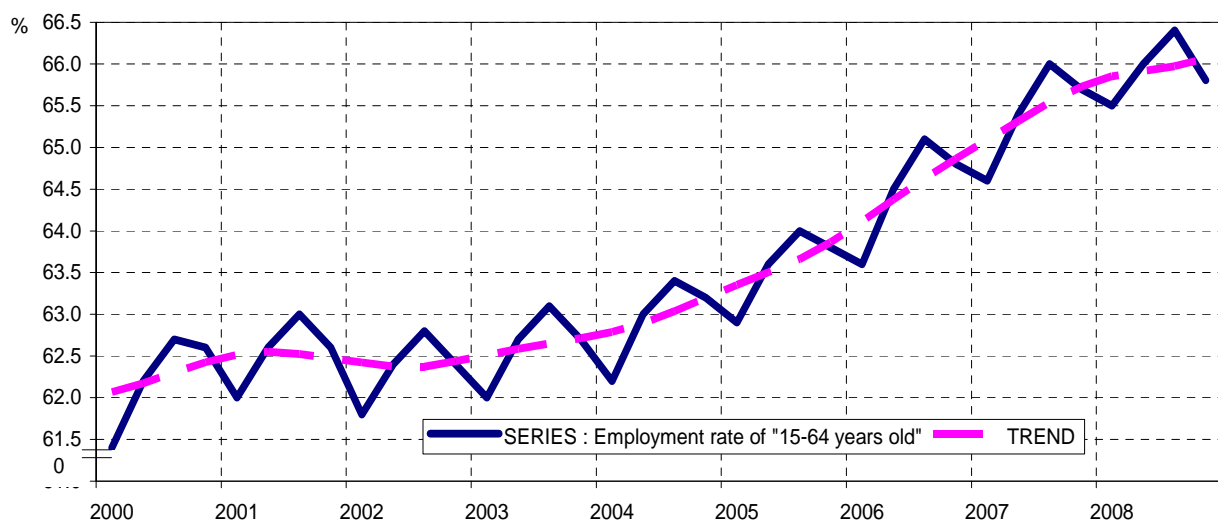


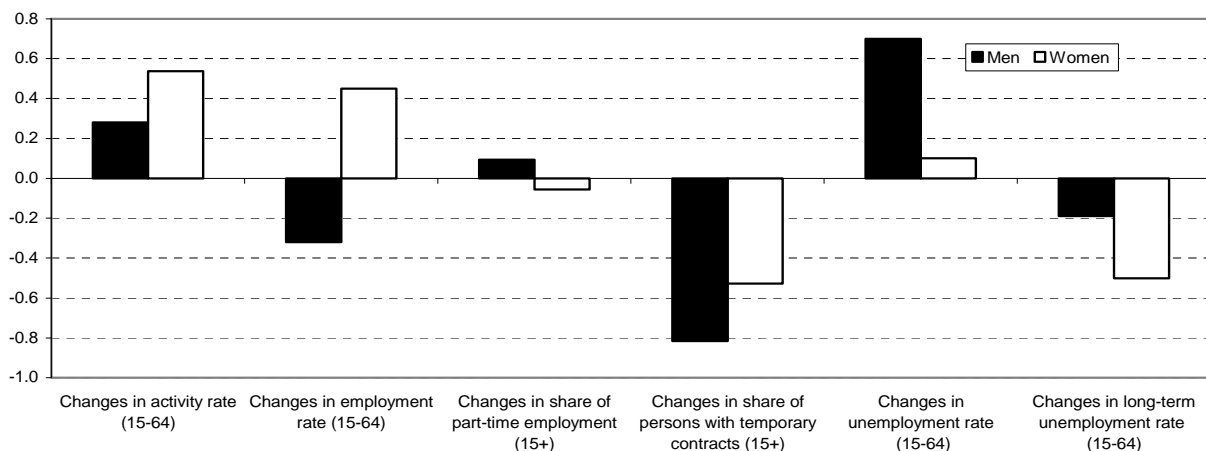
## Labour Market Latest Trends – 4th quarter 2008 data

Chart 1. Employment rate<sup>1</sup> (15-64 years) for EU-27 from 2000Q1 to 2008Q4, %



Source: Eurostat

Chart 2. Changes in selected indicators for EU-27 from 2007Q4 to 2008Q4, percentage points



Source: Eurostat

<sup>1</sup> Number of people in employment aged 15 to 64 years divided by the total population aged 15 to 64 years. The trend is calculated at an EU-27 level using moving averages.

**Table 1. Activity rates, 2008Q4, %**  
by level of education, age and sex

	EA-15				EU-27			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
<b>Men and women</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>44.6</b>	<b>85.4</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>85.0</b>	<b>48.5</b>
Less than upper secondary	57.1	34.8	76.0	36.8	54.6	31.4	74.4	37.5
Upper secondary level	76.5	54.7	87.4	51.2	75.3	55.6	86.3	50.4
Tertiary level	87.0	63.5	92.4	67.7	87.2	69.7	92.4	67.8
<b>Men</b>	<b>78.8</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>93.0</b>	<b>56.9</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>47.5</b>	<b>92.0</b>	<b>58.4</b>
Less than upper secondary	68.2	39.7	89.3	48.2	65.2	36.5	87.3	49.1
Upper secondary level	82.3	58.4	93.7	57.0	81.6	60.0	92.5	58.2
Tertiary level	90.1	58.2	95.9	73.2	90.5	66.5	95.9	73.8
<b>Women</b>	<b>64.5</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>77.9</b>	<b>39.3</b>
Less than upper secondary	45.9	29.1	62.0	28.1	44.4	25.6	61.5	29.2
Upper secondary level	70.5	51.1	81.0	45.1	68.8	51.2	79.8	42.1
Tertiary level	83.9	67.1	89.1	60.2	84.3	71.9	89.4	60.4

