

103/2014 - 1 July 2014

May 2014

## Euro area unemployment rate at 11.6%

EU28 at 10.3%

The **euro area**<sup>1</sup> (EA18) seasonally-adjusted<sup>2</sup> unemployment rate<sup>3</sup> was 11.6% in May 2014, stable compared with April 2014<sup>4</sup>, but down from 12.0% in May 2013. The **EU28**<sup>1</sup> unemployment rate was 10.3% in May 2014, down from 10.4% in April 2014<sup>4</sup>, and from 10.9% in May 2013. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

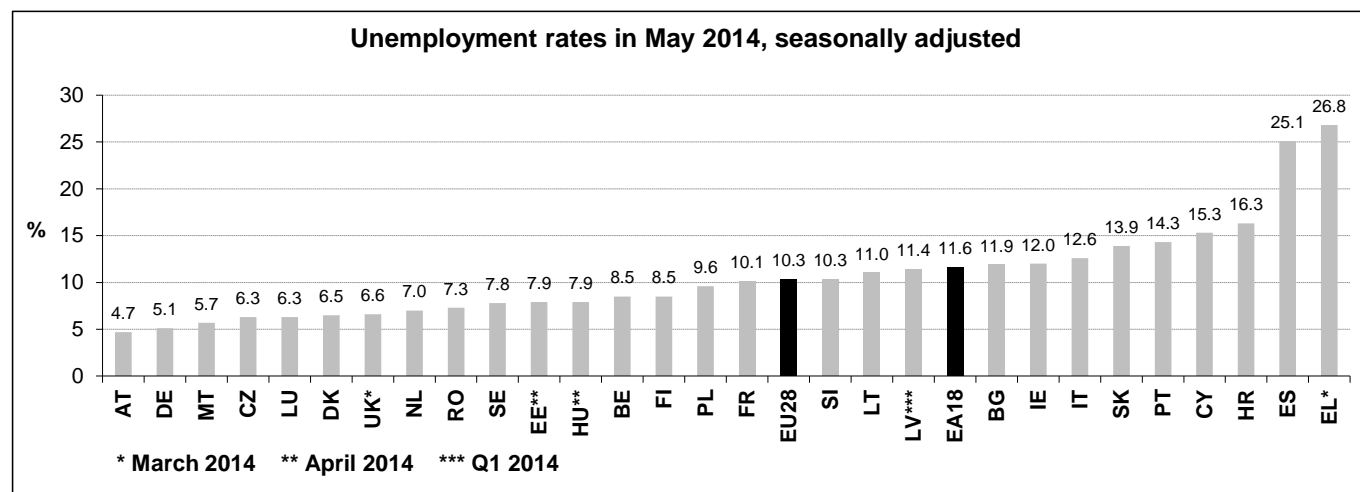
Eurostat estimates that 25.184 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 18.552 million were in the **euro area**, were unemployed in May 2014. Compared with April 2014, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 63 000 in the **EU28** and by 28 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with May 2013, unemployment fell by 1.361 million in the **EU28** and by 636 000 in the **euro area**.

### Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates were recorded in **Austria** (4.7%), **Germany** (5.1%) and **Malta** (5.7%), and the highest in **Greece** (26.8% in March 2014) and **Spain** (25.1%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate fell in twenty one Member States, increased in six and remained stable in **Austria**. The largest decreases were registered in **Hungary** (10.5% to 7.9% between April 2013 and April 2014), **Portugal** (16.9% to 14.3%) and **Ireland** (13.9% to 12.0%), and the highest increases in **Luxembourg** (5.8% to 6.3%), **Italy** (12.1% to 12.6%), **Finland** (8.1% to 8.5%) and the **Netherlands** (6.6% to 7.0%).

In May 2014, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 6.3%, stable compared with April 2014, and down from 7.5% in May 2013.



## Youth unemployment

In May 2014, 5.187 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 3.356 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with May 2013, youth unemployment decreased by 464 000 in the **EU28** and by 205 000 in the **euro area**. In May 2014, the youth unemployment rate<sup>5</sup> was 22.2% in the **EU28** and 23.3% in the **euro area**, compared with 23.6% and 23.9% respectively in May 2013. In May 2014, the lowest rates were observed in **Germany** (7.8%), **Austria** (8.9%) and the **Netherlands** (10.8%), and the highest in **Greece** (57.7% in March 2014), **Spain** (54.0%) and **Croatia** (48.7% in the first quarter of 2014).

