Paris, 13 November 2014

OECD Harmonised Unemployment Rates
News Release: September 2014

OECD unemployment rate edges down to 7.2% in September 2014

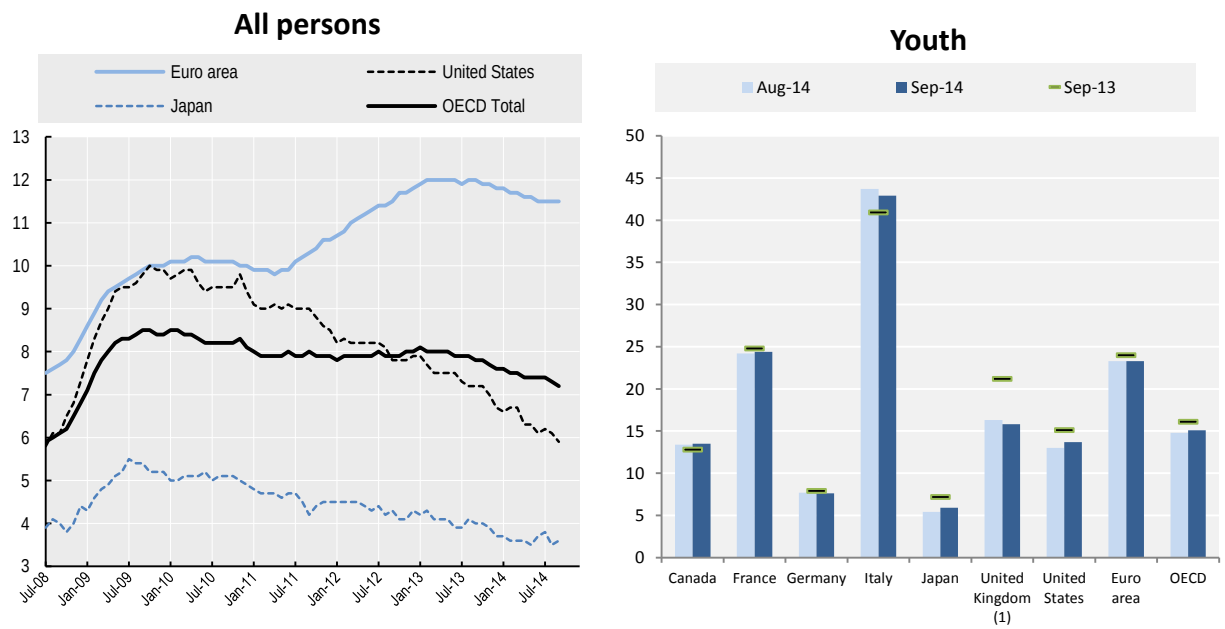
The **OECD** unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point to 7.2% in September 2014. Across the OECD area, 44.2 million people were unemployed, 5.6 million less than the peak recorded in April 2010 but still 9.6 million more than in July 2008.

The unemployment rate was stable in the **Euro area**, at 11.5%, for the fourth consecutive month. Within the Euro area, unemployment recorded the strongest declines in **Portugal** (by 0.3 percentage point, to 13.6%), **Ireland** (by 0.2 percentage point, to 11.2%), the **Slovak Republic** (by 0.2 percentage point, to 13.0%), **Slovenia** (by 0.2 percentage point, to 8.9%) and **Spain** (by 0.2 percentage point, to 24.0%), and the highest increase in **Austria** (by 0.2 percentage point to 5.1%).

In the **United States** and in **Canada**, the unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage point to 5.9% and 6.8% respectively, while it rose by 0.1 percentage point in **Japan** (to 3.6%). More recent data for October show that the unemployment rate continued to fall in **Canada** (by 0.3 percentage point to 6.5%) and in the **United States** (by 0.1 percentage point to 5.8%).

The OECD unemployment rate for **youth** (15-24) increased, by 0.3 percentage point, in September, to a level of 15.1%. Youth unemployment remains exceptionally high in several Euro area countries, with more than one in two unemployed among young people participating in the labour market in **Greece** (50.7% in July, the latest month available) and **Spain** (53.7%), and more than one in three unemployed in **Portugal** (35.2%) and **Italy** (42.9%).

OECD Harmonised Unemployment Rates, s.a.



(1) For the United Kingdom, data refer to July 2014, compared to June 2014 and July 2013

Methodological Notes: http://www.oecd.org/std/labourstatistics/44743407.pdf
All rates and levels quoted are seasonally adjusted (s.a.).

