

133/2023 – 30 November 2023

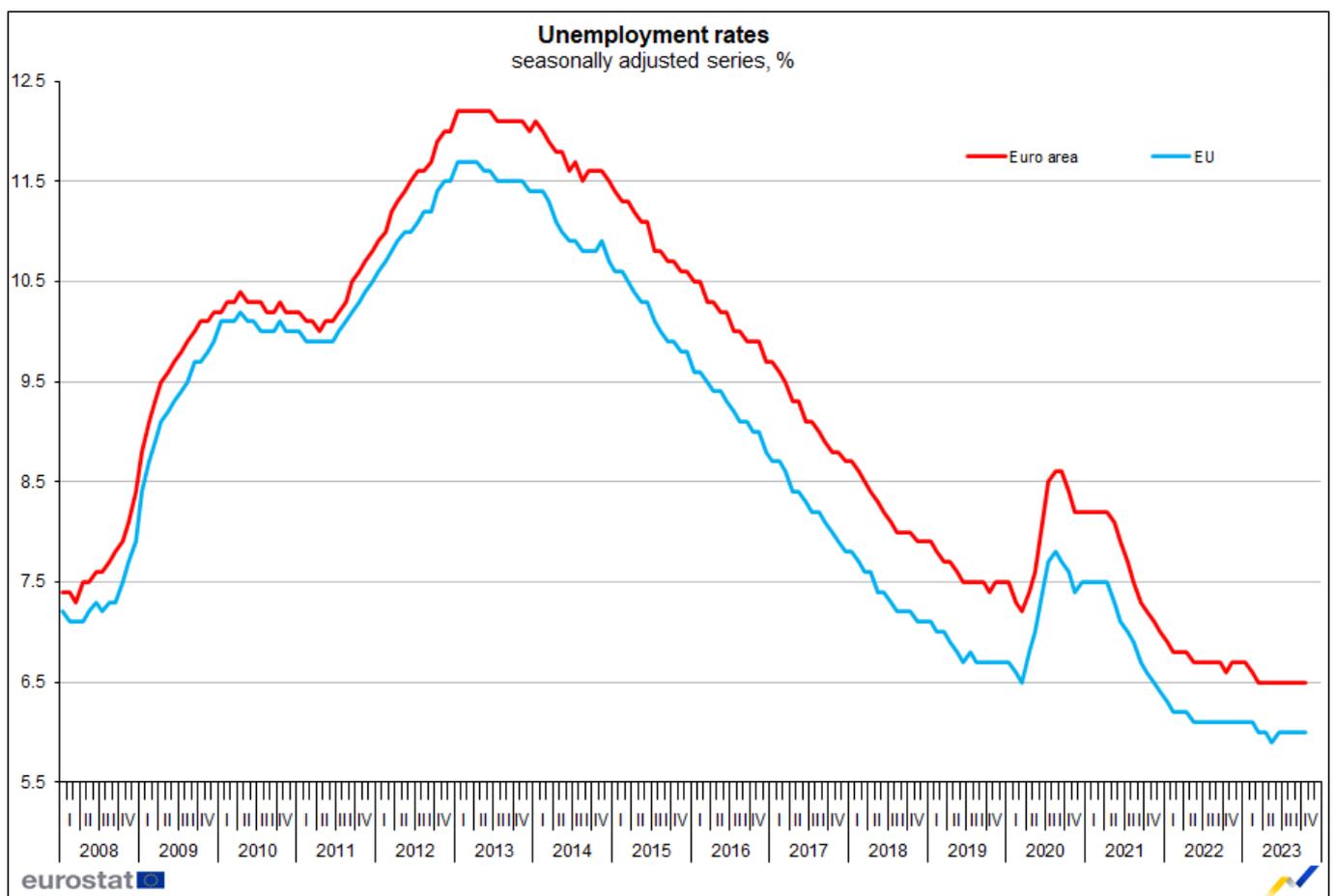
October 2023

## Euro area unemployment at 6.5%

EU at 6.0%

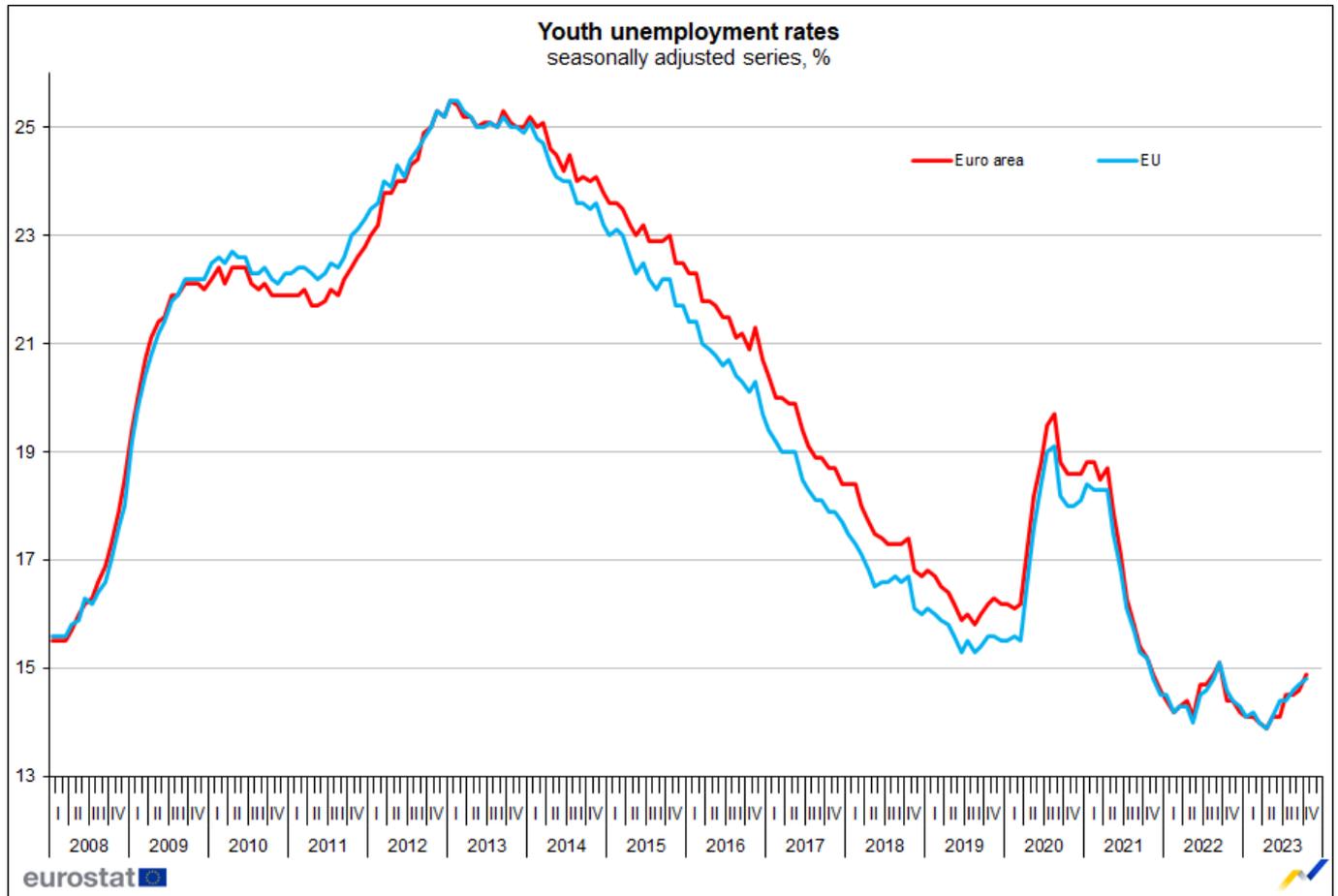
In October 2023, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 6.5%, stable compared with September 2023 and down from 6.6% in October 2022. The **EU** unemployment rate was 6.0% in October 2023, stable compared with September 2023 and down from 6.1% in October 2022. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 13.171 million persons in the **EU**, of whom 11.134 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in October 2023. Compared with September 2023, unemployment increased by 71 thousand in the **EU** and by 48 thousand in the **euro area**. Compared with October 2022, unemployment increased by 27 thousand in the **EU** and decreased by 28 thousand in the **euro area**.



## Youth unemployment

In October 2023, 2.881 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.380 million were in the **euro area**. In October 2023, the youth unemployment rate was 14.8% in the **EU**, up from 14.7% in September 2023, and 14.9% in the **euro area**, up from 14.6% in the previous month. Compared with September 2023, youth unemployment increased by 36 thousand in the **EU** and by 44 thousand in the **euro area**. Compared with October 2022, youth unemployment increased by 106 thousand in the **EU** and by 132 thousand in the **euro area**.



