

Labour markets in the EU-27 still in crisis

Latest Labour Market Trends – 2009Q3 data¹

In 2009Q3, employment² (seasonally adjusted) in the EU-27 fell to 221.4 million people, its lowest level in the last three years, down 0.5 % (1.1 million) on 2009Q2. Spain and Italy together accounted for almost 40 % of this reduction. Employment fell in every EU country, except the UK and Luxembourg, where it remained unchanged.

Since it peaked in 2008Q2, employment in the EU-27 has decreased by 5.4 million. Latvia (-18.1 %), Estonia (-10.2 %), Ireland (-10.1 %), Spain (-8.5 %) and Lithuania (-6.9 %) have seen the largest contractions, while employment has increased over the same period as a whole only in Luxembourg (+1.1 %) and remained unchanged in Germany.

In 2009Q3, unemployment (seasonally adjusted) in the EU-27 rose by 4.1 % (0.9 million people) on 2009Q2. This further increase took unemployment up to 22.1 million, the highest figure recorded since the start of the time series in 2000Q1. Estonia and the Czech Republic suffered the highest quarter-on-quarter growth rates in unemployment.

Since 2008Q1, when it bottomed out and started to rise, unemployment has grown by 5.9 million. Over the same period, unemployment has more than tripled in Estonia and Lithuania, nearly tripled in Latvia, more than doubled in Ireland and Spain and nearly doubled in Denmark.

Chart 1: Employment and unemployment. EU-27. Seasonally adjusted (million persons)



Sources: Eurostat-NA ([namq_aux_pem](#)) and EU-LFS ([une_nb_q](#))

¹ This publication is part of a quarterly series presenting the main results of the EU labour force survey for the EU-27 and for all Member States, candidate and EFTA countries, except the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Liechtenstein.

² National accounts, domestic concept. See also Eurostat News release 180/2009 of 14 December 2009 at: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/2-14122009-BP/EN/2-14122009-BP-EN.PDF.

Fewer people are starting new jobs

The recent labour market trends have brought two related phenomena: a decline in the number of employed persons who started a new job in the last three months (employed with a new job) and an increase in those who either quit or lost a job over the last three months and are no longer employed (new out of employment). This can be seen from the EU labour force survey data, which provide deeper insights into the latest labour market trends, also covering job tenure and the time since a person last worked.

In 2009Q3, in the EU-27 the share of those employed with a new job in total employment dropped on a year-on-year basis by 0.6 percentage points (see Chart 2) to 4.2 % (see Table 12), continuing the decline that started at the beginning of 2008. The decrease between 2008Q3 and 2009Q3 was strongest in Ireland (down by 1.8 percentage points to 3.8 %) and Slovenia (down by 1.5 p.p. to 4.3 %).

In 2009Q3 in the EU-27, the share of the new out of employment in total employment for the previous quarter — the aggregate they belonged to three months earlier — stood at 2.7 %, up by 0.2 p.p. from the same quarter in 2008. Latvia

(up by 4.2 p.p. to 7.3 %) and Estonia (up by 1.6 p.p. to 4.1 %) registered the highest year-on-year increases in this indicator in 2009Q3.

Chart 2: Persons whose job started or ended in the last three months, as a share of total employment*: year-on-year changes. EU-27 (percentage points)



* Persons whose job started in the last three months as share of total employment in the current quarter, persons whose job ended in the last three months as share of total employment in the previous quarter

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Men still affected more than women

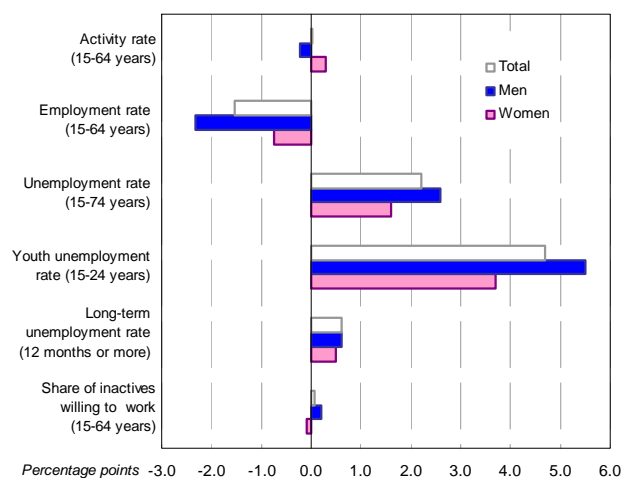
The EU-LFS also allows breakdowns by the main characteristics of employment and unemployment. In 2009Q3, the employment³ rate (not seasonally adjusted) of the population aged 15-64 in the EU-27 continued to fall (by 1.5 p.p. from 2008Q3, see Chart 3), to 64.8 % (see Table 4). Again, the reduction hit men hardest (down by 2.3 p.p.) and women to a lesser extent (down by 0.7 p.p.).

The unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) in the EU-27 grew by 2.2 percentage points year-on-year, climbing to 8.9 % (see Table 13). Again, the rise was higher for men than for women. Both the youth unemployment rate (ages 15-24) and the long-term unemployment rate (the share of the labour force looking for a job for 12 months or more) increased further, the former by 4.7 p.p. (to 20.4 %), the latter by 0.6 p.p. (to 3.0 %).

Overall, the activity rate of the working age population (15-64 years) remained unchanged over the year at 71.3 % (see Table 2). At the

same time, the share of the inactive population seeking employment or willing to work increased slightly, by 0.1 p.p., to 5.0 % (see Table 16).

Chart 3: Changes from 2008Q3 to 2009Q3 in selected labour-market indicators. EU-27 (percentage points), by sex



Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

([lfsq_argan](#), [lfsq_ergan](#), [lfsq_urgan](#), [lfsq_upgal](#), [lfsq_igaww](#))

³ LFS resident population concept. See the Methodological Notes.

