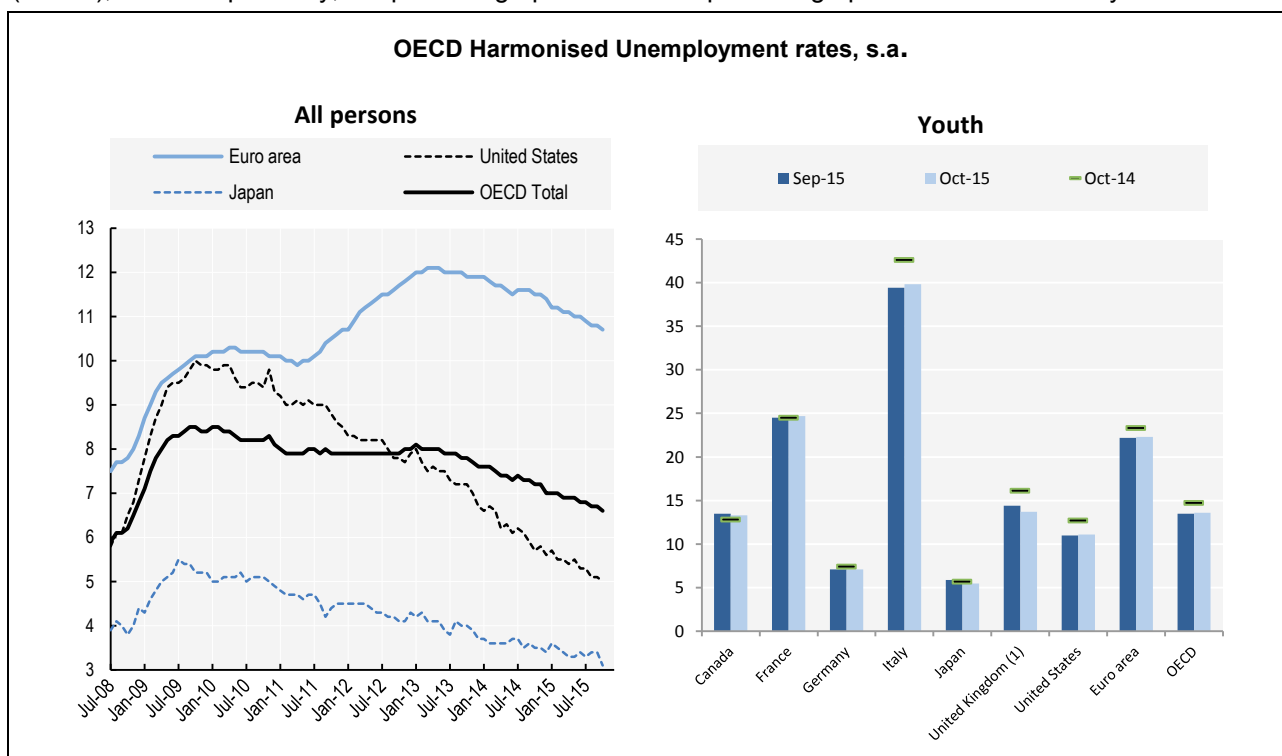


OECD unemployment rate down to 6.6% in October 2015

The **OECD** unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point to 6.6% in October 2015, 1.5 percentage points below the January 2013 peak. Across the OECD area, 40.6 million people were unemployed, 8.3 million less than in January 2013, but still 6.1 million more than in July 2008, immediately before the crisis.

In October, the **euro area** unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point, to 10.7%, with the largest fall observed in the **Slovak Republic** (down 0.2 percentage point, to 10.7%). The unemployment rate also declined by 0.1 percentage point in **Ireland** (to 8.9%), **Italy** (to 11.5%) and **Slovenia** (to 9.1%). Outside the euro area, the unemployment rate also fell in **Japan** (by 0.3 percentage point, to 3.1%), **Australia** (by 0.3 percentage point, to 5.9%), **Korea** (by 0.1 percentage point, to 3.4%), **Canada** (by 0.1 percentage point, to 7.0%) and the **United States** (by 0.1 percentage point to 5.0%). More recent data show that in November 2015, the unemployment was stable in the **United States** (5.0%) while it increased by 0.1 percentage point in **Canada** (to 7.1%).