New 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: Tuesday, 9 December 2014

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

	2011	2012	2013	2013	2014			2014					
				Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.2
Major Seven	7.6	7.4	7.1	6.9	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.3
European Union	9.6	10.5	10.8	10.7	10.5	10.3	10.1	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1
Euro area	10.1	11.3	12.0	11.9	11.7	11.6	11.5	11.6	11.6	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
Australia	5.1	5.2	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1
Austria	4.1	4.4	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.9	5.1
Belgium	7.2	7.6	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5
Canada (1)	7.5	7.2	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.0	6.8
Chile	7.1	6.4	5.9	6.1	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.4	
Czech Republic	6.7	7.0	7.0	6.7	6.6	6.1	5.9	6.3	6.1	6.0	5.8	6.3	5.7
Denmark	7.6	7.5	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.4	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6
Estonia	12.4	10.0	8.6	8.5	7.9	7.6		7.9	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.7	
Finland	7.8	7.7	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.6	8.7
France	9.2	9.8	10.3	10.2	10.1	10.2	10.5	10.1	10.2	10.4	10.5	10.5	10.5
Germany	6.0	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0
Greece	17.9	24.5	27.5	27.6	27.2	26.9		27.1	26.8	26.7	26.4		
Hungary	11.0	10.9	10.2	9.2	8.0	8.0		7.9	8.1	8.1	7.8	7.6	
Iceland	7.1	6.0	5.4	4.9	5.4	5.0	4.9	5.1	4.9	5.1	4.5	5.3	4.8
Ireland	14.7	14.7	13.1	12.2	12.0	11.7	11.4	11.8	11.7	11.6	11.5	11.4	11.2
Israel	5.6	6.9	6.2	5.8	5.8	6.1	6.4	5.8	6.0	6.5	6.2	6.4	6.5
Italy	8.4	10.7	12.2	12.5	12.6	12.5	12.6	12.5	12.6	12.4	12.6	12.5	12.6
Japan	4.6	4.4	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.5	3.6
Korea	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.5
Luxembourg	4.8	5.1	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.1
Mexico	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.8
Netherlands	4.5	5.3	6.7	7.0	7.2	7.0	6.6	7.2	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.5
New Zealand	6.5	6.9	6.2	6.0	6.0	5.6	5.4						
Norway	3.3	3.2	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.3		3.4	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.7	
Poland	9.7	10.1	10.3	10.0	9.8	9.2	8.8	9.4	9.2	9.1	8.9	8.8	8.7
Portugal	12.9	15.8	16.4	15.4	15.0	14.4	13.8	14.6	14.4	14.1	13.9	13.9	13.6
Slovak Republic	13.7	14.0	14.2	14.2	13.8	13.4	13.1	13.5	13.4	13.2	13.2	13.2	13.0
Slovenia	8.2	8.9	10.1	9.7	10.2	9.5	9.0	9.7	9.5	9.3	9.1	9.1	8.9
Spain	21.4	24.8	26.1	25.8	25.3	24.7	24.2	24.9	24.7	24.5	24.3	24.2	24.0
Sweden	7.8	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.0	7.8	8.1	7.8	8.0	7.8	8.0	7.7
Switzerland	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.8	4.4							
Turkey(2)	8.8	8.2	8.7	8.7	9.1	9.6		9.2	9.6	10.0	10.4		
United Kingdom	8.1	7.9	7.6	7.1	6.7	6.3		6.4	6.3	6.2	6.0		
United States (3)	9.0	8.1	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.1	5.9

Notes:

(1) Canada: Unemployment rate for October 2014 was 6.5 %

(2) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, data from January 2014 are not comparable with previous data.