Table 1. Activity rates, 2009Q3, %, by age group, sex and nationality

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Men and women	71.3	45.1	84.9	49.2	71.6	45.0	85.1	48.3
Nationals	71.3	44.9	85.4	49.0	71.6	44.8	85.8	48.2
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	77.3	56.3	85.0	53.8	76.1	54.6	84.1	51.9
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	68.8	44.7	76.3	51.9	68.6	44.2	76.3	49.9
Men	78.1	48.5	91.8	58.7	78.6	48.1	92.4	57.4
Nationals	77.8	48.1	91.9	58.6	78.3	47.6	92.6	57.3
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	85.0	60.7	93.6	60.6	84.1	59.8	93.1	59.0
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	80.6	51.9	89.5	61.2	80.8	50.9	90.0	60.2
Women	64.5	41.7	77.9	40.2	64.6	41.8	77.6	39.7
Nationals	64.7	41.6	78.8	40.0	65.0	41.8	78.8	39.6
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	69.8	52.5	76.8	45.8	68.5	49.9	75.7	43.6
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	57.1	37.1	63.1	43.8	56.4	37.1	62.6	40.8

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_argan](#))**Table 2. Labour force and activity rates, by country and sex**

15-64 years	Labour Force (15-64 years) (1000)	Activity rates (15-64 years) (%)					
		2009Q3			2008Q3		
		Men and women	Men	Women	Men and women	Men	Women
EU-27	235,794	71.3	78.1	64.5	71.3	78.3	64.2
EA-16	154,097	71.6	78.6	64.6	71.7	79.1	64.2
Belgium	4,771	66.9	72.7	61.1	67.9	73.8	61.8
Bulgaria	3,465	67.7	72.4	63.0	68.5	73.3	63.8
Czech Republic	5,233	70.4	78.8	61.8	69.7	78.3	61.0
Denmark	2,918	81.3	84.7	78.0	81.4	85.3	77.5
Germany	41,262	77.1	82.6	71.4	76.8	82.5	71.1
Estonia	677	74.6	78.9	70.5	75.1	79.1	71.5
Ireland	2,145	70.9	78.6	63.2	73.1	81.7	64.3
Greece	4,920	68.1	79.4	56.8	67.1	79.1	55.1
Spain	22,842	72.9	80.8	64.8	72.8	82.1	63.2
France	28,268	71.0	75.3	66.8	70.5	75.2	65.9
Italy	24,472	62.1	73.7	50.5	62.8	74.4	51.3
Cyprus	392	74.2	82.6	66.1	73.7	82.7	65.2
Latvia	1,146	73.5	77.4	69.8	74.6	79.0	70.4
Lithuania	1,622	70.3	72.3	68.3	69.2	71.9	66.7
Luxembourg	226	68.8	76.7	60.7	67.7	76.3	58.7
Hungary	4,188	61.9	68.5	55.6	62.1	69.0	55.5
Malta	173	59.2	76.8	40.8	59.5	77.3	41.0
Netherlands	8,744	79.7	85.3	74.0	79.5	85.4	73.5
Austria	4,264	76.3	82.1	70.5	75.7	82.3	69.1
Poland	17,182	65.2	72.5	58.1	64.3	71.3	57.5
Portugal	5,244	73.4	78.0	68.9	74.2	79.4	69.1
Romania	9,764	65.0	73.0	57.1	64.2	71.3	57.1
Slovenia	1,032	73.0	76.8	68.9	73.1	77.4	68.5
Slovakia	2,696	68.8	76.6	60.9	69.3	76.7	61.9
Finland	2,646	75.0	76.5	73.5	76.4	78.5	74.3
Sweden	4,832	79.4	82.0	76.8	80.3	82.6	77.9
United Kingdom	30,669	76.0	82.3	69.8	76.2	82.8	69.6
Croatia	1,709	62.6	67.8	57.6	64.3	71.0	57.6
Turkey	24,559	52.4	75.7	29.4	52.4	76.4	28.5
Iceland	174	85.7	88.7	82.5	86.8	90.9	82.3
Norway	2,514	78.8	81.1	76.3	80.5	83.4	77.6
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	82.3	88.0	76.6

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_argan](#))

Table 3. Employment rates, 2009Q3, %, by age group, sex and nationality

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Men and women	64.8	35.9	78.2	46.2	64.8	36.1	77.9	45.1
Nationals	65.2	36.0	79.2	46.2	65.4	36.2	79.2	45.2
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	68.0	44.1	75.6	48.3	65.9	41.3	73.7	46.0
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	55.8	30.9	63.0	42.9	55.0	30.6	62.2	41.1
Men	71.0	38.3	84.7	54.9	71.3	38.5	84.9	53.5
Nationals	71.2	38.2	85.4	55.1	71.8	38.5	86.0	53.7
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	74.7	48.5	83.1	53.7	72.7	46.5	81.3	51.4
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	64.8	35.8	73.2	50.0	64.1	35.0	72.5	49.2
Women	58.7	33.5	71.7	37.9	58.3	33.6	70.8	37.1
Nationals	59.2	33.7	73.0	37.9	59.0	33.9	72.4	37.1
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	61.5	40.4	68.4	42.0	59.3	36.5	66.5	39.5
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	46.9	25.7	52.8	36.7	46.0	25.9	51.9	33.9

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_ergan](#))**Table 4. Employment and employment rates, by country and sex**

