

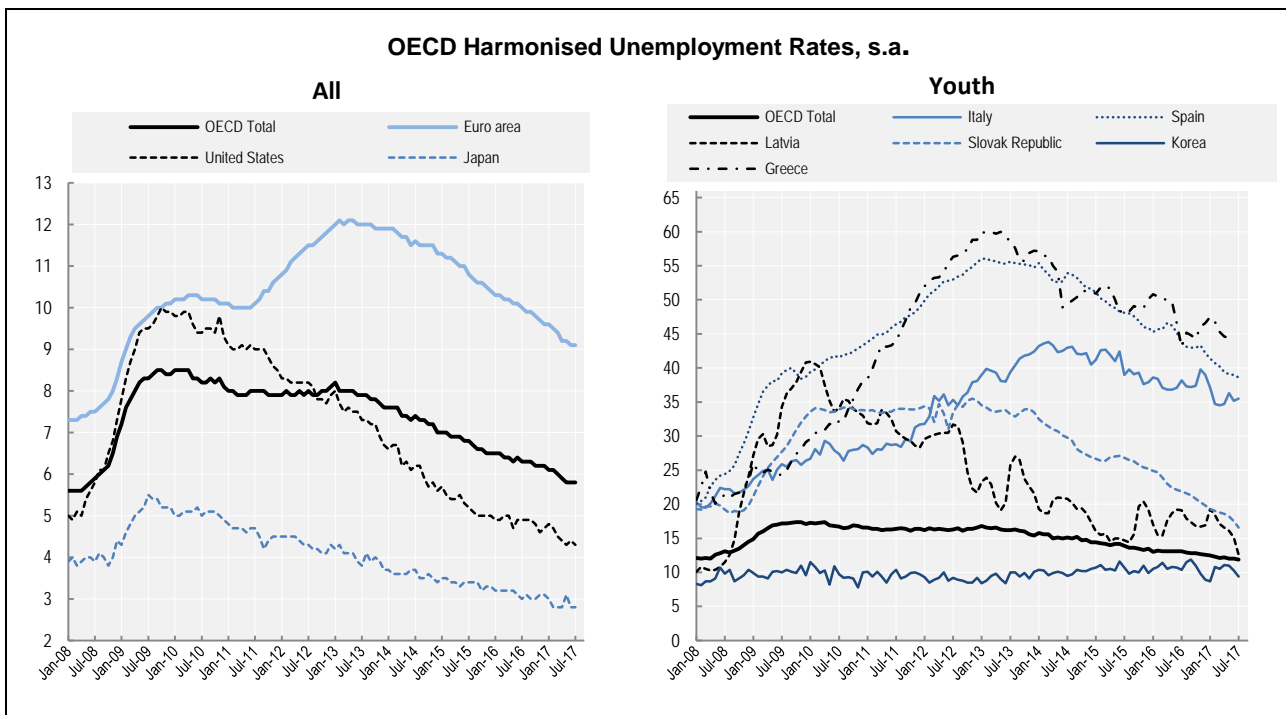
OECD unemployment rate stable at 5.8% in July 2017

The **OECD** unemployment rate was stable at 5.8% in July 2017, unchanged for the second consecutive month. Across the OECD area, 36.2 million people were unemployed, 3.6 million more than in April 2008.

The unemployment rate was also stable in the **euro area**, at 9.1% in July, with the largest declines observed in **Latvia** (down 0.4 percentage point, to 8.5%) and the **Slovak Republic** (down 0.3 percentage point, to 7.3%). By contrast, the unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage point, to 9.8%, in **France** and by 0.1 percentage point in a number of other euro area countries (**Austria, Finland, Ireland, Italy** and **Luxembourg**).

The unemployment rate decreased by 0.2 percentage point in July in **Canada** (to 6.3%), **Israel** (to 4.1%) and **Korea** (to 3.6%), and by 0.1 percentage point in **Mexico** (to 3.2%) and the **United States** (to 4.3%), while it was stable in **Japan**, at 2.8%. More recent data show that in the **United States** the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 4.4% in August while it continued to decrease in **Canada** (by 0.1 percentage point, to 6.2%).

The **OECD** unemployment rate for **women** (down 0.1 percentage point, to 5.9%) was slightly higher than that for **men** (stable at 5.7%) in July. The **OECD** unemployment rate for **youth** (people aged 15 to 24) fell slightly (by 0.1 percentage point, to 11.9%), with larger declines in **Latvia** (down 2.5 percentage points to 12.6%), the **Slovak Republic** (down 0.9 percentage point, to 16.6%), **Canada** (down 0.9 percentage point, to 11.1%) and **Korea** (down 0.9 percentage point, to 9.4%). The **youth** unemployment rate remained above 30% in **Greece** (at 44.4% in May, the latest month available), **Spain** (at 38.6%) and **Italy** (at 35.5%).



