

June 2007

Euro area unemployment stable at 6.9%

EU27 down to 6.9%

Euro area¹ (EA13) seasonally-adjusted unemployment² stood at 6.9% in June 2007, unchanged compared to May³. It was 7.9% in June 2006. The **EU27**¹ unemployment rate was also 6.9% in June 2007, compared with 7.0% in May³. It was 7.9% in June 2006.

In June 2007, the lowest rates were registered in the **Netherlands** (3.3%), **Denmark** (3.5%), **Cyprus** (3.9%) and **Ireland** (4.0%). Unemployment rates were highest in **Slovakia** (10.7%) and **Poland** (10.2%).

These figures are published by **Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities**.

Twenty-two Member States recorded a fall in their unemployment rate over a year and four an increase, while the unemployment rate was stable in **Romania**. The largest relative falls were observed in **Poland** (13.9% to 10.2%) and **Sweden** (7.2% to 5.3%). The highest relative increases were registered in **Luxembourg** (4.6% to 4.9%) and **Hungary** (7.3% to 7.7%).

The unemployment rate for males fell from 6.8% to 5.8% between June 2006 and June 2007 in the **euro area** and from 7.2% to 6.1% in the **EU27**. The female unemployment rate declined from 9.3% to 8.3% in the **euro area** and from 8.8% to 7.8% in the **EU27**.

In June 2007, the unemployment rate for under-25s was 15.1% in the **euro area** and 15.5% in the **EU27**. In June 2006 it was 16.3% and 17.1% respectively. The lowest rates for under-25s were observed in **Ireland** (5.9%), the **Netherlands** (6.3%) and **Denmark** (7.0%), and the highest in **Greece** (24.6% in the first quarter 2007), **France** (21.8%), **Poland** (21.3%) and **Romania** (20.3%).

Eurostat estimates that 16.1 million men and women in the **EU27**, of which 10.4 million were in the **euro area**, were unemployed in June 2007. In June 2006, 18.5 million men and women in the **EU27**, of which 11.7 million were in the **euro area**, were unemployed.

The **US** unemployment rate was 4.5% in June 2007, and the **Japanese** rate was 3.8% in May 2007.

Unemployment (%) in June 2007 - in ascending order

NL	DK	CY	IE	AT	LT	LU	EE	SI	SE ⁴	UK	CZ	LV	IT	
3.3	3.5	3.9	4.0	4.3	4.7	4.9	5.1	5.1	5.3	Apr 07 5.4	5.7	5.7	2007 Q1 6.1	
DE ⁵	MT	FI	EA13	EU27	BG	BE	RO	HU	PT	ES	EL	FR ⁶	PL	SK
6.4	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.7	7.9	8.0	2007 Q1 8.6	8.6	10.2	10.7

1. From 1 January 2007 the euro area (EA13) consists of Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Finland.
The EU27 includes Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), the Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE) and the United Kingdom (UK).
2. *Eurostat's unemployment rates*
Eurostat calculates harmonised unemployment rates for Member States. These unemployment rates are based on definitions recommended by the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Harmonised means that the national micro data concerning the individuals and households are treated by Eurostat as to allow comparability between the Member States. According to the Eurostat definition unemployed people are those aged 15 to 74 who, following the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition:
 - 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 and unemployed.
The numbers of unemployed and the monthly unemployment rate are estimates based on results of the European Union Labour Force Survey which is a household survey carried out in all countries on the basis of agreed definitions. These results are interpolated/ extrapolated to monthly data using national survey data and national monthly series on registered unemployment. The most recent figures are therefore provisional; first results from the Labour Force Survey are available 90 days after the end of the reference period for most Member States.
Monthly unemployment and employment series are calculated first at the level of four categories for each Member State (males and females 15-24 years, males and females 25-74 years). These series are then seasonally adjusted and all the national and European aggregates are calculated. Before the aggregation, missing national data are estimated using the most recent trends of the series.
Registered unemployed data are national administrative data compiled on a purely national basis and for national purposes. There are no European-wide rules on definition and coverage. Therefore the ensuing unemployment rates cannot be compared from one country to another. National legislation on the definition of unemployment and therefore its calculation can change in individual states. The conditions to receive unemployment benefits and assistance vary from one country to another. This affects the willingness of people to register themselves and, hence, the published unemployment rates. Member States may also publish other rates than register based unemployment rates, for example based on national Labour Force Surveys or corresponding surveys. Although still internationally comparable, these rates may vary to a minor extent from those published by Eurostat due to different methodological choices.
Current deviations from the definition of unemployment in the EU Labour Force Survey
Spain, United Kingdom: Unemployment is restricted to persons aged 16-74. In Spain the legal age limit for working is 16.
Netherlands: Persons without a job, who are available for work and looking for a job are only included in unemployment if they express that they would like to work.
3. The May 2007 unemployment rate for the euro area has been revised. The rate published in News Release 93/2007 of 3 July 2007 was 7.0%. The rate published for the EU27 was 7.0% and remains unchanged. As a regular update of the calculation process, the most recent EU Labour Force Survey data have been included for several Member States. This has caused a revision in the monthly unemployment rates of more than 0.1 percentage points for Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Romania, Finland and Sweden.
4. Provisional data: the Swedish Labour Force Survey was amended in April 2005 to take further account of the EU harmonised methodology. This break in the series may affect the reliability of the seasonal adjustment.
5. Provisional data. Up until reference month April 2007, data are based on the German statistical office's ILO telephone survey and, thereafter, extrapolated using monthly series on registered unemployment. The ILO telephone survey will be replaced by the EU Labour Force Survey (LFS) and revised series based on the LFS will be published with the press release of 31 October 2007. European aggregates have been compiled using smoothed German seasonally adjusted data from 2003 onwards.
6. Estimates for France are based on results of the Labour Force Survey that are provisional and may be subject to revision later this year.
7. Quarterly data.

