

LABOUR MARKET SITUATION

Paris, 17 April 2024

OECD employment rate remains at record high in the fourth quarter of 2023

OECD employment and labour force participation rates remained broadly stable at 70.1% and 73.8% in the fourth quarter of 2023, the highest levels recorded since the start of the series in 2005 and 2008, respectively. Both indicators were at or near their record highs in 10 of the 38 OECD countries, including Italy and Japan (Tables 1 and 2).

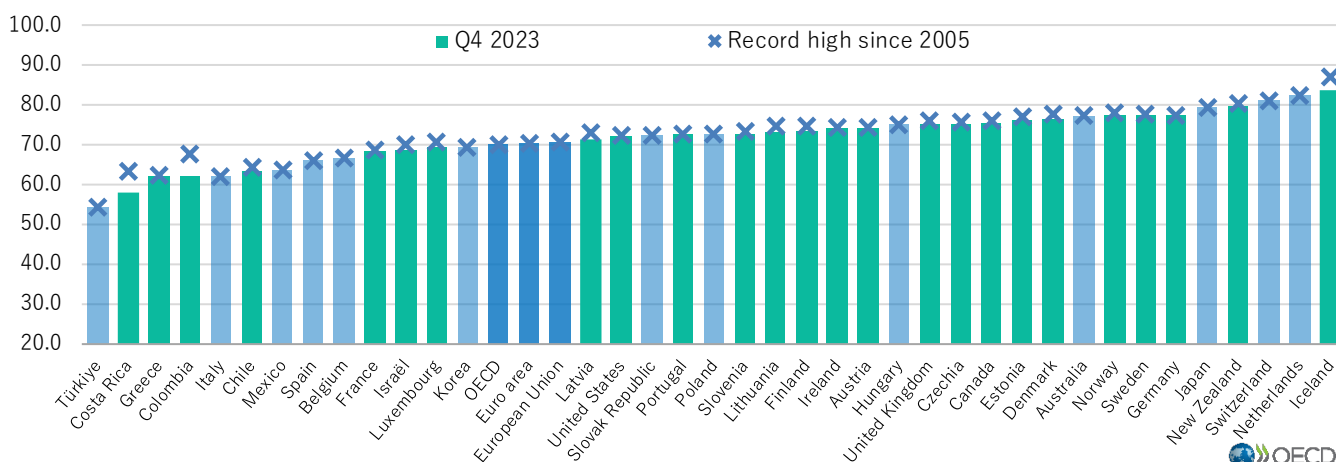
In the fourth quarter of 2023, the employment rate exceeded 70% in almost two-thirds of OECD countries, including Canada, Germany, Japan, the United-Kingdom and the United States (Figure 1). The employment rate increased in 11 OECD countries and fell in 10 countries, with the largest declines observed in Colombia, Israel, and Luxembourg. Türkiye remained the OECD country with the lowest employment rate, at 54.2%, which was nevertheless its record high.

In 2023, the number of women and men in employment in the OECD area increased across all age groups (Figure 2) resulting in record high employment rates of 63.2% and 76.9% respectively. However, the gender gap narrowed as the OECD employment rate increased more rapidly among women (by 1.0 percentage point (p.p.)) than among men (by 0.3 p.p.). Turning to employment by age groups, the largest increase was recorded for older workers (aged 55 to 64), for whom the OECD employment rate reached 64%, showing an increase of 1.1 p.p. since 2022 and 10.5 p.p. since 2007. In 2023, the OECD labour force participation rate among workers aged 15 to 64 also reached its highest level of 66.6% for women and of 80.8% for men (Figure 3).

In February 2024, the unemployment rate remained broadly stable at 4.9% in the OECD area, remaining below or at 5.0% since April 2022. The unemployment rate remained at record lows in the European Union (6.0%) and the euro area (6.5%). It was unchanged in 16 OECD countries with available data, while 6 countries recorded increases and another 10 countries registered drops (Figure 4, Table 3). More recent data for March 2024 shows that the unemployment rate increased slightly to 5.4% in Canada, while it decreased to 3.6% in the United States. Nevertheless, the OECD youth unemployment rate (workers aged 15-24) peaked at 10.9% in February 2024, recording a pronounced increase of 0.5 p.p., with a marked rise in Colombia, Italy, Japan, and the United States.

» **Figure 1 – Employment rate for OECD countries**

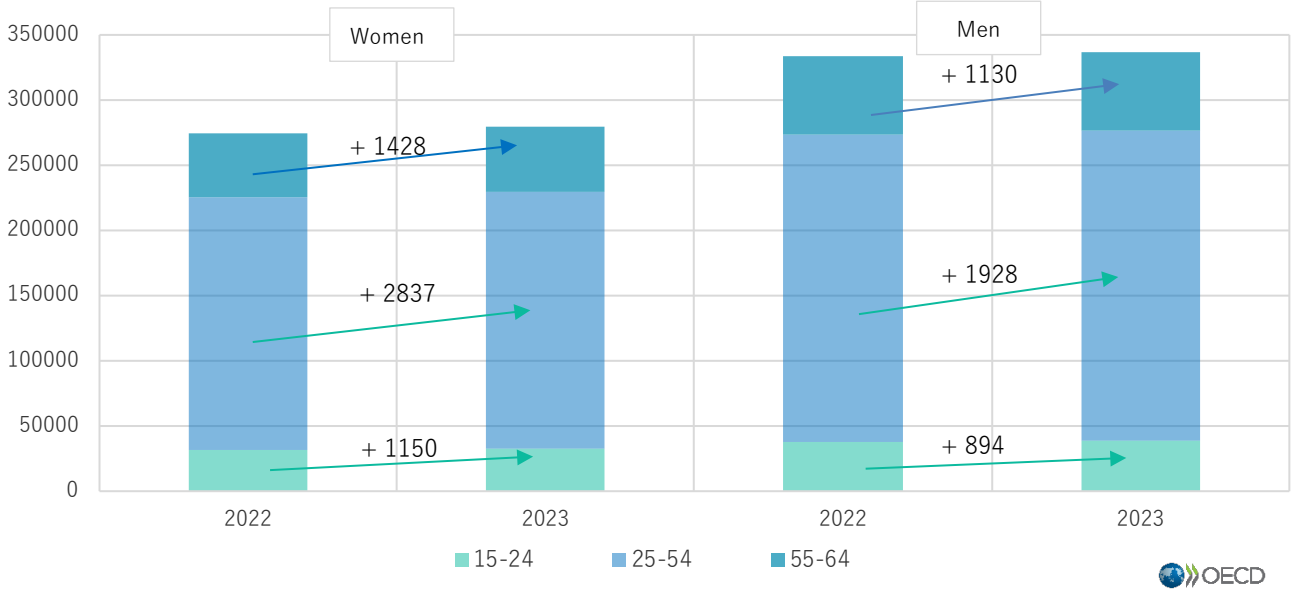
Q4 2023 compared with the highest rate recorded since 2005, percentage of working age population, seasonally adjusted



