

OECD unemployment rate rises slightly to 8.3% in October

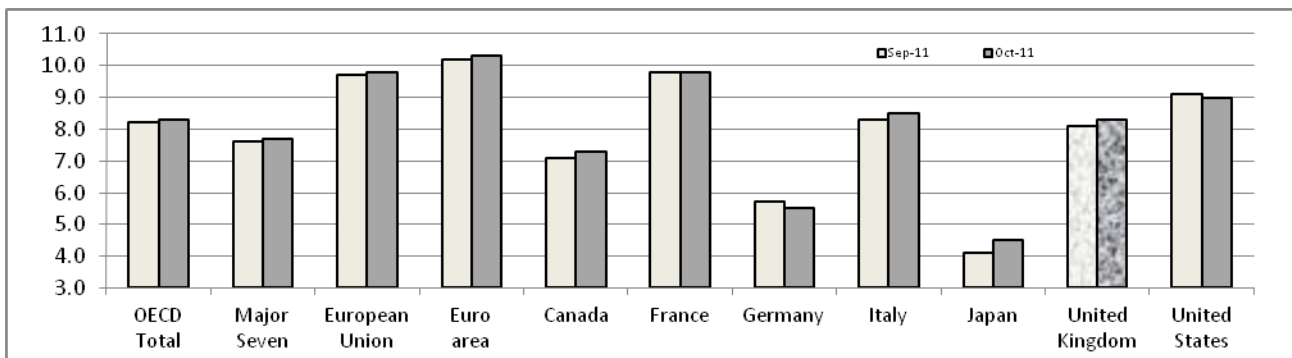
The **OECD area** unemployment rate rose slightly, to 8.3% in October 2011, compared to 8.2% in September. The rate has hovered around this level since January 2011.

The **Euro area** unemployment rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 10.3% in October 2011, the highest rate recorded since the global financial crisis. The **Netherlands** (at 4.8%) and **Spain** (at 22.8%) both registered strong increases (0.3 percentage point). **Spain's** rate now stands 14.9 percentage points higher than its previous low of 7.9% in July 2007. By contrast, in **Germany** the unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point to 5.5%, continuing a sustained decline seen since the 8.0% peak in mid-2009.

New unemployment rate data for November 2011 show a decline in the **United States** (down by 0.4 percentage point to 8.6%) and a small increase for the second consecutive month in **Canada** (up by 0.1 percentage point to 7.4%).

Around 45.1 million people were unemployed across the OECD area in October 2011, down 1.5 million from October 2010 but still 14.1 million higher than in October 2007.

Selected Unemployment Rates, s.a.
September 2011 – October 2011 ⁽¹⁾



(1) United Kingdom: July 2011— September 2011.

Methodological Notes:

For methodological reasons, harmonised unemployment rates may differ from those published by national statistical institutes. All rates and levels quoted are seasonally adjusted (s.a.).

More methodological notes are available at <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/21/0/44743407.pdf>.

Access data:

The latest unemployment rates for **all OECD countries and geographic groupings**, as well as historical data, can be downloaded from the OECD online data dissemination facility OECD.Stat Extracts at: <http://stats.oecd.org/wbos/Default.aspx?QueryName=251&QueryType=View&Lang=en>.

Contacts:

For further information readers are invited to contact the OECD's Media Relations Division on

(33) 1 45 24 97 00 or e-mail news.contact@oecd.org

For technical questions contact stat.contact@oecd.org

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**OECD Unemployment Rates, s.a.
Percentage of labour force**

	2008	2009	2010	2010	2011			2011					
					Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	6.1	8.4	8.6	8.5	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.3
Major Seven	5.9	8.1	8.2	8.1	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.7
European Union	7.1	9.0	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.7	9.5	9.6	9.6	9.7	9.7	9.8
Euro area	7.7	9.6	10.1	10.1	10.0	10.0	10.1	10.0	10.0	10.1	10.1	10.2	10.3
Australia	4.2	5.6	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.9	5.2	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.3	5.3	5.2
Austria	3.8	4.8	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.1	3.8	4.2	3.9	3.7	3.7	3.9	4.1
Belgium	7.0	7.9	8.3	7.9	7.1	7.0	6.8	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.6
Canada ⁽¹⁾	6.1	8.3	8.0	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.1	7.3
Chile	7.8	10.8	8.2	7.7	7.4	6.8	7.2	6.8	7.1	7.0	7.2	7.3	
Czech Republic	4.4	6.7	7.3	7.0	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.7
Denmark	3.4	6.1	7.4	7.7	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.6	7.7
Estonia	5.6	13.8	16.8	14.5	13.6	12.7	11.3	12.7	12.7	11.3	11.3	11.3	
Finland	6.4	8.2	8.4	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8
France	7.8	9.5	9.8	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.7	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.8
Germany	7.5	7.8	7.1	6.7	6.3	6.0	5.8	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.5
Greece	7.7	9.5	12.5	14.1	15.1	16.7		16.8	17.1	17.7	18.3		
Hungary	7.8	10.0	11.1	11.0	11.0	10.9	10.3	10.9	10.8	10.6	10.3	9.9	9.8
Iceland	3.0	7.2	7.5	8.5	7.4	6.7	7.2						
Ireland	6.4	11.8	13.7	14.4	14.3	14.3	14.4	14.2	14.4	14.5	14.5	14.3	14.3
Israel ⁽³⁾	6.1	7.5	6.7	6.5	6.0	5.5	5.6						
Italy	6.8	7.8	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.2	8.0	8.2	8.0	8.3	8.5
Japan	4.0	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.3	4.1	4.5
Korea	3.2	3.6	3.7	3.4	3.9	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1
Luxembourg	4.9	5.2	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.7
Mexico	4.0	5.5	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.5	5.3	5.5	5.8	5.2	5.3	5.2	4.8
Netherlands	3.1	3.7	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.8
New Zealand	4.2	6.1	6.5	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.6						
Norway	2.5	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.3		3.3	3.3	3.2	3.2		
Poland	7.2	8.2	9.7	9.6	9.4	9.6	9.7	9.6	9.6	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.9
Portugal	8.5	10.6	12.1	12.3	12.4	12.5	12.7	12.6	12.5	12.6	12.6	12.8	12.9
Slovak Republic	9.5	12.0	14.4	14.0	13.4	13.3	13.4	13.2	13.3	13.3	13.4	13.5	13.6
Slovenia	4.4	5.9	7.3	7.8	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.9
Spain	11.4	18.0	20.1	20.4	20.6	21.0	22.1	21.0	21.3	21.8	22.1	22.5	22.8
Sweden	6.2	8.3	8.4	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.7	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.5
Switzerland	3.2	4.1	4.2	3.9	3.9	3.4							
Turkey	9.7	12.5	10.6	9.9	9.2	9.1		9.2	9.1	9.0	8.7		
United Kingdom	5.6	7.6	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.9		7.9	8.0	8.1	8.3		
United States ⁽²⁾	5.8	9.3	9.6	9.6	8.9	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.2	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.0