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

	2014	2015	2016	2016		2017		2017					
				Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
OECD - Total	7.4	6.8	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.8	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8
Major Seven	6.4	5.8	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.0	5.2	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
European Union	10.2	9.4	8.6	8.4	8.3	8.0	7.7	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7
Euro area	11.6	10.9	10.0	9.9	9.7	9.5	9.2	9.5	9.4	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.1
Australia	6.1	6.1	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.9	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.7	5.6
Austria	5.6	5.7	6.0	6.2	5.8	5.7	5.4	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.3	5.4
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	8.6	8.5	7.8	7.8	7.2	7.6 ^(b)		7.6	7.6				
Canada ⁽²⁾	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.3
Chile	6.4	6.2	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.6	
Czech Republic	6.1	5.1	4.0	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.0	3.3	3.3	3.3	2.9	2.9	2.9
Denmark	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.0	5.7	6.1	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	
Estonia	7.4	6.2	6.8	7.3	6.7	5.7	6.5	5.6	5.5	6.2	6.8	6.6	
Finland	8.7	9.4	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.8
France	10.3	10.4	10.1	9.9	10.0	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.6	9.8
Germany	5.0	4.6	4.1	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.7
Greece	26.6	25.0	23.6	23.3	23.3	22.6		22.5	22.0	21.8	21.7		
Hungary	7.7	6.8	5.1	4.9	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	
Iceland	5.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.1	2.0
Ireland	11.3	9.5	7.9	7.8	7.0	6.8	6.4	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.4
Israel	5.9	5.2	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.1
Italy	12.7	11.9	11.7	11.6	11.8	11.6	11.3	11.5	11.5	11.2	11.4	11.2	11.3
Japan	3.6	3.4	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.1	2.8	2.8
Korea	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.7	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.6
Latvia	10.9	9.9	9.6	9.8	9.4	9.0	8.9	9.0	8.7	8.8	8.9	8.9	8.5
Luxembourg	6.1	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	5.9	6.0
Mexico	4.8	4.4	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.2
Netherlands	7.4	6.9	6.0	5.8	5.5	5.2	5.0	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.9	4.8
New Zealand	5.4	5.4	5.1	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.8						
Norway	3.5	4.4	4.7	4.9	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.3	
Poland	9.0	7.5	6.2	6.0	5.6	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.8
Portugal	14.1	12.7	11.2	10.9	10.4	9.9	9.3	9.9	9.7	9.5	9.2	9.1	9.1
Slovak Republic	13.2	11.5	9.7	9.6	9.0	8.5	7.9	8.5	8.3	8.2	8.0	7.6	7.3
Slovenia	9.7	9.0	8.0	7.8	7.9	7.3	7.1	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0
Spain	24.5	22.1	19.7	19.3	18.7	18.2	17.3	18.2	18.0	17.6	17.3	17.1	17.1
Sweden	7.9	7.4	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.4	6.7	6.8	6.5	7.1
Switzerland	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.1	4.6	5.3	4.4						
Turkey ⁽³⁾	10.0	10.3	10.9	11.4	11.7	11.6		11.6	11.5	11.3	11.2		
United Kingdom	6.1	5.3	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.5		4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4		
United States ⁽⁴⁾	6.2	5.3	4.9	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3

b: Break in time series

Notes:

(1) Belgium: Quarterly data are shown. 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 August 2017 was 6.2 %.

(3) Turkey: Due to the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey, data from January 2014 onwards are not comparable with previous data.

(4) United States: Unemployment rate for August 2017 was 4.4%.

