

130/2020 – 1 September 2020

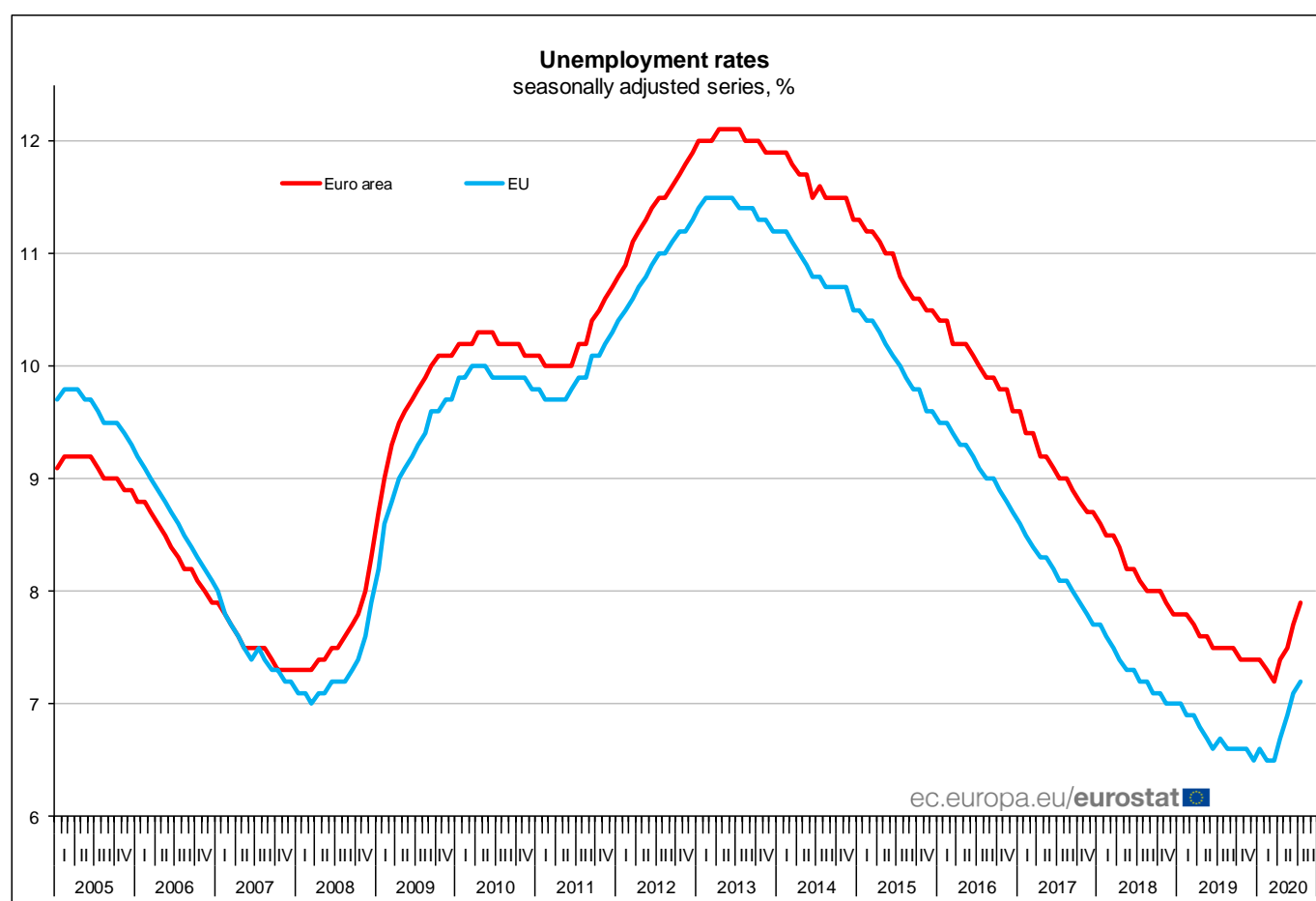
July 2020

## Euro area unemployment at 7.9%

EU at 7.2%

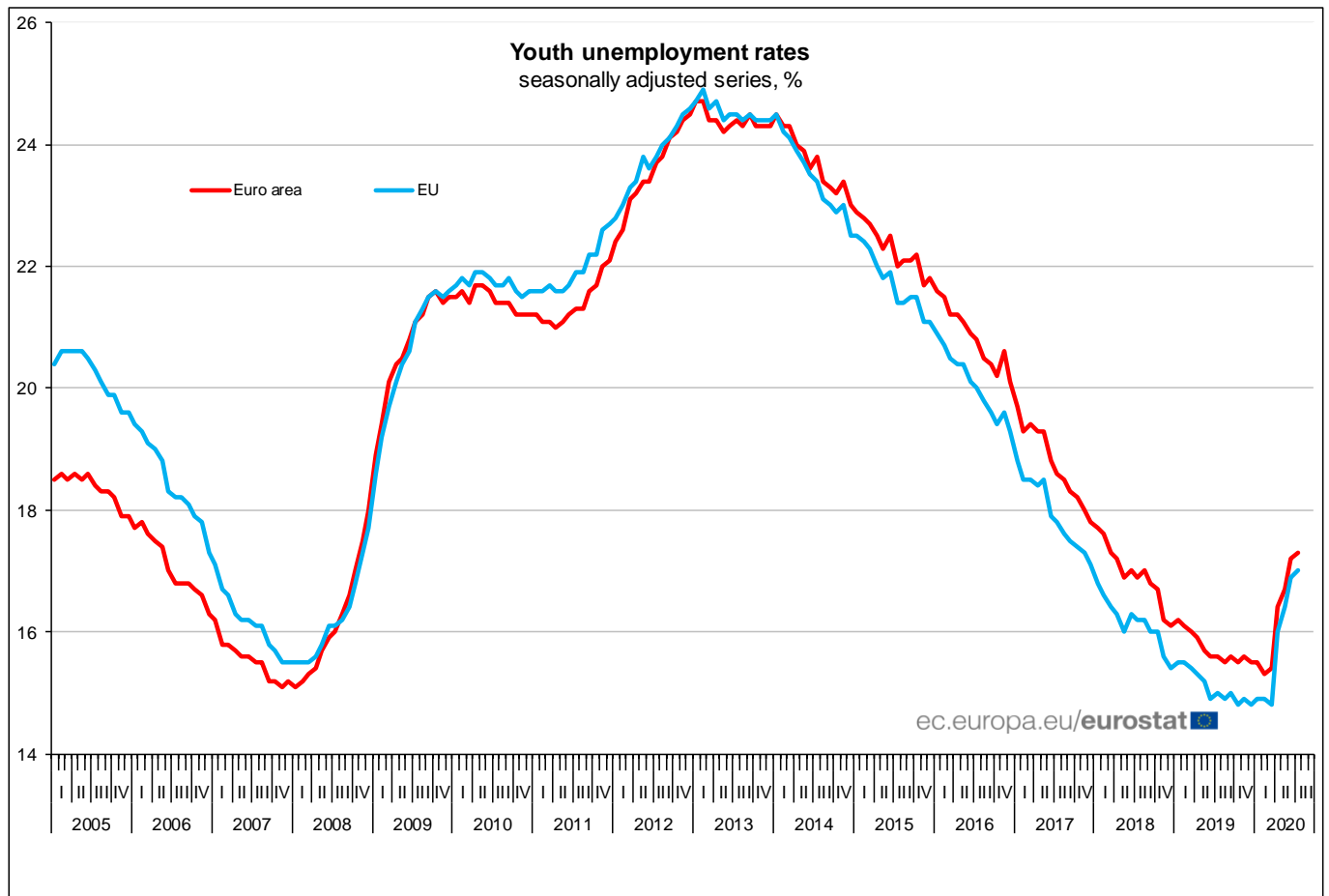
In July 2020, a month marked by some relaxation of COVID-19 containment measures in many Member States, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 7.9%, up from 7.7% in June 2020. The **EU** unemployment rate was 7.2% in July 2020, up from 7.1% in June 2020. These figures are published by **Eurostat**, the statistical office of the European Union.

