

4/2017 - 9 January 2017

November 2016

Euro area unemployment at 9.8%

EU28 at 8.3%

The **euro area** (EA19) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 9.8% in November 2016, stable compared to October 2016 and down from 10.5% in November 2015. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **euro area** since July 2009. The **EU28** unemployment rate was 8.3% in November 2016, down from 8.4% in October 2016 and from 9.0% in November 2015. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **EU28** since February 2009. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

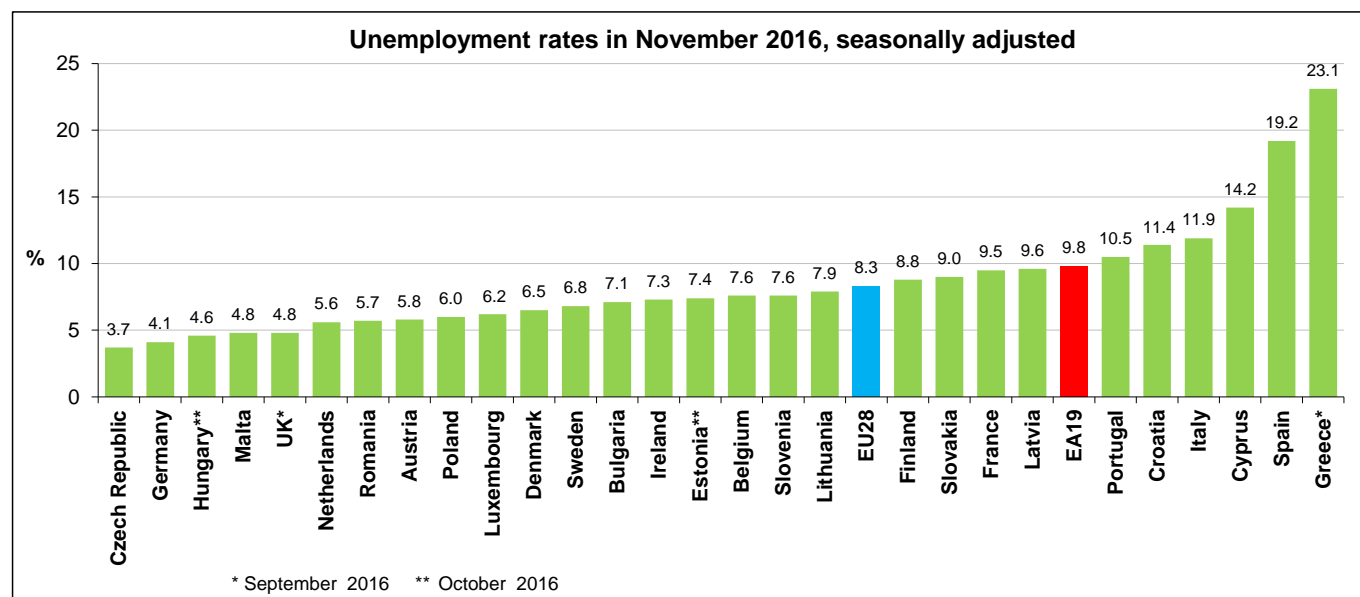
Eurostat estimates that 20.429 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 15.898 million were in the **euro area**, were unemployed in November 2016. Compared with October 2016, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 41 000 in the **EU28** and by 15 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with November 2015, unemployment fell by 1.552 million in the **EU28** and by 972 000 in the **euro area**.

Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in November 2016 were recorded in the **Czech Republic** (3.7%) and **Germany** (4.1%). The highest unemployment rates were observed in **Greece** (23.1% in September 2016) and **Spain** (19.2%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate in November 2016 fell in twenty-four Member States, while it increased in **Estonia** (from 6.3% to 7.4% between October 2015 and October 2016), **Cyprus** (from 13.2% to 14.2%), **Denmark** (from 6.1% to 6.5%) and **Italy** (from 11.5% to 11.9%). The largest decrease was registered in **Croatia** (from 15.7% to 11.4%).

In November 2016, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 4.6%, down from 4.9% in October 2016 and from 5.0% in November 2015.