(3) United States: Unemployment rate for October 2014 was 5.8 %

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

	Women						Men					
	2013	2014		2014			2013	2014		2014		
		Q2	Q3	Jul	Aug	Sep		Q2	Q3	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	7.9	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.9	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.1
Major Seven	6.9	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.3	7.3	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.3
European Union	10.9	10.4	10.2	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.8	10.2	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Euro area	12.0	11.8	11.7	11.8	11.7	11.7	11.9	11.4	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.3
Australia	5.6	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.1	5.7	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.0
Austria	4.9	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.5
Belgium	8.2	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	8.7	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4
Canada	6.6	6.6	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.2	7.5	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.3
Chile	6.9	6.6	7.0	6.9	7.0		5.3	5.9	6.1	6.1	6.1	
Czech Republic	8.3	7.4	7.2	7.0	7.9	6.8	5.9	5.1	4.9	4.9	5.0	4.8
Denmark	7.3	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.1	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.5
Estonia	8.1	6.9		6.9	6.7		9.0	8.1		8.1	8.6	
Finland	7.5	7.9	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.8	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.2	9.3
France	10.2	10.0	10.4	10.4	10.4	10.3	10.3	10.5	10.7	10.6	10.7	10.7
Germany	5.0	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	5.7	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4
Greece	31.4	30.8		30.5			24.5	23.8		23.1		
Hungary	10.2	8.2		8.0	7.8		10.2	7.9		7.6	7.3	
Iceland	5.1	5.4	4.9	4.1	6.0	4.5	5.7	4.7	4.9	4.8	4.7	5.1
Ireland	10.7	9.5	9.3	9.3	9.3	9.3	15.0	13.5	13.0	13.2	13.1	12.8
Israel	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.1	6.5	6.7	6.2	6.0	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.4
Italy	13.1	13.7	13.8	13.9	13.7	13.9	11.5	11.6	11.6	11.7	11.5	11.6
Japan	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.4	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7
Korea	2.9	3.8	3.3	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.6	3.7
Luxembourg	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2	5.6	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.0
Mexico	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.6	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.3	4.9	4.9
Netherlands	6.3	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	7.1	7.1	6.7	6.9	6.7	6.6
New Zealand	6.9	6.4	6.3				5.6	4.8	4.6			
Norway	3.3	3.2		3.3	3.6		3.7	3.4		3.5	3.8	
Poland	11.1	9.8	9.3	9.5	9.3	9.2	9.7	8.7	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.3
Portugal	16.6	14.8	14.5	14.6	14.6	14.2	16.3	13.9	13.2	13.2	13.3	13.0
Slovak Republic	14.5	13.6	13.4	13.5	13.5	13.3	14.0	13.2	12.8	12.9	12.9	12.7
Slovenia	11.0	10.5	10.1	10.2	10.1	9.9	9.5	8.6	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.1
Spain	26.7	25.6	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.4	25.6	23.9	23.0	23.3	23.0	22.8
Sweden	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.2	8.2	8.2	8.1	7.9	8.2	8.2
Switzerland	4.5	4.5					4.3	4.3				
Turkey(1)	10.5	11.6		12.6			8.0	8.7		9.5		
United Kingdom	7.1	6.0		5.7			8.0	6.5		6.3		
United States	7.1	6.1	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.0	7.6	6.4	6.1	6.2	6.2	5.9

Note:

(1) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, data from January 2014 are not comparable with previous data. From this date, monthly data by gender 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+)					
	2013	2014		2014			2013	2014		2014		
		Q2	Q3	Jul	Aug	Sep		Q2	Q3	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	16.1	15.0	15.0	15.0	14.8	15.1	6.7	6.4	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.2
Major Seven	15.6	14.0	14.0	14.2	13.7	14.1	6.0	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3
European Union	23.5	22.0	21.6	21.6	21.6	21.6	9.5	9.0	8.9	8.9	8.9	8.9
Euro area	24.0	23.5	23.3	23.4	23.3	23.3	10.7	10.4	10.3	10.4	10.3	10.3
Australia	12.2	13.3	13.0	13.0	12.8	13.2	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
Austria	9.2	9.4	8.9	8.9	8.6	9.1	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.5
Belgium	23.7	23.4	23.5	23.4	23.4	23.8	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2
Canada	13.6	13.4	13.3	13.1	13.4	13.5	5.9	5.9	5.8	6.0	5.9	5.6
Chile	16.0	15.5	16.7	16.6	16.7		4.5	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	
Czech Republic	18.9	16.4	15.8	16.4	15.9	15.1	6.1	5.4	5.3	5.1	5.6	5.1
Denmark	13.0	12.6	12.7	12.8	12.5	12.8	5.9	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5
Estonia	18.0	17.3		13.2	14.9		7.6	6.7		7.0	7.1	
Finland	19.7	20.0	19.9	20.0	19.9	19.8	6.5	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.1	7.1
France	24.8	23.7	24.2	24.1	24.2	24.4	8.7	8.8	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1
Germany	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.8	7.7	7.6	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
Greece	58.4	52.3		50.7			25.4	25.1		24.7		
Hungary	27.0	20.8		21.0	21.0		8.9	7.0		6.7	6.5	
Iceland	10.8	8.8	10.9	10.6	11.4	10.7	4.3	4.3	3.7	3.3	4.0	3.7
Ireland	26.7	25.1	24.8	25.1	25.0	24.4	11.6	10.4	10.1	10.2	10.1	10.0
Israel	10.5	9.4	13.6	14.9	13.9	11.9	5.4	4.9	4.9	4.7	5.1	5.0
Italy	40.0	43.4	43.2	42.9	43.7	42.9	10.3	10.4				
Japan	6.8	6.4	6.0	6.7	5.4	5.9	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.4
Korea	9.3	10.2	9.8	9.3	9.6	10.5	2.7	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Luxembourg	17.0	15.7	15.5	15.8	15.5	15.3	5.1	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5
Mexico	9.5	9.8	9.4	9.2	9.4	9.6	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.2	3.9	3.7
Netherlands	11.0	10.8	10.1	10.4	10.1	9.8	5.9	6.3	5.9	6.0	5.9	5.9
New Zealand	15.8	14.2	13.9				4.4	4.0	3.8			
Norway	9.1	7.7		7.8	8.5		2.6	2.7		2.8	3.0	
Poland	27.3	23.9	22.9	23.1	22.9	22.6	8.8	7.8	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.4
Portugal	38.1	37.2	35.4	35.5	35.6	35.2	14.7	12.6	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.0
Slovak Republic	33.7	30.5	29.1	29.5	29.3	28.5	12.5	12.0	11.8	11.8	11.9	11.7
Slovenia	21.7	19.1	16.2	16.2	16.2	16.2	9.2	8.7	8.5	8.6	8.5	8.4
Spain	55.5	53.3	53.9	53.9	54.0	53.7	23.8	22.5	22.0	22.1	22.0	21.8
Sweden	23.5	23.2	22.0	20.8	21.7	23.6	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.4
Switzerland	8.5	7.7					3.7	3.9				
Turkey(1)	17.0	17.2		19.0			7.2	8.0		8.7		
United Kingdom	20.7	16.8		15.8			5.4	4.6		4.4		
United States	15.5	13.1	13.4	13.6	13.0	13.7	6.1	5.1	4.9	5.0	5.1	4.7

