

113/2012 - 31 July 2012

June 2012

Euro area unemployment rate at 11.2%

EU27 at 10.4%

The **euro area**¹ (EA17) seasonally-adjusted² unemployment rate³ was 11.2% in June 2012, stable compared with May⁴. It was 10.0% in June 2011. The **EU27**¹ unemployment rate was 10.4% in June 2012, also stable compared with May⁴. It was 9.5% in June 2011.

Eurostat estimates that 25.112 million men and women in the **EU27**, of whom 17.801 million were in the **euro area**, were unemployed in June 2012. Compared with May 2012, the number of persons unemployed increased by 127 000 in the **EU27** and by 123 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with June 2011, unemployment rose by 2.165 million in the **EU27** and by 2.024 million in the **euro area**.

These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

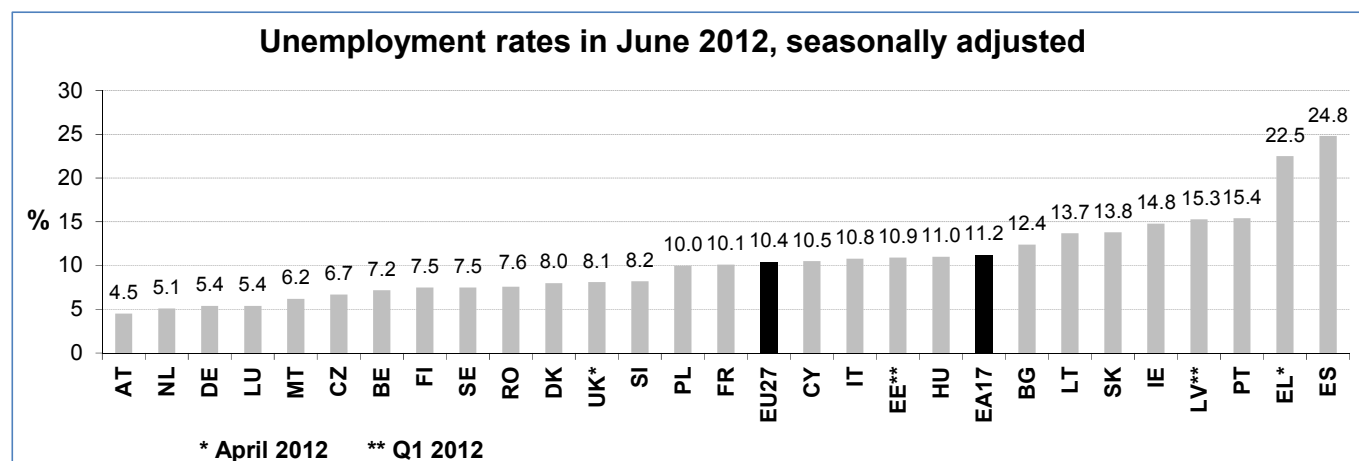
Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates were recorded in **Austria** (4.5%), the **Netherlands** (5.1%), **Germany** and **Luxembourg** (both 5.4%), and the highest in **Spain** (24.8%) and **Greece** (22.5% in April 2012).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate fell in seven Member States, increased in nineteen and remained stable in **Sweden**. The largest falls were observed in **Estonia** (13.6% to 10.9% between the first quarters of 2011 and 2012), **Latvia** (17.1% to 15.3% between the first quarters of 2011 and 2012) and **Lithuania** (15.4% to 13.7%). The highest increases were registered in **Greece** (16.2% to 22.5% between April 2011 and April 2012), **Spain** (21.2% to 24.8%) and **Cyprus** (7.6% to 10.5%).

Between June 2011 and June 2012, the unemployment rate for males increased from 9.7% to 11.2% in the **euro area** and from 9.4% to 10.4% in the **EU27**. The female unemployment rate rose from 10.3% to 11.3% in the **euro area** and from 9.7% to 10.4% in the **EU27**.

In June 2012, 5.472 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU27**, of whom 3.359 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with June 2011, youth unemployment rose by 227 000 in the **EU27** and by 204 000 in the **euro area**. In June 2012, the youth unemployment rate was 22.6% in the **EU27** and 22.4% in the **euro area**. In June 2011 it was 21.2% and 20.5% respectively. In June 2012 the lowest rates were observed in **Germany** (7.9%), **Austria** (8.8%) and the **Netherlands** (9.3%), and the highest in **Greece** (52.8% in April 2012) and **Spain** (52.7%).