Source: Eurostat

**Table 2. Activity rates, %**  
by country and sex

15-64 years	2008Q4 (1000) <sup>1</sup>	Men and women			Men			Women		
		2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>235,170</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>70.6</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>64.2</b>	<b>64.3</b>	<b>63.6</b>
<b>EA-15</b>	<b>151,724</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>71.7</b>	<b>71.2</b>	<b>78.8</b>	<b>79.1</b>	<b>78.6</b>	<b>64.5</b>	<b>64.3</b>	<b>63.8</b>
<b>EA-13</b>	<b>151,167</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>71.8</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>78.8</b>	<b>79.1</b>	<b>78.6</b>	<b>64.5</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>63.9</b>
Belgium	4,753	67.0	67.9	67.5	73.2	73.8	73.5	60.6	61.8	61.4
Bulgaria	3,486	67.8	68.5	67.1	72.8	73.3	71.5	62.8	63.8	62.7
Czech Republic	5,192	69.9	69.7	69.9	78.5	78.3	78.4	61.2	61.0	61.3
Denmark	2,910	81.2	81.4	80.0	84.7	85.3	83.3	77.6	77.5	76.6
Germany	41,617	76.7	76.8	76.3	82.1	82.5	81.9	71.2	71.1	70.6
Estonia	684	75.5	75.1	72.2	79.3	79.1	77.0	72.0	71.5	67.7
Ireland	2,166	71.0	73.0	72.4	79.7	81.7	81.3	62.2	64.3	63.4
Greece	4,862	67.1	67.1	66.9	78.9	79.1	79.1	55.4	55.1	54.8
Spain	22,902	73.0	72.8	71.8	81.5	82.1	81.3	64.3	63.2	61.9
France	28,030	70.6	70.7	70.2	75.2	75.4	74.7	66.1	66.2	65.8
Italy	24,742	63.0	62.8	63.0	74.4	74.4	74.6	51.6	51.3	51.4
Cyprus	387	73.6	73.7	74.2	81.7	82.7	82.9	65.8	65.2	66.0
Latvia	1,160	74.0	74.6	74.4	78.6	79.0	79.0	69.7	70.4	70.0
Lithuania	1,607	69.4	69.2	67.2	72.1	71.9	70.6	66.8	66.7	64.1
Luxembourg	210	66.2	67.7	66.9	73.8	76.3	73.3	58.4	58.7	60.7
Hungary	4,187	61.7	62.1	61.9	68.1	69.0	68.8	55.5	55.5	55.3
Malta	170	58.5	59.6	58.0	76.9	77.4	76.6	39.3	41.1	38.8
Netherlands	8,742	79.7	79.5	78.6	85.4	85.4	84.5	73.9	73.5	72.7
Austria	4,196	75.3	75.7	74.4	81.4	82.3	81.4	69.2	69.1	67.4
Poland	16,900	64.3	64.3	63.6	71.4	71.3	70.4	57.5	57.5	57.0
Portugal	5,291	74.0	74.2	74.2	79.4	79.4	79.4	68.7	69.1	69.1
Romania	9,332	62.0	64.2	61.8	69.7	71.3	69.3	54.4	57.1	54.5
Slovenia	1,025	72.0	73.1	71.1	75.5	77.4	75.9	68.2	68.5	66.1
Slovakia	2,688	68.9	69.3	68.7	76.7	76.7	76.4	61.2	61.9	61.1
Finland	2,632	74.8	76.4	74.5	76.6	78.5	76.0	72.9	74.3	72.9
Sweden	4,748	78.3	80.3	78.4	80.7	82.6	80.5	75.8	77.9	76.2
United Kingdom	30,550	76.1	76.2	75.7	82.7	82.8	82.3	69.5	69.6	69.2
Croatia	:	:	64.3	63.8	:	71.0	71.0	:	57.6	56.8
Turkey	23,408	50.8	52.4	49.4	75.0	76.4	74.1	26.7	28.5	24.8
Iceland	:	:	85.7	:	:	:	90.6	:	:	80.3
Norway	2,520	79.5	80.5	79.3	82.0	83.4	82.0	76.9	77.6	76.6
<b>EEA-30</b>	<b>237,864</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>70.7</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>77.7</b>	<b>64.3</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>63.8</b>
Switzerland	4,257	82.3	:	81.6	88.0	:	88.2	76.6	:	75.0

Source: Eurostat

<sup>1</sup>Number of persons aged 15-64 in the labour force

**Table 3. Employment rates, 2008Q4, %**  
by level of education, age and sex

	EA-15				EU-27			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
<b>Men and women</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>44.8</b>	<b>65.8</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>79.5</b>	<b>45.9</b>
Less than upper secondary	50.0	27.6	67.0	34.1	47.9	24.5	65.9	35.0
Upper secondary level	71.0	47.0	82.0	48.1	70.3	48.0	81.3	47.7
Tertiary level	83.0	55.0	88.5	65.2	83.7	60.7	89.0	65.6
<b>Men</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>55.3</b>
Less than upper secondary	60.3	31.5	79.9	44.8	57.4	28.4	78.0	45.8
Upper secondary level	77.0	50.3	88.6	53.7	76.5	51.9	87.7	55.1
Tertiary level	86.6	50.7	92.4	70.5	87.2	57.9	92.7	71.3
<b>Women</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>71.7</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>37.2</b>
Less than upper secondary	39.6	23.1	53.6	25.9	38.7	20.0	53.8	27.3
Upper secondary level	65.0	43.8	75.3	42.1	63.8	44.1	74.6	39.8
Tertiary level	79.5	57.9	84.8	58.0	80.5	62.7	85.7	58.6

