

82/2013 - 31 May 2013

April 2013

Euro area unemployment rate at 12.2%

EU27 at 11.0%

The **euro area**¹ (EA17) seasonally-adjusted² unemployment rate³ was 12.2% in April 2013, up from 12.1% in March⁴. The **EU27**¹ unemployment rate was 11.0%, unchanged compared with the previous month⁴. In both zones, rates have risen markedly compared with April 2012, when they were 11.2% and 10.3% respectively. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

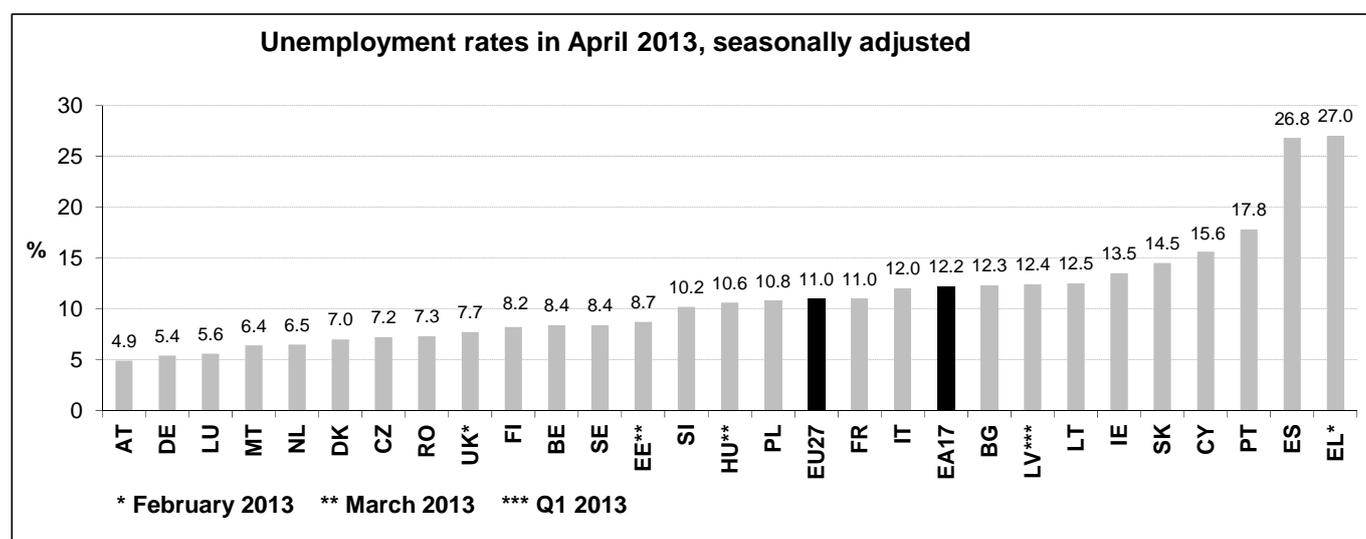
Eurostat estimates that 26.588 million men and women in the **EU27**, of whom 19.375 million were in the **euro area**, were unemployed in April 2013. Compared with March 2013, the number of persons unemployed increased by 104 000 in the **EU27** and by 95 000 in the **euro area**. Compared with April 2012, unemployment rose by 1.673 million in the **EU27** and by 1.644 million in the **euro area**.

Member States

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates were recorded in **Austria** (4.9%), **Germany** (5.4%) and **Luxembourg** (5.6%), and the highest in **Greece** (27.0% in February 2013), **Spain** (26.8%) and **Portugal** (17.8%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate increased in eighteen Member States and fell in nine. The highest increases were registered in **Greece** (21.9% to 27.0% between February 2012 and February 2013), **Cyprus** (11.2% to 15.6%), **Spain** (24.4% to 26.8%) and **Portugal** (15.4% to 17.8%). The largest decreases were observed in **Latvia** (15.5% to 12.4% between the first quarters of 2012 and 2013), **Estonia** (10.6% to 8.7% between March 2012 and March 2013) and **Ireland** (14.9% to 13.5%).

In April 2013, the unemployment rate in the **United States** was 7.5%, down from 7.6% in the previous month and from 8.1% in April 2012.



Youth unemployment

In April 2013, 5.627 million young persons (under 25) were unemployed in the **EU27**, of whom 3.624 million were in the **euro area**. Compared with April 2012, youth unemployment rose by 100 000 in the **EU27** and by 188 000 in the **euro area**. In April 2013, the youth unemployment rate was 23.5% in the **EU27** and 24.4% in the **euro area**, compared with 22.6% in both zones in April 2012. In April 2013, the lowest rates were observed in **Germany** (7.5%), **Austria** (8.0%) and the **Netherlands** (10.6%), and the highest in **Greece** (62.5% in February 2013), **Spain** (56.4%), **Portugal** (42.5%) and **Italy** (40.5%).

