



## EUROSTAT: UNEMPLOYMENT AT 9.7% IN THE EU AND AT 11.1% IN THE EURO AREA

On 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 Eurostat, the statistical office of the EU, published its seasonally-adjusted figures. The EU unemployment rate was **9.7%** in **April 2015**, stable compared with March 2015 and down from 10.3% in April 2014. The unemployment rate in the euro area was **11.1%** in April 2015 down from 11.2% in March 2015 and down from 11.7% in April 2014.

### Main findings

Eurostat estimates that **23.504 million** men and women in the EU, of whom **17.846 million** in the euro area, were unemployed in April 2015. Compared with March 2015, the number of persons unemployed decreased by **126 000** in the EU and by **130 000** in the euro area. Compared with April 2014, unemployment fell by **1.545 million** in the EU and by **849 000** in the euro area.

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rate in April 2015 was recorded in **Germany** (4.7%), and the highest rates in **Greece** (25.4% in February 2015) and **Spain** (22.7%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate in April 2015 fell in **twenty-two** Member States and increased in six. The largest decreases were registered in **Spain** (24.9% to 22.7%), **Lithuania** (11.1% to 8.9%) and **Ireland** (11.8% to 9.7%). The increases were registered in **Belgium** (8.4% to 8.5%), **Romania** (6.8% to 6.9%), **Austria** (5.5% to 5.7%), **France** (10.1% to 10.5%), **Croatia** (17.1% to 17.5%) and **Finland** (8.5% to 9.4%).

In April 2015, the youth unemployment rate (under 25 years old) was **20.7%** in the EU and **22.3%** in the euro area, compared with 22.5% and 23.9% respectively in April 2014. In April 2015, the lowest rates were observed in **Germany** (7.2%), **Austria** and **Denmark** (both 10.1%), and the highest in **Greece** (50.1% in February 2015), **Spain** (49.6%), **Croatia** (45.5% in the first quarter 2015) and **Italy** (40.9%).

In April 2015, the unemployment rate in **the United States** was **5.4%**, down from 5.5% in March 2015 and down from 6.2% in April 2014.

