

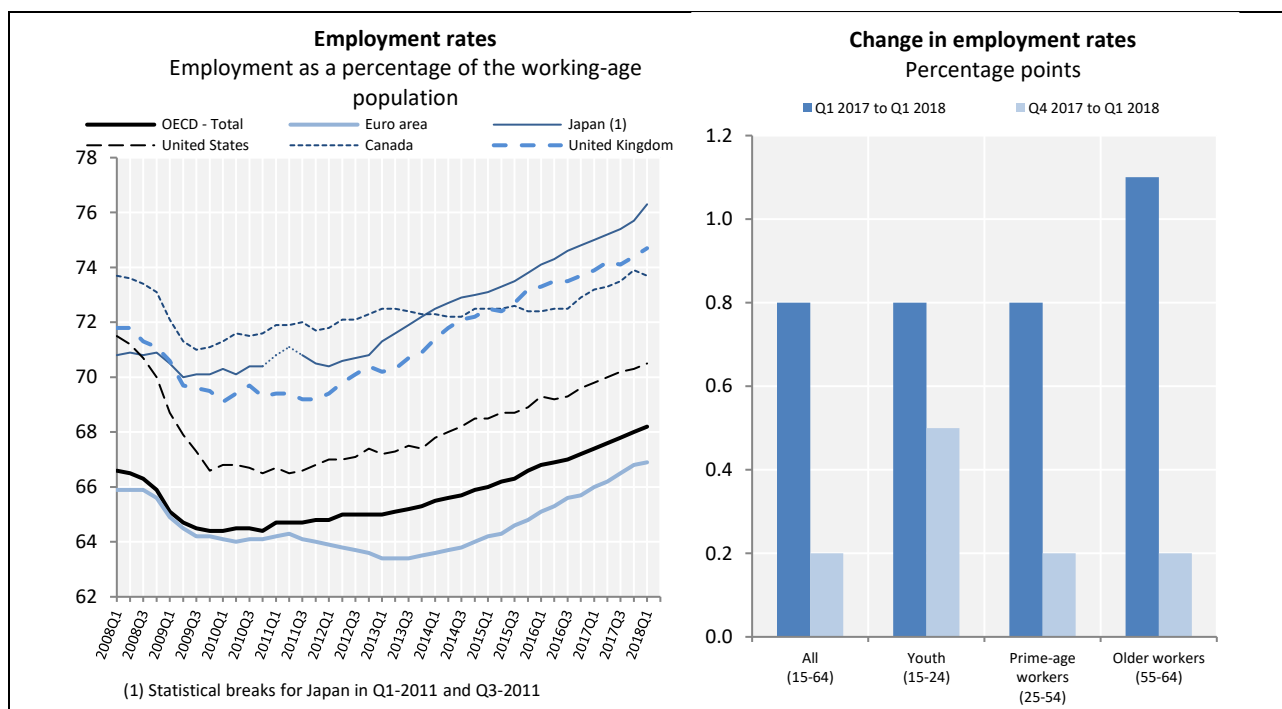
New : Now including Lithuania

## OECD employment rate increases to 68.2% in the first quarter of 2018

The OECD area employment rate – the share of the working-age population with jobs – increased by 0.2 percentage point in the first quarter of 2018, to 68.2%, with gains in 28 out of 36 OECD countries. Higher employment rates occurred alongside a higher labour force participation rate, which increased by 0.1 percentage point (to 72.2%). Across the OECD area (now including Lithuania<sup>1</sup>), 567 million people were employed in the first quarter of 2018.

In the euro area, the employment rate continued to rise in the first quarter of 2018 (by 0.1 percentage point, to 66.9%), albeit at a slower pace than in previous quarters. Outside the euro area, the employment rate increased most in Japan (up 0.6 percentage point, to 76.3%) and Hungary (up 0.5 percentage point, to 69.2%), while it decreased by 0.2 percentage point in Canada (to 73.7%) and by 0.4 percentage point in Iceland (to 85.2%, the highest employment rate in the OECD area). The employment rate increased by 0.3 percentage point in the United Kingdom (to 74.7%) and Mexico (to 61.4%) and by 0.2 percentage point in the United States (to 70.5%) and Turkey (to 52.5%).

The quarterly increase in the OECD employment rate benefitted all age groups but was more pronounced for young people (people aged 15 to 24, with gains of 0.5 percentage point, to 41.9%) than for prime-age workers (aged 25-54, up 0.2 percentage point, to 78.3%) and older workers (aged 55-64, up 0.2 percentage point, to 61.0%). This pattern contrasts with the one that prevailed in the recent past: compared to the previous year, the increase in the OECD employment rate was stronger for older workers than for other age groups.



Methodological Notes: <http://www.oecd.org/sdd/labour-stats/50273955.pdf>

All rates and levels quoted are seasonally adjusted (s.a.).

In this News Release, the second quarter of 2008 is considered as the quarter preceding the start of the global financial crisis.