15-64 years	Employment Confidence (1000) limits		Employment rates (%)					
			2009Q3			2008Q3		
			Men and women	Men	Women	Men and women	Men	Women
EU-27	214,442	± 507	64.8 ± 0.2	71.0	58.7	66.4	73.3	59.4
EA-16	139,513	± 336	64.8 ± 0.2	71.3	58.3	66.4	73.8	59.0
Belgium	4,377	± 48	61.4 ± 0.7	67.0	55.8	62.6	68.5	56.6
Bulgaria	3,232	± 75	63.1 ± 1.5	67.4	58.9	65.0	69.6	60.4
Czech Republic	4,846	± 46	65.2 ± 0.6	73.7	56.5	66.7	75.7	57.6
Denmark	2,737	± 23	76.3 ± 0.6	78.9	73.7	78.6	82.8	74.4
Germany	38,000	± 193	71.0 ± 0.4	75.8	66.1	71.3	76.8	65.7
Estonia	576	± 21	63.4 ± 2.4	65.1	61.8	70.4	73.6	67.5
Ireland	1,870	± 16	61.8 ± 0.5	66.1	57.5	68.0	75.4	60.7
Greece	4,456	± 82	61.7 ± 1.1	74.0	49.3	62.2	75.3	49.1
Spain	18,722	± 147	59.7 ± 0.5	66.4	53.0	64.5	73.6	55.1
France	25,729	± 151	64.6 ± 0.4	68.8	60.5	65.4	70.1	60.8
Italy	22,661	± 120	57.5 ± 0.3	68.9	46.1	59.0	70.7	47.2
Cyprus	370	± 9	70.0 ± 1.7	78.0	62.3	71.0	80.0	62.4
Latvia	933	± 21	59.8 ± 1.3	60.9	58.8	69.0	72.9	65.4
Lithuania	1,395	± 44	60.4 ± 1.9	59.6	61.2	65.0	67.5	62.7
Luxembourg	216	± 5	65.8 ± 1.4	73.8	57.5	63.9	72.5	55.1
Hungary	3,753	± 32	55.5 ± 0.5	61.2	49.9	57.3	63.9	51.0
Malta	161	± 5	55.1 ± 1.6	71.6	37.9	56.1	72.9	38.6
Netherlands	8,444	± 43	77.0 ± 0.4	82.4	71.5	77.5	83.5	71.5
Austria	4,043	± 44	72.3 ± 0.8	77.8	66.9	72.8	79.5	66.3
Poland	15,778	± 124	59.9 ± 0.5	66.9	53.0	60.0	67.2	53.0
Portugal	4,697	± 51	65.8 ± 0.7	70.5	61.1	68.1	73.9	62.5
Romania	9,065	± 309	60.4 ± 2.1	67.2	53.5	60.5	66.7	54.3
Slovenia	967	± 19	68.3 ± 1.3	71.9	64.6	70.1	74.4	65.5
Slovakia	2,357	± 23	60.1 ± 0.6	67.4	52.8	63.1	70.8	55.4
Finland	2,444	± 17	69.3 ± 0.5	70.5	68.0	72.1	74.6	69.6
Sweden	4,435	± 20	72.9 ± 0.3	75.0	70.8	75.7	78.2	73.2
United Kingdom	28,179	± 144	69.8 ± 0.4	74.7	65.0	71.5	77.4	65.8
Croatia	1,556	± 73	57.1 ± 2.7	62.0	52.2	59.7	66.8	52.6
Turkey	21,515	± 104	45.9 ± 0.2	66.6	25.5	47.7	69.8	25.8
Iceland	163	± 3	80.4 ± 1.7	82.8	77.9	84.6	88.6	80.2
Norway	2,433	± 16	76.2 ± 0.5	78.2	74.1	78.5	81.2	75.7
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	:	79.5	85.4	73.5

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_ergan](#))

Table 5. Share of part-time employment on total employment, 2009Q3, %, by age group, sex and economic activity

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Men and women	18.7	27.2	16.2	26.0	19.9	26.3	18.1	25.3
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	21.4	33.7	15.1	31.6	18.9	27.1	11.4	32.7
Industry, incl. Energy	7.1	8.4	6.2	12.2	8.6	9.5	7.7	13.1
Construction	6.3	5.4	5.4	12.7	6.8	5.6	6.1	12.5
Trade, transport and communication services	19.9	37.8	15.7	25.6	20.9	35.8	17.8	24.4
Business activities and financial services	20.8	23.0	18.8	30.9	22.5	25.1	21.0	30.2
Other services	26.0	30.5	24.4	31.3	27.5	30.0	26.9	29.7
Men	8.3	20.7	5.2	15.7	8.1	19.5	5.5	14.4
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	15.8	29.7	9.4	25.6	12.4	23.3	5.1	25.6
Industry, incl. Energy	3.0	5.8	1.9	7.6	3.2	6.3	2.2	7.5
Construction	3.8	5.0	2.7	9.5	3.8	5.3	2.8	9.1
Trade, transport and communication services	10.2	31.5	5.7	15.5	9.8	29.4	6.1	14.3
Business activities and financial services	9.9	21.7	6.3	20.5	10.1	24.0	7.0	19.0
Other services	11.8	26.9	8.8	18.0	11.8	26.0	9.7	15.2
Women	31.2	34.9	29.1	40.2	34.4	34.2	33.4	40.7
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	30.3	42.6	24.1	40.2	32.0	38.2	24.3	45.1
Industry, incl. Energy	17.3	14.9	16.3	27.3	23.1	17.9	22.5	31.4
Construction	32.4	12.2	32.6	43.7	38.3	11.4	39.5	47.2
Trade, transport and communication services	32.7	44.3	29.0	41.4	35.5	42.5	33.5	40.5
Business activities and financial services	32.2	24.2	30.9	47.5	35.2	26.1	34.4	48.2
Other services	33.3	32.3	32.1	39.8	35.8	31.9	35.5	39.4

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_epgn62](#))

Table 6. Part-time employment, by country and sex

15 years and more	Part-time employment (1000)	Confidence limits	Share on total employment (%)					
			2009Q3			2008Q3		
			Men and women	Men	Women	Men and women	Men	Women
EU-27	40,743	± 312	18.7	8.3	31.2	18.0	7.7	30.6
EA-16	28,137	± 209	19.9	8.1	34.4	19.2	7.4	34.0
Belgium	1,017	± 27	23.0	8.6	40.6	22.2	7.9	39.8
Bulgaria	75	± 9	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.1	2.7
Czech Republic	271	± 15	5.5	2.8	9.1	4.8	2.2	8.3
Denmark	729	± 26	26.1	15.5	37.8	24.2	13.8	36.1
Germany	10,147	± 121	26.2	10.2	45.0	25.7	9.3	45.2
Estonia	63	± 10	10.5	8.0	13.0	6.9	(3.1)	10.7
Ireland	407	± 13	21.3	11.0	33.4	18.5	8.1	31.7
Greece	264	± 16	5.8	3.1	9.9	5.4	2.7	9.7
Spain	2,316	± 73	12.3	4.7	22.0	11.4	4.1	21.5
France	4,414	± 112	17.1	5.9	29.4	16.5	5.6	28.7
Italy	3,258	± 78	14.2	5.3	27.5	14.1	5.2	27.6
Cyprus	32	± 3	8.3	5.1	12.4	7.5	4.6	11.2
Latvia	87	± 11	9.2	8.1	10.2	6.0	4.0	8.1
Lithuania	117	± 13	8.2	6.2	10.1	6.5	4.2	8.8
Luxembourg	38	± 3	17.3	5.0	33.6	18.8	(2.4)	41.0
Hungary	224	± 14	5.9	4.3	7.9	4.7	3.6	6.1
Malta	19	± 2	11.6	5.3	24.1	11.9	4.1	27.2
Netherlands	4,143	± 43	48.3	25.0	75.7	47.0	23.4	74.9
Austria	994	± 26	24.1	8.6	42.2	22.8	7.8	40.7
Poland	1,324	± 75	8.3	5.7	11.5	8.3	5.7	11.5
Portugal	564	± 34	11.2	7.2	15.8	11.9	7.4	17.1
Romania	990	± 117	10.4	9.2	11.9	10.8	9.7	12.1
Slovenia	114	± 8	11.4	8.8	14.4	8.7	6.4	11.5
Slovakia	86	± 8	3.6	2.7	4.8	3.2	2.0	4.6
Finland	325	± 12	13.1	8.6	17.9	12.0	7.9	16.5
Sweden	1,192	± 24	26.2	13.5	40.2	25.5	12.5	40.0
United Kingdom	7,533	± 179	26.1	11.7	42.6	25.1	11.3	41.3
Croatia	140	± 21	8.7	6.7	11.0	9.4	7.0	12.4
Turkey	2,220	± 65	10.0	5.6	21.5	8.5	4.8	18.4
Iceland	35	± 2	20.7	9.0	34.0	16.8	6.3	29.4
Norway	698	± 17	28.0	14.6	42.8	27.3	14.2	42.1
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	:	34.3	13.5	59.0

