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EU unemployment still marked by wide regional variations

In April 1997, the unemployment rate in the NUTS-2 regions of the European Union varied between 2.5% and 32.0%. Breakdowns by gender and age highlight even greater regional differences. The rate of unemployment among women, for example, ranged from 2.7% to 41.8%, while between 5.0% and 64.9% of under-25s were out of work.

EU unemployment rates vary between 2.5% and 32.0%

The unemployment rate in the European Union, i.e. the ratio of unemployed persons to the total economically active population, stood at 10.7% in April 1997. At national and, in particular, regional level, there were marked deviations from this average figure. Taking only the NUTS-2 regions into consideration, though excluding French overseas departments for data reasons, the unemployment rate varied between 2.5% in Luxembourg and 32.0% in the Spanish region of Andalucia. Related in each case to 100 members of the economically active population, Andalucia thus had around 13 times more jobless people than Luxembourg.

Of the 202 regions under consideration, as many as 36 achieved an unemployment rate in April 1997 of at most 5.3% - lower than half the EU average. These 36 NUTS-2 regions were spread over 10 Member States, with Spain, France and Sweden being the only countries where no NUTS-2 region had an unemployment rate of less or equal than 5.3%. At the other end of the scale were six regions in Spain and Italy where the unemployment rate stood at more than 22% and was thus at least half as high again as the overall European Union average.

Table 1 lists the regions with the lowest and the highest unemployment rates in April 1997.

Table 1:
The regions of the European Union⁽¹⁾ with the highest/lowest unemployment rates in April 1997 (in %)



Region	Unemployment rate
Luxembourg	2.5
Oberösterreich	3.0
Berkshire. Buckinghamshire. Oxfordshire	3.2
Niederösterreich	3.4
Centro (P)	3.4
Trentino-Alto Adige	3.8
Burgenland	3.8
Salzburg	3.9
:	:
Sicilia	24.0
Calabria	24.9
Campania	26.1
Ceuta y Melilla	26.4
Extremadura	29.5
Andalucia	32.0

⁽¹⁾ without French overseas departments

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For further information please contact: W. Grünewald
Eurostat, L-2920 Luxembourg, tel. 4301-33280 Fax: 4301-34029

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Table 2 additionally gives some idea of the regional differences within the Member States. Particularly striking are the pronounced differences between the regions with the lowest and the highest unemployment rates in some Member States, such as Germany (Oberbayern: 4.8%, compared with Dessau: 21.5%) or Italy (Trentino-Alto Adige: 3.8%, compared with Campania: 26.1%). However, this table also shows that, despite the country's extremely high jobless figures overall, one Spanish region (Navarra) had an unemployment rate below the EU average in April 1997.

Some marked year-on-year changes – falls of up to 6.2%

In absolute terms, changes in the unemployment rate from April 1996 to April 1997 varied in the regions under consideration between a fall of 6.2% in the Spanish region of Murcia and a rise of 2.6% in the German Land of Sachsen-Anhalt. Overall, out of the 200 regions considered - *Land-level* figures only were available for the government districts (*Regierungsbezirke*) of Sachsen-Anhalt - 115 recorded a fall, only 73 a rise (12 remained unchanged). Most of the regions with the biggest absolute reductions in the unemployment rate were in Spain, while the regions with the biggest increases in absolute terms were all in Sweden, Germany - including all the new *Länder* or Greece. Table 3 gives the details.

Table 2:
Range of unemployment rate for NUTS 2 regions in the EU Member States in April 1997



	NUTS 2 Regions with minimum value		NUTS 2 Regions with maximum value	
Belgique	Vlaams Brabant	4.5	Hainaut	15.4
BR Deutschland	Oberbayern	4.8	Dessau	21.5
Ellada	Kriti et Notio Aigaio	4.3	Dytiki Makedonia	13.8
Espana	Navarra	10.0	Andalucia	32.0
France	Alsace	7.8	Languedoc-Roussillon	17.8
Italia	Trentino-Alto Adige	3.8	Campania	26.1
Nederland	Utrecht	4.1	Groningen	8.3
Österreich	Oberösterreich	3.0	Wien	5.9
Portugal	Centro	3.4	Alentejo	10.4
Suomi/Finland	Ahvenanmaa/Aaland	4.6	Itae-Suomi	18.7
Sverige	Stockholm	7.9	Oevre Norrland	13.3
United Kingdom	Berks.. Bucks.. Oxfordshire	3.2	Merseyside	12.1

Table 3:
The regions of the European Union⁽¹⁾ with the highest decrease and increase respectively of unemployment rates from April 1996 to April 1997 (in %)



Region	Change
Murcia	-6.2
Cantabria	-3.7
Pais Vasco	-3.0
Rioja	-2.9
Dytiki Makedonia	-2.5
Madrid	-2.4
Umbria	-2.2
.	.
.	.
.	.
Thueringen	+1.6
Brandenburg	+1.7
Sterea Ellada	+1.7
Berlin	+1.7
Oevre Norrland	+1.7
Sydsverige	+1.8
Sachsen	+1.9
Norra Mellansverige	+1.9
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	+2.0
Sachsen-Anhalt	+2.6

Averages for 1995 to 1997 not fundamentally different from the situation in 1997

There are basically no major differences between the average values for the years 1995 to 1997 and the unemployment rates in April 1997. Averages ranged from 2.8% (Luxembourg) to 32.8% (Andalucia), compared with 2.5% and 32.0% respectively in April 1997. The figures for the other regions with very high or very low unemployment rates likewise tallied to a large extent in both cases.

Closer examination of the trend in unemployment rates from April 1995 to April 1997 shows that, in as many as 59 of the 200 regions considered, the rates rose twice - from 1995 to 1996 and from 1996 to 1997. In 67 regions, the exact opposite occurred, i.e. rates fell twice. The regions experiencing a two-fold increase were mainly in Germany, Sweden and France. In Germany, this trend affected all 36 regions under consideration, in Sweden as many as 5 out of 8 and in France 7 out of 22. On the other hand, a two-fold reduction in the unemployment rate was recorded primarily in regions of the United Kingdom (31 out of 35 under consideration), the Netherlands (11 out of 12), and Spain (14 out of 18).

⁽¹⁾ without French overseas departments

Youth unemployment rate between 5.0% and 64.9%

Regional differences in the youth unemployment rate, i.e. the rate of unemployment among the active population under 25 years of age, are much more pronounced than in the overall unemployment rate. In April 1997, youth unemployment varied between 5.0% in the Austrian Länder of Niederösterreich and Oberösterreich and 64.9% in the Italian region of Campania.

Table 4:
The regions of the European Union⁽¹⁾ with the highest/lowest young unemployment rates in April 1997 (in %)



Region	Young unemployment rate
Niederösterreich	5.0
Oberösterreich	5.0
Oberbayern	5.7
Burgenland	5.7
Berkshire. Buckinghamshire. Oxfordshire	5.7
Drenthe	5.9
Ceuta y Melilla	58.4
Sicilia	60.4
Calabria	62.6
Campania	64.9

(¹) without French overseas departments

Table 5:
Range of youth unemployment rate for NUTS 2 Regions in the EU Member States in April 1997



	Nuts 2 Regions with minimum value		Nuts 2 Regions with maximum value	
Belgique	West-Vlaanderen	10.5	Hainaut	39.2
BR Deutschland	Oberbayern	5.7	Bremen	18.0
Ellada	Notio Aigaio	15.5	Dytiki Makedonia	45.7
Espana	Rioja et Baleares	26.5	Ceuta y Melilla	58.4
France	Alsace	17.9	Picardie	37.9
Italia	Trentino-Alto Adige	10.0	Campania	64.9
Nederland	Drenthe	5.9	Groningen	14.7
Österreich	Niederösterreich and Oberösterreich	5.0	Kärnten	10.2
Portugal	Norte	11.7	Alentejo	22.5
Suomi/Finland	Ahvenanmaa/Aaland	15.8	Itä - Suomi and Pohjais - Suomi	38.4
Sverige	Stockholm	15.2	Övre Norrland	32.2
United Kingdom	Berks., Bucks., Oxfordshire	5.7	Merseyside	24.7

On the youth unemployment front, too, a whole series of regions posted rates differing markedly from the EU average of 20.9%. In April 1997, the rate stood at less than 10% in as many as 44 regions, while 18 regions recorded levels in excess of 40%.