Source: Eurostat

**Table 4. Employment rates, %**  
by country and sex

15-64 years	2008Q4 (1000) <sup>1</sup>	Confidence limit	Men and women			Men			Women			
			2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>217,804</b>	<b>± 686</b>	<b>65.8</b>	<b>± 0.2</b>	<b>66.4</b>	<b>65.7</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>73.3</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>59.2</b>	<b>59.5</b>	<b>58.8</b>
<b>EA-15</b>	<b>139,666</b>	<b>± 575</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>± 0.3</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>73.9</b>	<b>73.5</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>59.1</b>	<b>58.5</b>
<b>EA-13</b>	<b>139,133</b>	<b>± 575</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>± 0.3</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>66.0</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>73.9</b>	<b>73.5</b>	<b>59.0</b>	<b>59.1</b>	<b>58.5</b>
Belgium	4,429	± 62	62.4	± 0.9	62.6	62.7	68.8	68.5	68.8	55.9	56.6	56.5
Bulgaria	3,310	± 75	64.3	± 1.5	65.0	62.9	69.2	69.6	67.4	59.6	60.4	58.5
Czech Republic	4,962	± 43	66.8	± 0.6	66.7	66.5	75.8	75.7	75.5	57.7	57.6	57.4
Denmark	2,807	± 19	78.3	± 0.5	78.6	77.4	81.6	82.8	80.8	74.9	74.4	74.0
Germany	38,694	± 504	71.3	± 0.9	71.3	70.0	76.3	76.8	75.3	66.2	65.7	64.7
Estonia	630	± 19	69.6	± 2.1	70.4	69.1	72.6	73.6	73.4	66.8	67.5	65.1
Ireland	2,001	± 20	65.6	± 0.6	68.0	69.0	72.3	75.4	77.1	58.9	60.7	60.8
Greece	4,470	± 85	61.7	± 1.2	62.2	61.5	74.6	75.3	74.9	48.8	49.1	48.0
Spain	19,699	± 139	62.8	± 0.4	64.5	65.5	70.9	73.6	75.8	54.5	55.1	55.1
France	25,818	± 152	65.0	± 0.4	65.7	64.9	69.7	70.4	69.4	60.5	61.0	60.5
Italy	22,974	± 122	58.5	± 0.3	59.0	58.7	69.8	70.7	70.6	47.2	47.2	46.9
Cyprus	374	± 9	71.1	± 1.8	71.0	71.5	79.2	80.0	80.3	63.2	62.4	63.2
Latvia	1,043	± 19	66.5	± 1.2	69.0	70.3	69.3	72.9	74.7	63.9	65.4	66.3
Lithuania	1,478	± 44	63.8	± 1.9	65.0	64.4	65.9	67.5	67.4	61.9	62.7	61.5
Luxembourg	199	± 4	62.6	± 1.2	63.9	64.4	69.8	72.5	71.0	55.3	55.1	57.9
Hungary	3,851	± 33	56.7	± 0.5	57.3	57.1	62.6	63.9	63.6	51.1	51.0	50.8
Malta	159	± 5	54.9	± 1.6	56.1	54.5	72.7	73.0	72.3	36.3	38.6	36.1
Netherlands	8,516	± 50	77.6	± 0.5	77.5	76.4	83.4	83.5	82.4	71.8	71.5	70.3
Austria	4,027	± 47	72.2	± 0.8	72.8	71.3	78.4	79.5	78.5	66.1	66.3	64.3
Poland	15,751	± 154	60.0	± 0.6	60.0	58.1	67.1	67.2	64.9	53.1	53.0	51.5
Portugal	4,853	± 50	67.9	± 0.7	68.1	68.1	73.6	73.9	74.2	62.2	62.5	62.0
Romania	8,764	± 289	58.3	± 1.9	60.5	57.9	64.9	66.7	64.1	51.7	54.3	51.7
Slovenia	980	± 19	68.8	± 1.3	70.1	67.7	72.5	74.4	72.8	65.0	65.5	62.3
Slovakia	2,455	± 24	62.9	± 0.6	63.1	61.6	70.8	70.8	69.5	55.1	55.4	53.6
Finland	2,473	± 16	70.3	± 0.5	72.1	69.9	72.0	74.6	71.5	68.5	69.6	68.2
Sweden	4,451	± 20	73.4	± 0.3	75.7	74.0	75.8	78.2	76.3	71.0	73.2	71.6
United Kingdom	28,636	± 140	71.3	± 0.3	71.5	71.9	77.0	77.4	78.0	65.7	65.8	65.9
Croatia	:	:	:	:	59.7	57.4	:	66.8	65.0	:	52.6	50.1
Turkey	20,807	± 245	45.2	± 0.5	47.7	44.9	66.7	69.8	67.5	23.8	25.8	22.5
Iceland	:	:	:	:	:	84.0	:	:	88.7	:	:	78.9
Norway	2,455	± 15	77.5	± 0.5	78.5	77.6	79.8	81.2	80.1	75.1	75.7	75.0
<b>EEA-30</b>	<b>220,426</b>	<b>± 686</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>± 0.2</b>	<b>66.5</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>72.5</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>59.4</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>58.9</b>
Switzerland	4,112	± 48	79.5	± 0.9	:	78.6	85.4	:	85.6	73.5	:	71.6