Note: The employment rate in Q4 2023 was at or within 0.1 percentage point of its record high in Australia, Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, Türkiye as well as in the OECD, the euro area and the European Union (bars reported in blue).

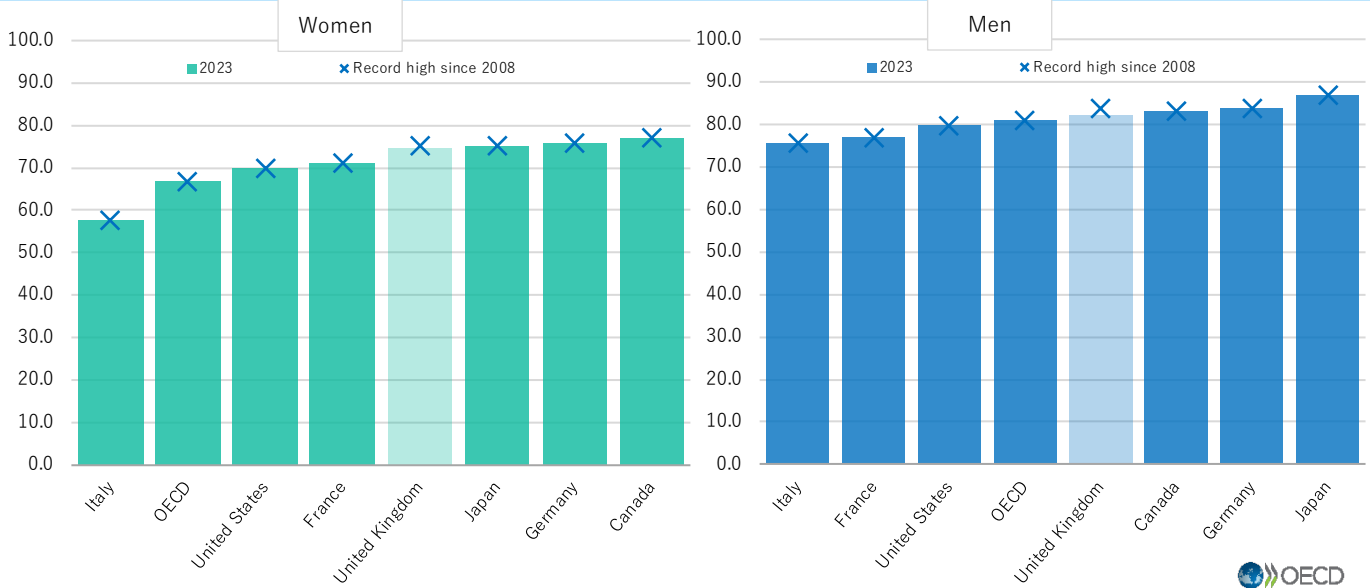
Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#), and [Employment rates](#).

Figure 2 – Change in OECD employment by age and gender
Thousands of persons, seasonally adjusted



Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#) and [Employed population by age groups](#).

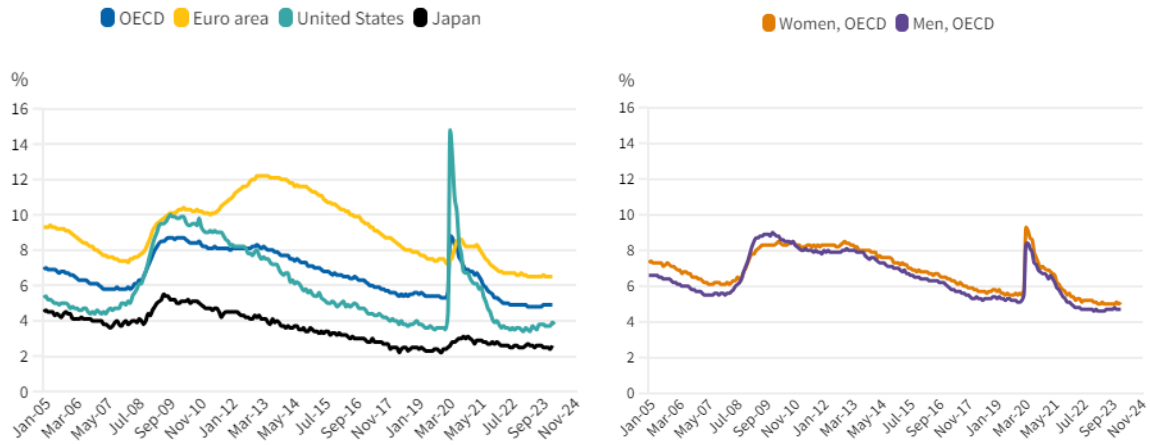
Figure 3 – Labour force participation rate (aged 15-64) by gender
Major seven countries, percentage of corresponding working age population, seasonally adjusted