The 44 regions with relatively low unemployment among young people were all in Northern and Central Europe: 14 in Germany, 10 each in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, 8 in Austria, and the others in Denmark and Ireland. The 18 regions with particularly high rates, on the other hand, were all in the Mediterranean area: 8 in Italy, 6 in Spain and 3 in Greece.

Table 4 lists the regions with the highest and lowest youth unemployment rates in April 1997.

Table 5 additionally sets out the regional differences within the Member States. Once again, major discrepancies emerge, e.g. in Italy, with levels ranging from 10.0% in the region of Trentino-Alto Adige to 64.9% in Campania.

In Belgium, Greece, Spain, France and Finland too, however, the difference between the highest and the lowest figure was more than 20 percentage points.

Rising youth unemployment rates in most regions from 1996 to 1997

Despite an - in some cases - appreciable decrease in some regions of the European Union, the youth unemployment rate in 104 of the 199 regions under consideration (no separate data are available for Corsica) rose from April 1996 to April 1997. In absolute terms, the biggest increases occurred in the Greek regions of Voreio Aigaio and Kriti, which each recorded a rise of 5.3%. In the Swedish region of Norra Mellansverige as well as the French region of Auvergne, youth unemployment rose by more than 4%. At the other end of the spectrum, however, a total of 9 regions posted falls of more than 5% in their youth unemployment rates. As can be seen from Table 6, all of them are in Spain, in Italy and in Finland.

Female unemployment rates in EU regions ranking from 2.7% to 41.8% in 1997

In April 1997, the rate of unemployment among women in the regions of the European Union ranged from 2.7% to 41.8%. Included in this range were three extreme cases. The lowest figure, 2.7% for the Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire region in the United Kingdom, was just less than one percentage point below the second-lowest figure, of 3.5%. The differences at the top end were even greater.

Table 6:

The regions of the European Union⁽¹⁾ with the highest decrease and increase respectively of young unemployment rates from April 1996 to April 1997 (in %)



Region	Change
Murcia	-12.6
Pais Vasco	-10.6
Madrid	-8.7
Rioja	-7.7
Cantabria	-7.0
Valle d'Aosta	-6.1
Umbria	-5.2
Itae-Suomi	-5.2
Ceuta y Melilla	-5.1
:	:
Norra Mellansverige	+4.4
Auvergne	+4.7
Voreio Aigaio	+5.3
Kriti	+5.3

⁽¹⁾ without French overseas departments and Corse

At 41.4% and 41.8% respectively, the female unemployment rate in the Spanish regions of Extremadura and Andalucia was approx. 5% higher than the third-highest figure, of 36.2% for Ceuta y Melilla. These extreme cases apart, the range of female unemployment rates differs only insignificantly from that of overall rates. Table 7 additionally gives some idea of the regional differences within the Member States in April 1997.

Table 7:

Range of female unemployment rate for NUTS 2 Regions in the EU Member States in April 1997



	NUTS 2 Regions with minimum value		NUTS 2 Regions with maximum value	
Belgique	Vlaams Brabant	5.8	Hainaut	18.8
BR Deutschland	Oberbayern	4.6	Dessau	26.2
Ellada	Kriti	6.9	Dytiki Makedonia and Sterea Ellada	22.6
Espana	Navarra	15.0	Andalucia	41.8
France	Alsace	9.1	Languedoc-Roussillon	20.8
Italia	Valle d'Aosta	5.3	Calabria	34.3
Nederland	Utrecht	5.4	Groningen	11.0
Österreich	Oberösterreich	4.0	Kärnten	8.4
Portugal	Centro	3.9	Alentejo	15.9
Suomi/Finland	Ahvenanmaa/Aaland	4.1	Pohjois-Suomi	15.9
Sverige	Stockholm	7.2	Sydsverige	11.8
United Kingdom	Berkshire. Buckinghamshire. Oxfordshire.	2.7	Merseyside	9.1

Female unemployment rate lower than male rate in as many as 69 regions

A comparison of the overall unemployment rate with that among women in April 1997 shows that, in 69 of the 202 regions taken into account, the female rate was lower than the overall unemployment rate and thus also lower than that among men.

Of these 69 regions, 35 were in the United Kingdom, 19 in Germany, 7 in Sweden, 6 in Finland and 2 in Portugal. A comparison of these rates with the overall figures for the regions under consideration in the Member States shows that, in all 35 regions of the United Kingdom, in 7 out of the 8 Swedish and in the 6 Finnish regions, the unemployment rate among women was lower than among men. Further details are included in the extensive coverage provided by Table 9.

Female unemployment rate in decline in most regions from 1996 to 1997

In contrast to the youth unemployment rate, the rate of unemployment among women fell in most regions between April 1996 and April 1997. In a total of 109 regions, it fell by between 0.1 and 9.6 percentage points, whereas in 82 regions it rose by between 0.1 and 4.0 percentage points. In the other regions, it remained unchanged. Except in the regions listed in Table 8, changes ranged between -3 and +2 percentage points. The regions experiencing more pronounced changes, led by Murcia with a decrease of 9.6%, were mainly in the Mediterranean area. Of the 17 regions in Table 8 with particularly sharp increases or decreases, 7 were in Spain, 4 in Italy and 3 in Greece. The other 3 regions were in Sweden (1) and Germany (2).

Table 8:

The regions of the European Union⁽¹⁾ with the highest decrease and increase respectively of female unemployment rates from April 1996 to April 1997 (in %)



Region	Change
Murcia	-9.6
Cantabria	-5.0
Madrid	-4.7
Dytiki Makedonia	-4.3
Baleares	-4.1
Rioja	-4.0
Navarra	-3.6
Dytiki Ellada	-3.4
Castilla - La Mancha	-3.4
Campania	+2.2
Mecklenburg - Vorpommern	+2.3
Sachsen - Anhalt	+2.3
Sydsverige	+2.5
Marcne	+2.7
Emilia - Romagna	+2.9
Stereia Ellada	+3.0
Basilicata	+4.0

