

## Labour Force Survey

## Foreign citizens accounted for 7% of total employment in the EU27 in 2012

### Highest employment rate for citizens of another EU Member State

In 2012, 15.2 million foreign citizens worked in the **EU27**, accounting for 7% of total employment. Among these foreign citizens, 6.6 million were citizens of another EU Member State and 8.6 million were citizens of a country outside the EU. In the **EU27**, the employment rate<sup>1</sup> for citizens of another EU Member State (67.7%) was slightly higher than for nationals (64.6%) and significantly higher than for citizens of a country outside the EU (53.7%).

As regards unemployment, the unemployment rate<sup>1</sup> for citizens of another EU Member State (12.5%) was higher than for nationals (9.8%), but significantly lower than for citizens of a country outside the EU (21.3%).

This information comes from a publication<sup>2</sup> issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, based on the 2012 results of the European Labour Force Survey<sup>3</sup>. This survey contains data on employment and unemployment, as well as on a large range of other indicators related to the labour market, of which a small selection is shown in this News Release.

#### Lower unemployment rate for nationals than for foreign citizens

The employment rate for citizens of another EU Member State ranged from 53.2% in **Malta** to 80.2% in **Slovenia**, while for nationals it varied from 51.5% in **Greece** to 75.8% in the **Netherlands**, and for citizens of a country outside the EU from 36.2% in **Belgium** to 73.4% in **Cyprus**.

The unemployment rate for citizens of another EU Member State ranged from 5.5% in the **Netherlands** to 30.6% in **Spain**, while for nationals it varied from 3.3% in **Luxembourg** to 23.4% in **Greece**, and for citizens of a country outside the EU from 5.1% in the **Czech Republic** to 38.6% in **Spain**.

## Employment rates and unemployment rates by citizenship, 2012

	Employment rates (age15-64)			Unemployment rates (age15-74)		
	Nationals	Citizens of another EU Member State	Citizens of a country outside the EU	Nationals	Citizens of another EU Member State	Citizens of a country outside the EU
<b>EU27</b>	<b>64.6</b>	<b>67.7</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>21.3</b>
<b>EA17*</b>	<b>64.5</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>22.7</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	63.0	62.1	36.2	6.5	11.1	30.7
<b>Bulgaria</b>	58.8	:	:	12.3	:	:
<b>Czech Republic</b>	66.4	74.0	73.0	7.0	(6.4)	(5.1)
<b>Denmark</b>	73.7	71.7	52.6	6.9	12.6	18.7
<b>Germany</b>	74.2	72.1	55.6	4.9	7.1	12.9
<b>Estonia</b>	67.9	(59.4)	63.0	8.6	:	18.4
<b>Ireland</b>	58.7	63.1	50.9	14.2	17.5	17.6
<b>Greece</b>	51.5	54.3	48.3	23.4	24.2	35.2
<b>Spain</b>	56.2	54.1	48.6	23.1	30.6	38.6
<b>France**</b>	64.7	65.0	46.2	9.3	10.3	24.8
<b>Italy</b>	56.4	65.3	58.5	10.3	13.3	14.5
<b>Cyprus</b>	63.3	67.0	73.4	11.4	16.3	8.1
<b>Latvia</b>	64.0	(76.6)	57.8	13.6	:	22.5
<b>Lithuania</b>	62.2	:	(62.4)	13.2	:	:
<b>Luxembourg</b>	62.6	70.8	57.0	3.3	6.1	15.1
<b>Hungary</b>	57.2	61.2	59.3	10.9	:	:
<b>Malta</b>	59.1	53.2	58.7	6.3	:	:
<b>Netherlands</b>	75.8	76.1	51.9	5.0	5.5	14.9
<b>Austria</b>	73.7	72.1	59.8	3.7	6.4	10.7
<b>Poland</b>	59.7	(75.8)	61.4	10.1	:	:
<b>Portugal</b>	61.9	64.6	57.4	15.6	16.6	28.9
<b>Romania</b>	59.5	:	:	7.0	:	:
<b>Slovenia</b>	64.1	(80.2)	61.2	8.7	:	(15.7)
<b>Slovakia</b>	59.7	70.1	:	14.0	:	:
<b>Finland</b>	69.7	73.7	49.0	7.5	(9.8)	21.8
<b>Sweden</b>	75.1	72.2	44.2	7.2	9.4	30.5
<b>United Kingdom</b>	70.4	75.9	59.0	7.8	7.4	11.2
<b>Iceland</b>	79.6	81.2	78.3	5.7	10.3	:
<b>Norway</b>	75.9	83.9	59.6	2.8	4.3	11.7
<b>Switzerland</b>	80.6	82.0	65.6	3.2	5.1	12.2
<b>Croatia</b>	50.7	:	(28.3)	15.9	:	:

\* Euro area (EA17): Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

\*\* Excluding overseas departments

: Data missing or not published due to small sample size.

The reliability of data shown in brackets may be affected by small sample sizes.

### Largest proportion of self-employed in Greece, Italy and Portugal

In the **EU27** in 2012, 32.8 million persons were self-employed, accounting for 15% of total employment. Among Member States the proportion of those self-employed was highest in **Greece** (31.9%), **Italy** (23.4%), **Portugal** (21.1%) and **Romania** (20.1%), and lowest in **Estonia** (8.3%), **Luxembourg** (8.4%), **Denmark** (8.9%) and **Lithuania** (9.7%). In some of the Member States with the highest shares of self-employment, e.g. **Greece**, **Portugal**, **Romania** or **Poland**, self-employment in agriculture has a significant effect.

