

MIGRATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT

Immigrant workers are more affected by unemployment in traditional European immigration countries. Conversely, in South Africa, Hungary, the United States and Estonia, the unemployment rate depends less on the place of birth. Some groups, such as young immigrants, women or older immigrants have greater difficulties in finding jobs.

Definition

The unemployment rate is the share of the unemployed in the total labour force (the sum of employed and unemployed persons). In accordance with the ILO standards, unemployed persons consist of those persons who report that they are without work during the reference week, that they are available for work and that they have taken active steps to find work during the four weeks preceding the interview.

Comparability

Data for the European countries are from the European Union Labour Force Survey. Data for Australia are taken from the National Labour Force Survey; those for Canada from the Canadian Labour Force Survey; and those for the United States from the Current Population Survey. Even if unemployment levels can at times be affected by changes in the survey design (this occurred in France in 2004) and by survey implementation problems (e.g. non-response), data on unemployment rates are generally consistent over time.

Overview

In 2009, unemployment rates increased both for foreign- and native-born persons in most OECD countries. However immigrants in most European OECD countries were much more affected by unemployment than the native population. In Ireland, Finland, Estonia, Belgium, Sweden and France, the unemployment rate of immigrants was above 15%. It was close to 30% in Spain. The unemployment rate was more than twice the level observed for the native-born population in Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, Austria, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Sweden and Finland. In other countries, especially in the settlement countries (Australia, Canada, the United States) and in recent immigration countries (Greece and Portugal), the unemployment rate does not vary much by birth status. In Indonesia, South Africa and Brazil, the native population was more affected by unemployment than immigrants.

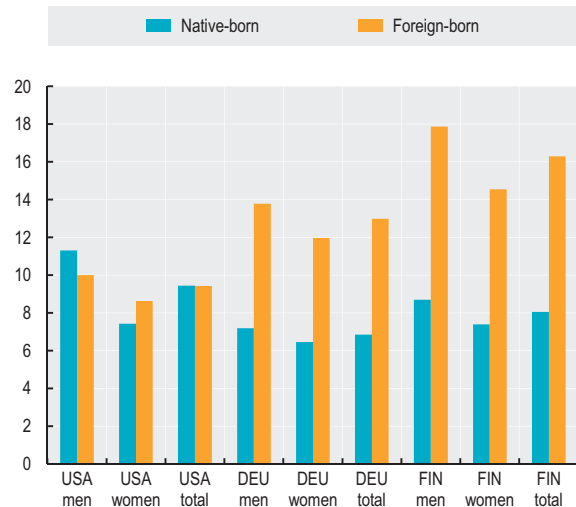
Recent years have seen some sizable increases in the unemployment rates of the foreign-born (both men and women) in a number of countries, such as Spain, Ireland, the United States, Portugal and Luxembourg. At the same time, labour market conditions have improved for immigrants in the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Norway, the Netherlands, Finland and Germany.

More than 15% of immigrant women are unemployed in Finland, Belgium, France, Greece and Germany. The unemployment rate of immigrant women is at least twice as high as that of native women in Norway, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Austria and Denmark. In all OECD countries with the exception of South Africa, immigrant women have a higher unemployment rate than native women.

Data for Brazil, Indonesia and the Russian Federation refer to 2000; data for South Africa refer to 2007.

Unemployment rates of foreign- and native-born populations

As a percentage of total labour force, 2009



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932534938>

Sources

- OECD (2011), *International Migration Outlook*, OECD Publishing.

Further information

Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *A Profile of Immigrant Populations in the 21st Century: Data from OECD Countries*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2008), *Jobs for Immigrants (Vol. 2): Labour Market Integration in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Portugal*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2007), *Jobs for Immigrants (Vol. 1): Labour Market Integration in Australia, Denmark, Germany and Sweden*, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2006), *From Immigration to Integration: Local Solutions to a Global Challenge*, OECD Publishing.

Online databases

- OECD International Migration Statistics.