(¹) without French overseas departments

Table 9:
Unemployment in the regions of the European Union

EUROSTAT		Total			Females			< 25 years		
		4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97
EU-15		10.8	10.7	10.7	12.4	12.2	12.3	21.6	20.9	21.2
EU-12		11.0	10.8	10.8	12.6	12.4	12.6	21.8	21.1	21.4
EUR-11		11.6	11.6	11.5	13.9	13.9	13.9	23.4	23.0	23.0
BELGIQUE-BELGIE		9.6	8.9	9.3	12.5	11.5	12.1	20.8	21.1	21.3
REG.BRUXELLES-CAP. /BRUSSELS HFDST.GEW.		14.1	13.5	13.6	14.8	14.2	14.3	34.4	31.8	33.1
VLAAMS GEWEST		7.1	6.3	6.8	10.0	8.9	9.6	14.1	14.2	14.3
ANTWERPEN		8.3	7.2	7.9	11.5	10.1	11.0	15.9	17.0	16.6
LIMBURG (B)		9.4	8.3	9.1	15.5	13.3	14.8	16.5	16.1	16.9
OOST-VLAANDEREN		7.2	6.5	6.8	9.5	8.7	9.2	14.9	15.0	15.0
VLAAMS BRABANT		5.1	4.5	5.0	6.8	5.8	6.6	12.8	11.9	12.8
WEST-VLAANDEREN		5.5	5.1	5.3	8.2	7.5	7.8	10.2	10.5	10.3
REGION WALLONNE		12.9	12.5	12.8	16.3	15.5	16.0	31.1	31.5	32.0
BRABANT WALLON		8.0	7.9	8.1	10.2	9.8	10.2	23.6	23.0	24.8
HAINAUT		15.8	15.4	15.7	19.5	18.8	19.3	37.8	39.2	38.7
LIEGE		13.0	12.2	12.6	16.6	15.5	16.0	28.1	28.3	28.6
LUXEMBOURG (B)		7.1	6.8	7.0	10.1	9.3	9.8	19.0	18.6	19.2
NAMUR		12.0	11.4	11.9	15.2	14.7	15.1	30.9	30.5	32.2
DANMARK		7.4	5.7	6.8	8.7	6.7	8.1	11.8	8.8	10.5
DEUTSCHLAND		8.8	9.8	9.0	9.6	10.6	9.9	9.6	10.6	9.6
BADEN-WUERTTEMBERG		5.5	6.2	5.6	5.4	6.1	5.7	7.2	8.1	7.2
STUTTGART		5.6	6.1	5.6	5.4	5.9	5.6	6.8	7.5	6.8
KARLSRUHE		5.8	6.6	5.9	5.7	6.5	6.0	8.4	9.6	8.2
FREIBURG		5.4	6.2	5.6	5.3	6.2	5.7	7.1	9.0	7.5
TUEBINGEN		5.0	5.7	5.2	5.0	5.7	5.3	6.7	6.8	6.3
BAYERN		5.2	5.9	5.3	5.1	5.9	5.4	6.2	7.1	6.0
OBERBAYERN		4.3	4.8	4.3	3.9	4.6	4.1	4.9	5.7	4.8
NIEDERBAYERN		5.1	5.5	5.0	4.9	5.6	5.1	6.5	6.6	6.0
OBERPFALZ		5.7	6.5	5.8	5.9	6.9	6.3	6.0	7.1	5.9
OBERFRANKEN		6.5	7.4	6.4	6.8	7.9	7.1	8.0	9.0	7.6
MITTELFRANKEN		6.2	7.1	6.4	6.2	7.3	6.7	6.8	8.5	7.2
UNTERFRANKEN		5.7	6.4	5.8	6.1	6.9	6.4	7.5	8.5	7.2
SCHWABEN		5.2	5.8	5.1	5.0	5.7	5.1	6.2	6.9	5.9
BERLIN		11.7	13.4	11.8	11.3	13.0	11.6	12.9	14.7	13.1
BRANDENBURG		15.5	17.2	15.7	19.5	21.1	19.8	12.0	11.6	12.0
BREMEN		11.3	12.3	11.3	10.1	11.2	10.4	15.1	18.0	15.9
HAMBURG		8.0	8.8	8.0	6.7	7.5	6.9	10.7	12.3	10.6
HESSEN		6.4	7.4	6.6	6.2	7.0	6.5	9.1	10.3	8.9
DARMSTADT		5.9	6.7	6.1	5.5	6.2	5.8	8.8	9.8	8.6
GIESSEN		6.7	7.8	6.9	6.9	7.8	7.2	9.4	10.5	9.0
KASSEL		7.9	9.0	8.0	7.7	8.6	8.0	9.7	11.2	9.4
MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN		16.8	18.8	17.0	20.1	22.4	20.8	10.7	10.9	11.2
NIEDERSACHSEN		8.4	9.4	8.5	8.3	9.4	8.7	11.0	12.9	10.9
BRAUNSCHWEIG		10.5	11.4	10.5	10.3	11.7	10.8	12.7	14.6	12.6
HANNOVER		8.2	9.1	8.2	7.6	8.6	8.0	11.0	12.2	10.5
LUENEBURG		6.7	8.0	6.9	6.7	7.9	7.1	9.6	10.7	9.2
WESER-EMS		8.3	9.2	8.4	8.5	9.5	8.9	10.8	14.2	11.3
NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN		8.3	9.0	8.4	8.2	8.8	8.5	11.1	12.0	10.8
DUESSELDORF		9.0	9.6	9.1	8.5	9.0	8.8	11.8	12.5	11.4
KOELN		7.8	8.3	7.9	7.6	8.1	7.9	10.6	11.6	10.4
MUENSTER		7.7	8.6	7.8	7.7	8.4	8.0	10.2	10.9	9.8
DETMOLD		7.1	8.3	7.3	7.8	8.9	8.2	10.6	12.5	10.0
ARNSBERG		9.0	9.7	9.1	8.8	9.4	9.0	11.8	12.6	11.6
RHEINLAND-PFALZ		6.3	7.2	6.5	6.2	7.1	6.6	8.6	9.7	8.7
KOBLENZ		5.8	6.8	5.9	5.6	6.6	6.0	8.6	9.4	8.3
TRIER		5.5	6.3	5.7	5.4	6.3	5.9	6.6	8.6	7.5
RHEINHESSEN-PFALZ		7.0	7.7	7.1	6.9	7.6	7.2	9.2	10.3	9.3
SAARLAND		9.2	10.1	9.4	8.3	9.1	8.7	12.9	14.2	12.6
SACHSEN		15.3	17.2	15.5	19.8	20.9	20.2	10.0	11.2	10.4
SACHSEN-ANHALT		18.0	20.6	18.3	22.0	24.3	22.4	13.0	13.2	13.2
DESSAU	:	21.5	:	:	26.2	:	:	13.6	:	:
HALLE	:	19.9	:	:	23.1	:	:	13.9	:	:
MAGDEBURG	:	20.7	:	:	24.3	:	:	12.6	:	:
SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN		6.6	7.6	6.8	6.0	7.0	6.4	9.7	10.7	9.4
THUERINGEN		16.0	17.6	16.2	19.6	21.0	20.3	12.4	12.3	12.2

Table 9:
Unemployment in the regions of the European Union (continuation)

