entertainment and recreation activities (27%)*, *wholesale, and retail trade, transport and accommodation (20.6%)*, *real estate activities (15.8%)*, *construction (15%)*, and the *professional, scientific and technical activities (11%)* sectors. Gains were lower in *agriculture, forestry and fishing (2.8%)*, *financial and insurance activities (5.5%)*, and public administration etc. activities (5.9%).

Figure 5: Employment change breakdowns by sector in the EU27, 2018 Q2 - 2020 Q3 (% change on previous period (based on hours worked))



Source: Eurostat national accounts, seasonally adjusted

Unemployment remained relatively stable in November 2020, standing at 7.5%, 1 pp above the level of February 2020, just before the COVID-19 outbreak hit (Table 1). Unemployment for men was 7.1% in November (up from 6.2% in February), while for women it stood at 7.9% (up from 6.8% in February). Youth unemployment (Table 2) in the EU27 was at 17.7%, slightly down compared to its summer peak but still 2.8pp higher than in February. Unemployment for young men was 17.7% in November (up from 15% in February) while for young women it was 17.8% (up from 14.6% in February).

Table 1: Unemployment (rate (%) and total (mlns), seasonally adjusted)

	2020M02	2020M03	2020M04	2020M05	2020M06	2020M07	2020M08	2020M09	2020M10	2020M11
Unemployment rate	6,5	6,6	6,6	7,0	7,2	7,8	7,7	7,6	7,6	7,5
Total unemployment (thousands)	13.859	14.131	13.849	14.607	15.186	16.558	16.452	16.271	16.155	15.933

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

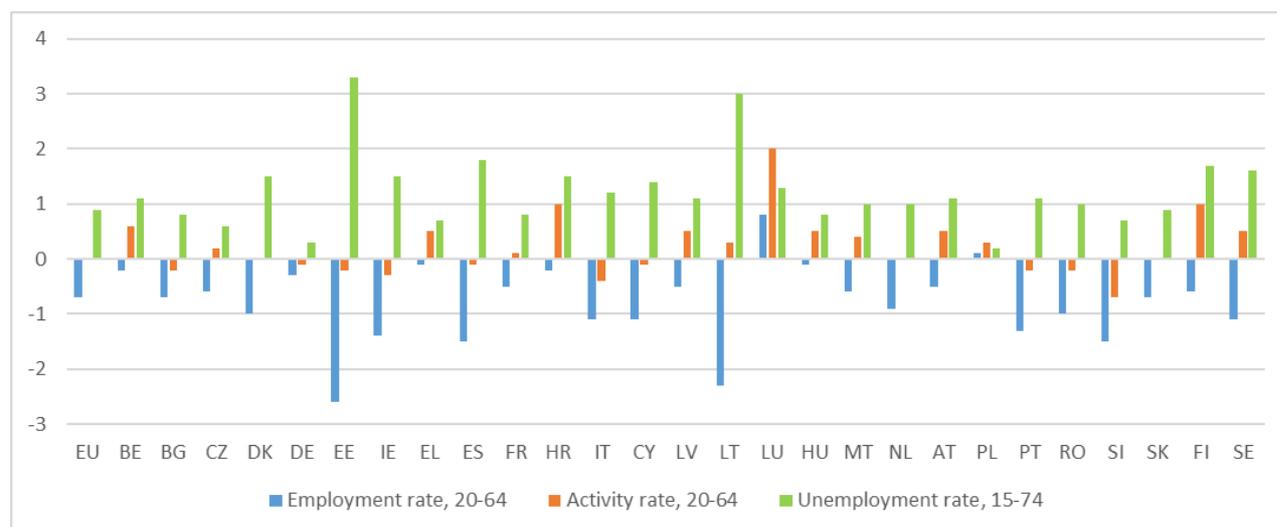
Table 2: Youth Unemployment (rate (%) and total (mlns), seasonally adjusted)

	2020M02	2020M03	2020M04	2020M05	2020M06	2020M07	2020M08	2020M09	2020M10	2020M11
Youth unemployment rate	14,9	15,2	16,0	16,8	17,4	18,4	18,1	17,3	17,5	17,7
Total youth unemployment (thousands)	2.701	2.693	2.746	2.826	2.942	3.209	3.178	3.068	3.120	3.171

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

The employment rate in the EU stood at 72.4% in the third quarter of 2020 having dropped from 73.1% in the first quarter. The overwhelming majority of MS saw their employment rates decrease during this period (Figure 6) – the exceptions being Luxembourg and Poland. At EU level, the employment rate for men was 78.1% in the third quarter (78.9% in the first quarter) while that for women was 66.6% (67.2% in the first quarter). The EU activity rate was 78% in the third quarter (at the same level as the first quarter), while activity rates edged upwards between the first and the third quarters in slightly more Member States than for those where it declined. The activity rate of men at EU level was 83.9% in the third quarter (84% in the first quarter) while that of women was 72.2% (72.1% in the first quarter).

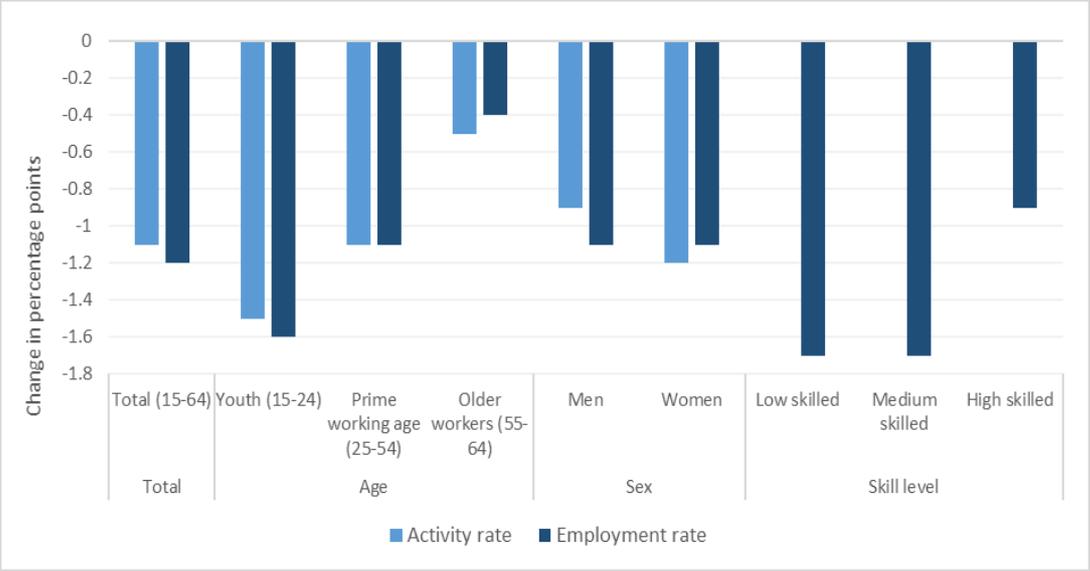
Figure 6: Change in employment, unemployment and activity rates in the EU-27: cumulative change (in pps) between 2020 Q1 and 2020 Q3



Source: Eurostat, LFS. Seasonally adjusted data, not calendar adjusted

Focusing on who was most impacted by the employment drop in the second quarter, comparing changes in employment rates in the EU for different subgroups of the population (Figure 7) indicates that, among age groups, young people (aged 15-24) experienced the strongest decline in employment rates between the first (pre-pandemic) and second quarters of 2020. Older workers were the least impacted by job losses. The low and medium skilled saw strong falls in employment rates of around double those of the high skilled, while no differences were observed between the falls in employment rates for men and women. In all cases, declines in employment rates were closely mirrored by similar falls in activity rates, likely reflecting the lack of job search activity during the pandemic.

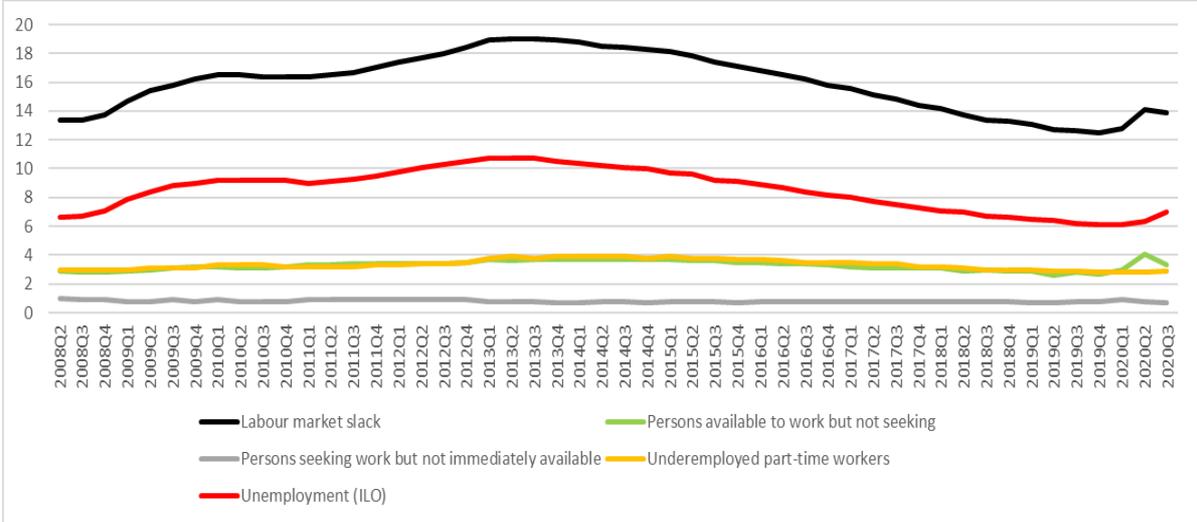
Figure 7: Changes in activity rates and employment rates by population characteristics from 2020 Q1 to 2020 Q2 (in pps)



Source: Eurostat, LFS. Seasonally adjusted data, not calendar adjusted
 Note: No seasonally adjusted figures for ARs by skill level

In the third quarter of 2020, seasonally adjusted total labour market slack² in the EU (consisting of all persons who have an unmet need for employment) amounted to 29.4 million persons, which represented 13.9% of the extended labour force, up from 12.8% in the first quarter (Figure 8). EU labour market slack for men amounted to 13.2 million people while the figure for women was 16.1 million. There was a slight reduction in the level of slack, reflecting a small pick up in people seeking work again.

Figure 8: Labour market slack in the EU27 (% of extended labour force), 2008 – 2020 Q3

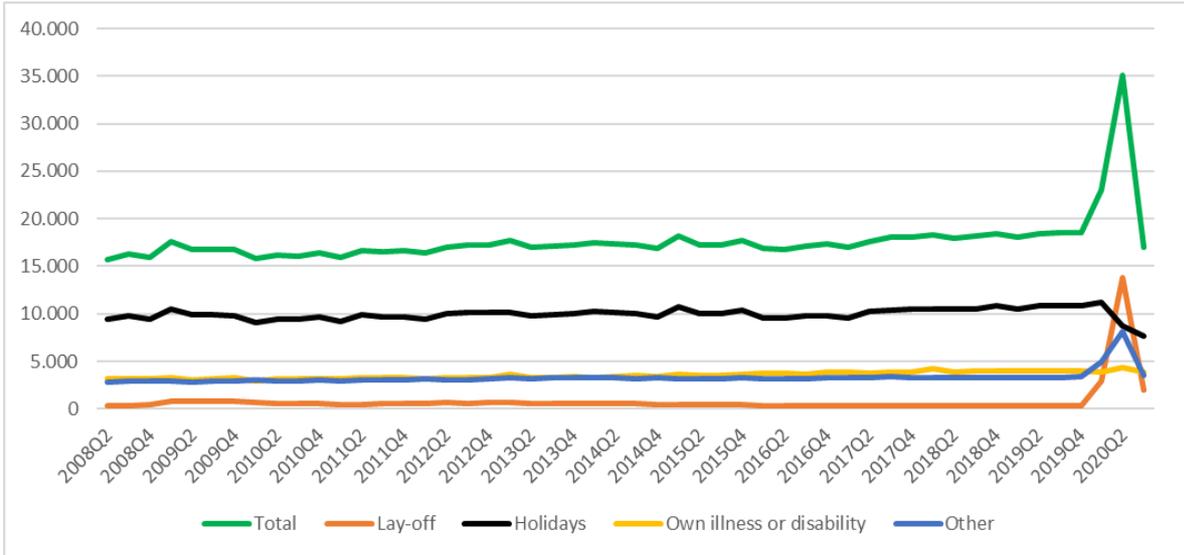


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Note: Total labour market slack is the sum of the four components shown.

² The sum of unemployed persons, underemployed part-time workers, persons seeking work but not immediately available and persons available to work but not seeking, expressed as percentage of the extended labour force.

