

December 2000

Euro-zone unemployment unchanged at 8.7%

EU15 stable at 8.1%

Euro-zone¹ seasonally-adjusted unemployment² was unchanged at 8.7% in December 2000 compared to November³, **Eurostat – Statistical Office of the European Communities in Luxembourg** – reports today. In December 1999, the rate was 9.6%.

The **EU15** rate was 8.1% in December 2000, the same as in November. In December a year earlier it was 8.9%.

Lowest rates were registered in **Luxembourg** (2.1% in November), in **the Netherlands** (2.7% in November) and in **Austria** (3.3%). **Spain's** 13.7% remained the **EU's** highest rate.

In the last twelve months, the most important relative falls were recorded in **Sweden** (from 6.8% to 5.1%), in **Ireland** (from 5.1% to 4.1%) and in **France** (from 10.5% to 8.8%).

In December 2000, the unemployment rate of the under-25s was 17.7% in the **euro-zone** and 16.7% in the **EU15**. This compares to 18.1% and 16.9% respectively a year earlier. In December 2000, it ranged from below 5% in **Austria** and **the Netherlands** to 25% in **Spain** and more than 35% in **Italy** (in October).

US unemployment stood at 4.0% and the **Japanese** rate at 4.7% (in November).

Eurostat estimates that in December 2000, 11.4 million men and women were unemployed in the **euro-zone** and 13.9 million in the **EU15**. These are seasonally-adjusted figures in line with ILO criteria.

Unemployment rates (%) in November and December 2000 in ascending order

	December	November		December	November
EU15	8.1	8.1	Denmark	4.9	5.0
Euro-zone	8.7	8.7	Sweden	5.1	5.6
			Germany	8.1	8.2
Luxembourg	:	2.1	Belgium	8.3	8.4
Netherlands	:	2.7	France	8.8	8.9
Austria	3.3	3.2	Finland	9.3	9.4
Ireland	4.1	4.1	Spain	13.7	13.6
Portugal	4.3	4.2			

Source: Eurostat

: Data not available

REMARKS

- 1) Euro-zone: Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland.
- 2) Unemployed people according to International Labour Organisation (ILO) criteria are those aged 15 and over 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 monthly unemployment rate and numbers of unemployed are estimates based on results of the Community Labour Force Survey (LFS). These results are interpolated/extrapolated to monthly data using national survey data and national monthly series on registered unemployment. Estimated rates might differ from national unemployment rates due to differences in methods and definitions of unemployment.

- 3) Revised data. See news release n°1/2001, 3 January 2001.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%)

TOTAL MALES AND FEMALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	9.6	10.5	9.3	5.2	9.0	:	17.7	11.7	6.6	11.7	2.4	3.8	4.2	4.8	10.7	7.8	6.3	4.3	4.5
99.12	8.9	9.6	8.8	4.9	8.6	:	15.1	10.5	5.1	11.2	2.2	2.8	3.6	4.2	10.1	6.8	6.0	4.0	4.7
00.08	8.3	9.0	8.6	4.8	8.3	:	14.0	9.4	4.4	10.3	2.1	2.6	3.2	4.2	9.6	5.9	5.4	4.1	4.6
00.09	8.2	8.9	8.6	5.0	8.3	:	13.8	9.3	4.3	10.2	2.1	2.7	3.2	4.2	9.5	5.5	5.5	3.9	4.7
00.10	8.1	8.8	8.5	5.0	8.2	:	13.7	9.1	4.2	10.0	2.1	2.8	3.2	4.2	9.5	5.5	5.4	3.9	4.7
00.11	8.1	8.7	8.4	5.0	8.2	:	13.6	8.9	4.1	:	2.1	2.7	3.2	4.2	9.4	5.6	:	4.0	4.7
00.12	8.1	8.7	8.3	4.9	8.1	:	13.7	8.8	4.1	:	:	:	3.3	4.3	9.3	5.1	:	4.0	:

MALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	8.4	8.8	7.8	4.3	8.6	:	12.7	10.0	6.8	9.0	1.8	2.9	3.5	3.9	10.3	7.8	7.1	4.3	4.6
99.12	7.6	8.0	7.5	4.3	8.2	:	10.5	8.7	5.1	8.7	1.6	2.1	3.1	3.6	9.4	7.0	6.5	4.0	4.9
00.08	6.9	7.2	7.3	4.1	8.0	:	9.7	7.8	4.5	6.7	1.6	1.8	2.7	3.3	8.9	6.4	5.8	4.0	4.7
00.09	6.8	7.1	7.3	4.3	7.9	:	9.6	7.7	4.4	6.3	1.6	1.7	2.7	3.2	8.9	5.5	5.9	3.9	4.8
00.10	6.7	7.0	7.3	4.3	7.9	:	9.5	7.5	4.3	6.3	1.6	1.6	2.7	3.2	8.8	5.2	5.8	3.9	5.0
00.11	6.7	6.9	7.3	4.3	7.8	:	9.5	7.3	4.2	:	1.5	1.7	2.7	3.2	8.8	5.7	:	4.0	5.0
00.12	6.7	6.9	7.1	4.1	7.8	:	9.5	7.2	4.2	:	:	:	2.7	3.2	8.6	5.2	:	4.0	:

FEMALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	11.3	12.8	11.2	6.2	9.5	:	25.4	13.8	6.4	16.1	3.4	5.1	5.0	5.9	11.2	7.7	5.3	4.3	4.3
99.12	10.5	11.7	10.4	5.6	9.1	:	22.0	12.5	5.0	15.1	3.1	3.8	4.3	4.9	10.8	6.5	5.3	4.0	4.3
00.08	10.0	11.3	10.2	5.6	8.7	:	20.4	11.4	4.4	15.8	3.1	3.7	3.8	5.4	10.3	5.3	4.9	4.3	4.4
00.09	10.0	11.3	10.2	5.8	8.7	:	20.1	11.2	4.2	16.1	3.0	4.0	3.8	5.4	10.3	5.5	5.0	4.0	4.5
00.10	10.0	11.2	10.0	5.8	8.6	:	19.9	11.0	4.1	15.7	2.9	4.4	3.8	5.4	10.2	5.8	4.8	3.9	4.3
00.11	9.9	11.1	10.0	5.8	8.6	:	19.8	10.8	4.0	:	2.9	4.2	3.9	5.4	10.2	5.4	:	4.0	4.4
00.12	9.9	11.1	9.8	5.7	8.5	:	19.9	10.7	3.9	:	:	:	3.9	5.5	10.1	5.0	:	3.9	:

UNDER 25 YEARS MALES AND FEMALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	19.1	20.6	24.2	9.3	9.7	:	33.5	25.7	9.8	33.7	6.7	7.8	5.7	10.1	22.3	15.1	13.9	9.5	8.8
99.12	16.9	18.1	24.0	8.8	9.1	:	27.6	22.2	7.0	32.0	6.1	5.2	4.7	8.2	22.3	11.9	12.7	9.5	9.5
00.08	16.9	18.2	23.6	8.3	9.5	:	26.1	20.0	6.0	35.3	5.8	5.1	4.4	8.9	20.9	10.4	12.2	9.3	9.2
00.09	17.0	18.3	23.6	8.4	9.3	:	25.7	19.8	5.9	36.2	6.0	4.9	4.4	8.8	21.0	10.3	12.6	8.9	9.3
00.10	16.8	17.9	23.2	8.4	9.2	:	25.2	19.2	5.7	35.4	5.9	5.0	4.4	8.8	21.0	10.4	12.5	8.9	9.3
00.11	16.7	17.8	23.0	8.4	9.0	:	25.0	18.7	5.6	:	5.8	4.9	4.4	8.9	21.1	10.4	:	9.1	9.6
00.12	16.7	17.7	22.6	8.2	9.0	:	25.0	18.4	5.5	:	:	:	4.4	9.2	21.2	10.2	:	9.1	:

MALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	17.9	18.7	23.4	8.8	10.5	:	26.7	23.7	10.0	29.9	6.2	6.8	4.4	7.9	21.6	15.2	15.9	10.4	9.1
99.12	15.6	16.4	24.0	8.3	9.9	:	21.4	20.2	6.9	28.7	5.2	4.1	3.6	6.1	21.0	11.1	13.7	10.4	11.1
00.08	15.1	15.8	23.4	7.7	10.5	:	21.0	18.3	6.0	27.2	4.7	4.0	3.3	6.8	19.6	11.8	12.8	10.0	10.3
00.09	14.9	15.5	23.4	7.8	10.3	:	20.6	18.0	5.8	27.0	5.1	2.8	3.3	6.9	19.6	9.9	13.5	9.5	10.4
00.10	14.7	15.2	23.1	7.9	10.2	:	20.2	17.3	5.6	26.4	5.1	2.0	3.3	7.0	19.7	9.8	13.4	9.3	11.0
00.11	14.7	15.1	23.0	8.0	10.0	:	20.3	16.8	5.6	:	5.0	2.8	3.3	7.1	19.8	9.0	:	9.7	10.8
00.12	14.6	15.0	22.5	7.7	9.9	:	20.2	16.5	5.6	:	:	:	3.3	7.4	19.8	8.3	:	9.7	:

FEMALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	20.5	22.9	25.2	9.8	8.9	:	41.9	27.9	9.5	38.6	7.2	8.7	7.2	12.7	23.2	15.0	11.5	8.5	8.5
99.12	18.4	20.1	23.9	9.2	8.1	:	35.1	24.5	7.1	36.3	7.1	6.3	6.0	10.7	23.6	12.9	11.5	8.4	7.8
00.08	19.0	21.0	23.8	8.9	8.3	:	32.6	22.1	6.1	43.9	7.2	6.3	5.5	11.4	22.3	8.9	11.6	8.5	8.0
00.09	19.4	21.4	23.8	8.9	8.2	:	32.2	21.9	5.9	45.6	7.1	7.0	5.5	11.2	22.4	10.8	11.7	8.3	8.2
00.10	19.1	21.0	23.2	8.9	8.0	:	31.5	21.4	5.7	44.8	6.8	7.9	5.5	11.1	22.4	10.9	11.4	8.4	7.7
00.11	19.0	20.8	23.0	8.8	7.9	:	31.2	21.0	5.6	:	6.7	7.1	5.6	11.1	22.6	11.9	:	8.6	8.4
00.12	19.0	20.7	22.7	8.7	7.9	:	31.1	20.6	5.4	:	:	:	5.7	11.5	22.7	12.3	:	8.4	:

25 YEARS AND OVER MALES AND FEMALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	8.2	9.1	7.6	4.4	8.9	:	14.8	10.2	5.8	8.7	2.0	3.1	3.9	3.8	9.1	6.9	4.9	3.3	3.9
99.12	7.7	8.4	7.2	4.2	8.6	:	12.9	9.2	4.6	8.6	1.8	2.4	3.5	3.5	8.3	6.2	4.7	3.0	4.1
00.08	7.0	7.7	7.0	4.2	8.2	:	11.8	8.3	4.0	7.1	1.8	2.2	3.0	3.5	7.9	5.4	4.2	3.1	4.0
00.09	6.9	7.6	7.0	4.4	8.1	:	11.7	8.2	3.9	6.7	1.8	2.3	3.0	3.5	7.9	4.9	4.2	3.0	4.1
00.10	6.9	7.5	6.9	4.4	8.1	:	11.6	8.0	3.8	6.7	1.7	2.4	3.0	3.5	7.8	4.9	4.1	2.9	4.1
00.11	6.8	7.5	6.9	4.4	8.0	:	11.6	7.8	3.8	:	1.7	2.3	3.0	3.5	7.7	5.0	:	3.0	4.1
00.12	6.8	7.5	6.8	4.2	8.0	:	11.7	7.7	3.7	:	:	:	3.1	3.5	7.6	4.5	:	3.0	:

MALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	7.0	7.5	6.2	3.5	8.3	:	10.4	8.5	6.1	6.5	1.4	2.3	3.4	3.2	8.7	7.0	5.5	3.2	4.1
99.12	6.5	6.9	5.9	3.6	8.0	:	8.8	7.5	4.8	6.5	1.3	1.8	3.1	3.2	7.8	6.6	5.2	2.8	4.3
00.08	5.8	6.1	5.7	3.5	7.7	:	7.8	6.7	4.1	4.5	1.3	1.5	2.7	2.7	7.3	5.9	4.6	2.8	4.1
00.09	5.7	6.0	5.7	3.7	7.6	:	7.8	6.6	4.1	4.1	1.3	1.5	2.6	2.6	7.3	5.0	4.6	2.8	4.2
00.10	5.6	5.9	5.7	3.7	7.6	:	7.7	6.4	4.0	4.1	1.3	1.5	2.6	2.5	7.2	4.7	4.5	2.9	4.3
00.11	5.6	5.9	5.7	3.7	7.6	:	7.7	6.3	3.9	:	1.2	1.5	2.6	2.5	7.1	5.3	:	3.0	4.4
00.12	5.6	5.9	5.6	3.5	7.5	:	7.8	6.2	3.9	:	:	:	2.6	2.5	7.0	4.9	:	3.0	:

FEMALES

	EU15	EUR 11	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	USA	JAP
98.12	9.9	11.2	9.6	5.5	9.6	:	21.9	12.2	5.4	12.5	3.0	4.2	4.6	4.7	9.5	6.8	4.2	3.5	3.6
99.12	9.2	10.5	8.9	4.9	9.3	:	19.3	11.2	4.4	12.0	2.6	3.3	4.0	3.9	8.9	5.8	4.1	3.2	3.8
00.08	8.6	9.8	8.7	5.0	8.8	:	18.0	10.2	3.9	11.2	2.6	3.2	3.5	4.4	8.5	4.9	3.6	3.5	3.8
00.09	8.6	9.8	8.7	5.2	8.7	:	17.8	10.0	3.8	11.0	2.5	3.4	3.5	4.5	8.5	4.8	3.7	3.2	3.9
00.10	8.5	9.7	8.6	5.2	8.7	:	17.6	9.8	3.6	10.8	2.5	3.6	3.5	4.5	8.4	5.1	3.6	3.0	3.8
00.11	8.5	9.6	8.5	5.2	8.7	:	17.6	9.7	3.5	:	2.5	3.5	3.6	4.5	8.3	4.7	:	3.0	3.8
00.12	8.4	9.6	8.4	5.1	8.6	:	17.7	9.6	3.5	:	:	:	3.6	4.5	8.2	4.2	:	3.0	:

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