

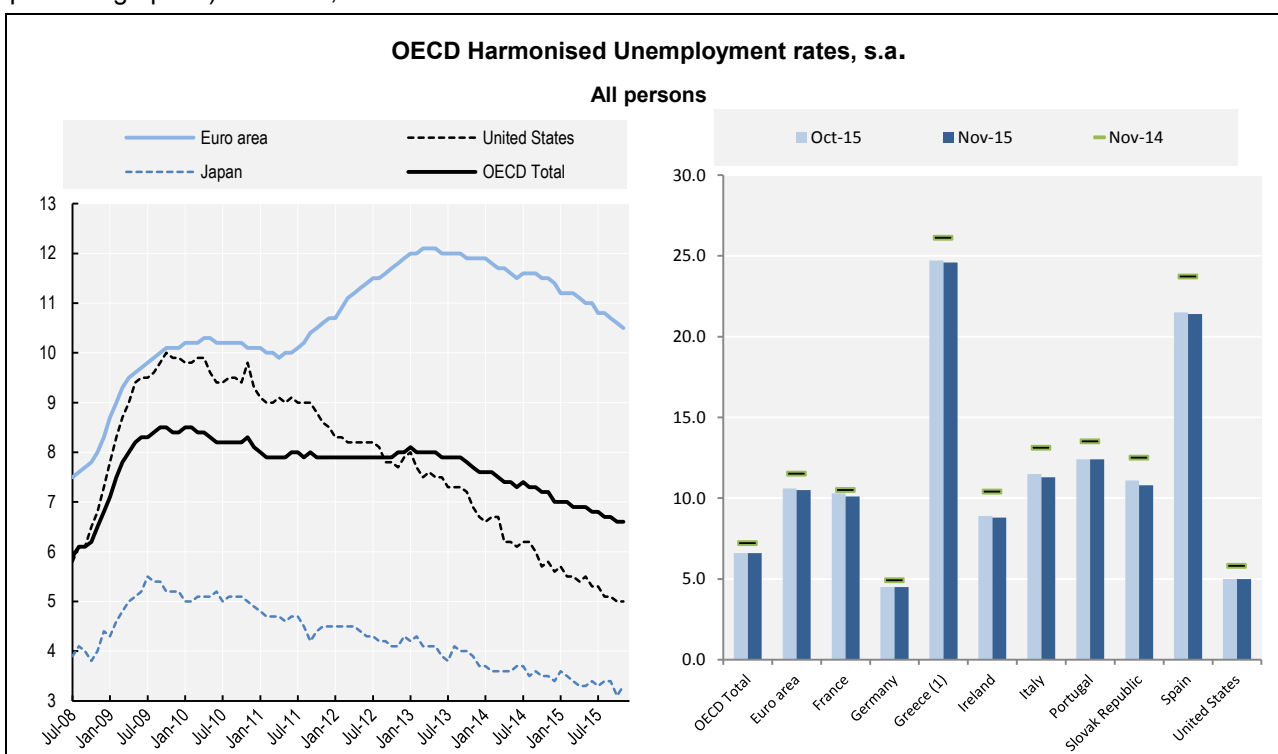
OECD unemployment rate stable at 6.6% in November 2015

The **OECD** unemployment rate was stable at 6.6% in November 2015, 1.5 percentage points below the January 2013 peak. Across the OECD area, 40.4 million people were unemployed, 8.5 million less than in January 2013, but still 5.9 million more than in July 2008, immediately before the crisis.

In November, the **euro area** unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point, to 10.5%, the third consecutive monthly decline and the lowest level since October 2011. The largest monthly falls in unemployment rates were observed in the **Slovak Republic** (down 0.3 percentage point, to 10.8%), **Italy** (down 0.2 percentage point, to 11.3%) and **France** (down 0.2 percentage point, to 10.1%). Compared to one year ago, the unemployment rates declined by more than one percentage point in **Greece**, **Ireland**, **Italy**, **Portugal**, the **Slovak Republic** and **Spain**; with the exception of **Ireland**, these are the euro area countries with the highest unemployment rates.

The unemployment rate increased in November in **Japan** (by 0.2 percentage point to 3.3%) and **Canada** (by 0.1 percentage point to 7.1%), while it was stable in the **United States** (at 5.0%) and declined by 0.3 percentage point in **Mexico** (to 4.1%). More recent data show that in December 2015, the unemployment rate was stable in both **Canada** and the **United States**.

The **OECD youth** (15-24 year-old) unemployment rate fell slightly in November 2015 (by 0.1 percentage point) to 13.5%, its lowest level since October 2008.