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_epgn62](#))

Table 7. Share of employees with temporary contracts, 2009Q3, %, by age group, sex and economic activity

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Men and women	13.8	41.8	10.9	7.4	15.6	51.6	12.1	6.6
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	31.6	55.9	29.3	22.6	38.7	64.0	35.7	28.6
Industry, incl. Energy	10.1	42.4	7.4	4.7	10.1	48.9	6.6	3.5
Construction	17.7	42.0	14.6	9.4	19.4	49.1	15.3	9.4
Trade, transport and communication services	13.8	36.9	9.8	6.3	15.6	47.4	10.6	5.8
Business activities and financial services	12.7	40.9	10.0	7.9	14.3	51.8	11.2	6.4
Other services	14.7	48.9	12.7	8.0	17.3	59.5	15.1	7.1
Men	13.1	41.3	10.0	7.3	14.5	50.5	10.8	6.5
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	29.7	53.8	27.2	20.9	36.6	62.3	33.4	26.6
Industry, incl. Energy	9.4	42.4	6.5	4.4	9.4	48.6	5.8	3.4
Construction	18.6	42.0	15.5	10.0	20.4	48.8	16.3	10.2
Trade, transport and communication services	12.0	35.5	8.2	5.8	13.6	46.0	8.8	5.6
Business activities and financial services	12.5	42.0	9.6	8.2	14.1	52.3	10.9	6.5
Other services	14.7	51.2	12.6	8.4	16.7	63.1	14.6	7.0
Women	14.6	42.4	11.9	7.6	16.8	52.8	13.5	6.8
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	36.6	62.2	34.2	27.9	43.9	68.7	41.0	34.9
Industry, incl. Energy	11.9	42.5	9.5	5.8	12.0	49.8	8.6	3.9
Construction	9.7	42.1	6.9	4.5	10.8	54.6	7.3	3.0
Trade, transport and communication services	15.9	38.3	11.7	6.9	18.0	48.8	12.7	6.1
Business activities and financial services	13.0	40.0	10.3	7.5	14.6	51.4	11.4	6.2
Other services	14.8	47.8	12.8	7.9	17.5	57.8	15.3	7.1

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_etqan2](#))

Table 8. Employees with temporary contracts, by country and sex

15 years and more	Employees with temp. contracts (1000)	Share on total employees (%)					
		2009Q3			2008Q3		
		Men and women	Men	Women	Men and women	Men	Women
EU-27	25,127	13.8	13.1	14.6	14.3	13.6	15.0
EA-16	18,458	15.6	14.5	16.8	16.4	15.5	17.4
Belgium	304	8.0	6.5	9.8	8.9	7.3	10.8
Bulgaria	156	5.5	6.1	4.8	6.1	6.8	5.3
Czech Republic	355	8.7	7.3	10.3	8.2	6.7	10.0
Denmark	234	9.2	8.5	9.9	8.4	7.6	9.3
Germany	4,971	14.6	14.5	14.7	14.5	14.7	14.3
Estonia	18	3.3	(3.7)	(2.9)	2.7	(4.1)	:
Ireland	144	9.2	8.4	10.0	9.4	8.4	10.4
Greece	371	12.7	11.2	14.6	12.2	10.5	14.5
Spain	4,046	25.9	24.2	27.9	29.5	27.7	31.8
France	3,223	14.2	12.7	15.7	14.4	13.2	15.7
Italy	2,186	12.6	11.1	14.6	13.6	12.2	15.5
Cyprus	43	14.0	8.5	20.0	13.8	8.3	19.7
Latvia	46	5.5	7.1	4.0	4.1	5.8	2.4
Lithuania	37	3.0	3.6	(2.4)	2.6	3.4	(1.9)
Luxembourg	16	8.3	7.5	9.2	5.0	4.5	5.7
Hungary	304	9.2	9.9	8.4	8.2	9.2	7.2
Malta	8	5.5	4.7	7.0	5.2	4.3	6.7
Netherlands	1,373	18.6	16.7	20.7	18.4	16.8	20.2
Austria	351	9.8	9.8	9.9	9.7	9.6	9.7
Poland	3,353	27.1	27.6	26.6	27.5	27.3	27.8
Portugal	846	22.0	21.1	23.0	22.9	21.9	23.9
Romania	64	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2
Slovenia	145	17.5	16.4	18.7	18.5	17.1	20.1
Slovakia	96	4.8	5.0	4.6	5.5	5.4	5.6
Finland	336	15.7	12.1	19.0	16.6	13.0	20.3
Sweden	667	16.4	14.5	18.4	17.3	14.7	19.9
United Kingdom	1,436	5.8	5.4	6.1	5.4	5.0	5.9
Croatia	153	12.2	11.9	12.4	12.8	13.0	12.6
Turkey	1,588	12.2	12.3	11.6	13.2	12.9	14.2
Iceland	18	12.6	12.1	13.1	13.3	13.1	13.5
Norway	200	8.7	7.4	10.1	9.5	7.4	11.8
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	13.2	13.3	13.1

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_etqan2](#))

Table 9. Average weekly actual hours worked in all jobs by persons at work in the reference week, by full-time/part-time distinction, sex and economic activity

