

Unemployment in the regions of the European Union 1999

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Statistics
in focus

GENERAL
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REGIONS

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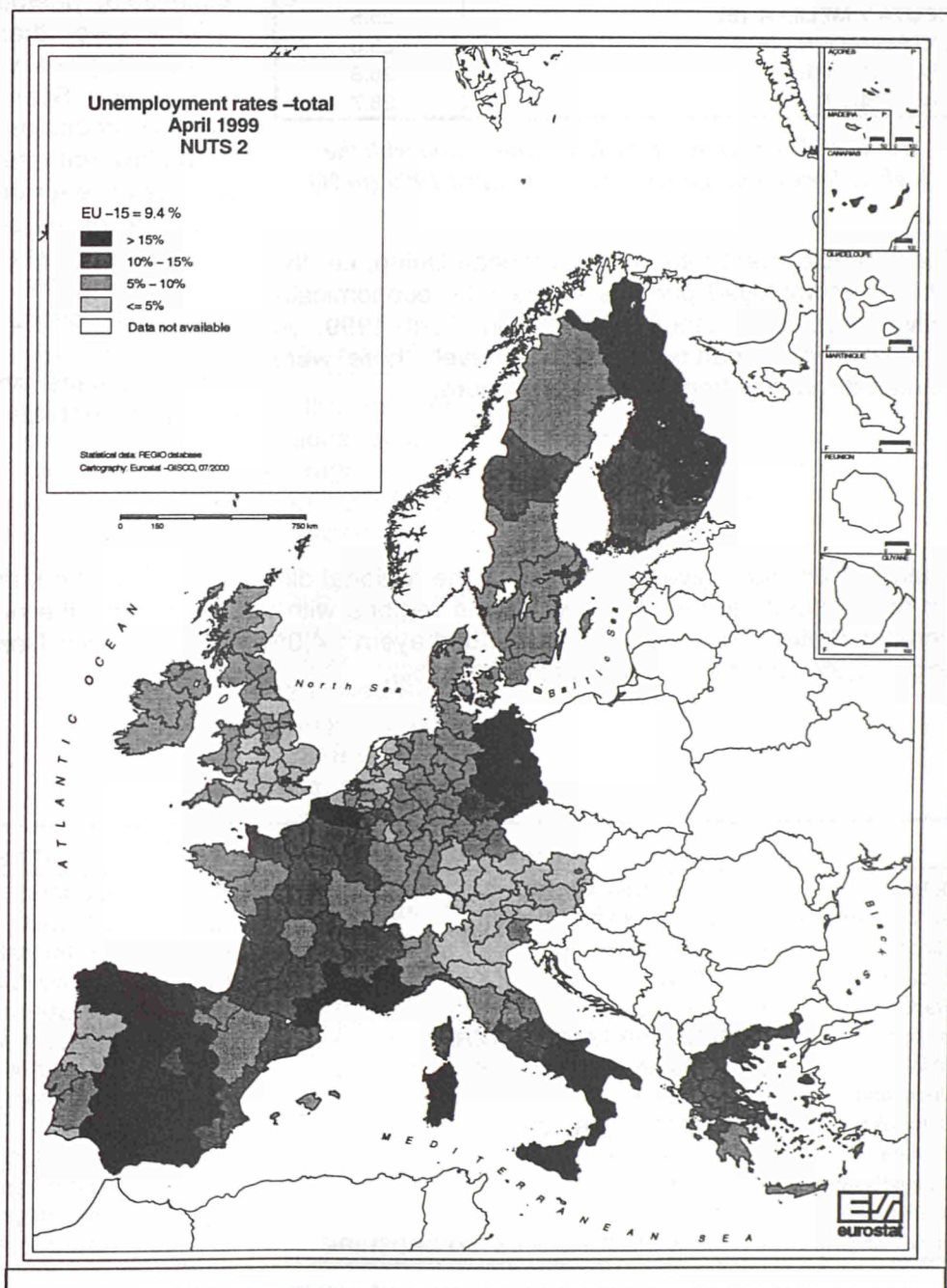


Figure 1: Unemployment rates total - April 1999 - NUTS 2

In April 1999, the unemployment rate in the NUTS-2 regions of the European Union varied between 2.1% and 28.7%. Breakdowns by gender and age highlight even greater regional differences. The rate of unemployment among women, for example, ranged from 2.0% to 41.4%, while between 3.5% and 65.2% of under-25s were out of work.



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EU unemployment rates vary between 2.1% and 28.7%

Region	Unemployment rate
ÅLAND (FIN)	2.1
BERKSHIRE,BUCKS & OXFORDSHIRE (UK)	2.2
UTRECHT (NL)	2.3
CENTRO (P)	2.4
LUXEMBOURG (GRAND-DUCHE)	2.4
OBERÖSTERREICH (A)	2.7
NOORD-BRABANT (NL)	2.8
:	:
CAMPANIA (I)	23.7
SICILIA (I)	24.8
CEUTA Y MELILLA (E)	25.5
EXTREMADURA (E)	25.5
ANDALUCIA (E)	26.8
CALABRIA (I)	28.7

Table 1: The regions of the European Union with the highest/lowest unemployment rates in April 1999 (in %)

The unemployment rate in the European Union, i.e. the ratio of unemployed persons to the total economically active population, stood at 9.4% in April 1999. 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 2.1% in the Finish region of Åland and 28.7% in the Italian region of Calabria. Related in each case to 100 members of the economically active population, Calabria thus had around 13 times more jobless people than the region of Åland.

