

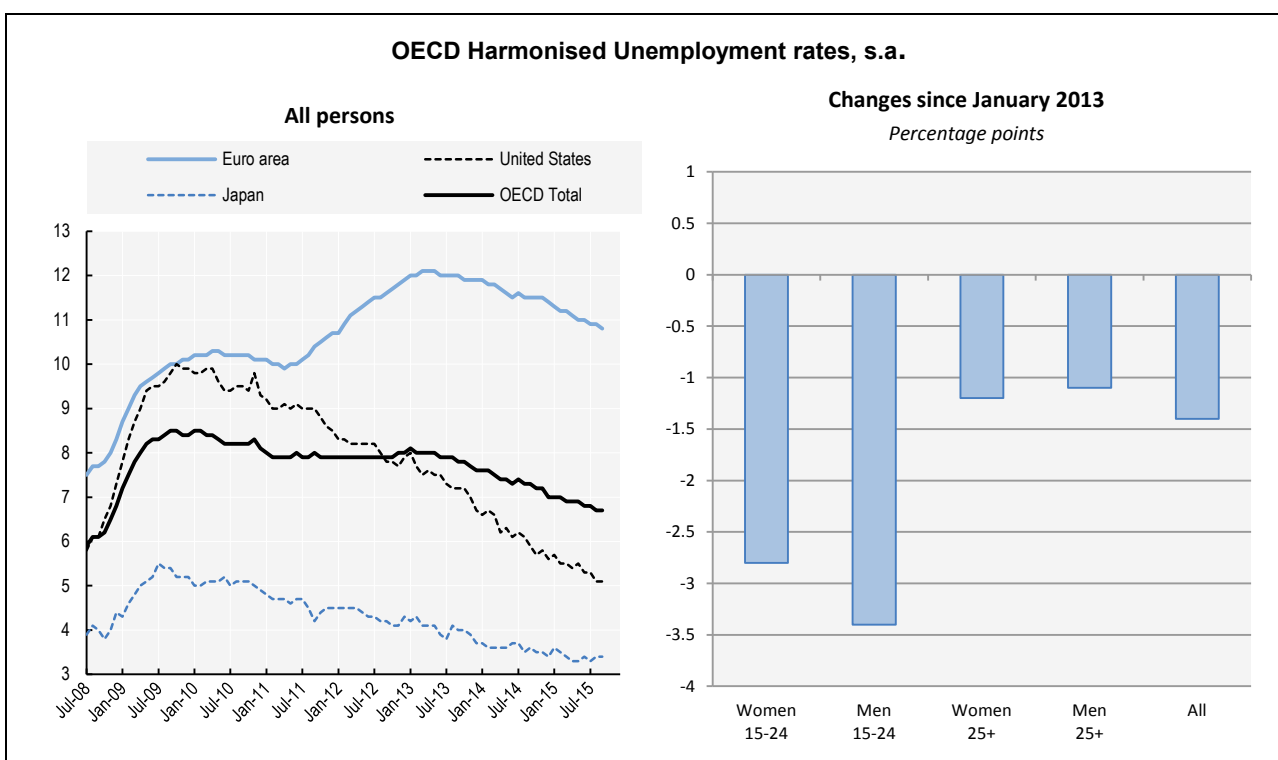
OECD unemployment rate stable at 6.7% in September 2015

The **OECD** unemployment rate was stable at 6.7% in September 2015, 1.4 percentage point below the January 2013 peak. Across the OECD area, 40.9 million people were unemployed, 8.0 million less than in January 2013, but still 6.4 million more than in July 2008, immediately before the crisis.

In September, the **euro area** unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 10.8%, its lowest level since January 2012. Within the euro area, the largest fall was observed in **Spain** (down 0.2 percentage point, to 21.6%, now having decreased every month for two years), while the unemployment rate fell slightly or was stable in other countries.

The unemployment rate in September was stable in **Japan** (at 3.4%) and in the **United States** (at 5.1%), while it increased in **Canada** (by 0.1 percentage point, to 7.1%). More recent data show that in October 2015, the unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point in the **United States** (to 5.0%) and in **Canada** (to 7.0%).

While OECD unemployment rate for various demographic groups remained broadly stable in September, decreases since the peak of January 2013 vary across these groups. The sharpest fall was recorded for **youth** (15-24 year-old) (down 3.4 percentage points, to 13.9%, for young **men** and down 2.8 percentage points, to 13.4%, for young **women**). Over the same period, the unemployment rate declined less markedly for people **above 25**, with declines by 1.2 percentage point for **women** (to 5.9%) and by 1.1 percentage point for **men** (to 5.7%).