In the third quarter 2020, a total of 17 million persons were absent from work in the EU, a drop of more than 50% (18 million) compared to the second quarter 2020. This return to pre-COVID levels is due to a sharp decrease in temporary lay-offs, while absences due to holidays dropped to a record low. At the same time, absences due to other reasons (i.e. absences not due to lay-off, holiday or illness), fell to pre-COVID levels between the two quarters (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Trends in absences from work by reason in the EU27 (thousands, 20-64 years), 2008 – 2020 Q3



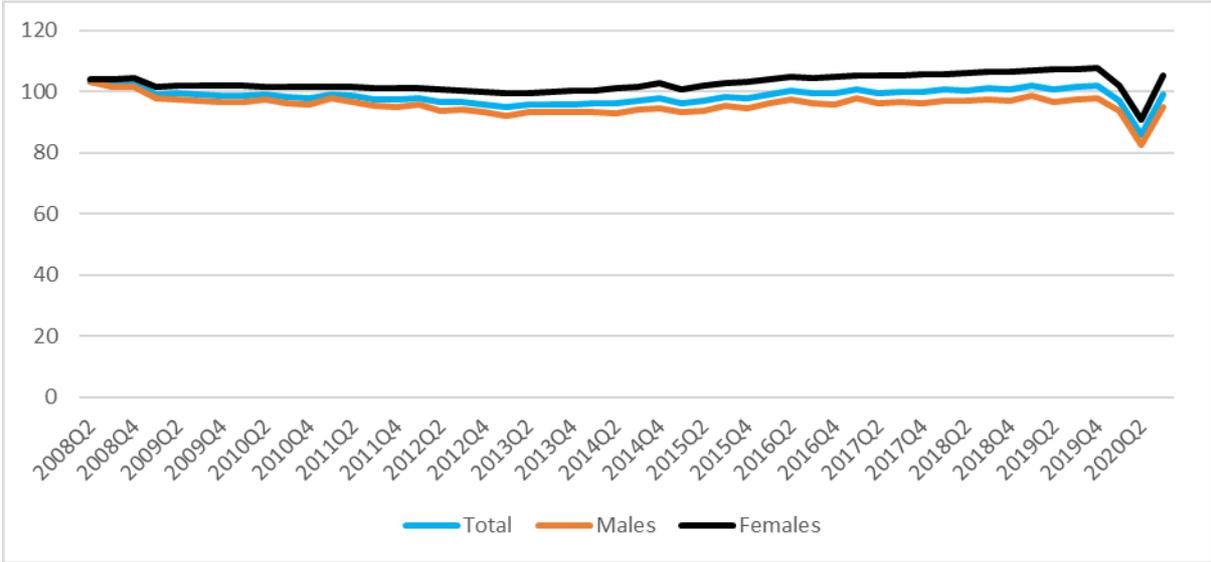
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

Compared with the second quarter of 2020, all Member States for which data are available experienced a drop in overall absences from work in the third quarter. The largest drops were registered in Cyprus (-21.0 pp), Greece (-18.8 pp) and Slovakia (-18.6 pp). The highest rates of absences were observed in Sweden (16.1%), France (14.4%) and Austria (12.6%).

Total actual hours worked recovered in the EU between the second and third quarters, but failed to return to pre-COVID levels (Figure 10). The levels of total actual hours worked are influenced by the total number of persons working, as well as the number of hours worked by each of these persons. Between the second and the third quarter 2020, total actual hours worked have recovered for women more than for men, increasing to 105 index points for women and to 95 index points for men. This is an increase of 16.0% over the quarter for women, and of 15.3% for men. Compared with the third quarter 2019, however, total actual hours worked was down for both women and men, by 2.1% and 2.6% respectively.

All Member States for which data are available experienced a recovery in total actual hours worked between the second and third quarters, with the exception of Sweden (-0.3%). The highest increases were observed in Greece (+33.4%), Italy (+28.3%), Spain (+27.8%), Portugal (+27.3%) and Cyprus (+24.5%). Despite these large quarter-over-quarter increases, total actual hours worked failed to return to levels observed in the third quarter of 2019.

Figure 10: Trends in actual hours worked in main job in the EU27, 2008 – 2020 Q3 (20-64 years)



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. (2006=100)

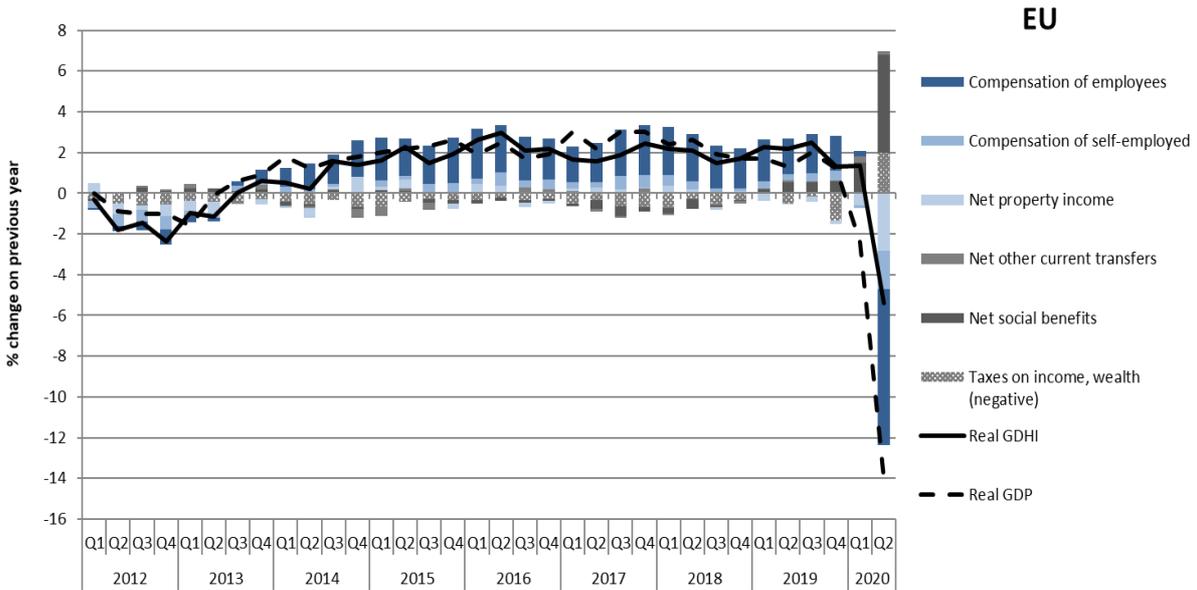
Developments in household income

The aggregate financial situation of households, as measured through gross household disposable income (GHHDI), worsened considerably in the second quarter of 2020, with household disposable income in the EU27 down by 5.4% compared to a year earlier (Figure 11). This reflects a year-on-year decline of 7.6% in the compensation of employees and of 1.9% for that of the self-employed, driven by job losses, deferred decisions about hiring new employees, reductions in working hours and temporary lay-offs. Income from property also decreased, falling by 2.8%. These income losses were only partially offset by public interventions, covering both existing schemes and newly created schemes and ad-hoc measures, with net social benefits increasing by 4.8% year-on-year and the negative effect of taxes on income and wealth reducing by 2.0%. This already indicates a very strong automatic stabilisation effect of social protection on household incomes in the early stages of the crisis, with social protection systems providing the largest contribution to household income stabilisation, as in former recessions.

Year-on-year changes in real GHHDI per capita were negative in the second quarter of 2020 for most Member States for which such data is available, with the most severe reductions being recorded in Austria, Italy, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. Declines were more subdued in Belgium, Finland, France, Germany and Portugal, while incomes per capita were little changed in Czechia and the Netherlands. In contrast, GHHDI per capita was improved in the second quarter in Denmark and Ireland compared to the situation a year before.

The ECFIN Autumn forecast foresees a limitation in the increase of wages and salaries over the next two years due to the deterioration in the labour market situation that will weigh on real disposable incomes in combination with a small uptick in inflation.

Figure 11: Real GDP growth, real GHDl growth and its main components in the EU, 2012 – 2020 Q2



Source: [Employment and Social Developments in Europe Quarterly \(December 2020 edition\)](#), Eurostat, National Accounts [nasq_10_nf_tr and namq_10_gdp]. Data non-seasonally adjusted.

Notes: DG EMPL calculations. The nominal GHDl is converted into real GHDl by deflating with the deflator (price index) of household final consumption expenditure. The real GHDl growth for the EU is DG EMPL estimation, and it includes Member States for which quarterly data based on the ESA2010 are available (which account for 95% of EU GHDl). It is a weighted average of real GHDl growth in Member States.

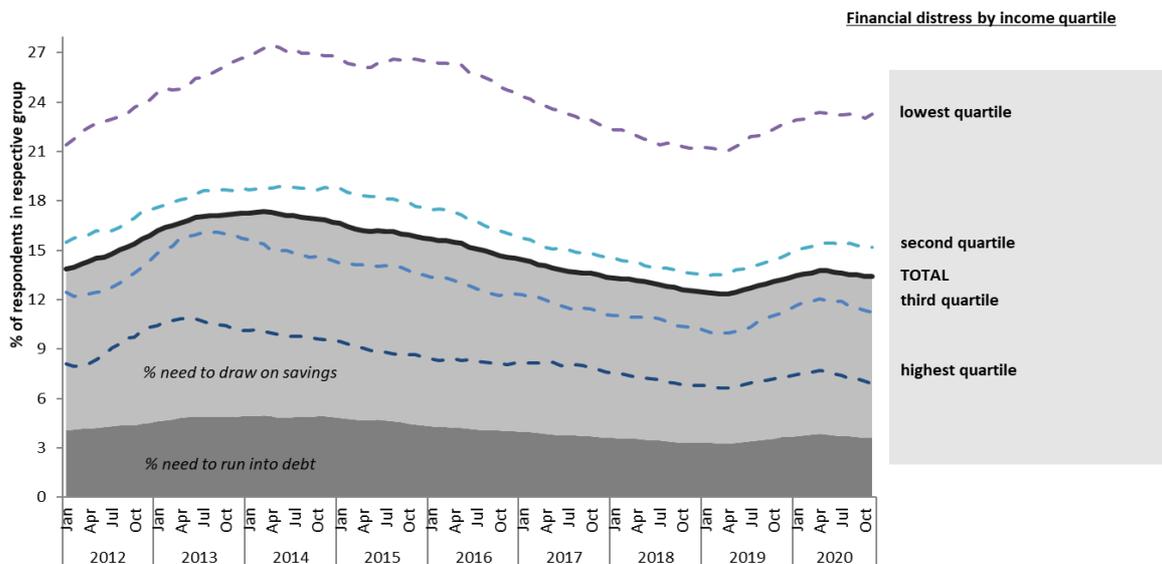
Financial distress among consumers based on EU consumer surveys

The “financial distress” indicator derived from harmonised EU consumer surveys³ indicates that the overall share of people reporting financial distress slightly decreased between May and November 2020 after previously rising for 12 months. (Figure 12). In November, 13.4% of the population reported being in financial distress, 0.2 pp higher than the same month one year before but 0.4 pp lower than the peak of 13.8% reached in April. Underlying the November figure, 9.8% reported a need to draw on savings and 3.6% the need to run into debt.

This reduction in financial distress following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic may seem counterintuitive, especially when compared with the developments in aggregate household disposable income described previously. There are two trends that could help explain the reduction of the share of financially distressed households - in the second quarter of 2020 household final consumption expenditure suddenly fell year-on-year (falling 17.3% in the EU27) while the household saving rate recorded the highest year-on-year increase (+10.8pp in the EU27) since the beginning of the time series.

³ Reported financial distress is defined as the need to draw on savings or to run into debt to cover current expenditures, based on personal perceptions

Figure 12: Reported financial distress in the EU by income quartile, 2012 to November 2020



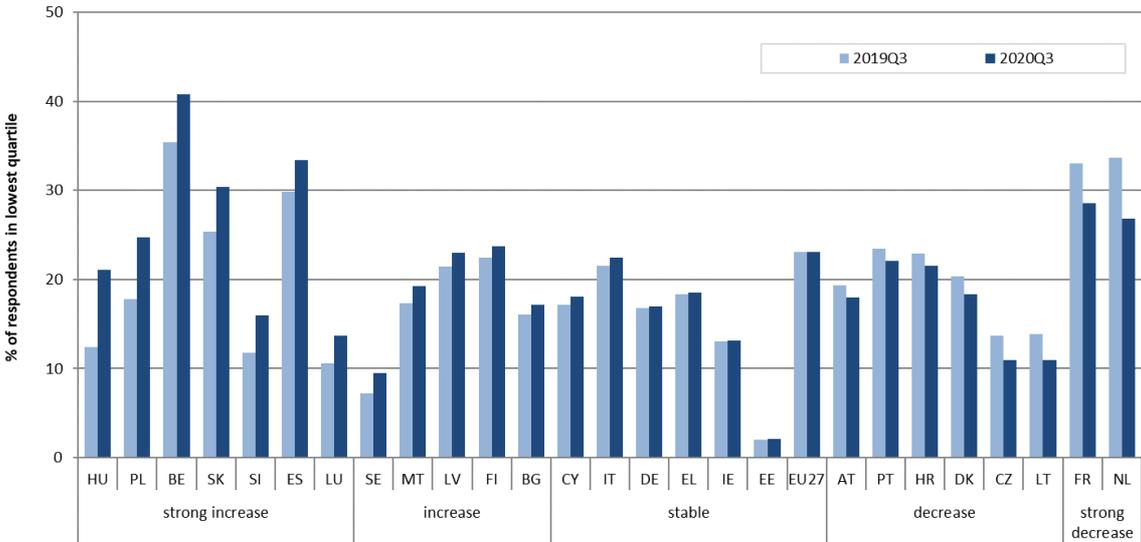
Source: [Employment and Social Developments in Europe Quarterly \(December 2020 edition\)](#), European Commission, Business and Consumer Surveys. 12-month moving average (DG EMPL calculations)

Notes: Reported financial distress by income quartile, and components of reported financial distress (share of adults reporting necessity to draw on savings and share of adults reporting need to run into debt)

However, financial distress remains particularly high for those on low incomes and has not reduced noticeably since the April peak, as is also the case for those within the second quartile income bracket. In fact, the overall improvement in the financial distress indicator solely reflects the reductions for the more affluent groups in the third and fourth income quartiles, which both saw a drop of 0.8 pp compared to the peak in April. In November, 23.3% of those in the lowest income quartile reported being in financial distress, compared to 6.9% for those in the highest income quartile, and with the gap between them increasing since the outbreak of the pandemic. Shares of those in financial distress in the second and third quartiles were 15.2% and 11.2% respectively. These results tend to suggest the financial impact of the crisis is being felt much more strongly by those in the lower half of the income distribution.

