

Labour Market Latest Trends - 3rd quarter 2005 data

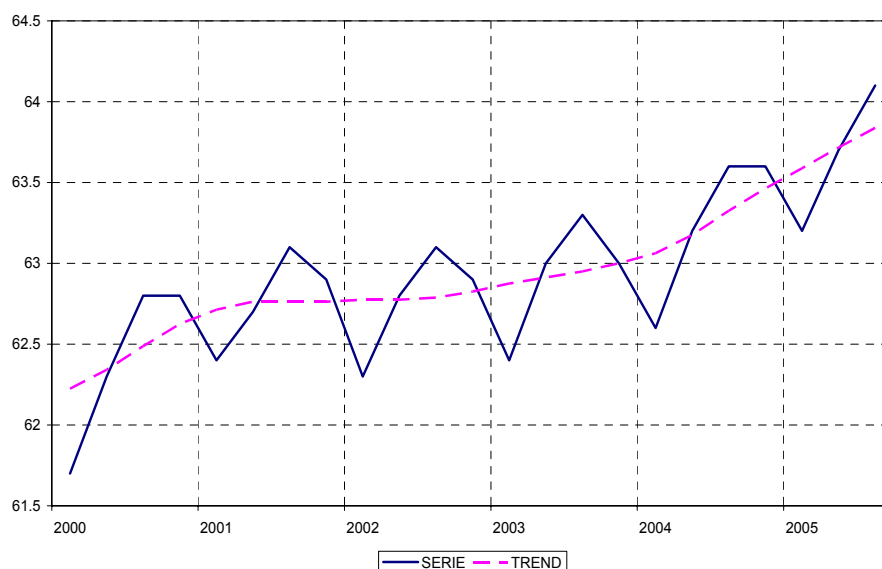
The employment rate continues to rise

This publication is one of a quarterly series presenting the main results of the European Union Labour Force Survey for the EU-25 and for all Member States.

The employment rate in the EU-25 increased by 0.5 percentage points in the third quarter 2005 compared with the same quarter one year before. In the third quarter 2005, 64.1% of the working age population (15-64 years of age) had a job or were engaged in any business activity in the EU-25, compared with 63.6% in the third quarter of 2004. Spain recorded the highest rise of the Member States, from 61.5% to 63.9%¹.

The employment rate series² shows a significant increase since the beginning of 2004 (chart 1).

Chart 1: Evolution of the employment rate (15-64 years) from 2000Q1 to 2005Q3 (%)



Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

The employment rate rose for both men and women, respectively by 0.4 and 0.5 percentage points in one year. In the third quarter 2005, 71.8% of the men and 56.5% of the women were employed in the EU-25. The highest yearly increases in female employment rate were recorded in Spain (from 48.6% in 2004Q3 to 51.6% in 2005Q3) and in Ireland (from 57.3% in 2004Q3 to 59.3% in 2005Q3).

As a result of the rise in the employment rate, the share of active population (employed plus unemployed people) in the whole population aged 15-64 increased, to reach 70.4% in the 3rd quarter 2005, compared to 69.9% one year before. The unemployment rate did not significantly decrease in this period³ (see chart 2, page 2).

¹ Quarterly data are not yet available for Luxembourg. Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

² The figures come from the Labour Force Survey when data are available; in case of missing data estimates based on national figures are calculated. The trend is calculated at an EU-25 level using moving averages. In this publication, the data have not been adjusted for seasonal variation, due to the shortness of the time series available in some countries

³ The unemployment rate calculated in this paper is directly derived from the Labour Force Survey data. The adjusted unemployment series (15+) published on a monthly basis by Eurostat can slightly differ from these results.

Statistics in focus

POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

6/2006

Labour market

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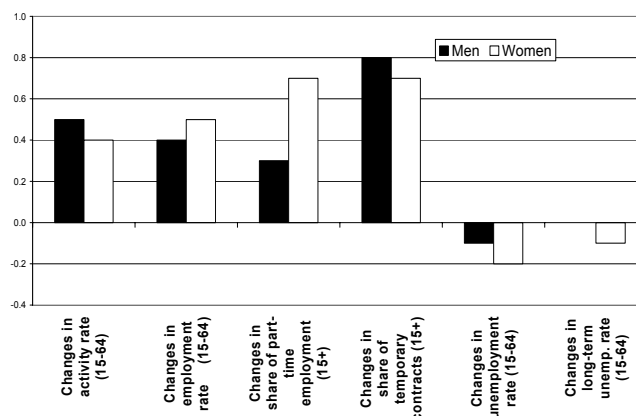
Part-time jobs and temporary contracts on the rise

The increase in employment rates was combined with increased prevalence of part-time employment as well as an increase in the proportion of employees with temporary contracts. The share of part-time employment in total employment showed significant growth between the third quarters 2004 and 2005. In the third quarter 2005, 7.2% of employed men (+0.3 percentage points) and 31.8% of employed women (+0.7 percentage points) worked part-time.

The share of employees with temporary contracts in the EU25 rose also, to reach 14.5% (+0.8 p.p.) of male employees and 15.4% (+0.7 p.p.) of female employees.

This year-on-year increase in part-time and temporary contracts has already been seen in Q1 and Q2.

Chart 2: Changes in labour market indicators from 2004Q3 to 2005Q3 (in percentage points), EU-25

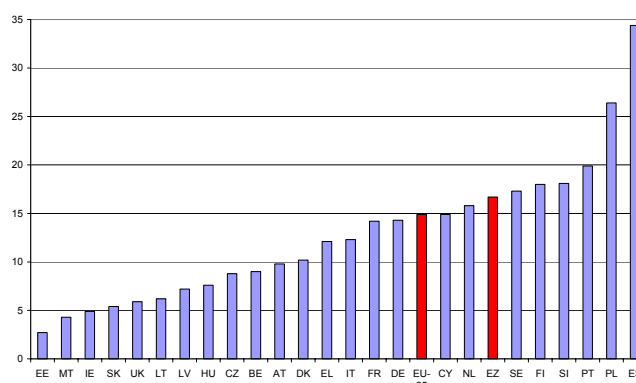


Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

The percentage of employees with temporary contracts ranged from 2.7% in Estonia to 34.4% in Spain

On average in the EU-25, 14.9% of the employees had a temporary contract in the third quarter 2005. But this average hides disparities by age, economic activity, and by Member State. Firstly, young people (aged 15 to 24 years) are much more likely to have a temporary contract when employed: 43.2% of young employees had a temporary contract, compared with 11.6% of employees aged 25 to 54 years, and 7.4% of employees aged 55 years or more. Secondly, temporary contracts were most prevalent in agriculture (34.6%) and in construction (22.1%). Finally, Chart 3 shows a huge disparity by country: in three Member States (Estonia, Malta and Ireland), this rate was less than 5%; at the other end of the scale, the rate of temporary contracts was higher than 20% in Poland (26.4%) and Spain (34.4%).

Chart 3: Share of employees with temporary contracts, 2005Q3 (%)



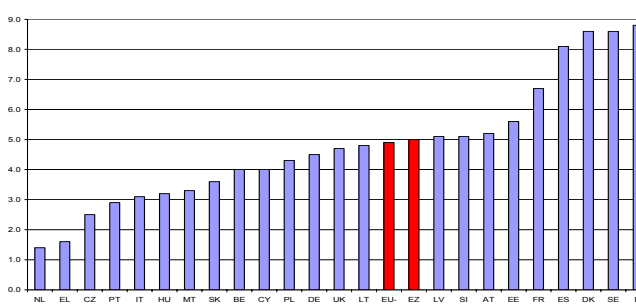
Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

4.9% of employed people in the EU-25 started their job in the past 3 months

The proportion of people whose job started in the past 3 months, is an indicator of worker's mobility and labour market flexibility. The indicator measures both the number of persons changing job in the last 3 months and those newly employed in the same period, after unemployment or inactivity.