In June 2012, the unemployment rate was 8.2% in the **USA**. In May 2012, the unemployment rate was 4.4% in **Japan**.



1. The euro area (EA17) consists of Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia 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. Non-seasonally adjusted and trend data can be found in the statistical database on the Eurostat website.
3. 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. Exceptions are Spain, Italy and the United Kingdom, for which the lower age limit is 16 (in Spain and Italy this is the legal minimum age for working). In addition, employment data used for Italy includes also those above 74.
The numbers of unemployed and the monthly unemployment rates are estimates based on results of the LFS which is a continuous household survey carried out in Member States on the basis of harmonised definitions. These results are interpolated/extrapolated to monthly data using national survey data and/or national monthly series on registered unemployment. The most recent figures are therefore provisional; 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.
Member States may publish other rates such as register based unemployment rates, or rates based on national Labour Force Surveys or corresponding surveys. These rates may vary from those published by Eurostat due to a different definition or methodological choices.
4. Compared with the rates published in News Release 101/2012 of 2 July 2012, the May 2012 unemployment rates have been revised from 11.1% to 11.2% for the EA17 and from 10.3% to 10.4% for the EU27. Among Member States, the rate has been revised downwards by 0.2 percentage points for Cyprus and upwards by 0.5 percentage points for Italy. The revisions are primarily caused by the inclusion of the most recent EU Labour Force Survey data in the calculation process and updates to the seasonally adjusted series.
The following LFS data are used in the calculations of the monthly unemployment rates published in this News Release:
For Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Austria, Romania, Finland and Sweden monthly data up to and including June 2012.
For Greece monthly data up to and including April 2012.
For the United Kingdom monthly data up to and including March-April-May 2012 (3-month rolling average).
For Spain quarterly data up to and including Q2 2012.
For Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Ireland, France, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia quarterly data up to and including Q1 2012.
5. Italy has implemented a method to produce monthly unemployment data purely based on the LFS. For the moment, these data should be considered provisional.
6. Estonia and Latvia: quarterly data for all series.
Cyprus, Romania and Slovenia: quarterly data for youth unemployment.
7. For Germany, Austria and Finland the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

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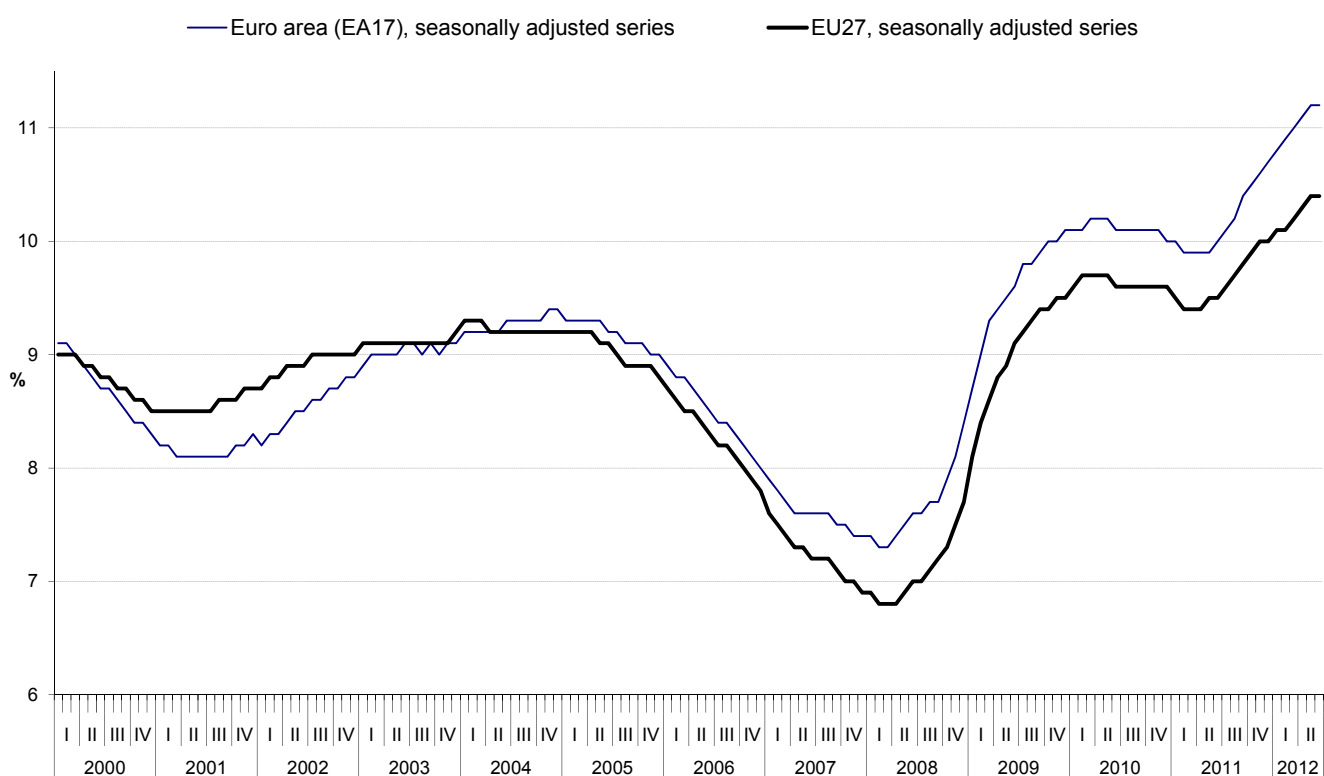
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Selected Principal European Economic Indicators: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/euroindicators>