The OECD **youth** unemployment rate (among 15-24 year-olds) increased by 0.1 percentage point, to 13.6% in October, with trends differing across countries. The youth unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point in the **euro area** (to 22.3%) and the **United States** (to 11.1%) while it decreased in **Japan** (by 0.4 percentage point, to 5.5%) and **Canada** (by 0.2 percentage point, to 13.3%). Youth unemployment rates remain exceptionally high in **Greece** (47.9 % in August, the latest month available) and **Spain** (47.7%), albeit respectively, 1.9 percentage points and 4.4 percentage points lower than one year before.



(1) The United Kingdom figures refer to August 2015 data compared to July 2015 and August 2014 data.

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: Wednesday, 13 January 2016

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

	2012	2013	2014	2014	2015				2015					
					Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
OECD - Total	7.9	7.9	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.7		6.9	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6
Major Seven	7.4	7.1	6.4	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.8		6.0	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7
European Union	10.5	10.9	10.2	10.0	9.7	9.6	9.3		9.6	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.3	9.3
Euro area	11.4	12.0	11.6	11.5	11.2	11.0	10.8		11.0	11.0	10.9	10.8	10.8	10.7
Australia	5.2	5.7	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2		5.9	6.0	6.3	6.2	6.2	5.9
Austria	4.9	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.6		6.0	5.8	5.6	5.7	5.6	5.6
Belgium	7.6	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.8	8.8		8.8	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.7
Canada ⁽¹⁾	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.8	7.0		6.8	6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.0
Chile	6.4	5.9	6.4	6.5	6.1	6.3	6.2		6.3	6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	
Czech Republic	7.0	7.0	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.1	4.9		5.1	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7
Denmark	7.5	7.0	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.1		6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.0
Estonia	10.0	8.6	7.4	6.6	6.1	6.3	5.9		6.4	6.1	5.8	5.8	6.0	
Finland	7.7	8.2	8.7	9.0	9.2	9.4	9.5		9.4	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5
France	9.8	10.3	10.3	10.5	10.4	10.4	10.8		10.4	10.5	10.7	10.8	10.8	10.8
Germany	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.5		4.7	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5
Greece	24.5	27.5	26.6	26.0	25.9	25.0			24.9	25.0	24.9	24.6		
Hungary	11.0	10.1	7.7	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.6		7.0	6.9	6.8	6.5	6.5	
Iceland	6.0	5.4	5.0	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.3		4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
Ireland	14.7	13.1	11.3	10.4	10.0	9.6	9.1		9.6	9.4	9.2	9.1	9.0	8.9
Israel	6.9	6.2	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.2		5.0	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.3
Italy	10.6	12.1	12.7	12.8	12.3	12.3	11.7		12.3	12.4	11.8	11.7	11.6	11.5
Japan	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.4		3.3	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.1
Korea	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.6		3.9	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4
Luxembourg	5.1	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.8		5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8
Mexico	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3		4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.4
Netherlands	5.8	7.2	7.4	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.8		6.9	6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.9
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	4.5		4.3	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.6	
Poland	10.1	10.3	9.0	8.3	7.9	7.5	7.2		7.5	7.4	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.0
Portugal	15.8	16.5	14.1	13.5	13.5	12.5	12.3		12.4	12.3	12.3	12.3	12.4	12.4
Slovak Republic	14.0	14.2	13.2	12.5	12.1	11.4	11.1		11.4	11.3	11.2	11.1	10.9	10.7
Slovenia	8.9	10.1	9.7	9.4	9.2	9.5	9.3		9.6	9.5	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.1
Spain	24.8	26.1	24.5	23.7	23.1	22.5	21.8		22.5	22.3	21.9	21.8	21.6	21.6
Sweden	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.2		7.7	7.4	7.3	7.0	7.3	7.2
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			10.2	10.5	10.4	10.4		
United Kingdom	7.9	7.6	6.2	5.6	5.5	5.6			5.6	5.5	5.3	5.2		
United States ⁽³⁾	8.1	7.4	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.2		5.5	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.0

Notes:

(1) Canada: Unemployment rate for November 2015 was 7.1 %.