In the third quarter of 2005, this indicator reached 4.9% in average in the EU-25. In four countries this rate was over 8%: Spain, Denmark, Sweden and Finland.

Chart 4: Share of persons whose job started within past 3 months, 2005Q3 (%)



Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Table 1. Activity rates by level of educational attainment, age group and sex, 3rd quarter 2005

	Euro-zone				EU-25			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Men and women	70.0	45.9	83.5	43.6	70.4	46.5	83.8	45.6
Less than upper secondary	56.4	36.1	74.4	34.7	54.0	32.5	73.0	35.3
Upper secondary level	75.2	56.1	85.8	46.7	75.7	59.1	85.5	49.7
Tertiary level	85.7	65.4	91.2	64.3	86.6	70.8	91.6	67.0
Men	78.5	49.6	92.8	53.7	78.2	50.1	92.1	55.7
Less than upper secondary	69.0	41.7	89.9	46.6	65.6	37.6	87.9	46.7
Upper secondary level	82.1	60.0	93.4	52.9	82.3	63.5	92.7	56.1
Tertiary level	89.5	64.4	95.5	69.9	90.0	70.5	95.5	71.2
Women	61.5	42.0	74.1	34.0	62.6	42.9	75.5	36.1
Less than upper secondary	44.2	29.6	58.9	25.6	42.9	26.5	58.4	26.7
Upper secondary level	68.3	52.4	78.0	40.0	69.0	54.7	78.2	42.7
Tertiary level	81.7	66.1	86.9	55.7	83.4	71.1	87.8	60.9

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Table 2. Activity rates by country, quarter and sex

15-64 years	2005q3 (1000) ¹	Men and women			Men			Women		
		2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3
EU-25	214,850	70.4	70.1	69.9	78.2	77.8	77.7	62.6	62.4	62.2
EU-15	180,943	71.2	71.0	70.8	79.2	78.9	78.9	63.2	63.1	62.7
Euro-zone	144,296	70.0	69.8	69.5	78.5	78.2	78.1	61.5	61.4	61.0
Belgium	4,616	67.1	66.4	66.5	74.6	73.1	73.9	59.5	59.5	58.7
Czech Republic	5,144	70.7	70.2	70.1	78.7	78.2	78.1	62.7	62.1	62.2
Denmark	2,854	80.0	79.4	81.3	83.7	83.6	85.2	76.3	75.1	77.4
Germany	40,560	74.0	73.7	72.8	80.9	80.6	79.3	67.0	66.7	66.2
Estonia	632	69.7	70.8	70.5	73.6	74.0	75.4	66.2	67.9	66.0
Greece	4,769	66.9	66.8	66.5	79.2	79.2	79.0	54.7	54.6	54.2
Spain	20,813	69.8	69.7	69.0	81.3	80.9	80.8	58.2	58.4	56.9
France	27,061	69.9	69.4	69.9	75.5	74.9	75.6	64.4	64.0	64.2
Ireland	2,050	72.2	70.2	70.7	82.3	79.9	81.3	62.1	60.3	60.0
Italy	23,911	61.9	62.5	62.5	74.2	74.8	75.0	49.6	50.3	50.1
Cyprus	358	72.5	72.6	72.6	83.5	83.2	83.3	62.3	62.7	62.7
Latvia	1,107	69.9	69.4	70.5	75.4	74.0	75.3	64.8	65.1	66.0
Lithuania	1,587	68.4	68.5	69.0	72.4	72.6	73.0	64.7	64.8	65.3
Luxembourg				64.7			74.8			54.3
Hungary	4,212	61.8	61.2	60.6	68.5	67.7	67.4	55.4	55.0	54.0
Malta	158	57.7	58.2	58.3	77.9	79.3	79.9	37.0	37.1	36.7
Netherlands	8,434	77.1	76.9	76.7	83.9	83.8	84.1	70.1	70.0	69.2
Austria	4,045	73.4	72.2	72.2	80.5	79.2	79.5	66.3	65.2	65.0
Poland	17,064	65.2	63.9	64.1	71.5	70.4	70.2	59.1	57.6	58.2
Portugal	5,234	73.5	73.2	73.1	79.1	78.9	79.2	68.1	67.7	67.2
Slovenia	1,000	71.2	70.1	71.1	75.7	74.4	75.7	66.6	65.8	66.3
Slovakia	2,643	68.9	68.6	69.9	76.6	76.1	76.7	61.2	61.3	63.1
Finland	2,609	75.1	76.6	75.1	77.2	78.5	77.5	73.0	74.7	72.7
Sweden	4,688	79.4	79.6	78.3	81.9	81.9	80.2	76.9	77.2	76.5
United Kingdom	29,104	75.5	74.9	75.3	82.2	81.4	82.3	69.0	68.5	68.5
Bulgaria	3,376	63.8	62.5	63.1	68.7	67.2	67.5	58.9	57.9	58.7
Croatia			63.3			69.7			57.1	
Romania	9,289	61.8	63.5	64.4	68.8	70.6	71.0	54.9	56.6	58.0
Iceland	159	86.8	87.7	85.9	91.3	91.0	89.7	82.2	84.3	82.1
Norway	2,368	79.1	78.3	79.3	82.2	81.7	82.6	75.9	74.8	76.0
EEA-28	217,377	70.5	70.1	70.0	78.2	77.8	77.8	62.8	62.5	62.3
Switzerland			80.8			87.4			74.3	

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Note: Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

The data for Luxembourg refer to the whole year 2004. The data for Croatia in the 2nd quarter 2005 refer to the 1st half year 2005. The data for Germany in 2004 are not from the LFS. The data for France cover the metropolitan territory (excluding overseas regions). In Ireland and UK, the data refer to seasonal quarter (March to May for q2, June to August for q3).

¹ Number of persons aged 15-64 in the labour force.

Table 3. Employment rates by level of educational attainment, age group and sex, 3rd quarter 2005

	Euro-zone				EU-25			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Men and women	63.8	37.6	77.1	40.5	64.1	37.9	77.4	42.7
Less than upper secondary	49.9	28.5	66.7	32.1	47.4	25.1	64.9	32.8
Upper secondary level	68.9	47.4	79.5	42.6	69.0	49.1	78.9	46.2
Tertiary level	80.7	54.3	86.3	61.3	82.1	59.6	87.3	64.2
Men	72.4	41.3	86.7	50.0	71.8	41.1	85.9	52.1
Less than upper secondary	62.1	33.7	82.2	43.3	58.3	29.7	79.6	43.3
Upper secondary level	75.9	51.5	87.5	48.5	75.6	53.2	86.4	52.2
Tertiary level	84.9	54.5	90.9	66.6	85.7	60.1	91.5	68.1
Women	55.3	33.8	67.5	31.4	56.5	34.6	68.8	33.8
Less than upper secondary	38.1	22.4	51.3	23.7	36.9	19.9	50.5	24.9
Upper secondary level	61.7	43.5	71.4	36.2	62.1	45.1	71.2	39.6
Tertiary level	76.3	54.1	81.7	53.0	78.5	59.2	83.3	58.6

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Table 4. Employment rates by country, quarter and sex