Reported financial distress has increased for the lowest income quartile in several Member States, but there is a wide diversity in levels and trends (Figure 13). On a year-on-year basis, by the third quarter of 2020 financial distress had increased in several countries, most markedly in Belgium, Hungary, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain. Belgium was the country with the highest overall share of people in the lowest income quartile reporting financial distress (40.8%), followed by Spain (33.4%) and Slovakia (30.4%). In a few countries (Bulgaria, Finland, Latvia, Malta and Sweden) more limited rises were observed and for some others (Cyprus, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Ireland and Italy) shares remained rather stable. In contrast, decreases were recorded in eight Member States, most notably in France and the Netherlands, although the shares in financial distress in those two countries remain relatively high at 28.5% and 26.8% respectively.

Figure 13: Reported financial distress in the lowest income quartile across the EU Member States, 2020 Q3



Source: *Employment and Social Developments in Europe Quarterly (December 2020 edition)*, European Commission, Business and Consumer Surveys. 3-month moving average (DG EMPL calculations)

Trends in the take-up of selected social benefits

Since the financial crisis of 2008, the SPC⁴ has been collecting data on the number of social benefit recipients for different social schemes (generally unemployment, social assistance and disability benefits). From this data, it is possible to get an idea of how the COVID-19 crisis is putting pressure on social security systems across the EU. Trends in Member States regarding the number of benefit recipients in the different schemes can be found in the charts in annex 1 to this report.

The latest figures, generally covering up to September/October for around two-thirds of Member States and up to July/August for most of the others, suggest the following main recent developments identified from the administrative data:

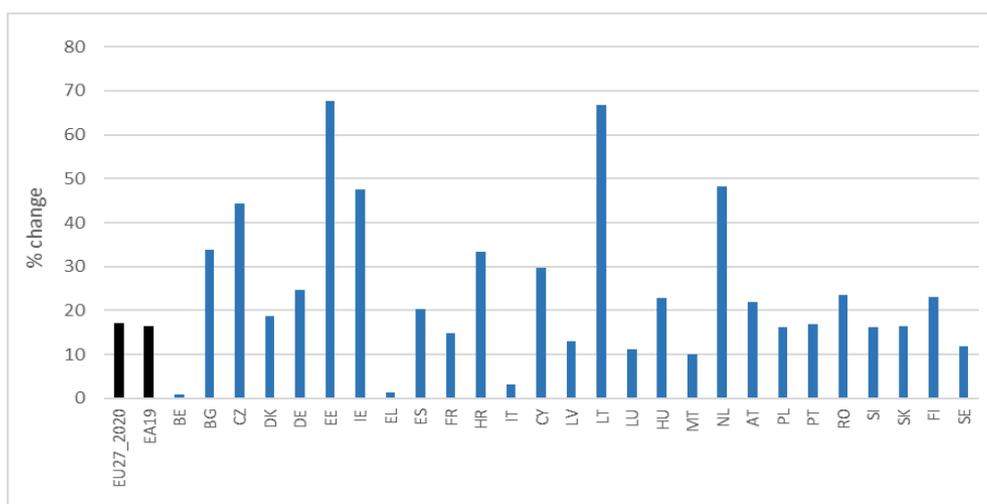
- In the initial period following the COVID-19 outbreak in the EU the recourse to emergency support measures which preserved the link with employment was massive and this prevented a sudden, substantial increase of ‘classic’ unemployment, However, in spite of the important government measures adopted to protect workers the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on EU employment is very significant and there are now signs of a notable increase in the number of unemployed in many Member States (Figure 14), and in many an (often sharp) uptick in unemployment benefit recipients compared to the situation before the crisis hit (in AT, BG, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, HU, LU, LT, LV, MT, NL, PT, RO, SK and SE). Among those countries for which more recent data are available, the relative rise in unemployment benefit recipients since February 2020 has been especially strong (a rise of 30% or more) in

⁴ Although this information needs to be assessed with due caution (as it does not offer cross-country comparability due to the diversity of concepts and underlying definitions used) the numbers of beneficiaries are available every month in most Member States, and help to observe trends and the timing of the impact of crises.)

BG, EE, ES, FI, LT, MT, RO, SE and SK (Table 3). However, in several Member States the number of unemployment recipients has declined in the latest months, in contrast to the sharp rises in the months following the COVID outbreak.

- In contrast, apart from a couple of countries (BG and EE) as yet there is not much to signal in terms of increases in the number of recipients of social assistance benefits, with as yet no immediate, clear signs of a marked rise in recipient levels (Table 4);

Figure 14: Rise in unemployment levels (ILO definition) since the crisis – percentage change in total unemployment from February to October* 2020



Source: Eurostat, monthly unemployment figures, seasonally adjusted data, not calendar adjusted data.
Notes: *For EE, EL and HU, change from February to September, for CY from February to November

Table 3: Change in unemployment benefit recipient numbers from February to latest month of data available in 2020

	Absolute change (1000s)	Relative change (%)	Latest month of data in 2020
BE	-6	-1.6	Sep
BG	23	30.5	Aug
CZ	-4	-4.4	Oct
DK	14	14.9	Sep
DE	192	4.2	Dec
EE	7	56.0	Oct
IE	5	2.9	Oct
EL	na	na	-
ES	542	60.7	Oct
FR	297	10.5	Aug
HR	-5	-14.0	Oct
IT	na	na	-
CY	-9	-45.0	July
LV	10	27.0	Sep
LT	23	34.5	Sep
LU	1.3	14.7	Oct
HU	na	na	-
MT	0.8	81.8	Oct
NL	55	26.8	Sep
AT	29	9.5	July
PL	11.1	7.2	Oct
PT	52	29	Sep
RO	37	64.9	Sep
SI	-0.9	-3.8	Sep
SK	12.7	31.1	Oct
FI	115	35.0	June
SE	72	29.9	Sep

Source: SPC data collection on social benefits recipients

Table 4: Change in social assistance benefit recipient numbers from February to latest month of data available in 2020

	Absolute change (1000s)	Relative change (%)	Latest month of data in 2020
BE	4.4	3.0	June
BG	5.0	25	Sep
CZ	4.0	6.9	Sep
DK	-1.8	-2.7	Aug
DE	na	na	-
EE	31	189	Sep
IE	-2.0	-13.3	Oct
EL	na	na	-
ES	13.2	1.3	Oct
FR	na	na	-
HR	-2.0	-3.3	Oct
IT	na	na	-
CY	-5.8	-17	Oct
LV	-1.0	-10	Sep
LT	-28	-41	Oct
LU	0.4	4.3	Oct
HU	na	na	-
MT	-0.1	-1.4	Oct
NL	8.0	1.9	Sep
AT	na	na	-
PL	na	na	-
PT	12.1	6.1	Sep
RO	1.0	0.6	Oct
SI	3.2	3.3	Oct
SK	0.9	1.5	Oct
FI	-13.0	-8.8	Sep
SE	-1.3	-1.3	Aug

Source: SPC data collection on social benefits recipients

Trends in the number of recipients of special crisis support measures

This section presents the latest figures⁵ collected via the SPC-ISG and EMCO-IG on the following sorts of measures:

- the take up of short time work schemes⁶ or similar measures such as temporary unemployment schemes (e.g. furlough, or temporary layoff from work) where a link to the job is maintained;
- other main emergency measures aim to support the self-employed and households (e.g. extraordinary payments as income support, sickness benefits schemes to protect workers and self-employed in quarantine or self-isolation for a limited period of time, “caring benefits” (i.e. earnings replacement paid to people who need to suspend earnings activities to take care of a child or a sick relative), etc.

⁵ It should be noted that the figures present information on the developments in the emergency benefits situation in Member States and are not fully comparable across countries, and for this reason the focus should be on the evolution in numbers of the recipients within countries, rather than on the levels.

⁶ Those receiving benefits compensating for the loss of wage or salary due to formal short-time working arrangements, and/or intermittent work schedules and where the employer/employee relationship continues.

Short time work schemes or similar measures

Regarding short time work (STW) schemes or similar measures such as partial unemployment schemes, temporary unemployment schemes, furlough etc., where a link to the job is maintained, for those Member States for which figures are available⁷ there were a total of at least 17.5 million people receiving benefits under such schemes in March 2020, massively up from 0.6 million in February (Table 5 in annex). The number of persons receiving support continued to increase in April, reaching more than 29 million people, before reducing slightly in May.

For most Member States the number of recipients seems to have peaked in April or May and then declined markedly through to the summer. Data are not yet available to show if there has been a strong resurgence in the number of recipients of support from September onwards, following the second wave of COVID infections and related sanitary measures.

A rough comparison of the maximum reported monthly number of recipients of such support to date in each Member State to the size of the active population (Table 6) shows that the schemes in France, Croatia, Cyprus and Luxembourg were the most important in terms of peak coverage to date, with 30-40% of the active population receiving support, followed by Austria and Belgium with around one in four, and Estonia, Ireland and Italy with around one in five.

The number of companies receiving support from STW or similar schemes (Table 10 in annex) stood at around 1.21 million in June (based on data for 17 MS). It decreased to 0.93 million in July (15 MS, those as in June but without EE and LV) and to 0.72 million in August (15 MS), reflecting the improvement of the labour market situation⁸.

Table 6: Comparison of the maximum available monthly figure April-October/November for the number of recipients of STW or similar measures to the active population in the corresponding quarter of 2020 (%)

BG	LV	SE	FI	PL	ES	RO	DE	SK	EL	SI	EE	IE	IT	BE	AT	FR	HR	CY	LU
4.3	4.3	6.2	6.7	8.8	12.1	13.1	13.5	15.2	15.6	17.3	17.5	21.2	22.0	22.9	23.2	30.6	32.4	33.3	40.0

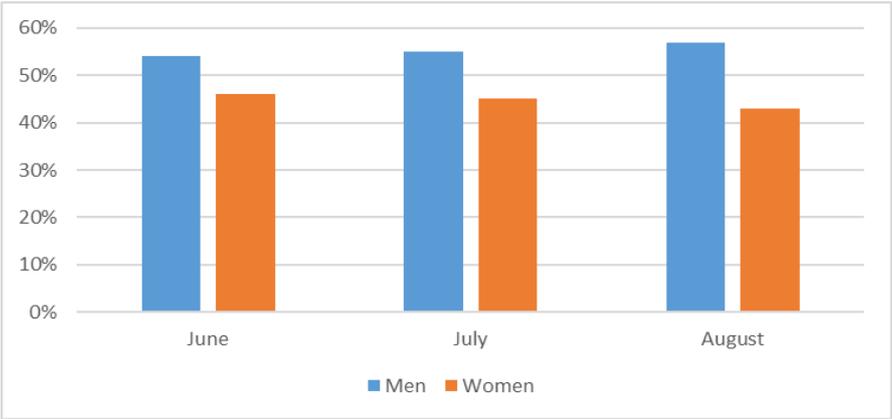
Source: Author's calculations based on EMCO/ SPC data collection on crisis support measure recipients and Eurostat LFS

In terms of breakdowns for individual recipients of STW or similar schemes, for those nine MS reporting such data, 54% of individual recipients were men and 46% were women in June 2020 (Figure 15). As regards age, in June 2020 77% of individual recipients were of prime working age; 7% were youth and 16% were older workers (Figure 16).

⁷ BE, BG, DK, DE, EE, IE, EL, ES, FR, HR, IT, LV, LU, HU, NL, AT, PL, RO, SI, SK, FI, SE

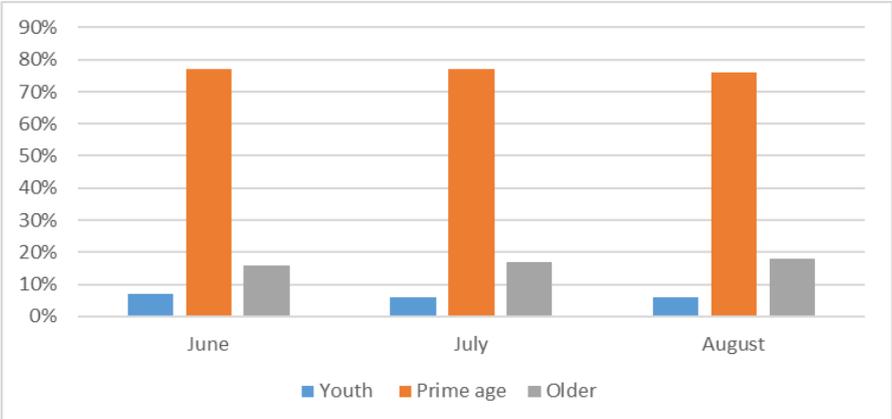
⁸ BE, BG, CZ, DE, EE, IE, HR, IT, CY, LV, LT, LU, AT, RO, SK, SI, SE for June. BE, BG, CZ, DE, IE, HR, IT, CY, LT, LU, AT, RO, SK, SI, SE for July and August.

