

166/2014 - 31 October 2014

September 2014

Euro area unemployment rate at 11.5%

EU28 at 10.1%

The **euro area**¹ (EA18) seasonally-adjusted² unemployment rate³ was 11.5% in September 2014, stable compared with August 2014⁴, but down from 12.0% in September 2013. The **EU28**¹ unemployment rate was 10.1% in September 2014, also stable compared with August 2014 and down from 10.8% in September 2013. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

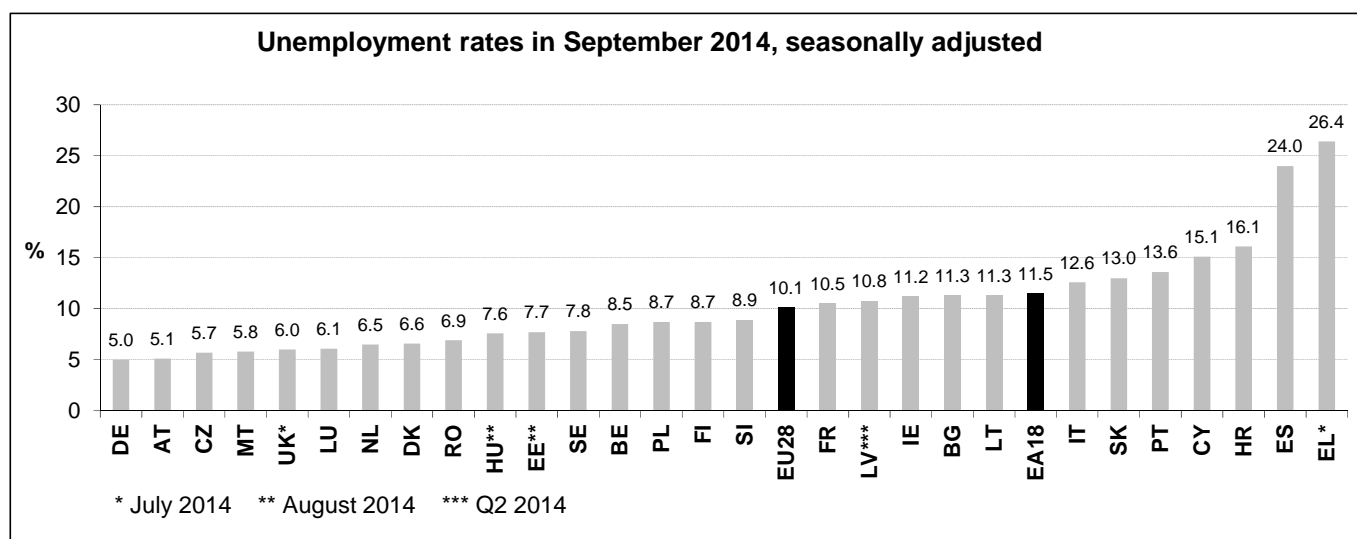
Eurostat estimates that 24.512 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 18.347 million were in the **euro area**, were unemployed in September 2014. Compared with August 2014, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 108 000 in the **EU28** and by 19 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with September 2013, unemployment fell by 1.818 million in the **EU28** and by 826 000 in the **euro area**.

Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates were recorded in **Germany** (5.0%) and **Austria** (5.1%), and the highest in **Greece** (26.4% in July 2014) and **Spain** (24.0%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate fell in twenty-one Member States, increased in six and remained stable in **Belgium**. The largest decreases were registered in **Hungary** (10.0% to 7.6% between August 2013 and August 2014), **Spain** (26.1% to 24.0%) and **Portugal** (15.7% to 13.6%), and the highest increases were registered in **Finland** (8.2% to 8.7%) and **France** (10.3% to 10.5%).

In September 2014, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 5.9%, down from 6.1% in August 2014, and from 7.2% in September 2013.