Note: In 2023, the labour force participation rates (LFP) for all G7 countries except the United Kingdom, as well as the for the OECD as a whole were close (within 0.1 p.p.) to their record highs for women (bars reported in dark green). In the United Kingdom, the LFP for women was 0.6 p.p. lower than its record high reached in 2021. The LFP rates for all G7 countries except the United Kingdom, as well as for the OECD as a whole were close (within 0.1 p.p.) to their record highs for men (bars reported in dark blue). In the United Kingdom, the LFP for men was 1.8 p.p. lower than its record high reached in 2019.

Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#) and [Labour force participation rates](#).

Figure 4 – Unemployment rates
 Percentage of labour force, seasonally adjusted



Note: The fall in the OECD unemployment rate when compared with the April 2020 peak should be interpreted with caution, as it largely reflects the return of temporary laid-off workers in the United States and Canada, where they are recorded as unemployed, unlike in most other countries, including European member states, where they are recorded as employed.

Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#) and [Monthly unemployment rates](#).

Table 1 – Employment rates and levels (aged 15–64)
Percentage of the working age population and levels, seasonally adjusted

	Employment rates										Change from previous period	Record high		Levels
	2021	2022	2023	2019	2022			2023				since 2005	Thousands	
				Q4	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
OECD	67.7	69.3	70.0	68.9	69.4	69.6	69.9	70.0	70.1	70.1	→	70.1	2023Q4	618,267
G7	71.1	72.5	73.0	72.3	72.5	72.6	72.9	73.0	73.0	73.1	→	73.1	2023Q4	352,433
European Union	68.3	69.8	70.5	68.0	69.8	70.1	70.3	70.5	70.4	70.6	↑	70.6	2023Q4	199,947
Euro area	67.8	69.4	70.1	68.5	69.4	69.6	69.9	70.2	70.0	70.2	↑	70.2	2023Q4	155,152
Australia	74.6	76.9	77.2	74.1	77.2	77.2	77.2	77.2	77.2	77.2	→	77.2	2022Q4	13,456
Austria	72.4	74.0	74.1	73.7	73.8	73.9	73.9	74.4	74.0	74.1	→	74.4	2023Q2	4,399
Belgium	65.3	66.5	66.6	65.1	66.8	66.7	66.8	66.1	66.7	66.8	→	66.8	2022Q3	4,981
Canada	73.5	75.6	75.8	74.6	75.6	75.8	76.2	76.0	75.7	75.4	↓	76.2	2023Q1	19,236
Chile	58.5	61.9	62.9	64.1	61.9	62.2	62.7	62.9	62.6	63.4	↑	64.5	2018Q1	8,619
Colombia	57.8	61.6	63.0	64.7	62.0	61.2	62.4	63.8	63.7	62.0	↓	67.8	2017Q2	21,285
Costa Rica	57.2	60.1	58.6	61.6	60.9	60.7	59.0	59.3	58.2	58.1	→	63.3	2013Q4	1,996
Czechia	74.4	75.5	75.1	75.1	75.6	75.4	75.0	75.4	75.1	75.0	→	75.6	2022Q3	4,851
Denmark	75.5	76.8	76.6	75.2	76.9	76.7	77.0	76.6	76.3	76.3	→	77.8	2006Q4	2,884
Estonia	74.0	76.4	76.2	76.2	76.4	76.9	76.4	76.5	76.2	75.9	↓	76.9	2022Q4	651
Finland	72.7	74.3	74.0	72.3	74.1	74.7	74.3	74.7	73.8	73.4	↓	74.7	2022Q4	2,522
France	67.3	68.1	68.5	66.7	68.4	68.3	68.5	68.6	68.4	68.3	→	68.6	2023Q2	28,007
Germany	75.6	76.9	77.4	75.8	76.9	77.2	77.4	77.5	77.3	77.3	→	77.5	2023Q2	41,467
Greece	57.3	60.7	61.8	56.3	60.8	60.9	61.0	62.3	61.9	62.0	→	62.3	2023Q2	4,086
Hungary	73.1	74.4	74.8	72.2	74.4	74.5	74.7	74.8	74.6	75.0	↑	75.0	2023Q4	4,614
Iceland	79.8	83.3	83.7	83.6	82.6	83.9	83.4	84.3	83.4	83.7	↑	87.0	2016Q3	210
Ireland	69.9	73.2	74.0	69.6	72.8	73.1	73.8	74.3	73.9	73.9	→	74.3	2023Q2	2,586
Israel	66.6	69.2	69.8	68.6	69.5	69.0	70.2	70.2	70.0	68.7	↓	70.2	2023Q2	4,038
Italy	58.3	60.2	61.5	59.0	60.1	60.7	61.0	61.4	61.5	62.1	↑	62.1	2023Q4	23,025
Japan	77.9	78.5	78.9	78.1	78.6	78.6	78.6	78.9	79.0	79.3	↑	79.3	2023Q4	58,500
Korea	66.5	68.5	69.2	67.0	68.7	68.7	68.8	69.2	69.4	69.5	→	69.5	2023Q4	24,887
Latvia	69.9	71.3	71.5	72.6	71.9	71.3	70.9	71.8	71.9	71.2	↓	72.9	2019Q3	827
Lithuania	72.4	73.8	73.1	73.0	74.9	73.2	72.3	73.4	73.7	73.2	↓	74.9	2022Q3	1,378
Luxembourg	69.4	70.1	70.3	68.0	70.0	69.7	70.6	70.8	70.6	69.2	↓	70.8	2023Q2	315
Mexico	61.0	62.5	63.7	62.4	62.5	63.1	63.8	63.4	63.8	63.8	→	63.8	2023Q4	55,713
Netherlands	80.2	81.8	82.4	79.8	81.7	82.1	82.3	82.5	82.5	82.5	→	82.5	2023Q2	9,413
New Zealand	78.3	79.7	80.1	77.3	80.1	80.3	80.4	80.4	79.8	79.8	→	80.4	2023Q2	2,726
Norway	76.3	77.7	77.4	75.3	77.6	77.6	77.3	77.5	77.5	77.2	↓	78.1	2008Q3	2,762
Poland	70.3	71.4	72.3	67.7	71.1	71.7	72.2	72.0	72.2	72.7	↑	72.7	2023Q4	16,758
Portugal	69.7	71.4	72.5	69.9	71.7	71.6	71.9	72.5	72.8	72.6	↓	72.8	2023Q3	4,770
Slovak Republic	69.5	71.4	72.0	70.2	71.4	71.6	71.5	72.0	71.8	72.5	↑	72.5	2023Q4	2,575
Slovenia	71.5	73.1	72.5	70.9	73.5	72.9	72.0	72.9	72.4	72.8	↑	73.5	2022Q3	977
Spain	62.7	64.4	65.5	63.4	64.6	64.4	64.7	65.4	65.8	65.9	→	65.9	2007Q2	20,979
Sweden	75.4	77.1	77.5	76.4	77.4	77.3	77.5	77.6	77.4	77.3	→	77.6	2023Q2	5,053
Switzerland	79.3	79.5	80.6	80.7	79.4	79.7	80.1	80.7	80.4	81.0	↑	81.0	2023Q4	4,689
Türkiye	50.3	52.8	53.8	50.3	52.8	53.8	53.8	53.5	53.8	54.2	↑	54.2	2023Q4	30,837
United Kingdom	75.1	75.3	75.1	76.1	75.0	75.2	75.3	75.2	74.8	75.0	↑	76.1	2019Q4	31,755
United States	69.4	71.3	72.0	71.7	71.4	71.4	71.8	72.0	72.0	72.0	→	72.2	2006Q4	150,443