15-64 years	2005q3 (1000) ¹	Margin of error ²	Men and women			Men			Women		
			2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3
EU-25	195,821	± 484	64.1 ± 0.2	63.7	63.6	71.8	71.2	71.4	56.5	56.3	56.0
EU-15	166,406	± 404	65.5 ± 0.2	65.1	65.1	73.4	72.9	73.1	57.6	57.5	57.1
Euro-zone	131,644	± 381	63.8 ± 0.2	63.6	63.4	72.4	71.9	72.0	55.3	55.3	54.8
Belgium	4,213	± 57	61.2 ± 0.8	61.0	60.4	69.0	67.7	68.1	53.4	54.1	52.3
Czech Republic	4,742	± 41	65.2 ± 0.6	64.7	64.4	73.8	73.3	72.7	56.5	56.0	56.0
Denmark	2,717	± 32	76.1 ± 0.9	75.5	76.6	80.2	80.1	80.5	72.1	70.8	72.8
Germany	36,007	± 247	65.7 ± 0.5	65.3	65.3	71.8	71.1	71.1	59.5	59.3	59.4
Estonia	587	± 24	64.7 ± 2.7	64.9	63.3	68.4	66.5	67.1	61.3	63.5	59.9
Greece	4,300	± 76	60.3 ± 1.1	60.3	59.7	74.3	74.5	74.0	46.4	46.2	45.6
Spain	19,054	± 120	63.9 ± 0.4	63.2	61.5	76.0	75.0	74.2	51.6	51.2	48.6
France	24,616	± 193	63.6 ± 0.5	63.4	63.6	69.4	69.0	69.5	57.9	57.9	57.9
Ireland	1,953	± 15	68.8 ± 0.5	67.1	67.2	78.2	76.2	77.1	59.3	58.0	57.3
Italy	22,187	± 113	57.4 ± 0.3	57.8	57.8	70.0	70.2	70.6	44.8	45.4	45.1
Cyprus	339	± 9	68.7 ± 1.8	68.7	69.1	79.9	79.5	80.3	58.2	58.5	58.7
Latvia	1,010	± 29	63.8 ± 1.8	63.0	63.3	68.8	66.9	67.3	59.1	59.4	59.6
Lithuania	1,471	± 48	63.4 ± 2.1	62.6	61.7	67.4	66.3	65.6	59.6	59.2	58.0
Luxembourg	.	.	.	.	61.6	.	.	72.4	.	.	50.6
Hungary	3,906	± 61	57.3 ± 0.9	56.8	56.8	63.7	63.0	63.4	51.2	50.9	50.6
Malta	147	± 5	53.5 ± 1.8	53.6	54.0	72.8	73.5	75.0	33.7	33.6	32.9
Netherlands	8,063	± 79	73.7 ± 0.7	73.2	73.5	80.4	79.9	80.7	66.8	66.4	66.2
Austria	3,840	± 38	69.7 ± 0.7	68.4	68.8	76.9	75.1	76.3	62.5	61.7	61.4
Poland	14,053	± 248	53.7 ± 0.9	52.2	52.3	59.9	58.2	57.8	47.6	46.4	46.8
Portugal	4,805	± 48	67.5 ± 0.7	67.6	67.8	73.4	73.4	74.1	61.7	61.9	61.7
Slovenia	935	± 18	66.6 ± 1.3	66.0	66.8	70.9	70.2	71.4	62.2	61.7	62.0
Slovakia	2,226	± 22	58.0 ± 0.6	57.4	57.6	65.3	64.1	64.2	50.8	50.8	51.1
Finland	2,419	± 16	69.6 ± 0.5	69.2	69.3	72.0	71.0	71.9	67.3	67.4	66.7
Sweden	4,343	± 20	73.6 ± 0.3	72.6	73.3	75.8	74.6	74.9	71.3	70.5	71.6
United Kingdom	27,702	± 130	71.9 ± 0.3	71.5	71.7	77.9	77.3	78.0	66.0	65.8	65.5
Bulgaria	3,063	± 74	57.9 ± 1.4	56.2	56.0	62.3	60.2	59.6	53.5	52.3	52.6
Croatia	.	.	.	54.8	.	.	60.9	.	.	49.0	.
Romania	8,686	± 150	57.8 ± 1.0	58.7	59.3	63.9	65.0	64.6	51.8	52.6	54.0
Iceland	156	± 2	85.4 ± 1.1	85.1	83.8	90.3	88.4	88.1	80.3	81.6	79.4
Norway	2,258	± 14	75.4 ± 0.5	74.6	75.7	78.3	77.8	78.7	72.5	71.4	72.7
EEA-28	198,235	± 496	64.3 ± 0.2	63.8	63.8	71.9	71.3	71.4	56.7	56.4	56.1
Switzerland	.	.	.	77.2	.	.	83.9	.	.	70.4	.

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Note: Tables 3 and 4 refer to EMPLOYMENT rates, whereas tables 1 and 2 refer to ACTIVITY rates. Both concepts are defined in the methodological notes (p. 11). Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

The data for Luxembourg refer to the whole year 2004. The data for Croatia in the 2nd quarter 2005 refer to the 1st half year 2005. The data for Germany in 2004 are not from the LFS. The data for France cover the metropolitan territory (excluding overseas regions). In Ireland and UK, the data refer to seasonal quarter (March to May for q2, June to August for q3).

¹ Number of persons aged 15-64 in employment.

² Confidence limit of the number of persons aged 15-64 in employment, at a level of confidence of 95%, in thousands of people.

Table 5. Part-time employment as share of total employment, by broad group of economic activity, age group and sex, 3rd quarter 2005

	Euro-zone				EU-25			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Men and women	18.5	22.0	17.3	23.5	18.0	24.1	15.9	25.6
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	17.9	21.8	12.1	30.8	19.8	31.6	13.1	33.5
Industry, incl. Energy	8.4	9.0	7.7	13.4	7.5	8.4	6.6	13.1
Construction	5.8	4.9	5.4	9.9	5.6	4.7	4.9	11.4
Trade, transport and communication services	20.1	31.2	17.8	21.8	20.4	35.2	16.6	24.9
Business activities and financial services	20.2	22.9	19.0	28.0	18.9	21.1	17.2	29.0
Other services	26.4	26.1	26.0	28.5	25.4	26.9	24.2	31.5
Men	6.8	15.6	4.6	12.8	7.2	17.5	4.4	14.8
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	10.8	19.0	4.8	23.8	13.1	27.2	6.4	26.2
Industry, incl. Energy	3.0	6.9	1.9	7.6	2.9	6.4	1.8	7.9
Construction	2.9	4.3	2.2	6.4	3.0	4.1	2.1	7.9
Trade, transport and communication services	8.3	24.8	5.0	11.9	9.1	28.3	4.8	13.9
Business activities and financial services	7.9	20.6	5.4	16.8	8.1	18.7	5.1	19.3
Other services	10.2	20.7	8.5	14.3	10.5	22.3	7.8	18.0
Women	34.0	30.1	33.6	40.2	31.8	32.2	30.3	41.6
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	32.3	29.8	27.6	42.5	31.9	42.7	25.4	45.3
Industry, incl. Energy	22.8	14.9	22.7	32.5	18.8	13.8	18.2	30.1
Construction	39.5		41.1	51.1	35.6		36.1	49.3
Trade, transport and communication services	35.6	37.6	34.8	38.9	34.9	41.9	32.1	43.1
Business activities and financial services	34.4	25.0	34.2	47.5	31.5	23.2	30.8	45.6
Other services	35.8	28.7	36.0	39.7	33.7	29.1	32.9	41.2

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Table 6. Part-time employment as share of total employment by country, quarter and sex