Figure 15: Individual recipients (STW or similar) by gender



Notes: June based on data from AT, BE, BG, EE, FI, IT, LV, RO, SI. July and August based on AT, BE, BG, FI, IT, RO, SI

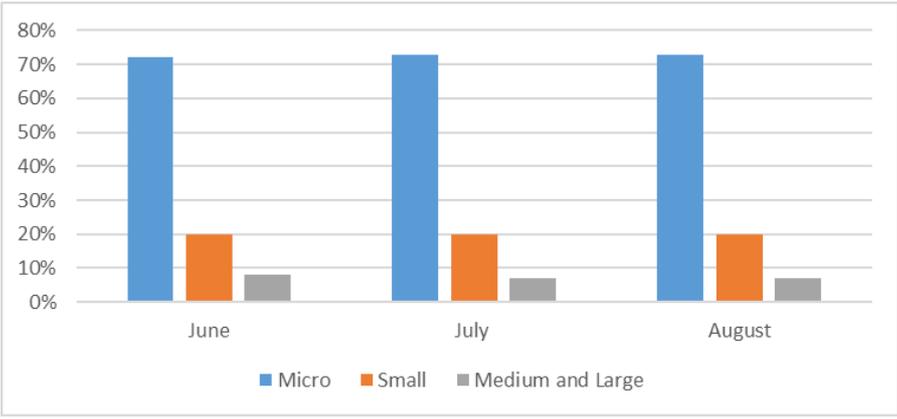
Figure 16: Individual recipients (STW or similar) by age



Notes: June based on data from AT, BE, BG, EE, FI, IT, LV, RO, SI. July and August based on AT, BE, BG, FI, IT, RO, SI

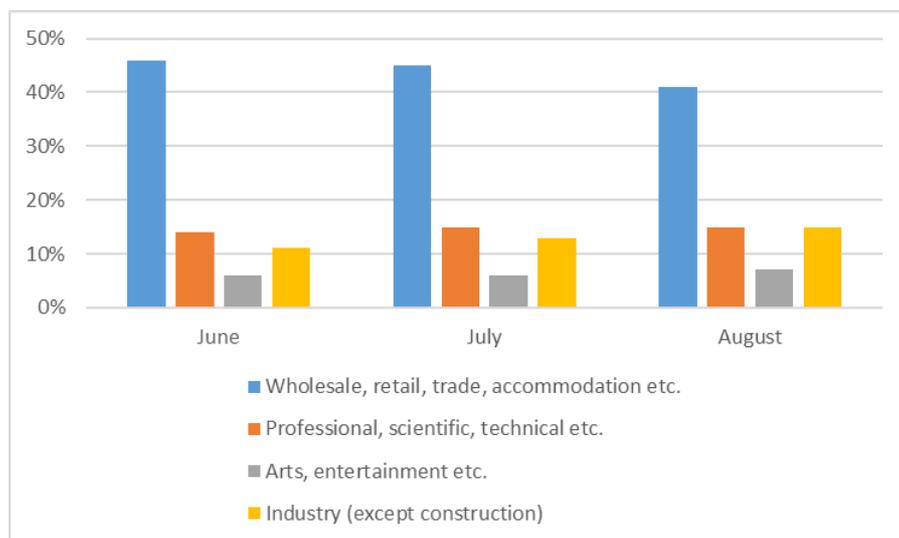
With regard to the types of companies receiving support, for those eleven MS reporting breakdowns with such data, in May 72% of companies benefiting were micro and 20% were small (Figure 17). There was a strong sectoral concentration of companies receiving support (Figure 18). For those 10 MS reporting relevant breakdowns, 46% of companies benefiting belonged to the *Wholesale, retail and trade, accommodation, transport and food services* sector. A further 14% belonged to the *professional, scientific and technical* sector, 6% to the *Arts and entertainment* sector and 11% to *industry (except construction)*.

Figure 17: Companies receiving support (STW or similar) by size



Notes: June based on data from AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, EE, HR, IT, LV, RO, SK. July, August based on AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, HR, IT, RO, SK.

Figure 18: Companies receiving support (STW or similar) by sector



Notes: June based on data from AT, BE, BG, EE, IT, LT, LU, LV, RO, SK. July, August based on AT, BE, BG, IT, LT, LU, RO, SK

Other main emergency measures aim to support the self-employed and households

Beyond the support to employees, many Member States have implemented specific schemes to support the self-employed (see Table 7 in annex). For those countries for which data has been provided, there were over 5 million self-employed people receiving income support in April, with 2.8 million in Italy alone. Support levels to the self-employed peaked in the spring, and have generally declined subsequently in most Member States through to October.

Further, exceptional income support schemes have also been a feature of the COVID-19 crisis. This has included extraordinary payments under sickness benefits schemes to protect workers and the self-employed in quarantine or self-isolation for a limited period of time and “caring benefits” (i.e. earnings replacement paid to people who need to suspend earnings activities to take care of a child or a sick relative). Such measures have been particularly significant in Czechia, Ireland, Luxembourg, Slovakia and Sweden (Table 8 in annex). For several countries, there are signs of a rise in the figures again from September or October, perhaps reversing the declining trends to the lows observed in the summer.

There are also a range of further schemes providing income support to households and individuals. In terms of size, these are generally less significant than the schemes previously mentioned, although in Austria, France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Poland and Slovenia the numbers of households or individuals that have been supported by these particular schemes has been substantial (Annex Table 9).

Recent studies, forecasts and early estimates of the impact of the pandemic on employment, household incomes and poverty

Latest European Commission Economic Forecast

The Autumn 2020 Economic Forecast projects that the EU economy will have contracted by 7.4% in 2020 before recovering with growth of 4.1% in 2021 and 3% in 2022. Compared to the Summer 2020 Economic Forecast, growth projections are slightly higher for 2020 and lower for 2021. Output in the EU is not expected to recover to its pre-pandemic level before 2022.

As a result of the policy measures taken by Member States, in particular short-time work schemes and temporary lay-offs, the reduction in employment in 2020 was less dramatic than the drop in GDP and the reduction in working hours. However, the Commission's Autumn economic forecast predicts that, while these measures have been effective in protecting employment so far, the recovery will not initially be rich in employment creation as companies will first focus on re-instating temporarily laid-off workers and getting back to the previous level of working hours. Moreover, Member States might in 2021 discontinue or impose harder conditions on policy support schemes, with a potential negative effect on total employment.-

Unemployment is set to continue rising in 2021 as Member States phase out emergency support measures and new people enter the labour market, but should improve in 2022 as the economy continues to recover. The unemployment rate in the EU is forecast to rise from 6.7% in 2019 to 7.7% in 2020 and 8.6% in 2021, before declining to 8.0% in 2022.

Other studies and country focuses

Eurostat study on the COVID-19 impact on employment income⁹

Eurostat recently published the results of work to provide an initial estimate of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on employment income, focusing on the income losses in 2020 and their distribution. The results refer to the yearly change 2019-2020, but do not yet account for the second wave of the sanitary crisis in the latter part of the year. The study shows the impact on income of the pandemic and the resulting economic shutdown due to sanitary measures, which led to an unprecedented rise in the number of workers absent from work or working reduced hours, as well as job losses.

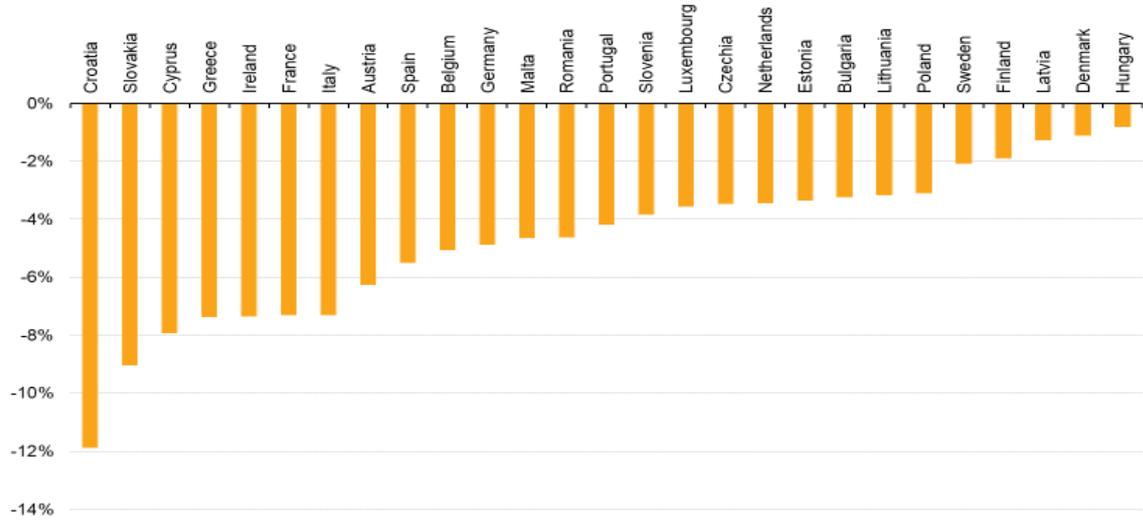
The loss in employment income at EU level in 2020 (before accounting for support from government compensation schemes) is estimated at 4.8%, with the largest decreases due to absences and reduced hours. The estimated losses are particularly strong for the most

⁹ For further details please see the Statistics Explained report here: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Impact_of_COVID-19_on_employment_income_-_advanced_estimates&stable=1

vulnerable sub-groups of the working population. Related preliminary analysis on labour aspects already showed particular sub-groups were especially at risk: the young, those in low skilled occupations, and workers in specific economic sectors. However, these unequal effects on the labour market are mitigated by temporary policy measures introduced in all countries in order to support household incomes and workers most affected by the pandemic. It is estimated that these wage compensation schemes mitigated the overall income loss to about -2% at EU level in 2020.

The estimated losses in employment income are very unequally spread between countries. The year on year change in median employment income ranges from -12 % to -1 % with the largest income losses in Croatia, Slovakia, Cyprus, Greece, Ireland, France and Italy.

Median employment income by country, %
 "Year on Year" (YOY) change 2019-2020



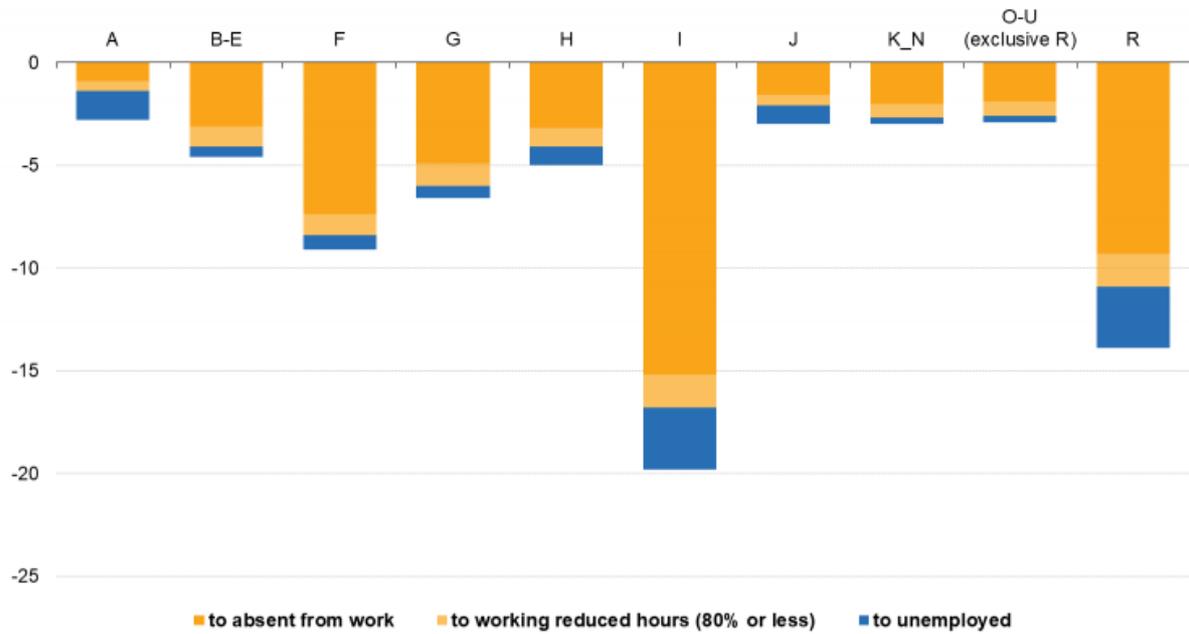
Source: Eurostat



Estimated income losses also reflect a strong sectoral dimension, with the food and accommodation sector registering losses of close to 20 % and the arts and entertainment sector almost 15%, and with the exposure risk at country level proportional to the weight of the sectors most affected in the economy. The study reports that the percentage of people absent for the sector “food and accommodation” reached staggering numbers in April with half of the countries registering more than 50 % of workers absent or in a temporary government support scheme. The largest decreases in income are due to absences and reduced working hours, and much less so to job losses.