Euro area and EU27 unemployment rates



SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%) TOTALS

	Jun 2011	Dec 2011	Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Mar 2012	Apr 2012	May 2012	Jun 2012
EA17	10.0	10.7	10.8	10.9	11.0	11.1	11.2	11.2
EU27	9.5	10.0	10.1	10.1	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.4
BE	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.2
BG	11.2	11.8	11.8	12.0	12.1	12.2	12.2	12.4
CZ	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.7
DK	7.5	7.7	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.8	8.0
DE⁷	6.0	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.4
EE⁶	13.1	11.6	10.9	10.9	10.9	:	:	:
IE	14.4	14.7	14.8	14.8	14.8	14.6	14.7	14.8
EL	17.3	21.2	21.5	21.7	22.0	22.5	:	:
ES	21.2	23.2	23.5	23.8	24.1	24.4	24.7	24.8
FR	9.6	9.9	9.9	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.1
IT⁵	8.1	9.4	9.6	9.9	10.4	10.6	10.6	10.8
CY	7.6	9.7	9.8	10.0	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.5
LV⁶	17.1	15.4	15.3	15.3	15.3	:	:	:
LT	15.4	13.9	13.7	13.6	13.6	13.6	13.6	13.7
LU	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.4
HU	10.9	10.9	11.3	11.1	10.7	10.7	10.9	11.0
MT	6.7	6.5	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.8	6.0	6.2
NL	4.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.1
AT⁷	3.9	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.2	4.5
PL	9.6	10.0	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9	10.0
PT	12.6	14.6	14.7	14.8	15.1	15.2	15.2	15.4
RO	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.7	7.6
SI	8.0	8.6	8.3	8.2	8.0	8.2	8.2	8.2
SK	13.5	13.9	13.7	13.7	13.6	13.7	13.7	13.8
FI⁷	7.8	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.5
SE	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.3	7.4	7.8	7.5
UK	8.0	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	:	:
IS	6.9	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.3	6.2
NO	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.0	:	:
US	9.1	8.5	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.2
JP	4.6	4.5	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.4	:

: Data not available Source: Eurostat

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (%)