## Unemployment by sex

In October 2023, the unemployment rate for women was 6.4% in the **EU**, up from 6.3% in September 2023. The unemployment rate for men was 5.8% in October 2023, up from 5.7% in September 2023. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women was 6.9% and the unemployment rate for men was 6.2%, both stable compared with the previous month.

## Additional labour market indicators

The estimates in this News Release 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 four 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 second quarter of 2023](#). LFS data for the third quarter of 2023 will be released on 15 December 2023.

## Geographical information

**Euro area** (EA20): Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

**European Union** (EU27): Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.

## Methods and definitions

Eurostat publishes harmonised unemployment rates for individual EU Member States, the euro area and the EU. These unemployment rates are based on the definition recommended by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The measurement is based on a harmonised data source, the European Union Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Based on the ILO definition, Eurostat defines **unemployed persons** as persons aged 15 to 74 who:

- are without work;
- are available to start work within the next two weeks;
- and have actively sought employment at some time during the previous four weeks.

The **unemployment rate** is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

The **labour force** is the total number of people employed plus unemployed. In this news release unemployment rates are based on employment and unemployment data covering persons aged 15 to 74.

The **youth unemployment rate** is the number of people aged 15 to 24 unemployed as a percentage of the labour force of the same age. Therefore, the youth unemployment rate should not be interpreted as the share of jobless people in the overall youth population.

When data for the most recent month are not available for a Member State, EU and EA aggregates are calculated using the latest data available for that Member State.

## Country notes

Germany, the Netherlands, Finland, Sweden as well as Iceland and Norway: the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

Estonia and Portugal: 3-month moving averages of LFS data are used instead of pure monthly indicators.

## Revisions and timetable

The data in this News Release can be subject to revisions, caused by updates to the seasonally adjusted series whenever new monthly data are added; the inclusion of the most recent LFS data in the calculation process; update of seasonal adjustment models with complete annual data.

Compared with the rates published in News Release [124/2023](#) of 3 November 2023, the September 2023 unemployment rate for the EU and the euro area remained unchanged. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Estonia (by 0.9 pp), Cyprus, Croatia and Malta (by 0.3 pp each) as well as Belgium (by 0.2 pp). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Lithuania (by 0.7 pp), Ireland (by 0.5 pp), Slovenia (by 0.3 pp) and Italy (by 0.2 pp).

## For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) on employment and unemployment

Eurostat [database section](#) on unemployment, including non-seasonally adjusted and trend data

Eurostat Statistics Explained articles on [unemployment](#) and on [youth unemployment](#)

Eurostat [metadata](#) on adjusted unemployment series

Eurostat [Euro indicators dashboard](#)

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

## For further information on data

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## Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Oct 22	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Oct 22	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23
<b>Euro area</b>	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	<b>6.5</b>	11 162	11 125	11 031	11 086	<b>11 134</b>
<b>EU</b>	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	<b>6.0</b>	13 144	13 119	13 018	13 100	<b>13 171</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.6	5.3	5.3	5.4	<b>5.6</b>	297	282	279	285	<b>295</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.4	<b>4.4</b>	132	137	136	133	<b>132</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	2.2	2.7	2.5	2.7	<b>2.9</b>	113	142	129	141	<b>151</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	4.6	5.5	4.3	4.7	<b>5.4</b>	144	173	133	149	<b>172</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.1	<b>3.1</b>	1 343	1 330	1 341	1 350	<b>1 357</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	5.4	7.5	7.3	6.5	<b>6.3</b>	39	56	55	48	<b>47</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.7	<b>4.8</b>	120	121	123	130	<b>133</b>
<b>Greece</b>	12.1*	10.7	10.6	10.0	:	572*	505	492	468	:
<b>Spain</b>	12.9	12.0	11.9	12.0	<b>12.0</b>	3 014	2 866	2 861	2 878	<b>2 889</b>
<b>France</b>	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.3	<b>7.3</b>	2 205	2 281	2 265	2 247	<b>2 248</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.5	<b>6.5</b>	117	111	112	112	<b>110</b>
<b>Italy</b>	7.9	7.8	7.5	7.6	<b>7.8</b>	1 981	1 981	1 918	1 953	<b>1 998</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	6.8	6.1	6.0	5.9	<b>5.8</b>	33	30	29	29	<b>29</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	7.0	6.6	6.6	6.5	<b>6.5</b>	67	63	62	62	<b>62</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	6.1	6.3	6.7	6.9	<b>6.5</b>	92	99	104	107	<b>103</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	4.9	5.2	5.3	5.5	<b>5.5</b>	16	18	18	19	<b>19</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.7	4.0	4.0	3.9	<b>4.1</b>	180	196	197	194	<b>201</b>
<b>Malta</b>	2.8	2.3	2.5	2.5	<b>2.5</b>	8	7	8	8	<b>8</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	<b>3.6</b>	365	362	364	371	<b>361</b>
<b>Austria</b>	4.6	5.7	5.4	5.5	<b>5.1</b>	213	271	256	258	<b>240</b>
<b>Poland</b>	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>	514	483	482	480	<b>481</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.6	<b>6.7</b>	318	336	336	349	<b>353</b>
<b>Romania</b>	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.5	<b>5.4</b>	461	455	448	449	<b>446</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	<b>4.1</b>	37	39	39	40	<b>43</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	<b>5.8</b>	167	162	161	161	<b>161</b>
<b>Finland</b>	6.9	7.3	7.3	7.3	<b>7.3</b>	194	206	207	207	<b>206</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	7.3	7.7	7.8	7.9	<b>8.0</b>	411	440	446	452	<b>457</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	<b>3.5</b>	8	8	8	8	<b>8</b>
<b>Norway</b>	3.3	3.5	3.5	3.6	<b>3.6</b>	98	105	106	106	<b>107</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.2	:	214	201	203	211	:
<b>United States</b>	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.8	<b>3.9</b>	6 006	5 821	6 299	6 301	<b>6 473</b>