Eurostat estimates that 15.184 million men and women in the **EU**, of whom 12.793 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in July 2020. Compared with June 2020, the number of persons unemployed increased by 336 000 in the **EU** and by 344 000 in the **euro area**.



## Youth unemployment

In July 2020, 2.906 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.338 million were in the **euro area**. In July 2020, the youth unemployment rate was 17.0% in the **EU** and 17.3% in the **euro area**, up from 16.9% and 17.2% respectively in the previous month. Compared with June 2020, youth unemployment increased by 37 000 in the **EU** and by 29 000 in the **euro area**.



## Unemployment by gender

In July 2020, the unemployment rate for women was 7.5% in the **EU**, up from 7.3% in June 2020. The unemployment rate for men was 7.0% in July 2020, up from 6.8% in June 2020. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women increased from 8.0% in June 2020 to 8.3% in July 2020 while it increased from 7.5% to 7.6% for men.

These estimates are based on the globally used International Labour Organisation standard definition of unemployment, which counts as unemployed people without a job who have been actively seeking work in the last four weeks and are available to start work within the next two weeks. The COVID-19 outbreak and the measures applied to combat it have triggered a sharp increase in the number of claims for unemployment benefits across the EU. At the same time, a significant part of those who had registered in unemployment agencies were no longer actively looking for a job or no longer available for work, for instance, if they had to take care of their children. This leads to discrepancies in the number of registered unemployed and those measured as unemployed according to the ILO definition.

To capture in full the unprecedented labour market situation triggered by the COVID-19 outbreak, the data on unemployment have been complemented by additional indicators, e.g. on employment, underemployment and potential additional labour force participants, released together with LFS data for the first quarter of 2020.

## 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** (EU27) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.

## Methods and definitions

Eurostat publishes 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 data 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.

**Examples:** Mr X was employed as a technician in the manufacturing sector until March but did not work from April until July due to the COVID crisis. His employment contract has not been broken and he has been assured by his employer he could return to work in August. Mr X therefore keeps an attachment to his job in the LFS meaning and is thus not recorded as unemployed.

Mrs Y was employed as an accountant until March but was dismissed in April by her employer due to the drop in activity. Mrs Y has actively searched for a new job on the internet with a view to be recruited as soon as the situation in the labour market improves. She is immediately available to start teleworking for her next employer. Mrs Y will be recorded as unemployed.

Mrs Z was unemployed, actively looking for a job until the COVID outbreak. She then interrupted her job searches in order to take care of her children until schools reopen full-time and the situation in the labour market improves. Mrs Z will be counted as inactive and not as unemployed in July.

The **unemployment rate** is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

Series have been **seasonally adjusted** using the seasonal factors estimated in the period up to December 2019 included. Those seasonal factors will be kept unchanged ('controlled concurrent adjustment method') until the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak can be integrated in seasonal adjustment models.

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.

Germany: due to the introduction of the new German system of integrated household surveys, including the LFS, the monthly unemployment rate for July 2020 is an estimation based on the figures recorded in previous periods, taking into account current developments.

## 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 [119/2020](#) of 30 July 2020, the June unemployment rate for the euro area has been revised by 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards while it remained unchanged for the EU. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points downwards for Cyprus (by 2.4 pp), Latvia (by 1.2 pp), France (by 1.1 pp), Ireland (by 0.7 pp), Lithuania (by 0.6 pp) and Austria (by 0.3 pp). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Italy (by 0.5 pp), Poland, Portugal and Finland (all by 0.3 pp), as well as Denmark, Greece and Spain (all by 0.2 pp, April data for Greece).