Quarterly Labour Market Statistics: <http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=STLABOUR>

Country Note: The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

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Next release: 16 October 2018

<sup>1</sup> Lithuania became the 36<sup>th</sup> member country of the OECD on 5 July 2018

**Table 1: OECD employment rates and levels (15-64)**

*Employment as a percentage of corresponding working age population and levels, seasonally adjusted*

|                           | Employment rates |      |      |      |      |      |                     |      |                     |      |      | Levels<br>Thousands<br>Q1 - 2018 |
|---------------------------|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------------|------|---------------------|------|------|----------------------------------|
|                           | 2014             | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2008 | 2016 | 2017                |      |                     |      | 2018 |                                  |
|                           |                  |      |      |      | Q2   | Q4   | Q1                  | Q2   | Q3                  | Q4   | Q1   |                                  |
| OECD - Total              | 65.7             | 66.3 | 67.0 | 67.7 | 66.5 | 67.2 | 67.4                | 67.6 | 67.8                | 68.0 | 68.2 | 567,294                          |
| Major Seven               | 68.6             | 69.1 | 69.9 | 70.6 | 69.6 | 70.1 | 70.3                | 70.5 | 70.7                | 70.9 | 71.1 | 342,028                          |
| European Union            | 64.8             | 65.6 | 66.6 | 67.7 | 65.8 | 66.9 | 67.2                | 67.5 | 67.8                | 68.0 | 68.3 | 223,737                          |
| Euro area                 | 63.8             | 64.5 | 65.4 | 66.3 | 65.9 | 65.7 | 66.0                | 66.2 | 66.5                | 66.8 | 66.9 | 146,191                          |
| Australia                 | 71.6             | 72.2 | 72.4 | 73.0 | 73.3 | 72.3 | 72.4                | 72.8 | 73.2                | 73.5 | 73.6 | 11,971                           |
| Austria                   | 71.1             | 71.1 | 71.6 | 72.2 | 71.0 | 71.7 | 71.8                | 72.2 | 72.1                | 72.6 | 72.8 | 4,229                            |
| Belgium <sup>(1)</sup>    | 61.9             | 61.8 | 62.3 | 63.1 | 62.3 | 63.3 | 62.4 <sup>(b)</sup> | 62.9 | 63.3                | 63.9 | 64.1 | 4,651                            |
| Canada                    | 72.3             | 72.5 | 72.6 | 73.4 | 73.6 | 72.9 | 73.2                | 73.3 | 73.5                | 73.9 | 73.7 | 17,741                           |
| Chile                     | 62.2             | 62.4 | 62.2 | 62.7 | 57.2 | 62.4 | 62.4                | 62.6 | 62.9                | 62.8 | 62.8 | 7,724                            |
| Czech Republic            | 69.0             | 70.2 | 72.0 | 73.6 | 66.7 | 72.8 | 73.1                | 73.3 | 74.0                | 74.2 | 74.5 | 5,140                            |
| Denmark <sup>(1)</sup>    | 72.8             | 73.5 | 74.9 | 74.2 | 78.0 | 74.6 | 73.9 <sup>(b)</sup> | 74.0 | 74.3                | 74.6 | 75.0 | 2,770                            |
| Estonia                   | 69.6             | 71.9 | 72.1 | 74.1 | 70.1 | 71.9 | 73.5                | 72.9 | 74.3                | 75.8 | 74.0 | 622                              |
| Finland                   | 68.7             | 68.6 | 69.1 | 70.0 | 71.2 | 69.1 | 69.3                | 69.6 | 69.9                | 71.0 | 71.3 | 2,448                            |
| France <sup>(1)</sup>     | 63.7             | 63.8 | 64.2 | 64.7 | 64.9 | 64.2 | 64.3                | 64.8 | 64.7                | 65.2 | 65.2 | 26,688                           |
| Germany                   | 73.8             | 74.0 | 74.7 | 75.3 | 69.8 | 75.0 | 74.9                | 75.1 | 75.3                | 75.7 | 75.6 | 40,614                           |
| Greece                    | 49.4             | 50.8 | 52.0 | 53.5 | 61.5 | 52.2 | 52.8                | 53.5 | 53.8                | 53.8 | 54.1 | 3,712                            |
| Hungary                   | 61.8             | 64.0 | 66.5 | 68.2 | 56.3 | 67.4 | 67.6                | 68.0 | 68.4                | 68.7 | 69.2 | 4,419                            |
