

135/2018 - 31 August 2018

July 2018

## Euro area unemployment at 8.2%

EU28 at 6.8%

The **euro area** (EA19) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 8.2% in July 2018, stable compared with June 2018 and down from 9.1% in July 2017. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **euro area** since November 2008. The **EU28** unemployment rate was 6.8% in July 2018, down from 6.9% in June 2018 and from 7.6% in July 2017. This is the lowest rate recorded in the **EU28** since April 2008. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

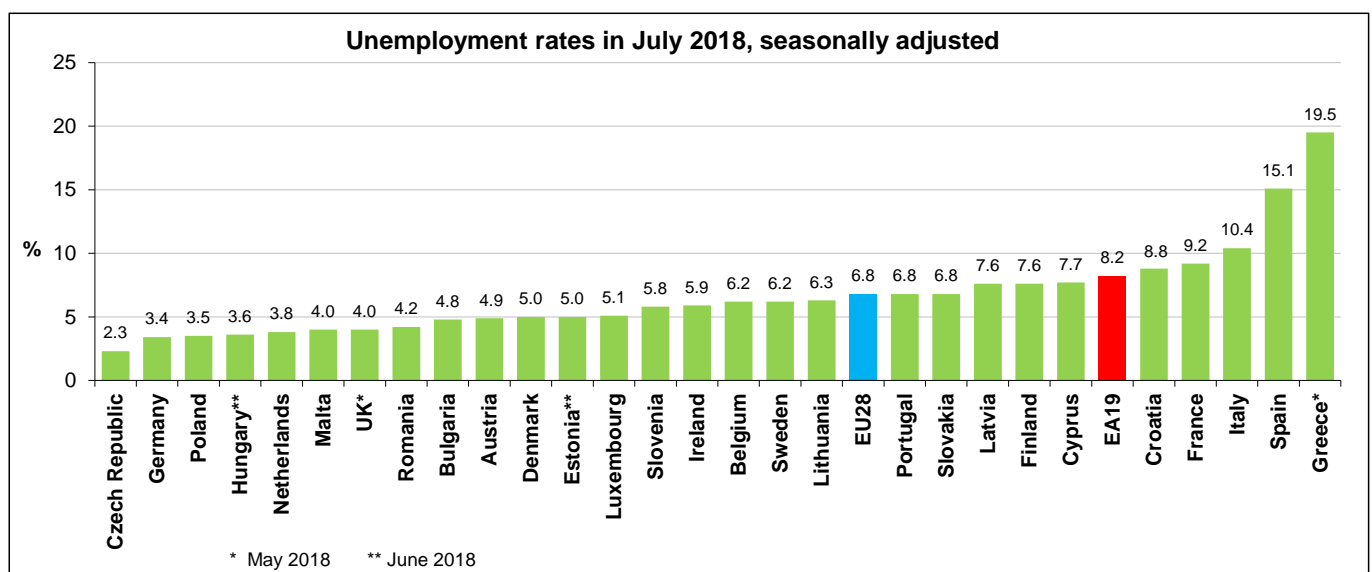
Eurostat estimates that 16.823 million men and women in the **EU28**, of whom 13.381 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in July 2018. Compared with June 2018, the number of persons unemployed decreased by 82 000 in the **EU28** and by 73 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with July 2017, unemployment fell by 1.949 million in the **EU28** and by 1.368 million in the **euro area**.

### Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in July 2018 were recorded in the **Czech Republic** (2.3%), **Germany** (3.4%) and **Poland** (3.5%). The highest unemployment rates were observed in **Greece** (19.5% in May 2018) and **Spain** (15.1%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate fell in all Member States. The largest decreases were registered in **Cyprus** (from 10.7% to 7.7%), **Greece** (from 21.7% to 19.5% between May 2017 and May 2018), **Portugal** (from 8.9% to 6.8%) and **Croatia** (from 10.9% to 8.8%).

In July 2018, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 3.9%, down from 4.0% in June 2018 and from 4.3% in July 2017.



