

26/2023 – 2 March 2023

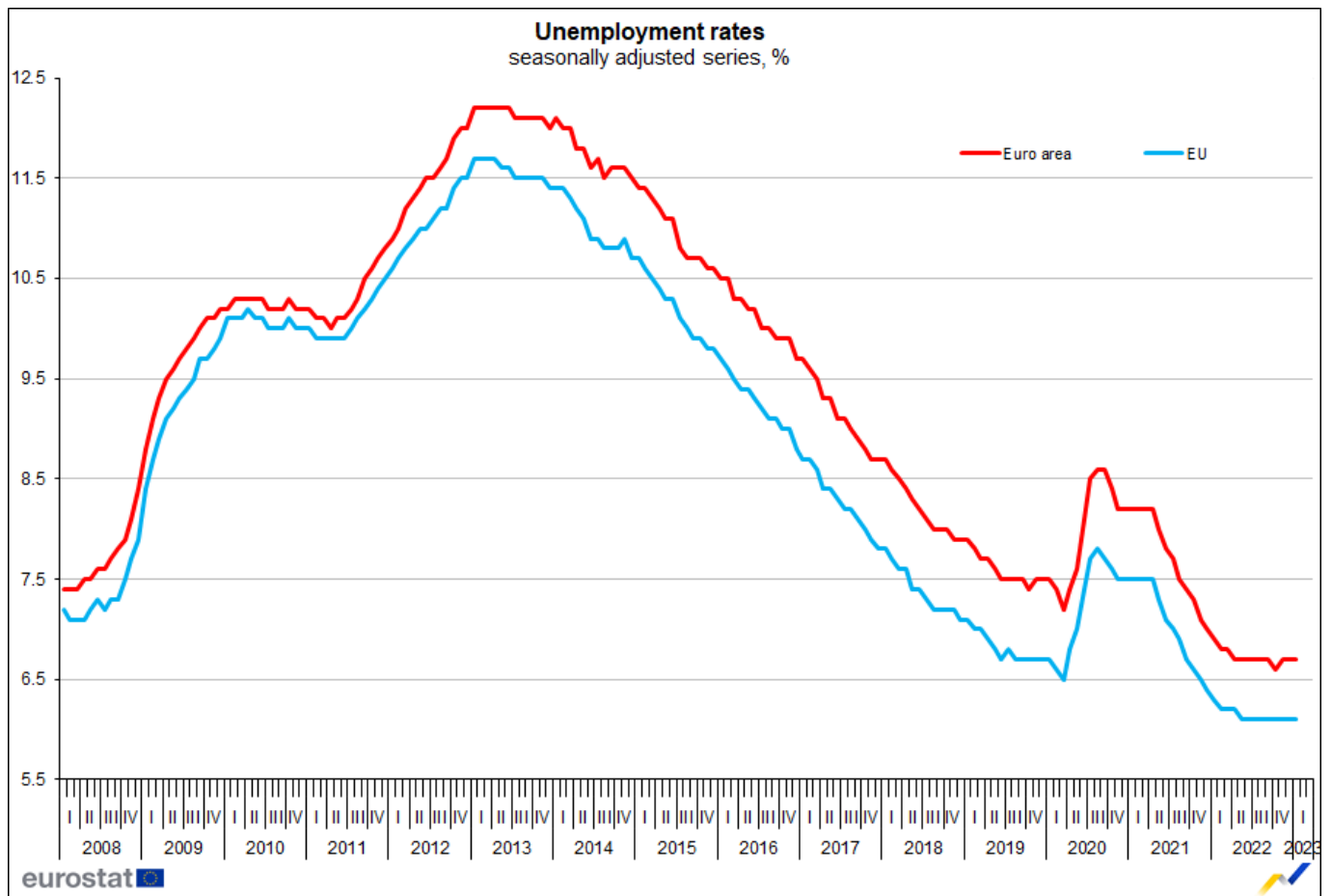
January 2023

Euro area unemployment at 6.7%

EU at 6.1%

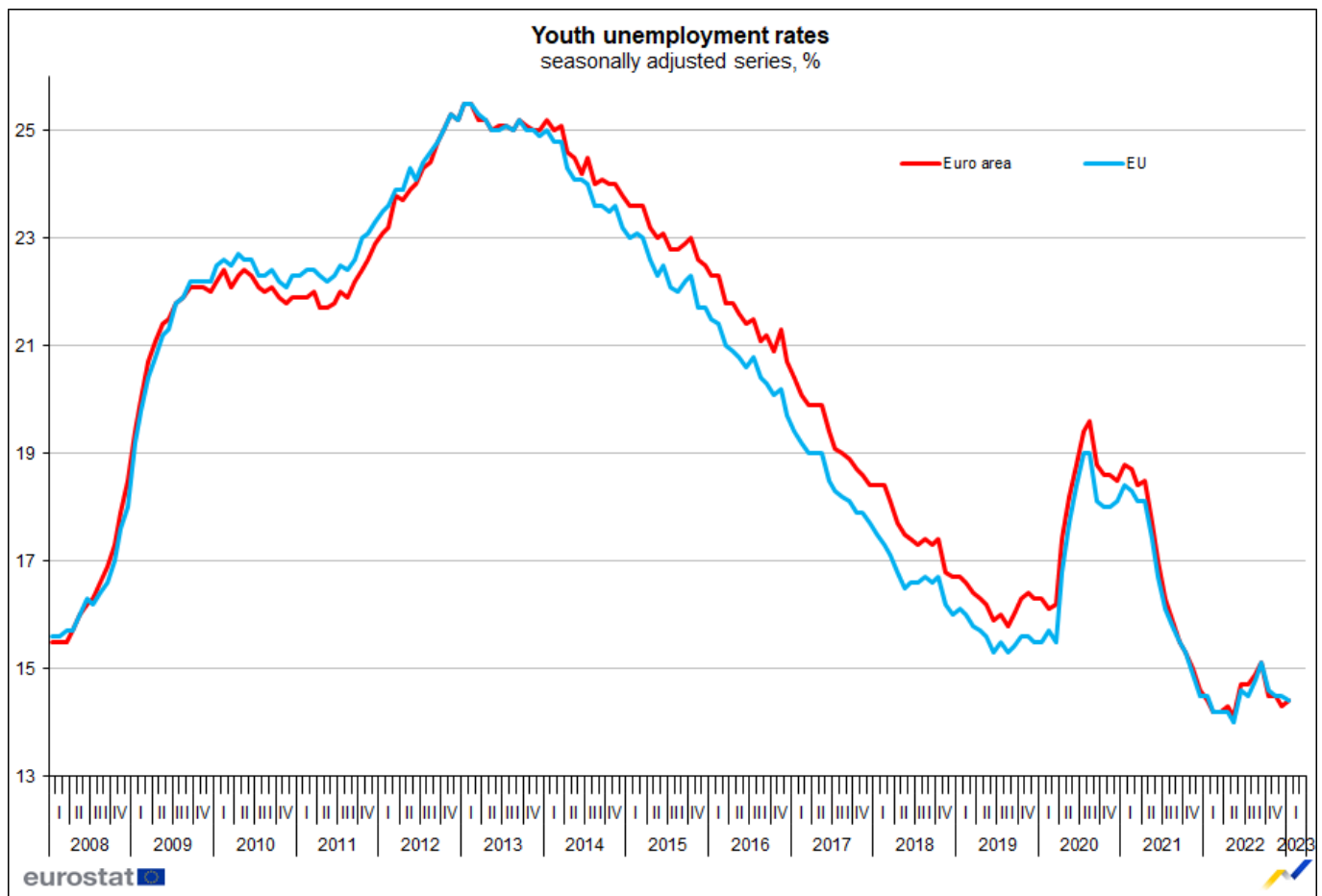
In January 2023, the **euro area** seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 6.7%, stable compared with December 2022 and down from 6.9% in January 2022. The **EU** unemployment rate was 6.1% in January 2023, also stable compared with December 2022 and down from 6.3% in January 2022. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Eurostat estimates that 13.227 million persons in the **EU**, of whom 11.288 million in the **euro area**, were unemployed in January 2023. Compared with January 2022, unemployment decreased by 318 thousand in the **EU** and by 220 thousand in the **euro area**.



Youth unemployment

In January 2023, 2.781 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU**, of whom 2.286 million were in the **euro area**. In January 2023, the youth unemployment rate was 14.4% in the **EU** and in the **euro area**, respectively down from 14.5% and up from 14.3% in the previous month. Compared with January 2022, youth unemployment increased by 116 thousand in the **EU** and by 112 thousand in the **euro area**.



Unemployment by sex

In January 2023, the unemployment rate for women was 6.5% in the **EU**, stable compared with December 2022. The unemployment rate for men was 5.7% in January 2023, down from 5.8% in the previous month. In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate for women was 7.2%, up from 7.1% in December 2022. The unemployment rate for men was 6.2%, down from 6.3% in the previous month.