## 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 articles on [unemployment](#) and on [youth unemployment](#)

Eurostat [metadata](#) on adjusted unemployment series and [methodological note](#) regarding COVID-19 outbreak

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

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### Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 19	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20	Jul 19	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20
<b>Euro area</b>	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.7	<b>7.9</b>	12 299	11 942	12 110	12 449	<b>12 793</b>
<b>EU</b>	6.7	6.7	6.9	7.1	<b>7.2</b>	14 257	14 124	14 420	14 848	<b>15 184</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.5	<b>5.5</b>	271	273	277	282	<b>281</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.0	4.8	4.6	4.4	<b>4.4</b>	134	161	154	147	<b>147</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.7	<b>2.7</b>	109	118	129	143	<b>143</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	4.7	4.9	5.5	6.0	<b>6.0</b>	141	146	164	181	<b>181</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.0	4.0	4.2	4.3	<b>4.4</b>	1 312	1 766	1 846	1 905	<b>1 937</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	4.7**	6.0	7.0	8.0	:	32**	42	48	56	:
<b>Ireland</b>	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.6	<b>5.0</b>	124	120	117	106	<b>115</b>
<b>Greece</b>	17.2*	15.7	17.0	:	:	817*	716	765	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	14.3	15.3	15.4	15.8	<b>15.8</b>	3 281	3 421	3 368	3 402	<b>3 388</b>
<b>France</b>	8.5	7.8	6.9	6.6	<b>6.9</b>	2 518	2 275	1 975	1 866	<b>1 996</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	6.6	8.1	8.9	8.8	<b>8.6</b>	118	148	164	161	<b>157</b>
<b>Italy</b>	9.7	7.3	8.5	9.3	<b>9.7</b>	2 498	1 794	2 124	2 320	<b>2 454</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	7.0	7.7	8.1	7.4	<b>6.9</b>	31	35	37	33	<b>31</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	6.4	8.2	8.7	8.9	<b>9.0</b>	62	80	85	87	<b>88</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	6.4	7.8	8.5	8.8	<b>9.0</b>	92	115	125	129	<b>132</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	5.7	7.5	7.7	7.7	<b>7.3</b>	17	23	24	24	<b>23</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.5**	4.1	4.8	4.9	:	162**	191	222	230	:
<b>Malta</b>	3.6	4.4	4.5	4.3	<b>4.1</b>	9	12	12	11	<b>11</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.4	3.4	3.6	4.3	<b>4.5</b>	313	314	330	404	<b>419</b>
<b>Austria</b>	4.5	4.7	5.5	5.4	<b>5.2</b>	202	214	253	248	<b>238</b>
<b>Poland</b>	3.2	3.1	3.3	3.3	<b>3.2</b>	545	530	550	556	<b>544</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	6.5	6.3	5.9	7.3	<b>8.1</b>	336	319	290	370	<b>410</b>
<b>Romania</b>	4.0	5.0	5.1	5.3	<b>5.4</b>	362	452	460	474	<b>484</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.8	<b>4.7</b>	49	49	49	49	<b>49</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	5.8	6.4	6.5	6.6	<b>6.8</b>	158	175	179	181	<b>188</b>
<b>Finland</b>	6.9	7.2	7.4	7.6	<b>7.8</b>	189	198	205	210	<b>213</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	6.8	8.0	8.0	9.3	<b>9.4</b>	376	439	441	513	<b>515</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	3.8*	3.9	3.8	:	:	1 298*	1 310	1 298	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	3.4	3.9	4.5	4.5	<b>5.0</b>	7	8	9	9	<b>10</b>
<b>Norway</b>	3.6**	4.1	4.6	5.2	:	102**	116	131	149	:
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.4	4.6	4.7	4.8	:	215	223	229	233	:
<b>United States</b>	3.7	14.7	13.3	11.1	<b>10.2</b>	6 038	23 102	20 995	17 704	<b>16 342</b>

: Data not available

\* May 2019

\*\* June 2019

Source datasets: [une\\_rt\\_m](#) (rates) and [une\\_rt\\_m](#) (in 1000 persons)