EU eurostat	Total			Females			< 25 years		
	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97
ELLADA	9.7	9.6	9.4	15.4	14.8	14.7	31.2	31.0	30.0
VOREIA ELLADA	9.4	9.1	9.2	15.3	14.4	14.6	30.6	29.4	29.5
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI	9.6	8.3	9.0	15.4	12.5	13.9	30.3	27.8	27.0
KENTRIKI MAKEDONIA	8.9	9.2	9.1	14.0	14.5	14.2	29.3	28.2	28.6
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	16.3	13.8	14.5	26.9	22.6	23.0	47.6	45.7	45.9
THESSALIA	7.6	7.5	7.6	13.8	12.8	13.2	28.0	27.1	27.9
KENTRIKI ELLADA	8.4	8.8	8.2	14.9	14.7	13.9	33.3	32.8	31.2
IPEIROS	11.2	10.5	9.6	19.8	17.6	16.0	44.6	43.4	40.0
IONIA NISIA	5.5	6.2	5.7	7.6	7.6	7.3	23.8	23.4	22.7
DYTIKI ELLADA	8.6	7.9	8.2	15.0	11.6	13.1	31.6	28.5	28.3
STEREA ELLADA	10.3	12.0	10.5	19.6	22.6	19.8	38.8	42.6	37.9
PELOPONNISOS	6.4	7.5	6.6	12.	13.2	11.9	28.6	27.9	27.8
ATTIKI	11.9	11.6	11.5	17.7	16.9	16.8	34.3	34.5	33.0
NISIA AIGAIOU, KRITI	4.4	4.7	4.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	15.5	19.0	17.0
VOREIO AIGAIO	7.1	7.1	6.4	13.3	12.9	11.7	18.2	23.5	21.0
NOTIO AIGAIO	4.9	4.3	4.7	9.1	7.2	8.1	15.9	15.5	15.2
KRITI	3.4	4.3	3.9	5.9	6.9	6.6	14.5	19.8	16.8
ESPAÑA	22.5	21.1	22.2	29.9	28.3	29.6	42.3	39.8	41.6
NOROESTE	20.6	19.9	19.8	26.5	25.9	25.6	44.2	40.9	41.4
GALICIA	19.2	19.2	18.6	24.2	24.8	23.7	39.6	37.1	37.2
ASTURIAS	22.5	21.2	21.7	29.7	27.5	28.4	52.3	50.3	51.7
CANTABRIA	24.8	21.1	22.5	33.9	28.9	31.5	52.1	45.1	44.9
NORESTE	18.1	16.0	17.9	26.0	23.7	26.2	40.6	34.5	38.4
PAIS VASCO	21.8	18.8	21.3	28.4	26.0	28.7	50.0	39.4	46.3
NAVARRA	11.2	10.0	11.3	18.6	15.0	18.1	26.1	29.9	27.1
RIOJA	14.7	11.8	14.2	21.6	17.6	21.4	34.2	26.5	31.1
ARAGON	15.3	14.4	15.4	25.3	24.4	25.9	32.5	30.0	31.4
MADRID	20.8	18.4	20.0	27.3	22.6	25.5	45.5	36.8	41.1
CENTRO (E)	22.4	21.6	22.2	33.1	31.9	32.8	41.4	41.6	41.7
CASTILLA-LEON	20.5	19.9	20.3	31.2	30.3	30.8	45.0	43.8	44.4
CASTILLA-LA MANCHA	20.2	19.1	20.0	31.5	28.1	29.8	34.8	37.8	36.3
EXTREMADURA	30.5	29.5	30.3	40.2	41.4	42.2	44.8	43.9	45.1
ESTE	19.6	18.5	19.6	25.5	24.9	26.1	37.2	35.5	37.2
CATALUNA	18.9	17.4	18.8	24.0	23.5	24.8	37.1	33.3	36.6
COMUNIDAD VALENCIANA	21.7	21.4	21.9	29.2	29.1	30.0	39.6	40.4	40.1
BALEARES	14.0	12.2	13.4	19.8	15.7	17.7	23.8	26.5	26.8
SUR	31.6	30.0	31.3	40.7	39.6	40.7	48.7	48.1	49.1
ANDALUCIA	32.8	32.0	32.8	41.4	41.8	42.1	49.8	50.8	50.9
MURCIA	24.5	18.3	21.8	36.5	26.9	31.8	41.2	28.6	36.7
CEUTA Y MELILLA	27.3	26.4	29.0	36.4	36.2	39.4	63.5	58.4	64.9
CANARIAS	22.0	20.9	22.3	29.2	26.3	28.6	36.6	39.0	39.4
FRANCE	12.0	12.0	11.8	14.1	13.9	13.8	26.1	26.7	25.9
ILE DE FRANCE	10.6	10.7	10.5	11.2	11.2	11.1	18.1	18.7	17.9
BASSIN PARISIEN	12.6	12.6	12.4	15.5	15.0	15.2	30.4	31.9	30.5
CHAMPAGNE-ARDENNE	13.5	13.3	13.1	16.8	16.0	16.3	32.8	34.1	31.5
PICARDIE	14.2	14.2	13.8	17.8	16.9	17.0	34.5	37.9	33.9
HAUTE-NORMANDIE	13.9	13.6	13.5	16.9	16.0	16.2	33.2	34.7	31.9
CENTRE	10.8	10.9	10.8	13.6	13.4	13.6	25.2	26.3	26.4
BASSE-NORMANDIE	13.3	13.2	13.0	15.5	15.1	15.2	33.1	32.8	33.8
BOURGOGNE	10.9	11.0	10.9	13.8	13.5	13.7	26.4	27.9	27.2
NORD-PAS-DE-CALAIS	16.8	16.6	16.3	19.2	19.4	18.9	36.4	36.4	35.4
EST	9.6	9.6	9.3	11.8	11.6	11.5	22.5	23.0	21.6
LORRAINE	11.2	11.3	10.8	13.6	13.6	13.2	27.8	29.3	26.4
ALSACE	7.7	7.8	7.6	9.4	9.1	9.1	16.7	17.9	16.8
FRANCHE-COMTE	9.2	9.1	9.1	11.8	11.5	11.7	22.0	20.7	20.4
OUEST	10.8	10.7	10.6	13.5	13.1	13.3	25.4	26.3	26.0
PAYS DE LA LOIRE	11.2	11.0	11.0	14.1	13.6	13.8	24.7	25.4	25.3
BRETAGNE	9.9	9.9	9.9	12.5	12.1	12.4	24.1	25.0	24.5
POITOU-CHARENTES	11.3	11.4	11.3	14.1	13.8	13.8	29.4	30.9	30.4
SUD-OUEST	11.5	11.4	11.3	14.2	13.8	13.9	27.8	25.4	26.3
AQUITAINE	12.1	11.9	11.9	15.1	14.8	14.9	32.4	27.9	29.5
MIDI-PYRENEES	11.2	11.2	11.0	13.7	13.5	13.5	23.9	23.1	23.3
LIMOUSIN	9.7	9.2	9.4	12.1	11.1	11.6	23.8	23.6	24.0
CENTRE-EST	10.7	10.6	10.5	12.8	12.5	12.6	25.1	25.1	25.4
RHONE-ALPES	10.6	10.5	10.4	12.5	12.2	12.3	24.3	23.7	24.4
AUVERGNE	11.2	11.0	10.9	14.3	14.0	13.9	29.1	33.8	30.7
MEDITERRANEE	16.1	16.9	15.9	18.6	19.3	18.4	28.9	30.6	28.8
LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON	16.4	17.8	16.3	19.6	20.8	19.5	29.3	32.0	29.7
PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR	16.0	16.5	15.8	18.1	18.5	17.8	28.5	29.8	28.4
CORSE	14.7	15.2	13.7	19.2	19.7	17.7	:	30.6	:
DEPARTEMENTS D'OUTRE-MER	31.1	:	:	35.3	:	:	54.0	:	:

Table 9:
Unemployment in the regions of the European Union (continuation)