...: Not applicable ...: Not available b: break in time series

Change from previous period (x)			
↑	x > 0.1	→	-0.1 ≤ x ≤ 0.1
↓			x < -0.1

Note: figures in bold in the columns "record high since 2005" stress that the employment rate was at or within 0.1 percentage point of its highest in the current quarterly period.

Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#), [Employment rates](#) and [Employed population](#).

Table 2 –Labour force participation rates (aged 15–64)
Percentage of the working age population, seasonally adjusted

	2021	2022	2023	2019	2022		2023				Change from previous period	Record high since 2008	
				Q4	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
OECD	72.2	73.1	73.7	72.9	73.1	73.3	73.6	73.7	73.7	73.8	→	73.8	2023Q4
G7	75.1	75.6	76.2	75.5	75.7	75.7	76.0	76.2	76.2	76.3	→	76.3	2023Q4
European Union	73.6	74.5	75.0	73.0	74.5	74.7	74.9	75.0	75.0	75.2	↑	75.2	2023Q4
Euro area	73.6	74.5	75.1	74.1	74.5	74.6	74.9	75.1	75.1	75.2	→	75.2	2023Q4
Australia	78.7	80.0	80.2	78.3	80.1	80.1	80.1	80.1	80.2	80.4	↑	80.4	2023Q4
Austria	77.3	77.8	78.2	77.3	77.7	77.8	77.9	78.2	78.3	78.2	→	78.3	2023Q3
Belgium	69.7	70.5	70.5	68.8	70.7	70.7	70.8	69.9	70.6	70.8	↑	70.8	2023Q1
Canada	79.5	79.8	80.2	79.1	79.7	79.9	80.3	80.3	80.2	80.0	↓	80.3	2023Q1
Chile	64.3	67.4	69.0	69.6	67.3	68.1	68.8	68.7	68.8	69.9	↑	69.9	2023Q4
Colombia	67.4	69.6	70.3	72.6	69.9	69.0	70.0	71.1	70.7	69.5	↓	74.7	2017Q2
Costa Rica	68.6	68.7	64.5	70.7	69.4	68.9	66.2	65.8	63.4	62.8	↓	71.1	2020Q1
Czechia	76.6	77.3	77.2	76.7	77.3	77.2	77.0	77.4	77.1	77.1	→	77.4	2023Q2
Denmark	79.6	80.4	80.8	79.2	80.8	80.4	81.0	80.6	80.5	81.0	↑	81.0	2023Q4
Estonia	79.1	81.2	81.7	79.5	81.3	81.5	80.8	82.2	82.4	81.2	↓	82.4	2023Q3
Finland	78.8	79.8	79.9	77.7	80.1	80.2	79.7	80.3	79.9	79.5	↓	80.3	2023Q2
France	73.0	73.6	73.9	72.7	73.7	73.6	73.7	74.1	73.9	74.0	→	74.1	2023Q2
Germany	78.5	79.4	79.8	78.2	79.5	79.6	79.8	79.9	79.8	79.9	→	79.9	2023Q2
Greece	67.3	69.4	69.5	68.2	69.5	69.3	69.1	70.2	69.7	69.3	↓	70.2	2023Q2
Hungary	76.2	77.2	78.0	74.7	77.3	77.5	77.8	77.9	77.9	78.4	↑	78.4	2023Q4
Iceland	85.1	(b) 85.2	86.9	86.7	86.1	87.1	86.8	87.0	86.8	86.9	→	89.8	2016Q3
Ireland	74.6	76.7	77.5	73.2	76.2	76.5	77.1	77.7	77.4	77.4	→	77.7	2023Q2
Israel	70.2	71.9	72.3	71.3	72.2	72.0	73.0	72.9	72.4	71.0	↓	73.0	2023Q1
Italy	64.5	65.6	66.7	65.4	65.6	65.9	66.3	66.6	66.7	67.1	↑	67.1	2023Q4
Japan	80.3	80.7	81.1	80.0	80.8	80.7	80.8	81.1	81.3	81.4	→	81.4	2023Q4
Korea	69.0	70.5	71.1	69.6	70.7	70.7	70.8	71.1	71.2	71.4	↑	71.4	2023Q4
Latvia	75.8	76.8	76.7	77.4	77.4	76.6	75.9	76.9	77.1	76.6	↓	78.4	2020Q2
Lithuania	78.2	78.6	78.8	78.4	80.0	78.0	77.9	78.7	79.3	79.1	↓	80.0	2022Q3
Luxembourg	73.2	73.5	74.2	72.1	73.8	73.1	74.1	74.6	74.6	73.2	↓	74.6	2023Q3
Mexico	63.7	64.7	65.6	64.7	64.7	65.2	65.7	65.4	65.7	65.7	→	65.7	2023Q1
Netherlands	83.7	84.7	85.4	83.5	84.9	85.1	85.3	85.5	85.6	85.4	↓	85.6	2023Q3
New Zealand	81.6	82.5	83.3	80.8	83.0	83.2	83.3	83.5	83.2	83.2	→	83.5	2023Q2
Norway	80.0	80.4	80.4	78.5	80.3	80.3	80.4	80.3	80.4	80.4	→	80.6	2022Q1
Poland	72.8	73.5	74.4	69.9	73.3	73.9	74.3	74.1	74.3	74.9	↑	74.9	2023Q4
Portugal	74.9	76.2	77.7	74.9	76.4	76.7	77.4	77.6	77.8	77.9	→	77.9	2023Q4
Slovak Republic	74.6	76.1	76.5	74.6	76.1	76.3	76.2	76.5	76.4	76.9	↑	76.9	2023Q4
Slovenia	75.1	76.2	75.2	74.0	76.5	75.6	74.8	75.6	75.1	75.4	↑	76.5	2022Q3
Spain	73.7	74.0	74.6	73.8	74.1	74.0	74.2	74.4	74.8	74.7	→	74.8	2023Q3
Sweden	82.9	83.5	84.0	82.5	83.4	83.6	83.9	84.0	84.0	84.2	↑	84.2	2023Q4
Switzerland	83.7	83.2	84.0	84.3	82.9	83.3	83.6	84.0	84.0	84.5	↑	84.8	2020Q4
Türkiye	57.3	59.2	59.6	58.2	58.9	60.0	59.7	59.5	59.4	59.5	→	60.0	2022Q4
United Kingdom	78.7	78.3	78.3	79.2	78.0	78.3	78.5	78.6	78.1	78.1	→	79.3	2020Q1
United States	73.4	74.0	74.7	74.4	74.1	74.1	74.5	74.6	74.8	74.8	→	75.3	2008Q2

... Not available b: break in time series

Change from previous period (x)			
↑	x > 0.1	→	-0.1 ≤ x ≤ 0.1
		↓	x < -0.1

Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#) and [Labour force participation rates](#).

Table 3 – Unemployment rates (aged 15 and over)
Percentage of labour force, seasonally adjusted