1. The euro area (EA18) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.  
The EU28 includes Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), the Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Croatia (HR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE) and the United Kingdom (UK).  
The tables also include Iceland, Norway and the United States.
2. Non-seasonally adjusted and trend data can be found in the statistical database on the Eurostat website. For further details please refer to the *Unemployment statistics* article in Statistics Explained:  
[http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\\_explained/index.php/Unemployment\\_statistics](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Unemployment_statistics)
3. Eurostat produces 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 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.
4. The data in this News Release are normally subject to small revisions, caused by the updates to the seasonally adjusted series whenever new monthly data are added. Larger revisions can occur when the most recent LFS data are included in the calculation process. Compared with the rates published in News Release 83/2014 of 3 June 2014, the April 2014 unemployment rate for the EA18 has been revised from 11.7% to 11.6%. The rate remains unchanged at 10.4% for the EU28. Among Member States, rates have been revised between 0.2 and 0.4 percentage points for Greece (for February 2014), France and Croatia. The rates have been revised downwards by 0.9 percentage points for Bulgaria and Cyprus and by 1.0 percentage points for Malta, and upwards by 0.7 percentage points for Slovenia. The revisions for Greece and Cyprus also reflect the inclusion of the latest Census results in the weighting of the LFS.
5. 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. For further details please refer to the *Youth unemployment* article in Statistics Explained:  
[http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\\_explained/index.php/Youth\\_unemployment](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Youth_unemployment)
6. Latvia: quarterly data for all series.  
Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia: quarterly data for youth unemployment.
7. For Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Finland and Iceland the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.
8. For Denmark, Estonia, Hungary and the United Kingdom 3-month moving averages of LFS data are used instead of pure monthly indicators.

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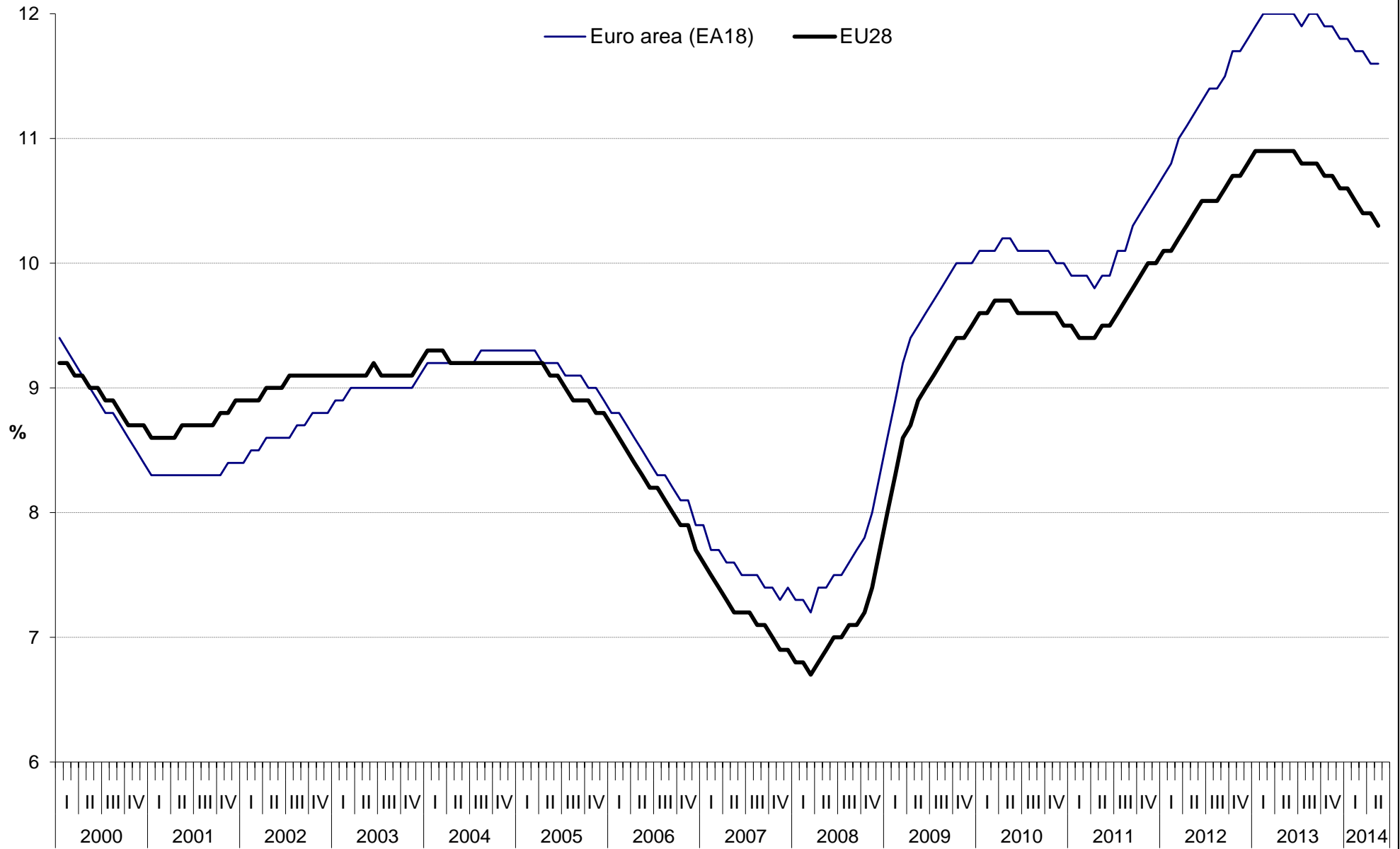
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Selected Principal European Economic Indicators: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/euroindicators>  
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### Euro area and EU28 unemployment rates Seasonally adjusted series