| Iceland                   | 83.0             | 84.7 | 86.5 | 86.1 | 84.5 | 87.0 | 86.9                | 86.8 | 85.1                | 85.6 | 85.2 | 186                              |
| Ireland <sup>(1)</sup>    | 63.1             | 64.7 | 66.5 | 67.7 | 70.4 | 67.0 | 67.4                | 67.5 | 67.7 <sup>(b)</sup> | 68.1 | 68.4 | 2,159                            |
| Israel                    | 67.9             | 68.3 | 68.6 | 69.0 | 60.0 | 68.8 | 69.0                | 69.0 | 69.1                | 69.1 | 69.3 | 3,667                            |
| Italy                     | 55.7             | 56.3 | 57.3 | 58.0 | 58.8 | 57.4 | 57.8                | 57.9 | 58.0                | 58.2 | 58.2 | 22,502                           |
| Japan                     | 72.8             | 73.4 | 74.4 | 75.3 | 70.9 | 74.8 | 75.0                | 75.2 | 75.4                | 75.7 | 76.3 | 57,890                           |
| Korea                     | 65.6             | 65.9 | 66.1 | 66.6 | 64.1 | 66.3 | 66.5                | 66.7 | 66.7                | 66.7 | 66.8 | 24,592                           |
| Latvia                    | 66.3             | 68.1 | 68.7 | 70.1 | 69.3 | 68.8 | 68.9                | 69.9 | 70.6                | 71.0 | 71.1 | 868                              |
| Lithuania                 | 65.7             | 67.3 | 69.4 | 70.4 | 64.7 | 69.7 | 69.6                | 70.5 | 70.5                | 71.0 | 71.1 | 1,305                            |
| Luxembourg <sup>(1)</sup> | 66.6             | 66.2 | 65.6 | 66.3 | 63.9 | 66.2 | 65.9                | 66.2 | 66.8                | 66.2 | 67.0 | 277                              |
| Mexico                    | 60.4             | 60.7 | 61.0 | 61.1 | 61.3 | 61.0 | 61.3                | 61.1 | 61.0                | 61.1 | 61.4 | 50,430                           |
| Netherlands               | 73.1             | 74.2 | 74.8 | 75.9 | 77.1 | 75.2 | 75.4                | 75.7 | 76.0                | 76.3 | 76.5 | 8,482                            |
| New Zealand               | 74.2             | 74.3 | 75.6 | 76.9 | 75.0 | 76.3 | 76.7                | 76.3 | 77.2                | 77.4 | 77.5 | 2,453                            |
| Norway                    | 75.2             | 74.8 | 74.3 | 74.0 | 78.1 | 74.0 | 73.9                | 74.0 | 74.0                | 74.2 | 74.5 | 2,572                            |
| Poland                    | 61.7             | 62.9 | 64.5 | 66.1 | 59.0 | 65.2 | 65.7                | 66.0 | 66.3                | 66.5 | 66.9 | 16,148                           |
| Portugal                  | 62.6             | 63.9 | 65.3 | 67.8 | 68.3 | 66.0 | 66.8                | 67.4 | 68.2                | 68.9 | 69.2 | 4,603                            |
| Slovak Republic           | 61.0             | 62.7 | 64.9 | 66.2 | 61.8 | 65.4 | 65.8                | 66.1 | 66.3                | 66.5 | 67.1 | 2,521                            |
| Slovenia                  | 63.9             | 65.2 | 65.9 | 69.3 | 68.1 | 66.7 | 68.1                | 68.9 | 69.6                | 70.4 | 70.5 | 958                              |
| Spain                     | 56.0             | 57.8 | 59.6 | 61.1 | 65.1 | 60.1 | 60.4                | 61.0 | 61.3                | 61.6 | 61.7 | 18,900                           |
| Sweden                    | 74.9             | 75.5 | 76.2 | 76.9 | 74.5 | 76.4 | 76.7                | 76.7 | 76.9                | 77.0 | 77.2 | 4,892                            |
| Switzerland               | 78.8             | 79.2 | 79.6 | 79.8 | 79.5 | 79.9 | 79.7                | 79.6 | 79.8                | 80.0 | 79.9 | 4,472                            |
| Turkey <sup>(1)</sup>     | 49.5             | 50.2 | 50.7 | 51.6 | 45.1 | 50.5 | 50.9                | 51.1 | 51.9                | 52.3 | 52.5 | 28,093                           |
| United Kingdom            | 71.9             | 72.7 | 73.5 | 74.1 | 71.8 | 73.7 | 73.9                | 74.2 | 74.1                | 74.4 | 74.7 | 31,089                           |
| United States             | 68.1             | 68.7 | 69.4 | 70.1 | 71.2 | 69.6 | 69.8                | 70.0 | 70.2                | 70.3 | 70.5 | 145,504                          |