Source: Eurostat

<sup>1</sup>Number of persons aged 15-64 in employment

**Table 5. Part-time employment (% of total employment), 2008Q4**  
by economic activity, age and sex

	EA-15				EU-27			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
<b>Men and women</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>25.8</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>25.9</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	19.6	24.2	12.8	33.8	21.6	29.5	15.0	34.1
Industry, incl. Energy	8.9	10.5	8.0	13.3	7.3	9.2	6.2	12.8
Construction	6.2	5.6	5.4	12.3	5.9	5.5	4.9	12.4
Trade, transport and communication services	21.4	35.2	18.6	24.2	20.2	37.1	16.0	25.7
Business activities and financial services	20.5	25.7	18.8	28.0	18.8	23.5	16.6	29.1
Other services	28.2	32.9	27.4	29.9	26.1	32.2	24.4	31.3
<b>Men</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>15.4</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	12.6	22.0	5.9	25.7	15.4	26.6	8.8	27.5
Industry, incl. Energy	3.2	7.5	2.0	7.9	3.1	6.8	1.7	8.2
Construction	3.4	5.1	2.4	8.6	3.5	4.8	2.4	9.0
Trade, transport and communication services	9.1	27.9	5.4	13.6	9.6	30.1	5.1	14.9
Business activities and financial services	8.5	24.2	5.5	17.5	8.5	21.9	5.1	19.6
Other services	11.4	27.2	9.4	14.7	11.4	27.9	8.5	17.5
<b>Women</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>40.8</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	33.6	32.8	26.7	47.6	31.9	37.2	25.6	43.7
Industry, incl. Energy	23.4	18.3	23.1	31.2	17.1	14.9	16.1	27.8
Construction	37.4	:	37.9	50.5	32.2	:	31.6	46.9
Trade, transport and communication services	37.0	42.4	35.4	41.0	33.4	44.0	29.9	42.6
Business activities and financial services	34.1	27.1	33.5	45.2	30.7	25.2	29.5	44.9
Other services	37.3	35.4	36.8	40.9	33.8	34.2	32.5	40.7

Source: Eurostat

**Table 6. Part-time employment (% of total employment)**  
by country and sex

15+ years	2008Q4 (1000) <sup>1</sup>	Confidence limit	Men and women			Men			Women		
			2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4
			<b>EU-27</b>	<b>40,253</b>	<b>± 326</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>17.9</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>7.7</b>
<b>EA-15</b>	<b>27,792</b>	<b>± 240</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>35.1</b>
<b>EA-13</b>	<b>27,744</b>	<b>± 240</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>35.1</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>35.2</b>
Belgium	1,016	± 45	22.8	22.2	21.9	7.8	7.9	7.7	41.6	39.8	39.4
Bulgaria	67	± 9	2.0	2.4	1.5	1.6	2.1	1.2	2.4	2.7	1.9
Czech Republic	252	± 14	5.0	4.8	5.0	2.3	2.2	2.3	8.6	8.3	8.5
Denmark	725	± 22	25.4	24.2	24.3	15.0	13.8	14.1	37.1	36.0	35.7
Germany	10,067	± 172	25.6	25.7	25.6	8.9	9.3	9.0	45.1	45.2	45.2
Estonia	50	± 7	7.6	6.9	8.6	4.2	3.1u	4.2u	11.0	10.7	13.2
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Greece	261	± 16	5.7	5.4	5.3	2.9	2.7	2.6	10.1	9.7	9.6
Spain	2,479	± 64	12.5	11.4	11.6	4.4	4.1	3.9	23.3	21.5	22.6
France	4,306	± 110	16.7	16.3	17.2	5.7	5.5	5.8	29.2	28.6	30.1
Italy	3,309	± 75	14.2	14.1	14.0	5.0	5.2	5.2	27.8	27.6	27.5
Cyprus	31	± 3	7.9	7.5	7.5	4.5	4.6	4.4	12.1	11.2	11.4
Latvia	72	± 9	6.7	6.0	6.1	5.4	4.0	4.8	8.0	8.1	7.5
Lithuania	101	± 11	6.7	6.5	8.1	5.5	4.2	6.9	7.8	8.8	9.3
Luxembourg	36	± 3	18.3	18.8	17.9	3.9	2.4u	2.7u	36.9	41.0	36.3
Hungary	191	± 13	4.9	4.7	4.2	3.4	3.6	2.9	6.7	6.1	5.8
Malta	18	± 2	11.3	11.8	10.8	4.1	4.1	4.0	26.4	26.9	24.9
Netherlands	3,861	± 38	47.8	47.2	46.9	24.1	23.5	23.3	75.5	75.0	75.2
Austria	973	± 27	23.8	22.8	22.9	8.1	7.8	7.5	42.3	40.7	41.6
Poland	1,356	± 80	8.5	8.3	9.3	5.5	5.7	6.4	12.1	11.5	12.8
Portugal	603	± 39	11.6	11.9	12.0	7.2	7.4	7.8	16.8	17.1	17.0
Romania	896	± 109	9.7	10.8	9.0	9.1	9.7	8.7	10.4	12.1	9.4
Slovenia	92	± 7	9.2	8.7	9.0	7.4	6.4	7.1	11.2	11.5	11.4
Slovakia	72	± 7	2.9	3.2	2.3	1.8	2.0	0.9	4.4	4.6	4.1
Finland	354	± 14	14.2	12.0	15.1	9.4	7.8	9.9	19.4	16.5	20.7
Sweden	1,226	± 25	26.9	25.5	25.3	13.6	12.5	12.0	41.8	40.0	40.3
United Kingdom	7,453	± 168	25.5	25.1	25.3	11.5	11.3	10.9	41.9	41.4	42.1
Croatia	:	:	:	9.4	9.4	:	7.0	7.0	:	12.4	12.3
Turkey	2,045	± 64	9.6	8.5	8.8	5.5	4.8	4.9	20.9	18.4	20.3
Iceland	:	:	:	:	23.1	:	:	11.7	:	:	37.1
Norway	709	± 19	28.3	27.4	28.3	14.9	14.1	14.2	43.1	42.1	43.8
<b>EEA-30</b>	<b>41,004</b>	<b>± 326</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>31.3</b>
Switzerland	2,874	± 68	34.4	:	33.5	13.5	:	12.4	59.1	:	59.1