	2022	2023	2023				2020	2023					2024		Change from previous period	Record low since 2001	
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Feb	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb			
OECD	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.3	4.8	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	→	4.8	Jun-23
G7	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	→	3.9	Jan-23	
European Union	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.6	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.0	→	6.0	Feb-23	
Euro area	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	7.3	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	→	6.5	Mar-23	
Australia	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.9	5.1	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.9	4.1	3.7	↓	3.5	Oct-22	
Austria	4.8	5.1	4.9	5.0	5.4	5.2	4.6	5.4	5.1	5.0	5.4	4.9	4.7	↓	3.6	Jan-01	
Belgium	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.3	5.5	5.1	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.5	→	4.9	Apr-20	
Canada	5.3	5.4	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8	→	4.8	Jul-22	
Chile	7.9	8.7	8.7	8.3	8.7	9.0	8.2	8.8	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.8	..	→	5.6	Jul-13	
Colombia	11.2	10.2	10.6	10.0	9.6	10.5	11.2	9.8	10.3	10.4	10.8	10.4	10.7	↑	8.5	Nov-15	
Costa Rica	12.2	8.9	10.6	9.6	8.1	7.3	12.5	7.7	7.1	7.3	7.9	7.8	..	→	7.1	Oct-23	
Czechia	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.7	1.8	2.7	2.9	2.5	2.8	3.0	2.6	↓	1.7	Feb-19	
Denmark	4.5	5.1	4.7	4.8	4.8	6.2	5.3	4.8	6.2	6.1	6.3	6.6	6.6	→	3.2	Jan-08	
Estonia	5.6	6.4	5.3	6.6	7.3	6.6	4.9	6.7	6.3	6.4	7.0	7.5	7.7	↑	3.9	May-08	
Finland	6.8	7.2	6.7	7.1	7.4	7.6	6.7	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.7	7.7	→	5.7	Apr-08	
France	7.3	7.3	7.1	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.8	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.4	→	7.1	Feb-08	
Germany	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2	→	2.9	May-19	
Greece	12.5	11.1	11.3	11.2	10.9	10.6	16.1	10.7	10.6	10.8	10.5	10.6	11.0	↑	7.4	May-08	
Hungary	3.6	4.0	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.2	3.3	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	→	3.2	May-19	
Iceland	3.8	3.4	3.6	2.7	3.6	3.5	6.1	4.2	3.3	3.2	3.9	..	..	↑	1.5	Feb-07
Ireland	4.5	4.3	4.1	4.2	4.5	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.2	↓	3.9	Mar-01	
Israel	3.8	3.4	3.9	3.6	3.3	3.0	3.3	3.2	3.1	2.9	3.2	3.2	3.3	→	2.9	Nov-23	
Italy	8.1	7.7	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	9.5	7.7	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.3	7.5	↑	5.9	Apr-07	
Japan	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.6	↑	2.2	May-18	
Korea	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.8	3.4	2.6	2.5	2.8	3.2	3.0	2.6	↓	2.5	Aug-23	
Latvia	6.9	6.5	6.1	6.4	6.6	6.9	7.3	6.6	6.8	6.9	7.0	6.9	6.9	→	5.3	Oct-07	
Lithuania	6.0	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.9	7.2	7.4	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.0	7.7	7.4	↓	4.0	Nov-07	
Luxembourg	4.6	5.2	4.9	5.0	5.3	5.5	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.6	5.6	→	1.8	May-01	
Mexico	3.3	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.6	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.5	↓	2.3	Aug-01	
Netherlands	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.7	→	3.1	Apr-01	
New Zealand	3.3	3.7	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	→	3.2	Q4-21
Norway	3.2	3.6	3.7	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.5	4.5	3.6	↓	2.4	Sep-07	
Poland	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9	→	2.7	Jan-23	
Portugal	6.2	6.6	6.9	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.5	6.6	6.7	→	5.1	Jan-01	
Slovak Republic	6.2	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.6	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	→	5.5	Jan-24	