(1) Figures for Greece refer to September 2015 data compared to August 2015 and September 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: Tuesday, 9 February 2016

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

	2012	2013	2014	2014	2015				2015					
					Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
OECD - Total	7.9	7.9	7.4	7.1	7.0	6.9	6.7		6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	6.6
Major Seven	7.4	7.1	6.4	6.1	6.0	5.9	5.7		5.8	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.6	5.6
European Union	10.5	10.9	10.2	10.0	9.7	9.6	9.3		9.5	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.2	9.1
Euro area	11.4	12.0	11.6	11.5	11.2	11.0	10.8		11.0	10.8	10.8	10.7	10.6	10.5
Australia	5.2	5.7	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.2		6.0	6.3	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.8
Austria	4.9	5.4	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.7		5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.8
Belgium	7.6	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.6	8.8	8.1		8.7	8.3	8.1	7.9	7.8	7.8
Canada ⁽¹⁾	7.3	7.1	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.8	7.0		6.8	6.8	7.0	7.1	7.0	7.1
Chile	6.4	5.9	6.4	6.5	6.1	6.3	6.2		6.3	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.3	
Czech Republic	7.0	7.0	6.1	5.8	5.8	5.1	4.9		5.0	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.6
Denmark	7.5	7.0	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.2	6.1		6.2	6.2	6.2	6.0	6.0	6.0
Estonia	10.0	8.6	7.4	6.6	6.1	6.3	5.9		6.1	5.8	5.8	6.0	6.3	
Finland	7.7	8.2	8.7	9.0	9.2	9.4	9.4		9.4	9.5	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.4
France	9.8	10.3	10.3	10.5	10.4	10.4	10.5		10.4	10.5	10.6	10.4	10.3	10.1
Germany	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.6		4.6	4.6	4.6	4.5	4.5	4.5
Greece	24.5	27.5	26.6	26.0	25.9	25.0	24.7		25.0	24.9	24.7	24.6		
Hungary	11.0	10.1	7.7	7.3	7.4	7.0	6.6		6.9	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.4	
Iceland	6.0	5.4	5.0	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.1		4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1
Ireland	14.7	13.1	11.3	10.4	10.0	9.6	9.1		9.4	9.2	9.1	9.0	8.9	8.8
Israel	6.9	6.2	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.1	5.2		5.3	5.3	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.4
Italy	10.6	12.1	12.7	12.8	12.3	12.3	11.7		12.4	11.8	11.7	11.5	11.5	11.3
Japan	4.4	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.4		3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.3
Korea	3.2	3.1	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.8	3.6		3.9	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.4
Luxembourg	5.1	5.9	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.2		6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1	6.1	6.1
Mexico	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.3		4.4	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.1
Netherlands	5.8	7.2	7.4	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.8		6.9	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.9	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	4.5		4.4	4.3	4.6	4.6	4.6	
Poland	10.1	10.3	9.0	8.3	7.9	7.6	7.5		7.5	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.3	7.2
Portugal	15.8	16.5	14.1	13.5	13.5	12.5	12.3		12.3	12.3	12.3	12.4	12.4	12.4
Slovak Republic	14.0	14.2	13.2	12.5	12.1	11.5	11.4		11.4	11.4	11.4	11.3	11.1	10.8
Slovenia	8.9	10.1	9.7	9.4	9.2	9.4	9.0		9.4	9.1	9.0	8.8	8.7	8.6
Spain	24.8	26.1	24.5	23.7	23.1	22.5	21.8		22.3	21.9	21.8	21.6	21.5	21.4
Sweden	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.2		7.3	7.3	7.0	7.3	7.2	6.8
Switzerland	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.1	4.4	4.2	4.9							
Turkey ⁽²⁾	8.2	8.7	10.0	10.5	10.1	10.2	10.4		10.4	10.4	10.4	10.4		
United Kingdom	7.9	7.6	6.2	5.7	5.5	5.6	5.3		5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2		
United States ⁽³⁾	8.1	7.4	6.2	5.7	5.6	5.4	5.2		5.3	5.3	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0

Notes:

(1) Canada: Unemployment rate for December 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 December 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	Sep	Oct	Nov		Q2	Q3	Sep	Oct	Nov
OECD - Total	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.6	7.3	6.8	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.5
Major Seven	6.3	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.4	5.4	6.5	6.0	5.9	5.8	5.8	5.8
European Union	10.3	9.6	9.4	9.3	9.2	9.2	10.1	9.5	9.2	9.2	9.1	9.1
Euro area	11.8	11.2	10.9	10.8	10.7	10.6	11.5	10.9	10.6	10.5	10.5	10.4
Australia	6.2	6.0	6.3	6.1	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1	6.2	5.9	5.7
Austria	5.4	5.5	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.9	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.3
Belgium	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.5	9.1	9.4	8.5	8.3	8.1	8.1
Canada	6.4	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.5	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.7	7.5	7.6
Chile	6.9	7.2	6.8	6.6	6.5		6.0	5.6	5.8	6.0	6.2	
Czech Republic	7.4	6.2	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.1	4.3	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.7
Denmark	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.3	6.4	6.0	5.8	5.6	5.6	5.7
Estonia	6.9	6.4	5.8	5.9	5.8		7.9	6.3	5.9	6.1	6.7	
Finland	8.0	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.7	9.3	9.9	10.0	9.9	9.9	10.0
France	10.0	9.8	10.0	9.9	9.6	9.4	10.5	10.9	11.0	10.9	10.9	10.8
Germany	4.6	4.3	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.1	5.3	5.1	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8
Greece	30.2	28.8	28.9	28.9			23.7	22.0	21.5	21.2		
Hungary	8.0	7.2	6.9	6.7	6.4		7.6	6.8	6.4	6.4	6.4	
Iceland	4.8	4.1	4.0	3.9	3.9	3.8	5.1	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.3
Ireland	9.4	8.0	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.3	12.9	10.8	10.5	10.4	10.2	10.1
Israel	5.9	5.1	5.4	5.2	5.5	6.0	5.9	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.1	4.9
Italy	13.8	13.1	12.5	12.3	12.1	12.0	11.9	11.6	11.1	11.0	11.0	10.8
Japan	3.4	3.1	3.2	3.1	2.7	3.1	3.8	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.5
Korea	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.6	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.4	3.6
Luxembourg	6.4	7.1	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	5.8	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.4
Mexico	4.9	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.8	4.3	4.8	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.0
Netherlands	7.8	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.2	6.6	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.3
New Zealand	6.6	6.7	6.6				5.1	5.2	5.6			
Norway	3.3	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.3		3.7	4.6	4.8	4.9	4.9	
Poland	9.6	7.8	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	8.5	7.4	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.1
Portugal	14.5	12.7	12.5	12.6	12.6	12.7	13.8	12.3	12.1	12.2	12.1	12.2
Slovak Republic	13.6	12.9	12.8	12.8	12.5	12.3	12.8	10.4	10.2	10.1	9.9	9.6
Slovenia	10.6	10.7	10.5	10.3	10.1	10.0	9.0	8.4	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.5
Spain	25.4	24.0	23.2	23.0	22.8	22.7	23.6	21.2	20.5	20.4	20.4	20.3
Sweden	7.7	7.5	6.9	6.9	7.2	6.7	8.1	7.7	7.4	7.6	7.1	6.9
Switzerland	4.7	4.3	5.2				4.4	4.0	4.7			
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	11.9	12.6	12.7	12.7			9.1	9.1	9.4	9.4		
United Kingdom	5.9	5.3	5.1	5.0			6.4	5.7	5.5	5.3		
United States	6.1	5.3	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.9	6.3	5.4	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.2