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

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jul 19	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20	Jul 19	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20
<b>Euro area</b>	15.6	16.4	16.7	17.2	<b>17.3</b>	2 254	2 249	2 236	2 309	<b>2 338</b>
<b>EU</b>	15.0	16.0	16.4	16.9	<b>17.0</b>	2 744	2 766	2 774	2 869	<b>2 906</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	:	53	52	52	52	:
<b>Bulgaria</b>	8.6	14.2	12.3	10.1	<b>9.4</b>	13	20	18	15	<b>14</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	5.4	6.8	8.0	8.6	<b>8.9</b>	15	18	21	22	<b>23</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	9.4	10.5	11.9	12.6	<b>12.2</b>	41	45	51	55	<b>53</b>
<b>Germany</b>	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.7	<b>5.7</b>	245	250	250	249	<b>246</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	13.6	13.2	17.9	23.2	:	8	7	9	13	:
<b>Ireland</b>	13.0	13.5	15.2	14.8	<b>16.0</b>	38	35	37	34	<b>37</b>
<b>Greece</b>	33.8	32.6	37.5	:	:	80	74	74	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	32.8	37.3	38.9	41.6	<b>41.7</b>	509	511	493	520	<b>516</b>
<b>France</b>	19.2	22.0	20.9	20.3	<b>19.7</b>	543	590	536	512	<b>509</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	16.4	24.0	24.0	24.0	:	24	37	37	37	:
<b>Italy</b>	27.9	26.0	28.3	29.6	<b>31.1</b>	434	343	378	401	<b>433</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	16.4	19.8	19.8	19.8	:	6	7	7	7	:
<b>Latvia</b>	11.8	16.8	17.9	18.0	<b>17.6</b>	7	11	12	11	<b>11</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	11.3	19.4	21.2	21.8	<b>23.1</b>	12	20	22	23	<b>23</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	17.9	25.6	27.1	27.7	<b>26.0</b>	4	6	7	7	<b>6</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	10.0	13.5	15.9	15.2	:	32	42	49	49	:
<b>Malta</b>	8.8	9.8	10.8	9.5	<b>9.1</b>	3	3	3	3	<b>2</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	6.7	8.4	9.5	10.7	<b>11.0</b>	100	119	132	156	<b>159</b>
<b>Austria</b>	9.6	11.8	12.0	10.9	<b>10.3</b>	49	58	59	55	<b>52</b>
<b>Poland</b>	10.2	10.0	10.1	10.0	<b>9.5</b>	129	109	106	105	<b>102</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	19.6	20.6	21.4	27.4	<b>26.3</b>	73	70	66	88	<b>85</b>
<b>Romania</b>	17.5	17.4*	:	:	:	106	110*	:	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	8.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	:	6	8	8	8	:
<b>Slovakia</b>	16.7	17.8	17.8	18.1	<b>19.8</b>	28	30	30	30	<b>34</b>
<b>Finland</b>	18.3	19.8	20.2	20.5	<b>20.6</b>	59	63	63	64	<b>64</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	19.9	24.9	24.9	28.8	<b>28.9</b>	126	149	149	172	<b>172</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	11.8	12.4	12.7	:	:	486	525	528	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	7.6	10.1	11.3	11.0	<b>9.9</b>	2	3	3	3	<b>3</b>
<b>Norway</b>	10.1	10.3	11.8	12.8	:	38	38	44	48	:
<b>Switzerland</b>	8.2	8.5	8.6	8.6	:	48	48	48	48	:

: Data not available

\* Q1 2020 data

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

Source datasets: une\_rt\_m (rates) and une\_rt\_m (in 1000 persons)