Slovenia	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.5	4.3	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.1	→	3.1	Feb-24	
Spain	12.9	12.1	12.8	12.0	11.9	11.8	13.6	11.9	11.9	11.8	11.7	11.6	11.5	→	7.9	May-07	
Sweden	7.5	7.7	7.4	7.5	7.8	8.0	7.8	8.1	7.9	7.9	8.2	8.2	8.0	↓	5.6	Jun-02	
Switzerland	4.3	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.1	4.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	→	3.9	Q2-23
Türkiye	10.5	9.4	9.9	9.7	9.2	8.8	12.6	9.1	8.6	9.0	8.8	9.0	8.7	↓	8.0	Jun-12	
United Kingdom	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.1	3.8	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.9	..	..	→	3.6	Jul-22
United States	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.9	↑	3.4	Jan-23	

...: Not applicable ...: Not available b: break in time series

Change from previous period (x)				
↑	x > 0.1	→	-0.1 ≤ x ≤ 0.1	↓
Change between January and February 2024 except for Chile, and Costa Rica, where the change is reported between December 2023 and January 2024; for Iceland and the United Kingdom, change between November and December 2023; for New Zealand and Switzerland, change between third quarter 2023 and fourth quarter 2023.				

Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#) and [Monthly unemployment rates](#).

Table 4 – Unemployment levels (aged 15 and over)*Thousands of persons, seasonally adjusted*

	2022	2023	2023			2023		2024	
			Q2	Q3	Q4	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
OECD	33,977	33,329	33,134	33,279	33,598	33,546	33,828	33,597	33,702
G7	15,776	15,960	15,818	16,166	16,260	16,229	16,188	16,003	16,521
European Union	13,256	13,130	13,006	13,130	13,264	13,239	13,244	13,262	13,249
Euro area	11,293	11,111	11,023	11,109	11,134	11,129	11,094	11,085	11,102
Australia	523	537	525	537	571	576	579	600	548
Austria	221	241	235	256	243	234	253	233	224
Belgium	294	294	297	283	296	295	298	297	298
Canada	1,098	1,155	1,119	1,185	1,240	1,241	1,244	1,225	1,260
Chile	758	862	820	864	907	907	892	886	..
Colombia	2,781	2,576	2,550	2,450	2,645	2,622	2,734	2,655	2,709
Costa Rica	300	205	225	183	164	164	183	182	..
Czechia	126	138	139	137	141	129	144	154	137
Denmark	139	162	152	151	199	196	203	214	217
Estonia	40	48	49	54	49	48	52	56	57
Finland	190	204	203	209	214	216	214	219	219
France	2,234	2,263	2,266	2,280	2,326	2,328	2,339	2,326	2,304
Germany	1,343	1,335	1,306	1,344	1,380	1,380	1,393	1,403	1,408
Greece	588	522	532	510	500	500	499	506	524
Hungary	176	195	192	197	207	207	210	215	218
Iceland	8	8	6	8	8	8	9	..	..
Ireland	121	120	117	124	126	125	126	129	119
Israel	163	153	162	146	136	128	141	144	145
Italy	2,028	1,952	1,954	1,946	1,920	1,928	1,865	1,866	1,912
Japan	1,793	1,783	1,770	1,807	1,750	1,770	1,720	1,700	1,820
Korea	833	787	756	762	823	809	930	889	774
Latvia	65	61	61	62	65	66	66	65	65
Lithuania	90	105	98	107	112	113	109	118	116
Luxembourg	15	17	17	18	19	19	19	19	19
Mexico	1,940	1,693	1,723	1,695	1,667	1,666	1,721	1,662	1,532
Netherlands	350	359	350	366	360	357	361	368	379
New Zealand	97	113	110	119	122	...	...	...	...
Norway	95	107	100	107	109	113	105	134	109
Poland	511	502	492	501	539	543	537	523	517
Portugal	318	349	339	339	349	348	347	352	359
Slovak Republic	170	162	163	161	156	155	154	154	152
Slovenia	41	38	39	39	36	36	35	34	33
Spain	3,025	2,894	2,853	2,862	2,838	2,836	2,819	2,796	2,771
Sweden	421	437	427	445	457	451	467	467	458
Switzerland	212	204	199	208	205	...	...	...	...
Türkiye	3,592	3,275	3,385	3,213	3,075	3,124	3,106	3,187	3,078
United Kingdom	1,285	1,393	1,460	1,407	1,320	1,320	1,359	..	..
United States	5,996	6,080	5,943	6,197	6,324	6,262	6,268	6,124	6,458

...: Not applicable ..: Not available b: break in time series

Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#) and [Monthly unemployment levels](#).