Of the 205 regions under consideration, as many as 47 achieved an unemployment rate in April 1999 of at most 4.7% - lower than half the EU average. These 47 NUTS-2 regions were spread over 9 Member States, with Greece, Spain, France, Ireland and Sweden being the only countries where no NUTS-2 region had an unemployment rate of less or equal than 4.7%. This was also the case for the NUTS-1 region of Denmark. At the other end of the scale were 11 regions in Italy, Spain and Germany where the unemployment rate stood at more than 18.9% 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 1999.

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 : 4,0%, compared with Dessau : 20,9%) or Italy (Trentino-Alto Adige : 3,9%, compared with Calabria : 28,7%).

	NUTS-2-regions with minimum value	NUTS-2-regions with maximum value
Belgique	VLAAMS BRABANT 3.9	HAINAUT 16.6
BR Deutschland	OBERBAYERN 4.0	DESSAU 20.9
Ellada	IONIA NISIA 5.5	DYTIKI MAKEDONIA 14.6
Espana	RIOJA 7.1	ANDALUCIA 26.8
France	ALSACE 6.6	LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON 17.8
Ireland	SOUTHERN AND EASTERN 5.5	BORDER, MIDLAND AND WESTERN 7.1
Italia	TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE 3.9	CALABRIA 28.7
Nederland	UTRECHT 2.3	GRONINGEN 6.0
Österreich	OBERÖSTERREICH 2.7	WIEN 5.9
Portugal	CENTRO (P) 2.4	ALENTEJO 6.7
Suomi/Finland	ÅLAND 2.1	ITAE-SUOMI 15.7
Sverige	STOCKHOLM 5.2	MELLERSTA NORRLAND 10.3
United Kingdom	BERKSHIRE, BUCKS & OXFORDSHIRE 2.2	MERSEYSIDE 11.7

Table 2: Range of unemployment rate for NUTS 2 regions in the EU Member States in April 1999

Some marked year-on-year changes – falls of up to 5.4 percentage points

Region	Change
CANARIAS (E)	- 5.4
RIOJA (E)	- 4.6
BALEARES (E)	- 4.3
THÜRINGEN (D)	- 4.1
MADRID (E)	- 3.7
CATALUÑA (E)	- 3.5
EXTREMADURA (E)	- 3.3
CASTILLA-LEON (E)	- 3.3
:	:
:	:
:	:
SARDEGNA (I)	+ 1.6
CALABRIA (I)	+ 1.6
IONIA NISIA (EL)	+ 1.7
THESSALIA (EL)	+ 2.1
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA (EL)	+ 3.3
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI (EL)	+ 3.9

Table 3: The regions of the European Union with the highest decrease and increase respectively of unemployment rates from April 1998 to April 1999 (in percentage points)

Changes in the unemployment rate from April 1998 to April 1999 varied in the regions under consideration between a fall of 5.4 percentage points in the Spanish region of Canarias and a rise of 3.9 percentage points in the Greek region of Anatoliki Makedonia, Thraki. Overall, out of the 205 regions considered 153 recorded a fall, only 44 a rise (8 remained unchanged). Most of the regions with the biggest reductions in the unemployment rate were mainly in Spain, while the regions with the biggest increase were in Greece. Table 3 gives the details.

Youth unemployment rate between 3,5% and 65,2%

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 1999, youth unemployment varied between 3.5% in the Austrian Land of Niederösterreich and 65.2% in the Italian region of Calabria.

Region	Young unemployment rate
NIEDERÖSTERREICH (A)	3.5
UTRECHT (NL)	3.5
BERKSHIRE,BUCKS & OXFORDSHIRE (UK)	3.8
OBERBAYERN (D)	3.9
OBERÖSTERREICH (A)	3.9
FLEVOLAND (NL)	4.2
:	:
:	:
:	:
CEUTA Y MELILLA (E)	52.2
BASILICATA (I)	52.8
SARDEGNA (I)	56.7
SICILIA (I)	60.2
CAMPANIA (I)	60.9
CALABRIA (I)	65.2

Table 4: The regions of the European Union with the highest/lowest young unemployment rates in April 1999 (in %)

On the youth unemployment front, too, a whole series of regions posted rates differing markedly from the EU average of 17.8%. In April 1999, the rate stood at less than 10% in as many as 61 regions, while 18 regions recorded levels in excess of 40%.

The 61 regions with relatively low unemployment among young people were almost all in Northern and Central Europe: 20 in Germany, 14 in the Netherlands, 11 in the United Kingdom, 9 in Austria, 4 in Portugal, 1 each in Italy and Ireland, and the Member State Luxembourg. The 18 regions with particularly high rates, on the other hand, were nearly all in the Mediterranean area: 8 in Italy, 4 in Spain and 2 in Greece; 2 regions each in Belgium and in Finland.

Table 4 lists the regions with the highest and lowest youth unemployment rates in April 1999.