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.

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

Next release: Wednesday, 9 December 2015

OECD Harmonised Unemployment Rates
News Release: September 2015
Table 1: OECD Unemployment Rates, s.a.
Percentage of active population

	2012	2013	2014	2014	2015				2015					
					Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	7.9	7.9	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.7		6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7
Major Seven	7.4	7.1	6.4	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.8		5.9	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7
European Union	10.5	10.9	10.2	10.0	9.7	9.6	9.4		9.6	9.6	9.5	9.4	9.4	9.3
Euro area	11.4	12.0	11.6	11.5	11.2	11.0	10.9		11.1	11.0	11.0	10.9	10.9	10.8
Australia	5.2	5.7	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2		6.2	6.0	6.1	6.4	6.2	6.2
Austria	4.9	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.7		5.9	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7
Belgium	7.6	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.8	8.8		8.7	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.7
Canada ⁽¹⁾	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.8	7.0		6.8	6.8	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1
Chile	6.4	5.9	6.4	6.5	6.1	6.3	6.2		6.4	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	
Czech Republic	7.0	7.0	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.1	4.9		5.3	5.1	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.8
Denmark	7.5	7.0	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.3		6.3	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.2
Estonia	10.0	8.6	7.4	6.6	6.1	6.3			6.5	6.4	6.1	5.8	5.7	
Finland	7.7	8.2	8.7	9.0	9.2	9.4	9.5		9.3	9.4	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5
France	9.8	10.3	10.3	10.5	10.4	10.4	10.7		10.3	10.4	10.5	10.6	10.8	10.7
Germany	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.5		4.7	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5
Greece	24.5	27.5	26.6	26.0	25.9	25.0			25.3	24.8	25.0	25.0		
Hungary	11.0	10.1	7.7	7.3	7.4	7.0			7.1	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.5	
Iceland	6.0	5.4	5.0	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.3		4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
Ireland	14.7	13.1	11.3	10.4	10.0	9.6	9.5		9.7	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.4
Israel	6.9	6.2	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.2		4.9	5.0	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1
Italy	10.6	12.1	12.7	12.8	12.3	12.4	11.9		12.3	12.4	12.5	12.0	11.9	11.8
Japan	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.4		3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4
Korea	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.6		3.7	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5
Luxembourg	5.1	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.9		5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.8
Mexico	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3		4.4	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3
Netherlands	5.8	7.2	7.4	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.8		7.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8
New Zealand	6.9	6.2	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.0							
Norway	3.2	3.5	3.5	3.8	4.1	4.3			4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.6	
Poland	10.1	10.3	9.0	8.3	7.9	7.5	7.2		7.6	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.1
Portugal	15.8	16.5	14.1	13.5	13.5	12.5	12.2		12.8	12.4	12.3	12.2	12.3	12.2
Slovak Republic	14.0	14.2	13.2	12.5	12.1	11.4	11.1		11.6	11.4	11.3	11.2	11.1	11.0
Slovenia	8.9	10.1	9.7	9.4	9.2	9.5	9.3		9.5	9.6	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.2
Spain	24.8	26.1	24.5	23.7	23.1	22.5	21.8		22.7	22.5	22.3	22.0	21.8	21.6
Sweden	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.2		7.7	7.7	7.3	7.3	7.0	7.3
Switzerland	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.1	4.4	4.2								
Turkey ⁽²⁾	8.2	8.7	10.0	10.5	10.1	10.2			9.9	10.2	10.5			
United Kingdom	7.9	7.6	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.6			5.6	5.6	5.5	5.3		
United States ⁽³⁾	8.1	7.4	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.2		5.4	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.1

Notes:

(1) Canada: Unemployment rate for October 2015 was 7.0%.

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

(3) United States: Unemployment rate for October 2015 was 5.0%.