: Data not available (Greece data not available for October 2023) \* September 2022

Source datasets: une\_rt\_m (rates) and une\_rt\_m (in 1 000 persons)

## Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Oct 22	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Oct 22	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23
<b>Euro area</b>	14.4	14.5	14.5	14.6	<b>14.9</b>	2 248	2 310	2 311	2 336	<b>2 380</b>
<b>EU</b>	14.6	14.4	14.6	14.7	<b>14.8</b>	2 775	2 787	2 805	2 845	<b>2 881</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	15.7	17.5	17.5	17.5	:	65	74	74	74	:
<b>Bulgaria</b>	8.9	13.4	13.5	12.8	<b>12.4</b>	13	16	16	15	<b>15</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	5.8	9.4	7.9	9.3	<b>7.1</b>	15	28	21	25	<b>21</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	13.6	11.8	11.6	12.6	<b>14.0</b>	62	54	50	58	<b>65</b>
<b>Germany</b>	5.9	5.6	5.6	5.6	<b>5.6</b>	269	253	251	250	<b>249</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	12.8	22.6	21.0	20.2	<b>20.7</b>	7	14	13	12	<b>12</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	10.7	10.7	11.2	12.5	<b>12.5</b>	36	38	40	46	<b>47</b>
<b>Greece</b>	27.9	22.6	21.9	19.4	:	67	57	52	51	:
<b>Spain</b>	30.2	28.0	27.8	27.8	<b>28.0</b>	488	482	481	488	<b>497</b>
<b>France</b>	17.3	17.6	17.8	17.6	<b>17.7</b>	579	593	600	594	<b>602</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	18.9	19.0	19.0	19.0	:	24	23	23	23	:
<b>Italy</b>	23.5	23.2	23.6	23.2	<b>24.7</b>	348	353	357	353	<b>384</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	17.9	17.5	17.5	17.5	:	7	7	7	7	:
<b>Latvia</b>	18.1	11.1	12.3	13.3	<b>13.9</b>	12	7	8	9	<b>10</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	11.9	9.6	12.0	14.1	<b>13.3</b>	12	11	12	13	<b>15</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	18.1	17.5	18.1	19.3	<b>19.3</b>	4	5	5	5	<b>5</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	10.8	12.2	12.8	12.1	<b>13.5</b>	33	38	39	37	<b>42</b>
<b>Malta</b>	8.7	6.5	6.7	6.8	<b>7.0</b>	2	2	2	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	7.8	8.6	8.7	8.8	<b>8.4</b>	138	155	157	160	<b>151</b>
<b>Austria</b>	9.3	12.1	11.4	11.9	<b>10.5</b>	49	66	62	65	<b>55</b>
<b>Poland</b>	12.4	11.0	10.7	10.4	<b>10.5</b>	130	116	113	110	<b>112</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	17.9	20.2	20.3	21.2	<b>20.8</b>	63	80	78	82	<b>80</b>
<b>Romania</b>	22.2	22.3 *	:	:	:	116	107 *	:	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	8.9	11.8	11.8	11.8	:	6	9	9	9	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	20.0	20.4	20.6	20.9	<b>20.8</b>	28	29	29	29	<b>29</b>
<b>Finland</b>	15.2	16.6	16.6	16.7	<b>16.8</b>	50	54	54	55	<b>55</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	21.4	21.6	21.7	21.9	<b>22.1</b>	145	148	149	150	<b>151</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	8.0	8.8	8.9	9.0	<b>9.1</b>	3	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Norway</b>	12.6	10.9	11.8	10.5	<b>11.1</b>	53	47	51	45	<b>48</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	7.1	8.1	8.2	9.2	:	41	48	49	54	:

: Data not available \* 2023 Q2 data

Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia: quarterly data

Source datasets: [une\\_rt\\_m](#) (rates) and [une\\_rt\\_m](#) (in 1 000 persons)

### Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by sex

	Males					Females				
	Oct 22	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23	Oct 22	Jul 23	Aug 23	Sept 23	Oct 23
<b>Euro area</b>	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	<b>6.2</b>	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.9	<b>6.9</b>
<b>EU</b>	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	<b>5.8</b>	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3	<b>6.4</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7	<b>5.9</b>	5.3	4.8	4.7	5.0	<b>5.2</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.1	4.6	4.7	4.6	<b>4.6</b>	3.7	4.4	4.3	4.2	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.5	<b>2.4</b>	2.5	3.5	3.0	3.0	<b>3.6</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	4.7	5.4	3.6	4.5	<b>5.0</b>	4.5	5.7	5.1	5.0	<b>5.8</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.3	<b>3.3</b>	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	5.7	7.0	7.0	5.9	<b>5.5</b>	5.1	7.9	7.7	7.1	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	4.3	4.6	4.7	4.9	<b>5.0</b>	4.7	4.1	4.2	4.5	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Greece</b>	8.5	8.5	8.1	8.0	:	15.9	13.4	13.7	12.4	:
<b>Spain</b>	11.2	10.5	10.4	10.5	<b>10.4</b>	14.7	13.6	13.6	13.7	<b>13.7</b>
<b>France</b>	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.3	<b>7.3</b>	7.0	7.4	7.4	7.3	<b>7.3</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	<b>5.7</b>	7.7	7.2	7.3	7.3	<b>7.3</b>
<b>Italy</b>	7.0	7.0	6.8	6.7	<b>6.9</b>	9.1	8.9	8.5	8.9	<b>9.0</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.2	<b>6.2</b>	7.8	5.9	5.7	5.6	<b>5.5</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	8.6	8.0	7.9	7.8	<b>7.7</b>	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	6.6	6.9	7.6	7.8	<b>7.4</b>	5.6	5.7	5.9	6.0	<b>5.5</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.5	<b>5.5</b>	4.8	5.4	5.4	5.6	<b>5.6</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.9	<b>4.1</b>	3.6	4.0	4.1	4.0	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Malta</b>	3.0	2.3	2.4	2.5	<b>2.4</b>	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.6	<b>2.6</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.6	<b>3.5</b>	4.0	3.7	3.7	3.8	<b>3.6</b>
<b>Austria</b>	4.6	5.8	5.7	5.9	<b>5.5</b>	4.6	5.6	5.1	5.0	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Poland</b>	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	5.8	6.1	5.9	6.2	<b>6.2</b>	6.5	6.6	6.8	7.0	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Romania</b>	6.2	5.8	5.8	5.8	<b>5.7</b>	4.9	5.4	5.1	5.1	<b>5.1</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	3.5	3.7	3.6	3.7	<b>4.0</b>	3.9	3.9	4.1	4.2	<b>4.3</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8	<b>5.7</b>	6.3	5.9	6.0	5.9	<b>6.0</b>
<b>Finland</b>	7.2	8.0	8.1	8.0	<b>8.0</b>	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.5	<b>6.5</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	7.0	7.5	7.6	7.6	<b>7.7</b>	7.6	7.9	8.1	8.2	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	<b>4.0</b>	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>
<b>Norway</b>	3.3	3.7	3.8	3.7	<b>3.9</b>	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.3	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.9	:	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.5	:

: Data not available

Source dataset: [une\\_rt\\_m](#)