

131/2017 - 31 August 2017

July 2017

## Euro area unemployment at 9.1%

EU28 at 7.7%

The **euro area** (EA19) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 9.1% in July 2017, stable compared to June 2017 and down from 10.0% in July 2016. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **euro area** since February 2009. The **EU28** unemployment rate was 7.7% in July 2017, stable compared to June 2017 and down from 8.5% in July 2016. This remains the lowest rate recorded in the **EU28** since December 2008. These figures are published by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.

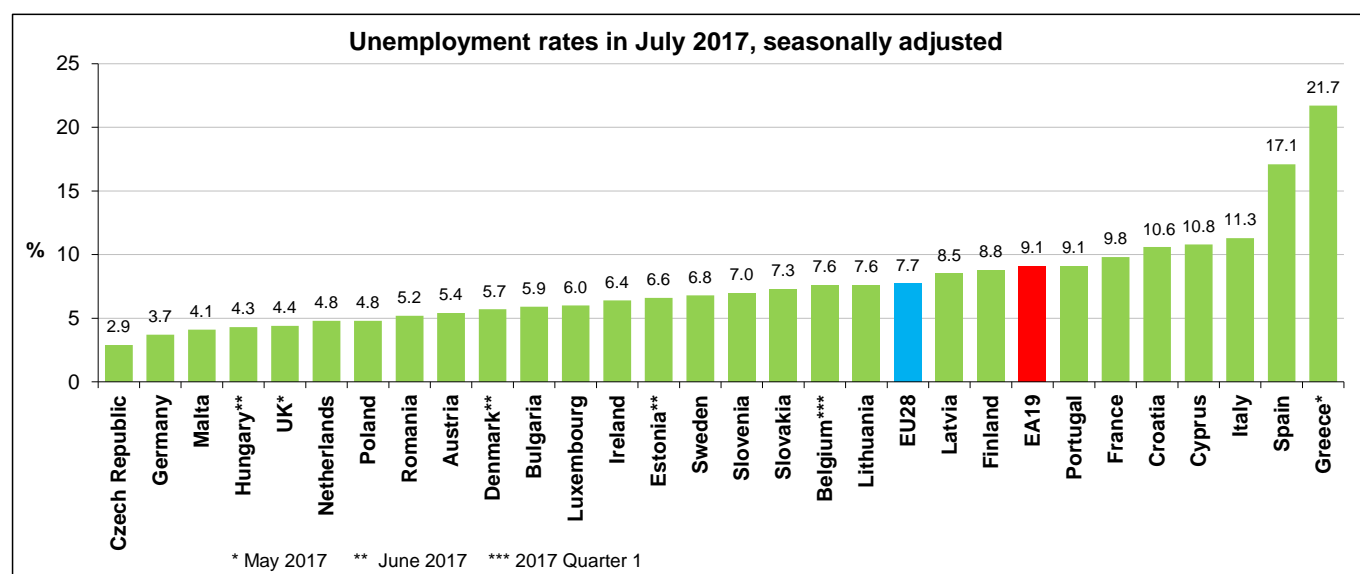
Eurostat estimates that 18.916 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 14.860 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in July 2017. Compared with June 2017, the number of persons unemployed increased by 93 000 in the **EU28** and by 73 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with July 2016, unemployment fell by 1.928 million in the **EU28** and by 1.309 million in the **euro area**.

### Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in July 2017 were recorded in the **Czech Republic** (2.9%), **Germany** (3.7%) and **Malta** (4.1%). The highest unemployment rates were observed in **Greece** (21.7% in May 2017) and **Spain** (17.1%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate fell in all Member States for which data is comparable over time, except **Finland** where it remained stable. The largest decreases were registered in **Croatia** (from 13.2% to 10.6%), **Spain** (from 19.6% to 17.1%), **Slovakia** (from 9.7% to 7.3%) and **Cyprus** (from 13.0% to 10.8%).

In July 2017, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 4.3%, down from 4.4% in June 2017 and from 4.9% in July 2016.