	EU-27				EA-16			
	Total		Full-time	Part-time	Total		Full-time	Part-time
	2009Q3	2008Q3	2009Q3	2009Q3	2009Q3	2008Q3	2009Q3	2009Q3
Men and women	38.0	38.3	41.7	21.1	37.4	37.8	41.5	20.8
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	42.3	41.7	47.2	24.3	44.4	43.9	49.9	20.5
Industry, incl. Energy	39.4	40.1	40.7	21.7	38.6	39.4	40.2	21.4
Construction	41.5	41.7	42.8	21.3	40.6	40.8	42.0	20.5
Trade, transport and communication services	38.7	39.0	43.2	20.2	38.5	38.9	43.3	20.3
Business activities and financial services	37.1	37.7	41.4	20.4	36.7	37.2	41.4	20.5
Other services	34.8	34.9	39.5	21.4	34.1	34.2	39.1	21.3
Men	41.0	41.5	42.8	21.6	40.8	41.2	42.5	20.9
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	45.6	45.0	49.4	25.7	47.8	47.3	51.5	21.6
Industry, incl. Energy	40.5	41.3	41.0	23.0	39.9	40.8	40.5	22.8
Construction	42.2	42.5	43.0	22.9	41.4	41.6	42.2	21.3
Trade, transport and communication services	41.6	42.1	44.1	19.7	41.8	42.3	44.2	19.5
Business activities and financial services	40.6	41.1	42.7	20.7	40.5	40.9	42.7	20.6
Other services	38.5	38.8	40.7	21.9	38.1	38.5	40.4	21.8
Women	34.1	34.3	39.9	21.0	33.1	33.3	39.7	20.8
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	37.0	36.5	43.0	23.1	37.4	37.3	45.6	19.6
Industry, incl. Energy	36.6	37.1	39.8	21.1	34.8	35.4	39.1	20.9
Construction	33.2	33.1	39.8	19.4	31.8	32.0	39.7	19.7
Trade, transport and communication services	34.8	34.9	41.5	20.5	34.2	34.3	41.6	20.7
Business activities and financial services	33.4	34.0	39.6	20.3	32.7	33.2	39.4	20.4
Other services	32.8	32.8	38.6	21.3	31.9	31.9	38.2	21.2

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_ewhan2](#), [lfsq_ewh2n2](#))

Table 10. Persons who worked at least one hour in the reference week and corresponding average weekly actual hours in all jobs, by country and sex

15 years and more	Persons who worked at least 1 hour (1000)	Average weekly actual hours						
		2009Q3			2008Q3			
		Men and women	Men	Women	Men and women	Men	Women	
EU-27	182,710	38.0	± 0.1	41.0	34.1	38.3	41.5	34.3
EA-16	115,714	37.4	± 0.1	40.8	33.1	37.8	41.2	33.3
Belgium	3,431	37.5	± 0.3	40.7	33.5	37.5	40.9	33.2
Bulgaria	2,804	41.2	± 0.3	41.6	40.8	41.8	42.4	41.1
Czech Republic	4,257	41.2	± 0.1	43.0	38.5	42.4	44.3	39.6
Denmark	2,147	35.9	± 0.3	38.3	33.1	36.4	38.8	33.4
Germany	33,784	36.0	± 0.2	40.3	30.7	36.6	41.2	31.0
Estonia	521	38.7	± 0.6	39.8	37.6	40.2	41.6	38.8
Ireland	1,709	36.1	± 0.6	40.1	30.9	37.1	41.2	31.5
Greece	4,129	43.0	± 0.3	45.0	39.8	42.8	44.8	39.6
Spain	14,986	38.9	± 0.2	41.5	35.4	39.3	41.8	35.7
France	19,167	37.5	± 0.1	40.6	34.0	37.6	40.6	34.2
Italy	18,677	38.1	± 0.2	40.7	34.0	38.6	41.4	34.3
Cyprus	317	40.7	± 0.4	43.1	37.8	40.9	43.0	38.0
Latvia	866	40.2	± 0.5	41.2	39.3	41.7	42.9	40.4
Lithuania	1,273	39.6	± 0.2	40.7	38.6	40.3	41.3	39.1
Luxembourg	173	38.4	± 1.4	41.4	34.0	37.5	41.1	32.2
Hungary	3,504	39.8	± 0.1	40.8	38.6	40.3	41.3	39.0
Malta	155	39.5	± 0.5	41.8	34.5	39.8	42.3	34.7
Netherlands	6,635	32.5	± 0.1	37.5	26.4	32.8	38.1	26.4
Austria	3,488	38.3	± 0.3	42.4	33.2	39.0	43.1	33.7
Poland	14,695	42.1	± 0.3	44.2	39.3	42.1	44.5	39.1
Portugal	4,218	39.6	± 0.4	41.5	37.5	39.5	41.4	37.1
Romania	9,278	40.6	± 0.3	41.7	39.2	40.7	41.9	39.1
Slovenia	802	39.7	± 0.3	41.1	37.9	40.9	42.4	38.8
Slovakia	2,139	39.8	± 0.2	40.9	38.2	39.7	40.9	38.1
Finland	1,904	37.8	± 0.2	40.0	35.5	38.5	40.9	35.9
Sweden	3,333	36.9	± 0.2	39.4	34.0	37.1	39.7	34.1
United Kingdom	24,319	36.0	± 0.1	40.2	30.9	36.4	40.5	31.2
Croatia	1,480	40.5	± 0.5	41.7	39.1	40.4	41.7	38.7
Turkey	21,263	50.5	± 0.2	53.5	42.5	51.2	54.1	43.5
Iceland	133	41.0	± 0.7	44.9	36.1	43.6	48.0	37.8
Norway	1,790	35.4	± 0.3	38.5	31.8	35.9	38.9	32.4
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	:	37.6	43.5	30.3

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_ewhan2](#), [lfsq_ewh2n2](#))

Table 11. Share of persons whose job started within the past 3 months, 2009Q3, %, by economic activity, age group and sex