	NUTS 2 Regions with minimum value		NUTS 2 Regions with maximum value	
Belgique	WEST-VLAANDEREN	11.8	HAINAUT	47.8
BR Deutschland	OBERBAYERN	3.9	HALLE	15.1
Ellada	NOTIO AIGAIO	15.7	DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	47.0
Espana	BALEARES	14.9	CEUTA Y MELILLA	52.2
France	ALSACE	12.2	NORD-PAS-DE-CALAIS	36.3
Ireland	SOUTHERN AND EASTERN	8.1	BORDER, MIDLAND AND WESTERN	10.1
Italia	TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE	7.4	CALABRIA	65.2
Nederland	UTRECHT	3.5	GRONINGEN	13.7
Österreich	NIEDERÖSTERREICH	3.5	KÄRNTEN	7.3
Portugal	MADEIRA	7.0	ALENTEJO	17.1
Suomi/Finland	UUSIMAA	16.1	ITAE-SUOMI	45.1
Sverige	STOCKHOLM	10.0	MELLERSTA NORRLAND	23.8
United Kingdom	BERKSHIRE, BUCKS & OXFORDSHIRE	3.8	MERSEYSIDE	26.5

Table 5: Range of youth unemployment rate for NUTS 2 Regions in the EU Member States in April 1999

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 7.4% in the region of Trentino-Alto Adige to 65.2% in Calabria. In Belgium, Greece, Spain, France and Finland too, however, the difference between the highest and the lowest figure was more than 20 percentage points.

Decreasing youth unemployment rates in most regions from 1998 to 1999

Région	Changement
RIOJA (E)	- 13.3
BALEARES (E)	- 11.3
PICARDIE (F)	- 8.6
FLEVOLAND (NL)	- 8.3
CATALUÑA (E)	- 7.8
ARAGON (E)	- 7.4
⋮	⋮
⋮	⋮
LAZIO (I)	+ 7.1
SARDEGNA (I)	+ 7.2
SICILIA (I)	+ 7.2
MOLISE (I)	+ 8.4
HAINAUT (B)	+ 9.0
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA (EL)	+ 9.7
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI (EL)	+ 15.5

The youth unemployment rate decreased in 134 of the 205 regions under consideration from April 1998 to April 1999. The biggest decreases occurred in the Spanish regions of Rioja with 13.3% and Baleares with 11.3%, in the French region Picardie with 8.6% and in the Dutch region Flevoland with 8.3%.

At the other end of the spectrum, however, a total of 7 regions posted a rise of more than 7 percentage points in their youth unemployment rates. As can be seen from Table 6, all of them are in Italy (4), in Greece (2) and in Belgium (1).

Table 6: The regions of the European Union with the highest decrease and increase respectively of young unemployment rates from April 1998 to April 1999 (in percentage points)

Female unemployment rates in EU regions ranging from 2.0% to 41.4% in 1999

In April 1999, the rate of unemployment among women in the regions of the European Union ranged from 2.0% to 41.4%. The lowest figure, 2.0% for the region Berkshire, Bucks & Oxfordshire (United Kingdom) was very little below the second-lowest figure of 2.4% for the Finnish region of Åland. The highest rates were recorded at 41.4% for the Italian region of Calabria and the Spanish regions of Ceuta y Melilla (38.0%), Andalucía (37.5%) and Extremadura (37,3%). Table 7 additionally gives some idea of the regional differences within the Member States in April 1999.

	NUTS 2 Regions with minimum value		NUTS 2 Regions with maximum value	
Belgique	VLAAMS BRABANT	4.5	HAINAUT	19.4
BR Deutschland	OBERBAYERN	3.8	DESSAU	24.1
Ellada	IONIA NISIA	8.1	STEREA ELLADA	24.9
Espana	BALEARES	10.5	CEUTA Y MELILLA	38.0
France	ALSACE	7.5	LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON	20.9
Ireland	SOUTHERN AND EASTERN	5.4	BORDER, MIDLAND AND WESTERN	6.9
Italia	TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE	5.6	CALABRIA	41.4
Nederland	UTRECHT	3.3	GRONINGEN	8.7
Österreich	OBERÖSTERREICH	3.3	TIROL	6.6
Portugal	CENTRO (P)	2.7	ALENTEJO	10.5
Suomi/Finland	ÅLAND	2.4	ITAE-SUOMI	15.3
Sverige	STOCKHOLM	4.8	SYDSVERIGE	9.0
United Kingdom	BERKSHIRE, BUCKS & OXFORDSHIRE	2.0	INNER LONDON	11.1

Table 7: Range of female unemployment rate for NUTS 2 Regions in the EU Member States in April 1999

Female unemployment rate in decline in most regions from 1998 to 1999

Region	Change
BALEARES (E)	- 6.1
CATALUÑA (E)	- 5.8
CANARIAS (E)	- 5.7
RIOJA (E)	- 5.0
THÜRINGEN (D)	- 5.0
COMUNIDAD VALENCIANA (E)	- 4.8
:	:
:	:
STEREA ELLADA (EL)	+ 3.4
SICILIA (I)	+ 3.6
CALABRIA (I)	+ 4.9
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI (EL)	+ 5.8
ABRUZZO (I)	+ 6.0
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA (EL)	+ 6.8

As well as the youth unemployment rate, the rate of unemployment among women fell in most regions between April 1998 and April 1999. In a total of 159 regions, it fell by between 0.1 and 6.1 percentage points, whereas in 63 regions it rose by between 0.1 and 6.8% percentage points. In the other regions, it remained unchanged. The regions experiencing more pronounced changes were mainly in Spain.

Table 8: The regions of the European Union with the highest decrease and increase respectively of female unemployment rates from April 1998 to April 1999 (in percentage points)

Female unemployment rate lower than male rate in as many as 63 regions

A comparison of the overall unemployment rate with that among women in April 1999 shows that, in 63 of the 205 regions taken into account, the female rate was lower than the overall unemployment rate and thus also lower than that among men. Of these 63 regions, 36 were in the United Kingdom, 17 in Germany, 6 in Sweden, 2 each in Finland and in Ireland.