(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 November 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	Aug	Sep	Oct		Q2	Q3	Aug	Sep	Oct
OECD - Total	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	7.3	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6
Major Seven	6.3	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.4	6.5	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.9	5.8
European Union	10.3	9.6	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.3	10.1	9.5	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.2
Euro area	11.8	11.2	11.0	11.0	10.9	10.8	11.5	10.9	10.7	10.7	10.6	10.7
Australia	6.2	6.0	6.3	6.3	6.1	5.8	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.1	6.2	5.9
Austria	5.4	5.5	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.9	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1
Belgium	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.7	9.0	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6	9.6
Canada	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.4	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.5
Chile	6.9	7.2	6.8	6.8	6.6		6.0	5.6	5.8	5.8	6.0	
Czech Republic	7.4	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.1	4.3	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.0
Denmark	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.5	6.5	6.4	6.1	5.7	5.8	5.5	5.6
Estonia	6.9	6.4	5.8	5.8	5.9		7.9	6.3	5.9	5.7	6.0	
Finland	8.0	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.2	9.3	9.9	10.0	10.0	9.9	9.9
France	10.0	9.8	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.5	10.9	11.2	11.3	11.2	11.4
Germany	4.6	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.0	4.0	5.3	5.1	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
Greece	30.2	28.8		28.5			23.7	22.0		21.5		
Hungary	8.0	7.2	6.9	6.8	6.7		7.6	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.4	
Iceland	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	5.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
Ireland	9.4	8.0	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.3	12.9	10.8	10.5	10.5	10.4	10.2
Israel	5.9	5.1	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.4	5.9	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2
Italy	13.8	13.1	12.5	12.6	12.3	12.2	11.9	11.6	11.1	11.0	11.0	11.1
Japan	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.2	3.1	2.7	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.4
Korea	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.4
Luxembourg	6.4	6.7	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6	5.8	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.1
Mexico	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.8	4.8	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.2	4.2
Netherlands	7.8	7.3	7.2	7.1	7.3	7.3	7.2	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5
New Zealand	6.6	6.7	6.6				5.1	5.2	5.6			
Norway	3.3	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.2		3.7	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.9	
Poland	9.6	7.7	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.1	8.5	7.3	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0
Portugal	14.5	12.7	12.5	12.6	12.6	12.7	13.8	12.3	12.1	12.0	12.2	12.0
Slovak Republic	13.6	12.9	12.7	12.7	12.6	12.4	12.8	10.3	9.7	9.7	9.5	9.3
Slovenia	10.6	10.7	10.5	10.6	10.3	10.2	9.0	8.6	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2
Spain	25.4	24.0	23.2	23.2	23.0	22.8	23.6	21.2	20.6	20.6	20.5	20.5
Sweden	7.7	7.5	6.9	6.7	6.9	7.2	8.1	7.7	7.4	7.3	7.6	7.2
Switzerland	4.7	4.3					4.4	4.0				
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	11.9	12.7		12.7			9.1	9.1		9.4		
United Kingdom	5.9	5.3		5.0			6.4	5.7		5.4		
United States	6.1	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.9	6.3	5.5	5.1	5.1	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	Aug	Sep	Oct		Q2	Q3	Aug	Sep	Oct
OECD - Total	15.1	14.1	13.7	13.5	13.5	13.6	6.3	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7
Major Seven	14.1	13.0	12.5	12.3	12.4	12.4	5.4	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8
European Union	22.2	20.7	19.9	19.9	19.9	20.0	9.0	8.4	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2
Euro area	23.8	22.5	22.2	22.2	22.2	22.3	10.4	9.9	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.6
Australia	13.3	13.4	13.4	13.6	12.9	12.2	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.8	4.6
Austria	10.3	10.5	10.6	10.8	10.8	10.4	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9
Belgium	23.3	23.0	23.4	23.2	23.8	24.3	7.3	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.4
Canada	13.5	13.2	13.3	13.1	13.5	13.3	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	5.9