E/R eurostat	Total			Females			< 25 years		
	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97
IRELAND	11.8	10.1	11.4	11.8	10.1	11.4	18.3	15.8	17.8
ITALIA	12.1	12.3	12.1	16.4	16.6	16.4	33.9	33.6	33.6
NORD OVEST	8.6	9.0	8.7	13.1	13.0	12.9	27.3	28.9	27.6
PIEMONTE	7.6	8.7	8.1	12.0	12.6	12.2	22.9	26.8	24.7
VALLE DAOSTA	5.2	4.1	5.0	7.6	5.3	7.1	17.3	11.2	15.6
LIGURIA	11.6	10.2	10.9	16.8	14.9	15.5	43.1	39.0	39.1
LOMBARDIA	6.3	6.2	6.2	9.3	9.1	9.1	18.0	18.6	17.5
NORD EST	5.3	5.0	5.4	8.7	7.5	8.7	14.8	11.4	13.6
TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE	3.4	3.8	3.7	5.0	5.7	5.4	8.0	10.0	8.7
VENETO	5.4	4.8	5.4	9.1	7.4	8.9	15.5	10.9	13.3
FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA	6.3	6.4	6.9	10.0	9.3	10.5	18.7	15.9	19.7
EMILIA-ROMAGNA	5.3	6.7	6.1	8.2	11.1	9.8	13.5	16.7	16.2
CENTRO (I)	8.1	8.1	8.0	12.6	13.1	12.8	24.9	25.5	24.6
TOSCANA	8.5	8.5	8.4	13.2	13.4	13.2	26.2	26.9	25.9
UMBRIA	10.4	8.2	9.5	15.8	13.9	15.5	32.3	27.1	30.4
MARCHE	5.9	7.1	6.4	9.4	12.1	10.2	17.4	21.0	18.3
LAZIO	13.2	13.3	13.1	18.2	18.0	17.9	49.3	47.0	48.0
ABRUZZO-MOLISE	11.5	10.6	10.9	16.6	14.8	16.2	36.2	33.6	34.3
ABRUZZO	9.9	8.8	9.2	14.8	12.3	14.0	31.5	28.7	29.3
MOLISE	17.8	17.2	17.4	24.0	23.7	24.4	53.6	49.9	51.9
CAMPANIA	25.5	26.1	25.8	31.9	34.1	33.4	66.6	64.9	66.7
SUD	20.2	20.5	19.7	29.8	29.2	28.3	51.8	49.7	49.9
PUGLIA	17.9	18.3	17.3	27.3	26.4	25.6	45.8	44.5	44.3
BASILICATA	19.4	20.6	19.6	26.1	30.1	27.3	53.5	50.7	50.2
CALABRIA	25.0	24.9	24.5	35.2	34.3	33.4	65.5	62.6	62.8
SICILIA	24.0	24.0	23.7	31.8	33.1	32.5	60.1	60.4	60.1
SARDEGNA	21.8	20.5	21.0	31.8	29.3	30.1	49.3	51.0	51.0
LUXEMBOURG (GRAND-DUCHE)	3.1	2.5	2.8	4.4	3.6	4.0	8.5	7.2	7.4
NEDERLAND	6.2	5.2	6.1	8.0	6.8	7.7	10.9	8.5	10.3
NOORD-NEDERLAND	8.3	6.8	7.8	10.6	9.1	10.0	13.8	10.8	12.8
GRONINGEN	10.1	8.3	9.4	12.9	11.0	11.7	18.9	14.7	16.5
FRIESLAND	7.8	6.4	7.4	10.0	8.5	9.1	13.7	10.7	11.8
DRENTHE	6.7	5.6	6.6	8.6	7.4	8.6	7.5	5.9	8.7
OOST-NEDERLAND	5.9	4.8	5.8	7.5	6.4	7.4	10.3	8.1	10.0
OVERIJSSEL	6.2	5.1	6.2	7.9	6.8	7.8	11.6	9.0	10.9
GELDERLAND	5.6	4.6	5.5	7.1	6.1	7.0	9.5	7.4	9.0
FLEVOLAND	6.2	5.1	6.7	8.0	6.8	8.3	11.1	8.6	11.6
WEST-NEDERLAND	6.2	5.1	6.0	7.9	6.7	7.6	11.2	8.7	10.5
UTRECHT	5.0	4.1	5.0	6.4	5.4	6.2	8.8	6.8	8.3
NOORD-HOLLAND	6.4	5.3	6.4	8.2	7.0	8.1	12.4	9.6	11.6
ZUID-HOLLAND	6.4	5.3	6.2	8.2	7.0	7.8	11.6	9.0	10.8
ZEELAND	5.6	4.6	5.5	7.1	6.1	7.0	8.0	6.2	9.3
ZUID-NEDERLAND	5.8	4.8	5.8	7.5	6.4	7.3	9.5	7.4	9.2
NOORD-BRABANT	5.5	4.6	5.5	7.1	6.1	6.9	9.5	7.4	8.9
LIMBURG (NL)	6.5	5.4	6.4	8.3	7.2	8.1	9.6	7.5	10.0
OESTERREICH	4.5	4.4	4.3	5.6	5.6	5.5	6.4	6.9	6.3
OSTOESTERREICH	4.7	4.6	4.4	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.8	6.4	5.7
BURGENLAND	3.7	3.8	3.4	4.8	5.2	4.8	5.1	5.7	4.8
NIEDEROESTERREICH	3.6	3.4	3.3	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.0	4.4
WIEN	5.8	5.9	5.6	5.9	6.2	5.9	7.6	8.3	7.6
SUEDOESTERREICH	5.5	5.1	5.1	7.4	7.1	7.1	8.1	8.4	8.0
KAERNEN	6.1	5.8	5.6	8.4	8.4	8.1	9.9	10.2	9.7
STEIERMARK	5.2	4.8	4.9	6.9	6.6	6.7	7.4	7.6	7.3
WESTOESTERREICH	3.8	3.8	3.6	5.0	5.1	4.9	6.1	6.6	5.9
OBEROESTERREICH	3.3	3.0	3.0	4.2	4.0	3.9	5.0	5.0	4.6
SALZBURG	3.6	3.9	3.6	4.6	4.9	4.6	6.5	7.5	6.6
TIROL	5.0	5.4	5.0	6.8	7.4	7.0	8.1	9.7	8.3
VORARLBERG	4.1	4.1	3.9	5.7	5.7	5.6	6.1	6.7	6.0
PORTUGAL	7.4	6.7	7.1	8.5	7.6	8.1	17.2	14.5	16.0
CONTINENTE	7.4	6.7	7.2	8.5	7.6	8.1	17.2	14.4	16.1
NORTE	7.0	6.9	6.8	7.9	6.8	7.2	13.8	11.7	12.9
CENTRO (P)	4.1	3.4	3.8	4.5	3.9	4.2	16.2	12.2	12.6
LISBOA E VALE DO TEJO	8.9	7.9	8.7	10.3	9.5	10.0	21.5	17.6	20.9
ALENTEJO	12.3	10.4	11.5	16.1	15.9	16.2	23.3	22.5	24.5
ALGARVE	9.1	8.2	8.0	10.0	9.9	9.1	19.3	17.1	17.0
ACORES	7.2	5.4	6.9	12.8	10.1	12.2	18.1	16.5	17.2
MADEIRA	5.5	5.4	5.2	6.6	5.2	6.1	13.3	14.3	13.2

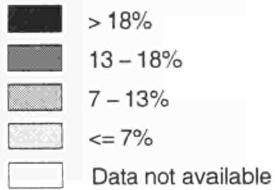
Table 9:

Unemployment in the regions of the European Union (continuation)