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

	Women						Men					
	2016	2017		2017			2016	2017		2017		
		Q1	Q2	May	Jun	Jul		Q1	Q2	May	Jun	Jul
OECD - Total	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.0	5.9	6.2	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7
Major Seven	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	4.9	5.6	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1
European Union	8.8	8.2	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.9	8.4	7.8	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Euro area	10.4	9.9	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.1	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8
Australia	5.8	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6
Austria	5.6	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.8	6.5	6.3	5.9	5.8	5.7	6.0
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	7.6	7.9 ^(b)					8.1	7.3 ^(b)				
Canada	6.2	6.1	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.0	7.7	7.2	7.0	7.1	6.8	6.7
Chile	7.0	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2		6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.1	
Czech Republic	4.7	4.3	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.4	2.6	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
Denmark	6.7	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.0		5.8	5.9	5.5	5.4	5.5	
Estonia	6.1	5.5	5.8	6.2	5.6		7.4	5.8	7.2	7.4	7.5	
Finland	8.6	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0
France	9.9	9.7	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	10.3	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.7	9.9
Germany	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.1
Greece	28.1	27.0		26.1			19.9	19.0		18.1		
Hungary	5.2	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.6		5.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	
Iceland	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.8	1.7	1.7
Ireland	6.5	6.0	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.4	9.1	7.4	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1
Israel	4.9	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.7	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.2	4.0
Italy	12.8	12.9	12.4	12.5	12.3	12.8	10.9	10.7	10.4	10.5	10.3	10.3
Japan	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.9	2.7	2.5	3.3	3.0	3.0	3.2	2.9	3.1
Korea	3.6	3.8	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.8	4.0	3.8	4.0	3.6
Latvia	8.4	7.8	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.3	10.9	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.2	9.8
Luxembourg	6.6	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.0
Mexico	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.2
Netherlands	6.5	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.2	5.6	4.8	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5
New Zealand	5.5	5.7	4.9				4.8	4.2	4.7			
Norway	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.0		5.4	4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	
Poland	6.2	5.3	5.0	5.0	4.9	4.7	6.1	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0
Portugal	11.2	10.2	9.7	9.7	9.6	9.6	11.1	9.6	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.6
Slovak Republic	10.8	8.7	8.1	8.1	7.7	7.4	8.8	8.3	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.3
Slovenia	8.6	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.5	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.5
Spain	21.4	20.0	19.2	19.1	19.0	18.9	18.1	16.7	15.7	15.7	15.5	15.4
Sweden	6.6	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.3	6.9	7.3	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.7	7.2
Switzerland	5.0	5.2	4.8				4.8	5.4	4.0			
Turkey ⁽²⁾	13.7	14.4		14.0			9.6	10.2		9.9		
United Kingdom	4.7	4.3		4.2			5.0	4.8		4.6		
United States	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.9	4.7	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.4

b: Break in time series

Notes:

(1) Belgium: Quarterly data are shown. 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) Turkey: Due to the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey, data from January 2014 onwards are not comparable with previous data. From this date, 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+)					
	2016	2017		2017			2016	2017		2017		
		Q1	Q2	May	Jun	Jul		Q1	Q2	May	Jun	Jul
OECD - Total	13.0	12.3	12.1	12.0	12.0	11.9	5.5	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.0
Major Seven	11.8	11.0	10.7	10.6	10.7	10.6	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3
European Union	18.7	17.4	17.0	17.1	16.9	16.9	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.8
Euro area	21.0	19.6	19.2	19.3	19.0	19.1	9.0	8.5	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2
Australia	12.7	12.9	12.9	12.7	13.1	12.9	4.3	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.2
Austria	11.2	10.5	9.8	9.7	8.7	9.7	5.3	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.9	4.8
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	20.1	21.4 ^(b)					6.9	6.5 ^(b)				
Canada	13.1	12.8	11.9	12.0	12.0	11.1	6.0	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5
Chile	15.7	16.2	16.4	16.4	16.5		5.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.4	
Czech Republic	10.5	9.0	9.1	9.3	8.6	8.5	3.5	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.6	2.5
Denmark	12.0	11.8	10.8	10.9	10.8		5.1	5.0	4.7	4.7	4.8	
Estonia	13.5	13.8	15.8	15.3	14.3		6.2	4.9	5.7	6.0	5.9	
Finland	20.0	20.3	20.6	20.6	20.6	20.5	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.1	7.1
France	24.6	23.3	23.3	23.3	23.3	23.4	8.6	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.3	8.4
Germany	7.1	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.5	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4
Greece	47.4	46.5		44.4			22.2	21.2		20.3		
Hungary	12.9	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.6		4.5	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.7	
Iceland	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	2.3	1.9	1.6	1.8	1.1	1.1
Ireland	17.2	13.8	12.0	11.9	12.0	12.3	7.0	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8
Israel	8.6	6.7	7.1	7.0	7.1	8.0	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.4
Italy	37.8	35.4	35.4	36.3	35.2	35.5	10.0	10.1				
Japan	5.2	4.4	4.9	5.2	4.6	4.9	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.6
Korea	10.7	10.0	10.8	11.0	10.3	9.4	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.1	3.4	3.2
Latvia	17.2	18.3	15.9	16.1	15.1	12.6	9.0	8.3	8.2	8.3	8.3	8.2
Luxembourg	19.1	16.8	16.6	16.5	16.5	16.5	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1
Mexico	7.7	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.6	6.9	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.6	2.5
Netherlands	10.8	9.7	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.8	5.1	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.1
New Zealand	13.2	12.5	12.9				3.6	3.5	3.3			
Norway	10.9	10.2	10.7	10.7	10.9		3.8	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	
Poland	17.6	15.0	15.4	15.5	15.1	14.4	5.2	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.1
Portugal	28.2	24.2	23.7	23.8	23.7	23.8	9.9	8.8	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0
Slovak Republic	22.2	19.0	18.1	18.2	17.5	16.6	8.7	7.6	7.1	7.1	6.8	6.6
Slovenia	15.3	10.4	9.2	9.2	9.2		7.5	7.1	6.9	6.9	7.0	7.0
Spain	44.5	40.8	39.2	39.1	39.0	38.6	17.9	16.7	15.8	15.8	15.6	15.6
Sweden	18.8	17.9	17.5	17.9	17.4	19.3	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.5
Switzerland	8.6	7.9	6.9				4.4	4.9	4.0			
Turkey ⁽²⁾	19.6	21.7		21.5			9.2	9.6		9.2		
United Kingdom	13.0	12.3		12.1			3.6	3.4		3.2		
United States	10.4	9.7	9.1	8.8	9.1	9.0	4.0	3.9	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6