**b: Break in time series**

(1) Breaks in the Labour Force Survey for Belgium in Q1 2017; for Denmark in Q1 2016 and Q1 2017; for France in Q1 2014; for Ireland in Q3 2017; for Luxembourg in Q1 2015; and for Turkey in Q1 2014. Some of these breaks also affect, to some extent, aggregates for the European Union, euro area, Major 7 and OECD-Total.

**Table 2: OECD employment rates (15-64) by gender**  
*Employment as a percentage of corresponding working age population, seasonally adjusted*

|                        | Women |      |      |                     |      |      | Men  |      |      |                     |      |      |
|------------------------|-------|------|------|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------------|------|------|
|                        | 2017  | 2017 |      |                     |      | 2018 | 2017 | 2017 |      |                     |      | 2018 |
|                        |       | Q1   | Q2   | Q3                  | Q4   |      |      | Q1   | Q2   | Q3                  | Q4   |      |
| OECD - Total           | 60.1  | 59.8 | 60.0 | 60.2                | 60.4 | 60.6 | 75.4 | 75.1 | 75.3 | 75.5                | 75.7 | 75.9 |
| Major Seven            | 65.1  | 64.8 | 65.0 | 65.3                | 65.5 | 65.6 | 76.1 | 75.8 | 76.1 | 76.1                | 76.4 | 76.6 |
| European Union         | 62.4  | 62.0 | 62.3 | 62.5                | 62.8 | 63.0 | 72.9 | 72.4 | 72.8 | 73.0                | 73.3 | 73.5 |
| Euro area              | 61.2  | 60.8 | 61.1 | 61.3                | 61.6 | 61.7 | 71.6 | 71.1 | 71.4 | 71.6                | 71.9 | 72.1 |
| Australia              | 68.1  | 67.4 | 67.9 | 68.4                | 68.8 | 69.1 | 77.9 | 77.4 | 77.8 | 78.1                | 78.2 | 78.3 |
| Austria                | 68.2  | 68.0 | 68.2 | 68.1                | 68.4 | 68.5 | 76.2 | 75.6 | 76.2 | 76.1                | 76.8 | 77.1 |
| Belgium <sup>(1)</sup> | 58.7  | 57.7 | 58.6 | 59.0                | 59.5 | 60.0 | 67.6 | 67.0 | 67.2 | 67.6                | 68.3 | 68.1 |
| Canada                 | 70.6  | 70.3 | 70.5 | 70.6                | 71.1 | 70.6 | 76.3 | 76.2 | 76.2 | 76.2                | 76.6 | 76.7 |
| Chile                  | 52.8  | 52.0 | 52.6 | 53.3                | 53.2 | 53.6 | 72.5 | 72.6 | 72.5 | 72.4                | 72.4 | 71.9 |
| Czech Republic         | 66.2  | 65.6 | 65.7 | 66.6                | 66.7 | 67.1 | 80.9 | 80.4 | 80.7 | 81.1                | 81.4 | 81.6 |
| Denmark <sup>(1)</sup> | 71.5  | 71.4 | 71.1 | 71.8                | 71.7 | 72.5 | 76.9 | 76.4 | 76.9 | 76.8                | 77.4 | 77.5 |
| Estonia                | 70.9  | 70.2 | 69.7 | 71.2                | 72.6 | 71.0 | 77.4 | 76.9 | 76.2 | 77.5                | 79.0 | 77.0 |
| Finland                | 68.5  | 68.1 | 68.2 | 68.1                | 69.7 | 69.8 | 71.4 | 70.6 | 71.0 | 71.6                | 72.3 | 72.8 |
| France                 | 61.2  | 60.8 | 61.3 | 61.0                | 61.6 | 61.7 | 68.4 | 67.9 | 68.4 | 68.4                | 68.9 | 68.9 |
| Germany                | 71.5  | 71.1 | 71.3 | 71.6                | 72.1 | 71.8 | 78.9 | 78.6 | 78.8 | 79.0                | 79.2 | 79.4 |
| Greece                 | 44.4  | 44.0 | 44.6 | 44.5                | 44.5 | 44.5 | 62.7 | 61.8 | 62.6 | 63.3                | 63.3 | 63.8 |
