

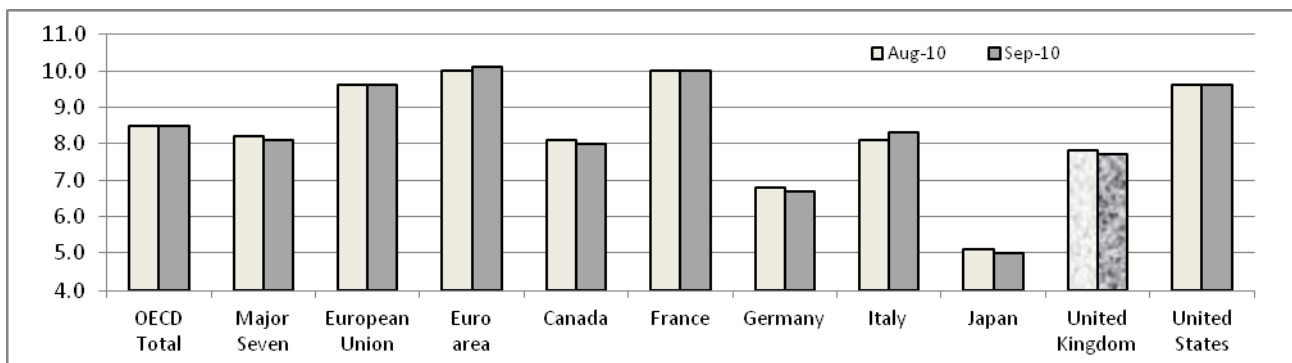
OECD unemployment rate steady at 8.5% in September

In September 2010, the **OECD area** unemployment rate was 8.5%, unchanged from August and broadly stable since June 2010. New October 2010 unemployment rates for the **United States** (unchanged at 9.6%), and **Canada** (down slightly by 0.1 percentage point to 7.9%), confirm this overall stability.

Diverging trends are evident at the national level. **Germany's** September 6.7% unemployment rate has been declining steadily, and is lower than the 8.4% rate reported in 2007. Unemployment rates in **Korea** (3.7%), the **Netherlands** (4.4%) and **Austria** (4.5%) remain comparatively low, while **Spain** (20.8%) the **Slovak Republic** (14.7%) and **Ireland** (14.1%) are still experiencing high and rising unemployment rates.

The OECD area unemployment level remains close to post-war highs. There were 45.5 million unemployed persons in OECD countries in September 2010, down 0.6 million from September 2009 but 15.4 million higher than in September 2007.

Selected Unemployment Rates, s.a.
August 2010 – September 2010 ⁽¹⁾



(1) United Kingdom: June 2010—July 2010.

Methodological Notes:

For methodological reasons, harmonised unemployment rates may differ from those published by national statistical institutes. All rates and levels quoted are seasonally adjusted (s.a.).

More methodological notes are available at <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/21/0/44743407.pdf>.

Access data:

The latest unemployment rates for all OECD countries and geographic groupings, as well as historical data, can be downloaded from the OECD online data dissemination facility OECD.Stat Extracts at: <http://stats.oecd.org/wbos/Default.aspx?QueryName=251&QueryType=View&Lang=en>.

Contacts:

For further information readers are invited to contact the OECD's Media Relations Division on

(33) 1 45 24 97 00 or e-mail news.contact@oecd.org

For technical questions contact stat.contact@oecd.org

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OECD Unemployment Rates, s.a.
Percentage of labour force