Source: Eurostat

<sup>1</sup>Number of persons aged 15 years and more in part-time employment

**Table 7. Average actual hours worked per week in all jobs, 2008Q4**  
by economic activity, full-time/part-time distinction and sex

	EA-15			EU-27		
	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time
<b>Men and women</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>40.7</b>	<b>19.8</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	40.9	46.4	18.7	38.7	43.5	21.9
Industry, incl. Energy	38.2	40.0	20.0	38.6	40.2	20.1
Construction	39.7	41.1	19.4	40.3	41.6	19.8
Trade, transport and communication services	37.5	42.6	19.4	37.4	42.4	19.0
Business activities and financial services	36.8	41.2	19.7	37.0	41.1	19.5
Other services	33.1	38.3	20.2	33.6	38.7	20.1
<b>Men</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>41.9</b>	<b>19.5</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	43.9	47.5	18.9	41.7	45.3	23.1
Industry, incl. Energy	39.8	40.5	19.2	40.0	40.6	19.4
Construction	40.5	41.2	20.2	41.0	41.7	21.2
Trade, transport and communication services	41.2	43.5	18.0	40.9	43.4	18.1
Business activities and financial services	40.6	42.6	19.4	40.6	42.5	19.0
Other services	37.4	39.7	20.0	37.7	40.0	19.5
<b>Women</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>20.0</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	34.6	43.2	18.6	33.5	39.6	21.0
Industry, incl. Energy	34.2	38.6	20.2	35.4	38.9	20.4
Construction	30.9	38.6	18.7	31.9	38.8	18.3
Trade, transport and communication services	32.7	40.7	19.8	32.9	40.6	19.3
Business activities and financial services	32.2	38.9	19.8	32.7	39.0	19.6
Other services	30.7	37.2	20.3	31.4	37.7	20.2