Chile	16.4	16.2	15.7	15.7	15.8		5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	
Czech Republic	15.8	13.0	12.4	12.1	12.3	12.3	5.4	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2
Denmark	12.5	10.8	11.2	11.6	10.7	10.9	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1
Estonia	15.4	10.8	13.6	13.6	15.1		6.7	5.9	5.2	5.1	5.2	
Finland	20.4	22.9	22.6	22.6	22.2	22.0	7.0	7.5	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.8
France	24.2	24.2	24.4	24.5	24.5	24.7	8.9	8.9	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4
Germany	7.7	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2
Greece	52.5	50.0		47.9			24.8	23.5		23.2		
Hungary	20.5	18.3	16.4	15.9	15.7		6.7	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.8	
Iceland	10.1	8.7	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	3.9	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3
Ireland	23.9	20.5	20.5	20.6	20.4	19.7	10.1	8.5	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.9
Israel	10.5	8.6	10.9	11.0	9.1	8.6	5.0	4.2	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.8
Italy	42.7	41.7	39.4	39.7	39.4	39.8	10.6	10.4				
Japan	6.2	5.4	5.7	5.6	5.9	5.5	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	2.9
Korea	10.0	11.1	10.2	9.8	10.4	9.9	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.0	2.9
Luxembourg	22.5	16.7	16.8	16.9	16.8	16.9	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8
Mexico	9.5	9.1	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.6	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.5
Netherlands	12.7	11.0	11.3	11.2	11.5	11.6	6.5	6.2	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.0
New Zealand	15.0	14.4	15.9				4.0	4.3	4.1			
Norway	7.9	10.5	10.3	10.4	9.9		2.8	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.7	
Poland	23.8	20.7	19.3	19.2	19.3	19.2	7.7	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.0
Portugal	34.7	31.3	31.5	31.6	31.9	31.8	12.5	11.0	10.8	10.8	10.9	10.9
Slovak Republic	29.7	26.3	24.4	24.5	23.7	23.2	11.8	10.2	10.0	10.0	9.9	9.7
Slovenia	20.3	16.8	16.2	16.2	16.2		9.0	9.0	8.8	8.8	8.6	8.5
Spain	53.2	49.3	48.0	48.0	47.7	47.7	22.3	20.5	19.8	19.8	19.7	19.5
Sweden	22.8	20.7	20.2	19.5	20.0	19.9	5.7	5.7	5.4	5.3	5.5	5.4
Switzerland	8.6	6.4					3.9	3.8				
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	18.0	18.5		18.4			8.4	8.5		8.8		
United Kingdom	16.9	15.5		13.7			4.4	3.9		3.9		
United States	13.4	12.0	11.2	11.0	11.0	11.1	5.0	4.4	4.2	4.2	4.1	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	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
OECD - Total	47,617	44,688	42,542	41,997	41,129	41,427	41,114	40,843	40,611
Major Seven	26,162	23,639	22,291	21,969	21,401	21,563	21,383	21,256	21,016
European Union	26,292	24,802	23,616	23,248	22,658	22,785	22,656	22,533	22,497
Euro area	19,232	18,631	17,948	17,711	17,343	17,417	17,358	17,253	17,240
Australia	686	744	771	754	782	795	778	773	740
Austria	231	245	242	256	248	248	249	248	245
Belgium	417	423	430	435	433	435	434	431	429
Canada	1,347	1,322	1,294	1,307	1,339	1,306	1,346	1,365	1,352
Chile	491	540	520	536	536	531	536	536	
Czech Republic	370	324	306	271	257	263	256	252	249
Denmark	203	190	182	183	180	182	181	176	176
Estonia	58	50	41	43	40	40	40	41	
Finland	219	232	247	253	257	256	257	257	259
France	3,014	3,026	3,042	3,046	3,166	3,139	3,188	3,171	3,196
Germany	2,182	2,090	2,004	1,968	1,900	1,921	1,898	1,880	1,868
Greece	1,330	1,274	1,231	1,202		1,196	1,180		
Hungary	438	344	332	314	300	308	297	295	
Iceland	10	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Ireland	282	243	214	206	197	200	197	194	192
Israel	228	223	205	196	203	205	204	199	204
Italy	3,069	3,230	3,120	3,138	2,971	2,997	2,977	2,940	2,927
Japan	2,651	2,359	2,287	2,197	2,240	2,200	2,240	2,280	2,060
Korea	807	937	983	1,029	969	999	962	946	913
Luxembourg	15	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Mexico	2,539	2,511	2,269	2,328	2,294	2,311	2,321	2,249	2,347
Netherlands	647	660	635	618	605	603	604	609	616
New Zealand	148	141	145	148	151				
Norway	95	96	113	119	125	120	128	127	
Poland	1,793	1,567	1,370	1,296	1,240	1,251	1,239	1,229	1,214
Portugal	855	729	690	640	630	628	629	634	633
Slovak Republic	386	359	331	313	302	305	302	298	293
Slovenia	102	98	93	96	93	95	93	92	91
Spain	6,051	5,610	5,297	5,167	4,991	5,031	4,987	4,956	4,953
Sweden	410	411	404	396	376	378	370	380	377
Switzerland	205	215	212	200					
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	2,438	2,860	2,965	3,005		3,109	3,111		
United Kingdom	2,441	1,996	1,790	1,805		1,734	1,705		
United States	11,460	9,616	8,753	8,507	8,070	8,266	8,029	7,915	7,908

Note:

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