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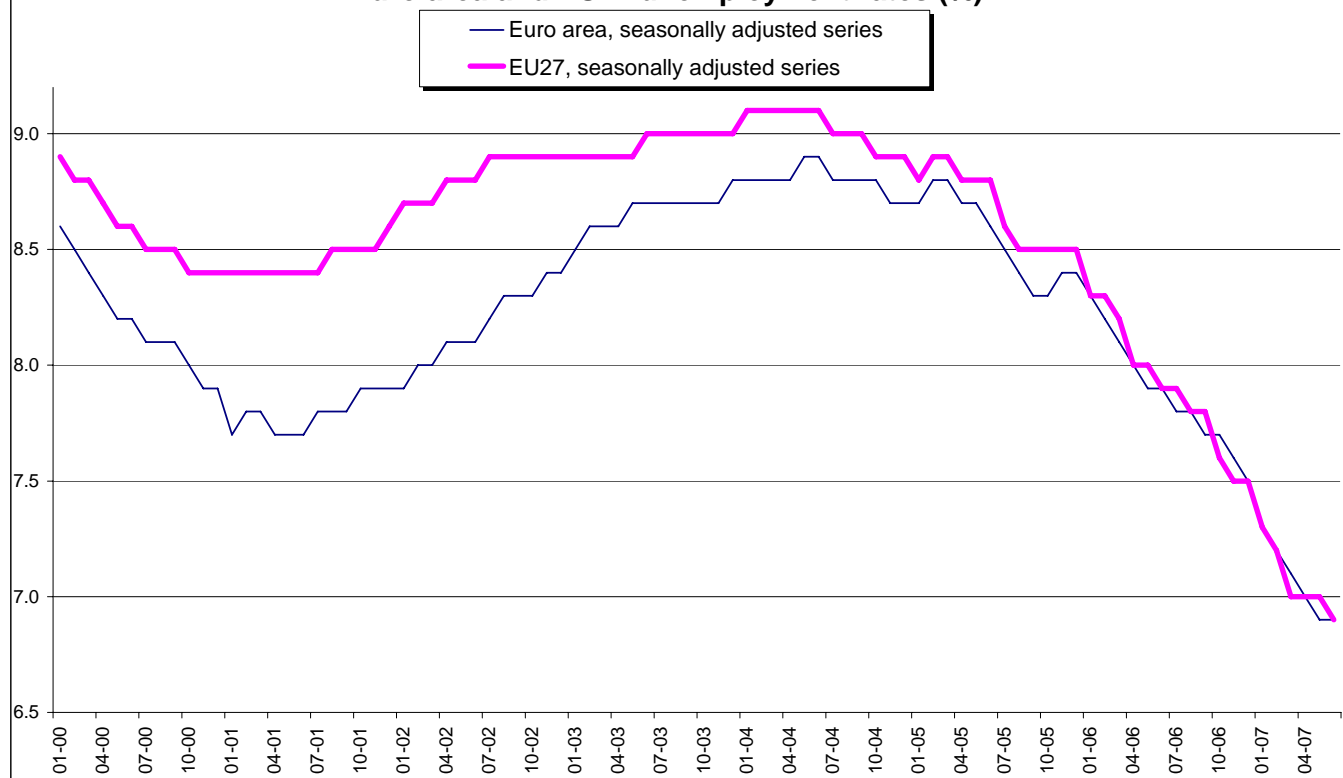
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Euro area and EU27 unemployment rates (%)



SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%) TOTAL MALES AND FEMALES

	Jun 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Apr 2007	May 2007	Jun 2007
EA13	7.9	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.9
EU27	7.9	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.9
BE	8.4	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.2
BG	9.0	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.2	7.0
CZ	7.1	6.4	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.7
DK	4.2	3.6	3.9	4.0	4.0	3.5	3.5	3.5
DE⁵	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.0	6.9	6.6	6.5	6.4
EE	5.7	5.4	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.1
IE	4.5	4.3	4.0	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0
EL⁷	9.0	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	:	:	:
ES	8.5	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0
FR⁶	9.5	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.6
IT⁷	6.8	6.5	6.1	6.1	6.1	:	:	:
CY	4.8	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.9
LV	7.0	6.1	6.4	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.8	5.7
LT	5.6	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.7	5.0	4.9	4.7
LU	4.6	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
HU	7.3	7.6	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.7	7.7
MT	7.4	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.4
NL	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3
AT	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3
PL	13.9	12.0	11.3	10.9	10.6	10.7	10.5	10.2
PT	7.6	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.9
RO	7.3	7.2	6.5	6.5	6.5	7.2	7.3	7.3
SI	6.1	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1
SK	13.4	12.0	11.5	11.3	11.1	10.8	10.8	10.7
FI	7.8	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7
SE⁴	7.2	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.3
UK	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.4	:	:
US	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5
JP	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.8	:

Data not available

Source: Eurostat

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%)
MALES

	Jun 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Apr 2007	May 2007	Jun 2007
EA13	6.8	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8
EU27	7.2	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.1
BE	7.6	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.2
BG	8.8	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.7
CZ	5.8	5.1	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.5
DK	3.7	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.1	3.2	3.3
DE ⁵	7.8	7.0	6.8	6.0	6.0	5.6	5.5	5.4
EE	5.7	6.0	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.4	5.5	5.6
IE	4.7	4.6	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.1
EL ⁷	5.8	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	:	:	:
ES	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.2
FR ⁶	8.7	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.0
IT ⁷	5.4	5.3	5.0	5.0	5.0	:	:	:
CY	4.1	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2
LV	7.6	6.5	7.2	7.0	6.7	6.5	6.4	6.3
LT	5.6	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.6	5.1	5.1	4.9
LU	3.4	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.5
HU	7.0	7.3	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.5	7.5
MT	6.6	6.2	6.1	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.9
NL	3.5	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8
AT	4.3	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9
PL	13.1	10.9	10.4	10.1	9.6	9.5	9.3	9.0
PT	6.5	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.6
RO	8.3	8.2	7.3	7.2	7.2	8.0	8.1	8.1
SI	5.1	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.1
SK	12.3	10.9	10.3	10.1	9.9	9.7	9.8	9.7
FI	7.5	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.3
SE ⁴	7.1	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.1	5.8	5.7	5.4
UK	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.7	:	:
US	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.7
JP	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.9	:

FEMALES

	Jun 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Apr 2007	May 2007	Jun 2007
EA13	9.3	8.9	8.7	8.7	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3
EU27	8.8	8.4	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8
BE	9.5	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.6	8.5
BG	9.2	8.6	8.2	8.1	7.8	8.0	7.7	7.5
CZ	8.8	8.0	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.3	7.2
DK	4.7	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.8
DE ⁵	8.9	8.7	8.5	8.3	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.7
EE	5.6	4.8	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.8	4.8	4.6
IE	4.3	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.8
EL ⁷	13.7	13.4	13.3	13.3	13.3	:	:	:
ES	11.5	11.2	11.1	11.0	10.9	10.8	10.7	10.6
FR ⁶	10.5	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.4	9.3
IT ⁷	8.9	8.3	7.8	7.8	7.8	:	:	:
CY	5.7	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	4.8
LV	6.4	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1
LT	5.6	4.9	5.1	4.9	4.7	4.9	4.7	4.5
LU	6.3	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.7
HU	7.7	7.9	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.9	7.9	8.0
MT	9.2	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.6	7.5
NL	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.9
AT	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9
PL	14.8	13.3	12.4	12.0	11.7	12.2	11.9	11.5
PT	8.9	9.2	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.3
RO	6.0	6.0	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.3	6.2	6.2
SI	7.2	6.4	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.3
SK	14.9	13.4	12.9	12.7	12.6	12.2	12.1	11.9
FI	8.1	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.2
SE ⁴	7.4	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.0	5.8	5.2
UK	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.0	:	:
US	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.4
JP	4.2	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.6	:

: Data not available Source: Eurostat

**SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%)
UNDER 25 YEARS**

	Jun 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Apr 2007	May 2007	Jun 2007
EA13	16.3	16.1	15.9	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.2	15.1
EU27	17.1	16.6	16.4	16.2	16.0	15.8	15.7	15.5
BE	20.8	19.6	19.7	19.4	19.2	19.4	19.1	18.9
BG	19.8	16.5	16.8	16.1	15.5	14.3	13.8	13.5
CZ	17.6	14.4	12.2	12.0	11.6	13.4	13.1	12.4
DK	8.1	7.3	7.1	7.3	7.3	6.8	6.9	7.0
DE⁵	13.1	12.7	14.2	13.0	12.6	11.5	11.4	11.2
EE⁷	11.8	10.6	11.3	11.3	11.3	9.2	9.2	9.2
IE	9.4	8.2	7.3	7.2	6.9	7.3	7.4	5.9
EL⁷	25.4	25.4	24.6	24.6	24.6	:	:	:
ES	17.9	17.5	17.4	17.4	17.5	18.1	18.2	18.5
FR⁶	23.3	22.7	22.5	22.4	22.2	22.0	21.9	21.8
IT⁷	20.5	21.9	20.2	20.2	20.2	:	:	:
CY⁷	10.7	9.5	9.0	9.0	9.0	8.5	8.5	8.5
LV⁷	14.9	11.4	10.4	10.4	10.4	8.8	8.8	8.8
LT⁷	9.6	8.3	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.1	9.1	9.1
LU	15.3	17.0	16.5	16.7	16.6	16.1	15.5	15.5
HU	17.9	19.9	17.8	18.1	18.3	19.8	19.7	19.7
MT	16.7	14.3	13.8	13.5	13.4	13.0	13.3	13.2
NL	6.1	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.2	5.9	6.2	6.3
AT	9.1	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.5	8.3	8.2
PL	29.7	26.2	24.9	24.4	23.3	22.5	22.0	21.3
PT	16.1	17.2	17.5	17.6	17.7	17.8	17.8	18.0
RO	21.2	21.2	20.5	20.4	20.3	20.4	20.3	20.3
SI⁷	15.5	10.6	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.5	9.5	9.5
SK	26.8	23.2	22.4	21.9	21.3	20.9	20.4	20.0
FI	19.1	17.6	17.4	17.2	16.9	16.4	16.0	15.8
SE⁴	21.6	19.8	20.0	19.8	19.5	18.3	17.9	16.4
UK	14.0	14.0	14.5	14.6	14.8	14.9	:	:
US	10.4	10.3	10.3	9.8	9.7	10.2	10.0	10.5
JP	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

25 YEARS AND OVER

	Jun 2006	Dec 2006	Jan 2007	Feb 2007	Mar 2007	Apr 2007	May 2007	Jun 2007
EA13	6.8	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8
EU27	6.7	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7
BE	7.2	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.1
BG	8.0	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.4
CZ	6.1	5.7	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0
DK	3.5	2.9	3.3	3.4	3.4	2.9	2.9	2.9
DE⁵	7.4	6.9	6.4	6.0	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.6
EE	5.0	4.8	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.6	4.7	4.7
IE	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.6
EL⁷	7.6	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.3	:	:	:
ES	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8
FR⁶	7.9	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.1
IT⁷	5.6	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.0	:	:	:
CY	4.1	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5
LV	6.0	5.4	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.3
LT	5.2	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.6	4.5	4.3
LU	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1
HU	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.7
MT	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.7
NL	3.5	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.7
AT	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
PL	11.8	10.1	9.5	9.2	9.0	9.2	9.0	8.8
PT	6.7	7.0	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.8
RO	5.7	5.7	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.8	5.8	5.9
SI	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
SK	11.7	10.6	10.1	9.9	9.8	9.6	9.6	9.6
FI	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.4
SE⁴	5.2	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.8
UK	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.6	:	:
US	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
JP	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

: Data not available Source: Eurostat