	2007	2008	2009	2009	2010			2010					
				Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	5.8	6.1	8.3	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.7	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5
Major Seven	5.4	5.9	8.0	8.5	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.1
European Union	7.2	7.0	8.9	9.4	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6
Euro area	7.5	7.6	9.4	9.9	9.9	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.1
Australia	4.4	4.2	5.6	5.7	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.4	5.2	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.1
Austria	4.4	3.8	4.8	4.8	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.5
Belgium	7.5	7.0	7.9	8.1	8.4	8.5	8.7	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.7
Canada ⁽¹⁾	6.0	6.1	8.3	8.4	8.2	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.0
Chile ⁽³⁾	7.1	7.8	10.8	10.0	9.0	8.5		8.8	8.5	8.3	8.3		
Czech Republic	5.3	4.4	6.7	7.4	7.8	7.3	6.9	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.9
Denmark	3.8	3.3	6.0	7.1	7.2	7.3	6.9	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.0	6.8	7.0
Finland	6.9	6.4	8.2	8.7	8.7	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.3
France	8.3	7.8	9.5	9.9	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.8	9.9	9.9	9.9	10.0	10.0
Germany	8.4	7.3	7.5	7.5	7.3	6.9	6.8	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7
Greece	8.3	7.7	9.5	10.2	11.1	12.2		12.2	12.2	12.2			
Hungary	7.4	7.8	10.0	10.6	11.3	11.3	10.9	11.4	11.2	11.2	11.1	10.9	10.8
Iceland	2.3	3.0	7.2	7.7	7.2	6.9	7.9						
Ireland	4.6	6.3	11.9	13.0	12.9	13.5	13.9	13.2	13.6	13.7	13.8	13.9	14.1
Israel ⁽³⁾	7.3	6.1	7.6	7.3	7.0	6.2							
Italy	6.2	6.8	7.8	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.5	8.3	8.3	8.1	8.3
Japan	3.9	4.0	5.1	5.2	4.9	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.0
Korea	3.2	3.2	3.6	3.6	4.3	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.5	3.7	3.4	3.7
Luxembourg	4.2	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0
Mexico	3.7	4.0	5.5	5.5	5.2	5.5	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.3
Netherlands	3.6	3.1	3.7	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4
New Zealand	3.7	4.2	6.1	7.1	6.0	6.9	6.4						
Norway	2.5	2.5	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.6		3.6	3.6	3.5	3.3		
Poland	9.6	7.2	8.2	8.8	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.6
Portugal	8.1	7.7	9.6	10.2	10.5	11.0	10.7	10.9	11.0	11.0	10.8	10.6	10.6
Slovak Republic	11.1	9.5	12.0	14.1	14.6	14.4	14.6	14.5	14.4	14.4	14.5	14.6	14.7
Slovenia ⁽³⁾	4.9	4.4	5.9	6.5	6.7	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3
Spain	8.3	11.4	18.0	19.0	19.3	20.0	20.6	19.8	20.0	20.2	20.4	20.6	20.8
Sweden	6.1	6.2	8.3	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.3	9.0	8.7	8.1	8.5	8.2	8.2
Switzerland	3.6	3.5	4.4	4.6	4.5	4.4							
Turkey	8.9	9.7	12.6	11.9	11.4	10.6		10.7	10.7	10.5			
United Kingdom	5.3	5.6	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.8		7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7		
United States ⁽²⁾	4.6	5.8	9.3	10.0	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.9	9.7	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.6

Notes:

(1) Canada: Unemployment rate for October 2010 was 7.9%

(2) United States: Unemployment rate for October 2010 was 9.6%

(3) Chile, Israel and Slovenia have not yet been included in the OECD area aggregation in this News Release for technical and timing reasons, though Chilean, Israeli and Slovenian data, where available, have been incorporated into the Main Economic Indicators electronic databases.

OECD Unemployment Rates, s.a.