## Youth unemployment

In July 2017, 3.792 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 2.670 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with July 2016, youth unemployment decreased by 450 000 in the **EU28** and by 272 000 in the **euro area**. In July 2017, the youth unemployment rate was 16.9% in the **EU28** and 19.1% in the **euro area**, compared with 18.7% and 20.8% respectively in July 2016. In July 2017, the lowest rate was observed in **Germany** (6.5%), while the highest were recorded in **Greece** (44.4% in May 2017), **Spain** (38.6%) and **Italy** (35.5%).

### 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.

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**

Belgium: 2017 Quarter 1 data are shown in all tables. Due to a methodological break in the LFS data for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2017, data prior to Q1 2017 are not comparable and therefore not shown. Quarter 2 data are not yet available.

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 [121/2017](#) of 31 July 2017, the June 2017 unemployment rate remained unchanged for both the EU28 and the EA19. Among Member States, rates have been revised by more than 0.1 pp downwards for Romania (by 0.3 pp) and Lithuania (by 0.2 pp). The unemployment rate has been revised by more than 0.1 pp upwards for Latvia (by 0.6 pp) and Poland (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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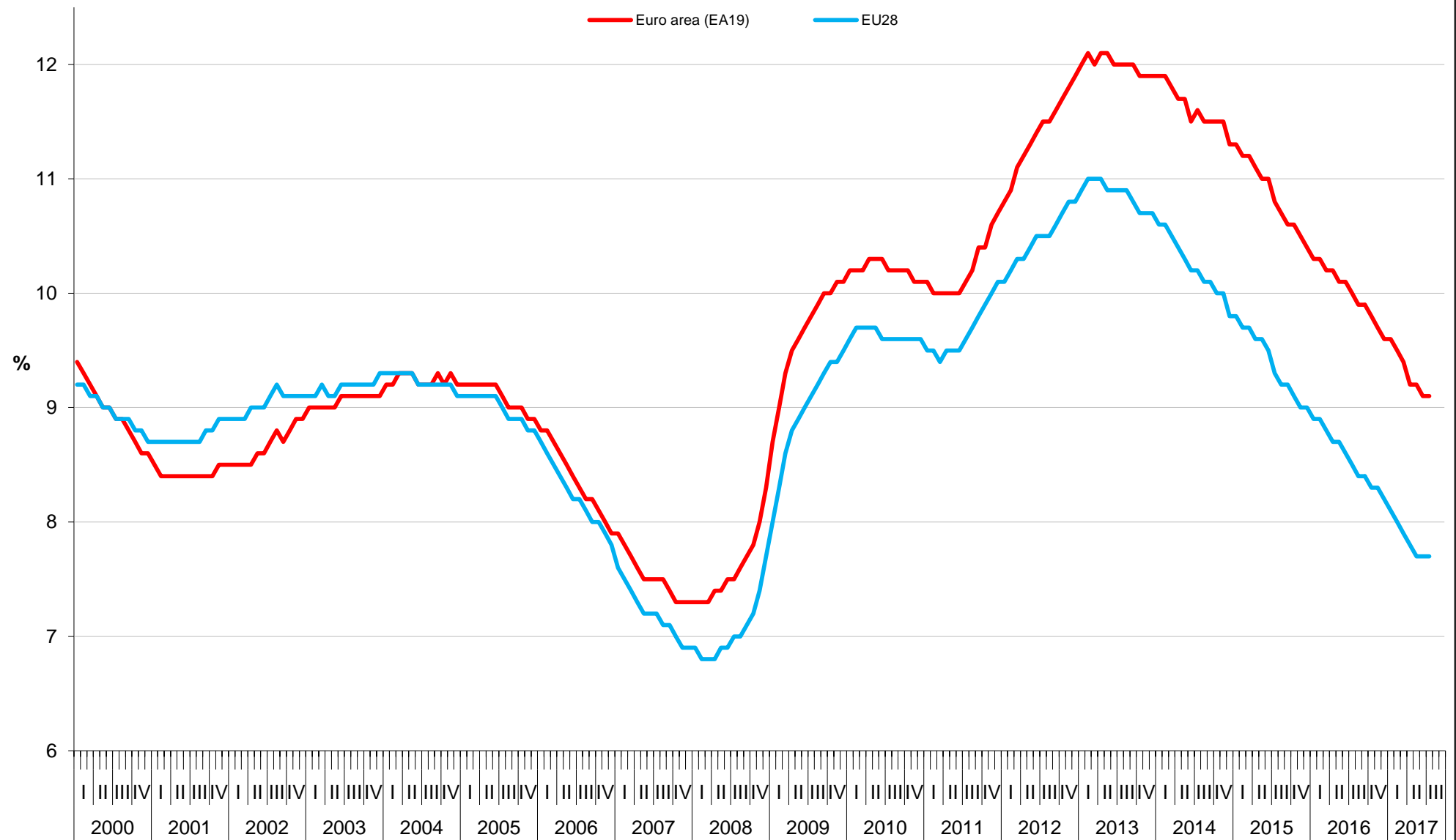
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### Euro area and EU28 unemployment rates Seasonally adjusted series



### Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 16	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Jul 16	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17
<b>EA19</b>	10.0	9.2	9.2	9.1	<b>9.1</b>	16 169	14 985	14 915	14 787	<b>14 860</b>
<b>EU28</b>	8.5	7.8	7.7	7.7	<b>7.7</b>	20 844	19 089	19 004	18 823	<b>18 916</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	:	7.6***	:	:	:	:	375***	:	:	:
<b>Bulgaria</b>	7.6	6.1	6.0	6.0	<b>5.9</b>	246	202	198	196	<b>194</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	4.1	3.3	2.9	2.9	<b>2.9</b>	221	176	157	156	<b>153</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	6.1**	5.7	5.7	5.7	:	186**	168	169	171	:
<b>Germany</b>	4.2	3.9	3.8	3.8	<b>3.7</b>	1 798	1 657	1 639	1 614	<b>1 587</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	6.9**	6.2	6.8	6.6	:	48**	43	48	46	:
<b>Ireland</b>	8.1	6.4	6.4	6.3	<b>6.4</b>	177	142	141	140	<b>141</b>
<b>Greece</b>	23.6*	21.8	21.7	:	:	1 135*	1 041	1 035	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	19.6	17.6	17.3	17.1	<b>17.1</b>	4 463	3 992	3 924	3 875	<b>3 878</b>
<b>France</b>	9.9	9.5	9.6	9.6	<b>9.8</b>	2 932	2 829	2 843	2 873	<b>2 912</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	13.2	11.1	10.8	10.7	<b>10.6</b>	241	199	193	190	<b>189</b>
<b>Italy</b>	11.5	11.2	11.4	11.2	<b>11.3</b>	2 967	2 902	2 943	2 889	<b>2 950</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	13.0	11.3	11.0	10.8	<b>10.8</b>	54	48	46	46	<b>46</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	9.9	8.8	8.9	8.9	<b>8.5</b>	98	86	87	86	<b>83</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	8.0	7.4	7.0	7.0	<b>7.6</b>	117	107	101	102	<b>111</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	6.3	6.0	5.9	5.9	<b>6.0</b>	17	17	17	17	<b>17</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	5.1**	4.3	4.3	4.3	:	232**	199	198	196	:
<b>Malta</b>	4.9	4.1	4.1	4.0	<b>4.1</b>	10	8	8	8	<b>8</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	6.0	5.1	5.1	4.9	<b>4.8</b>	541	456	456	446	<b>436</b>
<b>Austria</b>	6.3	5.6	5.4	5.3	<b>5.4</b>	282	252	242	239	<b>244</b>
<b>Poland</b>	6.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	<b>4.8</b>	1 055	889	879	860	<b>835</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	10.9	9.5	9.2	9.1	<b>9.1</b>	559	490	474	469	<b>470</b>
<b>Romania</b>	5.8	4.8	5.2	5.0	<b>5.2</b>	525	445	476	461	<b>478</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	7.8	7.1	7.1	7.1	<b>7.0</b>	77	72	73	73	<b>71</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	9.7	8.2	8.0	7.6	<b>7.3</b>	269	227	220	208	<b>201</b>
<b>Finland</b>	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.7	<b>8.8</b>	236	238	236	236	<b>236</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	7.0	6.7	6.7	6.7	<b>6.8</b>	365	360	361	362	<b>363</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	4.9*	4.4	4.4	:	:	1 610*	1 464	1 457	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	3.0	2.6	2.6	2.1	<b>2.0</b>	6	5	5	4	<b>4</b>
<b>Norway</b>	4.8**	4.5	4.3	4.3	:	134**	125	120	118	:
<b>United States</b>	4.9	4.4	4.3	4.4	<b>4.3</b>	7 739	7 040	6 872	7 010	<b>6 986</b>

