

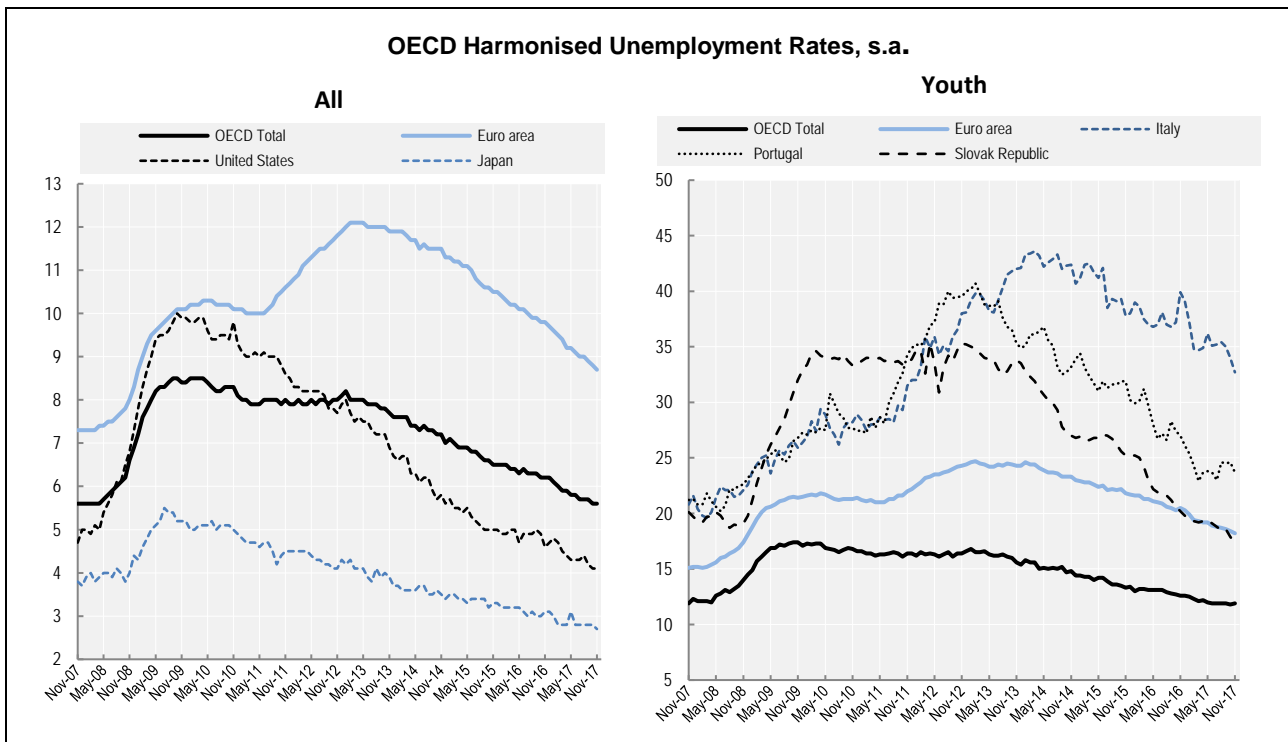
OECD unemployment rate stable at 5.6% in November 2017

The **OECD** unemployment rate was stable at 5.6% in November 2017. Across the **OECD** area, 35.1 million people were unemployed, 2.5 million more than in April 2008.

In the **euro area**, the unemployment rate continued to decrease (down 0.1 percentage point, to 8.7% in November), with the largest declines (by 0.2 percentage point) in **Ireland** (to 6.1%) and **Portugal** (to 8.2%). Smaller declines were recorded in **Belgium** (to 6.7%), **France** (to 9.2%), **Germany** (to 3.6%), **Italy** (to 11.0%), **Latvia** (to 8.1%), the **Netherlands** (to 4.4%) and the **Slovak Republic** (to 7.5%).