Table 5 – Unemployment rates by sex (aged 15 and over)
Percentage of the labour force of each group, seasonally adjusted

	Women							Men								
	2022	2023	2023		2023		2024		2022	2023	2023		2023		2024	
			Q3	Q4	Dec	Jan	Feb	Q3			Q4	Dec	Jan	Feb		
OECD	5.3	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.0	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	
G7	4.0	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2	
European Union	6.5	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	6.4	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	
Euro area	7.2	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	
Australia	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.6	3.8	3.8	3.7	4.0	4.0	4.2	3.8	3.8	
Austria	4.5	4.9	5.1	4.7	5.2	4.5	4.3	4.9	5.3	5.7	5.5	5.5	5.3	5.1	5.1	
Belgium	5.3	5.0	4.8	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.8	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6	
Canada	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.7	6.0	6.0	5.7	6.1	6.1	
Chile	8.5	9.1	9.2	9.4	9.1	9.0	..	7.4	8.4	8.3	8.8	8.7	8.6	..	..
Colombia	14.3	12.8	12.0	12.8	13.0	13.0	13.1	9.0	8.2	7.8	8.8	9.3	8.5	8.9	8.9	
Costa Rica	16.4	10.8	9.0	8.2	9.1	8.5	..	9.4	7.7	7.5	6.8	7.3	7.4	..	..
Czechia	2.9	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.2	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.2	2.2	
Denmark	4.5	5.3	5.2	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.4	4.4	5.0	4.5	5.9	6.1	6.6	6.7	6.7	
Estonia	5.0	6.6	7.6	6.8	7.3	7.8	7.8	6.1	6.2	6.9	6.4	6.7	7.2	7.5	7.5	
Finland	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.0	7.1	7.9	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.2	8.2	
France	7.1	7.2	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.4	
Germany	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	
Greece	16.4	14.3	14.0	13.3	13.3	13.6	14.2	9.3	8.5	8.4	8.5	8.2	8.1	8.4	8.4	
Hungary	3.5	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	3.7	4.0	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4	
Iceland	3.4	3.0	3.1	3.6	4.8	..	..	4.1	3.8	3.9	3.4	3.2	..	..	..
Ireland	4.6	4.2	4.3	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.3	4.3	3.9	3.9	
Israel	3.6	3.2	3.2	2.8	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6	
Italy	9.4	8.8	8.8	8.6	8.4	8.4	8.7	7.1	6.8	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	
Japan	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.5	2.7	2.7	
Korea	3.1	2.8	2.7	2.8	3.4	3.2	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.7	
Latvia	5.6	5.4	5.3	6.0	6.1	5.9	5.9	8.2	7.6	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9	
Lithuania	5.5	6.4	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.7	6.3	6.4	7.3	7.5	7.8	7.5	8.7	8.4	8.4	
Luxembourg	4.7	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	4.5	5.0	5.1	5.4	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.6	
Mexico	3.3	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.9	2.8	2.6	3.3	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.4	
Netherlands	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.8	3.9	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	
New Zealand	3.6	4.0	4.1	4.3	...	...	...	3.1	3.5	3.8	3.7	...	...	...	...
Norway	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.3	4.1	3.3	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.9	3.8	4.8	3.9	3.9	
Poland	2.9	2.9	2.9	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	
Portugal	6.6	6.9	6.8	6.9	6.8	7.1	7.3	5.7	6.2	6.0	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.1	
Slovak Republic	6.4	6.0	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.3	
Slovenia	4.3	3.7	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	
Spain	14.8	13.8	13.5	13.4	13.3	13.2	13.0	11.3	10.6	10.5	10.3	10.3	10.1	10.0	10.0	
Sweden	7.9	7.9	8.3	8.1	8.6	8.1	7.6	7.1	7.5	7.4	7.8	7.7	8.2	8.4	8.4	
Switzerland	4.6	4.3	4.4	4.3	...	...	...	4.1	3.9	3.8	3.8	...	...	...	...
Türkiye	13.5	12.7	12.5	11.7	11.9	11.6	11.3	9.0	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.6	7.3	7.3	
United Kingdom	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.7	..	..	3.9	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.1	..	..	..
United States	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.9	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	3.8	

...: Not applicable ..: Not available b: break in time series

Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#) and [Monthly unemployment rates](#).