Youth unemployment

In September 2014, 4.988 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 3.340 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with September 2013, youth unemployment decreased by 595 000 in the **EU28** and by 213 000 in the **euro area**. In September 2014, the youth unemployment rate⁵ was 21.6% in the **EU28** and 23.3% in the **euro area**, compared with 23.5% and 24.0% respectively in September 2013. In September 2014, the lowest rates were observed in **Germany** (7.6%), **Austria** (9.1%) and the **Netherlands** (9.8%), and the highest in **Spain** (53.7%), **Greece** (50.7% in July 2014), **Italy** (42.9%) and **Croatia** (41.8% in the third quarter 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
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 146/2014 of 30 September 2014, the August 2014 unemployment rates remain unchanged at 11.5% for the EA18 and 10.1% for the EU28. Among Member States, rates have been revised between 0.2 and 0.4 percentage points for Greece (for June 2014), Spain, Italy and Austria.
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
6. Latvia: quarterly data for all series.
Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia: quarterly data for youth unemployment.
7. For Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Sweden and Iceland the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data. For Sweden and Iceland, seasonally adjusted data are available in the online data base on the Eurostat website: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search_database
8. For Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, the United Kingdom and Norway 3-month moving averages of LFS data are used instead of pure monthly indicators.

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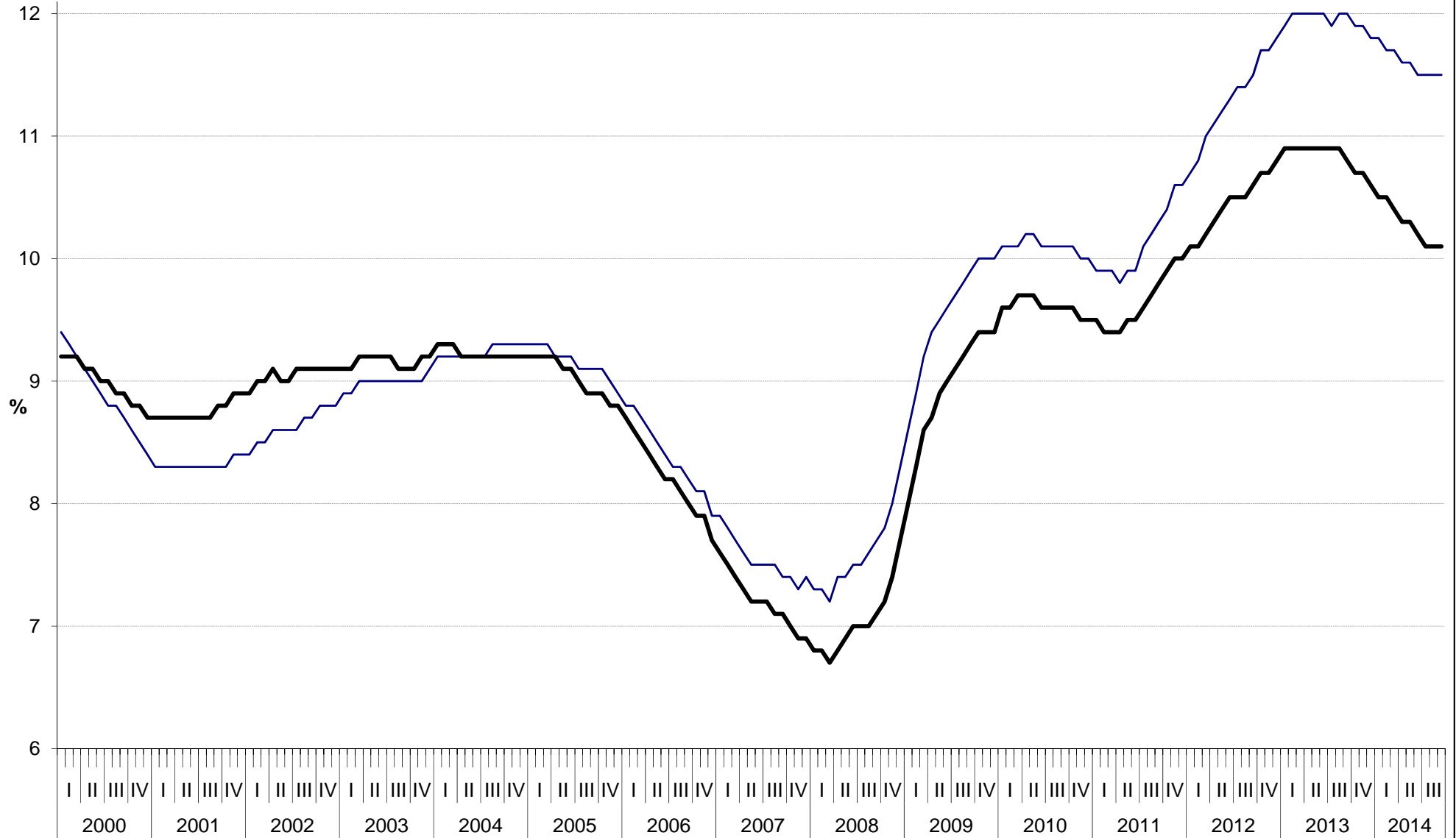
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Euro area and EU28 unemployment rates