	Youth (under 25's)				Males				Females			
	Jun 11	Apr 12	May 12	Jun 12	Jun 11	Apr 12	May 12	Jun 12	Jun 11	Apr 12	May 12	Jun 12
EA17	20.5	22.4	22.5	22.4	9.7	11.0	11.1	11.2	10.3	11.2	11.3	11.3
EU27	21.2	22.6	22.7	22.6	9.4	10.3	10.4	10.4	9.7	10.3	10.3	10.4
BE	18.8	19.3	19.4	19.5	6.9	7.1	7.1	7.0	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.3
BG	24.7	29.4	29.2	29.6	12.1	13.5	13.6	13.9	10.1	10.7	10.7	10.7
CZ	18.7	19.7	19.7	19.1	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.6	8.0	7.9	8.0	8.0
DK	14.6	15.3	15.3	15.6	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.9	7.2	7.7	7.8	8.0
DE ⁷	8.8	7.9	7.9	7.9	6.2	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.1	5.1	5.1
EE ⁶	22.0	22.3*	:	:	13.8	12.0*	:	:	12.5	9.7*	:	:
IE	29.2	29.1	28.8	29.2	17.6	17.5	17.5	17.7	10.5	11.2	11.2	11.2
EL	43.9	52.8	:	:	14.5	20.0	:	:	21.0	26.0	:	:
ES	45.9	52.0	52.6	52.7	20.9	24.2	24.7	24.9	21.6	24.6	24.8	24.8
FR	22.8	22.6	22.7	22.8	9.1	9.8	9.9	10.0	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.2
IT ⁶	27.7	34.7	35.3	34.3	7.2	9.8	9.8	10.0	9.5	11.7	11.7	12.0
CY ⁶	20.8	25.3	25.3	25.3	7.8	11.4	11.5	11.1	7.4	9.5	9.7	9.8
LV ⁶	32.6	28.1*	:	:	20.3	16.6*	:	:	14.0	14.0*	:	:
LT	33.0	28.3	28.4	28.2	17.9	15.2	15.4	15.4	12.9	12.1	11.8	12.0
LU	16.0	19.4	19.8	19.6	3.8	4.4	4.5	4.4	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.6
HU	25.7	25.8	26.2	27.1	10.9	10.6	10.7	10.8	11.0	10.9	11.2	11.3
MT	13.9	10.6	11.3	11.9	6.5	5.5	5.7	5.9	6.9	6.3	6.5	6.7
NL	7.1	9.4	9.2	9.3	4.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	4.0	5.1	5.1	5.1
AT ⁷	7.9	8.9	8.5	8.8	3.7	3.9	4.6	4.7	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.2
PL	25.1	25.3	24.8	24.8	8.9	9.3	9.4	9.5	10.5	10.6	10.6	10.6
PT	29.3	36.5	36.4	36.4	12.3	15.0	15.0	15.2	12.9	15.4	15.4	15.6
RO ⁶	23.4	23.7*	:	:	7.7	8.0	8.4	8.6	7.0	6.6	6.7	6.4
SI ⁶	14.5	16.9	16.9	16.9	8.2	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	8.5	8.7	8.6
SK	33.2	39.0	37.9	36.5	13.6	13.2	13.1	13.1	13.3	14.3	14.4	14.6
FI ⁷	20.1	18.8	18.6	17.7	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.3	7.2	6.7	6.7	6.7
SE	23.1	22.1	24.5	22.7	7.5	7.5	7.9	7.7	7.4	7.3	7.5	7.4
UK	20.9	22.0	:	:	8.6	8.6	:	:	7.3	7.5	:	:
IS	14.9	14.4	14.0	13.8	7.8	6.7	6.5	6.4	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.0
NO	8.3	8.1	:	:	3.4	3.6	:	:	3.2	2.4	:	:
US	17.3	16.4	16.1	16.5	9.7	8.2	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.0	7.9	8.0
JP	:	:	:	:	4.7	4.8	4.5	:	4.5	4.2	4.3	:

* Data for Q1 2012

: Data not available

Source: Eurostat

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED (in millions)

	Jun 2011	Dec 2011	Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Mar 2012	Apr 2012	May 2012	Jun 2012
EA17	15.777	16.881	17.050	17.206	17.402	17.583	17.678	17.801
EU27	22.947	24.216	24.363	24.479	24.649	24.825	24.985	25.112
EA17 - youth	3.155	3.318	3.347	3.358	3.390	3.392	3.395	3.359
EU27 - youth	5.245	5.483	5.488	5.491	5.516	5.509	5.526	5.472

Euro area and EU27 unemployed (in millions)

Seasonally adjusted series