Additional labour market indicators

The estimates in this News Release are based on the globally used International Labour Organisation (ILO) 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.

To capture in full the labour market situation, the data on unemployment have been complemented by additional indicators, e.g. underemployed part-time workers, persons seeking work but not immediately available and persons available to work but not seeking, released together with [LFS data for the third quarter of 2022](#). LFS data for the fourth quarter of 2022 will be released on 17 March 2023.

Geographical information

Up to 31 December 2022, the **euro area** (EA19) included Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

From 1 January 2023 the euro area (EA20) also includes Croatia.

As part of Eurostat's guidelines for the dissemination of data when the euro area is enlarged, the aggregate data series commented on in this News Release refer to the official composition of the euro area in the most recent month for which data is available. **Thus News Releases with data for months up to December 2022 commented on EA19 series, while Releases with data for January 2023 onwards comment on EA20 series.**

European Union (EU27): 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.

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, Finland, Sweden as well as Iceland and Norway: the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

Estonia and Portugal: 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 [17/2023](#) of 1 February 2023, the December 2022 unemployment rate for the EU remained unchanged, while the unemployment rate for the euro area has been revised from 6.6% to 6.7%. Among EU Member States, the rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) downwards for Slovenia (by 0.6 pp) as well as for Cyprus, Latvia, Hungary and Malta (by 0.3 pp each) and Estonia (by 0.2 pp). The rate has been revised by more than 0.1 percentage points (pp) upwards for Belgium, Croatia, Lithuania and Slovakia (by 0.3 pp each).

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

Eurostat [Euro indicators dashboard](#)

Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

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Seasonally adjusted unemployment, totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jan 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Jan 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23
Euro area (EA20)	6.9	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.7	11 508	11 174	11 245	11 248	11 288
Euro area (EA19)	6.9	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.7	11 388	11 050	11 122	11 126	11 169
EU	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	13 545	13 155	13 242	13 216	13 227
Belgium	5.3	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	280	297	306	309	312
Bulgaria	4.5	4.0	3.9	4.0	3.8	148	131	131	133	127
Czechia	2.3	2.2	2.7	2.3	2.5	123	114	139	122	131
Denmark	5.0	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.4	153	143	148	148	138
Germany	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.0	1 360	1 347	1 340	1 330	1 320
Estonia	5.7	5.4	5.6	5.5	5.2	40	39	40	40	38
Ireland	4.9	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	129	119	120	119	118
Greece*	12.9*	11.6	11.6	11.6	:	603*	540	539	545	:
Spain	13.3	12.9	13.0	13.0	13.0	3 093	3 031	3 058	3 067	3 064
France	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.2	7.1	2 203	2 200	2 184	2 189	2 175
Croatia	6.6	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.5	120	124	124	122	119
Italy	8.6	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.9	2 142	1 985	1 964	1 965	1 999
Cyprus	6.0	6.9	7.3	7.4	7.4	29	33	36	36	36
Latvia	7.2	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	67	66	66	66	65
Lithuania	6.6	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.4	94	92	92	91	97
Luxembourg	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.8	15	15	15	15	16
Hungary	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	176	180	183	183	187
Malta	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	9	9	9	9	9
Netherlands	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.6	354	365	364	352	360
Austria	4.7	4.6	5.5	4.9	5.1	217	213	258	229	238
Poland	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.8	493	517	508	494	480
Portugal	5.9	6.0	6.5	6.8	7.1	306	313	338	355	375
Romania	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6	496	461	482	468	465
Slovenia	4.2	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.2	43	38	36	35	33
Slovakia	6.4	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.0	177	167	168	168	168
Finland	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	195	195	195	195	196
Sweden	7.9	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	442	410	409	408	407
Iceland	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6	9	8	8	8	8
Norway	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	97	98	99	100	101
Switzerland	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	:	217	215	218	212	:
United States	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	6 595	6 006	5 991	5 773	5 795

: Data not available

* December 2021

Source datasets: une_rt_m (rates) and une_rt_m (in 1 000 persons)

Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Jan 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Jan 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23
Euro area (EA20)	14.4	14.5	14.5	14.3	14.4	2 174	2 260	2 276	2 254	2 286
Euro area (EA19)	14.4	14.5	14.5	14.3	14.4	2 149	2 233	2 249	2 227	2 259
EU	14.5	14.6	14.5	14.5	14.4	2 665	2 785	2 781	2 781	2 781
Belgium	14.9	16.2	16.2	16.2	:	59	68	68	68	:
Bulgaria	13.6	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.6	18	13	13	14	13
Czechia	6.4	6.0	9.4	9.9	7.1	18	16	25	26	19
Denmark	11.0	13.3	10.1	11.3	11.2	46	61	47	53	52
Germany	5.7	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.7	250	265	264	262	259
Estonia	20.1	13.0	17.3	17.3	16.6	11	7	10	10	9
Ireland	9.2	10.8	10.4	10.2	10.4	32	36	36	35	37
Greece	37.5	27.9	31.4	28.9	:	84	64	74	67	:
Spain	30.7	30.3	29.9	29.6	29.6	478	490	488	489	494
France	16.2	17.4	17.0	16.9	17.4	511	584	573	575	596
Croatia	17.6	18.0	18.0	18.0	:	26	27	27	27	:
Italy	25.4	23.8	23.3	22.2	22.9	376	354	349	335	343
Cyprus	17.0	18.7	18.7	18.7	:	7	8	8	8	:
Latvia	11.4	18.1	18.4	18.0	17.5	7	12	12	12	12
Lithuania	12.7	11.9	12.6	12.8	13.7	12	12	12	12	14
Luxembourg	17.3	18.7	18.4	18.1	18.9	4	5	4	4	5
Hungary	11.3	10.9	11.1	11.3	11.1	35	33	34	34	34
Malta	8.3	8.5	8.9	9.2	9.6	2	2	2	3	3
Netherlands	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.8	131	138	139	135	140
Austria	8.5	9.1	10.3	8.8	8.5	41	48	56	46	46
Poland	9.9	12.3	12.3	12.2	12.1	106	129	130	128	128
Portugal	20.4	17.9	19.1	19.2	20.5	65	63	69	71	77
Romania	23.1	22.9*	:	:	:	122	119*	:	:	:
Slovenia	9.6	9.3	9.3	9.3	:	7	7	7	7	:
Slovakia	20.3	20.2	20.9	21.2	20.8	27	29	30	30	29
Finland	14.9	15.3	15.5	15.7	15.6	47	50	51	51	51
Sweden	22.7	21.2	21.3	21.2	21.2	144	144	144	144	144
Iceland	9.2	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	3	3	3	3	3
Norway	9.9	12.6	8.5	11.3	13.0	39	53	36	48	55
Switzerland	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.3	:	44	42	43	43	:

: Data not available

* 2022 Q3 data

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

Source datasets: [une_rt_m](#) (rates) and [une_rt_m](#) (in 1 000 persons)

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by sex

	Males					Females				
	Jan 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23	Jan 22	Oct 22	Nov 22	Dec 22	Jan 23
Euro area (EA20)	6.6	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.2	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.2
Euro area (EA19)	6.6	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.3	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.2
EU	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
Belgium	5.7	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.2	5.0	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.4
Bulgaria	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.5	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.7
Czechia	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.0	2.9	2.6	3.2	2.5	3.1
Denmark	4.8	4.6	5.2	5.2	4.5	5.1	4.5	4.2	4.3	4.1
Germany	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Estonia	6.2	6.0	6.4	6.1	5.6	5.1	4.8	4.8	5.0	4.8
Ireland	4.8	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
Greece	10.1	8.4	8.7	8.3	:	18.3	15.6	15.1	15.6	:
Spain	11.7	11.3	11.5	11.5	11.5	15.1	14.8	14.8	14.7	14.6
France	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.2	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.8
Croatia	5.9	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.7	7.4	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.4
Italy	7.8	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.7	9.7	9.2	9.3	9.2	9.5
Cyprus	5.4	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.7	7.8	8.4	8.7	8.7
Latvia	8.0	8.4	8.8	9.1	9.0	6.3	5.4	4.9	4.6	4.6
Lithuania	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.7	7.0	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.9
Luxembourg	4.4	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.9
Hungary	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.8
Malta	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.5	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.9
Netherlands	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9
Austria	5.0	4.6	6.0	5.3	5.1	4.3	4.5	4.9	4.4	5.1
Poland	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7
Portugal	5.9	5.6	6.1	6.3	6.7	5.9	6.4	6.9	7.3	7.5
Romania	6.2	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.8	4.9	5.3	5.3	5.3
Slovenia	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.0	4.6	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.6
Slovakia	6.4	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4
Finland	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5
Sweden	7.4	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	8.5	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5
Iceland	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2
Norway	3.9	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.7	2.7	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.7
Switzerland	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	:	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	:

: Data not available

Source dataset: une_rt_m