— Euro area (EA18)    — EU28



### Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	May 13	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	May 13	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14
<b>EA18</b>	12.0	11.7	11.7	11.6	<b>11.6</b>	19 188	18 771	18 686	18 580	<b>18 552</b>
<b>EU28</b>	10.9	10.5	10.4	10.4	<b>10.3</b>	26 545	25 588	25 424	25 247	<b>25 184</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	<b>8.5</b>	417	415	417	420	<b>422</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	13.0	12.2	12.1	11.9	<b>11.9</b>	439	413	409	402	<b>399</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	7.0	6.6	6.6	6.4	<b>6.3</b>	374	350	350	338	<b>332</b>
<b>Denmark<sup>8</sup></b>	6.9	6.9	6.5	6.5	<b>6.5</b>	198	199	188	186	<b>187</b>
<b>Germany<sup>7</sup></b>	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.1	<b>5.1</b>	2 272	2 205	2 201	2 196	<b>2 187</b>
<b>Estonia<sup>8</sup></b>	8.4**	7.8	7.7	7.9	:	57**	53	52	53	:
<b>Ireland</b>	13.9	12.1	12.0	11.9	<b>12.0</b>	300	260	257	256	<b>257</b>
<b>Greece</b>	27.2*	26.9	26.8	:	:	1304*	1 276	1 275	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	26.2	25.3	25.3	25.1	<b>25.1</b>	6 082	5 782	5 763	5 721	<b>5 698</b>
<b>France</b>	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.1	<b>10.1</b>	3 012	2 992	2 976	2 953	<b>2 960</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	16.9	17.3	17.1	16.6	<b>16.3</b>	284	291	288	282	<b>275</b>
<b>Italy</b>	12.1	12.7	12.6	12.5	<b>12.6</b>	3 096	3 243	3 215	3 197	<b>3 222</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	15.9	15.7	15.9	15.5	<b>15.3</b>	69	67	68	65	<b>64</b>
<b>Latvia<sup>6</sup></b>	12.7***	11.4	11.4	:	:	118***	116	116	:	:
<b>Lithuania</b>	12.1	11.6	11.7	11.2	<b>11.0</b>	176	172	174	166	<b>161</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	5.8	6.2	6.2	6.2	<b>6.3</b>	15	16	16	16	<b>16</b>
<b>Hungary<sup>8</sup></b>	10.5**	7.9	7.9	7.9	:	458**	354	352	355	:
<b>Malta</b>	6.3	6.1	5.9	5.8	<b>5.7</b>	12	11	11	11	<b>11</b>
<b>Netherlands<sup>7</sup></b>	6.6	7.3	7.2	7.2	<b>7.0</b>	594	649	642	636	<b>623</b>
<b>Austria<sup>7</sup></b>	4.7	4.9	4.9	4.8	<b>4.7</b>	206	216	214	210	<b>208</b>
<b>Poland</b>	10.5	9.9	9.8	9.7	<b>9.6</b>	1 823	1 730	1 709	1 688	<b>1 672</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	16.9	14.9	14.8	14.6	<b>14.3</b>	881	767	759	750	<b>736</b>
<b>Romania</b>	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1	<b>7.3</b>	723	721	724	702	<b>718</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	10.5	10.2	10.3	10.3	<b>10.3</b>	106	103	104	104	<b>104</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	14.2	13.9	13.8	13.9	<b>13.9</b>	387	376	376	376	<b>377</b>
<b>Finland<sup>7</sup></b>	8.1	8.4	8.4	8.5	<b>8.5</b>	217	224	225	226	<b>228</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	7.9	8.1	8.0	8.1	<b>7.8</b>	404	417	415	419	<b>402</b>
<b>United Kingdom<sup>8</sup></b>	7.7*	6.7	6.6	:	:	2470*	2 170	2 129	:	:
<b>Iceland<sup>7</sup></b>	5.6	5.3	5.2	5.2	<b>5.1</b>	10	10	10	10	<b>10</b>
<b>Norway</b>	3.5**	3.5	3.3	3.3	:	99**	94	91	90	:
<b>United States</b>	7.5	6.7	6.7	6.3	<b>6.3</b>	11 701	10 409	10 444	9 681	<b>9 836</b>