Source: Eurostat

**Table 8. Average actual hours worked per week in all jobs**  
by country and sex

15+ years	2008Q4 (1000) <sup>1</sup>	Men and women			Men			Women			
		2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>205,694</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>± 0.1</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>33.3</b>
<b>EA-15</b>	<b>129,172</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>± 0.1</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>32.2</b>
<b>EA-13</b>	<b>128,652</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>± 0.1</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>36.8</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>40.4</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>32.2</b>
Belgium	3,964	36.5	± 0.6	37.2	36.8	40.1	40.6	40.4	31.9	32.9	32.4
Bulgaria	3,076	40.9	± 0.2	41.7	41.7	41.5	42.3	42.2	40.3	41.0	41.2
Czech Republic	4,712	40.6	± 0.2	42.2	41.4	42.4	44.1	43.2	38.1	39.5	39.0
Denmark	2,500	34.5	± 0.2	35.8	34.9	37.0	38.2	37.4	31.5	32.8	31.9
Germany	36,134	36.0	± 0.1	36.3	36.3	40.7	40.9	41.1	30.3	30.7	30.5
Estonia	626	38.1	± 0.5	39.9	39.2	39.4	41.4	40.5	36.9	38.4	37.8
Ireland	1,913	36.3	± 0.4	36.8	36.9	40.4	40.7	41.2	30.8	31.3	31.1
Greece	4,668	40.8	± 0.3	42.3	41.1	42.7	44.1	42.9	37.7	39.4	38.1
Spain	17,653	38.0	± 0.1	38.9	37.6	40.8	41.4	40.2	34.4	35.3	34.0
France	23,113	36.5	± 0.1	37.6	36.7	39.4	40.5	39.7	33.1	34.1	33.2
Italy	22,032	37.1	± 0.1	38.5	37.5	40.1	41.2	40.5	32.7	34.1	32.9
Cyprus	369	38.6	± 0.3	40.5	38.9	40.6	42.5	40.7	36.1	37.9	36.6
Latvia	1,023	38.7	± 0.5	40.8	39.6	39.4	42.0	40.7	38.0	39.3	38.4
Lithuania	1,424	39.2	± 0.2	39.5	39.0	40.0	40.6	39.6	38.4	38.4	38.2
Luxembourg	161	37.0	± 0.7	37.3	37.4	40.2	40.9	40.9	32.7	32.0	32.9
Hungary	3,759	39.9	± 0.1	40.1	40.1	40.9	41.1	41.1	38.7	38.9	39.0
Malta	151	39.4	± 0.6	39.2	39.1	41.2	41.2	41.1	35.6	35.1	34.8
Netherlands	7,275	31.9	± 0.1	32.4	32.1	37.4	37.6	37.6	25.5	26.0	25.3
Austria	3,735	37.0	± 0.3	38.6	37.6	41.3	42.5	41.6	31.8	33.4	32.4
Poland	16,878	39.1	± 0.3	41.3	39.3	41.1	43.4	41.5	36.5	38.6	36.6
Portugal	4,820	37.7	± 0.4	39.0	37.6	39.4	40.8	39.3	35.8	36.8	35.6
Romania	9,092	39.1	± 0.3	40.1	39.4	40.0	41.3	40.2	38.0	38.7	38.4
Slovenia	988	39.1	± 0.3	40.3	39.6	40.3	41.6	40.8	37.7	38.5	38.1
Slovakia	2,366	39.9	± 0.2	39.6	40.2	41.0	40.7	41.4	38.5	38.0	38.6
Finland	2,195	36.4	± 0.2	38.1	36.3	38.6	40.4	38.5	34.0	35.5	33.9
Sweden	5,365	35.5	± 0.2	36.5	36.3	38.1	39.1	38.9	32.6	33.5	33.2
United Kingdom	25,700	35.5	± 0.1	36.1	36.2	39.8	40.3	40.8	30.4	30.8	30.7
Croatia	:	:	:	40.0	38.9	:	41.2	40.1	:	38.5	37.3
Turkey	20,538	49.0	± 0.3	50.9	49.1	51.9	53.6	51.8	41.2	43.5	41.0
Iceland	:	:	:	39.7	:	:	:	44.5	:	:	33.8
Norway	2,156	34.0	± 0.3	35.3	34.2	37.1	38.3	37.7	30.3	31.6	30.1
<b>EEA-30</b>	<b>208,056</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>± 0.1</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>34.0</b>	<b>33.2</b>
Switzerland	7,395	37.1	0.2	:	36.9	43.0	:	42.7	29.7	:	29.5

Source: Eurostat

<sup>1</sup>Number of employed persons aged 15 years and more who have worked at least one hour during the reference week

**Table 9. Share of employees with temporary contracts, 2008Q4, %**  
by economic activity, age group and sex

	EA-15				EU-27			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
<b>Men and women</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>7.6</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	37.3	56.6	35.1	29.5	28.6	47.5	26.7	21.4
Industry, incl. Energy	11.5	49.9	7.8	3.8	10.9	41.1	8.1	4.7
Construction	20.5	46.5	16.8	9.5	17.7	37.9	15.1	9.3
Trade, transport and communication services	15.6	45.4	10.8	5.5	13.4	34.9	9.5	6.0
Business activities and financial services	13.5	48.2	10.6	6.3	12.1	37.9	9.4	9.0
Other services	17.6	57.4	15.6	7.3	14.8	46.5	12.9	8.3
<b>Men</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>7.3</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	34.9	55.3	31.8	28.0	26.5	47.2	23.9	19.8
Industry, incl. Energy	10.9	49.8	7.0	3.7	10.2	41.1	7.1	4.4
Construction	21.2	46.0	17.6	10.1	18.4	37.9	15.7	9.4
Trade, transport and communication services	13.9	45.7	9.2	5.2	11.8	34.6	7.9	5.6
Business activities and financial services	12.7	50.4	9.6	6.8	11.3	38.2	8.5	9.3
Other services	16.2	61.0	14.3	6.8	14.1	48.4	12.2	8.3
<b>Women</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>14.1</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	43.3	61.6	42.5	33.5	34.0	49.1	33.4	25.9
Industry, incl. Energy	13.2	50.4	9.8	4.0	12.6	41.2	10.0	5.3
Construction	13.1	54.4	9.1	:	10.9	38.9	8.1	:
Trade, transport and communication services	17.6	45.1	12.7	5.8	15.3	35.1	11.4	6.7
Business activities and financial services	14.3	46.4	11.6	5.7	12.8	37.5	10.4	8.6
Other services	18.4	55.8	16.3	7.6	15.2	45.6	13.3	8.4