Seasonally adjusted series

— Euro area (EA18) — EU28



Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Sep 13	Jun 14	Jul 14	Aug 14	Sep 14	Sep 13	Jun 14	Jul 14	Aug 14	Sep 14
EA18	12.0	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5	19 173	18 452	18 454	18 366	18 347
EU28	10.8	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	26 330	24 805	24 706	24 620	24 512
Belgium	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	421	421	423	424	425
Bulgaria	12.8	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.3	432	381	379	377	377
Czech Republic	7.0	6.0	5.8	6.3	5.7	368	317	307	332	302
Denmark⁶	6.8	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	197	188	191	193	194
Germany⁷	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	2 232	2 160	2 158	2 155	2 144
Estonia⁸	8.2**	7.4	7.5	7.7	:	55**	50	51	52	:
Ireland	12.6	11.6	11.5	11.4	11.2	272	248	247	245	243
Greece	27.8*	26.7	26.4	:	:	1 351*	1 294	1 282	:	:
Spain	26.1	24.5	24.3	24.2	24.0	6 031	5 616	5 575	5 531	5 498
France	10.3	10.4	10.5	10.5	10.5	3 029	3 055	3 093	3 096	3 094
Croatia	18.0	16.6	16.5	16.4	16.1	332	312	306	302	295
Italy	12.5	12.4	12.6	12.5	12.6	3 178	3 167	3 222	3 188	3 236
Cyprus	16.8	15.8	15.7	15.4	15.1	73	68	68	67	65
Latvia⁶	11.8***	10.8	:	:	:	119***	108	:	:	:
Lithuania	11.2	11.4	11.5	11.4	11.3	163	169	169	167	169
Luxembourg	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1	15	16	16	16	16
Hungary⁸	10.0**	8.1	7.8	7.6	:	442**	361	348	339	:
Malta	6.5	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.8	12	11	11	11	11
Netherlands⁷	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.5	630	605	594	586	580
Austria⁷	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9	5.1	218	223	215	217	228
Poland	10.2	9.1	8.9	8.8	8.7	1 768	1 572	1 546	1 524	1 500
Portugal	15.7	14.1	13.9	13.9	13.6	819	728	719	719	702
Romania	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	6.9	647	641	651	654	637
Slovenia	9.7	9.3	9.1	9.1	8.9	98	95	93	92	91
Slovakia	14.4	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.0	390	359	357	357	351
Finland⁷	8.2	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.7	219	231	230	231	233
Sweden⁷	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	409	410	409	407	406
United Kingdom⁸	7.7*	6.2	6.0	:	:	2 498*	2 000	1 951	:	:
Iceland⁷	5.5**	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	10**	9	9	9	9
Norway⁸	3.5**	3.3	3.4	3.7	:	98**	91	94	102	:
United States	7.2	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.9	11 188	9 507	9 689	9 636	9 180