15+ years	2005q3 (1000) ¹	Margin of error ²	Men and women			Men			Women		
			2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3
EU-25	35,861	± 266	18.0	18.5	17.5	7.2	7.3	6.9	31.8	32.5	31.1
EU-15	33,509	± 250	19.8	20.3	19.2	7.5	7.7	7.1	35.6	36.4	34.8
Euro-zone	24,696	± 224	18.5	19.0	17.6	6.8	6.9	6.2	34.0	34.9	32.8
Belgium	927	± 39	21.8	21.9	21.0	7.9	7.1	7.1	40.1	40.7	39.8
Czech Republic	235	± 13	4.9	4.8	4.7	2.1	2.1	2.2	8.5	8.4	8.0
Denmark	618	± 28	22.4	22.0	21.8	12.9	12.8	12.2	33.2	32.6	32.7
Germany	8,601	± 135	23.6	24.1		7.6	7.7		43.1	44.3	
Estonia	39	± 8	6.3	7.7	7.9	(4.2)	(4.9)	5.8	8.4	10.4	10.1
Greece	219	± 15	5.0	4.8	4.5	2.4	2.1	2.1	9.2	9.1	8.3
Spain	2,228	± 64	11.6	12.8	8.7	4.2	4.7	2.9	22.7	24.9	17.7
France	4,202	± 122	17.0	17.4	16.5	5.5	5.7	5.2	30.4	30.9	29.8
Ireland	247	± 8	12.4	12.2	16.8	5.1	4.9	6.2	22.4	22.0	31.4
Italy	2,784	± 73	12.4	12.8	12.3	4.4	4.5	4.6	24.8	25.7	24.3
Cyprus	30	± 3	8.7	8.9	8.3	4.6	5.1	4.3	14.0	13.8	13.6
Latvia	77	± 14	7.4	9.6	9.2	5.3	7.6	6.9	9.7	11.6	11.7
Lithuania	98	± 13	6.5	6.5	7.3	4.2	4.6	5.2	9.0	8.5	9.4
Luxembourg					17.8			2.4			40.2
Hungary	162	± 12	4.1	4.4	4.7	2.6	2.9	3.3	5.9	6.1	6.4
Malta	15	± 2	9.9	9.2	8.8	4.8	4.7	3.9	21.2	19.3	20.1
Netherlands	3,757	± 66	46.0	46.2	45.2	22.5	22.6	21.9	75.0	75.3	74.6
Austria	819	± 24	21.1	20.7	19.1	6.2	5.9	4.8	39.3	38.7	36.8
Poland	1,554	± 85	10.8	10.6	11.1	7.5	7.7	8.1	14.9	14.2	14.6
Portugal	568	± 33	11.1	11.5	11.2	7.0	7.1	7.0	15.9	16.6	16.2
Slovenia	84	± 6	8.8	8.9	10.1	7.3	7.1	8.6	10.6	11.0	12.0
Slovakia	59	± 7	2.6	2.4	2.7	1.5	1.2	1.4	4.1	3.9	4.3
Finland	311	± 11	12.7	13.6	13.0	8.6	9.1	8.7	17.2	18.5	17.8
Sweden	1,047	± 22	23.7	24.3	22.8	11.0	11.5	11.4	37.8	38.4	35.1
United Kingdom	7,148	± 104	25.3	25.7	25.7	10.3	10.6	10.4	42.5	43.0	43.6
Bulgaria	52	± 7	1.7	2.3	2.2	1.4	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.9	2.6
Croatia				10.1			7.3			13.4	
Romania	970	± 96	10.6	10.7	9.2	9.6	10.0	8.7	11.7	11.6	9.7
Iceland	30	± 2	18.6	19.5	20.3	6.7	7.3	8.2	32.9	33.6	34.2
Norway	629	± 16	27.4	28.5	27.9	13.6	13.9	13.6	42.7	44.9	43.7
EEA-28	36,520	± 269	18.2	18.6	17.7	7.3	7.4	7.0	32.0	32.7	31.3
Switzerland				33.1			11.8			58.8	

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Note: Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

The data for Luxembourg refer to the whole year 2004. The data for Croatia in the 2nd quarter 2005 refer to the 1st half year 2005. The data for France cover the metropolitan territory (excluding overseas regions). In Ireland and UK, the data refer to seasonal quarter (March to May for q2, June to August for q3).

¹ Number of persons aged 15 years or more in part-time employment.

² Confidence limit of the number of part-time employed people, at a level of confidence of 95%, in thousands of people.

Table 7. Average actual hours worked in all jobs per week by broad group of economic activity, broken down by full-time/part-time and by sex, 3rd quarter 2005

	Euro-zone			EU-25		
	Total	Full-time	Part-time	Total	Full-time	Part-time
Men and women	38.1	42.0	20.9	38.5	42.3	20.9
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	44.9	50.1	21.0	44.3	49.9	21.4
Industry, incl. Energy	39.4	41.1	20.7	39.9	41.4	21.1
Construction	41.2	42.4	20.3	41.9	43.1	20.5
Trade, transport and communication services	39.3	44.0	20.4	39.2	43.9	20.4
Business activities and financial services	37.6	42.0	20.5	38.0	42.0	20.6
Other services	34.4	39.2	21.4	35.0	39.6	21.4
Men	41.6	43.1	21.2	41.9	43.5	21.3
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	48.4	51.7	21.6	47.7	51.6	22.1
Industry, incl. Energy	40.9	41.5	21.1	41.3	41.9	21.7
Construction	42.0	42.5	21.9	42.7	43.3	22.4
Trade, transport and communication services	42.9	45.0	19.9	42.7	45.0	20.1
Business activities and financial services	41.6	43.4	21.3	41.7	43.4	21.0
Other services	38.7	40.5	22.5	39.0	41.0	22.1
Women	33.3	39.9	20.8	34.0	40.1	20.8
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	37.9	45.9	20.6	38.0	45.9	20.8
Industry, incl. Energy	35.3	39.7	20.6	36.4	39.9	20.8
Construction	31.9	40.3	18.9	32.6	40.0	18.7
Trade, transport and communication services	34.5	42.1	20.6	34.5	41.9	20.5
Business activities and financial services	32.9	39.6	20.3	33.7	39.7	20.4
Other services	31.8	38.0	21.2	32.6	38.5	21.3