Table 6 – Unemployment rates by age group (aged 15 and over)

Percentage of the labour force of each group, seasonally adjusted

	Youth (15-24)							Prime-age and Older Workers (25+)						
	2022	2023	2023		2023	2024		2022	2023	2023		2023	2024	
			Q3	Q4		Dec	Jan			Feb	Q3		Q4	Dec	Jan	Feb
	2022	2023	2023	2023	2023	2024	2024	2022	2023	2023	2023	2023	2024	2024
OECD	10.9	10.6	10.7	10.8	10.6	10.4	10.9	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
G7	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.2	9.0	8.6	9.5	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
European Union	14.5	14.5	14.6	14.9	14.9	14.9	14.8	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2
Euro area	14.5	14.4	14.6	14.7	14.6	14.6	14.6	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.7
Australia	8.2	8.4	8.3	9.5	9.5	9.4	9.1	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.0	2.7
Austria	9.4	10.4	11.0	10.6	11.2	10.1	9.7	4.2	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.3	4.1
Belgium ⁽¹⁾	16.3	16.0	17.5	17.1	17.1	..	..	4.7	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.6
Canada	10.1	10.7	10.9	11.4	11.3	10.8	11.6	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.9
Chile	17.7	21.4	22.0	22.4	22.2	21.8	..	7.0	7.6	7.6	7.9	7.8	7.7	..
Colombia	21.9	20.2	19.1	21.5	21.4	20.4	21.7	9.4	8.5	8.0	8.7	9.1	8.8	8.9
Costa Rica	31.0	24.8	22.1	22.1	21.7	20.2	..	9.3	6.6	6.1	5.2	6.0	6.1	..
Czechia	7.6	8.6	8.9	7.3	8.4	8.1	7.9	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.3
Denmark	10.5	11.5	11.9	14.2	14.0	13.1	15.1	3.5	4.0	3.6	4.7	4.9	5.5	5.0
Estonia	18.1	17.4	21.2	19.2	18.3	17.8	18.0	4.5	5.5	6.0	5.5	6.1	6.7	6.8
Finland	14.1	16.1	16.9	17.1	15.3	18.7	16.5	5.8	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.5
France	17.3	17.2	17.6	17.5	17.3	17.3	17.2	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.2
Germany	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	2.8	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9
Greece	31.4	26.9	26.2	28.1	25.5	22.5	25.0	11.4	10.1	10.0	9.6	9.6	10.0	10.3
Hungary	10.8	12.3	12.4	13.9	14.1	14.4	15.2	3.1	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7
Iceland	8.5	9.1	10.3	9.8	10.3	..	..	2.9	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.7	..	..
Ireland	10.0	10.6	11.2	11.1	11.3	11.7	10.5	3.7	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.2
Israel ⁽²⁾	6.9	6.0	6.6	5.8	5.7	5.9	5.2	3.2	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.7	3.0	2.8
Italy	23.7	22.7	22.7	22.9	21.9	22.1	22.8	7.1	..	6.7	..	..	..	..
Japan	4.3	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.7	4.2	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.5
Korea	7.0	5.7	5.5	6.0	5.9	6.3	6.2	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.0	2.9	2.4
Latvia	15.1	12.3	12.2	14.5	14.6	13.9	13.4	6.3	6.1	6.2	6.4	6.5	6.4	6.4
Lithuania	11.8	13.7	14.2	16.1	16.2	16.6	16.6	5.5	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.3	7.1	6.7
Luxembourg	17.3	18.4	18.7	20.0	19.8	20.0	20.0	3.6	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4
Mexico	6.5	5.8	5.8	5.9	6.0	5.6	5.5	2.6	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	1.9
Netherlands	7.6	8.3	8.7	8.2	8.1	8.2	8.7	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.6
New Zealand	9.3	10.7	11.5	11.6	...	...	...	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.7	...	...	...
Norway	9.9	10.9	11.1	11.3	11.2	12.4	10.9	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.3	3.1	2.5
Poland	10.8	11.4	11.1	12.1	12.3	12.1	12.0	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2
Portugal	19.2	20.3	20.6	22.4	22.8	23.8	23.1	5.2	5.5	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.4
Slovak Republic	19.9	19.8	20.5	19.7	19.3	19.0	18.8	5.4	5.1	5.1	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8
Slovenia ⁽¹⁾	10.2	9.9	11.5	10.6	10.6	..	..	3.6	3.2	3.2	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.6
Spain	29.7	28.5	27.7	28.8	28.8	28.7	28.2	11.7	10.9	10.7	10.5	10.4	10.2	10.1
Sweden	21.7	21.7	21.3	22.7	24.1	24.1	22.3	5.6	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.1
Switzerland	7.5	8.0	8.6	8.3	...	...	...	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.5	...	...	...
Türkiye	19.5	17.5	17.1	16.2	15.3	16.4	15.6	8.8	7.9	7.8	7.4	7.6	7.7	7.4
United Kingdom	10.6	11.9	12.1	11.6	12.1	..	..	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.8	2.8	..	..
United States	8.1	7.9	8.3	8.3	8.0	7.3	8.8	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1

...: Not applicable ..: Not available b: break in time series

1. Belgium and Slovenia: For youth unemployment, quarterly data are shown for all the months in the quarter.

2. Israel: Data shown in this table are not seasonally adjusted.

Source: OECD (2024) [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#) and [Monthly unemployment rates](#).



Methodological information:

The OECD unemployment rate is calculated as the total number of unemployed people in all OECD countries as a percentage of the total labour force (i.e. the unemployed plus those in employment).

For countries for which unemployment data for the most recent month or quarter are not available, the latest available data are used to compile data for the OECD total.

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

For further methodological information, including the impact of COVID-19 on employment and unemployment statistics, see: [Methodological Notes for OECD Unemployment and Labour Market Situation News Releases](#)

Access Data:

OECD Database (2024): [Infra-annual Labour Statistics](#)

The entry into force in 2021 of the Integrated European Social Statistics (IESS) Framework Regulation resulted in a new methodology of the EU Labour Force Survey, [updating the definitions of the labour status](#). Information by country on the status of the implementation of IESS regulation as well as on possible resulting breaks in time series can be found in a Eurostat Statistics Explained [article](#).

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.

Contacts:

For further information contact the OECD's Media Relations Division on (33) 1 45 24 97 00 or e-mail news.contact@oecd.org; for further information on data contact OECD's Statistics and Data Directorate: stat.contact@oecd.org.

Next releases:

Unemployment: [16 May 2024](#)

Labour Market Situation: [9 July 2024](#)