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Men and women	4.2	16.8	3.2	1.5	4.5	19.3	3.4	1.5
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	4.3	20.0	3.6	1.5	5.9	29.2	5.1	2.4
Industry, incl. Energy	2.9	13.0	2.1	1.1	3.0	14.3	2.1	0.8
Construction	5.4	13.6	4.7	2.3	6.1	15.4	5.3	2.7
Trade, transport and communication services	5.0	17.6	3.3	1.6	5.3	20.6	3.5	1.5
Business activities and financial services	4.2	18.2	3.3	1.7	4.4	21.2	3.3	1.5
Other services	3.9	18.1	3.1	1.3	4.2	20.3	3.3	1.3
Men	4.0	15.7	3.0	1.5	4.2	17.9	3.2	1.5
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	4.9	20.9	4.0	1.9	6.2	28.4	5.2	2.9
Industry, incl. Energy	2.6	12.2	1.9	0.9	2.7	13.2	1.9	0.7
Construction	5.6	13.5	4.9	2.4	6.3	15.5	5.4	2.9
Trade, transport and communication services	4.4	16.4	3.0	1.6	4.6	19.2	3.1	1.4
Business activities and financial services	4.1	19.7	3.2	1.6	4.3	23.0	3.3	1.4
Other services	3.5	17.2	2.7	1.5	3.6	19.5	2.8	1.4
Women	4.5	18.1	3.3	1.4	4.9	20.8	3.6	1.4
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	3.4	18.1	3.1	1.0	5.1	31.6	4.9	1.6
Industry, incl. Energy	3.5	15.1	2.5	1.7	3.8	17.1	2.8	1.4
Construction	3.6	14.4	3.0	1.0	3.8	13.8	3.3	0.7
Trade, transport and communication services	5.8	18.8	3.8	1.7	6.3	22.1	4.1	1.7
Business activities and financial services	4.4	16.9	3.3	1.9	4.5	19.7	3.4	1.6
Other services	4.1	18.6	3.3	1.2	4.5	20.6	3.6	1.3

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Table 12. Persons whose job started within the past 3 months, by country and sex

15 years and more	Persons whose job started within past 3 months (1000)	Share on total employment (%)					
		2009Q3			2008Q3		
		Men and women	Men	Women	Men and women	Men	Women
EU-27	9,060	4.2	4.0	4.5	4.8	4.6	5.1
EA-16	6,292	4.5	4.2	4.9	5.1	4.8	5.5
Belgium	168	3.8	3.6	4.1	4.5	4.3	4.6
Bulgaria	94	2.9	3.1	2.6	3.9	4.0	3.6
Czech Republic	142	2.9	2.5	3.5	2.6	2.2	3.2
Denmark	193	6.9	5.7	8.3	7.7	6.9	8.8
Germany	1,645	4.3	4.1	4.5	4.8	4.9	4.8
Estonia	25	4.2	4.7	3.7	4.5	4.5	4.6
Ireland	73	3.8	3.7	4.0	5.7	5.1	6.4
Greece	99	2.2	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.0	2.4
Spain	1,235	6.5	6.1	7.1	7.1	6.3	8.3
France	1,574	6.1	5.8	6.5	6.8	6.8	6.9
Italy	694	3.0	2.8	3.4	3.6	3.3	4.0
Cyprus	16	4.1	3.5	4.9	5.4	4.3	6.7
Latvia	47	5.0	5.7	4.3	6.3	7.3	5.3
Lithuania	42	3.0	3.2	2.7	4.0	4.3	3.7
Luxembourg	8	3.9	3.7	(4.2)	(1.7)	:	:
Hungary	112	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.2	3.1	3.3
Malta	6	3.6	(2.9)	(5.0)	3.5	:	(5.8)
Netherlands	128	1.8	1.6	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.4
Austria	197	4.8	4.7	4.9	5.4	5.2	5.6
Poland	579	3.6	3.7	3.5	4.3	4.4	4.2
Portugal	166	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.4
Romania	191	2.0	2.3	1.7	2.2	2.4	1.8
Slovenia	43	4.3	4.4	4.2	5.8	5.7	5.9
Slovakia	53	2.2	2.0	2.5	2.9	2.7	3.1
Finland	187	7.6	6.6	8.7	8.5	7.2	10.0
Sweden	359	7.9	7.4	8.5	9.3	8.2	10.5
United Kingdom	985	3.4	3.3	3.5	4.3	4.2	4.4
Croatia	42	2.6	2.3	3.1	3.5	3.6	3.4
Turkey	2,751	12.4	12.6	12.1	10.9	11.1	10.3
Iceland	11	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.9
Norway	131	5.3	4.8	5.8	6.3	5.5	7.3
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	4.3	4.0	4.6

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Table 13. Unemployment rates, 2009Q3, %, by age group, sex and nationality

	EU-27					EA-16				
	15-74		15-24	25-54	55-74	15-74		15-24	25-54	55-74
	Total	Long-term				Total	Long-term			
Men and women	8.9	3.0	20.4	7.8	5.6	9.4	3.4	19.8	8.5	6.3
Nationals	8.4	2.8	19.9	7.2	5.3	8.6	3.2	19.0	7.6	5.8
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	12.0	3.5	21.6	11.1	9.7	13.4	4.2	24.4	12.4	11.1
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	18.9	5.9	31.0	17.5	16.7	19.7	6.5	30.8	18.5	17.0
Men	9.0	2.9	21.1	7.8	5.9	9.1	3.1	20.1	8.2	6.2
Nationals	8.3	2.7	20.6	7.0	5.5	8.2	2.9	19.3	7.2	5.7
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	12.0	3.0	20.1	11.2	10.9	13.5	3.6	22.2	12.7	12.4
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	19.6	5.7	31.1	18.3	17.3	20.6	6.2	31.2	19.4	17.3
Women	8.9	3.1	19.5	8.0	5.3	9.7	3.7	19.6	8.8	6.3
Nationals	8.4	3.0	19.0	7.5	5.0	9.0	3.4	18.8	8.2	5.9
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	11.9	4.2	23.1	10.9	7.7	13.4	4.9	26.9	12.2	8.8
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	17.8	6.2	30.8	16.3	15.9	18.5	6.8	30.2	17.1	16.6

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_urgan](#), [lfsq_upgal](#))**Table 14. Unemployment and unemployment rates, by country and sex**