A comparison of these rates with the overall figures for the regions under consideration in the Member States shows that, in 6 out of the 8 Swedish regions, in the 2 Irish regions, and in 36 out of the 37 regions of the United Kingdom, the unemployment rate among women was lower than among men. Further details are included in the extensive coverage provided by Table 9.

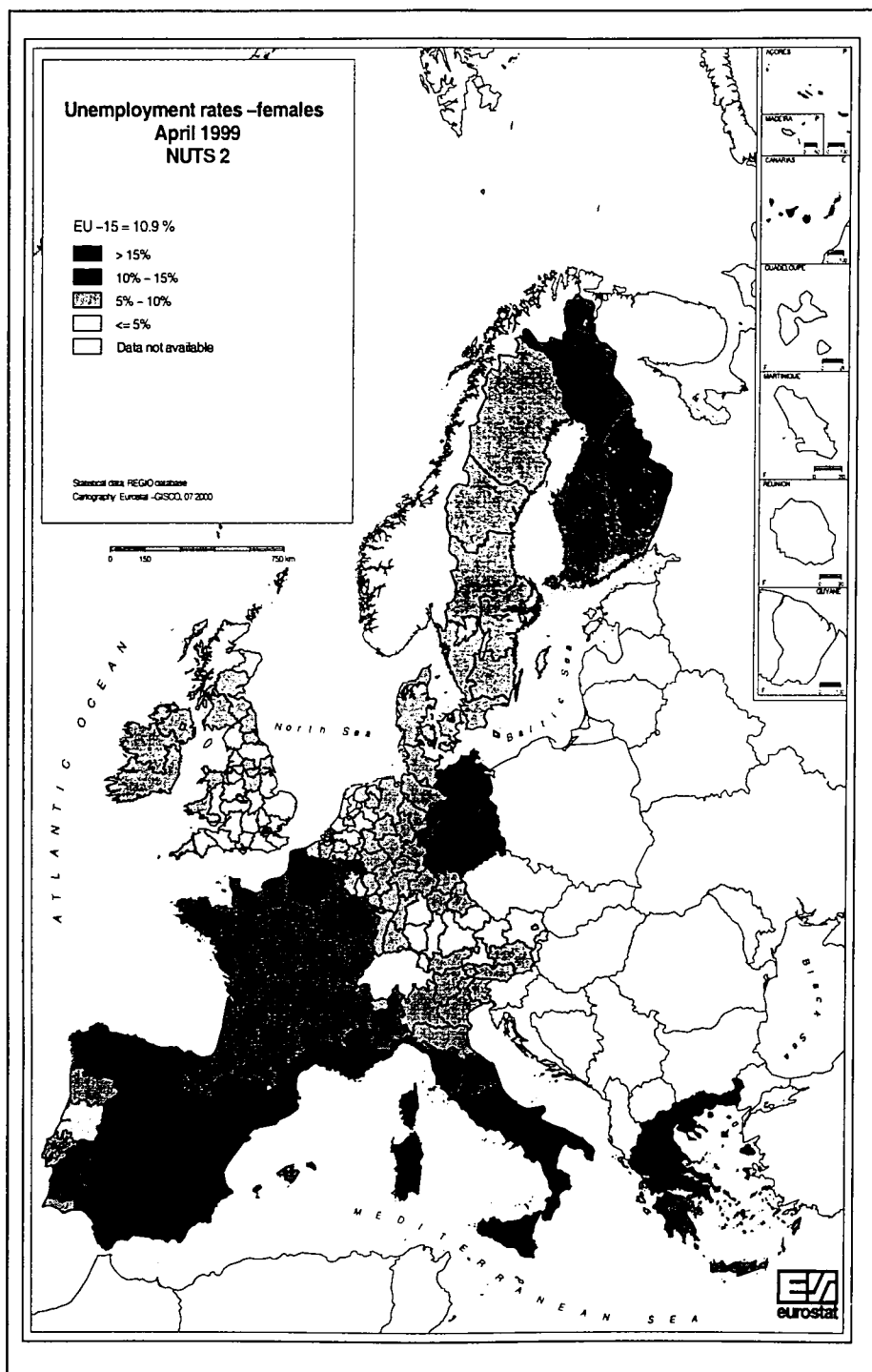


Figure 2: Unemployment rates females - April 1999 - NUTS 2

	Total		Females		< 25 years	
	4/1998	4/1999	4/1998	4/1999	4/1998	4/1999
EJ-15	10.1	9.4	11.9	10.9	19.2	17.8
EJR-11	11.1	10.1	13.5	12.3	21.2	19.1
BELGIQUE-BELGIE	9.4	8.8	11.7	10.4	20.6	23.4
REG. BRUXELLES-CAP. /BRUSSELS HFDST.GEW.	14.4	14.0	14.8	14.2	32.6	35.1
VLAAMS GEWEST	6.2	5.6	8.5	7.0	13.0	14.6
ANTWERPEN	7.2	6.5	9.6	8.1	16.0	17.7
LIMBURG (B)	8.0	7.0	12.4	9.9	14.1	16.6
OOST-VLAANDEREN	6.6	5.9	8.6	7.2	14.3	14.2
VLAAMS BRABANT	4.6	3.9	5.8	4.5	11.1	12.0
WEST-VLAANDEREN	4.9	4.6	6.9	5.8	8.8	11.8
REGION WALLONNE	13.7	13.3	16.9	15.7	32.0	37.4
BRABANT WALLON	8.1	8.8	9.9	10.5	23.3	25.1
HAINAUT	17.0	16.6	20.9	19.4	38.8	47.8
LIEGE	13.3	12.8	16.3	15.2	28.8	33.1
LUXEMBOURG (B)	7.4	7.3	9.8	9.2	19.6	21.6
NAMUR	13.2	12.6	16.7	14.7	33.3	40.2
DANMARK	5.4	5.6	6.8	6.3	7.8	11.0
DEUTSCHLAND	10.0	8.9	10.6	9.3	10.1	9.0
BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG	5.8	5.1	5.8	5.2	6.2	5.8
STUTTGART	5.6	4.9	5.5	5.0	5.9	5.1
KARLSRUHE	6.3	5.8	6.2	5.8	6.6	6.9
FREIBURG	5.9	5.2	6.2	5.4	7.0	6.7
TÜBINGEN	5.3	4.5	5.5	4.8	5.7	5.1