Source: Eurostat

**Table 10. Share of employees with temporary contracts, %**  
by country and sex

15+ years	2008Q4 (1000) <sup>1</sup>	Men and women			Men			Women		
		2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>25,373</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.2</b>
<b>EA-15</b>	<b>18,780</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>17.8</b>
<b>EA-13</b>	<b>18,732</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>17.6</b>	<b>17.8</b>
Belgium	312	8.2	8.9	8.5	6.8	7.3	6.9	9.7	10.8	10.4
Bulgaria	141	4.8	6.1	4.6	5.1	6.8	4.4	4.4	5.3	4.8
Czech Republic	336	8.0	8.2	8.5	6.4	6.7	7.2	9.9	10.0	10.2
Denmark	212	8.2	8.4	8.0	7.6	7.6	6.7	8.8	9.3	9.2
Germany	5,175	14.9	14.5	15.0	14.9	14.7	14.9	14.8	14.3	15.1
Estonia	17	2.8	2.7	2.4u	4.0u	4.0	3.1u	1.7u	:	:
Ireland	137	8.2	9.3	8.0	6.9	8.3	6.5	9.5	10.4	9.5
Greece	345	11.8	12.2	10.7	10.2	10.5	9.0	13.9	14.5	13.1
Spain	4,554	27.9	29.5	30.9	25.9	27.7	29.6	30.4	31.8	32.7
France	3,074	13.5	14.1	14.4	12.3	13.0	13.5	14.7	15.4	15.3
Italy	2,255	12.9	13.6	13.2	11.1	12.2	11.2	15.2	15.5	15.7
Cyprus	43	13.8	13.8	14.2	8.6	8.3	8.5	19.4	19.7	20.1
Latvia	34	3.5	4.1	3.0	5.1	5.8	4.4	2.0	2.4	1.7
Lithuania	28	2.1	2.6	3.1	2.3u	3.4u	3.8u	2.0u	1.9u	2.4u
Luxembourg	11	5.8	4.8	7.2	4.8	4.2	6.2	7.1	5.7	8.3
Hungary	279	8.2	8.2	7.4	9.2	9.2	7.5	7.1	7.2	7.2
Malta	6	4.2	5.2	4.7	3.4	4.3	3.7	5.7u	6.7	6.4
Netherlands	1,238	17.7	18.1	18.1	16.0	16.5	16.6	19.5	19.8	19.8
Austria	312	8.8	9.7	8.4	8.9	9.6	8.5	8.7	9.7	8.3
Poland	3,351	26.9	27.5	28.4	26.4	27.3	28.5	27.5	27.8	28.2
Portugal	883	22.3	22.9	22.9	21.0	21.9	22.0	23.8	23.9	23.9
Romania	77	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.7	0.9	1.2	1.2
Slovenia	146	16.9	18.5	18.1	14.7	17.1	16.0	19.4	20.1	20.5
Slovakia	104	4.9	5.5	4.7	5.0	5.4	4.8	4.8	5.6	4.6
Finland	289	13.3	16.6	14.1	9.4	12.9	10.7	17.2	20.3	17.3
Sweden	601	14.7	17.3	16.5	11.9	14.7	13.9	17.7	19.9	19.1
United Kingdom	1,411	5.6	5.4	5.9	5.0	5.0	5.4	6.2	5.9	6.5
Croatia	:	:	12.8	12.7	:	13.0	12.2	:	12.6	13.3
Turkey	1,577	12.4	13.2	11.9	11.9	12.9	12.0	14.2	14.2	11.6
Iceland	:	:	:	9.5	:	:	7.6	:	:	11.6
Norway	190	8.3	9.5	9.1	6.7	7.3	7.1	9.9	11.8	11.1
<b>EEA-30</b>	<b>25,572</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>15.1</b>
Switzerland	927	13.2	:	12.9	13.3	:	12.7	13.1	:	13.1

Source: Eurostat

<sup>1</sup>Number of employees with temporary contracts

**Table 11. Share of persons whose job started within the past 3 months, 2008Q4, %  
by economic activity, age group and sex**

	EA-15				EU-27			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
<b>Men and women</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>16.1</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	5.6	18.5	5.8	2.0	3.4	10.7	3.6	1.2
Industry, incl. Energy	3.6	15.3	2.6	1.0	3.4	13.2	2.6	1.2
Construction	5.8	14.3	5.0	2.5	5.1	12.7	4.4	2.1
Trade, transport and communication services	5.5	17.9	4.1	1.7	5.3	16.4	3.7	1.8
Business activities and financial services	4.9	20.8	4.0	1.6	4.8	18.6	3.8	2.0
Other services	4.9	20.6	4.1	1.6	4.6	19.2	3.8	1.7
<b>Men</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	5.6	18.2	5.5	2.1	3.7	11.1	3.8	1.5
Industry, incl. Energy	3.4	14.9	2.5	1.0	3.2	13.1	2.4	1.2
Construction	5.9	14.2	5.0	2.6	5.2	12.6	4.5	2.2
Trade, transport and communication services	4.7	17.3	3.5	1.6	4.6	15.7	3.2	1.7
Business activities and financial services	4.4	21.8	3.6	1.4	4.5	19.2	3.6	1.9
Other services	4.0	19.3	3.3	1.5	3.9	18.0	3.2	1.6
<b>Women</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>17.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	5.6	:	6.5	:	2.9	9.7	3.4	:
Industry, incl. Energy	4.0	16.3	3.1	:	3.7	13.4	2.9	:
Construction	5.1	:	4.4	:	4.3	:	3.7	:
Trade, transport and communication services	6.4	18.5	4.9	1.9	6.1	17.1	4.4	2.0
Business activities and financial services	5.4	19.9	4.4	:	5.1	18.0	4.1	2.1
Other services	5.4	21.2	4.5	1.7	5.0	19.7	4.2	1.7