15-74 years	Unemployment (1000)			Unemployment rates (%)								
				2009Q3				2008Q3				
	Total	Confidence limits	Long-term	Men and women		Men	Women	Men and women		Men	Women	
				Total	Long-term			Total	Long-term			
EU-27	21,411	± 235	7,168	8.9	± 0.1	3.0	9.0	8.9	6.8	2.4	6.3	7.4
EA-16	14,611	± 184	5,269	9.4	± 0.1	3.4	9.1	9.7	7.3	2.8	6.6	8.1
Belgium	394	± 29	176	8.2	± 0.6	3.6	7.8	8.8	7.7	3.4	7.2	8.4
Bulgaria	234	± 20	98	6.7	± 0.6	2.8	6.8	6.5	5.1	2.7	5.0	5.3
Czech Republic	387	± 20	109	7.3	± 0.4	2.0	6.4	8.5	4.3	2.1	3.3	5.6
Denmark	180	± 14	15	6.1	± 0.5	0.5	6.6	5.4	3.4	0.3	2.9	4.0
Germany	3,266	± 92	1,472	7.8	± 0.2	3.5	8.1	7.4	7.1	3.7	6.8	7.5
Estonia	102	± 13	29	14.6	± 1.8	4.1	17.0	12.2	6.2	1.8	6.8	5.6
Ireland	276	± 13	78	12.6	± 0.6	3.5	15.6	8.9	6.8	1.7	7.6	5.6
Greece	465	± 23	191	9.3	± 0.4	3.8	6.6	13.1	7.2	3.6	4.7	10.8
Spain	4,123	± 95	1,016	17.9	± 0.4	4.4	17.8	18.2	11.3	2.0	10.3	12.7
France	2,546	± 95	920	9.0	± 0.3	3.2	8.6	9.4	7.3	2.6	6.7	7.8
Italy	1,814	± 63	815	7.3	± 0.2	3.3	6.5	8.6	6.1	2.8	4.9	7.9
Cyprus	22	± 3	2	5.5	± 0.7	0.4	5.4	5.6	3.6	0.5	3.1	4.3
Latvia	215	± 19	57	18.4	± 1.4	4.9	21.2	15.5	7.2	1.9	7.4	6.9
Lithuania	228	± 20	53	13.8	± 1.1	3.2	17.4	10.3	6.0	1.3	6.0	5.9
Luxembourg	10	± 2	(2)	4.4	± 0.8	(0.9)	3.7	5.3	5.5	(1.1)	5.1	6.2
Hungary	436	± 20	178	10.3	± 0.5	4.2	10.5	10.1	7.7	3.7	7.4	8.0
Malta	12	± 2	5	6.9	± 0.9	3.1	6.7	7.2	5.7	2.2	5.7	5.9
Netherlands	306	± 14	73	3.5	± 0.2	0.8	3.4	3.5	2.5	0.8	2.3	2.7
Austria	222	± 16	43	5.1	± 0.4	1.0	5.2	5.1	3.7	0.9	3.4	4.1
Poland	1,404	± 88	456	8.1	± 0.5	2.6	7.6	8.6	6.6	2.2	5.7	7.8
Portugal	548	± 33	241	10.0	± 0.6	4.3	9.3	10.8	7.8	3.6	6.6	9.2
Romania	699	± 69	226	6.8	± 0.7	2.2	7.6	5.9	5.4	2.2	6.1	4.5
Slovenia	65	± 7	18	6.2	± 0.7	1.7	6.3	6.1	4.1	1.6	3.9	4.3
Slovakia	339	± 18	178	12.5	± 1.0	6.6	11.9	13.3	8.9	5.8	7.7	10.4
Finland	202	± 8	40	7.5	± 0.3	1.5	7.7	7.4	5.6	1.1	5.0	6.2
Sweden	399	± 12	56	8.1	± 0.2	1.1	8.4	7.7	5.7	0.8	5.3	6.1
United Kingdom	2,515	± 80	623	8.0	± 0.3	2.0	9.1	6.7	6.1	1.4	6.5	5.5
Croatia	153	± 18	88	8.7	± 0.9	5.0	8.3	9.2	7.0	4.4	5.9	8.3
Turkey	3,050	± 77	761	12.2	± 0.4	3.0	11.9	13.0	8.7	2.1	8.5	9.3
Iceland	11	± 1	:	6.0	± 0.8	:	6.5	5.4	2.5	:	2.5	2.5
Norway	82	± 8	11	3.2	± 0.3	0.4	3.5	2.8	2.5	0.3	2.6	2.4
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	3.4	1.1	2.8	4.0

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_urgan](#), [lfsq_upgal](#))

Table 15. Inactives willing to work as a share of total population, 2009Q3, %, by age group, sex and nationality

	EU-27				EA-16			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Men and women	5.0	7.8	4.6	3.8	4.9	7.5	4.7	3.4
Nationals	4.9	7.6	4.4	3.8	4.7	7.3	4.4	3.4
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	5.4	7.4	5.1	4.8	5.6	7.5	5.4	4.3
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	7.9	11.2	7.5	5.5	7.9	11.0	7.5	5.4
Men	3.9	7.3	3.0	3.7	3.8	7.1	3.0	3.2
Nationals	3.8	7.2	2.8	3.7	3.6	7.0	2.8	3.1
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	3.7	5.8	3.1	5.0	3.8	5.7	3.4	4.1
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	6.2	9.8	5.3	6.4	6.2	9.7	5.4	6.6
Women	6.2	8.3	6.2	3.9	6.1	7.9	6.3	3.7
Nationals	6.0	8.1	6.0	3.9	5.8	7.6	6.0	3.6
Non nationals citizens of other EU-27 countries	6.9	8.8	7.0	4.6	7.2	9.2	7.3	4.5
Citizens of countries outside the EU-27	9.7	12.6	9.7	4.7	9.6	12.4	9.7	4.3

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_igaww](#))