BAYERN	5.7	5.0	5.7	5.1	6.1	5.4
OBERBAYERN	4.7	4.0	4.4	3.8	4.9	3.9
NIEDERBAYERN	5.4	4.8	5.3	4.7	5.6	5.6
OBERPFALZ	6.2	5.4	6.4	5.7	5.9	5.5
OBERFRANKEN	7.2	6.5	7.5	6.8	7.8	7.2
MITTELFRANKEN	7.1	6.4	7.2	6.6	7.8	6.8
UNTERFRANKEN	6.1	5.6	6.6	5.9	7.1	6.5
SCHWABEN	5.5	4.7	5.4	4.8	5.8	5.4
BERLIN	14.7	13.7	13.9	12.4	16.8	14.4
BRANDENBURG	18.1	16.0	21.0	17.7	14.1	10.9
BREMEN	12.5	11.4	11.1	9.8	15.3	13.0
HAMBURG	8.7	7.9	7.2	6.6	11.3	10.1
HESSEN	7.4	6.7	7.0	6.3	9.2	8.2
DARMSTADT	6.7	6.0	6.1	5.5	8.1	7.1
GIESSEN	7.8	7.0	7.7	7.0	9.8	9.0
KASSEL	9.5	8.5	9.1	8.2	12.1	10.2
MECKLENBURG-VORPOMMERN	20.0	17.5	22.9	19.6	13.6	12.7
NIEDERSACHSEN	9.2	8.2	9.1	8.2	10.7	10.1
BRAUNSCHWEIG	11.0	9.7	11.3	10.0	12.1	10.3
HANNOVER	9.2	8.3	8.6	7.9	10.9	10.9
LUNEBURG	7.8	7.2	7.7	7.2	10.6	10.1
WESER-EMS	8.8	7.7	9.1	7.9	9.8	9.3
NORDRHEIN-WESTFALEN	8.9	8.2	8.7	8.0	11.2	9.7
DUSSELDORF	9.4	8.7	8.9	8.2	11.8	11.0
KÖLN	8.3	7.6	8.1	7.3	10.8	8.6
MÜNSTER	8.5	8.1	8.5	7.9	9.9	8.8
DETMOLD	8.0	7.3	8.5	7.7	9.5	8.6
ARNSBERG	9.7	8.9	9.5	8.7	12.7	10.7
RHEINLAND-PFALZ	7.0	6.4	6.9	6.3	9.3	8.5
KÖBLENZ	6.8	6.2	6.6	5.9	9.1	7.7
TRIER	6.0	5.8	6.0	5.7	7.4	7.2
RHEINHESSEN-PFALZ	7.4	6.7	7.3	6.6	10.1	9.5
SAARLAND	9.6	8.5	8.5	7.5	11.3	10.8
SACHSEN (1)	18.1	16.2	21.2	18.6	13.1	10.9
SACHSEN-ANHALT	21.4	19.9	24.6	22.5	13.9	13.4
DESSAU	22.2	20.9	26.2	24.1	13.6	13.6
HALLE	21.8	20.6	24.9	23.1	16.5	15.1
MAGDEBURG	20.7	18.9	23.7	21.2	12.3	12.2
SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN	8.0	7.4	7.3	6.7	11.0	10.2
THURINGEN	18.4	14.3	21.5	16.5	12.7	10.3