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

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

15+ years	2005q3 (1000) ¹	Men and women			Men			Women		
		2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3
EU-25	164,946	38.5	37.9	38.5	41.9	41.5	41.8	34.0	33.3	33.9
EU-15	137,633	37.8	37.3	37.8	41.4	41.1	41.4	32.9	32.3	32.9
Euro-zone	108,346	38.1	37.6	38.1	41.6	41.3	41.5	33.3	32.7	33.3
Belgium	3,223	37.0	37.1	37.3	40.3	40.9	40.7	32.5	32.4	32.4
Czech Republic	4,151	41.9	42.8	42.2	43.9	44.7	44.4	39.0	40.1	39.3
Denmark	2,163	36.7	35.6	36.5	39.3	38.6	39.5	33.5	31.9	33.0
Germany	31,968	37.5	36.9		42.2	41.8		31.6	30.9	
Estonia	567	40.9	40.4	40.9	42.4	41.9	42.7	39.4	39.1	38.8
Greece	4,060	43.3	42.4	43.7	45.2	44.5	45.4	40.2	39.1	40.7
Spain	14,933	39.7	39.6	39.6	42.2	42.4	41.6	35.9	35.4	36.4
France	18,415	37.4	37.1	37.6	40.5	40.2	40.6	33.6	33.3	33.9
Ireland	1,756	38.5	37.3	38.4	42.7	41.7	42.6	32.3	31.0	32.2
Italy	18,025	38.7	38.5	38.9	41.4	41.6	41.6	34.3	33.7	34.4
Cyprus	290	40.8	39.4	41.4	43.2	41.8	44.1	37.4	36.2	37.9
Latvia	997	43.1	41.9	42.5	44.5	43.7	44.3	41.4	40.0	40.6
Lithuania	1,355	39.6	39.5	39.4	41.0	40.9	40.5	37.9	37.9	38.1
Luxembourg				38.1			41.5			32.8
Hungary	3,550	40.8	40.5	40.9	42.1	41.9	42.4	39.1	39.0	39.0
Malta	137	38.9	38.7	38.5	40.9	40.8	40.3	34.2	34.1	34.3
Netherlands	6,293	32.6	31.4	32.6	37.9	36.8	37.9	25.7	24.6	25.7
Austria	3,216	40.0	39.1	40.6	44.1	43.2	44.6	34.6	33.8	35.4
Poland	13,457	42.7	41.7	42.8	45.4	44.3	45.5	39.2	38.4	39.4
Portugal	4,447	40.0	39.0	39.9	41.9	41.0	41.8	37.6	36.7	37.5
Slovenia	783	41.2	40.7	41.2	42.5	42.1	42.5	39.5	38.9	39.4
Slovakia	2,026	41.2	41.1	41.0	42.2	42.1	42.1	39.9	39.7	39.6
Finland	1,847	38.9	37.6	38.5	41.2	39.8	40.9	36.2	35.1	35.8
Sweden	3,157	37.1	36.0	37.1	39.8	38.8	39.7	33.9	32.7	33.9
United Kingdom	23,967	36.5	35.7	36.6	41.0	40.4	41.2	31.0	30.1	30.8
Bulgaria	2,712	40.8	40.3	40.9	41.3	40.7	41.3	40.3	39.9	40.4
Croatia			40.0			41.4			38.3	
Romania	8,975	41.5	41.1	41.8	42.8	42.3	43.1	39.9	39.7	40.4
Iceland	130	44.0	43.1	43.8	48.5	48.5	48.9	37.8	36.5	37.7
Norway	1,664	35.8	34.7	35.9	39.1	38.2	39.4	31.8	30.6	31.8
EEA-28	166,739	38.5	37.9	38.4	41.9	41.4	41.8	33.9	33.3	33.9
Switzerland			37.7			43.7			30.3	

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Note: Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

The data for Luxembourg refer to the whole year 2004. The data for Croatia in the 2nd quarter 2005 refer to the 1st half year 2005. The data for France cover the metropolitan territory (excluding overseas regions). In Ireland and UK, the data refer to seasonal quarter (March to May for q2, June to August for q3).

¹ Number of persons aged 15 years or more at work during the reference week.

Table 9. Share of employees with temporary contracts by broad group of economic activity, age group and sex, 3rd quarter 2005

	Euro-zone				EU-25			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Men and women	16.7	52.0	12.6	6.8	14.9	43.2	11.6	7.4
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	42.2	66.6	38.5	31.3	34.6	58.2	31.6	25.1
Industry, incl. Energy	12.1	50.7	7.9	3.5	11.8	44.6	8.4	4.7
Construction	25.1	51.0	20.7	14.0	22.1	43.5	18.9	11.5
Trade, transport and communication services	17.3	48.9	11.4	6.0	15.3	38.8	10.5	6.0
Business activities and financial services	14.2	49.3	10.8	6.1	12.7	40.0	9.8	7.0
Other services	16.8	58.3	14.3	6.5	14.7	49.0	12.5	7.9
Men	16.0	52.2	11.8	6.7	14.5	43.2	11.0	7.5
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	38.7	62.9	34.8	28.6	32.0	54.1	29.1	22.9
Industry, incl. Energy	11.6	51.5	7.0	3.4	11.0	44.7	7.3	4.5
Construction	26.0	51.0	21.5	15.1	23.1	43.6	19.9	12.3
Trade, transport and communication services	15.4	49.4	9.5	6.0	13.6	38.7	8.9	6.1
Business activities and financial services	13.3	48.8	10.2	6.0	12.1	39.4	9.3	7.3
Other services	15.7	61.9	13.5	5.7	14.4	51.0	12.1	8.1
Women	17.4	51.8	13.7	6.9	15.4	43.2	12.3	7.4
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	50.6	76.1	47.2	38.0	41.0	69.5	37.6	31.2
Industry, incl. Energy	13.5	48.4	10.0		13.7	44.1	10.7	5.4
Construction	15.2	51.9	11.6		12.5	42.1	9.5	
Trade, transport and communication services	19.7	48.4	13.6	6.0	17.4	39.0	12.4	6.0
Business activities and financial services	15.0	49.8	11.4	6.3	13.3	40.6	10.3	6.5
Other services	17.4	56.7	14.8	7.1	14.9	48.0	12.6	7.8

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

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

15+ years	2005q3 (1000) ¹	Men and women			Men			Women		
		2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3
EU-25	24,768	14.9	14.3	14.2	14.5	13.9	13.7	15.4	14.9	14.7
EU-15	20,911	14.7	14.1	14.0	14.1	13.5	13.4	15.4	14.8	14.8
Euro-zone	18,520	16.7	16.1	15.8	16.0	15.3	15.0	17.4	17.0	16.6
Belgium	325	9.0	9.1	9.2	7.3	6.7	6.9	11.1	12.0	12.1
Czech Republic	357	8.8	8.7	9.0	7.9	7.8	7.9	10.0	9.7	10.1
Denmark	257	10.2	9.9	10.3	8.3	8.9	9.6	12.3	11.0	11.0
Germany	4,568	14.3	13.8		14.5	14.0		14.0	13.6	
Estonia	15	2.7	3.2	2.9	(3.8)	(4.1)	(3.6)		(2.5)	(2.2)
Greece	339	12.1	12.1	12.4	10.2	10.2	11.1	15.0	14.7	14.3
Spain	5,416	34.4	33.3	33.1	32.6	31.6	31.3	36.9	35.5	35.8
France	3,138	14.2	13.3	13.6	13.6	12.5	12.7	14.9	14.2	14.6
Ireland	81	4.9	2.5	5.1	4.3	2.4	4.9	5.6	2.7	5.5
Italy	2,034	12.3	12.4	12.6	10.9	10.6	11.0	14.2	14.8	14.8
Cyprus	40	14.9	13.8	13.1	10.2	8.5	9.3	20.3	19.6	17.3
Latvia	67	7.2	8.7	9.1	8.3	11.4	11.1	6.0	6.0	7.0
Lithuania	77	6.2	5.1	6.6	8.2	6.9	9.3	4.1	(3.3)	(3.9)
Luxembourg				4.9			4.1			6.0
Hungary	258	7.6	7.2	7.3	8.4	7.8	8.1	6.7	6.5	6.4
Malta	6	4.3	3.9	5.0	(3.2)	(3.2)	4.0	(6.6)	(5.5)	(6.9)
Netherlands	1,133	15.8	15.0	15.1	14.7	13.7	13.6	17.2	16.6	16.8
Austria	330	9.8	8.8	9.4	10.2	8.8	9.7	9.4	8.8	9.0
Poland	2,785	26.4	25.5	23.8	27.0	26.3	24.4	25.7	24.6	23.0
Portugal	764	19.9	19.5	19.8	19.2	18.7	18.9	20.8	20.3	20.9
Slovenia	148	18.1	17.0	19.3	16.0	16.0	18.6	20.5	18.1	20.2
Slovakia	104	5.4	5.0	6.3	5.6	5.1	7.1	5.1	4.9	5.5
Finland	383	18.0	18.1	18.7	14.8	14.4	15.6	21.1	21.7	21.9
Sweden	682	17.3	16.2	17.2	15.4	14.5	15.3	19.1	17.9	19.2
United Kingdom	1,451	5.9	5.5	6.3	5.3	5.1	5.9	6.5	5.9	6.7
Bulgaria	197	7.5	6.0	8.0	7.7	6.1	8.0	7.3	5.9	8.0
Croatia			12.8			12.7			13.0	
Romania	149	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.9	3.1	2.7	2.1	2.1	1.8
Iceland	8	5.5	7.1	4.0	5.5	6.2	3.9	5.5	8.0	4.0
Norway	228	10.7	9.6	10.6	8.6	7.6	9.1	13.0	11.6	12.1
EEA-28	25,004	14.9	14.3	14.1	14.4	13.8	13.7	15.4	14.8	14.7
Switzerland			12.7			12.4			12.9	

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Note: Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

The data for Luxembourg refer to the whole year 2004. The data for Croatia in the 2nd quarter 2005 refer to the 1st half year 2005. The data for France cover the metropolitan territory (excluding overseas regions). In Ireland and UK, the data refer to seasonal quarter (March to May for q2, June to August for q3).