EU eurostat	Total			Females			< 25 years		
	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97	4/1996	4/1997	Ø 1995-97
SUOMI (FINLAND)	15.5	14.8	15.7	15.5	13.3	15	36.9	32.8	36.7
MANNER-SUOMI	15.5	14.9	15.8	15.5	13.3	15	37	32.9	36.8
UUSIMAA	12.5	11.4	12.7	11.7	9.6	11.3	29.4	26.1	29.9
ETELÄ-SUOMI	15.8	15.1	16	16.9	14.4	16.2	37.4	32.4	36.4
ITÄ-SUOMI	18.9	18.7	19.2	17.7	15.7	17.2	43.6	38.4	43.5
VÄLÌ-SUOMI	15.4	14.9	15.9	16.4	14.7	16.1	40	36.1	39.6
POHJOIS-SUOMI	18.9	18.6	19.1	17.9	15.9	17.4	42.6	38.4	42.2
AHVENANMAA/ÅLAND	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.5	4.1	5	17.3	15.8	21.4
SVERIGE	9.5	10.4	9.5	8.6	9.7	8.6	21.5	21.9	21
STOCKHOLM	7.4	7.9	7.5	6.4	7.2	6.7	14.9	15.2	15.1
ÖSTRA MELLANSVERIGE	10.2	10.2	9.7	9.2	9.7	8.8	24.3	22.8	22.9
SMÅLAND MED ÖARNA	8.6	8.6	8.1	8.7	9.1	8.3	20	17.6	17.4
SYDSVERIGE	10.1	11.9	10.2	9.3	11.8	9.7	21.2	23.2	21
VÄSTSVERIGE	9.9	10.4	9.8	9.4	10.2	9.4	21.9	20.7	21.2
NORRA MELLANSVERIGE	10.4	12.3	11	9.1	11	9.6	23.7	28.1	25
MELLERSTA NORRLAND	11.7	13	11.5	9.2	10.1	8.7	29.4	31.1	28.4
ÖVRE NORRLAND	11.6	13.3	12.1	8.6	10.3	8.8	28.6	32.2	29.2
UNITED KINGDOM	8.2	7.1	8.0	6.3	5.8	6.3	14.9	13.6	14.7
NORTH	9.5	9.3	9.9	6.5	6.8	7.0	17.0	18.0	18.1
CLEVELAND, DURHAM	9.6	9.6	10.1	6.4	7.0	6.9	17.1	18.7	18.4
CUMBRIA	7.0	6.9	7.2	5.2	5.5	5.5	13.0	13.7	13.5
NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE AND WEAR	10.4	9.9	10.7	7.1	7.1	7.5	18.3	19.0	19.5
YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE	8.0	7.9	8.3	5.9	6.3	6.4	15.5	16.2	16.1
HUMBERSIDE	8.9	8.7	9.2	6.7	7.2	7.3	17.8	18.4	18.5
NORTH YORKSHIRE	5.2	4.8	5.3	4.5	4.4	4.7	9.6	9.4	9.8
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	9.6	10.0	10.2	6.8	7.6	7.5	17.9	19.6	18.9
WEST YORKSHIRE	7.6	7.4	7.8	5.5	5.7	5.9	14.9	15.3	15.4
EAST MIDLANDS	6.6	6.0	6.8	5.1	4.9	5.4	12.6	12.1	12.9
DERBYSHIRE, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	7.6	7.1	7.9	5.7	5.6	6.0	14.6	14.2	15.0
LEICS., NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	5.3	4.8	5.5	4.2	4.1	4.6	10.0	9.5	10.4
LINCOLNSHIRE	6.4	5.7	6.4	5.4	5.1	5.6	12.2	11.3	12.4
EAST ANGLIA	5.8	5.5	6.0	4.8	4.9	5.2	10.1	10.4	10.6
SOUTH EAST (UK)	7.2	6.6	7.4	5.8	5.8	6.3	12.4	11.6	12.9
BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE	4.9	4.1	5.0	4.0	3.6	4.2	8.7	7.6	9.1
BERKS., BUCKS., OXFORDSHIRE	4.0	3.2	4.1	3.2	2.7	3.4	7.2	5.7	7.3
SURREY, EAST-WEST SUSSEX	4.9	4.1	4.9	3.9	3.5	4.1	8.5	7.1	8.6
ESSEX	6.4	5.7	6.6	5.3	5.0	5.6	11.4	10.5	11.7
GREATER LONDON	10.1	9.7	10.6	8.3	8.7	9.0	16.9	16.6	17.8
HAMPSHIRE, ISLE OF WIGHT	5.3	4.7	5.5	4.1	3.9	4.4	9.4	8.6	9.7
KENT	6.9	6.3	7.1	5.3	5.3	5.7	12.7	12.1	13.0
SOUTH WEST (UK)	6.4	5.7	6.5	5.1	4.9	5.4	11.8	11.0	12.0
AVON, GLOUCS., WILTSHIRE	5.7	5.0	5.9	4.6	4.3	4.9	10.2	9.2	10.4
CORNWALL, DEVON	7.8	7.3	8.0	6.3	6.3	6.7	15.5	15.0	15.9
DORSET, SOMERSET	5.8	5.1	5.9	4.6	4.3	4.8	10.1	9.2	10.4
WEST MIDLANDS	7.4	7.0	7.7	5.9	5.9	6.3	13.4	14.0	14.5
HEREFORD-WORCS., WARWICKS.	5.1	4.6	5.3	4.5	4.2	4.7	9.6	9.4	10.2
SHROPSHIRE, STAFFORDSHIRE	5.3	4.9	5.5	4.3	4.2	4.7	9.8	10.2	10.7
WEST MIDLANDS (COUNTY)	9.7	9.4	10.1	7.6	7.8	8.2	17.0	17.9	18.4
NORTH WEST (UK)	7.8	7.7	8.2	5.6	5.9	6.1	15.2	16.0	16.4
CHESHIRE	5.6	5.4	5.9	4.3	4.4	4.7	10.9	11.5	11.9
GREATER MANCHESTER	7.8	7.4	8.1	5.5	5.6	6.0	14.8	15.2	15.9
LANCASHIRE	5.9	5.7	6.2	4.3	4.3	4.6	11.4	11.8	12.3
MERSEYSIDE	11.6	12.1	12.3	8.1	9.1	9.0	22.6	24.7	24.7
WALES	7.8	7.5	8.0	5.8	5.8	6.0	14.6	14.8	15.3
CLWYD, DYFED, GWYNEDD, POWYS	7.5	7.2	7.5	6.1	5.8	6.2	13.9	13.9	14.2
GWENT, MID-S-W GLAMORGAN	8.1	7.8	8.3	5.6	5.7	5.9	15.1	15.3	15.9
SCOTLAND	7.8	8.0	8.2	5.8	6.2	6.2	14.0	15.2	14.7
BORD.-CENTR.-FIFE-LOTH.-TAY.	7.4	7.3	7.6	5.6	5.7	5.8	13.6	14.4	14.0
DUMFR.-GALLOWAY, STRATHCLYDE	8.8	9.3	9.2	6.2	6.9	6.7	15.5	17.2	16.4
HIGHLANDS, ISLANDS	8.1	8.4	9.0	6.7	7.4	7.7	12.1	13.4	13.5
GRAMPIAN	5.1	4.8	5.2	4.5	4.4	4.7	9.4	9.6	9.6
NORTHERN IRELAND	11.4	10.3	11.5	8.5	7.6	8.6	15.4	16.6	16.5