Table 9: Unemployment in the regions of the European Union

(1) NUTS-1

	Total		Females		< 25 years	
	4/1998	4/1999	4/1998	4/1999	4/1998	4/1999
ELLADA	10.8	11.7	16.5	17.9	29.7	31.7
VOREIA ELLADA	10.3	12.4	16.1	19.8	28.7	32.3
ANATOLIKI MAKEDONIA, THRAKI	8.9	12.8	13.4	19.2	16.0	31.5
KENTRIKI MAKEDONIA	10.4	11.7	15.8	18.8	29.6	30.2
DYTIKI MAKEDONIA	11.3	14.6	17.4	24.2	37.3	47.0
THESSALIA	10.7	12.8	18.4	21.7	34.7	33.5
KENTRIKI ELLADA	10.4	11.0	16.8	17.9	35.0	34.4
IPEIROS	13.6	13.9	22.0	22.1	48.3	42.6
IONIA NISIA	3.8	5.5	5.5	8.1	13.7	20.7
DYTIKI ELLADA	10.9	11.8	17.0	18.6	34.8	36.9
STEREA ELLADA	12.8	14.2	21.5	24.9	40.4	38.0
PELOPONNISOS	8.1	7.6	13.7	12.5	28.3	27.2
ATTIKI	12.2	12.5	17.7	17.8	30.2	33.2
NISIA AIGAIΟΥ, KRITI	7.5	7.9	12.7	12.0	21.2	19.8
VOREO AIGAIΟ	10.6	11.3	19.2	15.6	31.5	30.1
NOTIO AIGAIΟ	6.4	7.3	9.6	11.6	13.9	15.7
KRITI	7.1	7.3	12.5	11.5	22.2	19.9
ESPAÑA	19.1	16.1	26.8	23.4	36.3	30.4
NOROESTE	18.1	17.0	24.8	24.4	37.0	36.1
GALICIA	17.2	16.8	23.2	23.8	32.3	33.3
ASTURIAS	20.5	18.2	29.4	25.9	50.5	45.2
CANTABRIA	18.6	15.7	25.8	24.9	38.9	33.7
NORESTE	14.5	12.0	22.7	18.8	30.8	23.8
PAIS VASCO	17.9	14.7	26.2	21.7	37.0	31.3
NAVARRA	9.3	8.5	16.9	14.6	22.2	15.7
RIOJA	11.7	7.1	18.0	13.0	29.4	16.1
ARAGON	11.4	9.5	19.5	16.1	24.0	16.6
MADRID	17.0	13.3	22.2	18.8	32.7	25.4
CENTRO (E)	20.2	17.6	31.0	28.2	38.2	33.8
CASTILLA-LEON	18.9	15.6	29.8	25.9	42.0	36.1
CASTILLA-LA MANCHA	16.9	15.6	27.0	26.1	31.8	27.1
EXTREMADURA	28.8	25.5	40.3	37.3	42.4	41.3
ESTE	15.2	11.8	22.6	17.2	30.1	22.5
CATALUNA	14.3	10.8	21.3	15.5	28.0	20.2
COMUNIDAD VALENCIANA	17.4	14.3	26.1	21.3	34.1	26.9
BALEARES	11.5	7.2	16.6	10.5	26.2	14.9
SUR	28.1	25.1	37.4	35.6	47.0	41.3
ANDALUCIA	29.9	26.8	39.6	37.5	49.4	43.2
MURCIA	17.4	14.4	24.7	23.2	30.9	27.4
CEUTA Y MELILLA	24.8	25.5	38.1	38.0	51.3	52.2
CANARIAS	19.8	14.4	26.2	20.5	36.5	29.8
FRANCE	11.6	11.4	13.7	13.3	24.6	22.4
ILE DE FRANCE	10.6	10.3	11.2	10.9	17.3	15.8
BASSIN PARISIEN	12.0	11.5	14.6	13.9	29.1	25.1
CHAMPAGNE-ARDENNE	12.1	11.8	14.6	14.3	30.6	26.9
PICARDIE	14.4	13.7	17.5	16.4	37.8	29.2
HAUTE-NORMANDIE	13.1	12.2	15.5	14.7	32.1	26.7
CENTRE	10.5	10.0	13.1	12.4	22.4	20.1
BASSE-NORMANDIE	12.2	11.7	14.0	13.6	28.6	26.8
BOURGOGNE	10.3	9.9	13.1	12.5	25.7	22.7
NORD-PAS-DE-CALAIS	16.3	15.8	18.8	17.9	36.5	36.3
EST	8.9	8.4	10.9	10.2	20.0	17.7
LORRAINE	10.3	10.0	12.6	12.3	25.8	23.4
ALSACE	7.2	6.6	8.4	7.5	13.6	12.2
FRANCHE-COMTE	8.7	8.3	11.2	10.8	21.1	17.7
OUEST	10.4	9.7	13.0	12.1	23.6	21.0
PAYS DE LA LOIRE	10.6	9.4	13.6	12.1	22.1	19.1
BRETAGNE	9.8	9.3	11.9	11.4	23.5	21.9
POITOU-CHARENTES	11.0	11.3	13.6	13.6	27.2	23.8
SUD-OUEST	11.6	11.5	14.4	14.1	27.4	23.9
AQUITAINE	12.3	11.7	15.6	14.5	29.6	24.8
MIDI-PYRENEES	11.6	11.8	14.1	14.5	26.2	23.4
LIMOUSIN	8.7	8.9	10.7	10.8	22.6	21.7
CENTRE-EST	10.0	10.3	12.2	12.3	21.2	20.2
RHONE-ALPES	10.0	10.3	12.0	12.2	20.8	19.5
AUVERGNE	10.1	10.0	13.1	12.8	23.2	23.6