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	Sep	Oct	Nov		Q2	Q3	Sep	Oct	Nov
OECD - Total	15.1	14.1	13.8	13.6	13.6	13.5	6.3	5.9	5.8	5.7	5.7	5.7
Major Seven	14.1	13.0	12.5	12.4	12.4	12.3	5.4	5.0	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.8
European Union	22.2	20.7	20.2	20.1	20.2	20.0	9.0	8.4	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.0
Euro area	23.8	22.6	22.4	22.4	22.6	22.5	10.4	9.9	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.4
Australia	13.3	13.4	13.4	12.9	12.4	12.4	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.8	4.6	4.5
Austria	10.3	10.5	10.7	10.9	10.9	10.9	4.9	5.2	4.9	4.9	4.9	5.1
Belgium	23.3	23.0	21.8	21.5	22.0	22.6	7.3	7.5	7.0	6.8	6.7	6.6
Canada	13.5	13.2	13.3	13.5	13.3	12.7	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.1
Chile	16.4	16.2	15.7	15.8	15.9		5.0	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.1	
Czech Republic	15.8	13.0	12.3	12.1	11.9	11.4	5.4	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1
Denmark	12.5	10.7	11.2	10.7	10.2	9.9	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3
Estonia	15.4	10.8	13.6	15.1	15.4		6.7	6.0	5.2	5.2	5.5	
Finland	20.4	22.8	22.5	22.1	22.0	22.0	7.0	7.5	7.6	7.6	7.6	7.6
France	24.2	24.3	25.2	25.3	25.6	25.7	8.9	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.6	8.5
Germany	7.7	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.0	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.2
Greece	52.5	50.0	48.7	49.5			24.8	23.5	23.3	23.1		
Hungary	20.5	18.3	16.3	15.6	15.0		6.7	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.7	
Iceland	10.1	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.6	3.9	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
Ireland	23.9	20.5	20.5	20.3	19.7	19.4	10.1	8.5	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.8
Israel	10.5	8.6	10.9	9.1	8.6	9.2	5.0	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.8	4.5
Italy	42.7	41.7	39.5	39.1	39.3	38.1	10.6	10.4	9.9	9.9		
Japan	6.2	5.4	5.7	5.9	5.5	5.2	3.4	3.2	3.2	3.2	2.9	3.1
Korea	10.0	11.1	10.2	10.4	10.0	10.5	3.1	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9
Luxembourg	22.5	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.1	14.6	5.0	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.3
Mexico	9.5	9.1	8.4	8.1	8.6	7.8	3.8	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.3
Netherlands	12.7	11.0	11.3	11.5	11.6	11.4	6.5	6.2	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.0
New Zealand	15.0	14.4	15.9				4.0	4.3	4.1			
Norway	7.9	10.4	10.2	9.8	9.4		2.8	3.3	3.6	3.8	3.9	
Poland	23.8	20.7	20.5	20.7	20.7	20.5	7.7	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.2	6.1
Portugal	34.7	31.4	31.7	32.1	32.4	33.4	12.5	11.0	10.8	10.9	10.8	10.8
Slovak Republic	29.7	26.8	26.7	26.6	26.0	25.4	11.8	10.2	10.1	10.0	9.8	9.6
Slovenia	20.3	16.4	14.5	14.5			9.0	8.9	8.5	8.3	8.2	8.1
Spain	53.2	49.2	48.0	47.7	47.8	47.5	22.3	20.5	19.8	19.6	19.5	19.4
Sweden	22.8	20.6	20.0	19.8	19.7	17.3	5.7	5.7	5.4	5.5	5.4	5.4
Switzerland	8.6	6.4	10.6				3.9	3.8	4.1			
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	18.0	18.5	18.6	18.4			8.4	8.5	8.8	8.8		
United Kingdom	16.9	15.5	14.0	13.5			4.4	3.9	3.9	3.8		
United States	13.4	11.9	11.2	11.1	11.1	11.2	5.0	4.4	4.2	4.1	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	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
OECD - Total	47,617	44,688	42,518	41,977	41,138	41,133	40,825	40,515	40,407
Major Seven	26,162	23,639	22,257	21,936	21,348	21,345	21,165	20,841	20,900
European Union	26,292	24,802	23,637	23,270	22,625	22,645	22,441	22,338	22,159
Euro area	19,232	18,631	17,962	17,717	17,263	17,290	17,130	17,054	16,924
Australia	686	744	770	753	780	777	772	742	739
Austria	231	245	242	256	249	250	249	251	256
Belgium	417	423	430	432	402	402	393	389	389
Canada	1,347	1,322	1,294	1,307	1,339	1,346	1,365	1,352	1,365
Chile	491	540	520	536	536	536	537	542	
Czech Republic	370	324	306	271	257	256	252	248	244
Denmark	203	190	182	183	180	182	176	176	176
Estonia	58	50	41	43	40	40	41	43	
Finland	219	232	247	251	253	253	253	253	253
France	3,014	3,026	3,050	3,054	3,099	3,129	3,065	3,021	2,980
Germany	2,182	2,090	2,006	1,967	1,912	1,909	1,902	1,899	1,898
Greece	1,330	1,274	1,231	1,201	1,190	1,187	1,184		
Hungary	438	344	333	314	300	296	295	290	
Iceland	10	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Ireland	282	243	214	206	197	197	194	192	191
Israel	228	223	205	196	202	204	199	205	210
Italy	3,069	3,230	3,120	3,138	2,971	2,980	2,936	2,918	2,871
Japan	2,651	2,359	2,287	2,197	2,240	2,240	2,280	2,060	2,170
Korea	807	937	983	1,029	969	962	946	913	928
Luxembourg	15	16	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
Mexico	2,539	2,511	2,270	2,327	2,290	2,317	2,244	2,342	2,239
Netherlands	647	660	635	618	605	604	609	616	606
New Zealand	148	141	145	148	151				
Norway	95	96	113	119	125	127	127	129	
Poland	1,793	1,567	1,375	1,308	1,290	1,291	1,287	1,273	1,251
Portugal	855	729	691	641	630	629	634	634	637
Slovak Republic	386	359	332	315	311	311	309	303	295
Slovenia	102	98	92	95	90	90	88	87	87
Spain	6,051	5,610	5,300	5,170	4,989	4,984	4,952	4,943	4,917
Sweden	410	411	404	396	375	369	378	376	358
Switzerland	205	215	212	200	237				
Turkey ⁽¹⁾	2,438	2,860	2,966	3,006	3,117	3,111	3,130		
United Kingdom	2,441	1,996	1,792	1,806	1,723	1,723	1,692		
United States	11,460	9,616	8,708	8,468	8,064	8,018	7,925	7,899	7,924

Note:

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