Note:

(1) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, data from January 2014 are not comparable with previous data.

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

	2012	2013	2014			2014			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	47,696	47,694	45,871	44,876	44,654	44,694	45,102	44,626	44,228
Major Seven	27,176	26,290	24,652	23,803	23,635	23,666	23,928	23,623	23,355
European Union	25,360	26,365	25,496	24,960	24,613	24,805	24,706	24,620	24,512
Euro area	18,078	19,123	18,731	18,517	18,389	18,452	18,454	18,366	18,347
Australia	625	688	729	726	742	741	743	736	747
Austria	189	215	218	219	220	222	215	217	227
Belgium	369	417	417	421	424	421	423	424	425
Canada	1,368	1,348	1,334	1,347	1,331	1,370	1,353	1,343	1,298
Chile	524	491	540	522	545	526	540	545	
Czech Republic	367	370	350	325	314	317	307	332	302
Denmark	219	203	197	187	193	188	191	193	194
Estonia	69	58	53	51		50	51	52	
Finland	207	219	225	230	231	231	230	231	233
France	2,858	3,007	2,972	3,005	3,094	3,055	3,093	3,095	3,094
Germany	2,316	2,270	2,196	2,166	2,152	2,160	2,158	2,155	2,144
Greece	1,195	1,330	1,298	1,298		1,294	1,282		
Hungary	476	446	358	360		361	348	339	
Iceland	11	10	10	9	9	10	8	10	9
Ireland	316	282	258	250	245	248	247	245	243
Israel	247	228	219	230	242	246	235	242	248
Italy	2,746	3,113	3,208	3,189	3,215	3,167	3,222	3,188	3,236
Japan	2,848	2,651	2,370	2,377	2,383	2,440	2,480	2,300	2,370
Korea	820	807	933	972	918	944	909	925	919
Luxembourg	13	15	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Mexico	2,496	2,539	2,541	2,573	2,577	2,515	2,689	2,533	2,510
Netherlands	468	600	642	621	586	605	594	585	580
New Zealand	165	149	147	138	134				
Norway	86	95	94	90		91	94	102	
Poland	1,749	1,793	1,710	1,603	1,523	1,571	1,546	1,524	1,500
Portugal	836	855	770	742	713	728	719	719	702
Slovak Republic	378	386	374	364	354	359	357	356	350
Slovenia	90	102	102	97	92	95	93	92	91
Spain	5,811	6,051	5,787	5,662	5,535	5,616	5,575	5,531	5,498
Sweden	402	410	417	411	407	413	403	415	402
Switzerland	193	205	226	209					
Turkey(1)	2,201	2,438	2,586	2,748		2,873	3,015		
United Kingdom	2,535	2,441	2,178	2,044		2,000	1,951		
United States	12,506	11,460	10,394	9,675	9,508	9,474	9,671	9,591	9,262

Note:
(1) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, data from January 2014 are not comparable with previous data.
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