¹ Number of employees aged 15 years or more having temporary job contracts.

Table 11. Share of persons whose job started within past 3 months by broad group of economic activity, age group and sex, 3rd quarter 2005

	Euro-zone				EU-25			
	15+	15-24	25-54	55+	15+	15-24	25-54	55+
Men and women	5.0	19.3	3.6	1.4	4.9	18.6	3.6	1.5
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	5.9	24.1	5.4	1.8	4.9	19.0	4.2	1.4
Industry, incl. Energy	4.1	17.9	2.8	(0.8)	4.0	17.1	2.8	1.2
Construction	7.0	17.4	5.8	2.5	6.7	17.2	5.6	2.3
Trade, transport and communication services	6.0	20.1	4.0	1.8	6.1	19.1	3.9	1.9
Business activities and financial services	5.0	21.4	3.8	.	5.0	20.4	3.9	1.3
Other services	4.0	19.0	3.1	1.2	4.0	18.8	3.0	1.3
Men	4.8	19.2	3.6	1.4	4.8	18.2	3.5	1.5
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	5.4	21.6	4.7	.	4.8	18.1	4.1	.
Industry, incl. Energy	3.9	17.7	2.6	.	3.8	16.6	2.6	1.2
Construction	7.2	17.7	6.0	2.5	6.9	17.4	5.8	2.4
Trade, transport and communication services	5.4	19.8	3.6	1.8	5.5	18.8	3.6	1.8
Business activities and financial services	5.0	23.0	4.0	.	5.0	21.4	4.0	1.4
Other services	3.5	19.8	2.7	1.0	3.6	19.0	2.8	1.2
Women	5.1	19.5	3.7	1.4	5.0	19.0	3.6	1.4
Agriculture, hunting and fishing	6.9	31.4	6.8	.	4.9	21.2	4.4	.
Industry, incl. Energy	4.6	18.5	3.4	.	4.5	18.2	3.3	.
Construction	4.8	.	4.1	.	4.7	.	4.0	.
Trade, transport and communication services	6.8	20.3	4.4	1.9	6.8	19.5	4.4	2.0
Business activities and financial services	5.0	20.0	3.7	.	5.0	19.5	3.8	.
Other services	4.3	18.6	3.3	1.3	4.2	18.8	3.2	1.3

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

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

15+ years	2005q3 (1000) ¹	Men and women			Men			Women		
		2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3
EU-25	9,627	4.9	4.4	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.7	5.0	4.4	5.1
EU-15	8,460	5.1	4.5	5.0	4.9	4.5	4.7	5.3	4.6	5.3
Euro-zone	6,510	5.0	4.5	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.6	5.1	4.5	5.2
Belgium	170	4.0	3.0	3.8	4.1	2.8	3.4	3.9	3.3	4.2
Czech Republic	120	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.2	2.8	2.4	2.9	2.8	2.7
Denmark	236	8.6	6.9	8.5	7.7	6.5	7.5	9.5	7.4	9.6
Germany	1,651	4.5	3.8	.	4.6	3.9	.	4.4	3.6	.
Estonia	34	5.6	4.8	4.6	6.5	5.4	5.1	(4.8)	(4.3)	4.2
Greece	70	1.6	2.2	1.8	1.4	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.3	2.0
Spain	1,560	8.1	7.6	7.7	7.5	7.1	6.8	9.1	8.3	9.0
France	1,659	6.7	5.8	6.7	6.9	6.1	6.7	6.5	5.5	6.7
Ireland	.	.	.	5.9	.	.	5.6	.	.	6.5
Italy	710	3.1	3.3	3.8	2.9	3.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	4.5
Cyprus	14	4.0	4.4	4.3	3.6	3.6	3.6	4.5	5.4	5.3
Latvia	53	5.1	5.3	5.9	5.8	5.8	6.8	4.3	4.8	5.0
Lithuania	71	4.8	3.7	4.5	6.0	4.5	5.3	3.5	(2.9)	3.7
Luxembourg	.	.	.	2.7	.	.	2.4	.	.	3.3
Hungary	126	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.4	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.8
Malta	5	3.3	2.6	3.4	(2.4)	(2.2)	(2.8)	(5.3)	(3.5)	(4.6)
Netherlands	117	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.2	1.5
Austria	202	5.2	4.9	4.7	5.0	5.4	4.3	5.5	4.2	5.2
Poland	614	4.3	4.3	4.7	4.6	4.8	5.1	3.9	3.7	4.2
Portugal	151	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.0
Slovenia	49	5.1	4.2	4.9	5.0	4.5	4.8	5.2	4.0	5.1
Slovakia	81	3.6	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.6	3.0	3.2
Finland	215	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.1	9.0	8.2	9.6	8.6	9.2
Sweden	382	8.6	8.2	5.7	8.0	8.0	5.6	9.3	8.5	5.9
United Kingdom	1,332	4.7	4.0	5.1	4.6	3.8	4.9	4.8	4.2	5.3
Bulgaria	143	4.6	6.4	4.8	5.0	7.0	4.8	4.2	5.8	4.7
Croatia	.	.	4.0	.	.	4.3	.	.	3.5	.
Romania	245	.	3.4	3.2	3.1	4.1	3.7	2.2	2.6	2.6
Iceland	14	8.5	8.2	8.0	7.6	7.9	7.9	9.5	8.6	8.2
Norway	.	.	4.8	.	.	4.9	.	.	4.7	.
EEA-28	9,863	4.9	4.4	4.9	4.8	4.4	4.7	5.0	4.4	5.1
Switzerland	.	.	4.0	.	.	3.7	.	.	4.3	.

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Note: Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

The data for Luxembourg refer to the whole year 2004. The data for Croatia in the 2nd quarter 2005 refer to the 1st half year 2005. The data for France cover the metropolitan territory (excluding overseas regions). In Ireland and UK, the data refer to seasonal quarter (March to May for q2, June to August for q3).

¹ Number of persons aged 15 years or more whose job started within the past 3 months.