The unemployment rate also fell in **Canada** (by 0.4 percentage point, to 5.9%) and **Japan** (by 0.1 percentage point, to 2.7%) while it was stable in the **United States** (at 4.1%) and rose marginally in **Korea** (to 3.7%) and **Mexico** (to 3.5%). More recent data show that in December, the unemployment rate declined further in **Canada** (by 0.2 percentage point, to 5.7%) while it was stable in the **United States**.

In November, the **OECD** unemployment rate for **youth** (people aged 15 to 24) increased by 0.1 percentage point, to 11.9%. By contrast, in the **euro area**, the **youth** unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point, to 18.2%, continuing its downward trend, with the largest declines in **Italy** (down 1.3 percentage point), **Portugal** (down 0.9 percentage point) and the **Slovak Republic** (down 0.6 percentage point). However, the **youth** unemployment rate was still above 30% in **Greece** (39.5% in September, the latest month available), **Spain** (37.9%) and **Italy** (32.7%). The **OECD** unemployment rate for **women** (unchanged at 5.8%) remained slightly above that for **men** (which fell by 0.1 percentage point, to 5.4%).



Methodological Notes: <http://www.oecd.org/std/labourstatistics/44743407.pdf>

All rates and levels quoted are seasonally adjusted (s.a.).

In this News Release, April 2008 is considered as the month preceding the start of the global financial crisis.

Labour Market Statistics: <http://stats.oecd.org/index.aspx?queryid=36324>

Country Note: 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.

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Next release: Monday, 12 February 2018

Table 1: OECD Unemployment Rates, s.a.
Percentage of active population

	2014	2015	2016	2016	2017			2017					
					Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
OECD - Total	7.4	6.8	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6
Major Seven	6.4	5.8	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.8
European Union	10.2	9.4	8.6	8.3	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.3
Euro area	11.6	10.9	10.0	9.8	9.5	9.2	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.8	8.7
Australia	6.1	6.1	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.4
Austria	5.6	5.7	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.4
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	8.5	8.5	7.9	7.2	7.6 ^(b)	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.8	6.7
Canada ⁽²⁾	6.9	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.2	6.5	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.3	5.9
Chile	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.7	6.7	
Czech Republic	6.1	5.1	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.5
Denmark	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.6
Estonia	7.4	6.2	6.8	6.7	5.6	6.5	5.7	6.5	6.0	5.4	5.7	5.1	
Finland	8.7	9.4	8.8	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.4
France	10.3	10.4	10.1	10.0	9.7	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.6	9.4	9.3	9.2
Germany	5.0	4.6	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.6
Greece	26.6	25.0	23.6	23.4	22.6	21.5	20.7	21.2	20.9	20.7	20.5		
Hungary	7.7	6.8	5.1	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.0	
Iceland	5.0	4.0	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0
Ireland	11.9	10.0	8.4	7.5	7.2	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.1
Israel	5.9	5.2	4.8	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.4	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3
Italy	12.7	11.9	11.7	11.8	11.6	11.2	11.2	11.1	11.3	11.1	11.1	11.1	11.0
Japan	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7
Korea	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.7
Latvia	10.9	9.9	9.6	9.4	9.0	8.9	8.7	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.4	8.2	8.1
Luxembourg	6.1	6.5	6.3	6.2	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.5
Mexico	4.8	4.4	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5
Netherlands	7.4	6.9	6.0	5.5	5.2	5.0	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.4
New Zealand	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.3	4.9	4.8	4.6						
Norway	3.5	4.4	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	
Poland	9.0	7.5	6.2	5.6	5.2	5.1	4.8	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.5
Portugal	14.1	12.7	11.2	10.4	9.9	9.3	8.7	9.1	8.9	8.7	8.5	8.4	8.2
Slovak Republic	13.2	11.5	9.7	9.0	8.6	8.3	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.5
Slovenia	9.7	9.0	8.0	8.0	7.2	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.5
Spain	24.5	22.1	19.7	18.7	18.2	17.3	16.8	17.0	16.9	16.8	16.8	16.7	16.7
Sweden	7.9	7.4	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.5	7.1	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.4
Switzerland	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.6	5.3	4.4	5.0						
Turkey	10.0	10.3	10.9	11.7	11.5	11.1	11.0	11.0	11.1	10.9	10.9		
United Kingdom	6.1	5.3	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2		
United States ⁽³⁾	6.2	5.3	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.1

b: Break in time series

Notes:

(1) Belgium: Due to a methodological break in the Labour Force Survey, data from the 1st quarter of 2017 onwards are not comparable with previous data.

(2) Canada: Unemployment rate for December 2017 was 5.7 %.

(3) United States: Unemployment rate for December 2017 was 4.1 %.

Table 2: Unemployment Rates by Gender, s.a.
Percentage of corresponding active population

	Women						Men					
	2016	2017		2017			2016	2017		2017		
		Q2	Q3	Sep	Oct	Nov		Q2	Q3	Sep	Oct	Nov
OECD - Total	6.4	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.4
Major Seven	5.3	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.7	5.6	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9
European Union	8.8	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.6	8.4	7.5	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.2
Euro area	10.4	9.6	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.1	9.7	8.8	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.4
Australia	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.4
Austria	5.6	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.9	6.5	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	7.6	7.3	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.3	8.1	7.3	7.5	7.4	7.2	7.0
Canada	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.5	7.7	7.0	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.2
Chile	7.0	7.3	6.9	7.3	7.2		6.1	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4	
Czech Republic	4.7	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.1
Denmark	6.7	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.8	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.4	5.3
Estonia	6.1	5.8	4.8	4.9	5.0		7.4	7.2	6.5	6.6	5.3	
Finland	8.6	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.3	8.3	9.0	8.9	8.7	8.6	8.6	8.5
France	9.9	9.5	9.3	9.2	9.1	9.1	10.3	9.5	9.7	9.6	9.4	9.3
Germany	3.7	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Greece	28.1	25.9	25.3	25.3			19.9	18.0	17.1	16.8		
Hungary	5.2	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.4		5.1	4.0	3.8	3.7	3.6	
Iceland	3.1	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.9	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.5
Ireland ⁽²⁾	6.5	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1		9.1	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.7	
Israel	4.9	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.7	4.3	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.4
Italy	12.8	12.4	12.4	12.3	12.2	12.1	10.9	10.4	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.1
Japan	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.5	3.3	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	2.9
Korea	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.8
Latvia	8.4	7.5	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.4	10.9	10.2	9.4	9.0	8.8	8.8
Luxembourg	6.6	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.3	5.3	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.7
Mexico	4.0	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.7	4.0	3.8	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.1
Netherlands	6.5	5.5	5.1	5.1	4.7	4.7	5.6	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.1
New Zealand	5.5	4.9	5.3				4.8	4.7	4.1			
Norway	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.5	3.5		5.4	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.5	
Poland	6.2	5.1	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.6	6.1	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.4
Portugal	11.2	9.7	9.3	9.1	9.0	8.6	11.1	8.8	8.1	7.9	7.9	7.8
Slovak Republic	10.8	8.5	8.1	7.9	7.7	7.5	8.8	8.2	7.9	7.8	7.6	7.5
Slovenia	8.6	7.7	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.5	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.4	5.4
Spain	21.4	19.1	18.7	18.6	18.6	18.5	18.1	15.7	15.2	15.2	15.2	15.2
Sweden	6.6	6.3	6.6	6.6	6.2	6.1	7.3	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.1	6.7
Switzerland	5.0	4.8	5.4				4.8	4.0	4.6			
Turkey ⁽³⁾	13.7	14.5	14.6	14.5			9.6	9.5	9.3	9.2		
United Kingdom	4.7	4.2	4.2	4.1			5.0	4.5	4.3	4.3		
United States	4.8	4.3	4.3	4.2	3.9	4.1	4.9	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.2

Notes:

(1) Belgium: Due to a methodological break in the Labour Force Survey, data from the 1st quarter of 2017 onwards are not comparable with previous data.