| Hungary                | 61.3  | 61.0 | 61.1 | 61.4                | 61.5 | 62.0 | 75.2 | 74.4 | 75.0 | 75.5                | 76.0 | 76.4 |
| Iceland                | 83.5  | 84.4 | 83.7 | 82.7                | 83.1 | 82.6 | 88.6 | 89.4 | 89.8 | 87.4                | 88.0 | 87.7 |
| Ireland <sup>(1)</sup> | 62.4  | 62.1 | 62.3 | 62.4 <sup>(b)</sup> | 62.7 | 62.7 | 73.0 | 72.9 | 72.7 | 73.0 <sup>(b)</sup> | 73.5 | 74.1 |
| Israel                 | 65.7  | 65.6 | 65.4 | 65.6                | 66.0 | 66.5 | 72.4 | 72.4 | 72.6 | 72.5                | 72.3 | 72.1 |
| Italy                  | 48.9  | 48.6 | 48.8 | 49.1                | 49.2 | 49.2 | 67.0 | 67.0 | 67.0 | 67.1                | 67.2 | 67.2 |
| Japan                  | 67.5  | 66.9 | 67.3 | 67.7                | 68.0 | 68.9 | 83.0 | 82.9 | 82.9 | 83.0                | 83.2 | 83.6 |
| Korea                  | 56.9  | 56.7 | 56.8 | 56.9                | 57.1 | 57.1 | 76.3 | 76.2 | 76.4 | 76.3                | 76.1 | 76.3 |
| Latvia                 | 68.4  | 67.1 | 68.4 | 68.9                | 69.2 | 69.4 | 71.9 | 70.8 | 71.4 | 72.5                | 73.0 | 72.8 |
| Lithuania              | 70.2  | 69.1 | 70.6 | 70.5                | 70.6 | 70.3 | 70.6 | 70.1 | 70.5 | 70.5                | 71.4 | 72.0 |
| Luxembourg             | 62.6  | 62.1 | 62.3 | 63.4                | 62.3 | 63.3 | 69.9 | 69.5 | 70.0 | 70.0                | 70.1 | 70.6 |
| Mexico                 | 44.9  | 45.3 | 44.8 | 44.6                | 44.9 | 45.3 | 79.0 | 79.0 | 79.0 | 79.0                | 78.9 | 79.0 |
| Netherlands            | 71.3  | 70.7 | 71.2 | 71.5                | 71.7 | 71.8 | 80.4 | 80.0 | 80.2 | 80.5                | 80.8 | 81.2 |
| New Zealand            | 72.0  | 71.6 | 71.4 | 72.4                | 72.7 | 72.9 | 81.9 | 81.9 | 81.3 | 82.1                | 82.2 | 82.2 |
| Norway                 | 72.4  | 72.3 | 72.4 | 72.4                | 72.5 | 72.6 | 75.6 | 75.4 | 75.5 | 75.6                | 75.8 | 76.3 |
| Poland                 | 59.5  | 59.0 | 59.4 | 59.6                | 59.8 | 60.1 | 72.8 | 72.4 | 72.6 | 72.9                | 73.2 | 73.7 |
| Portugal               | 64.8  | 63.7 | 64.2 | 65.2                | 65.8 | 66.3 | 71.1 | 70.0 | 70.7 | 71.4                | 72.1 | 72.3 |
| Slovak Republic        | 60.3  | 59.8 | 60.2 | 60.5                | 60.6 | 60.9 | 72.0 | 71.7 | 71.8 | 72.1                | 72.3 | 73.1 |
| Slovenia               | 65.8  | 65.0 | 64.8 | 66.2                | 67.3 | 67.0 | 72.5 | 71.1 | 72.7 | 72.9                | 73.4 | 73.8 |
| Spain                  | 55.7  | 55.1 | 55.6 | 55.8                | 56.2 | 56.1 | 66.5 | 65.8 | 66.3 | 66.8                | 67.0 | 67.2 |
| Sweden                 | 75.4  | 75.5 | 75.2 | 75.4                | 75.5 | 75.5 | 78.3 | 78.0 | 78.1 | 78.4                | 78.5 | 78.8 |
| Switzerland            | 75.2  | 75.5 | 74.7 | 75.1                | 75.5 | 75.5 | 84.3 | 83.9 | 84.5 | 84.4                | 84.3 | 84.3 |
| Turkey                 | 32.2  | 31.7 | 31.8 | 32.3                | 33.0 | 33.1 | 70.7 | 70.0 | 70.3 | 71.2                | 71.3 | 71.6 |
| United Kingdom         | 69.7  | 69.4 | 69.7 | 69.8                | 70.0 | 70.4 | 78.6 | 78.4 | 78.8 | 78.4                | 78.8 | 79.1 |
| United States          | 64.9  | 64.7 | 64.8 | 65.1                | 65.1 | 65.2 | 75.4 | 75.1 | 75.4 | 75.5                | 75.7 | 76.0 |