Table 13. Unemployment rates by level of educational attainment, age group and sex, 3rd quarter 2005

	Euro-zone				EU-25			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Men and women	8.8	17.9	7.6	7.2	8.9	18.6	7.7	6.4
Less than upper secondary	11.5	21.1	10.3	7.3	12.3	22.6	11.1	7.1
Upper secondary level	8.5	15.5	7.3	8.8	8.9	16.9	7.7	7.1
Tertiary level	5.9	17.0	5.3	4.8	5.3	15.9	4.7	4.2
Men	7.8	16.6	6.6	6.9	8.1	18.0	6.8	6.4
Less than upper secondary	10.0	19.2	8.6	7.1	11.0	21.2	9.4	7.3
Upper secondary level	7.5	14.2	6.4	8.3	8.1	16.3	6.8	7.0
Tertiary level	5.2	15.4	4.8	4.8	4.7	14.7	4.3	4.4
Women	10.0	19.5	8.9	7.7	9.8	19.3	8.8	6.3
Less than upper secondary	13.8	24.1	13.0	7.5	14.2	24.8	13.6	6.9
Upper secondary level	9.6	16.9	8.4	9.5	10.0	17.5	8.9	7.1
Tertiary level	6.6	18.2	6.0	4.8	5.8	16.7	5.2	3.8

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Table 14. Unemployment rates by country, quarter and sex

15-64 years	2005q3 (1000) ¹	Margin of error ²	Men and women			Men			Women		
			2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3
EU-25	19,029	± 238	8.9 ± 0.1	9.1	9.0	8.1	8.4	8.2	9.8	9.8	10.0
EU-15	14,537	± 203	8.0 ± 0.1	8.2	8.1	7.3	7.6	7.3	8.9	8.9	9.0
Euro-zone	12,652	± 195	8.8 ± 0.2	9.0	8.8	7.8	8.2	7.8	10.0	10.0	10.2
Belgium	403	± 32	8.7 ± 0.7	8.1	9.2	7.6	7.4	7.9	10.2	9.0	10.8
Czech Republic	403	± 18	7.8 ± 0.3	7.8	8.3	6.2	6.3	7.0	9.9	9.8	9.9
Denmark	137	± 14	4.8 ± 0.5	4.9	5.8	4.2	4.2	5.5	5.5	5.6	6.0
Germany	4,553	± 126	11.2 ± 0.3	11.4	10.3	11.3	11.7	10.3	11.1	11.0	10.2
Estonia	46	± 10	7.2 ± 1.5	8.3	10.2	7.0	10.1	11.0	7.5	6.5	9.3
Greece	469	± 21	9.8 ± 0.4	9.8	10.2	6.1	5.9	6.3	15.1	15.3	15.9
Spain	1,759	± 74	8.5 ± 0.4	9.4	10.8	6.5	7.3	8.1	11.2	12.3	14.6
France	2,445	± 101	9.0 ± 0.4	8.6	8.9	8.1	7.9	8.1	10.1	9.5	9.9
Ireland	96	± 5	4.7 ± 0.2	4.3	4.9	4.9	4.7	5.2	4.4	3.8	4.5
Italy	1,724	± 60	7.2 ± 0.2	7.6	7.5	5.6	6.2	5.8	9.6	9.7	10.0
Cyprus	19	± 3	5.3 ± 0.7	5.5	4.8	4.2	4.5	3.5	6.6	6.7	6.4
Latvia	97	± 14	8.8 ± 1.3	9.2	10.2	8.8	9.6	10.7	8.8	8.7	9.7
Lithuania	116	± 14	7.3 ± 0.9	8.6	10.6	6.8	8.6	10.2	7.9	8.6	11.1
Luxembourg	.	.	.	.	4.8	.	.	3.3	.	.	6.9
Hungary	306	± 17	7.3 ± 0.4	7.1	6.1	7.0	6.9	6.0	7.6	7.4	6.3
Malta	12	± 2	7.3 ± 1.2	7.9	7.4	6.5	7.2	6.1	9.1	9.3	10.2
Netherlands	371	± 17	4.4 ± 0.2	4.8	4.2	4.1	4.6	4.1	4.7	5.1	4.3
Austria	205	± 15	5.1 ± 0.4	5.3	4.8	4.5	5.1	4.1	5.7	5.4	5.6
Poland	3,011	± 118	17.6 ± 0.6	18.3	18.5	16.2	17.4	17.7	19.4	19.4	19.5
Portugal	429	± 27	8.2 ± 0.5	7.7	7.2	7.1	6.9	6.4	9.4	8.5	8.2
Slovenia	65	± 6	6.5 ± 0.6	5.9	6.1	6.3	5.6	5.7	6.7	6.2	6.6
Slovakia	416	± 16	15.7 ± 0.9	16.3	17.6	14.7	15.7	16.4	17.0	17.1	19.1
Finland	190	± 7	7.3 ± 0.3	9.7	7.7	6.7	9.7	7.3	7.9	9.7	8.2
Sweden	345	± 13	7.4 ± 0.3	8.8	6.4	7.4	8.9	6.5	7.3	8.7	6.3
United Kingdom	1,402	± 55	4.8 ± 0.2	4.6	4.9	5.3	5.0	5.3	4.3	4.1	4.4
Bulgaria	313	± 23	9.3 ± 0.6	10.1	11.1	9.3	10.4	11.7	9.2	9.7	10.5
Croatia	.	.	.	13.4	.	.	12.7	.	.	14.3	.
Romania	603	± 45	6.5 ± 0.5	7.5	8.0	7.1	7.9	8.9	5.7	7.1	6.8
Iceland	3	± 1	1.7 ± 0.4	3.0	2.5	.	2.9	1.8	2.3	3.2	3.3
Norway	110	± 9	4.7 ± 0.4	4.7	4.5	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.5	4.6	4.3
EEA-28	19,142	± 244	8.8 ± 0.1	9.0	9.0	8.0	8.4	8.2	9.8	9.7	9.9
Switzerland	.	.	.	4.5	.	.	4.0	.	.	5.2	.

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Note: Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

The unemployment rate calculated here is directly derived from the Labour Force Survey data. The adjusted unemployment series (15+) published on a monthly basis by Eurostat can differ from these results.

The data for Luxembourg refer to the whole year 2004. The data for Croatia in the 2nd quarter 2005 refer to the 1st half year 2005. The data for Germany in 2004 are not from the LFS. The data for France cover the metropolitan territory (excluding overseas regions). In Ireland and UK, the data refer to seasonal quarter (March to May for q2, June to August for q3).

¹ Number of unemployed persons aged 15-64.

² Confidence limit of the number of unemployed persons aged 15-64, at a level of confidence of 95%, in thousands of people.

Table 15. Long term unemployment rates by level of educational attainment, age group and sex, 3rd quarter 2005

	Euro-zone				EU-25			
	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64	15-64	15-24	25-54	55-64
Men and women	3.9	4.7	3.6	4.7	4.0	5.1	3.8	3.9
Less than upper secondary	5.3	6.4	5.2	4.6	5.8	6.8	5.8	4.5
Upper secondary level	3.8	3.8	3.6	5.8	4.1	4.7	4.0	4.4
Tertiary level	2.1	2.0	1.9	3.2	1.8	2.1	1.7	2.5
Men	3.4	4.3	3.1	4.5	3.6	5.0	3.3	4.0
Less than upper secondary	4.6	5.8	4.3	4.7	5.2	6.6	4.9	4.8
Upper secondary level	3.3	3.3	3.1	5.3	3.7	4.5	3.4	4.2
Tertiary level	1.9	.	1.7	3.1	1.7	2.0	1.5	2.6
Women	4.4	5.1	4.3	5.0	4.4	5.1	4.4	3.9
Less than upper secondary	6.5	7.4	6.7	4.6	6.8	7.2	7.2	4.2
Upper secondary level	4.4	4.4	4.2	6.5	4.7	4.9	4.7	4.6
Tertiary level	2.3	2.3	2.2	3.2	1.9	2.2	1.8	2.3

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Table 16. Long term unemployment rates by country, quarter and sex

