



## EUROSTAT: UNEMPLOYMENT AT 9.5% IN THE EU AND AT 10.9% IN THE EURO AREA

On 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015 Eurostat, the statistical office of the EU, published its seasonally-adjusted figures. The EU unemployment rate was **9.5%** in **July 2015**, down from 9.6% in June 2015 and from 10.2% in July 2014. This is the lowest rate recorded in the EU **since June 2011**. The unemployment rate in the euro area was **10.9%** in July 2015, down from 11.1% in June 2015 and from 11.6% in July 2014. This is the lowest rate registered **since February 2012**.

### Main findings

Eurostat estimates that **23.067 million** men and women in the EU, of whom **17.532 million** in the euro area, were unemployed in July 2015. Compared with June 2015, the number of persons unemployed decreased by **232 000** in the EU and by **213 000** in the euro area. Compared with July 2014, unemployment fell by **1.648 million** in the EU and by **1.116 000** in the euro area.

Among the Member States, the lowest unemployment rates in July 2015 were recorded in **Germany** (4.7%) **the Czech Republic** and **Malta** (both 5.1%), and the highest in **Greece** (25.0% in May 2015) and **Spain** (22.2%).

Compared with a year ago, the unemployment rate in July 2015 fell in **twenty-three** Member States increased in three and remained stable in Belgium and Romania. The largest decreases were registered in Bulgaria (11.5% to 9.4%), Spain (24.3% to 22.2%), Greece (27.0% to 25.0% between May 2014 and May 2015), Portugal (14.1% to 12.1%), Ireland (11.3% to 9.5%) and Croatia (16.9% to 15.1%). The increases were registered in Finland (8.7% to 9.7%), France (10.3% to 10.4%), and Austria (5.7% to 5.8%).

In July 2015, the youth unemployment rate (under 25 years old) was **20.4%** in the EU and **21.9%** in the euro area, compared with **22.0%** and **23.8%** respectively in July 2014. In July 2015, the lowest rates were observed in Germany (7.0%), Malta (8.7%) and Estonia (9.5% in June 2015) and the highest in Greece (51.8% in May 2015), Spain (48.6%), Croatia (43.1% in the second quarter 2015) and Italy (40.5%).

In July 2015, the unemployment rate in **the United States** was **5.3%**, stable compared to June 2015 and down from **6.2%** in July 2014.