(2) Ireland: Data in Table 2 and Table 3 do not reflect the recent methodological changes in the Labour Force Survey and are not comparable with data from Table 1.

(3) Turkey: Due to changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey, data by gender from January 2014 onwards are OECD estimates.

Table 3: Unemployment Rates by Age, s.a.
Percentage of corresponding active population

	Youth (15-24)						Prime-age and Older Workers (25+)					
	2016	2017		2017			2016	2017		2017		
		Q2	Q3	Sep	Oct	Nov		Q2	Q3	Sep	Oct	Nov
OECD - Total	13.0	12.0	11.9	11.9	11.8	11.9	5.5	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8
Major Seven	11.8	10.7	10.5	10.5	10.4	10.6	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1
European Union	18.7	17.0	16.7	16.6	16.4	16.2	7.5	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.4
Euro area	21.0	19.1	18.7	18.6	18.4	18.2	9.0	8.2	8.0	7.9	7.9	7.8
Australia	12.6	12.8	12.7	12.6	12.1	12.4	4.3	4.2	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0
Austria	11.2	9.7	9.6	9.4	9.5	10.3	5.3	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	20.1	21.3	18.2	18.2			6.8	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.0	5.9
Canada	13.1	11.9	11.0	10.3	11.1	10.8	6.0	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.0
Chile	15.7	16.6	17.4	17.7	17.5		5.3	5.5	5.3	5.4	5.5	
Czech Republic	10.5	9.0	7.9	7.3	7.1	5.0	3.5	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3
Denmark	12.0	11.0	11.2	10.5	9.8	9.6	5.1	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
Estonia	13.5	16.0	11.2	11.7	8.1		6.2	5.6	5.2	5.2	4.9	
Finland	20.0	20.2	19.8	19.6	19.5	19.4	7.3	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9
France	24.6	22.8	22.3	22.0	21.9	21.8	8.6	8.1	8.2	8.1	8.0	7.8
Germany	7.1	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	3.8	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3
Greece	47.4	43.7	40.2	39.5			22.2	20.3	19.6	19.4		
Hungary	12.9	10.9	11.1	11.0	10.5		4.5	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5	
Iceland	6.5	7.1	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.4	2.3	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1
Ireland ⁽²⁾	17.2	15.3	15.2	14.7	14.0		7.0	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	
Israel	8.6	7.1	8.0	7.1	7.5	7.6	4.1	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.8
Italy	37.8	35.4	35.2	35.0	34.0	32.7	10.0	9.7	9.6	9.6		
Japan	5.2	4.9	4.9	5.1	4.5	4.1	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Korea	10.7	10.9	10.2	10.4	10.5	10.6	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.2
Latvia	17.2	16.5	15.7	15.1	14.7	14.5	9.0	8.2	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.6
Luxembourg	19.1	15.9	15.3	15.0	14.2	14.4	5.3	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.8
Mexico	7.7	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.9	3.1	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7
Netherlands	10.8	9.1	8.7	8.5	7.9	7.8	5.1	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7
New Zealand	13.2	12.8	13.1				3.6	3.3	3.0			
Norway	10.9	10.6	10.4	10.3	10.4		3.8	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.0	
Poland	17.6	15.3	14.4	14.3	14.3	14.0	5.2	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.7
Portugal	28.2	23.7	24.0	24.5	24.6	23.7	9.9	8.2	7.5	7.3	7.1	7.0
Slovak Republic	22.2	19.3	18.6	18.6	17.9	17.3	8.7	7.5	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.7
Slovenia	15.3	11.2	11.9	11.9			7.5	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.9
Spain	44.5	39.1	37.8	37.7	38.1	37.9	17.9	15.8	15.3	15.2	15.2	15.1
Sweden	18.8	17.4	18.2	18.0	16.6	17.2	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.0
Switzerland	8.6	6.9	10.4				4.4	4.0	4.2			
Turkey	19.6	21.5	21.3	21.2			9.2	9.1	8.9	8.9		
United Kingdom	13.0	12.0	11.9	12.0			3.6	3.2	3.1	3.1		
United States	10.4	9.1	9.0	9.1	9.0	9.6	4.0	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.3