15-64 years	2005q3 (1000) ¹	Men and women			Men			Women		
		2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3	2005q3	2005q2	2004q3
EU-25	8,511	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.6	4.4	4.5	4.5
EU-15	5,939	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.6	3.8	3.7
Euro-zone	5,570	3.9	4.0	3.9	3.4	3.6	3.4	4.4	4.6	4.6
Belgium	205	4.4	4.2	4.3	3.9	3.7	3.8	5.2	4.8	5.0
Czech Republic	212	4.1	4.2	4.2	3.2	3.2	3.5	5.2	5.3	5.1
Denmark	32	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2
Germany	2,419	6.0	6.1	.	6.1	6.3	.	5.8	5.9	.
Estonia	26	4.1	4.5	5.4	(3.5)	5.2	5.6	4.8	(3.7)	5.1
Greece	247	5.2	5.2	5.7	2.6	2.5	3.0	8.9	9.1	9.6
Spain	426	2.0	2.3	3.4	1.3	1.5	2.2	3.1	3.5	5.0
France	986	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.2	3.3	3.2	4.1	4.1	4.1
Ireland	30	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.9	2.0	2.0	0.8	0.8	1.0
Italy	800	3.3	3.8	3.5	2.4	3.0	2.5	4.8	5.0	4.9
Cyprus	4	1.1	1.5	1.3	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.5	2.1	1.7
Latvia	43	3.9	4.3	4.7	4.1	5.1	4.7	3.7	3.5	4.6
Lithuania	59	3.7	4.6	5.3	3.3	4.7	4.9	4.1	4.6	5.7
Luxembourg	.	.	.	1.1	.	.	(0.8)	.	.	(1.5)
Hungary	140	3.3	3.2	2.6	3.2	3.2	2.7	3.4	3.1	2.6
Malta	5	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.6	4.0	3.2	(3.1)	(3.0)	(3.3)
Netherlands	147	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5
Austria	52	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.5
Poland	1,751	10.3	10.6	10.5	9.2	9.8	10.0	11.5	11.7	11.1
Portugal	204	3.9	3.7	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.0	4.4	4.2	3.6
Slovenia	30	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.3
Slovakia	303	11.4	11.7	11.5	10.8	11.4	10.7	12.3	12.0	12.4
Finland	53	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Sweden	55	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.1	1.0	1.0
United Kingdom	281	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.6
Bulgaria	194	5.7	6.1	6.8	5.8	6.1	6.8	5.7	6.0	6.7
Croatia	.	.	7.9	.	.	7.1	.	.	8.9	.
Romania	379	4.1	4.2	4.7	4.6	4.7	5.5	3.5	3.6	3.7
Iceland	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Norway	20	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7
EEA-28	8,531	3.9	4.1	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.6	4.4	4.5	4.4
Switzerland	.	.	1.7	.	.	1.4	.	.	2.0	.

Source: Eurostat, EU-LFS

Note: Breaks in series are mentioned in the methodological notes (page 11).

The data for Luxembourg refer to the whole year 2004. The data for Croatia in the 2nd quarter 2005 refer to the 1st half year 2005. The data for France cover the metropolitan territory (excluding overseas regions). In Ireland and UK, the data refer to seasonal quarter (March to May for q2, June to August for q3).

¹ Number of persons aged 15-64 years in long-term unemployment.

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Source: the European Union Labour Force Survey is a quarterly large sample survey (except in Luxembourg and Switzerland where it is annual, and in Croatia where every survey covers half a year), providing results for the population in private households in the EU, EFTA and the Candidate Countries. Conscripts in military or community service are not included in the results. The sampling rates vary between 0.2% and 3.3%. The survey provides quarterly results on labour participation of people aged 15 and over as well as on persons outside the labour force. The figures in this publication are **not seasonally adjusted**, due to the short times series available.

Respondents answer for a specific week (called "reference week") of the quarter. The reference week starts on Monday and ends on Sunday. In most of the countries providing quarterly data the quarterly sample is spread uniformly over all or most weeks of the quarter.

Breaks in series. Until 2004, German data were based on a Spring Labour Force Survey for the 2nd quarter and on national estimates for other quarters. From 2005, the sample of the German Labour Force Survey is spread over all weeks of the year. Accordingly estimates for 2005 are not fully comparable with previous years. From 2005q2 onwards, Swedish data are derived from a revised questionnaire. In particular students looking for a job and available to work are now considered as unemployed according to EU definitions. Therefore Swedish figures for 2005q3 and 2005q2 are not fully comparable with previous quarters. In the 1st quarter 2005, the Spanish questionnaire has been revised to improve the coverage of small duration jobs and of methods used to find work. The impact of these changes has been estimated at +0.4 percentage point on employment rate (16-64 years old), +0.2 p.p. on activity rate (16-64 years old), and -0.4 p.p. on unemployment rate.

The **concepts and definitions** used in the survey follow the guidelines of International Labour Organisation:

- **The economically active population** comprises employed and unemployed persons.

- **Employed persons** are persons aged 15 and over (Spain, United Kingdom: 16 and over; Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Sweden, Finland: 15-74; Iceland, Norway: 16-74) who during the reference week performed work, even for just one hour per week, for pay, profit or family gain or were not at work but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent because of, e.g., illness, holidays, industrial dispute and education or training.

- **Unemployed persons** are persons aged 15-74 (in Spain, United Kingdom, Iceland, Norway: 16-74) who were without work during the reference week, were currently available for work and were either actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months.

- **Duration of unemployment** is the duration of the search for employment or the length of the period since leaving last job, whichever period is shorter. **Long-term unemployed persons** are persons who have been unemployed for one year or more.

Indicators: Employment/ activity rates represent employed/active persons as a percentage of the same age population. **(Long-term) unemployment rate** represent (long-term) unemployed persons as percentage of the active population of the same age.

All rates focus on the working age population (at most 15-64 years).

Employees are defined as persons who work for a public or private employer and who receive compensation in the form of wages, salaries, payment by results or payment in kind; non-conscript members of the armed forces are also included. Employees with **temporary contracts** are those who declare themselves as having an employment contract or a job which will terminate either after a period fixed in advance, or after a period not known in advance, but nevertheless defined by objective criteria, such as the completion of an assignment or the period of absence of an employee temporarily replaced.

Average actual hours worked in all jobs are the sum of hours in the main and second jobs in the reference week divided by the number of persons who were actually working at least one hour in either main or second job during the reference week. These hours include all hours including overtime, whether paid or not.

The full-time/part-time distinction in the main job is declared by the respondent except in the Netherlands, Iceland and Norway where part-time is determined if the usual hours are fewer than 35 hours and full-time if the usual hours are 35 hours or more, and in Sweden where such criterion is applied to the self-employed.

Persons having a "new" job are persons who have been in their present employment (main job) for less than three months. This should not be confused with the concept of "job creation" as the jobs are only "new" from the perspective of the respondents.

Classification by economic activity: six economic activities are distinguished on the basis of an aggregation of the sections of the Standard Classification of Economic Activities (NACE rev.1).

Level of educational attainment is defined according to the International Classification of Education 1997 (ISCED 1997). Three levels are distinguished: Less than upper secondary (ISCED 1 or 2), upper secondary (ISCED 3-4), and third level (ISCED 5-6).

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, we assume that the EU-LFS is a stratified sample with the country as the first stratum.

Country codes applied in this publication: EU-25 (European Union), EU-15 (former European Union of 15 Member States), Euro-zone (Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland), EEA-28 (European Economic Area, including all EU-25 Member States, Iceland and Norway, but without Liechtenstein).

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.

Symbols: () data between brackets lack reliability due to small sample size; "." dots are used for unavailable or extremely unreliable data. "|" vertical lines are used to indicate breaks in time-series. Quarter 3 of the year 2005 is written as 2005q3.

Further information:

Data: [EUROSTAT Website/Home page/Population and social conditions/Data](#)

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