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

: Data not available

\* May 2016

\*\* June 2016

\*\*\* 2017 Quarter 1

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

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 16	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Jul 16	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17
<b>EA19</b>	20.8	19.2	19.3	19.0	<b>19.1</b>	2 942	2 692	2 694	2 661	<b>2 670</b>
<b>EU28</b>	18.7	17.1	17.1	16.9	<b>16.9</b>	4 242	3 842	3 836	3 781	<b>3 792</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	:	21.4***	:	:	:	:	76***	:	:	:
<b>Bulgaria</b>	17.5	13.2	13.3	13.5	<b>13.7</b>	27	21	21	21	<b>20</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	11.2	9.4	9.3	8.6	<b>8.5</b>	38	30	30	27	<b>27</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	12.4	10.8	10.9	10.8	:	61	50	50	50	:
<b>Germany</b>	7.0	6.7	6.7	6.6	<b>6.5</b>	298	278	276	274	<b>272</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	14.9	17.7	15.3	14.3	:	9	11	9	8	:
<b>Ireland</b>	17.6	12.0	11.8	12.0	<b>12.3</b>	36	24	24	24	<b>25</b>
<b>Greece</b>	43.1	44.6	44.4	:	:	120	118	118	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	43.7	39.4	39.1	39.0	<b>38.6</b>	642	586	580	570	<b>567</b>
<b>France</b>	24.6	23.2	23.3	23.3	<b>23.4</b>	673	643	643	640	<b>639</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	31.1	26.4	26.4	26.4	:	54	42	42	42	:
<b>Italy</b>	38.2	34.7	36.3	35.2	<b>35.5</b>	598	524	553	544	<b>556</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	29.8	20.4	20.4	20.4	:	11	7	7	7	:
<b>Latvia</b>	19.1	16.6	16.1	15.1	<b>12.6</b>	14	13	12	12	<b>9</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	14.0	12.6	12.3	13.0	<b>14.2</b>	17	15	14	15	<b>17</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	18.5	16.7	16.5	16.5	<b>16.5</b>	4	4	4	4	<b>4</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	12.4	10.9	10.8	10.6	:	43	37	37	36	:
<b>Malta</b>	11.8	9.9	10.2	10.2	<b>10.2</b>	3	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	10.8	9.5	9.0	8.9	<b>8.8</b>	152	134	128	126	<b>126</b>
<b>Austria</b>	11.7	10.9	9.7	8.7	<b>9.7</b>	68	60	52	46	<b>52</b>
<b>Poland</b>	17.9	15.5	15.5	15.1	<b>14.4</b>	243	208	208	200	<b>188</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	27.1	23.7	23.8	23.7	<b>23.8</b>	101	88	87	88	<b>88</b>
<b>Romania</b>	20.3	19.9***	:	:	:	125	122***	:	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	15.5	9.2	9.2	9.2	:	11	7	7	7	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	21.9	18.6	18.2	17.5	<b>16.6</b>	45	38	38	36	<b>35</b>
<b>Finland</b>	20.5	20.5	20.6	20.6	<b>20.5</b>	66	67	67	67	<b>67</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	19.3	17.6	17.8	18.2	<b>18.2</b>	120	113	112	112	<b>112</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	13.2	12.3	12.1	:	:	586	539	531	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	<b>6.6</b>	2	2	2	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Norway</b>	10.9	10.6	10.7	10.9	:	40	38	39	39	:

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

: Data not available

\*\*\* 2017 Quarter 1

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

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

	Males					Females				
	Jul 16	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17	Jul 16	Apr 17	May 17	Jun 17	Jul 17
EA19	9.7	8.9	8.8	8.8	<b>8.8</b>	10.4	9.7	9.6	9.5	<b>9.6</b>
EU28	8.3	7.6	7.5	7.5	<b>7.5</b>	8.7	8.0	8.0	7.9	<b>7.9</b>
Belgium	:	7.3***	:	:	:	:	7.9***	:	:	:
Bulgaria	8.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	<b>5.9</b>	7.0	6.3	6.1	6.1	<b>6.0</b>
Czech Republic	3.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	<b>2.4</b>	4.9	4.3	3.7	3.5	<b>3.5</b>
Denmark	5.8	5.6	5.4	5.5	:	6.8	5.8	6.0	6.0	:
Germany	4.6	4.3	4.2	4.2	<b>4.1</b>	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.3	<b>3.2</b>
Estonia	7.9	6.7	7.4	7.5	:	6.1	5.7	6.2	5.6	:
Ireland	9.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	<b>7.2</b>	6.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	<b>5.4</b>
Greece	19.6	18.2	18.1	:	:	28.0	26.2	26.1	:	:
Spain	18.0	16.0	15.7	15.5	<b>15.4</b>	21.3	19.4	19.1	19.0	<b>18.9</b>
France	10.0	9.5	9.5	9.7	<b>9.9</b>	9.8	9.6	9.6	9.6	<b>9.6</b>
Croatia	12.5	10.0	9.8	9.7	<b>9.6</b>	14.0	12.4	12.1	11.9	<b>11.8</b>
Italy	10.7	10.3	10.5	10.3	<b>10.3</b>	12.6	12.5	12.5	12.3	<b>12.8</b>
Cyprus	12.9	11.4	11.1	10.8	<b>10.6</b>	13.1	11.3	10.9	10.9	<b>11.0</b>
Latvia	11.5	10.0	10.3	10.2	<b>9.8</b>	8.3	7.5	7.4	7.5	<b>7.3</b>
Lithuania	9.1	9.1	8.6	8.7	<b>9.1</b>	6.8	5.6	5.4	5.4	<b>6.2</b>
Luxembourg	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.9	<b>6.0</b>	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	<b>6.1</b>
Hungary	5.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	:	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.6	:
Malta	4.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	<b>3.6</b>	5.2	4.4	4.7	4.7	<b>4.8</b>
Netherlands	5.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	<b>4.5</b>	6.5	5.6	5.6	5.4	<b>5.2</b>
Austria	6.7	6.1	5.8	5.7	<b>6.0</b>	5.7	5.1	5.0	4.9	<b>4.8</b>
Poland	6.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	<b>5.0</b>	6.2	5.1	5.0	4.9	<b>4.7</b>
Portugal	10.6	9.2	8.7	8.6	<b>8.6</b>	11.2	9.8	9.7	9.6	<b>9.6</b>
Romania	6.5	5.5	6.1	5.9	<b>6.2</b>	4.9	3.8	3.9	3.7	<b>3.9</b>
Slovenia	7.2	6.5	6.6	6.6	<b>6.5</b>	8.5	7.8	7.7	7.7	<b>7.5</b>
Slovakia	8.9	8.1	7.8	7.5	<b>7.3</b>	10.8	8.4	8.1	7.7	<b>7.4</b>
Finland	8.9	9.1	9.0	9.0	<b>9.0</b>	8.7	8.5	8.5	8.5	<b>8.5</b>
Sweden	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.0	<b>7.0</b>	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.5	<b>6.5</b>
United Kingdom	4.9	4.6	4.6	:	:	4.7	4.1	4.2	:	:
Iceland	3.0	2.7	2.8	1.7	<b>1.7</b>	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	<b>2.5</b>
Norway	5.6	4.8	4.6	4.6	:	4.2	4.2	4.0	4.0	:

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

: Data not available \*\*\* 2017 Quarter 1