: Data not available

* July 2013

** August 2013

*** Q2 2013

Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Sep 13	Jun 14	Jul 14	Aug 14	Sep 14	Sep 13	Jun 14	Jul 14	Aug 14	Sep 14
EA18	24.0	23.5	23.4	23.3	23.3	3 553	3 370	3 356	3 342	3 340
EU28	23.5	21.9	21.6	21.6	21.6	5 583	5 080	5 020	4 992	4 988
Belgium	23.2	23.3	23.4	23.4	23.8	96	95	95	95	96
Bulgaria	27.5	23.8	23.0	22.4	22.5	61	48	46	44	44
Czech Republic	18.7	16.8	16.4	15.9	15.1	67	60	58	56	53
Denmark⁶	12.8	12.7	12.8	12.5	12.8	56	55	56	56	57
Germany⁷	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.6	351	342	339	336	333
Estonia⁸	17.3	15.6	13.2	14.9	:	10	8	7	8	:
Ireland	26.0	25.0	25.1	25.0	24.4	55	48	48	47	45
Greece	57.2	50.6	50.7	:	:	182	160	160	:	:
Spain	55.5	53.4	53.9	54.0	53.7	934	849	850	848	852
France	24.8	24.0	24.1	24.2	24.4	693	652	656	657	665
Croatia⁶	48.6	43.4	41.8	41.8	41.8	73	68	62	62	62
Italy	40.9	43.8	42.9	43.7	42.9	669	703	705	704	698
Cyprus⁶	39.9	37.0	34.9	34.9	34.9	17	16	15	15	15
Latvia⁶	23.9	21.6	:	:	:	22	19	:	:	:
Lithuania	21.4	21.8	21.7	21.5	20.6	27	29	29	29	28
Luxembourg	15.5	15.6	15.8	15.5	15.3	3	3	3	3	2
Hungary⁸	26.4	21.4	21.0	21.0	:	82	70	69	68	:
Malta	12.9	12.5	12.7	12.4	12.2	4	3	4	3	3
Netherlands⁷	11.7	10.5	10.4	10.1	9.8	167	145	145	140	136
Austria⁷	9.5	9.5	8.9	8.6	9.1	56	55	51	50	53
Poland	27.8	23.4	23.1	22.9	22.6	408	344	333	323	318
Portugal	36.3	36.4	35.5	35.6	35.2	144	133	126	124	123
Romania⁶	23.7	24.3	:	:	:	166	160	:	:	:
Slovenia⁶	20.9	19.1	16.2	16.2	16.2	16	14	11	11	11
Slovakia	33.5	30.1	29.5	29.3	28.5	71	63	61	59	56
Finland⁷	20.0	20.0	20.0	19.9	19.8	66	65	65	65	65
Sweden⁷	23.1	22.7	22.5	22.4	22.4	154	151	150	150	149
United Kingdom⁸	20.6	16.3	15.8	:	:	943	726	709	:	:
Iceland⁷	10.7	10.0	10.2	10.3	10.3	4	3	3	3	3
Norway⁸	8.8	7.7	7.8	8.5	:	34	28	29	31	:

: Data not available

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by gender

	Males					Females				
	Sep 13	Jun 14	Jul 14	Aug 14	Sep 14	Sep 13	Jun 14	Jul 14	Aug 14	Sep 14
EA18	11.9	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3	12.1	11.8	11.8	11.7	11.7
EU28	10.8	10.1	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.9	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.2
Belgium	8.8	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.4	8.1	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Bulgaria	13.6	12.4	12.4	12.3	12.3	12.0	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1
Czech Republic	5.9	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.8	8.4	7.2	7.0	7.9	6.8
Denmark ⁶	6.5	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.5	7.2	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8
Germany ⁷	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	4.9	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
Estonia ⁸	9.0	7.8	8.1	8.6	:	7.8	6.9	6.9	6.7	:
Ireland	14.5	13.4	13.2	13.1	12.8	10.2	9.4	9.3	9.3	9.3
Greece	24.8	23.4	23.1	:	:	32.1	31.0	30.5	:	:
Spain	25.7	23.6	23.3	23.0	22.8	26.6	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.4
France	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.7	10.7	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.3
Croatia	18.1	15.1	14.6	14.4	14.2	17.9	18.4	18.7	18.7	18.4
Italy	11.8	11.4	11.7	11.5	11.6	13.4	13.8	13.9	13.7	13.9
Cyprus	17.7	17.1	17.0	16.8	16.3	15.7	14.4	14.2	14.0	13.8
Latvia ⁶	12.4	12.1	:	:	:	11.0	9.5	:	:	:
Lithuania	12.0	13.1	13.1	13.1	13.2	10.4	9.7	9.8	9.6	9.5
Luxembourg	5.9	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2
Hungary ⁸	10.1	8.0	7.6	7.3	:	9.9	8.2	8.0	7.8	:
Malta	6.6	6.1	6.2	6.0	5.9	6.2	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.6
Netherlands ⁷	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.4
Austria ⁷	4.9	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.5	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.7
Poland	9.6	8.6	8.5	8.4	8.3	11.0	9.7	9.5	9.3	9.2
Portugal	15.6	13.5	13.2	13.3	13.0	15.9	14.7	14.6	14.6	14.2
Romania	7.6	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.6	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0
Slovenia	8.7	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.1	10.9	10.3	10.2	10.1	9.9
Slovakia	14.2	13.0	12.9	12.9	12.7	14.5	13.6	13.5	13.5	13.3
Finland ⁷	8.8	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.3	7.6	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Sweden ⁷	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	7.9	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.4
United Kingdom ⁸	7.7	6.5	6.3	:	:	7.0	5.8	5.7	:	:
Iceland ⁷	5.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Norway ⁸	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.8	:	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.6	:

: Data not available