Websites

- OECD International Migration Statistics (supplementary material), www.oecd.org/els/migration/statistics.



Unemployment rates of foreign- and native-born populations

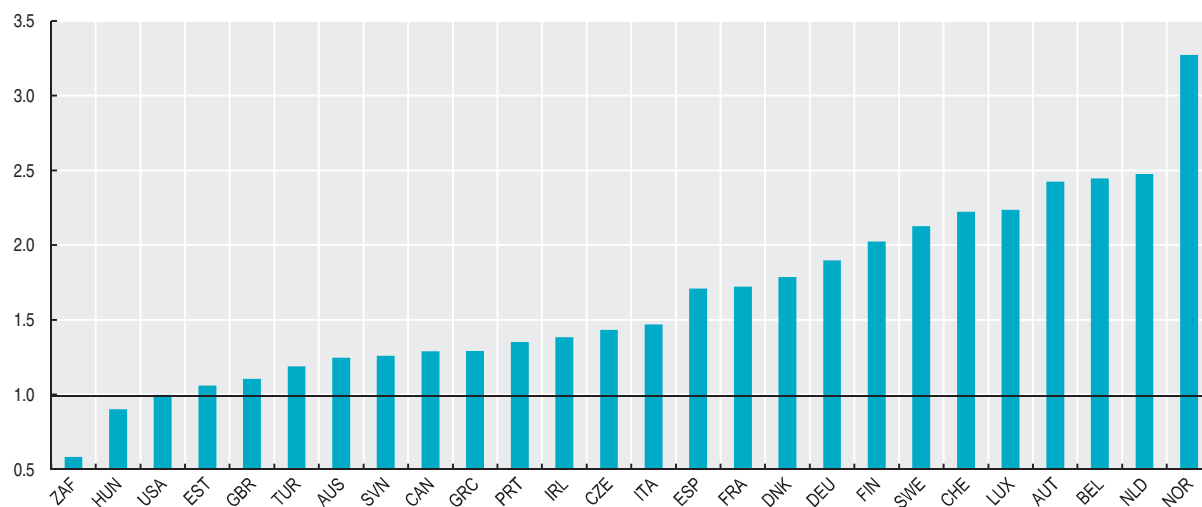
As a percentage of total labour force

	Men						Women						Total	
	Native-born			Foreign-born			Native-born			Foreign-born			Native-born	Foreign-born
	2000	2005	2009	2000	2005	2009	2000	2005	2009	2000	2005	2009	2009	2009
Australia	..	4.9	5.6	..	5.2	6.5	..	5.2	5.0	..	5.5	6.9	5.3	6.7
Austria	4.3	3.9	3.9	8.7	10.8	10.7	4.2	4.6	3.9	7.2	10.5	8.2	3.9	9.5
Belgium	4.2	6.5	6.4	14.7	15.7	16.3	7.4	8.4	7.0	17.5	18.9	16.1	6.6	16.2
Canada	..	..	9.3	..	..	10.7	..	..	6.4	..	..	9.6	7.9	10.2
Czech Republic	..	6.4	5.9	..	9.7	8.5	..	9.7	7.7	..	15.8	11.0	6.7	9.6
Denmark	3.7	4.2	6.4	10.7	9.0	10.3	4.9	4.9	5.0	6.6	10.4	10.1	5.7	10.2
Estonia	15.3	8.9	17.3	13.4	9.4	17.7	11.8	6.3	10.5	11.1	11.4	12.3	14.0	14.8
Finland	10.3	9.3	8.7	36.6	22.4	17.9	12.0	9.4	7.4	..	22.7	14.6	8.1	16.3
France	7.7	7.5	8.4	14.5	12.5	15.3	11.3	9.0	9.1	19.7	16.8	14.9	8.8	15.1
Germany	6.9	10.2	7.2	12.9	18.4	13.8	8.0	9.8	6.5	12.1	16.8	12.0	6.8	13.0
Greece	7.5	6.2	6.5	9.5	6.7	10.4	17.0	15.4	13.2	21.4	15.6	14.5	9.3	12.0
Hungary	7.3	7.1	10.4	..	..	8.6	5.8	7.4	9.8	..	6.4	9.6	10.1	9.1
Iceland	8.4	6.2	6.6	6.5	6.8	9.4	14.9	9.7	8.8	21.2	14.5	13.0	7.5	11.0
Ireland	4.4	4.5	14.4	5.4	6.0	18.2	4.1	3.5	7.2	6.1	6.0	11.7	11.2	15.4
Luxembourg	1.4	3.0	2.8	2.5	4.2	6.1	3.0	4.5	3.8	3.3	7.5	8.8	3.3	7.3
Netherlands	1.8	3.6	3.2	5.4	10.8	8.8	3.0	4.4	3.4	7.6	10.0	7.4	3.3	8.1
Norway	3.4	4.0	2.9	6.8	12.5	10.2	3.2	3.9	2.2	..	8.5	6.6	2.6	8.4
Portugal	3.1	7.0	9.0	6.0	8.3	13.2	4.9	9.1	10.5	6.9	10.4	13.0	9.7	13.1
Slovenia	6.6	6.2	5.9	10.0	6.2	7.5	7.1	7.1	5.8	7.9	7.8	7.2	5.9	7.4