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. For further details please refer to the *Unemployment statistics* article in Statistics Explained:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Unemployment_statistics
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.
4. The data in this News Release are normally subject to small revisions, caused by the updates to the seasonally adjusted series whenever new monthly data are added. Larger revisions can occur when the most recent LFS data are included in the calculation process. Compared with the rates published in News Release 70/2013 of 30 April 2013, the March 2013 unemployment rate for the EA17 remains unchanged at 12.1%. The rate for the EU27 has been revised from 10.9% to 11.0%. Among Member States, the rate has been revised by between 0.2 and 0.4 percentage points for Bulgaria, Denmark, Ireland, Italy, Cyprus, Austria and Portugal. The rate has been revised by 0.5 percentage points for Greece (for January 2013) and Romania, and by 0.8 percentage points for Lithuania.
5. Latvia: quarterly data for all series.
Cyprus, Romania, Slovenia and Croatia: quarterly data for youth unemployment.
6. For Germany, Austria, Finland and Iceland the trend component is used instead of the more volatile seasonally adjusted data.

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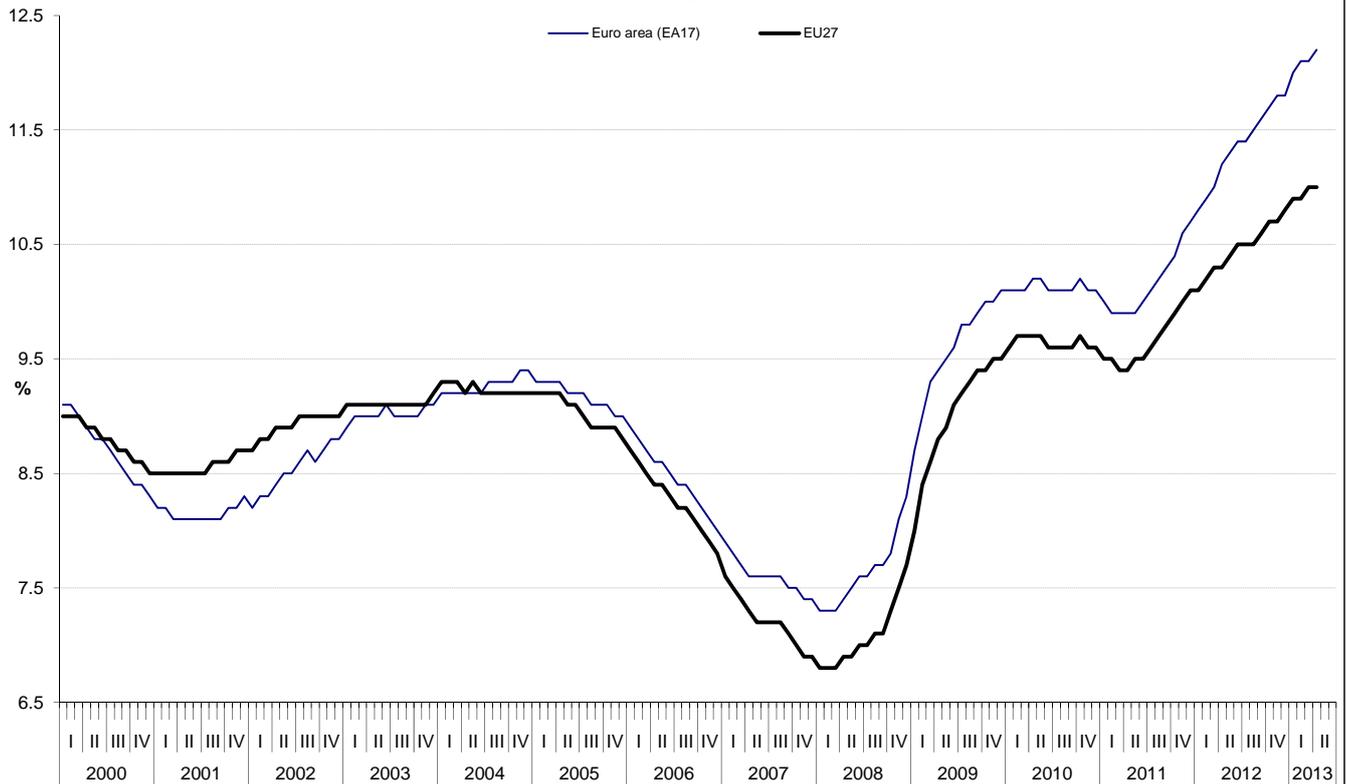
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Selected Principal European Economic Indicators: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/euroindicators>