Youth unemployment

In November 2016, 4.280 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 3.007 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with November 2015, youth unemployment decreased by 137 000 in the **EU28** and by 42 000 in the **euro area**. In November 2016, the youth unemployment rate was 18.8% in the **EU28** and 21.2% in the **euro area**, compared with 19.5% and 21.8% respectively in November 2015. In November 2016, the lowest rate was observed in **Germany** (6.7%), while the highest were recorded in **Greece** (46.1% in September 2016), **Spain** (44.4%) and **Italy** (39.4%).

Geographical information

The **euro area (EA19)** includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union (EU28)** includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Methods and definition

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.

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.

Country notes

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

Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Norway: 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 [239/2016](#) of 1 December 2016, the October 2016 unemployment rate has been revised upwards for the EU28 (from 8.3% to 8.4%). Among Member States, rates have been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Cyprus (by 1.8 pp), Poland (by 0.4 pp) and Italy (by 0.2 pp). The unemployment rate has been revised by more than 0.1 pp downwards for Croatia (by 1.2 pp), Belgium (by 0.3 pp), Bulgaria and Portugal (both 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 article](#) on unemployment

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on youth unemployment

Eurostat [metadata](#) on adjusted unemployment series

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

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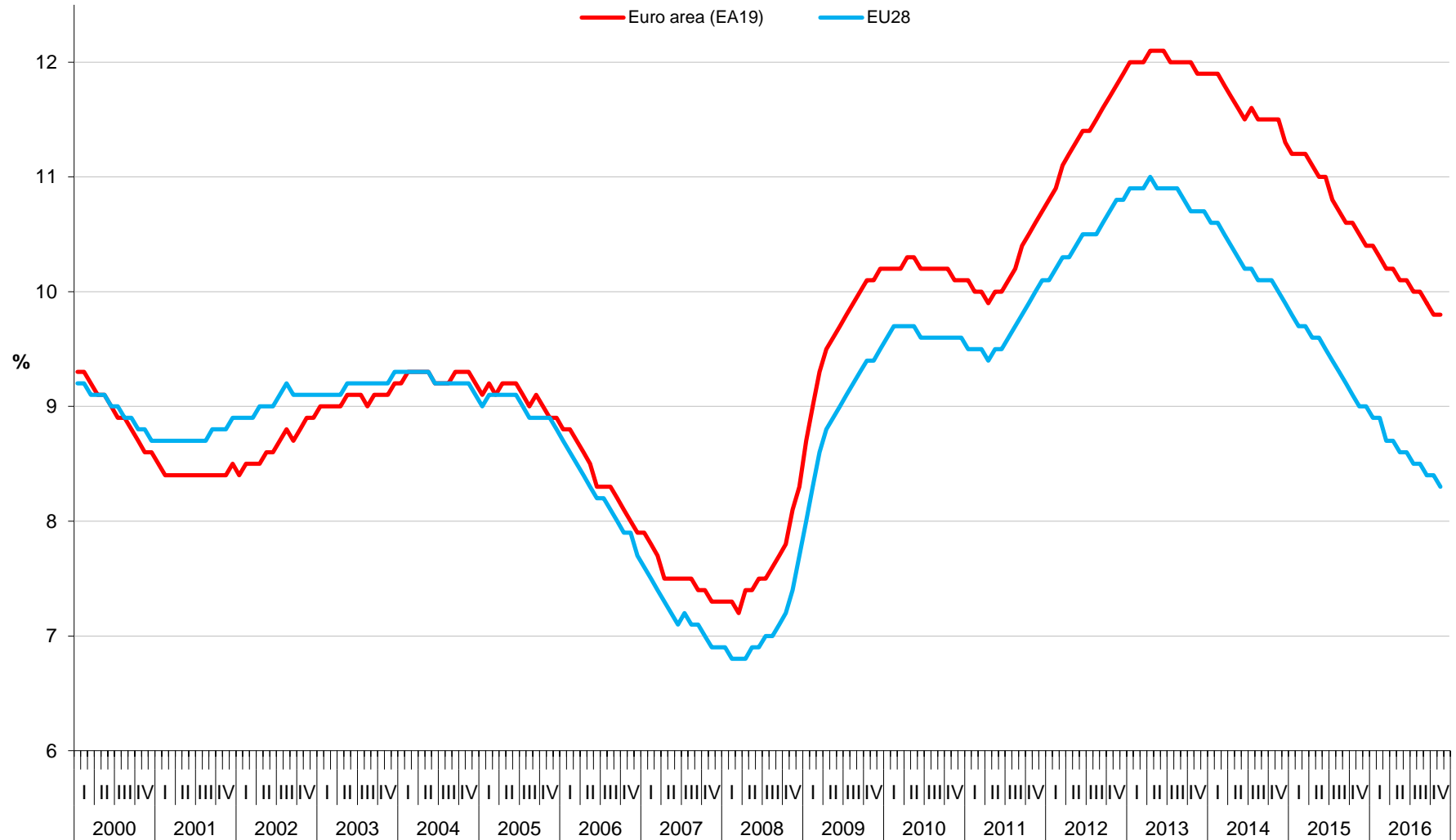
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Euro area and EU28 unemployment rates Seasonally adjusted series



Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16
EA19	10.5	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.8	16 870	16 181	16 069	15 913	15 898
EU28	9.0	8.5	8.4	8.4	8.3	21 981	20 795	20 644	20 470	20 429
Belgium	8.7	7.9	7.6	7.6	7.6	432	389	378	375	376
Bulgaria	7.9	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.1	264	240	236	233	229
Czech Republic	4.5	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.7	237	208	207	202	201
Denmark	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.5	179	192	199	198	197
Germany	4.5	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	1 881	1 797	1 787	1 775	1 762
Estonia	6.3**	7.6	7.2	7.4	:	43**	53	50	51	:
Ireland	9.1	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.3	197	173	167	164	161
Greece	24.7*	23.3	23.1	:	:	1 193*	1 121	1 111	:	:
Spain	20.9	19.4	19.3	19.2	19.2	4 772	4 436	4 414	4 392	4 393
France	10.2	10.2	9.9	9.7	9.5	3 010	3 019	2 912	2 849	2 807
Croatia	15.7	11.9	11.5	11.5	11.4	296	216	208	208	207
Italy	11.5	11.5	11.8	11.8	11.9	2 924	2 969	3 053	3 033	3 089
Cyprus	13.2	13.1	13.5	13.8	14.2	55	56	57	59	61
Latvia	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.6	98	96	95	94	94
Lithuania	8.8	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.9	129	111	111	112	117
Luxembourg	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.2	18	17	17	17	17
Hungary	6.4**	5.0	4.8	4.6	:	288**	229	221	211	:
Malta	5.3	4.8	4.8	5.0	4.8	11	10	10	10	10
Netherlands	6.7	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.6	596	521	510	502	499
Austria	5.9	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.8	263	278	272	261	258
Poland	7.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.0	1 229	1 065	1 055	1 045	1 028
Portugal	12.3	10.9	10.9	10.6	10.5	629	559	557	545	534
Romania	6.6	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	607	521	522	522	521
Slovenia	8.3	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	83	77	76	75	74
Slovakia	10.9	9.6	9.4	9.2	9.0	299	263	259	252	247
Finland	9.4	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.8	252	234	234	234	235
Sweden	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	372	364	363	361	360
United Kingdom	5.2*	4.7	4.8	:	:	1 710*	1 565	1 574	:	:
Iceland	3.5	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	7	6	6	6	6
Norway	4.6**	4.9	4.8	4.8	:	129**	137	136	133	:
United States	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.6	7 963	7 865	7 945	7 794	7 466

The source datasets are available [here](#) (rates) and [here](#) (in 1000 persons).