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

	Women						Men					
	2014	2015		2015			2014	2015		2015		
		Q2	Q3	Jul	Aug	Sep		Q2	Q3	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.9	6.8	6.8	7.3	6.8	6.6	6.7	6.6	6.6
Major Seven	6.3	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.6	6.5	6.1	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.9
European Union	10.3	9.6	9.4	9.5	9.4	9.4	10.1	9.5	9.3	9.4	9.3	9.3
Euro area	11.8	11.2	11.0	11.0	11.0	10.9	11.5	10.9	10.7	10.8	10.7	10.7
Australia	6.2	6.0	6.3	6.6	6.3	6.1	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.2
Austria	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.2	5.1	5.9	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.2
Belgium	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.9	7.9	7.7	9.0	9.5	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6
Canada	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.1	6.4	6.4	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.5	7.7
Chile	6.9	7.2	6.9	6.8	6.9		6.0	5.6	5.8	5.7	5.8	
Czech Republic	7.4	6.2	5.9	6.0	5.8	5.9	5.1	4.3	4.0	4.2	4.0	3.9
Denmark	6.7	6.5	6.8	6.6	6.8	6.9	6.4	6.1	5.8	6.0	5.9	5.6
Estonia	6.9	6.4		5.7	5.8		7.9	6.3		5.9	5.7	
Finland	8.0	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.3	9.9	10.0	10.1	10.0	9.9
France	10.0	9.8	10.3	10.2	10.3	10.3	10.5	10.9	11.1	11.1	11.2	11.1
Germany	4.6	4.3	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	5.3	5.1	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.9
Greece	30.2	28.8		29.4			23.7	22.0		21.5		
Hungary	8.0	7.2		7.2	6.8		7.6	6.8		6.5	6.4	
Iceland	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	5.1	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Ireland	9.4	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	12.9	10.8	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.5
Israel	5.9	5.1	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.2	5.9	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.1
Italy	13.8	13.1	12.6	12.7	12.7	12.5	11.9	11.8	11.4	11.5	11.3	11.3
Japan	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6
Korea	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.7
Luxembourg	6.4	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.7	5.8	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.0
Mexico	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.3	4.8	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.2
Netherlands	7.8	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.1	7.3	7.2	6.6	6.5	6.4	6.5	6.5
New Zealand	6.6	6.7	6.6				5.1	5.2	5.6			
Norway	3.3	3.9		3.9	4.2		3.7	4.6		4.7	5.0	
Poland	9.6	7.7	7.3	7.4	7.3	7.2	8.5	7.3	7.1	7.2	7.1	7.1
Portugal	14.5	12.7	12.5	12.3	12.6	12.6	13.8	12.3	12.0	12.1	12.0	11.8
Slovak Republic	13.6	12.9	12.7	12.8	12.7	12.7	12.8	10.3	9.8	9.9	9.8	9.6
Slovenia	10.6	10.7	10.5	10.6	10.6	10.3	9.0	8.6	8.3	8.4	8.3	8.2
Spain	25.4	24.0	23.2	23.4	23.2	23.0	23.6	21.2	20.6	20.7	20.6	20.4
Sweden	7.7	7.5	6.9	7.2	6.7	6.9	8.1	7.7	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.6
Switzerland	4.7	4.3					4.4	4.0				
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	11.9	12.7					9.1	9.1				
United Kingdom	5.9	5.3		5.1			6.4	5.7		5.5		
United States	6.1	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.1	5.0	6.3	5.5	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.1

Note:

(1) Following the changes introduced in the Labour Force Survey for Turkey, 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+)					
	2014	2015		2015			2014	2015		2015		
		Q2	Q3	Jul	Aug	Sep		Q2	Q3	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	15.1	14.2	13.7	13.9	13.6	13.6	6.3	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8
Major Seven	14.1	13.0	12.5	12.7	12.4	12.5	5.4	5.0	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.9
European Union	22.2	20.7	20.1	20.2	20.1	20.1	9.0	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3	8.2
Euro area	23.8	22.5	22.1	22.1	22.2	22.1	10.4	9.9	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.7
Australia	13.3	13.4	13.5	13.8	13.6	12.9	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.8
Austria	10.3	10.6	11.1	10.9	11.3	11.0	4.9	5.2	4.9	5.0	4.9	4.9
Belgium	23.3	22.6	23.0	22.7	22.9	23.3	7.3	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4
Canada	13.5	13.2	13.3	13.2	13.1	13.5	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.7	5.9	5.9
Chile	16.4	16.2	15.6	15.8	15.6		5.0	4.9	5.0	4.9	5.0	
Czech Republic	15.8	13.0	12.3	12.8	12.0	12.2	5.4	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3	4.3
Denmark	12.5	10.8	11.4	11.4	11.7	11.2	5.5	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3
Estonia	15.4	10.7		11.8	13.3		6.7	5.9		5.2	5.1	
Finland	20.4	23.1	22.9	23.2	22.9	22.7	7.0	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
France	24.2	24.2	24.3	24.2	24.4	24.4	8.9	8.9	9.3	9.3	9.4	9.3
Germany	7.7	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	4.7	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.2
Greece	52.5	50.2		48.6			24.8	23.4		23.5		
Hungary	20.5	18.3		17.5	15.8		6.7	6.0		5.9	5.8	
Iceland	10.1	8.6	8.5	8.6	8.5	8.5	3.9	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
Ireland	23.9	20.5	20.7	20.7	20.7	20.6	10.1	8.6	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4
Israel	10.5	8.6	10.9	12.7	11.0	9.1	5.0	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.5
Italy	42.7	42.3	40.5	40.3	40.8	40.5	10.6	10.5				
Japan	6.2	5.4	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.9	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
Korea	10.0	11.1	10.2	10.4	9.8	10.4	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0
Luxembourg	22.5	18.3	18.4	18.3	18.5	18.4	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8
Mexico	9.5	9.1	8.4	8.8	8.3	8.2	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4
Netherlands	12.7	11.0	11.3	11.3	11.2	11.5	6.5	6.2	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.0
New Zealand	15.0	14.4	15.9				4.0	4.3	4.1			
Norway	7.9	10.6		10.6	10.4		2.8	3.3		3.3	3.7	
Poland	23.8	20.6	19.3	19.4	19.2	19.3	7.7	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.2	6.1
Portugal	34.7	31.3	31.3	31.1	31.6	31.2	12.5	11.0	10.8	10.8	10.8	10.7
Slovak Republic	29.7	26.3	24.4	25.1	24.5	23.7	11.8	10.2	10.0	10.1	10.0	9.9
Slovenia	20.3	16.8	16.2	16.2	16.2	16.2	9.0	9.0	8.8	8.9	8.8	8.6
Spain	53.2	49.1	47.3	47.7	47.4	46.7	22.3	20.5	19.9	20.1	19.9	19.7
Sweden	22.8	20.7	20.2	21.1	19.5	20.0	5.7	5.7	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.4
Switzerland	8.6	6.4					3.9	3.8				
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	18.0	18.6					8.4	8.5				
United Kingdom	16.9	15.5		14.5			4.4	3.9		3.9		
United States	13.4	12.0	11.2	11.7	11.0	11.0	5.0	4.4	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.1