Euro area and EU27 unemployment rates
Seasonally adjusted series



Seasonally adjusted unemployment
Totals

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Apr 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 13	Apr 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 13
EA17	11.2	12.0	12.1	12.1	12.2	17 731	19 129	19 215	19 280	19 375
EU27	10.3	10.9	10.9	11.0	11.0	24 915	26 366	26 435	26 484	26 588
BE	7.5	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.4	368	399	400	404	411
BG	12.2	12.5	12.4	12.4	12.3	407	418	417	415	412
CZ	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.2	363	377	382	384	380
DK	7.8	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.0	229	211	208	200	201
DE^b	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	2 323	2 293	2 294	2 291	2 286
EE	10.6**	9.8	9.3	8.7	:	74**	68	65	60	:
IE	14.9	13.8	13.7	13.7	13.5	319	295	292	291	287
EL	21.9*	26.7	27.0	:	:	1 075*	1 309	1 320	:	:
ES	24.4	26.4	26.6	26.7	26.8	5 638	6 034	6 064	6 078	6 102
FR	10.1	10.7	10.8	11.0	11.0	2 949	3 180	3 212	3 250	3 276
IT	10.6	11.9	11.9	11.9	12.0	2 710	3 069	3 061	3 061	3 083
CY	11.2	13.8	14.1	14.5	15.6	49	61	63	65	71
LV^b	15.5***	12.4	12.4	12.4	:	160***	129	129	129	:
LT	13.4	12.6	12.5	12.3	12.5	197	187	185	183	185
LU	5.0	5.4	5.5	5.6	5.6	12	14	14	14	14
HU	11.1**	11.1	11.1	10.6	:	481**	485	485	463	:
MT	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.4	12	13	12	12	12
NL	5.2	6.0	6.2	6.4	6.5	464	535	550	573	580
AT^b	4.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.9	179	216	220	213	214
PL	10.0	10.6	10.6	10.7	10.8	1 726	1 831	1 842	1 849	1 862
PT	15.4	17.6	17.7	17.7	17.8	837	938	937	937	945
RO	7.2	7.0	7.1	7.2	7.3	711	696	704	705	712
SI	8.2	9.6	9.7	10.0	10.2	82	98	99	102	103
SK	13.7	14.5	14.6	14.5	14.5	373	392	393	390	389
FI^b	7.6	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.2	205	216	218	219	220
SE	7.6	8.0	8.2	8.4	8.4	382	406	417	429	428
UK	8.2*	7.8	7.7	:	:	2 579*	2 491	2 452	:	:
IS^b	6.2	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	11	10	10	10	10
NO	3.1**	3.6	3.6	3.7	:	82**	98	96	100	:
HR	14.9	18.3	18.3	18.2	18.1	254	307	307	305	305
US	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	12 506	12 381	12 012	11 672	11 629