b: Break in time series

Notes:

(1) Belgium: Quarterly data are shown. 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) Turkey: Due to the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey, data from January 2014 onwards are not comparable with previous data.

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

	2015	2016	2016	2017		2017			
				Q4	Q1	Q2	Apr	May	Jun
OECD - Total	41,605	39,319	38,554	37,731	36,526	36,765	36,540	36,265	36,213
Major Seven	21,630	20,546	20,193	19,709	19,028	19,033	19,082	18,970	19,034
European Union	22,879	20,915	20,173	19,607	18,972	19,089	19,004	18,823	18,916
Euro area	17,451	16,233	15,755	15,380	14,896	14,985	14,915	14,787	14,860
Australia	759	726	725	742	725	732	714	730	731
Austria	252	270	258	257	244	252	242	239	244
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	422	390	362	375 ^(b)					
Canada	1,331	1,361	1,344	1,308	1,275	1,265	1,289	1,270	1,247
Chile	532	563	571	582	593	596	593	582	
Czech Republic	268	212	195	177	163	176	157	156	153
Denmark	181	187	190	179	169	168	169	171	
Estonia	42	47	46	39	46	43	48	46	
Finland	252	237	235	237	237	238	236	236	236
France	3,054	2,972	2,938	2,848	2,848	2,829	2,843	2,873	2,912
Germany	1,950	1,774	1,704	1,673	1,637	1,657	1,639	1,614	1,587
Greece	1,197	1,131	1,115	1,078		1,041	1,035		
Hungary	308	234	208	199	198	199	198	196	
Iceland	8	6	6	5	5	5	5	4	4
Ireland	204	173	155	149	141	142	140	140	141
Israel	202	188	175	170	175	174	178	173	164
Italy	3,033	3,009	3,055	3,007	2,911	2,902	2,943	2,889	2,950
Japan	2,219	2,080	2,037	1,907	1,933	1,860	2,050	1,890	1,900
Korea	976	1,012	989	1,037	1,050	1,098	999	1,054	978
Latvia	98	95	92	89	86	86	87	86	83
Luxembourg	18	18	18	17	17	17	17	17	17
Mexico	2,306	2,085	1,971	1,880	1,862	1,911	1,888	1,787	1,764
Netherlands	614	539	494	472	453	456	456	446	436
New Zealand	134	133	138	131	128				
Norway	121	132	128	120	121	125	120	118	
Poland	1,304	1,063	967	904	876	889	879	860	835
Portugal	648	572	534	509	478	490	474	469	470
Slovak Republic	314	267	249	235	218	227	220	208	201
Slovenia	90	79	79	74	73	72	73	73	71
Spain	5,056	4,481	4,247	4,143	3,930	3,992	3,924	3,875	3,878
Sweden	387	366	365	356	358	362	362	349	381
Switzerland	229	238	224	256	213				
Turkey ⁽²⁾	3,054	3,330	3,624	3,609		3,525	3,529		
United Kingdom	1,746	1,599	1,556	1,511		1,464	1,457		
United States	8,296	7,751	7,559	7,455	6,965	7,056	6,861	6,977	6,981

b: Break in time series

Note:

(1) Belgium: Quarterly data are shown. 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) Turkey: Due to the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey, data from January 2014 onwards are not comparable with previous data.