Note:

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

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

	2013	2014	2015			2015			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
OECD - Total	47,617	44,688	42,581	42,045	41,226	41,897	41,503	41,232	40,938
Major Seven	26,162	23,639	22,320	22,010	21,482	21,861	21,627	21,475	21,344
European Union	26,292	24,802	23,654	23,289	22,760	23,196	22,871	22,778	22,631
Euro area	19,232	18,631	17,984	17,752	17,425	17,737	17,497	17,454	17,323
Australia	686	744	770	755	783	756	797	781	773
Austria	231	245	242	258	252	256	253	252	252
Belgium	417	423	431	435	434	438	435	435	432
Canada	1,347	1,322	1,294	1,307	1,339	1,304	1,306	1,346	1,365
Chile	491	540	520	536	536	543	532	536	
Czech Republic	370	324	306	271	257	264	263	256	252
Denmark	203	190	182	184	183	182	184	185	181
Estonia	58	50	41	43		42	39	40	
Finland	219	232	247	253	256	255	256	256	256
France	3,014	3,026	3,045	3,044	3,157	3,083	3,132	3,179	3,160
Germany	2,182	2,090	2,004	1,967	1,892	1,946	1,917	1,891	1,869
Greece	1,330	1,274	1,232	1,201		1,199	1,197		
Hungary	438	344	333	314		310	308	296	
Iceland	10	9	9	8	8	8	8	8	8
Ireland	282	243	215	207	206	206	206	206	205
Israel	228	223	205	196	202	206	205	203	198
Italy	3,069	3,230	3,145	3,180	3,045	3,214	3,067	3,051	3,016
Japan	2,651	2,359	2,287	2,197	2,240	2,220	2,200	2,240	2,280
Korea	807	937	983	1,029	969	1,042	999	962	946
Luxembourg	15	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Mexico	2,539	2,511	2,268	2,326	2,289	2,320	2,307	2,317	2,244
Netherlands	647	660	635	618	605	611	603	604	609
New Zealand	148	141	145	148	151				
Norway	95	96	113	120		123	121	128	
Poland	1,793	1,567	1,370	1,296	1,241	1,269	1,252	1,240	1,230
Portugal	855	729	690	640	626	630	628	629	622
Slovak Republic	386	359	330	313	303	309	306	303	300
Slovenia	102	98	93	96	93	96	95	93	92
Spain	6,051	5,610	5,304	5,167	4,989	5,121	5,032	4,988	4,947
Sweden	410	411	404	396	375	381	378	369	379
Switzerland	205	215	212	200					
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	2,438	2,860	2,967	3,010		3,105			
United Kingdom	2,441	1,996	1,791	1,807		1,795	1,739		
United States	11,460	9,616	8,753	8,507	8,070	8,299	8,266	8,029	7,915

Note:

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