## Youth unemployment

In July 2018, 3.325 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU28**, of whom 2.365 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with July 2017, youth unemployment decreased by 466 000 in the **EU28** and by 294 000 in the **euro area**. In July 2018, the youth unemployment rate was 14.8% in the **EU28** and 16.6% in the **euro area**, compared with 16.8% and 18.7% respectively in July 2017. In July 2018, the lowest rates were observed in **Germany** (6.1%), **Malta** (6.3%) and the **Czech Republic** (6.6%), while the highest were recorded in **Greece** (39.7% in May 2018), **Spain** (33.4%) and **Italy** (30.8%).

### 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 definitions

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**

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 [125/2018](#) of 31 July 2018, the June 2018 unemployment rate for EA19 has been revised from 8.3% to 8.2%, while the unemployment rate for EU28 has remained unchanged. Among Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Lithuania (by 1.0 pp), Cyprus and Romania (both by 0.3 pp) as well as for Greece and Croatia (both by 0.2 pp, April data for Greece). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points upwards for Ireland (by 0.8 pp) and Latvia (by 0.3 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](#)

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

**Romina BRONDINO**

**Tel: +352-4301-33 444**

**[eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu)**

 [ec.europa.eu/eurostat/](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/)

 [EurostatStatistics](https://www.facebook.com/EurostatStatistics)

For further information on data:

**Boyan GENEV**


**Tel: +352-4301-36 409**

**Thibaut HENRION**

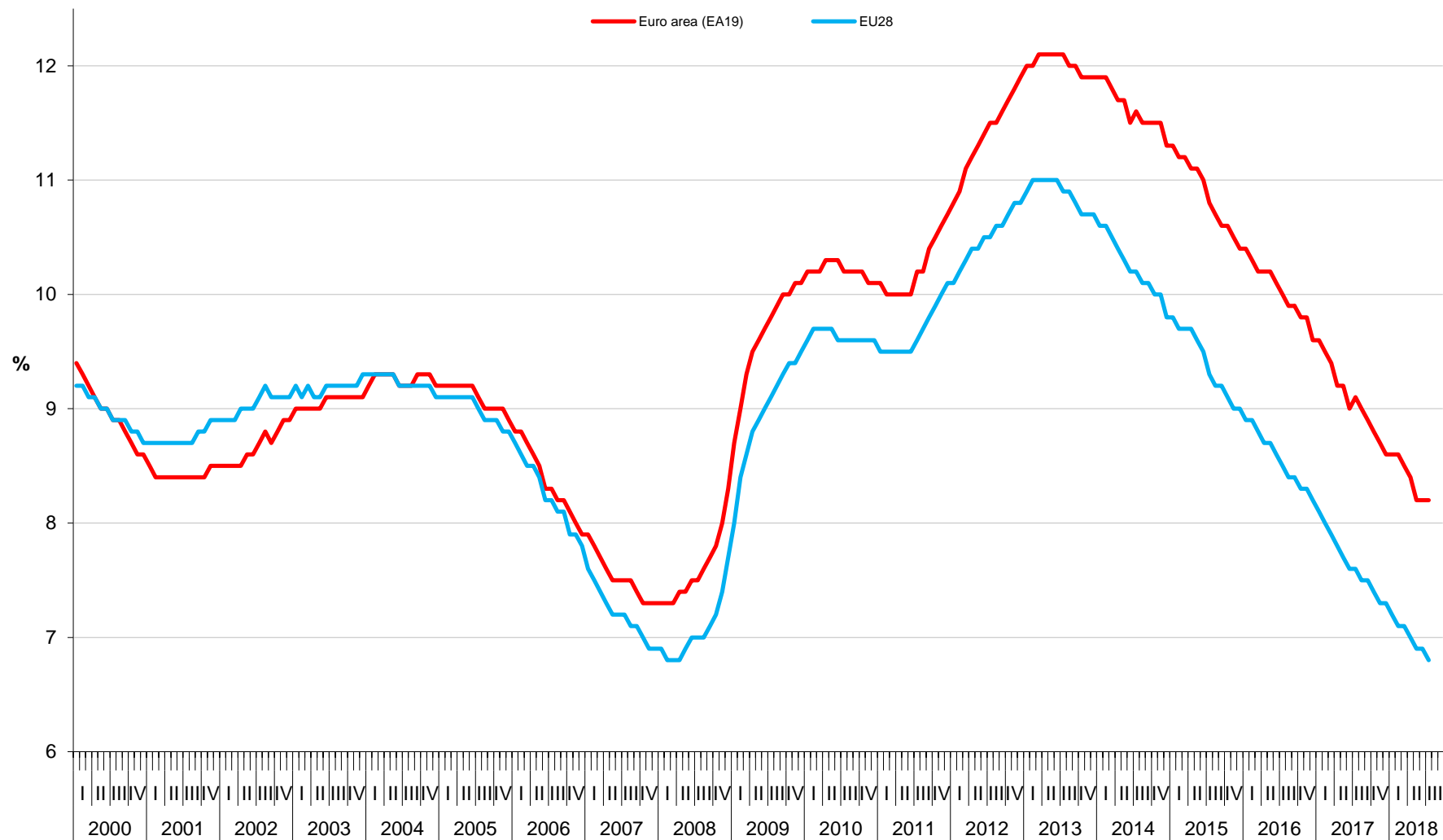
**Tel: +352-4301-31 686**

**[estat-monthly-unemployment@ec.europa.eu](mailto:estat-monthly-unemployment@ec.europa.eu)**

 [@EU\\_Eurostat](https://twitter.com/EU_Eurostat)

 **Media requests:** Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33 408 / [eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu)

### Euro area and EU28 unemployment rates Seasonally adjusted series



### Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 17	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Jul 17	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18
<b>EA19</b>	9.1	8.4	8.2	8.2	<b>8.2</b>	14 749	13 661	13 442	13 454	<b>13 381</b>
<b>EU28</b>	7.6	7.0	6.9	6.9	<b>6.8</b>	18 772	17 214	16 907	16 905	<b>16 823</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	7.2	6.0	6.0	6.0	<b>6.2</b>	360	303	303	305	<b>314</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	6.2	5.0	5.0	4.8	<b>4.8</b>	210	168	166	161	<b>160</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	2.8	2.3	2.3	2.4	<b>2.3</b>	150	124	125	128	<b>126</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	5.8	5.2	5.1	5.0	<b>5.0</b>	175	156	153	150	<b>151</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.4	<b>3.4</b>	1 615	1 493	1 486	1 478	<b>1 470</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	6.6**	5.0	5.0	5.0	:	46**	35	35	35	:
<b>Ireland</b>	6.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	<b>5.9</b>	157	138	140	140	<b>141</b>
<b>Greece</b>	21.7*	20.0	19.5	:	:	1 039*	943	925	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	16.9	15.6	15.4	15.2	<b>15.1</b>	3 833	3 559	3 505	3 459	<b>3 453</b>
<b>France</b>	9.6	9.1	9.1	9.1	<b>9.2</b>	2 846	2 705	2 695	2 700	<b>2 737</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	10.9	9.0	8.9	9.0	<b>8.8</b>	199	165	163	165	<b>161</b>
<b>Italy</b>	11.5	11.0	10.5	10.8	<b>10.4</b>	2 976	2 862	2 754	2 818	<b>2 705</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	10.7	8.4	8.1	7.9	<b>7.7</b>	46	36	35	34	<b>34</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	8.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	<b>7.6</b>	87	76	76	76	<b>74</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	6.9	5.9	5.8	5.8	<b>6.3</b>	100	86	84	84	<b>91</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	5.6	5.2	5.2	5.1	<b>5.1</b>	16	15	15	15	<b>15</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	4.2**	3.7	3.6	3.6	:	196**	170	168	168	:
<b>Malta</b>	4.6	4.0	3.9	3.9	<b>4.0</b>	10	9	9	9	<b>9</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	4.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	<b>3.8</b>	436	355	352	354	<b>348</b>
<b>Austria</b>	5.4	4.8	4.7	4.7	<b>4.9</b>	243	218	210	214	<b>224</b>
<b>Poland</b>	4.9	3.8	3.7	3.6	<b>3.5</b>	837	656	638	621	<b>600</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	8.9	7.1	7.0	6.8	<b>6.8</b>	460	368	363	352	<b>353</b>
<b>Romania</b>	5.0	4.4	4.2	4.2	<b>4.2</b>	453	395	381	377	<b>386</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	6.6	5.6	5.6	5.7	<b>5.8</b>	68	57	58	59	<b>60</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	8.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	<b>6.8</b>	220	190	188	188	<b>186</b>
<b>Finland</b>	8.5	7.7	7.6	7.6	<b>7.6</b>	231	212	209	208	<b>208</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	6.7	6.3	6.2	6.2	<b>6.2</b>	360	339	339	339	<b>340</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	4.4*	4.1	4.0	:	:	1 455*	1 376	1 338	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>	5	6	6	6	<b>6</b>
<b>Norway</b>	4.3**	3.8	3.8	3.9	:	119**	105	107	109	:
<b>United States</b>	4.3	3.9	3.8	4.0	<b>3.9</b>	6 959	6 383	6 078	6 532	<b>6 283</b>