Source: Eurostat

: Data not available

* February 2012

** March 2012

*** Q1 2012

Seasonally adjusted youth (under 25s) unemployment

	Rates (%)					Number of persons (in thousands)				
	Apr 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 13	Apr 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 13
EA17	22.6	24.1	24.2	24.3	24.4	3 436	3 621	3 626	3 613	3 624
EU27	22.6	23.5	23.4	23.4	23.5	5 527	5 659	5 641	5 618	5 627
BE	20.0	21.9	22.2	22.4	22.4	85	92	93	93	93
BG	28.9	28.8	29.0	29.1	28.9	71	71	71	70	68
CZ	19.6	18.9	19.4	19.8	20.0	74	70	71	73	74
DK	15.0	13.4	12.8	12.3	12.2	68	60	58	54	54
DE ^b	8.1	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	370	348	343	340	339
EE	21.7	20.8	21.3	19.4	:	16	14	15	13	:
IE	31.3	29.0	28.7	27.6	26.6	71	62	61	57	54
EL	53.1	59.1	62.5	:	:	165	185	186	:	:
ES	52.0	55.7	55.9	56.0	56.4	940	967	968	962	964
FR	23.2	26.0	26.2	26.5	26.5	664	755	764	771	769
IT	34.6	38.9	38.6	40.3	40.5	608	658	656	651	655
CY ^b	26.4	32.7	32.7	32.7	:	11	14	14	14	:
LV ^b	29.3	21.9	21.9	21.9	:	30	22	22	22	:
LT	27.0	21.4	21.1	21.1	21.2	32	27	27	27	27
LU	18.2	17.9	18.3	18.7	18.2	3	3	3	3	3
HU	27.6	28.9	29.6	27.4	:	81	89	91	84	:
MT	14.3	14.5	14.6	14.7	14.7	4	4	4	4	4
NL	9.5	10.3	10.4	10.5	10.6	135	147	148	150	152
AT ^b	9.0	9.5	8.8	7.9	8.0	53	55	52	47	47
PL	26.0	27.7	27.6	27.5	27.6	417	425	419	414	417
PT	36.7	40.2	40.8	41.2	42.5	158	160	161	163	172
RO ^b	23.1	22.2*	:	:	:	194	181*	:	:	:
SI ^b	19.0	24.4	24.4	24.4	:	14	17	17	17	:
SK	34.8	34.5	34.5	34.1	33.6	79	75	74	73	71
FI ^b	18.8	19.8	19.9	19.9	19.9	62	66	66	67	67
SE	21.9	23.6	24.6	25.1	24.7	140	156	160	168	167
UK	21.4	20.6	20.2	:	:	982	935	914	:	:
IS ^b	13.3	11.6	11.6	11.8	12.0	4	4	4	4	4
NO	8.2	9.7	9.6	9.4	:	32	38	38	37	:
HR ^b	39.2	51.8	51.8	51.8	:	58	81	81	81	:

Source: Eurostat : Data not available * Q4 2012

Seasonally adjusted unemployment rates (%), by gender

	Males					Females				
	Apr 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 13	Apr 12	Jan 13	Feb 13	Mar 13	Apr 13
EA17	11.0	11.9	12.0	12.0	12.0	11.3	12.2	12.2	12.3	12.3
EU27	10.3	10.8	10.9	10.9	11.0	10.4	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0
BE	7.3	8.7	8.8	8.9	9.0	7.8	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.6
BG	13.6	13.4	13.4	13.4	13.4	10.7	11.4	11.3	11.2	11.0
CZ	6.0	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.2	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.4
DK	7.8	7.1	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.9	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.1
DE ^b	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0
EE	11.1	10.9	9.7	8.6	:	8.9	8.8	8.9	8.8	:
IE	18.0	16.2	15.9	15.7	15.6	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.2	11.0
EL	20.4	23.7	24.1	:	:	26.7	30.6	31.0	:	:
ES	24.2	26.0	26.1	26.2	26.3	24.7	26.9	27.1	27.2	27.5
FR	9.8	10.6	10.7	10.9	10.9	10.3	10.9	11.0	11.1	11.1
IT	9.8	11.1	11.1	11.0	11.2	11.6	13.1	13.0	13.1	13.2
CY	12.1	13.9	14.1	14.4	15.8	10.2	13.7	14.2	14.6	15.2
LV ^b	16.5	13.6	13.6	13.6	:	14.2	11.2	11.2	11.2	:
LT	15.1	14.5	14.4	14.2	14.4	11.7	10.7	10.5	10.5	10.6
LU	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.8	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.6
HU	11.3	11.4	11.5	10.8	:	10.8	10.8	10.6	10.4	:
MT	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.9	7.1	6.9	6.9	6.8
NL	5.3	6.4	6.6	6.8	6.9	5.2	5.6	5.7	6.0	6.0
AT ^b	4.1	5.2	5.2	4.9	4.8	4.2	4.7	4.8	4.8	5.0
PL	9.2	9.8	9.9	10.0	10.1	10.9	11.5	11.5	11.6	11.6
PT	15.3	17.8	17.9	18.0	18.1	15.5	17.5	17.4	17.3	17.6
RO	7.8	7.4	7.6	7.6	7.8	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7
SI	7.8	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4	8.7	9.8	10.2	10.6	11.1
SK	13.4	14.3	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.2	14.8	14.7	14.6	14.6
FI ^b	8.3	8.6	8.7	8.8	8.8	6.9	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4
SE	7.7	8.3	8.5	8.5	8.8	7.5	7.7	7.9	8.3	7.9
UK	8.4	8.2	8.1	:	:	7.4	7.3	7.2	:	:
IS ^b	6.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.4
NO	3.5	3.8	3.7	3.9	:	2.5	3.4	3.3	3.5	:
HR	15.2	18.3	18.4	18.4	18.4	14.6	18.3	18.3	18.0	17.9

Source: Eurostat : Data not available