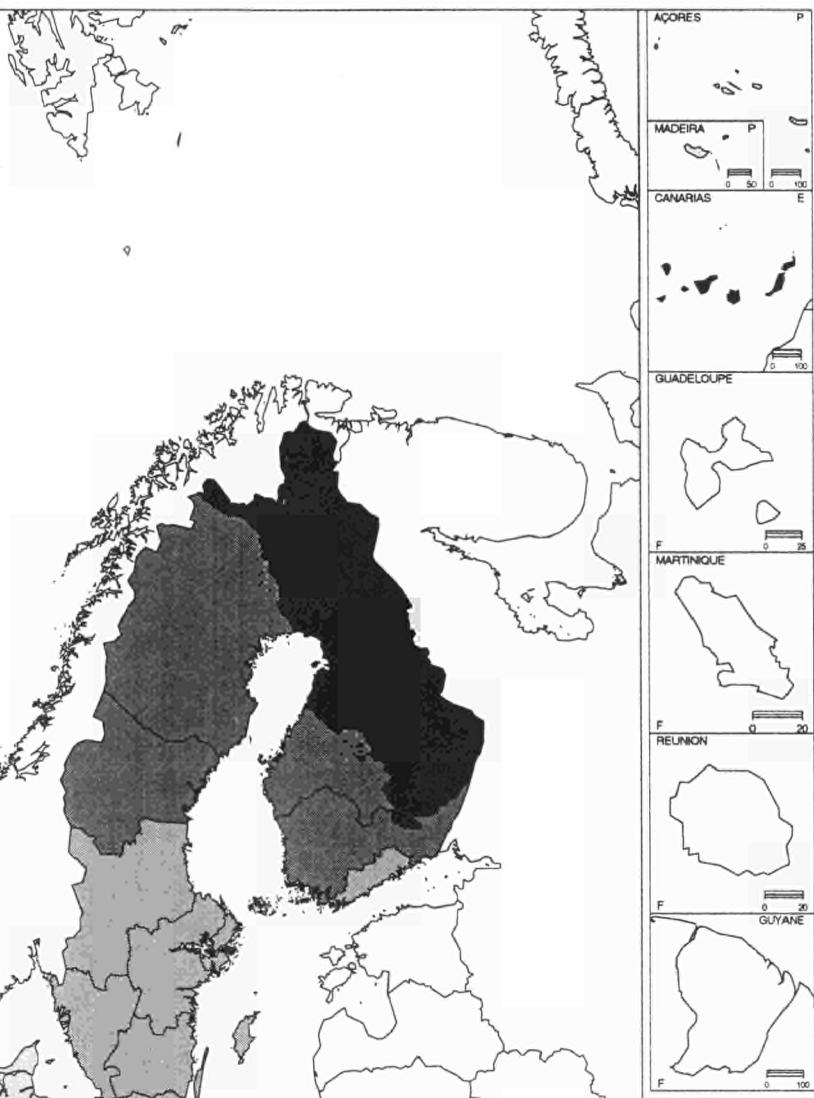
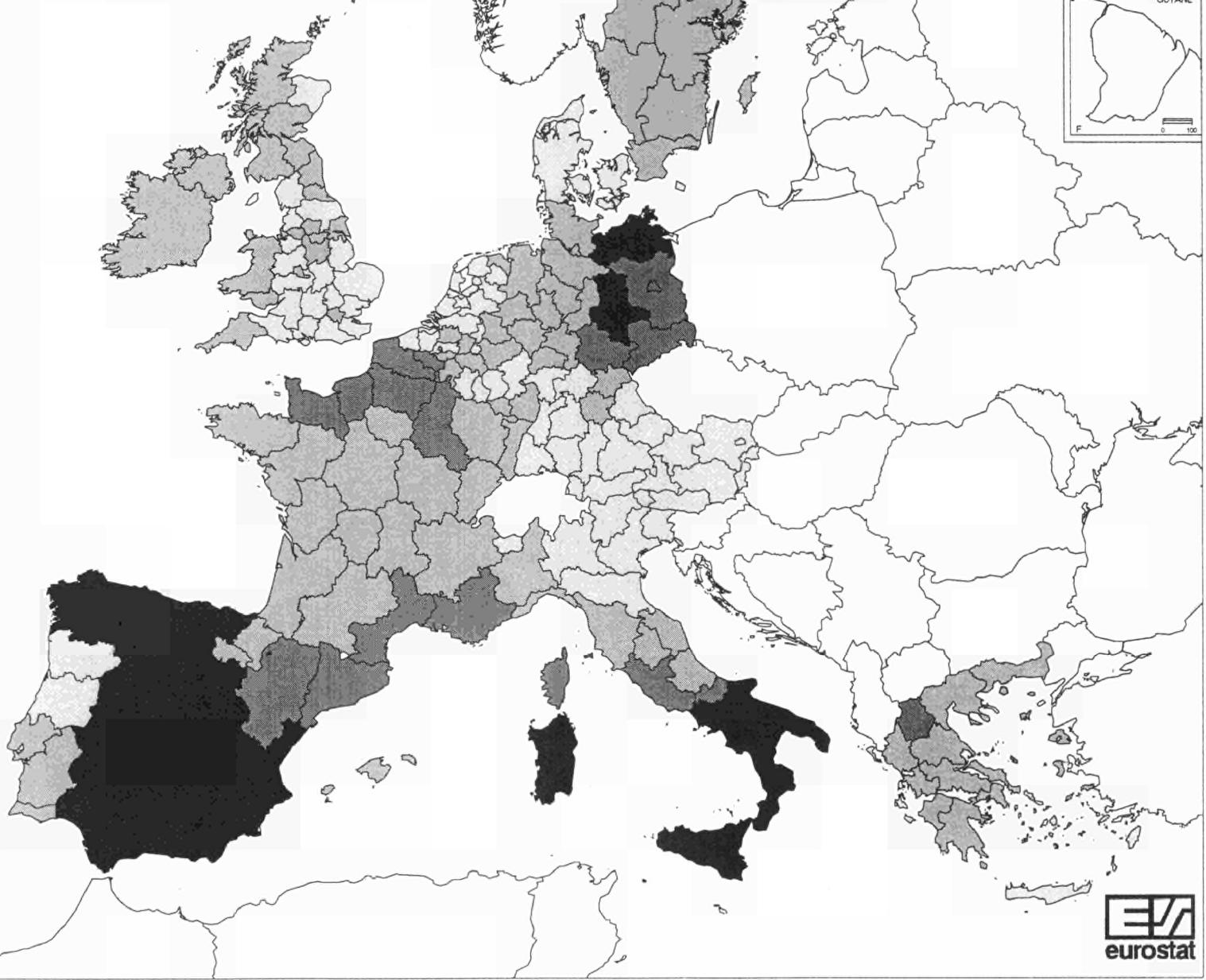
Unemployment rates –total April 1997 NUTS 2

EU -15 = 10.7 %
EUR -11 = 11.6 %



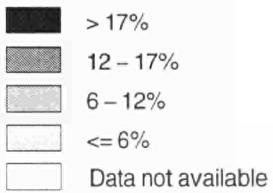
Statistical data: REGIO database
Cartography and geographic information management: GISCO -07/98