b: Break in time series

(1) Breaks in the Labour Force Survey for Belgium in Q1 2017; for Denmark in Q1 2016 and Q1 2017; and for Ireland in Q3 2017. Some of these breaks also affect, to some extent, aggregates for the European Union, euro area and OECD-Total.

**Table 3: OECD employment rates by age**  
*Employment as a percentage of corresponding working age population, seasonally adjusted*

|                        | Youth (15-24) |                     |      |      | Prime-age workers (25-54) |                     |      |      | Older workers (55-64) |                     |      |      |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|------|------|---------------------------|---------------------|------|------|-----------------------|---------------------|------|------|
|                        | 2017          | 2017                |      | 2018 | 2017                      | 2017                |      | 2018 | 2017                  | 2017                |      | 2018 |
|                        | Q1            | Q3                  | Q4   | Q1   | Q1                        | Q3                  | Q4   | Q1   | Q1                    | Q3                  | Q4   | Q1   |
| OECD - Total           | 41.1          | 41.4                | 41.4 | 41.9 | 77.5                      | 77.8                | 78.1 | 78.3 | 59.9                  | 60.5                | 60.8 | 61.0 |
| Major Seven            | 44.7          | 45.0                | 44.8 | 45.6 | 79.8                      | 80.2                | 80.5 | 80.6 | 63.0                  | 63.6                | 63.9 | 64.1 |
| European Union         | 34.3          | 34.7                | 35.0 | 35.2 | 79.2                      | 79.8                | 79.9 | 80.1 | 56.3                  | 57.2                | 57.7 | 58.2 |
| Euro area              | 31.8          | 32.5                | 32.8 | 32.9 | 77.8                      | 78.2                | 78.5 | 78.6 | 56.3                  | 57.2                | 57.9 | 58.2 |
| Australia              | 57.9          | 58.9                | 59.0 | 59.2 | 79.6                      | 80.3                | 80.8 | 80.9 | 62.8                  | 63.7                | 64.1 | 63.7 |
| Austria                | 50.7          | 50.0                | 50.4 | 49.9 | 83.8                      | 84.1                | 84.4 | 84.6 | 50.0                  | 51.8                | 52.7 | 53.6 |
| Belgium <sup>(1)</sup> | 21.5          | 24.4                | 23.3 | 23.7 | 79.2                      | 79.0                | 80.2 | 80.3 | 46.3                  | 49.2                | 49.7 | 49.7 |
| Canada                 | 56.0          | 56.5                | 57.0 | 56.7 | 82.2                      | 82.3                | 82.5 | 82.5 | 61.8                  | 62.3                | 63.1 | 62.6 |
| Chile                  | 28.8          | 28.1                | 27.9 | 28.0 | 74.5                      | 75.0                | 75.1 | 75.0 | 64.2                  | 66.2                | 66.4 | 66.0 |
| Czech Republic         | 29.4          | 29.3                | 28.9 | 28.3 | 86.2                      | 87.0                | 87.0 | 87.2 | 61.0                  | 62.5                | 63.4 | 64.4 |
| Denmark <sup>(1)</sup> | 56.5          | 55.5                | 56.8 | 57.1 | 81.6                      | 82.0                | 81.9 | 82.6 | 67.4                  | 69.8                | 69.2 | 69.1 |
| Estonia                | 39.0          | 40.0                | 44.2 | 43.5 | 83.4                      | 84.4                | 84.8 | 82.6 | 66.7                  | 67.8                | 69.7 | 67.7 |
| Finland                | 41.9          | 43.0                | 43.8 | 43.9 | 80.2                      | 80.2                | 81.6 | 81.5 | 61.8                  | 62.4                | 63.6 | 65.4 |
| France                 | 28.3          | 28.7                | 29.3 | 29.4 | 79.5                      | 79.9                | 80.5 | 80.4 | 50.7                  | 51.0                | 52.1 | 52.1 |
| Germany                | 46.1          | 46.6                | 46.9 | 46.6 | 84.0                      | 84.3                | 84.4 | 84.7 | 69.4                  | 70.3                | 70.8 | 71.1 |
| Greece                 | 14.0          | 14.3                | 13.8 | 13.6 | 66.5                      | 67.9                | 67.7 | 67.9 | 37.6                  | 38.5                | 39.0 | 39.8 |
| Hungary                | 29.0          | 28.8                | 28.9 | 28.3 | 83.2                      | 83.9                | 84.0 | 84.3 | 50.5                  | 52.1                | 52.9 | 54.0 |