Income losses are highly concentrated in vulnerable sub-groups. The highest decreases in employment income are for youth - the estimated income loss is more than two times higher for young workers (16-24) than for adults workers (25-65). Women are also likely to be more affected, mainly due to a larger prevalence of female employment in the affected sectors. Workers on temporary contracts also suffered more, as their employment income decreased in all countries due to transitions to unemployment consistently more often when compared with those on permanent contracts.

Percentage employment income loss
by economic sector and transition type, EU-27, %

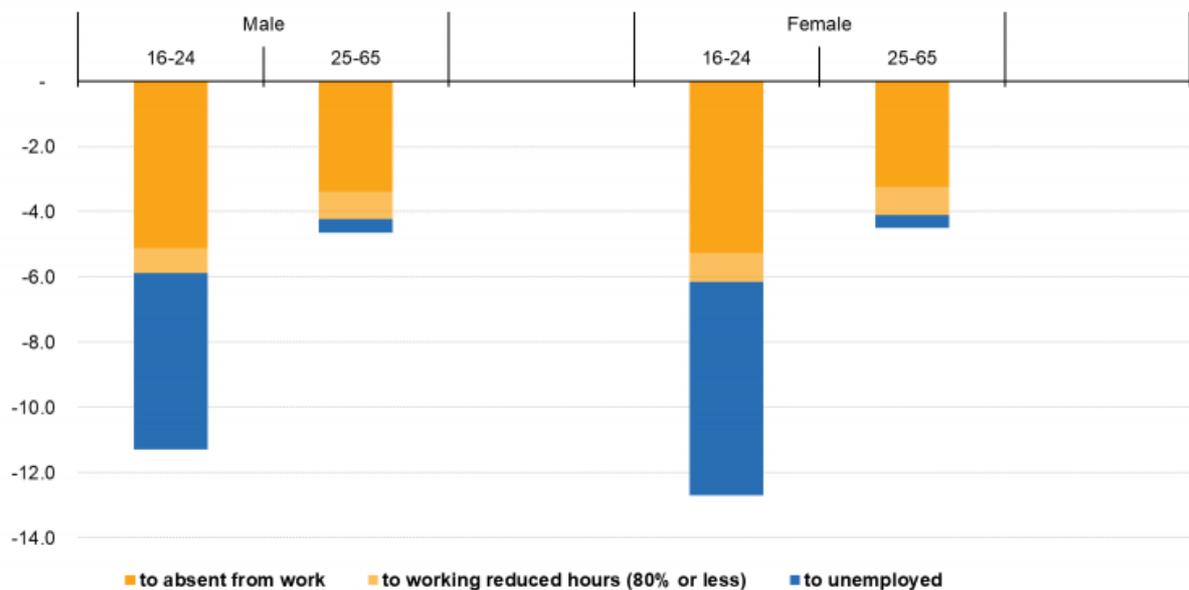


A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing
 B-E: Manufacturing, mining, and other industry
 F: Construction
 G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
 H: Transportation and storage
 I: Accommodation and food service
 J: Information and communication
 K-N: Finance and insurance; real estate; professional, scientific, technical, administration and support service
 O-U (excluding R): Public administration, defence, education, health and social work
 R: Arts

Source: Eurostat



Percentage employment income loss
by gender, age group and transition type, EU-27, %

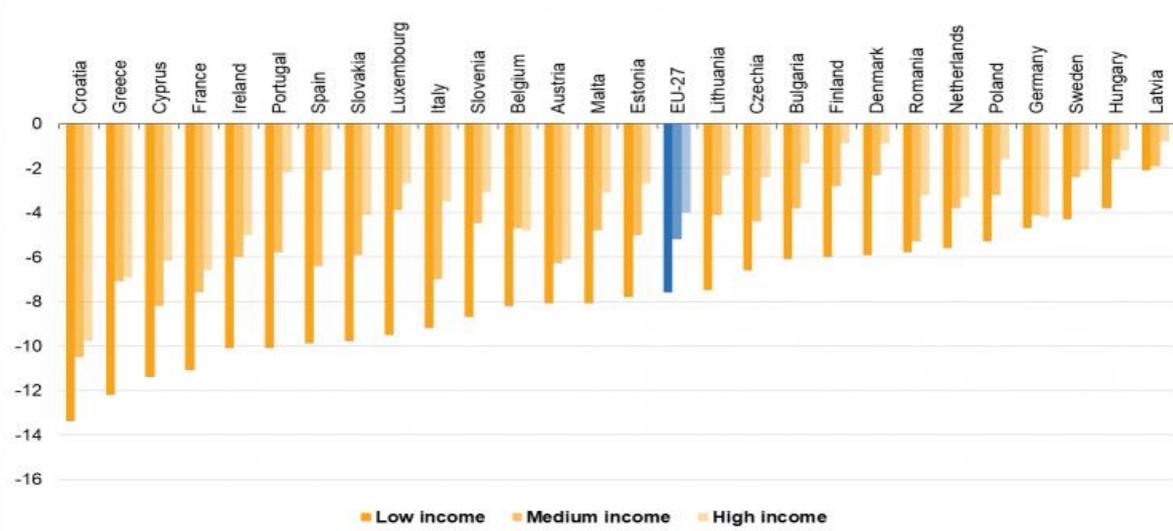


Source: Eurostat



Finally, income losses linked to the lockdown measure were much higher for low wage earners than for people in high income groups.

Percentage employment income loss by income group, %
(ascending order by total income loss)

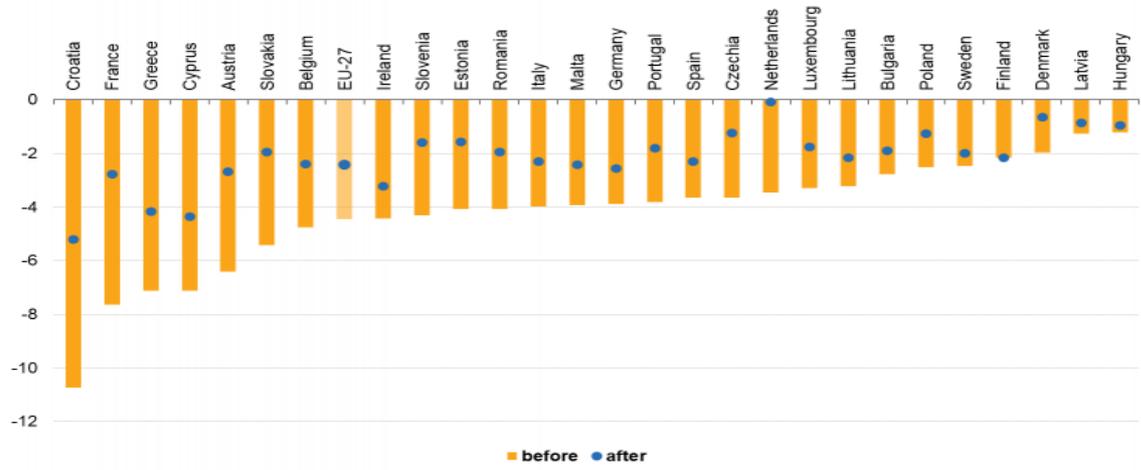


Source: Eurostat



The Eurostat analysis shows the expected impact of wage compensation schemes, although at this stage the effect of the compensation schemes for the self-employed is not included due to lack of complete data. Results show that the simulated compensation measures made an important contribution to mitigate the income loss in all EU Member States, attenuating the reduction of employment income between 1 % and 5 %. At EU level, the overall income loss passed from above -4 % to about -2 %. In about 15 countries the wage loss was reduced by half. Countries such as Croatia, France, Austria, and Slovakia and the Netherlands experienced the highest reductions in income loss in the employment sector, due to the compensation schemes.

Percentage income loss of employees before and after wage compensation, %
(ascending order by income loss before wage compensation)



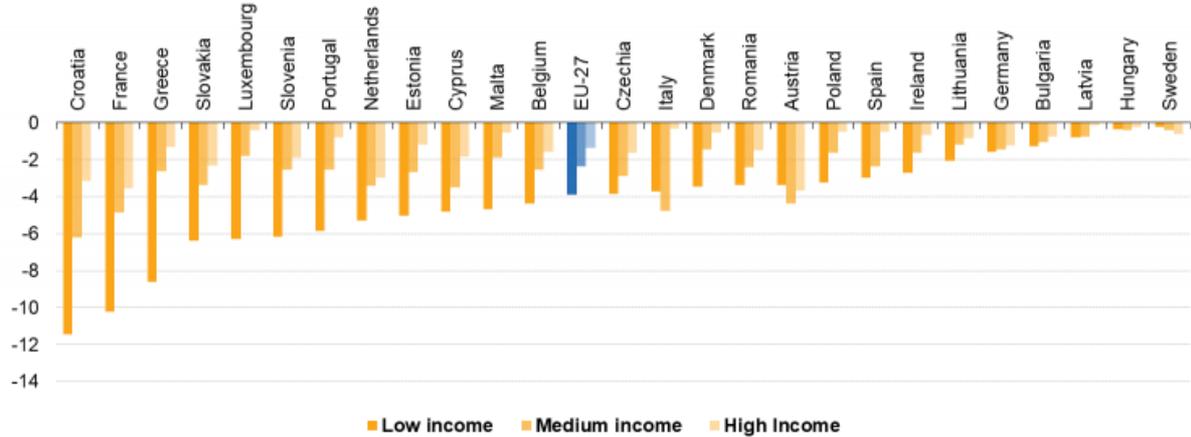
* only employees included
Source: Eurostat



The wage compensation benefits are generally of a progressive nature along the income distribution. For most countries, the low income group receives the highest share of wage compensation, with Croatia, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Slovenia and Slovakia experiencing a particularly strong attenuation of the income losses for low earners. In a few countries, such as Austria, Germany and Bulgaria, no significant differences can be observed among the income groups regarding how the benefits have been distributed.

Difference in percentage income loss before and after wage compensation by income group, %

(ascending order by low income group)



* only employees included
Source: Eurostat



ANNEXES

Table 5: Number of recipients of benefits under short time work schemes or similar support measures

		BE	BG	DK	DE	EE	IE			EL			ES				FR	HR		IT						
Scheme name		Chômage temporaire / Tijdelijke werkloosheid	Unemployment fund (wage subsidies under the Temporary Framework for State aid measures to support the economy in the current COVID-19 outbreak)	Temporary Wage Compensation Scheme	Short time work (Kurzarbeitergeld)	Temporary subsidy program (töbolasu hivitis)	Short Time Work Support	Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme	Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme	*Casual jobseekers	SYN-ERGASIA	Special purpose compensation for employees	Open programme of 100,000 new subsidized jobs (started on 01.10.2020)	ERTE - job suspension	ERTE- reduction of working hours	Extraordinary Unemployment Benefit for permanent seasonal workers	Extraordinary Unemployment Subsidy for temporary workers	Activité partielle	Job preservation support for sectors hit by Coronavirus (COVID-19)	Shorter workweek support	Scheme1 CIGO	Scheme2 CIGS	Scheme3 CIGD	Scheme4 Solidarity Funds		
Year	Month																									
2018	1	131,986			22,520		426			50,231											110,470	98,231	3,095	4,562		
	2	143,724			23,137		461			50,317											186,643	100,847	3,123	4,073		
	3	137,221			26,837		390			49,466											193,871	103,276	3,160	3,616		
	4	74,949			13,315		313			48,127											106,242	102,216	3,245	3,206		
	5	57,793			11,631		332			46,917											125,637	99,743	3,158	3,125		
	6	62,724			16,466		281			45,988											95,179	123,410	2,922	3,046		
	7	59,713			13,954		281			45,145											60,593	116,185	477	2,238		
	8	80,103			32,697		287			43,594											39,720	111,727	461	2,388		
	9	62,745			34,138		768			42,124											55,108	112,118	571	3,811		
	10	93,166			37,443		796			41,653											168,169	109,542	691	3,708		
	11	90,012			42,990		826			41,759											154,827	106,342	665	1,798		
	12	102,243			25,589		806			41,751											114,426	103,851	580	1,659		
2019	1	154,864			41,568		449			41,240			918	3,126							149,752	100,795	138	2,150		
	2	120,124			28,621		484			41,264			822	3,125							119,490	100,134	176	4,057		
	3	125,357			32,375		496			40,759			800	3,089							105,409	104,423	170	4,072		
	4	88,287			40,170		388			39,683			913	3,034							144,838	106,238	2,528	2,172		
	5	85,392			44,986		376			38,396			984	2,963							146,772	114,216	2,816	1,850		
	6	78,305			42,570		334			38,115			1,013	2,931							55,054	82,351	3,158	1,729		
	7	65,249			46,827		369			37,586			1,333	2,956							84,683	80,099	383	3,782		
	8	67,088			51,248		326			36,779			1,237	2,927							50,913	77,384	293	3,397		
	9	75,870			75,249		304			36,111			982	2,927							89,849	81,817	898	3,399		
	10	107,222			101,747		402			35,949			732	2,897							150,136	85,451	1,119	4,183		
	11	92,727			115,193		406			36,526			860	2,961							205,973	84,263	1,055	3,400		
	12	119,868			97,298		400			36,816			1,008	2,872							158,591	79,351	3,518	1,112		
2020	1	125,117			133,198		385			36,355			918	223				34,881			84,436	84,291	3,213	1,182		
	2	131,019			133,924		416			36,606			973	234				21,543			95,289	81,122	13,133	67,513		
	3	929,714	89,261		2,579,666	33,674	350	71,847			36,607		10,197	325				7,245,440	501,645		1,848,696	95,152	1,127,186	1,318,312		
	4	1,145,571	142,051		5,995,429	121,490	282	428,565			36,297		808,673	2,107,941	208,251	511			8,775,063	577,700		2,334,162	65,768	1,363,771	1,656,049	
	5	916,569	129,557		5,714,842	91,130	365	459,642			36,516		542,014	2,317,860	346,071	4,182	819		7,898,682	485,995		1,598,412	72,647	1,178,404	1,469,638	
	6	560,765	78,916		4,419,006	32,109	457	441,109			36,656	29,892	134,175	1,485,730	315,966	4,020	264		4,462,313	83,802	7,973	1,132,397	80,094	617,473	1,003,507	
	7	339,898	132,049	282,248	3,250,538		451	441,896			37,221	44,528	70,234	893,122	246,098	1,932	26				71,789	11,430	755,853	88,887	354,649	546,744
	8	308,083	129,006		2,551,389		452	397,328	30,700		36,681	39,316	101,406	689,242	183,125	1,200	3				51,386	9,799	491,938	81,230	118,664	225,186
	9	232,745	117,384		2,220,910		876		347,800		36,862	42,459	120,397	532,297	137,235	1,060	2						392,855	51,305	41,995	144,161
	10	265,085					1,009				41,988	348,400		41,144	134,738											
	11								268,600		41,742				728,641											
	12																									