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

	Males					Females				
	Jul 19	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20	Jul 19	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20
<b>Euro area</b>	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.5	<b>7.6</b>	7.9	7.6	7.8	8.0	<b>8.3</b>
<b>EU</b>	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.8	<b>7.0</b>	7.0	6.9	7.1	7.3	<b>7.5</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.9	<b>5.9</b>	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.1	<b>5.1</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	4.2	5.0	4.8	4.6	<b>4.6</b>	3.7	4.6	4.4	4.1	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Czechia</b>	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.5	<b>2.3</b>	2.3	2.5	2.8	2.9	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	4.4	4.5	4.9	5.7	<b>5.8</b>	4.9	5.3	6.1	6.4	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Germany</b>	3.4	4.1	4.2	4.3	<b>4.3</b>	2.6	3.8	4.1	4.3	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	3.6	6.0	6.6	8.7	:	4.9	6.1	7.5	7.2	:
<b>Ireland</b>	5.4	5.0	5.0	4.7	<b>5.2</b>	4.8	5.1	5.1	4.6	<b>4.7</b>
<b>Greece</b>	13.7	13.1	13.3	:	:	21.3	18.8	21.8	:	:
<b>Spain</b>	12.6	14.0	14.2	14.6	<b>14.8</b>	16.2	16.8	16.9	17.1	<b>16.9</b>
<b>France</b>	8.6	8.1	7.3	6.9	<b>7.1</b>	8.4	7.6	6.6	6.2	<b>6.8</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	6.0	7.7	8.4	8.3	<b>8.1</b>	7.2	8.7	9.6	9.4	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Italy</b>	8.8	7.0	7.8	8.5	<b>8.9</b>	10.8	7.8	9.6	10.3	<b>10.8</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	6.1	7.4	7.9	7.5	<b>7.4</b>	7.9	8.1	8.4	7.2	<b>6.3</b>
<b>Latvia</b>	7.3	9.3	10.0	10.4	<b>10.5</b>	5.5	7.1	7.4	7.5	<b>7.5</b>
<b>Lithuania</b>	7.2	8.8	9.6	9.9	<b>10.3</b>	5.5	6.8	7.4	7.7	<b>7.7</b>
<b>Luxembourg</b>	5.7	7.7	7.9	7.9	<b>7.4</b>	5.7	7.2	7.5	7.5	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	3.3	4.0	4.4	4.7	:	3.5	4.3	5.3	5.3	:
<b>Malta</b>	3.3	4.3	4.2	3.9	<b>3.8</b>	4.0	4.6	4.8	4.8	<b>4.6</b>
<b>Netherlands</b>	3.4	3.6	3.6	4.2	<b>4.2</b>	3.4	3.3	3.6	4.5	<b>4.8</b>
<b>Austria</b>	4.5	4.7	6.1	6.0	<b>5.8</b>	4.4	4.7	4.9	4.7	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Poland</b>	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2	<b>3.1</b>	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.5	<b>3.5</b>
<b>Portugal</b>	5.7	5.2	5.7	7.1	<b>7.9</b>	7.2	7.4	6.0	7.6	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Romania</b>	4.4	5.4	5.6	5.6	<b>6.1</b>	3.5	4.6	4.5	5.0	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Slovenia</b>	4.7	4.2	4.1	4.2	<b>4.2</b>	4.9	5.4	5.5	5.5	<b>5.4</b>
<b>Slovakia</b>	5.6	6.0	6.3	6.5	<b>6.7</b>	6.0	6.9	6.8	6.7	<b>6.9</b>
<b>Finland</b>	7.4	7.5	7.8	8.0	<b>8.2</b>	6.4	6.9	7.1	7.2	<b>7.3</b>
<b>Sweden</b>	6.7	8.1	8.1	9.4	<b>9.4</b>	6.9	7.8	7.9	9.2	<b>9.3</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	4.0	4.0	4.0	:	:	3.6	3.7	3.6	:	:
<b>Iceland</b>	3.6	3.8	4.4	4.6	<b>5.4</b>	3.1	4.0	4.6	4.4	<b>4.4</b>
<b>Norway</b>	4.1	4.2	4.8	5.6	:	3.5	4.0	4.5	4.8	:
<b>Switzerland</b>	4.2	4.6	4.9	5.0	:	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.6	:

: Data not available

Source dataset: [une\\_rt\\_m](#)