| Iceland                | 76.9          | 72.3                | 74.8 | 75.8 | 90.2                      | 89.8                | 89.3 | 89.0 | 85.0                  | 83.2                | 82.8 | 79.8 |
| Ireland <sup>(1)</sup> | 41.8          | 37.2 <sup>(b)</sup> | 39.8 | 39.4 | 77.1                      | 78.6 <sup>(b)</sup> | 78.9 | 79.2 | 57.8                  | 59.0 <sup>(b)</sup> | 58.9 | 59.4 |
| Israel                 |               |                     |      |      | 79.6                      | 79.6                | 79.8 | 79.9 | 66.6                  | 66.6                | 67.7 | 67.8 |
| Italy                  | 17.0          | 17.2                | 17.5 | 17.9 | 69.3                      | 69.5                | 69.4 | 69.3 | 51.4                  | 52.3                | 53.0 | 53.4 |
| Japan                  | 42.3          | 42.9                | 42.5 | 45.3 | 83.8                      | 84.3                | 84.7 | 85.0 | 72.8                  | 73.8                | 74.1 | 74.9 |
| Korea                  | 27.0          | 27.2                | 26.7 | 26.6 | 76.4                      | 76.4                | 76.4 | 76.5 | 67.4                  | 67.3                | 67.7 | 67.4 |
| Latvia                 | 31.4          | 33.7                | 32.0 | 32.6 | 80.3                      | 81.8                | 82.4 | 82.3 | 60.1                  | 63.0                | 64.1 | 62.9 |
| Lithuania              | 29.5          | 31.0                | 29.7 | 30.1 | 82.5                      | 83.8                | 83.7 | 83.2 | 64.8                  | 66.2                | 67.2 | 67.8 |
| Luxembourg             | 26.2          | 28.1                | 24.8 | 28.2 | 83.1                      | 83.8                | 83.8 | 84.6 | 39.9                  | 40.1                | 39.9 | 38.5 |
| Mexico                 | 41.0          | 40.5                | 40.6 | 40.5 | 71.5                      | 71.2                | 71.4 | 71.7 | 55.1                  | 54.9                | 54.3 | 55.1 |
| Netherlands            | 61.5          | 62.6                | 63.2 | 63.8 | 83.4                      | 83.6                | 83.6 | 84.0 | 64.7                  | 66.0                | 66.4 | 66.5 |
| New Zealand            | 55.8          | 55.4                | 56.3 | 56.9 | 83.8                      | 84.5                | 84.5 | 84.6 | 78.0                  | 78.3                | 78.8 | 78.1 |
| Norway                 | 47.6          | 48.2                | 48.7 | 48.8 | 82.4                      | 82.5                | 82.4 | 82.9 | 72.1                  | 71.9                | 71.6 | 72.6 |
| Poland                 | 29.2          | 29.8                | 30.2 | 31.1 | 81.1                      | 81.4                | 81.6 | 81.8 | 47.8                  | 48.6                | 48.3 | 48.5 |
| Portugal               | 25.5          | 25.9                | 26.6 | 26.5 | 81.4                      | 83.0                | 83.5 | 83.8 | 53.9                  | 57.1                | 57.8 | 58.3 |
| Slovak Republic        | 27.1          | 26.5                | 26.8 | 26.4 | 79.9                      | 80.4                | 80.0 | 80.9 | 51.7                  | 53.3                | 54.1 | 54.0 |
| Slovenia               | 34.1          | 35.8                | 34.1 | 36.4 | 85.0                      | 86.3                | 87.2 | 86.9 | 40.9                  | 42.7                | 44.5 | 44.7 |
| Spain                  | 19.7          | 20.9                | 21.1 | 21.3 | 72.4                      | 73.5                | 73.7 | 73.8 | 49.8                  | 50.8                | 51.0 | 51.0 |
| Sweden                 | 44.8          | 44.9                | 45.4 | 45.4 | 86.4                      | 86.4                | 86.3 | 86.5 | 76.1                  | 76.6                | 76.4 | 77.5 |
| Switzerland            | 63.4          | 63.3                | 62.8 | 61.8 | 86.2                      | 86.1                | 86.4 | 86.5 | 71.3                  | 72.2                | 73.0 | 72.5 |
| Turkey                 | 33.6          | 34.6                | 35.3 | 35.7 | 60.5                      | 61.5                | 61.7 | 62.1 | 34.2                  | 34.7                | 35.6 | 35.1 |
| United Kingdom         | 51.0          | 50.2                | 50.5 | 51.0 | 83.3                      | 83.9                | 84.1 | 84.3 | 64.0                  | 63.9                | 64.4 | 65.0 |
| United States          | 50.1          | 50.6                | 50.0 | 50.7 | 78.3                      | 78.6                | 79.0 | 79.1 | 62.2                  | 62.6                | 62.7 | 62.7 |