Change of rates over the same period of the previous year

	2007	2008	2009	2010				2010					
				Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	-0.5	0.3	2.2	2.0	1.0	0.3	-0.1	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Major Seven	-0.4	0.5	2.1	2.0	1.0	0.1	-0.2	0.5	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3
European Union	-1.0	-0.2	1.9	1.9	1.4	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3
Euro area	-0.9	0.1	1.8	1.9	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3
Australia	-0.4	-0.2	1.4	1.2	0.0	-0.5	-0.6	0.0	-0.6	-0.7	-0.4	-0.7	-0.6
Austria	-0.3	-0.6	1.0	0.8	0.0	-0.2	-0.7	-0.1	-0.2	-0.5	-0.8	-0.9	-0.6
Belgium	-0.8	-0.5	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6
Canada ⁽¹⁾	-0.3	0.1	2.2	1.9	0.4	-0.4	-0.5	0.0	-0.4	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.3
Chile ⁽³⁾	-0.7	0.7	3.0	2.5	-1.6	-3.0		-2.6	-3.0	-3.3	-3.3		
Czech Republic	-1.9	-0.9	2.3	2.9	2.3	0.8	-0.4	1.3	0.8	0.3	-0.1	-0.4	-0.5
Denmark	-0.1	-0.5	2.7	3.4	2.4	1.3	0.7	1.6	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.5
Finland	-0.8	-0.5	1.8	2.0	1.3	0.3	-0.3	0.6	0.3	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3
France	-0.9	-0.5	1.7	1.7	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Germany	-1.4	-1.1	0.2	0.4	0.0	-0.7	-0.8	-0.6	-0.7	-0.8	-0.8	-0.8	-0.9
Greece	-0.6	-0.6	1.8	2.3	2.3	3.0		3.0	3.0	3.0			
Hungary	-0.1	0.4	2.2	2.5	2.0	1.6	0.5	1.8	1.5	1.4	0.9	0.4	0.2
Iceland	-0.6	0.7	4.2	3.1	0.4	-0.3	0.5						
Ireland	0.1	1.7	5.6	5.0	2.7	1.7	1.3	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.2
Israel ⁽³⁾	-1.1	-1.2	1.5	0.8	-0.6	-1.8							
Italy	-0.6	0.6	1.0	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.2	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1
Japan	-0.2	0.1	1.1	1.1	0.4	0.1	-0.3	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Korea	-0.3	0.0	0.4	0.3	0.8	-0.4	-0.1	0.0	-0.6	-0.4	0.0	-0.3	0.1
Luxembourg	-0.4	0.7	0.3	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.1	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	0.0
Mexico	0.1	0.3	1.5	1.0	0.3	-0.1	-0.6	0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.7	-0.7
Netherlands	-0.7	-0.5	0.6	1.2	1.3	1.0	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.4
New Zealand	-0.2	0.5	1.9	2.5	0.9	0.9	-0.1						
Norway	-0.9	0.0	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.2		
Poland	-4.3	-2.4	1.0	1.8	2.2	1.6	1.0	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.0
Portugal	0.3	-0.4	1.9	2.3	1.8	1.6	0.6	1.7	1.6	1.3	0.8	0.4	0.4
Slovak Republic	-2.3	-1.6	2.5	5.2	4.6	3.1	1.9	3.6	3.2	2.7	2.3	1.9	1.4
Slovenia ⁽³⁾	-1.1	-0.5	1.5	2.2	1.7	1.5	0.9	1.7	1.6	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.9
Spain	-0.2	3.1	6.6	5.0	2.7	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.0	1.9	1.8
Sweden	-1.0	0.1	2.1	2.1	1.2	0.2	-0.3	1.2	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	-0.6	-0.5
Switzerland	-0.4	-0.1	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.0							
Turkey	0.2	0.8	2.9	0.8	-1.0	-2.5		-2.5	-2.4	-2.4			
United Kingdom	-0.1	0.3	2.0	1.5	0.9	0.1		0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.1		
United States ⁽²⁾	0.0	1.2	3.5	3.1	1.5	0.4	-0.1	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.2

Notes:

(1) Canada: For October 2010 the change was -0.5

(2) United States: For October 2010 the change was -0.5

(3) Chile, Israel and Slovenia have not yet been included in the OECD area aggregation in this News Release for technical and timing reasons, though Chilean, Israeli and Slovenian data, where available, have been incorporated into the Main Economic Indicators electronic databases.