Table 7: Recipients of income support payments for the self-employed

		BE	CZ		DK	DE	EL	IE	IT	LV	LT	LU	MT		NL	AT	PL		SI	SK		FI								
Scheme name/type		Overbruggingsrecht/ Droit passerelle	Compensatory bonus: Self-Employed (tax deduction as one-off support to self-employed persons)	Income support payments of small Limited Liability Companies (Compensatory bonus: Ltd)	Compensation scheme for the self-employed (lost turnover)	Soforthilfe*	Support to self-employed & sole proprietorships (excluding scientific occupations)	Pandemic Unemployment Payment (available to employees and self-employed who lost their job from March 13 due to COVID-19 pandemic) Numbers provided here refer to the self-employed.	Allowance for self-employed workers	Allowance for idle time for self-employed	Income support payment to the self-employed	1st support for self-employed	Self-employed support	Annex A	Annex B	Tozo - Number of subsidies (paid to households of 1 or 2 self-employed)	Income support payments to the self-employed (hardship fund - Härtefallfonds)	Income support payments to the self-employed (name of scheme: 15zsc - Co-financing of business activities conducted by natural persons not hiring employees)	15zsd - A low-interest loan to cover the costs of running business for a micro-entrepreneur, including self-employed persons - redeemable if the business activity is maintained for 3 months	Universal income for self-employed	Self-employed persons whose sales decreased by at least 20% or had to close their operations on the basis of a decision of the Public Health Authority	Self-employed persons who have no other income	Self-employed receiving unemployment benefits including under temporary changes relaxing eligibility requirements and improving benefit levels							
2020	January																													
	February																													
	March	378,045	537,140	39,490	79,135		453,780	49,984	2,849,060	1,455	87,964	2547	4182	9,936	1,512					50,622	39,554	10,575								
	April	396,845					1,338,979	115,041	2,828,763	2,025	88,275																			8 443
	May	363,142	384,434	41,464			1,681,109	79,000	113,422		1,798					87,984														31 517
	June	157,453					1,856,174	133,000	78,463							1,293	87,220													
	July	105,333					1,868,609	20,920	51,531							86,675														30 281
	August	102,781						4,000	54,932							86,160														22 251
	September	61,643							50,688																					21 623
	October	29,250							58,725																					21 172
	November								69,974																					

Source: Data on recipients of crisis support measures collected via the SPC-ISG and EMCO-IG. Notes: Figures are generally the total number of benefit recipients during the month in question (i.e. the stock of all recipients of benefits) except for AT, DK, DE, HU and LV. For AT, HU and LV figures are the new recipients in the month only. For DK the figure shown is the total number for those who received compensation/benefit at one point in time from the beginning of the start of the scheme, i.e. for unique recipients during the period from March to 23 November 2020. For DE the figures for the self-employed are cumulative i.e. total number of recipients up to the respective month.

Table 8: Recipients of sickness benefits schemes to protect workers and self-employed in quarantine and “caring benefits”

		BE	CZ		EE	IE	LV	LU	MT			SI	SK		FI		SE	
Scheme name/type		Corona parental leave	Attendance Allowance for Employees (Benefits compensating the loss of income of employees caused by the need to take care of their children or care-dependent people)	Attendance Allowance for Self Employed (Benefits compensating the loss of income of S/E caused by the need to take care of their children or care-dependent people)	Temporary financial support to parents of children with special needs (erivajadusega lapse vanema erakorraline toetus)	Illness Benefit (paid if you cannot work because you are sick or ill)	Sickness benefit	Congé pour raisons familiales CPRF (“caring benefit”)	Covid Disability Benefit	Covid Medical Benefit	Covid Parent Benefit	Sickness benefits schemes to protect workers and self-employed in quarantine	Pandemic Sickness Benefit	Pandemic Nursing Benefit	Sickness allowance on account of an infectious disease, without Temporary financial assistance due to an epidemic outbreak	Temporary financial assistance due to an epidemic outbreak	Compensation of qualifying deduction in sickness benefit	Changes in temporary parental benefit for caring of sick child
Year	Month		Number of benefits paid out each month															
2020	January					47,744		7,427								12		208,519
	February					47,133		7,256								7		287,653
	March			60,875		53,002		44,300	13		312	5			65		529,992	304,715
	April		132,076	60,772	292	54,526	833	36,089	334	1,239	3,868	146	19,915	60,289	604		426,287	363,148
	May		217,338	47,698	1,104	52,243	1,135	37,020	368	1,663	4,292	188	27,627	144,096	1,964	1,913	304,119	210,070
	June		291,008	21,296	1,140	49,251	429	16,465			4,038	2	9,187	129,002	3,713	694	254,182	225,545
	July		43,072	152,877		48,526	214	14,219				89	5,315	52,444	3,218	242	160,018	154,022
	August					50,705	278	1,312				283	3,142	21,305	1,062	70	251,251	55,662
	September					53,937	446	3,865				270	4,960	20,058	1,659	30	385,137	232,892
	October					53,022	1,615						9,977	12,569	3,019	9	193,622	260,152
November																		

Source: Data on recipients of crisis support measures collected via the SPC-ISG and EMCO-IG.

Notes: Figures are generally the total number of benefit recipients during the month in question (i.e. the stock of all recipients of benefits). For BE the figure shown is the total number for the period (i.e. those who received compensation/benefit at one point in time from the beginning of the start of the scheme)). For LV figures are the new recipients in the month only.

Table 9: Recipients of further income support measures for households and individuals

Country		CZ			FR	EL			IE	IT					CY	LV					LT		LU			
Scheme name/type		Extraordinary Emergency Assistance (for people in material need in situations that have to be resolved immediately due to Covid-19.)	Program COVID - rent I: income support payments to the self-employed and companies	Program COVID - rent II: Income support payments to the self-employed and companies	Exceptional solidarity aid (aide exceptionnelle de solidarité (AES)) allowance for young people under 25 (not for students)	One-off compensation (600 Euro) to 6 categories of scientific discipline	Special purpose compensation for special categories	Special purpose compensation for persons in the tourism sector (who had worked in 2019)	Pandemic Unemployment Payment (available to employees and self-employed who lost their job from March 13 due to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic.) Numbers here cover both.	Allowance for "Parasubordinati" workers	Allowance for seasonal workers in the sector of tourism and thermal baths	Allowance for fixed-term employees in agriculture	Allowance for workers in the entertainment industry	Allowance for on-call workers, seasonal workers of other sectors than tourism and thermal baths, casual workers, door-to-door sellers	Special Scheme for supporting unemployed persons that have exhausted their 6 months of unemployment benefit within 2020 and cannot find work due to the pandemic	Unemployment assistance benefit	Assistance benefit for idle time	Supplement to allowance for the idle time	Supplement to assistance benefit or the idle time	Crises benefit	Allowance for new specialists	Temporary jobseeker's allowance	Lump-sum children's benefit to reduce the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic	1st support of 5000 EUR		
Year	Month	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients			
2020	January																									
	February																									
	March	18						283,129	412,200	224,485	554,339	32,366	78,844	0												
	April	341				182,955		590,976	383,383	226,233	553,010	37,794	81,308	2,288				4,298								
	May	506			4,100,000			579,410	119,140	157,199		37,919	91,049	5,171	901	7,022	9,672	684	4,520							
	June	354					61,158	102,426	438,933		67,300		34,181	70,778	5,156	2,018	4,481	8,838	366	2,083						
	July	143	2,041					68,335	286,850						4,369	3,140	2,379	5,149	151	772	30	12,637				
	August	58	3,239					42,226	230,435						3,767	4,247	7	7	2	324	83	153,635				
	September	33	3,377						37,379	217,142						3,614	4,840	1	3	1	359	94	198,989	336,172		
	October	47	6,370					57,954	295,860							5,552	2	0	1	372	84	230,197				
	November		2,833	2,732					352,077																	

Country		LU (cont)					MT	AT		PL			RO					SI					SK	
Scheme name/type	2nd support of 5000 EU	12500 EUR support	Reimbursable advance	Retail trade support - aide commerce de détail	Recovery and solidarity fund - fonds de relance et de solidarité	Covid Additional Unemployment Benefit	Income support payments to the dependent employed (NEUSTARTBONUS)	One-time payment to unemployed (EINMALZAHLUNG)	15z2b - Co-financing of part of employee remuneration costs and social security contributions	15z2e - Co-financing of remuneration of persons employed by non-governmental organisations and entities referred to in Act on Public Benefit and Volunteer Work	15gg - Co-financing of part of the employee remuneration costs and social security contributions	Technical unemployment supported by state for other professionals as defined by the Civil Code	Technical unemployment supported by state for persons with individual labour agreements based on law regarding the organization and functioning of the cooperation	Technical unemployment supported by state for sportsmen, as they defined of the law on physical education and sport	Technical unemployment supported by state for persons who obtain income exclusively from copyright and related rights, as defined by specific legislation	Technical unemployment supported by state for lawyers whose activity was reduced due to the effects of the coronavirus SARS-COV-2 under the conditions of GEO no.30/2020	One off allowance for Child benefit recipient	One off allowance for Pension recipients	One off allowance for Students	One off allowance for large families	One off allowance for deprived	Sole partner of limited liability company (single-member LLC) with no other income	Citizens who find themselves in a crisis situation without income during a coronavirus pandemic ("SOS grant")	
Year	Month	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of recipients	Number of households receiving	Number of households receiving	Number of households receiving	Number of households receiving	Number of households receiving	Number of households receiving	Number of households receiving	
2020	January																							
	February																							
	March						157					63,434	4,327	5,031	1,192	3,141							967	10,161
	April						982		29,153	325		64,996	8,624	7,255	2,395	5,757		302,224	49,250	29,150	49,728	1,127	12,792	
	May						1,794		356,333	4,741		75,313	5,005	5,272	2,774	4,581							966	11,916
	June						1,872	86	441,665	3,880		7,124	70	1,832	2,210		191,272						680	11,097
	July	7324	683	1531	2527	3472		623	349,722	4,724	354,653	4,334	69	506	2,358								557	8,492
	August							815	109,200	4,622	375,755	4,171	44	350	2,740								520	7,448
	September							943	403,014	47,055	2,446	101,886	2,719	9	156	2,811							551	
	October								1,750	8,106	1,700	218,591	3,411	21	60	2,599							35	
	November								306															

Source: Data on recipients of crisis support measures collected via the SPC-ISG and EMCO-IG.