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

: Data not available

\* May 2017

\*\* June 2017

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

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 17	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Jul 17	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18
<b>EA19</b>	18.7	17.1	16.8	16.8	<b>16.6</b>	2 659	2 445	2 396	2 394	<b>2 365</b>
<b>EU28</b>	16.8	15.3	15.0	15.0	<b>14.8</b>	3 791	3 450	3 365	3 368	<b>3 325</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	18.2	16.3	16.3	16.3	:	70	61	61	61	:
<b>Bulgaria</b>	14.4	11.6	11.3	11.0	<b>11.1</b>	25	17	17	16	<b>16</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	8.1	8.3	8.1	7.8	<b>6.6</b>	26	25	24	23	<b>19</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	11.9	10.3	9.3	9.2	<b>9.1</b>	56	47	43	43	<b>42</b>
<b>Germany</b>	6.6	6.2	6.2	6.1	<b>6.1</b>	278	265	263	262	<b>261</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	11.0	6.9	7.9	10.0	:	6	4	5	6	:
<b>Ireland</b>	15.5	14.1	14.3	14.4	<b>14.7</b>	41	39	39	40	<b>40</b>
<b>Greece</b>	41.2	40.9	39.7	:	:	105	100	98	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	37.6	34.5	34.1	34.1	<b>33.4</b>	568	524	519	512	<b>505</b>
<b>France</b>	22.7	20.8	20.5	20.4	<b>20.4</b>	632	592	581	573	<b>572</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	26.3	22.6	22.6	22.6	:	43	35	35	35	:
<b>Italy</b>	34.8	32.6	31.3	31.8	<b>30.8</b>	543	505	473	486	<b>461</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	25.1	22.4*	:	:	:	9	8*	:	:	:
<b>Latvia</b>	16.2	12.1	11.2	10.5	<b>9.5</b>	12	8	7	7	<b>6</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	12.8	11.0	10.8	11.2	<b>12.4</b>	14	12	11	12	<b>13</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	15.6	13.8	13.9	13.8	<b>13.3</b>	3	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	10.9	9.4	10.0	10.2	:	37	31	33	33	:
<b>Malta</b>	9.3	5.4	4.9	5.6	<b>6.3</b>	2	1	1	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	8.8	6.9	6.9	7.2	<b>7.3</b>	126	98	100	104	<b>106</b>
<b>Austria</b>	9.5	9.8	9.8	9.6	<b>9.4</b>	50	52	53	52	<b>50</b>
<b>Poland</b>	14.5	11.4	11.1	10.7	<b>10.1</b>	193	148	144	138	<b>130</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	23.0	20.5	20.5	19.7	<b>20.3</b>	85	75	75	73	<b>76</b>
<b>Romania</b>	17.8	16.8*	:	:	:	112	106*	:	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	11.6	10.3	10.3	10.3	:	9	8	8	8	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	18.5	17.7	17.9	18.3	<b>18.3</b>	37	33	34	34	<b>34</b>
<b>Finland</b>	19.8	17.5	17.2	16.9	<b>16.8</b>	64	57	56	55	<b>55</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	17.9	16.3	16.1	16.5	<b>16.5</b>	112	101	101	101	<b>102</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	12.2	11.6	11.2	:	:	521	497	478	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.4	<b>7.5</b>	2	2	2	2	<b>2</b>
<b>Norway</b>	11.1	9.1	9.8	9.9	:	40	33	36	36	:

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

: Data not available

\* Q1 2018 data

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

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

	Males					Females				
	Jul 17	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18	Jul 17	Apr 18	May 18	Jun 18	Jul 18
EA19	8.7	8.0	7.9	7.9	<b>7.9</b>	9.4	8.7	8.6	8.6	<b>8.5</b>
EU28	7.4	6.8	6.6	6.6	<b>6.6</b>	7.9	7.2	7.1	7.1	<b>7.0</b>
Belgium	7.5	6.4	6.4	6.4	<b>6.5</b>	6.8	5.6	5.6	5.6	<b>5.8</b>
Bulgaria	6.6	5.5	5.4	5.2	<b>5.2</b>	5.8	4.5	4.5	4.4	<b>4.4</b>
Czech Republic	2.3	1.8	1.8	1.9	<b>2.0</b>	3.4	2.9	2.9	2.9	<b>2.8</b>
Denmark	5.7	4.9	4.8	4.7	<b>4.8</b>	6.0	5.5	5.3	5.2	<b>5.3</b>
Germany	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.9	<b>3.8</b>	3.3	3.0	2.9	2.9	<b>2.9</b>
Estonia	7.1	5.3	5.1	5.0	:	5.1	4.7	4.8	5.0	:
Ireland	7.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	<b>6.0</b>	6.3	5.6	5.6	5.7	<b>5.7</b>
Greece	17.5	16.4	15.8	:	:	25.2	24.5	24.1	:	:
Spain	15.3	14.1	13.8	13.6	<b>13.5</b>	18.7	17.4	17.2	17.0	<b>17.0</b>
France	9.7	9.0	9.0	9.1	<b>9.3</b>	9.4	9.2	9.1	9.1	<b>9.1</b>
Croatia	10.2	8.5	8.5	8.6	<b>8.5</b>	11.6	9.6	9.4	9.4	<b>9.2</b>
Italy	10.5	10.1	9.7	9.9	<b>9.6</b>	12.7	12.1	11.7	11.9	<b>11.5</b>
Cyprus	10.1	8.2	7.9	7.6	<b>7.2</b>	11.3	8.7	8.4	8.3	<b>8.2</b>
Latvia	9.7	8.9	9.1	9.1	<b>8.8</b>	7.9	6.4	6.3	6.3	<b>6.3</b>
Lithuania	8.3	6.5	6.2	6.1	<b>6.8</b>	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.6	<b>5.7</b>
Luxembourg	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.0	<b>5.0</b>	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.4	<b>5.3</b>
Hungary	3.8	3.4	3.5	3.4	:	4.8	4.0	3.8	3.9	:
Malta	4.7	4.2	4.1	4.1	<b>4.2</b>	4.4	3.8	3.6	3.6	<b>3.8</b>
Netherlands	4.5	3.8	3.7	3.8	<b>3.8</b>	5.2	4.0	4.0	4.0	<b>3.9</b>
Austria	5.8	5.0	4.8	4.9	<b>5.1</b>	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.5	<b>4.7</b>
Poland	4.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	<b>3.6</b>	4.9	3.9	3.7	3.6	<b>3.4</b>
Portugal	8.4	7.0	6.7	6.4	<b>6.5</b>	9.4	7.3	7.5	7.2	<b>7.2</b>
Romania	5.6	5.0	4.7	4.6	<b>4.8</b>	4.1	3.5	3.5	3.6	<b>3.5</b>
Slovenia	5.6	4.9	4.9	5.0	<b>5.1</b>	7.8	6.4	6.5	6.5	<b>6.6</b>
Slovakia	7.9	6.5	6.3	6.3	<b>6.1</b>	8.1	7.5	7.5	7.5	<b>7.5</b>
Finland	8.7	7.8	7.7	7.7	<b>7.7</b>	8.3	7.6	7.5	7.4	<b>7.4</b>
Sweden	7.0	6.4	6.4	6.3	<b>6.3</b>	6.4	6.1	6.1	6.2	<b>6.2</b>
United Kingdom	4.4	4.2	4.0	:	:	4.2	4.0	4.0	:	:
Iceland	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	<b>2.8</b>	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.8	<b>2.8</b>
Norway	4.6	4.1	4.2	4.2	:	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.5	:

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

: Data not available