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

	Total		Females		< 25 years	
	4/1998	4/1999	4/1998	4/1999	4/1998	4/1999
<i>MEDITERRANEE</i>	16.0	16.5	18.4	19.1	27.3	26.2
LANGUEDOC-ROUSSILLON	17.6	17.8	20.4	20.9	29.3	28.0
PROVENCE-ALPES-COTE D'AZUR	15.4	16.0	17.4	18.3	26.3	25.4
CORSE	14.0	14.3	17.9	18.8	25.6	24.8
DEPARTEMENTS D'OUTRE-MER	32.0	32.0	37.1	36.3	45.9	51.2
IRELAND	7.9	5.9	7.4	5.7	11.7	8.6
BORDER, MIDLANDS AND WESTERN	8.5	7.1	8.1	6.9	12.6	10.1
SOUTHERN AND EASTERN	7.7	5.5	7.2	5.4	11.4	8.1
ITALIA	12.1	11.7	16.5	16.1	33.7	32.9
NORD OVEST	9.1	8.0	13.6	12.2	30.0	23.5
PIEMONTE	8.4	7.9	12.3	12.6	24.7	22.4
VALLE DAOSTA	5.4	5.6	5.8	6.8	12.6	12.8
LIGURIA	10.0	10.8	13.9	15.2	36.5	31.2
LOMBARDIA	5.9	4.9	8.9	7.6	16.1	13.8
NORD EST	5.0	4.7	7.9	7.4	12.8	11.3
TRENTINO-ALTO ADIGE	3.9	3.9	4.6	5.6	6.6	7.4
VENETO	5.1	4.9	8.0	8.4	11.0	11.5
FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA	5.1	5.6	8.6	9.0	10.5	12.1
EMILIA-ROMAGNA	5.6	4.8	8.0	7.7	12.9	12.7
CENTRO (I)	7.8	7.2	12.2	11.4	21.7	19.8
TOSCANA	8.4	8.2	12.8	12.1	16.0	20.8
UMBRIA	9.4	7.1	13.0	12.0	24.4	19.9
MARCHE	5.3	6.5	9.8	11.1	12.6	18.0
LAZIO	11.7	13.2	14.7	17.8	39.8	46.9
ABRUZZO-MOLISE	11.0	11.6	15.5	18.0	30.8	33.3
ABRUZZO	9.1	10.6	11.8	17.8	26.6	31.6
MOLISE	16.8	16.6	22.6	24.7	42.0	50.4
CAMPANIA	24.5	23.7	33.2	32.2	56.0	60.9
SUD	21.7	21.9	31.3	33.0	50.9	54.0
PUGLIA	19.6	19.8	28.2	31.6	43.0	49.0
BASILICATA	18.4	17.3	26.8	26.4	46.4	52.8
CALABRIA	27.1	28.7	36.5	41.4	60.2	65.2
SICILIA	24.1	24.8	32.6	36.2	53.0	60.2
SARDEGNA	20.3	21.9	29.3	31.7	49.5	56.7
LUXEMBOURG (GRAND-DUCHE)	2.8	2.4	4.2	3.3	6.9	6.7
NEDERLAND	4.0	3.3	5.5	4.6	7.7	6.7
NOORD-NEDERLAND	5.8	5.3	7.7	7.7	12.7	10.8
GRONINGEN	6.1	6.0	8.1	8.7	11.9	13.7
FRIESLAND	5.7	4.1	7.5	6.3	14.6	7.7
DRENTHE	4.6	5.9	6.5	8.4	8.4	11.8
OOST-NEDERLAND	3.7	3.0	5.1	4.3	7.2	5.8
OVERIJSEL	3.6	3.1	5.2	4.5	6.8	5.3
GELDERLAND	3.5	3.0	4.9	4.2	6.7	6.4
FLEVOLAND	4.6	3.1	6.2	4.4	12.5	4.2
WEST-NEDERLAND	3.9	3.1	5.4	4.4	7.5	6.5
UTRECHT	3.1	2.3	4.3	3.3	7.3	3.5
NOORD-HOLLAND	4.0	3.3	5.6	4.6	7.3	7.4
ZUID-HOLLAND	4.1	3.2	5.7	4.5	7.8	6.7
ZEELAND	3.4	3.5	4.0	4.0	6.1	6.7
ZUID-NEDERLAND	3.6	3.1	5.0	4.3	6.0	6.5
NOORD-BRABANT	3.3	2.8	4.5	4.0	5.3	5.9
LIMBURG (NL)	4.4	3.7	6.1	5.2	9.1	8.1
ÖSTERREICH	4.9	4.0	5.7	4.8	6.8	5.3
OSTÖSTERREICH	5.3	4.5	5.8	4.8	6.6	4.9
BURGENLAND	4.2	3.3	5.4	4.3	5.7	4.3
NIEDERÖSTERREICH	3.8	3.1	4.7	3.7	4.6	3.5
WIEN	6.9	5.9	6.9	5.9	9.2	6.7
SÜDÖSTERREICH	5.3	4.3	6.9	5.6	8.2	6.5
KARINTEN	5.8	4.7	7.6	6.3	9.6	7.3
STEIERMARK	5.1	4.1	6.6	5.3	7.6	6.2
WESTÖSTERREICH	4.0	3.4	5.0	4.3	6.2	5.1
OBERÖSTERREICH	3.2	2.7	3.9	3.3	4.9	3.9
SALZBURG	4.0	3.4	4.8	4.2	6.5	5.8
TIROL	5.6	4.7	7.3	6.5	8.7	7.3
VORARLBERG	4.2	3.5	5.5	4.7	6.0	4.6