Table 16. Inactives willing to work, by country and sex

15-64 years	Inactives willing to work (1000)	Share on total population 15-64 (%)					
		2009Q3			2008Q3		
		Men and women	Men	Women	Men and women	Men	Women
EU-27	16,628	5.0	3.9	6.2	5.0	3.7	6.2
EA-16	10,604	4.9	3.8	6.1	4.9	3.5	6.4
Belgium	206	2.9	2.4	3.4	2.3	2.0	2.7
Bulgaria	259	5.1	5.0	5.1	4.2	4.1	4.4
Czech Republic	185	2.5	1.9	3.1	2.7	2.1	3.2
Denmark	136	3.8	3.1	4.5	3.3	2.6	4.0
Germany	2,259	4.2	3.4	5.1	4.3	3.4	5.3
Estonia	54	6.0	5.4	6.5	3.8	3.1	4.3
Ireland	106	3.5	3.6	3.4	2.9	2.7	3.2
Greece	117	1.6	0.8	2.5	1.4	0.7	2.1
Spain	1,761	5.6	3.9	7.4	4.8	2.8	6.9
France	1,037	2.6	2.2	3.0	2.5	1.9	3.0
Italy	3,838	9.7	7.0	12.4	10.8	7.3	14.3
Cyprus	13	2.4	1.7	3.1	2.2	1.5	2.9
Latvia	130	8.4	6.4	10.2	7.2	5.0	9.4
Lithuania	101	4.4	5.2	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Luxembourg	18	5.5	3.4	7.7	1.3	(0.8)	(1.7)
Hungary	334	4.9	4.5	5.4	4.7	4.1	5.2
Malta	16	5.6	3.8	7.4	5.1	3.0	7.2
Netherlands	442	4.0	3.4	4.7	3.9	3.1	4.7
Austria	369	6.6	5.4	7.8	6.9	5.6	8.2
Poland	1,722	6.5	4.9	8.1	6.7	5.2	8.0
Portugal	118	1.6	1.4	1.9	1.5	1.1	1.9
Romania	516	3.4	1.6	5.3	3.2	1.7	4.8
Slovenia	73	5.2	4.5	5.9	3.8	3.3	4.4
Slovakia	88	2.3	1.7	2.8	2.1	1.6	2.5
Finland	144	4.1	4.0	4.1	3.6	3.4	3.8
Sweden	214	3.5	3.2	3.9	2.8	2.5	3.2
United Kingdom	2,373	5.9	4.9	6.8	5.6	4.7	6.6
Croatia	100	3.7	3.1	4.2	3.5	(2.4)	4.6
Turkey	2,076	4.4	3.6	5.2	3.7	3.0	4.5
Iceland	4	2.1	1.7	2.5	1.6	1.1	2.2
Norway	134	4.2	4.1	4.4	3.8	3.5	4.1
Switzerland	:	:	:	:	8.3	5.9	10.7

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS ([lfsq_igaww](#))

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Sources: All statistics presented in this publication are derived from the European Union Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS), except the seasonally adjusted employment series in Chart 1, whose source is national accounts (NA). The EU-LFS is a quarterly, large sample survey providing results for the population in private households in the EU, EFTA, and the Candidate Countries (except Liechtenstein and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). The sampling rates vary between 0.14 % and 1.68 %. The figures in this publication are not seasonally adjusted, except for Chart 1.

Symbols: Figures in brackets lack reliability due to small sample size; ':' colons are used for unavailable or extremely unreliable data. Quarter 3 of the year 2009 is written as 2009Q3. European Union (27 countries) is written as EU-27, Euro Area (16 countries) as EA-16.

Rounding: Although data in percentages are presented rounded to the first decimal, calculations of changes over time take into account all available decimal digits. For this reason, estimates of changes may differ slightly from the variations that can be obtained by using the figures as presented in the tables.

Definitions: The concepts and definitions used in the survey follow the guidelines of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

- **Employment (LFS concept)** covers persons aged 15 years and over (16 and over in Italy, Spain and UK; 15-74 years in Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Hungary, Romania, Finland, Sweden and Norway; 16-74 in Iceland) who during the reference week performed work, even for just one hour a week, for pay, profit or family gain or were not at work but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent for example because of illness, holidays, industrial dispute or education and training.
- **Unemployment** covers persons aged 15-74 (16-74 in Italy, Spain, UK and Iceland) who were without work during the reference week, were currently available for work and had either been actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months.
- **Long-term unemployment** covers persons unemployed for one year or more.
- **Inactives willing to work** are persons who are neither employed nor unemployed but are seeking employment or, if not seeking, would nevertheless like to work.
- **Activity rates** show the active population, i.e. the sum of the employed and the unemployed, as a percentage of the population of the same age.
- **Employment rates** show the employed persons as a percentage of the population of the same age.
- **Unemployment rates** show the unemployed persons as a percentage of the active population of the same age.

In calculating the shares of part-time employment (Tables 6 and 7), employees with temporary contracts (Tables 8 and 9), and persons whose job started within the last three months (Tables 12 and 13), non-responses to the relevant variables are excluded. The job characteristics in Tables 6 to 13 refer to the main job, unless explicitly specified otherwise.

Main conceptual differences between national accounts (NA) and EU-LFS employment: EU-LFS employment figures refer to the resident population aged 15 years or more living in private households. It excludes conscripts in military or community service. NA employment figures refer to domestic employment, with no limit as to age or type of household, also including the non-resident population contributing to GDP and conscripts in military or community service. Further details can be found at http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/national_accounts/documents/employment/LFS-ESA.PDF

Reference periods: In Ireland, the data for 2008Q3 refer to the seasonal quarter March to May.

Coverage: The data for France exclude overseas regions.

Aggregates: When data are unavailable for a country, the relevant aggregates are calculated from the data for the same country one year before.

Confidence limits: All confidence limits are calculated at a confidence level of 95 %. The country limits are derived from coefficients of variation calculated by the National Statistical Institutes. When a coefficient is not available, the coefficient for the last quarter available is taken. For calculating limits of aggregates, it is assumed that the EU-LFS is a stratified sample with the country as the first stratum.

Economic activity: In Tables 6, 8, 10, 12 breakdowns are based on the industry of the main job. The aggregation to six sectors is based on the new Rev.2 of the NACE classification, except for Turkey for 2008Q3, for which version 1.1 of NACE is used.

Seasonal adjustment: EU-27 seasonal adjustment for NA employment is done indirectly, i.e. seasonally adjusted series are calculated from seasonally adjusted Member State data. These are produced directly by Member States by different methods of seasonal adjustment, following either the X11 or the TRAMO/SEATS methods (more information at http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/EN/nam_q_esms.htm). EU-27 seasonal adjustment for unemployment figures is also done indirectly. Seasonal adjustment for most Member States is carried out by Eurostat using TRAMO/SEATS. Data for Germany, Italy, Finland and Sweden are seasonally adjusted by the National Statistical Institutes of the countries concerned.

Further information

Eurostat Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

Data on "Employment and unemployment (Labour force survey (LFS))"

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/employment_unemployment_lfs/data/database

More information about "Employment and unemployment (Labour force survey (LFS))"

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/employment_unemployment_lfs/introduction

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