Note:

(1) Belgium: Quarterly data are shown for youth unemployment. Due to a methodological break in the Labour Force Survey, data from the 1st quarter of 2017 onwards are not comparable with previous data.

(2) Ireland: Data in Table 2 and Table 3 do not reflect the recent methodological changes in the Labour Force Survey and are not comparable with data from Table 1.

Table 4: Unemployment Levels, s.a.
Thousands of persons

	2015	2016	2017			2017			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
OECD - Total	41,623	39,333	37,733	36,453	35,862	35,997	35,537	35,196	35,093
Major Seven	21,630	20,546	19,697	18,978	18,806	18,962	18,524	18,241	18,162
European Union	22,895	20,931	19,642	18,958	18,555	18,542	18,389	18,271	18,116
Euro area	17,467	16,246	15,408	14,868	14,594	14,598	14,467	14,370	14,263
Australia	760	726	743	725	720	723	711	704	708
Austria	252	270	257	245	243	245	242	243	245
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	422	390	379	364	354	355	348	343	335
Canada	1,331	1,361	1,308	1,275	1,229	1,227	1,214	1,235	1,157
Chile	532	563	581	593	581	581	598	602	
Czech Republic	268	212	177	162	150	150	146	144	134
Denmark	181	187	179	170	173	174	171	168	167
Estonia	42	47	39	46	40	37	40	36	
Finland	252	237	236	234	230	230	230	229	229
France	3,054	2,972	2,857	2,824	2,834	2,849	2,796	2,755	2,713
Germany	1,950	1,774	1,675	1,646	1,608	1,608	1,597	1,585	1,572
Greece	1,197	1,131	1,078	1,034	990	987	981		
Hungary	308	234	198	198	193	192	188	183	
Iceland	8	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Ireland	219	187	161	148	145	144	144	142	138
Israel	202	188	171	175	164	166	164	169	173
Italy	3,033	3,009	3,006	2,906	2,908	2,897	2,879	2,873	2,855
Japan	2,219	2,080	1,907	1,933	1,880	1,860	1,880	1,870	1,850
Korea	976	1,012	1,037	1,050	1,014	1,043	1,022	997	1,011
Latvia	98	95	89	87	85	85	82	80	79
Luxembourg	18	18	17	16	17	17	16	16	16
Mexico	2,306	2,085	1,880	1,867	1,793	1,783	1,824	1,855	1,883
Netherlands	614	539	472	453	428	426	422	404	397
New Zealand	134	133	130	128	126				
Norway	121	132	120	121	113	114	111	111	
Poland	1,304	1,063	902	876	823	822	809	796	781
Portugal	648	572	509	477	450	452	440	435	424
Slovak Republic	314	267	238	229	219	219	216	211	207
Slovenia	90	80	74	68	69	69	69	68	67
Spain	5,056	4,481	4,145	3,931	3,824	3,827	3,811	3,814	3,814
Sweden	387	366	357	358	367	354	366	361	348
Switzerland	229	238	256	213	243				
Turkey	3,054	3,330	3,605	3,501	3,496	3,465	3,487		
United Kingdom	1,746	1,599	1,511	1,453	1,400	1,394	1,399		
United States	8,296	7,751	7,433	6,941	6,947	7,127	6,759	6,524	6,616

Note:

(1) Belgium: Due to a methodological break in the Labour Force Survey, data from the 1st quarter of 2017 onwards are not comparable with previous data.