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

	Total		Females		< 25 years	
	4/1998	4/1999	4/1998	4/1999	4/1998	4/1999
PORTUGAL	5.3	4.7	6.6	5.5	10.5	9.5
CONTINENTE	5.4	4.8	6.6	5.5	10.5	9.6
NORTE	5.4	4.7	6.5	5.4	9.2	7.9
CENTRO (P)	2.5	2.4	3.1	2.7	5.5	7.2
LISBOA E VALE DO TEJO	6.4	6.1	7.9	6.6	13.2	12.1
ALENTEJO	9.0	6.7	13.3	10.5	23.1	17.1
ALGARVE	6.8	3.7	8.3	5.3	14.1	10.8
ACORES	4.4	3.7	7.1	6.5	10.6	7.6
MADEIRA	4.1	3.4	5.5	4.4	10.0	7.0
SUOMI (FINLAND)	12.6	11.5	12.7	11.6	30.9	31.2
MANNER-SUOMI	12.7	11.5	12.7	11.6	31.0	31.1
ITAE-SUOMI	16.9	15.7	16.2	15.3	41.3	45.1
VAELI-SUOMI	12.9	12.3	13.7	12.9	33.9	35.8
POHJOIS-SUOMI	16.7	15.6	15.4	14.9	40.3	41.7
UUSIMAA (SUURALUE)	8.8	7.0	8.4	7.1	19.9	16.1
ETELAE-SUOMI	13.1	12.3	14.0	12.9	31.5	33.5
ALAND	2.6	2.1	2.7	2.4	10.9	
SVERIGE	8.9	7.6	8.0	6.9	17.5	16.3
STOCKHOLM	6.9	5.2	6.2	4.8	10.9	10.0
OSTRA MELLANSVERIGE	8.9	7.8	8.2	7.1	18.6	17.8
SYDSVERIGE	10.1	9.0	9.8	9.0	20.0	18.8
NORRA MELLANSVERIGE	10.7	9.5	9.0	7.7	24.4	22.3
MELLERSTA NORRLAND	12.3	10.3	8.6	7.3	28.3	23.8
OVRE NORRLAND	11.2	9.9	8.1	6.7	23.9	23.1
SMALAND MED OARNA	6.8	6.2	6.8	6.2	11.5	13.0
VASTSVERIGE	9.2	7.7	8.7	7.4	18.0	15.2
UNITED KINGDOM	6.2	6.1	5.4	5.1	12.4	12.3
NORTH EAST	9.6	9.9	7.3	7.1	19.4	21.7
TEES VALLEY & DURHAM	9.9	9.9	7.5	7.2	19.8	21.6
NORTHUMBERLAND AND TYNE & WEAR	9.4	9.8	7.1	7.1	19.0	21.9
NORTH WEST (INC MERSEYSIDE)	6.9	6.8	5.4	5.3	15.0	14.9
CUMBRIA	6.2	5.6	4.8	4.4	13.3	11.5
CHESHIRE	4.4	4.5	3.6	3.6	9.1	9.5
GREATER MANCHESTER	6.4	6.4	4.9	4.9	14.9	13.9
LANCASHIRE	5.4	5.4	4.4	4.2	11.9	12.5
MERSEYSIDE	11.8	11.7	9.3	9.0	23.4	26.5
YORKSHIRE & THE HUMBER	7.3	7.2	6.0	5.8	14.8	14.8
EAST RIDING & NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE	8.9	8.5	7.6	7.4	18.5	16.0
NORTH YORKSHIRE	3.8	3.9	3.7	3.6	7.4	7.2
SOUTH YORKSHIRE	9.1	8.7	6.9	6.6	19.1	19.5
WEST YORKSHIRE	6.9	6.9	5.6	5.5	13.6	14.3
EAST MIDLANDS	5.1	5.1	4.5	4.4	10.5	10.8
DERBYSHIRE & NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	6.2	6.2	5.1	5.2	11.8	12.7
LEICESTERSHIRE, RUTLAND & NORTHANTS	4.0	4.1	3.8	3.8	8.2	8.5
LINCOLNSHIRE	4.5	4.3	4.3	3.9	12.4	10.1
WEST MIDLANDS	6.2	6.5	5.6	5.5	12.9	13.7
HEREFORDSHIRE, WORCESTERSHIRE & WARKS	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.4	7.6	7.5
SHROPSHIRE & STAFFORDSHIRE	4.3	4.4	4.0	4.1	8.9	10.0
WEST MIDLANDS	8.8	9.3	7.6	7.5	17.9	18.9
EASTERN	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.6	7.8	7.6
EAST ANGLIA	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.0	8.7	8.4
BEDFORDSHIRE, HERTFORDSHIRE	3.0	3.1	2.9	2.8	5.8	6.0
ESSEX	4.4	4.0	4.1	3.8	8.5	8.1
LONDON	8.3	7.8	8.0	7.4	15.2	13.3
INNER LONDON	12.4	11.7	11.9	11.1	24.3	21.4
OUTER LONDON	5.9	5.5	5.7	5.2	10.5	9.2
SOUTH EAST	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.8	6.2	5.9
BERKSHIRE, BUCKS & OXFORDSHIRE	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.0	4.0	3.8
SURREY, EAST & WEST SUSSEX	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.7	5.2	5.1
HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT	3.8	3.6	3.2	2.9	7.0	7.4
KENT	5.1	4.6	4.5	3.9	10.3	8.8
SOUTH WEST	4.5	4.2	4.2	3.8	8.9	8.3
GLOUCESTERSHIRE, WILTSHIRE & NORTH SOMERSET	3.7	3.5	3.5	3.2	6.8	6.6
DORSET & SOMERSET	3.9	3.5	3.5	3.1	7.3	7.1
CORNWALL & ISLES OF SCILLY	7.0	7.0	6.8	7.0	15.1	15.1
DEVON	5.7	5.2	5.1	4.7	13.3	10.2
WALES	7.2	6.9	5.8	5.5	15.3	14.8
WEST WALES & THE VALLEYS	7.8	7.7	6.3	6.2	17.8	16.2
EAST WALES	6.1	5.6	4.9	4.5	11.6	12.4
SCOTLAND	7.5	7.6	6.2	6.0	15.0	16.3
NORTH EASTERN SCOTLAND	3.9	4.5	3.6	3.6	6.6	8.4
EASTERN SCOTLAND	6.6	6.7	5.5	5.4	14.1	14.7
SOUTH WESTERN SCOTLAND	9.4	9.6	7.5	7.3	18.6	20.6
HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.0	10.6	11.0
NORTHERN IRELAND	10.3	9.4	8.5	7.7	16.0	16.8

Table 9: Unemployment in the regions of the European Union

Methodological notes

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.

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