Just over a quarter (28%) of self-employed persons in the **EU27** had employees in 2012, with the largest proportions registered in **Hungary** (46.5%), **Estonia** (43.6%), **Germany** (42.9%) and **Austria** (41.7%).

In the **EU27**, a higher proportion of men (19%) were self-employed than women (10%). This was the case in all Member States, with the largest relative differences observed in **Ireland** (23.6% for men and 6.7% for women), **Malta** (17.1% and 6.5%), **Sweden** (14.3% and 5.7%) and **Estonia** (11.9% and 4.8%).

## Self-employment, 2012

	Self-employed as a share of total employment						Share of self-employed:	
	Total	By age			By sex			
		25-49 years	50-64 years	65 years and over	Males	Females	with employees	without employees
<b>EU27</b>	<b>15.2</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>49.0</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>71.7</b>
<b>EA17*</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>67.1</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	13.5	12.7	16.3	61.6	17.2	9.1	30.3	69.7
<b>Bulgaria</b>	10.8	9.9	13.4	29.7	13.5	7.7	33.1	66.9
<b>Czech Republic</b>	17.8	17.0	20.6	36.4	21.9	12.4	19.0	81.0
<b>Denmark</b>	8.9	8.6	11.3	31.7	12.2	5.2	39.9	60.1
<b>Germany</b>	11.0	10.4	13.6	38.9	14.0	7.6	42.9	57.1
<b>Estonia</b>	8.3	8.8	8.4	(10.7)	11.9	4.8	43.6	56.4
<b>Ireland</b>	15.7	12.7	24.6	60.9	23.6	6.7	30.0	70.0
<b>Greece</b>	31.9	27.4	45.2	65.1	37.5	23.7	22.4	77.6
<b>Spain</b>	16.8	14.6	23.8	51.0	20.8	12.1	31.4	68.6
<b>France**</b>	11.0	10.2	14.6	41.1	14.6	7.0	39.6	60.4
<b>Italy</b>	23.4	21.8	25.9	74.5	28.4	16.3	28.1	71.9
<b>Cyprus</b>	14.8	11.3	23.7	56.5	20.5	8.7	27.7	72.3
<b>Latvia</b>	10.5	10.4	12.1	18.2	12.8	8.3	37.2	62.8
<b>Lithuania</b>	9.7	9.4	11.2	(16.5)	12.2	7.4	22.6	77.4
<b>Luxembourg</b>	8.4	7.3	11.9	46.3	9.2	7.4	37.7	62.3
<b>Hungary</b>	11.3	9.7	16.0	47.6	13.9	8.2	46.5	53.5
<b>Malta</b>	13.3	12.0	20.2	41.6	17.1	6.5	32.6	67.4
<b>Netherlands</b>	14.8	14.5	18.8	53.0	18.2	10.9	25.9	74.1
<b>Austria</b>	11.3	10.7	17.0	30.0	13.7	8.6	41.7	58.3
<b>Poland</b>	18.9	17.4	24.9	44.9	22.6	14.2	22.1	77.9
<b>Portugal</b>	21.1	13.2	28.9	86.1	25.0	16.7	23.9	76.1
<b>Romania</b>	20.1	15.9	27.0	67.4	25.9	13.1	6.0	94.0
<b>Slovenia</b>	12.2	10.3	18.1	44.2	16.1	7.6	28.0	72.0
<b>Slovakia</b>	15.4	15.5	16.0	25.9	19.8	9.8	19.7	80.3
<b>Finland</b>	13.1	11.9	16.4	48.4	17.4	8.5	30.8	69.2
<b>Sweden</b>	10.2	8.8	12.6	41.1	14.3	5.7	36.9	63.1
<b>United Kingdom</b>	14.2	13.0	18.7	36.8	18.6	9.2	17.7	82.3
<b>Iceland</b>	12.1	11.5	17.6	22.6	15.6	8.4	33.7	66.3
<b>Norway</b>	6.8	6.1	9.1	20.6	9.3	3.9	26.3	73.7
<b>Switzerland</b>	13.2	11.2	19.4	45.8	15.6	10.4	46.9	53.1
<b>Croatia</b>	18.4	14.0	21.7	74.0	21.3	15.0	25.3	74.7
<b>Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia</b>	18.3	17.3	22.7	55.0	24.0	9.6	26.1	73.9
<b>Turkey</b>	23.9	21.4	46.5	70.1	28.8	12.1	20.9	79.1

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\*\* Excluding overseas departments

The reliability of data shown in brackets may be affected by small sample sizes.

1. The **employment rate** represents employed persons as a percentage of the same age population. 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.  
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.
2. **Eurostat**, Statistics in focus, 14/2013, "**European Union Labour force survey - Annual results 2012**". Available in Statistics Explained on the Eurostat website:  
[http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\\_explained/index.php/Labour\\_market\\_and\\_labour\\_force\\_statistics](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Labour_market_and_labour_force_statistics).
3. The Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a large sample survey among private households. It should be noted that LFS data refer to the resident population and therefore LFS results relate to the country of residence of persons in employment, rather than to the country of work. This difference may be significant in countries with large cross-border flows.

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