: Data not available

\* March 2013

\*\* April 2013

\*\*\* Q1 2013

### Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	May 13	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	May 13	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14
<b>EA18</b>	23.9	23.7	23.6	23.4	<b>23.3</b>	3 561	3 435	3 414	3 368	<b>3 356</b>
<b>EU28</b>	23.6	22.7	22.5	22.3	<b>22.2</b>	5 651	5 345	5 293	5 231	<b>5 187</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	23.5	23.9	23.7	23.4	<b>23.4</b>	99	97	96	95	<b>95</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	29.1	26.3	26.0	25.2	<b>24.6</b>	69	53	51	48	<b>46</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	18.7	16.5	16.3	16.4	<b>16.5</b>	70	59	58	58	<b>58</b>
<b>Denmark<sup>8</sup></b>	12.6	13.3	12.8	12.0	<b>12.4</b>	55	57	55	51	<b>53</b>
<b>Germany<sup>7</sup></b>	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.8	<b>7.8</b>	351	348	346	344	<b>341</b>
<b>Estonia<sup>8</sup></b>	15.3	16.5	17.6	20.1	:	9	9	11	11	:
<b>Ireland</b>	28.1	26.3	25.4	24.3	<b>23.7</b>	61	53	50	47	<b>46</b>
<b>Greece</b>	59.6	57.1	57.7	:	:	188	169	173	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	55.5	53.9	53.8	53.7	<b>54.0</b>	955	876	869	855	<b>855</b>
<b>France</b>	25.1	23.8	23.3	22.7	<b>22.5</b>	706	661	642	622	<b>615</b>
<b>Croatia<sup>6</sup></b>	50.5	48.7	48.7	:	:	76	72	72	:	:
<b>Italy</b>	38.7	42.8	42.9	43.2	<b>43.0</b>	636	676	687	689	<b>700</b>
<b>Cyprus<sup>6</sup></b>	40.1	37.3	37.3	:	:	15	15	15	:	:
<b>Latvia<sup>6</sup></b>	21.3	19.7	19.7	:	:	19	18	18	:	:
<b>Lithuania</b>	22.5	21.0	21.0	19.6	<b>19.5</b>	28	27	27	26	<b>25</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	16.7	15.1	14.9	14.9	<b>15.2</b>	3	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Hungary<sup>8</sup></b>	27.5	20.6	20.0	19.9	:	85	67	65	65	:
<b>Malta</b>	13.2	13.9	13.9	13.7	<b>13.7</b>	4	4	4	4	<b>4</b>
<b>Netherlands<sup>7</sup></b>	10.6	11.5	11.3	11.0	<b>10.8</b>	152	162	157	153	<b>149</b>
<b>Austria<sup>7</sup></b>	8.9	9.8	9.5	9.2	<b>8.9</b>	52	58	55	53	<b>51</b>
<b>Poland</b>	27.3	25.5	25.0	24.5	<b>24.0</b>	410	385	375	366	<b>356</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	39.0	36.2	36.5	35.9	<b>34.8</b>	150	138	140	140	<b>135</b>
<b>Romania<sup>6</sup></b>	23.6	24.4	24.4	:	:	189	192	192	:	:
<b>Slovenia<sup>6</sup></b>	23.2	22.7	22.7	:	:	18	15	15	:	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	33.8	31.9	32.0	32.2	<b>32.4</b>	75	68	69	69	<b>69</b>
<b>Finland<sup>7</sup></b>	20.2	20.0	20.0	19.8	<b>19.7</b>	67	66	66	66	<b>65</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	23.6	23.6	23.4	24.1	<b>22.1</b>	155	160	154	164	<b>147</b>
<b>United Kingdom<sup>8</sup></b>	21.4	18.8	18.4	:	:	956	838	826	:	:
<b>Iceland<sup>7</sup></b>	11.5	9.9	9.7	9.4	<b>9.2</b>	4	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Norway</b>	8.8	7.8	7.7	7.9	:	34	29	29	29	:

: Data not available

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

	Males					Females				
	May 13	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	May 13	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14
EA18	11.9	11.7	11.7	11.6	<b>11.5</b>	12.1	11.8	11.8	11.7	<b>11.7</b>
EU28	10.9	10.5	10.4	10.4	<b>10.3</b>	10.9	10.5	10.5	10.4	<b>10.4</b>
Belgium	8.6	9.0	9.1	9.1	<b>9.1</b>	8.3	7.6	7.6	7.8	<b>7.9</b>
Bulgaria	14.0	12.9	12.8	12.6	<b>12.6</b>	11.8	11.4	11.4	11.2	<b>11.1</b>
Czech Republic	6.1	5.5	5.5	5.4	<b>5.3</b>	8.2	8.0	8.0	7.7	<b>7.7</b>
Denmark <sup>8</sup>	6.3	6.4	6.1	6.3	<b>6.3</b>	7.4	7.5	7.0	6.6	<b>6.7</b>
Germany <sup>7</sup>	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	<b>5.5</b>	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	<b>4.7</b>
Estonia <sup>8</sup>	8.2	8.4	8.5	8.5	:	8.2	7.3	6.9	7.2	:
Ireland	15.9	13.8	13.7	13.5	<b>13.5</b>	11.4	10.0	9.9	10.0	<b>10.0</b>
Greece	24.8	23.9	23.8	:	:	31.6	30.7	30.6	:	:
Spain	25.6	24.7	24.6	24.5	<b>24.3</b>	26.9	26.0	26.0	25.9	<b>26.0</b>
France	10.4	10.5	10.5	10.5	<b>10.5</b>	10.2	9.9	9.8	9.7	<b>9.6</b>
Croatia	17.8	17.4	17.2	16.9	<b>16.7</b>	15.8	17.3	16.9	16.3	<b>15.8</b>
Italy	11.5	12.1	11.9	11.9	<b>11.7</b>	13.0	13.5	13.5	13.4	<b>13.8</b>
Cyprus	16.6	16.0	16.4	15.8	<b>15.5</b>	15.2	15.3	15.4	15.2	<b>15.1</b>
Latvia <sup>6</sup>	12.4	12.8	12.8	:	:	11.0	10.2	10.2	:	:
Lithuania	13.5	12.9	13.0	12.2	<b>12.0</b>	10.6	10.4	10.4	10.2	<b>9.9</b>
Luxembourg	5.4	5.9	5.9	6.0	<b>6.1</b>	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.5	<b>6.6</b>
Hungary <sup>8</sup>	10.2	7.6	7.6	7.8	:	10.6	8.3	8.1	8.1	:
Malta	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.0	<b>5.9</b>	6.6	5.7	5.6	5.4	<b>5.4</b>
Netherlands <sup>7</sup>	7.1	7.6	7.4	7.3	<b>7.1</b>	6.1	6.9	7.1	7.0	<b>6.8</b>
Austria <sup>7</sup>	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.8	<b>4.6</b>	4.7	5.0	4.8	4.7	<b>4.8</b>
Poland	9.9	9.4	9.3	9.2	<b>9.2</b>	11.3	10.5	10.4	10.2	<b>10.1</b>
Portugal	16.9	14.9	14.8	14.7	<b>14.4</b>	17.0	14.9	14.7	14.5	<b>14.3</b>
Romania	7.8	7.7	7.8	7.7	<b>7.9</b>	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.3	<b>6.5</b>
Slovenia	10.1	9.4	9.4	9.3	<b>9.2</b>	10.9	11.2	11.4	11.4	<b>11.5</b>
Slovakia	13.9	13.9	13.9	13.8	<b>13.8</b>	14.6	13.8	13.8	13.9	<b>14.0</b>
Finland <sup>7</sup>	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.1	<b>9.2</b>	7.4	7.8	7.8	7.8	<b>7.8</b>
Sweden	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.0	<b>8.0</b>	7.8	7.9	7.8	8.2	<b>7.5</b>
United Kingdom <sup>8</sup>	8.3	7.0	6.8	:	:	7.1	6.4	6.3	:	:
Iceland <sup>7</sup>	6.0	5.4	5.2	5.1	<b>5.0</b>	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.2	<b>5.3</b>
Norway	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.4	:	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.2	:

: Data not available