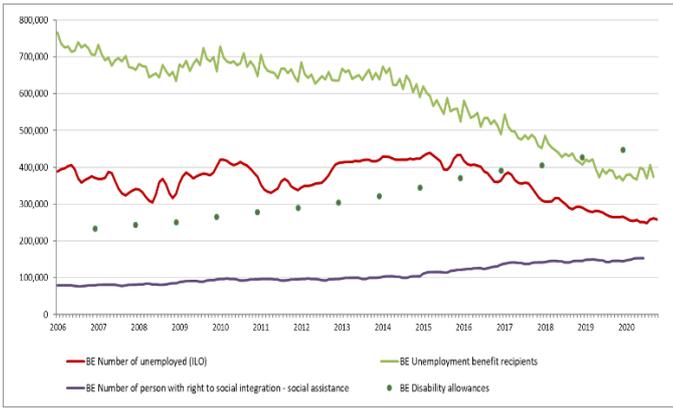
Notes: For AT, figures on recipients of wage subsidy (Neustartbonus) are monthly totals, for Einmalzahlung it is the total of one-time payments in the month. For CZ, for COVID rent schemes figures are new recipients only. For LV, figures other than for crisis benefit recipients are the new recipients in the month only. For NL, 7,500 subsidies were granted in June under the TOFA scheme (income support for flexible workers)

		LV	LT		LU	HU	NL	AT	PL	RO	SI		SK			SE
Scheme name		Allowance for idle time for employees	Wage subsidies during idle time (Scheme1 name)	The subsidies for wages aimed to help to recover after idle time (Scheme2 name)	Partial Unemployment - chômage partiel	Job Protection Wage Support Programme	NOW (Temporary Emergency Bridging Measure for Employment)	Kurzarbeit	STW - 15g Number of employees receiving STW benefit (economic downtime + reduction of working hours)	Technical unemployment for employees supported by state (measure 1)	Furlough	Subsidizing short term work	SCHEME 1 * - Employers who had to close their operations on the basis of a decision of the Public Health Office	SCHEME 3A * - Employers (incl self-employed who are employers) who keep jobs even in the event of interruption or reduction of their activity during a declared emergency situation - payment of compensation of the employee's salary up to 80% of his average earnings, up to max of 880,- eur	SCHEME 3B * - Employers (incl self-employed who are employers) who keep jobs even in the event of interruption or reduction of their activities during a declared emergency situation - flat rate contribution to cover part of wage costs per employee depending on the decrease in sales	Korttidsarbete (Short-time work Allowance)
Year	Month															
2018	1				5			8								
	2				6			7								
	3				5			6								
	4				6			4								
	5				5			4								
	6				9			4								
	7				6			5								
	8				10			6								
	9				10			6								
	10				14			5								
	11				14			10								
	12				9			10								
2019	1				16			12								
	2				16			11								
	3				20			8								
	4				18			12								
	5				20			12								
	6				19			14								
	7				19			14								
	8				17			12								
	9				20			13								
	10				21			14								
	11				13			17								
	12				16			18								
2020	1				13			27								
	2				17			31								
	3	3,570	17868*		12928			66,589		56,308	23,639		13,693	2,647	12,584	
	4	5,929	22543*		14257	230	139538 a	104,496	4,771	128,880	28,127		11,253	4,545	17,815	48,313
	5	4,459	18845*	3908*	10361	10,976		100,078	9,442	118,540	25,382		4,047	4,474	17,583	13,331
	6	3,411	12179*	17737*	5353	4,298		61,524	8,442	18,264	7,383	3,181	350	3,240	12,191	5,267
	7		3,241	22,505	2895	954	63654 b	40,054	3,701	5,208	5,853	4,111	79	2,694	9,720	1,864
	8		2,477	23,467	2366	374		38,807	830	7,100	5,151	4,091	53	2,521	10,120	1,331
	9		1,910	23,267	1976	247		26,418	362		4,644	4,074	46	2,337	9,022	1,059
	10		1,482	15,690				n.a.	132				22	149	518	703
	11							n.a.								544
	12							n.a.								

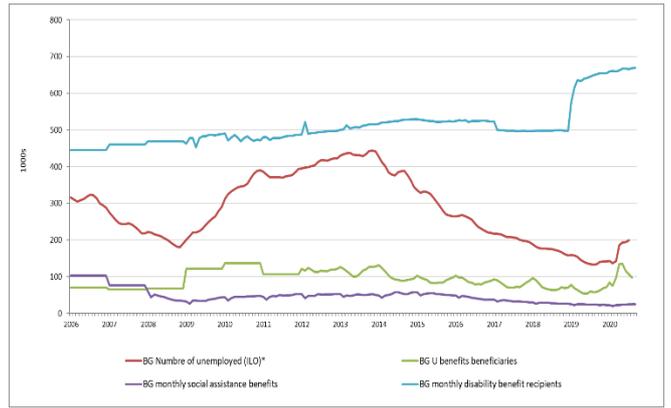
Source: Data on recipients of crisis support measures collected via the SPC-IGS and EMCO-IG. Notes: Figures show the number of companies receiving benefits for employees. Figures are generally the total number of benefiting companies during the month in question (HU, PL only new beneficiaries; those that started receiving benefits in the month in question for 3 months). For DK the figure shown is the total number (unique companies) from March 2020 to 23 November 2020. For LT the data are updated (some companies returned subsidies because of irregularities or other reasons). For NL, figures cover three phases a=NOW 1 March-May 2020, b=NOW 2 June-September 2020, c=NOW 3.1 October - December 2020. For SE, the July figure includes data until 11th August - no separate data for July available.