Source: Eurostat

**Table 12. Share of persons whose job started within the past 3 months, %  
by country and sex**

15+ years	2008Q4 (1000) <sup>1</sup>	Men and women			Men			Women		
		2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4	2008Q4	2008Q3	2007Q4
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>9,892</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.7</b>
<b>EA-15</b>	<b>6,785</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>EA-13</b>	<b>6,762</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>6.1</b>
Belgium	208	4.7	4.5	4.9	4.2	4.3	4.4	5.3	4.6	5.5
Bulgaria	97	2.9	3.9	3.0	3.1	4.0	2.9	2.7	3.6	3.2
Czech Republic	132	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.2	2.2	2.3	3.3	3.2	3.4
Denmark	185	6.6	7.7	8.0	6.0	6.9	7.1	7.2	8.7	9.0
Germany	1,928	5.0	4.8	5.0	4.6	4.9	4.7	5.4	4.8	5.4
Estonia	39	5.9	4.5	4.4	6.1	4.4	4.1u	5.8	4.6	4.7
Ireland	97	4.8	5.9	6.2	4.0	5.4	5.3	5.7	6.7	7.3
Greece	76	1.7	2.1	1.6	1.4	2.0	1.4	2.0	2.4	2.0
Spain	1,289	6.5	7.1	7.8	5.8	6.3	6.8	7.5	8.3	9.3
France	1,621	6.3	6.5	7.2	6.2	6.4	7.2	6.4	6.6	7.3
Italy	826	3.5	3.6	4.1	2.9	3.3	3.1	4.5	4.0	5.6
Cyprus	20	5.1	5.4	6.0	3.9	4.3	4.9	6.5	6.7	7.4
Latvia	48	4.4	6.3	5.2	4.9	7.3	6.0	3.8	5.3	4.3
Lithuania	48	3.2	4.0	4.8	2.6u	4.3	4.7	3.8	3.7	4.8
Luxembourg	4	2.1	1.7	5.7	1.7u	1.5u	6.5	2.6u	1.9u	4.7
Hungary	125	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.5	3.3	3.6
Malta	4	2.3	3.5	4.0	1.9u	2.3u	3.4	3.1u	5.9	5.2u
Netherlands	141u	2.1u	2.2u	2.1u	1.8u	2.1u	1.9u	2.5u	2.3u	2.4u
Austria	188	4.6	5.4	4.5	4.4	5.2	3.9	4.9	5.6	5.3
Poland	625	3.9	4.3	4.8	3.9	4.4	4.6	4.0	4.2	5.1
Portugal	191	3.7	3.4	3.9	3.4	3.5	3.4	4.1	3.4	4.4
Romania	159	1.7	2.2	1.8	1.8	2.4	2.0	1.6	1.8	1.5
Slovenia	46	4.6	5.8	4.4	4.1	5.7	4.2	5.1	5.9	4.6
Slovakia	58	2.3	2.9	2.5	2.2	2.7	2.3	2.5	3.1	2.8
Finland	148	5.9	8.5	6.6	4.7	7.1	5.6	7.2	9.9	7.7
Sweden	325	7.2	9.3	7.9	6.1	8.2	7.0	8.4	10.5	8.8
United Kingdom	1,268	4.4	4.3	5.3	4.0	4.2	5.0	4.8	4.4	5.7
Croatia	:	:	3.5	3.2	:	3.6u	2.9u	:	3.4u	3.5u
Turkey	2,270	10.6	10.9	8.7	10.3	11.1	8.4	11.6	10.3	9.8
Iceland	:	:	7.0	:	:	:	6.5	:	:	7.6
Norway	112	4.5	6.3	5.7	4.1	5.5	5.2	4.9	7.3	6.2
<b>EEA-30</b>	<b>10,013</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>5.7</b>
Switzerland	357	4.3	:	3.9	4.0	:	3.2	4.6	:	4.7

Source: Eurostat

<sup>1</sup>Number of persons aged 15 years or more whose job started within the past three months

## Methodology

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**Source:** The European Union Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) is a quarterly, large sample survey providing results for the population in private households in the EU, EFTA, and the Candidate Countries (excepted FYROM). Conscripts in military or community service are not included in the results. The sampling rates vary between 0.14% and 1.68%. The figures in this publication are not seasonally adjusted. The concepts and definitions used in the survey follow the guidelines of International Labour Organisation.

Definitions of indicators presented in this publication are in the Eurostat website:

[http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\\_SDDS/EN/Imp\\_esms.htm](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/EN/Imp_esms.htm)

**Reference periods:** In Ireland, the data refer to seasonal quarter (June to August for Q3, September to November for Q4,). The data for Switzerland for 2007 and 2008 refer to the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

**Coverage:** The data for France exclude overseas regions. Data are provisional for Malta for 2008Q4.

**Aggregates:** When data are unavailable for a country, the calculation of the corresponding aggregates takes into account the data for the same country one year before.

**Confidence limits:** All confidence limits are calculated at a level of confidence of 95%. The country limits are derived from coefficients of variation calculated by the National Statistic Institutes. When a coefficient is not available, the coefficient for the last quarter available is taken. For the calculation of limits of aggregates, it is assumed that the EU-LFS is a stratified sample with the country as the first stratum.

**Symbols:** Figures flagged with "u" lack reliability due to small sample size or the non-response for the underlying variable is more than 10%; ":" colons are used for unavailable or extremely unreliable data. Quarter 4 of the year 2008 is written as 2008Q4. European Union (27 countries) is written as EU-27, Euro Area (15 countries) as EA-15

**Economic activity:** In tables 5, 7, 9, 11 breakdowns are based on the industry of the main job. Revision 2 of the NACE started to be implemented in the EU-LFS in the first quarter of 2008, but for a transitory period, the classification used for the breakdown of EU aggregates by economic activity is version 1.1 of the NACE.

## Further information

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### European Statistical Data Support:

Contact details for this support network can be found on our Internet site:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/>

**Data:** [Eurostat website/Population and social conditions/Employment and unemployment/ Database](#)

### [Employment and unemployment \(Labour Force Survey\)](#)

  [LFS series - Detailed quarterly survey results \(from 1998\)](#)