: Data not available

* September 2015

** October 2015

Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16
EA19	21.8	20.9	20.8	20.9	21.2	3 049	2 969	2 952	2 959	3 007
EU28	19.5	18.8	18.6	18.7	18.8	4 417	4 252	4 220	4 238	4 280
Belgium	24.4	20.7	20.7	:	:	96	76	76	:	:
Bulgaria	20.1	20.1	21.1	21.6	22.0	35	30	33	33	33
Czech Republic	11.0	11.4	10.0	10.6	10.6	37	36	33	36	36
Denmark	10.6	12.2	12.5	12.7	13.1	49	60	61	62	64
Germany	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	288	294	291	288	285
Estonia	16.6	14.8	13.4	12.4	:	9	9	8	7	:
Ireland	20.2	17.6	16.7	16.2	15.4	38	36	35	33	31
Greece	48.9	46.5	46.1	:	:	130	122	118	:	:
Spain	46.5	43.4	43.0	43.8	44.4	698	647	655	665	673
France	24.3	26.2	25.4	25.7	25.9	675	718	698	712	718
Croatia	40.2	30.1	30.1	:	:	68	55	55	:	:
Italy	37.8	37.5	37.4	37.6	39.4	588	586	587	585	627
Cyprus	30.3	29.9	29.9	:	:	10	12	12	:	:
Latvia	19.5	17.7	17.6	17.6	17.8	17	13	13	13	13
Lithuania	13.7	13.6	13.7	12.7	12.8	17	17	17	16	16
Luxembourg	17.5	19.1	19.5	19.3	19.1	4	4	4	4	4
Hungary	15.6	12.4	12.3	12.0	:	53	43	43	41	:
Malta	11.3	12.4	12.6	14.3	13.6	3	3	3	4	4
Netherlands	11.2	10.6	10.5	10.5	10.3	156	150	149	148	146
Austria	11.6	11.5	11.4	10.9	10.4	65	66	64	61	58
Poland	20.0	18.6	18.7	18.6	18.1	274	249	251	250	244
Portugal	31.9	26.8	28.6	27.8	28.4	119	96	104	100	103
Romania	20.9	20.3	20.3	:	:	140	127	127	:	:
Slovenia	16.8	15.4	15.4	:	:	12	10	10	:	:
Slovakia	25.5	21.5	21.4	21.2	20.9	52	44	44	44	43
Finland	21.7	20.2	20.1	20.2	20.2	70	66	66	66	66
Sweden	19.4	19.0	18.4	17.9	17.6	126	117	116	114	113
United Kingdom	13.3	12.8	12.8	:	:	601	563	561	:	:
Iceland	7.7	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.8	2	2	2	2	2
Norway	9.8	10.9	10.4	10.5	:	36	40	39	39	:

The source datasets are available [here](#) (rates) and [here](#) (in 1000 persons).

: Data not available

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

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by gender

	Males					Females				
	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Nov 15	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16	Nov 16
EA19	10.3	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.5	10.7	10.4	10.2	10.1	10.1
EU28	8.9	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.2	9.2	8.7	8.6	8.5	8.5
Belgium	9.2	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8	8.1	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.5
Bulgaria	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.5
Czech Republic	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	5.5	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.5
Denmark	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.9	5.9	6.4	7.0	7.5	7.1	7.1
Germany	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.5
Estonia	6.4	7.8	7.5	8.0	:	6.7	7.4	6.9	6.8	:
Ireland	10.7	9.1	8.8	8.6	8.4	7.1	6.5	6.3	6.1	6.1
Greece	21.1	19.8	19.8	:	:	28.7	27.6	27.3	:	:
Spain	19.5	17.9	17.9	17.8	17.8	22.5	21.1	20.9	20.8	20.7
France	10.7	10.1	9.8	9.6	9.5	9.7	10.3	10.0	9.7	9.6
Croatia	14.3	10.8	10.3	10.2	10.3	17.4	13.3	12.9	12.9	12.8
Italy	10.9	10.7	11.1	11.2	11.4	12.3	12.6	12.8	12.6	12.7
Cyprus	13.5	12.9	13.2	13.6	14.0	12.9	13.4	13.7	14.0	14.4
Latvia	11.2	11.6	11.6	11.2	11.3	8.5	8.0	7.8	7.9	7.9
Lithuania	9.5	8.7	8.8	8.8	9.3	8.1	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5
Luxembourg	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	7.0	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.6
Hungary	6.1	5.1	4.7	4.6	:	6.5	4.9	4.9	4.6	:
Malta	5.2	4.6	4.7	4.9	4.7	5.5	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.0
Netherlands	6.2	5.4	5.3	5.1	5.0	7.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.2
Austria	6.3	6.6	6.2	6.1	6.2	5.5	5.8	5.8	5.5	5.3
Poland	7.0	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.9	7.1	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.1
Portugal	12.2	10.8	10.8	10.7	10.4	12.3	11.0	11.0	10.6	10.5
Romania	7.3	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.5	5.7	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7
Slovenia	7.9	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.0	8.9	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.2
Slovakia	9.5	8.7	8.7	8.4	8.2	12.6	10.5	10.3	10.1	9.9
Finland	9.9	8.9	8.8	8.9	9.0	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.5
Sweden	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.1	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.4
United Kingdom	5.1	4.9	4.9	:	:	4.9	4.6	4.6	:	:
Iceland	3.7	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.4	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2
Norway	5.1	5.5	5.4	5.3	:	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.1	:

The source dataset is available [here](#).

: Data not available