Standard benefit recipient numbers charts

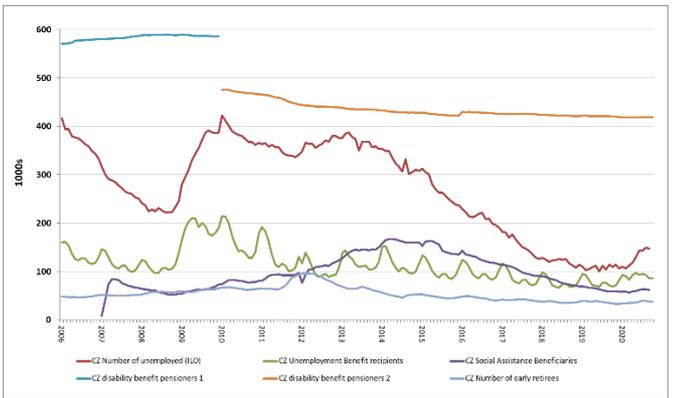
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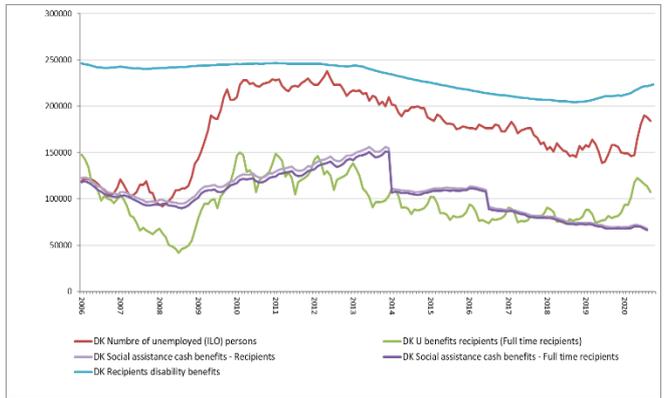
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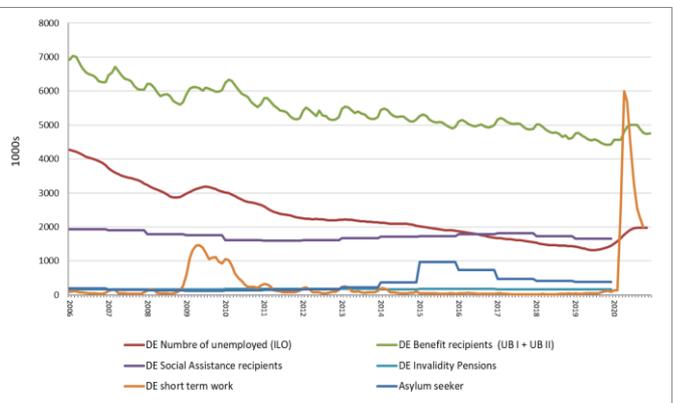
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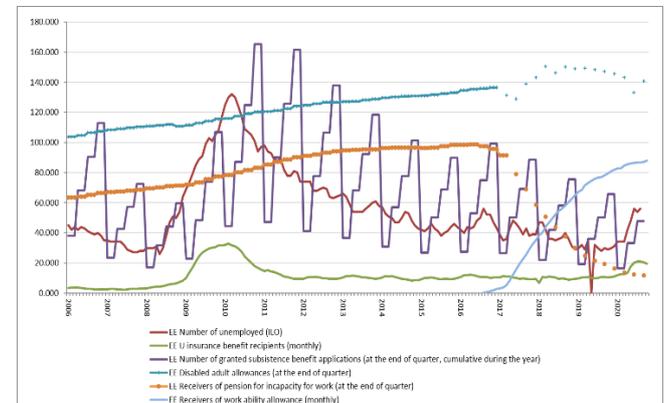
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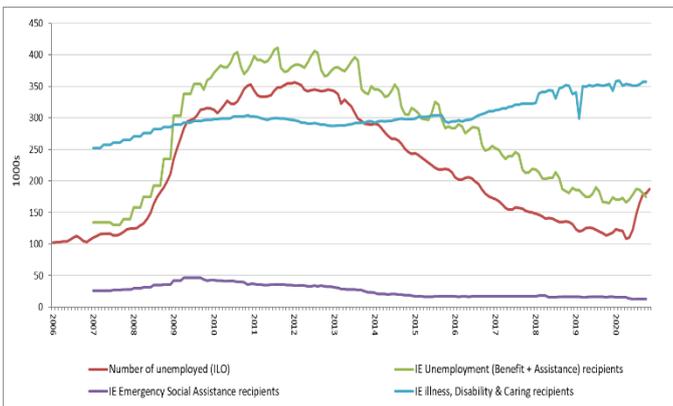
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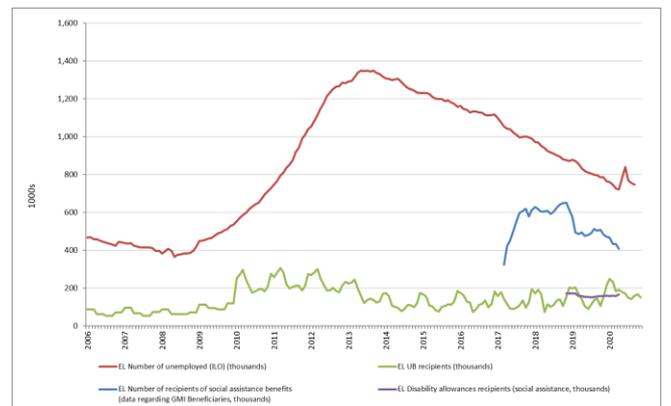
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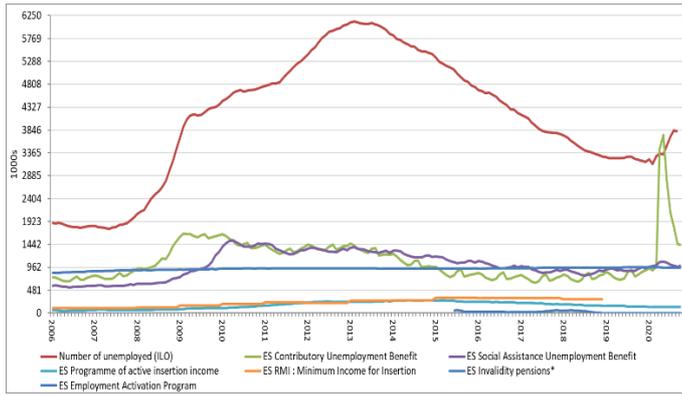
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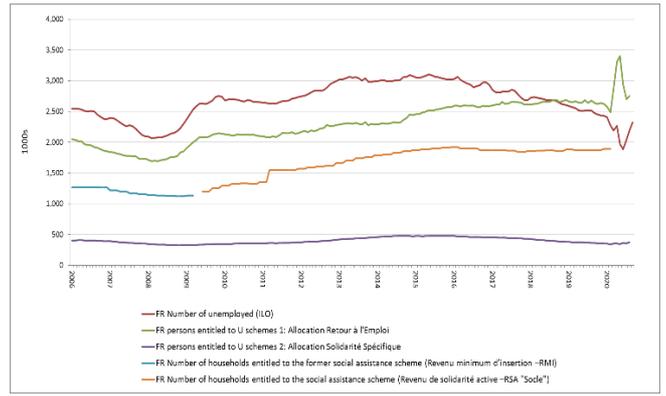
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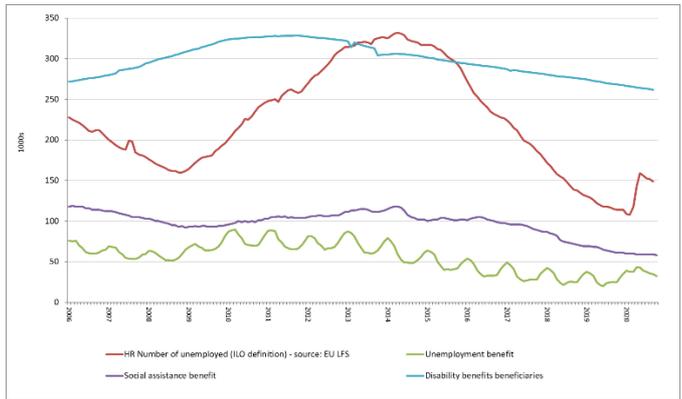
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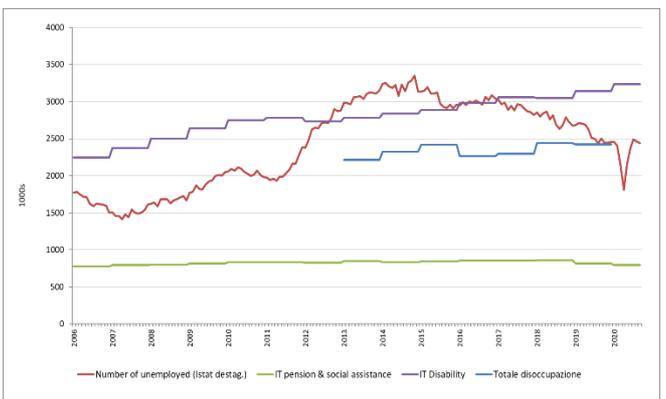
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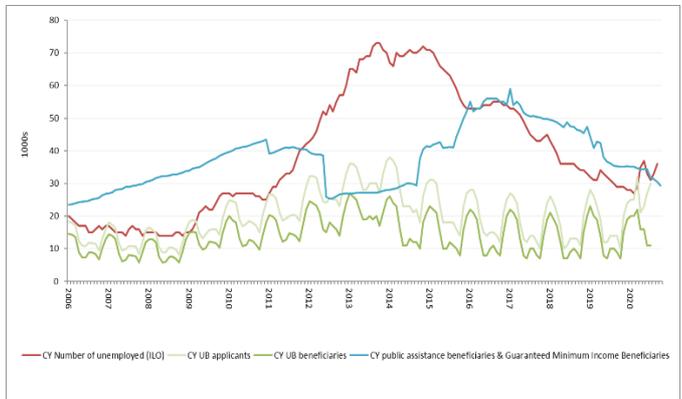
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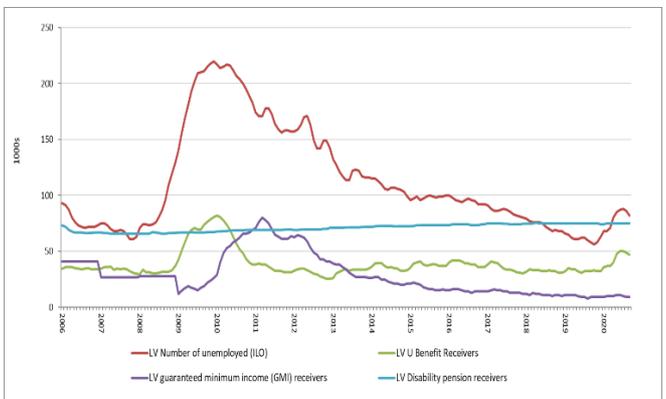
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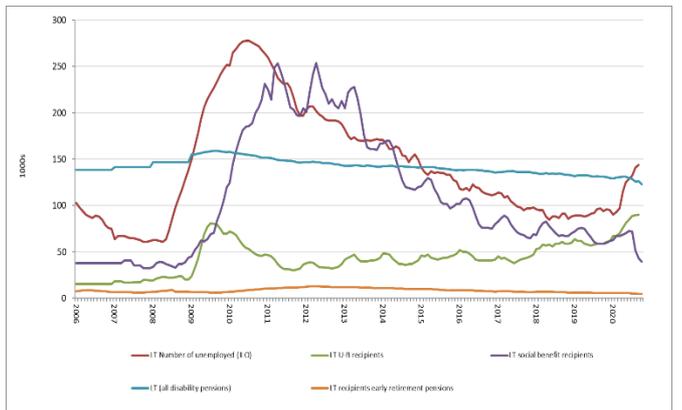
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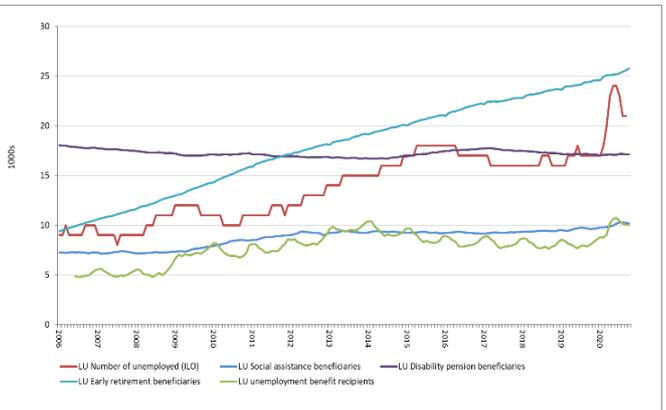
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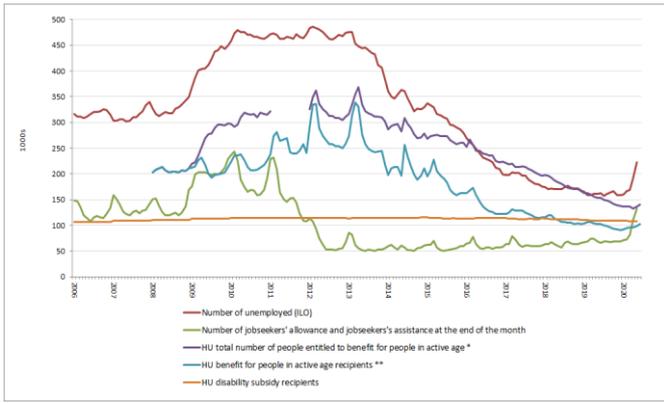
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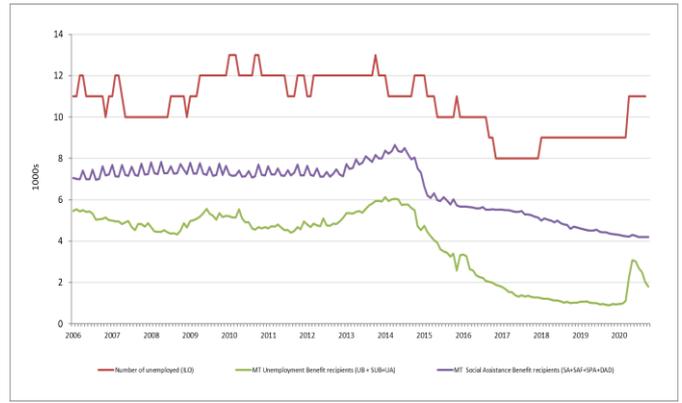
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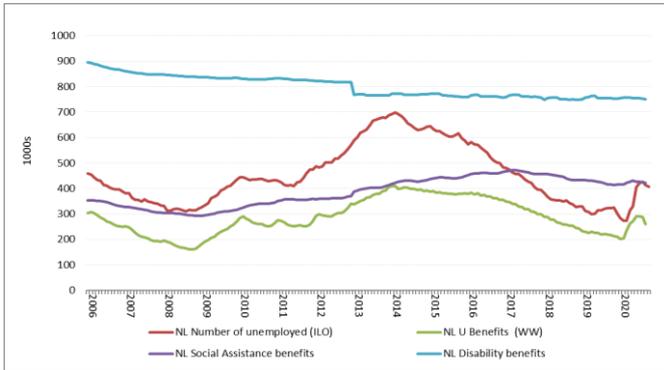
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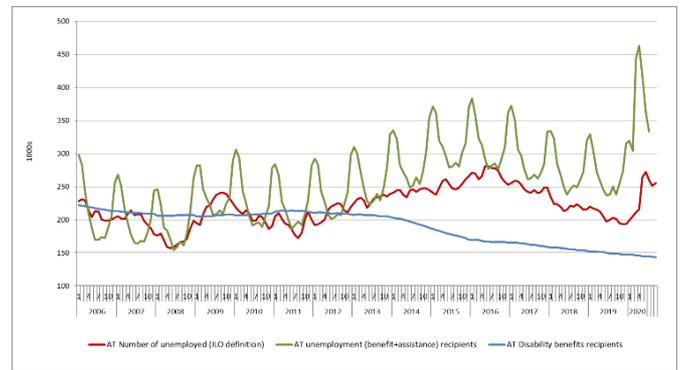
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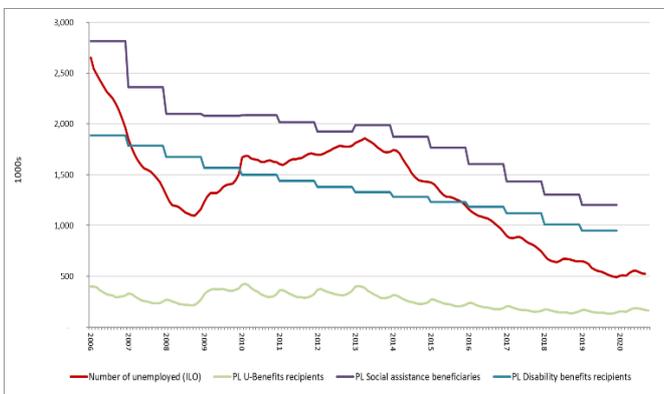
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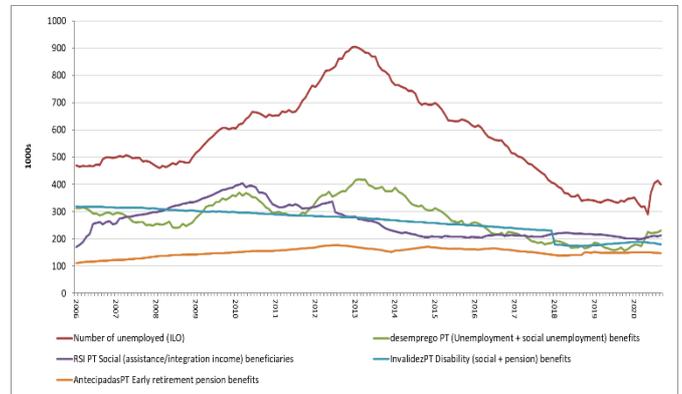
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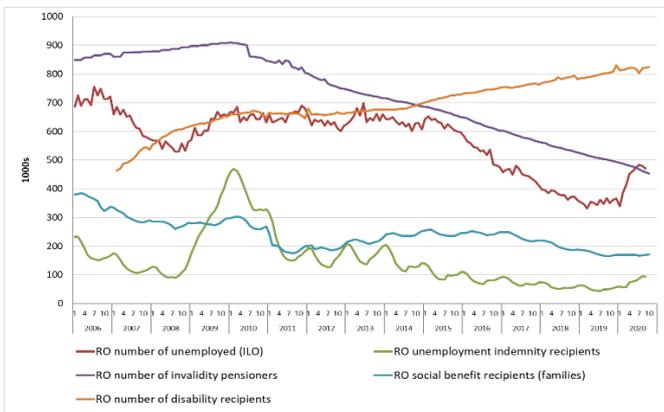
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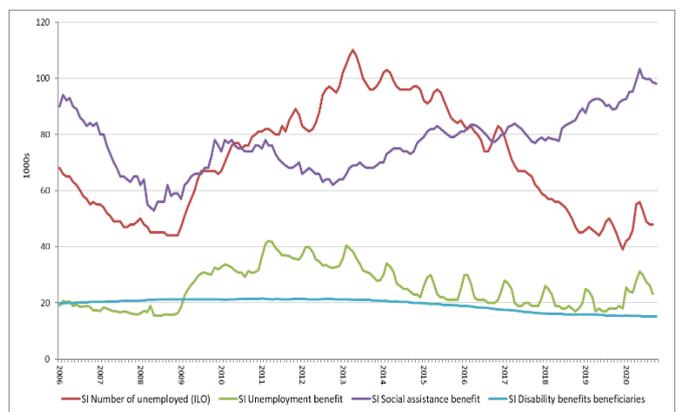
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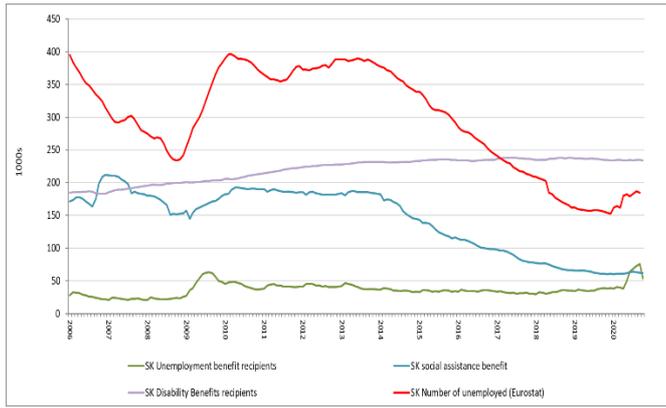
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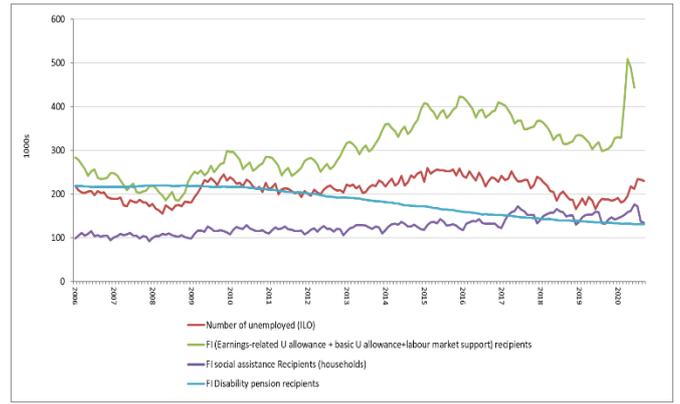
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SK



FI



SE