Notes:

(1) Canada: Unemployment rate for November 2011 was 7.4%

(2) United States: Unemployment rate for November 2011 was 8.6%

(3) The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

OECD Unemployment Rates, s.a.
Change of rates over the same period of the previous year

	2008	2009	2010	2010				2011					
				Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
OECD - Total	0.4	2.3	0.2	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3
Major Seven	0.4	2.2	0.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.6	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5
European Union	-0.1	1.9	0.7	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2
Euro area	0.1	1.9	0.5	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Australia	-0.2	1.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-0.4	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.2	-0.1
Austria	-0.6	1.0	-0.4	-0.6	-0.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.3	-0.6	-0.8	-0.8	-0.4	-0.1
Belgium	-0.5	0.9	0.4	-0.2	-1.3	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	-1.6	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5
Canada ⁽¹⁾	0.1	2.2	-0.3	-0.7	-0.5	-0.5	-0.8	-0.7	-0.5	-0.8	-0.8	-0.9	-0.5
Chile	0.7	3.0	-2.6	-3.1	-1.7	-1.2	-0.6	-1.2	-0.7	-0.8	-0.6	-0.4	
Czech Republic	-0.9	2.3	0.6	-0.4	-0.9	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-0.2
Denmark	-0.4	2.7	1.3	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0
Estonia	1.0	8.2	3.0	-1.7	-5.1	-5.2	-4.8	-5.2	-5.2	-4.8	-4.8	-4.8	
Finland	-0.5	1.8	0.2	-0.6	-0.7	-0.7	-0.5	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3
France	-0.6	1.7	0.3	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Germany	-1.2	0.3	-0.7	-1.0	-1.3	-1.2	-1.1	-1.2	-1.1	-1.0	-1.1	-1.1	-1.3
Greece	-0.6	1.8	3.0	3.9	4.1	4.6		4.7	4.6	5.1	5.4		
Hungary	0.4	2.2	1.1	0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.7	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5	-0.7	-1.1	-1.3
Iceland	0.7	4.2	0.3	0.8	0.2	-0.2	-0.6						
Ireland	1.8	5.4	1.9	1.7	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.1
Israel ⁽³⁾	-1.2	1.4	-0.8	-0.7	-0.9	-1.0	-1.0						
Italy	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.0	-0.3	-0.5	0.0	-0.5	-0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.1
Japan	0.1	1.1	0.0	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	-0.6	-0.6	-0.4	-0.7	-0.9	-0.6
Korea	0.0	0.4	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	-0.4	0.0	-0.2	-0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.4
Luxembourg	0.7	0.3	-0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1
Mexico	0.3	1.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.0	-0.7
Netherlands	-0.5	0.6	0.8	0.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.4
New Zealand	0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.3	0.4	-0.4	0.2						
Norway	0.0	0.6	0.4	0.2	-0.2	-0.3		-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3		
Poland	-2.4	1.0	1.5	0.8	-0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Portugal	-0.4	2.1	1.5	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6
Slovak Republic	-1.6	2.5	2.4	0.0	-1.3	-1.2	-0.9	-1.3	-1.1	-1.1	-0.9	-0.8	-0.6
Slovenia	-0.5	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.3
Spain	3.1	6.6	2.1	1.4	1.2	0.9	1.7	0.9	1.0	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.3
Sweden	0.1	2.1	0.1	-0.9	-1.0	-1.1	-0.9	-0.9	-0.7	-1.1	-0.8	-0.9	-0.5
Switzerland	-0.2	0.9	0.1	-0.7	-0.6	-0.7							
Turkey	0.9	2.8	-1.9	-2.0	-2.3	-1.5		-1.4	-1.3	-1.4	-2.0		
United Kingdom	0.3	2.0	0.2	0.1	-0.2	0.1		0.1	0.2	0.4	0.7		
United States ⁽²⁾	1.2	3.5	0.3	-0.4	-0.8	-0.5	-0.5	-0.5	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	-0.5	-0.7

Notes:

(1) Canada: For November 2011 the change was -0.2

(2) United States: For November 2011 the change was -1.2

(3) The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.