b: Break in time series

(1) Breaks in the Labour Force Survey for Belgium in Q1 2017; for Denmark in Q1 2016 and Q1 2017; and for Ireland in Q3 2017. Some of these breaks also affect, to some extent, aggregates for the European Union, euro area and OECD-Total.

**Table 4: OECD labour force participation rates (15-64)**

*Labour force as a percentage of corresponding working age population, seasonally adjusted*

|                           | Participation rate |      |      |      |      |      |                     |      |                     |      |      |
|---------------------------|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------------|------|---------------------|------|------|
|                           | 2014               | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2008 | 2016 | 2017                |      |                     |      | 2018 |
|                           |                    |      |      |      | Q2   | Q4   | Q1                  | Q2   | Q3                  | Q4   | Q1   |
| OECD - Total              | 71.0               | 71.2 | 71.6 | 72.0 | 70.7 | 71.7 | 71.9                | 71.9 | 72.0                | 72.1 | 72.2 |
| Major Seven               | 73.5               | 73.5 | 74.0 | 74.4 | 73.9 | 74.2 | 74.2                | 74.3 | 74.5                | 74.5 | 74.7 |
| European Union            | 72.3               | 72.5 | 72.9 | 73.3 | 70.7 | 73.0 | 73.2                | 73.3 | 73.4                | 73.5 | 73.6 |
| Euro area                 | 72.3               | 72.5 | 72.8 | 73.1 | 71.2 | 72.9 | 72.9                | 73.0 | 73.2                | 73.2 | 73.3 |
| Australia                 | 76.3               | 76.9 | 76.9 | 77.4 | 76.6 | 76.8 | 77.0                | 77.3 | 77.6                | 77.8 | 78.1 |
| Austria                   | 75.4               | 75.5 | 76.2 | 76.4 | 73.8 | 76.1 | 76.3                | 76.4 | 76.3                | 76.8 | 76.8 |
| Belgium <sup>(1)</sup>    | 67.7               | 67.6 | 67.6 | 68.0 | 66.7 | 68.2 | 67.6 <sup>(b)</sup> | 67.9 | 68.1                | 68.3 | 68.2 |
| Canada                    | 77.8               | 78.0 | 78.1 | 78.5 | 78.4 | 78.3 | 78.5                | 78.5 | 78.3                | 78.6 | 78.2 |
| Chile                     | 66.6               | 66.8 | 66.8 | 67.4 | 62.3 | 66.9 | 67.0                | 67.3 | 67.6                | 67.7 | 67.7 |
| Czech Republic            | 73.5               | 74.1 | 75.0 | 75.9 | 69.7 | 75.5 | 75.7                | 75.7 | 76.1                | 76.1 | 76.3 |
| Denmark <sup>(1)</sup>    | 78.1               | 78.5 | 80.0 | 78.9 | 80.7 | 79.8 | 78.8 <sup>(b)</sup> | 78.6 | 79.1                | 78.9 | 79.0 |
| Estonia                   | 75.3               | 76.7 | 77.5 | 78.8 | 73.1 | 77.1 | 78.1                | 78.7 | 78.6                | 80.0 | 79.5 |
| Finland                   | 75.4               | 75.8 | 75.9 | 76.8 | 76.2 | 75.9 | 76.2                | 76.5 | 76.7                | 77.6 | 77.9 |
| France <sup>(1)</sup>     | 71.0               | 71.3 | 71.4 | 71.5 | 69.8 | 71.4 | 71.2                | 71.6 | 71.6                | 71.7 | 71.9 |
| Germany                   | 77.7               | 77.6 | 77.9 | 78.3 | 75.9 | 78.1 | 78.0                | 78.1 | 78.3                | 78.6 | 78.4 |
| Greece                    | 67.4               | 67.8 | 68.2 | 68.3 | 66.7 | 68.1 | 68.2                | 68.5 | 68.3                | 68.1 | 67.9 |
| Hungary                   | 67.0               | 68.7 | 70.1 | 71.2 | 61.0 | 70.6 | 70.7                | 71.1 | 71.3                | 71.5 | 71.8 |
| Iceland                   | 87.4               | 88.4 | 89.4 | 88.7 | 86.5 | 89.6 | 89.7                | 89.4 | 87.4                | 88.2 | 87.9 |
| Ireland <sup>(1)</sup>    | 71.8               | 72.1 | 72.7 | 72.7 | 75.0 | 72.6 | 72.8                | 72.5 | 72.6 <sup>(b)</sup> | 72.8 | 72.7 |
| Israel                    | 72.2               | 72.2 | 72.1 | 72.1 | 63.9 | 72.1 | 72.3                | 72.2 | 71.9                | 72.1 | 72.0 |
| Italy                     | 64.0               | 64.1 | 65.0 | 65.5 | 63.2 | 65.2 | 65.4                | 65.3 | 65.6                | 65.4 | 65.5 |
| Japan                     | 75.6               | 76.1 | 77.0 | 77.6 | 74.0 | 77.2 | 77.3                | 77.5 | 77.7                | 78.0 | 78.4 |
| Korea                     | 68.0               | 68.4 | 68.7 | 69.2 | 66.3 | 68.9 | 69.1                | 69.3 | 69.3                | 69.3 | 69.3 |
| Latvia                    | 74.6               | 75.8 | 76.3 | 77.0 | 74.4 | 76.1 | 76.2                | 76.8 | 77.4                | 77.5 | 77.5 |
| Lithuania                 | 73.7               | 74.1 | 75.5 | 76.0 | 67.7 | 75.7 | 75.5                | 76.0 | 76.0                | 76.4 | 76.4 |
| Luxembourg <sup>(1)</sup> | 70.8               | 70.9 | 70.0 | 70.2 | 67.6 | 70.4 | 70.0                | 70.1 | 70.6                | 70.0 | 70.9 |
| Mexico                    | 63.6               | 63.6 | 63.6 | 63.4 | 63.7 | 63.4 | 63.7                | 63.4 | 63.2                | 63.3 | 63.5 |
| Netherlands               | 79.0               | 79.6 | 79.7 | 79.8 | 79.4 | 79.6 | 79.7                | 79.7 | 79.8                | 79.8 | 79.8 |
| New Zealand               | 78.6               | 78.7 | 79.8 | 80.9 | 78.0 | 80.7 | 80.9                | 80.2 | 81.2                | 81.2 | 81.2 |
| Norway                    | 78.0               | 78.2 | 78.1 | 77.3 | 80.2 | 77.7 | 77.4                | 77.4 | 77.2                | 77.3 | 77.5 |
| Poland                    | 67.9               | 68.1 | 68.8 | 69.6 | 63.7 | 69.1 | 69.4                | 69.6 | 69.6                | 69.7 | 69.8 |
| Portugal                  | 73.3               | 73.4 | 73.7 | 74.7 | 74.1 | 73.9 | 74.2                | 74.4 | 74.9                | 75.1 | 75.1 |
| Slovak Republic           | 70.3               | 70.9 | 71.9 | 72.1 | 68.8 | 72.0 | 72.1                | 72.0 | 72.2                | 72.1 | 72.2 |
| Slovenia                  | 70.9               | 71.8 | 71.7 | 74.2 | 71.2 | 72.5 | 73.6                | 73.8 | 74.6                | 74.8 | 74.7 |
| Spain                     | 74.2               | 74.3 | 74.2 | 73.9 | 72.7 | 74.0 | 74.0                | 73.9 | 73.8                | 73.9 | 73.7 |
| Sweden                    | 81.5               | 81.8 | 82.1 | 82.5 | 79.4 | 82.2 | 82.4                | 82.4 | 82.7                | 82.5 | 82.5 |
| Switzerland               | 82.9               | 83.3 | 83.9 | 84.0 | 82.3 | 84.1 | 84.0                | 83.7 | 84.0                | 84.1 | 84.1 |
| Turkey <sup>(1)</sup>     | 55.1               | 56.0 | 57.0 | 58.0 | 49.7 | 57.4 | 57.7                | 57.6 | 58.1                | 58.3 | 58.3 |
| United Kingdom            | 76.7               | 76.9 | 77.3 | 77.6 | 75.8 | 77.4 | 77.5                | 77.7 | 77.4                | 77.7 | 78.0 |
| United States             | 72.7               | 72.6 | 73.0 | 73.3 | 75.3 | 73.1 | 73.2                | 73.3 | 73.5                | 73.4 | 73.6 |

b: Break in time series

(1) Breaks in the Labour Force Survey for Belgium in Q1 2017; for Denmark in Q1 2016 and Q1 2017; for France in Q1 2014; for Ireland in Q3 2017; for Luxembourg in Q1 2015; and for Turkey in Q1 2014. Some of these breaks also affect, to some extent, aggregates for the European Union, euro area, Major 7 and OECD-Total.