0 150 750 km



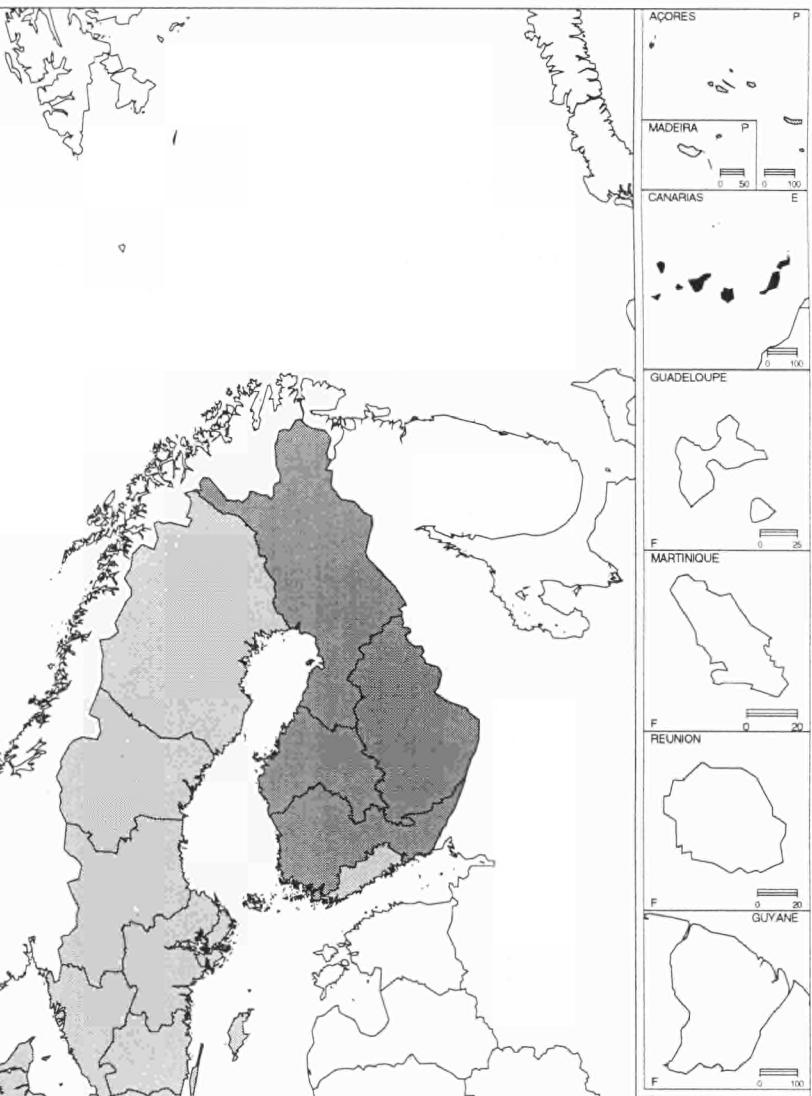
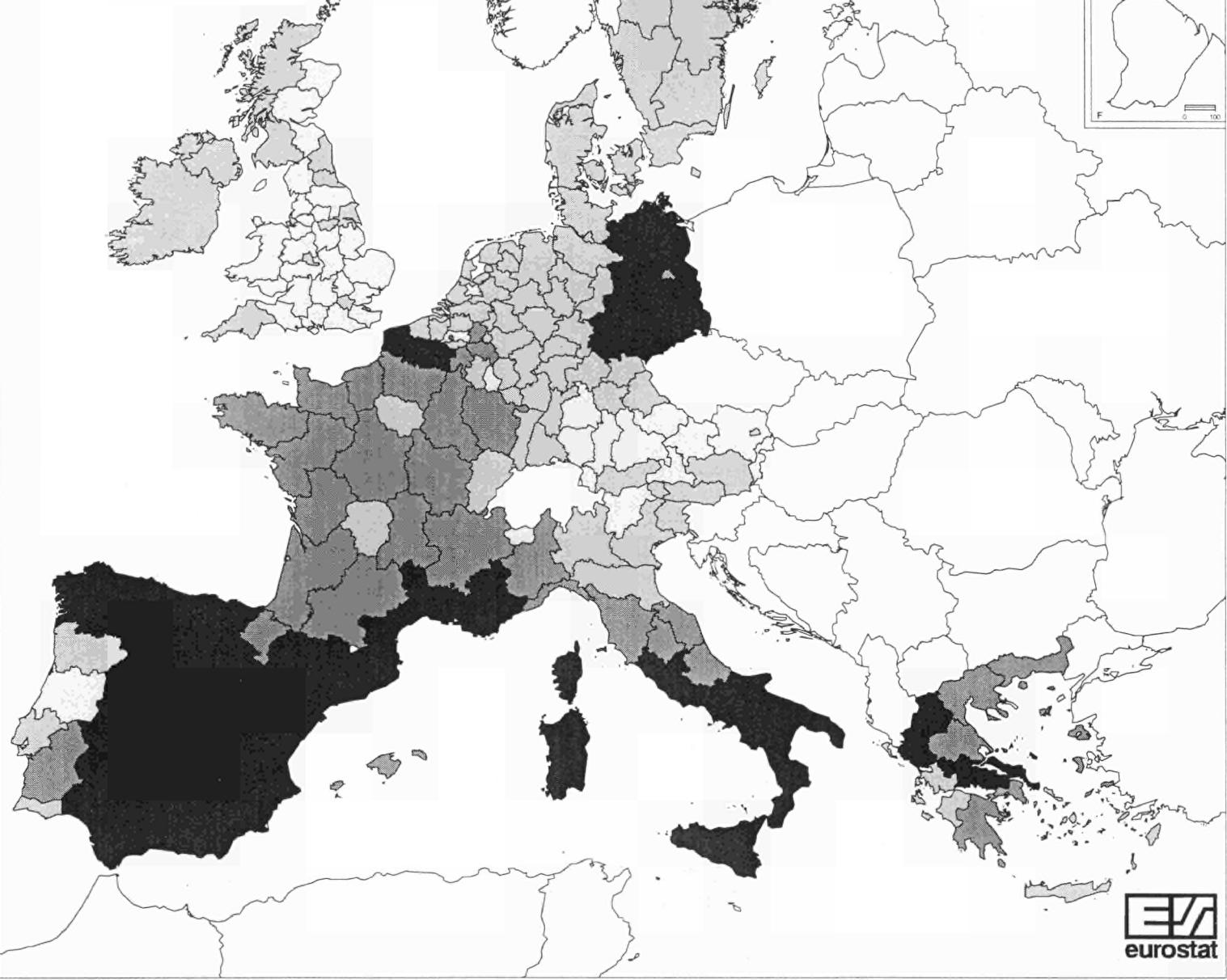
Unemployment rates -females April 1997 NUTS 2

EU -15 = 12.2 %
EUR -11 = 13.9 %



Statistical data: REGIO database
Cartography and geographic information management: GISCO -07/98

0 150 750 km



Notes on methodology

The unemployment rate is defined as the percentage of unemployed persons in the total economically active population. It relates to persons who are aged at least 15 at a certain point in time and can be broken down further by age and sex. The youth unemployment rate relates to persons under 25 years of age.

The definition of unemployment is in line with the recommendations of the International Labour Office (ILO) and may, therefore, differ markedly from the respective national concepts. According to the international recommendations, a person is deemed to be unemployed if all three of the following conditions are met:

- a) he or she is without work during the survey reference week;
- b) he or she is available for work, being able to take up employment within two weeks;
- c) he or she has actively sought work over the past four weeks.

The economically active population is defined as the total of unemployed and employed persons. Employed persons are all those in work during the reference period.

Estimates of regional unemployment rates are based on the estimates of employed and unemployed persons taken from the Community Labour Force Survey at national level, in each case for a specific reference date in April. In a second step, the estimated jobless figures are broken down over the individual regions, applying the regional structures of registered unemployed persons or regionally representative results of labour force surveys. A similar procedure is followed in respect of employed persons, with regional results of labour force surveys or the regional structures of the most recent population censuses being used for regionalisation.

Initially, separate estimates are made for the sub-populations comprising women under 25 years of age, women aged 25 and above, men under 25 years and men aged 25 and above. The estimates for unemployed and employed persons in the individual sub-populations are subsequently added together to obtain an estimate of the overall unemployment rate.

Unemployment rates reflect the development at the labour market concerned. Labour market related political decisions and general political trends may therefore influence unemployment rates. The smaller the respective subpopulation, the more marked these effects will be. We can take as an example the youth unemployment rate: if low demand for labour means young people continue to go to school, the youth unemployment rate will be smaller than in the case when they look for jobs. Such effects should always be taken into account when interpreting unemployment rate.

Eurostat - Luxembourg

Direction E: "Social and Regional statistics and geographical information system"

For further information you may contact:

Werner Grünewald, Tel.: (352) 4301 - 33280

Fernande Klapp, Tel.: (352) 4301 - 32387

Fax: (352) 4301 - 34029

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Eurostat Data Shop

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Sede di Milano
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Sede di Roma
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Fax (352) 43 35 22 221
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