Spain	9.4	6.8	15.3	11.8	9.1	29.5	20.4	11.9	16.9	20.0	13.8	24.9	16.0	27.4
Sweden	5.1	7.0	7.5	13.5	15.1	16.2	4.3	6.9	6.9	11.2	13.7	14.5	7.2	15.4
Switzerland	..	2.7	2.9	..	7.8	6.2	..	3.7	3.4	..	9.7	7.8	3.1	6.9
Turkey	..	..	12.7	..	..	14.7	..	..	12.8	..	..	16.6	12.8	15.1
United Kingdom	5.9	4.7	8.8	9.6	7.4	8.3	4.6	3.7	6.2	7.8	7.1	8.5	7.6	8.4
United States	4.5	6.3	11.3	4.4	5.0	10.0	4.2	5.2	7.4	5.4	5.2	8.6	9.4	9.4
Brazil	5.3	..	..	5.8	..	..	9.7	..	..	10.3	..	..	7.9	7.0
Indonesia	4.8	..	..	1.1	..	..	5.3	..	..	4.2	..	..	5.0	1.7
Russian Federation	12.7	..	..	10.8	..	..	12.3	..	..	13.2	..	..	12.5	11.9
South Africa	..	..	25.3	..	..	11.3	..	..	31.4	..	..	25.0	28.5	16.6

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932503018>

Foreign-born unemployment rate relative to native-born unemployment rate

Ratio, 2009 or latest available year



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932503037>





PRODUCTION AND INCOME

PRODUCTION

- SIZE OF GDP
- EVOLUTION OF GDP
- GDP BY REGION

INCOME, SAVINGS AND INVESTMENTS

- NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA
- HOUSEHOLD DISPOSABLE INCOME
- HOUSEHOLD SAVINGS
- INVESTMENT RATES

PRODUCTIVITY

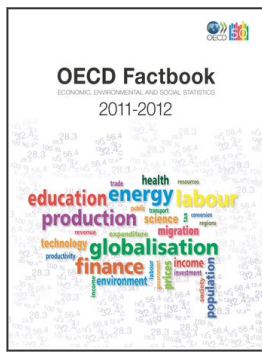
- LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY LEVELS
- LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH
- PRODUCTIVITY AND GROWTH ACCOUNTING
- UNIT LABOUR COSTS

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

- VALUE ADDED BY ACTIVITY
- REAL VALUE ADDED BY ACTIVITY
- SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

INCOME INEQUALITY AND POVERTY

- INCOME INEQUALITY
- POVERTY RATES AND GAPS



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