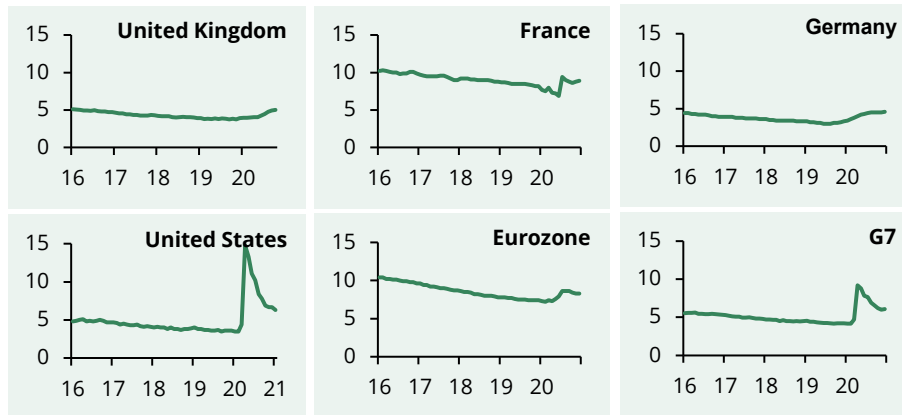


## C3: Unemployment International

The OECD produces harmonised unemployment rates for OECD members based on the ILO definition of unemployment.

### Harmonised Unemployment Rate (%)



The UK harmonised unemployment rate for **Q3 2020** was 4.7%. This was above the rate of Germany (4.5%) but below that of the US (8.8%) and France (9.1%). The UK rate was the 9<sup>th</sup> lowest of the 36 OECD countries.

The unemployment rate for the Eurozone fell from 8.6% to 8.3% in **Q4 2020**, while in the G7 it fell from 7.0% to 6.1%. The Q4 figure for the UK has not yet been published.

Almost all of the OECD countries have seen an increase in their unemployment rates since the coronavirus outbreak, although the size of the increase varies widely from country to country.

Colombia had the highest unemployment rate out of the OECD member states for Q3 2020 (17.5%) followed by Greece at 16.7%. The Czech Republic had the lowest unemployment rate in the OECD at 2.8%.

Youth (aged 15-24) unemployment is a major issue in many developed economies at present. In Q3 2020 youth unemployment was 41.4% in Spain, 35.3% in Greece and 30.4% in Italy. UK youth unemployment stood at 14.4%.

Unemployment										
Unemployed as % of labour force (standardised); seasonally adjusted										
	CAN	FRA	GER	ITA	JPN	UK	USA	Eurozone	G7	OECD
2018	5.9	9.0	3.4	10.6	2.4	4.1	3.9	8.2	4.6	5.5
2019	5.7	8.5	3.2	10.0	2.4	3.8	3.7	7.6	4.3	5.4
2020	9.6	8.2	4.2	9.1	2.8	..	8.1	8.0	6.5	7.1
2019 Q4	5.7	8.2	3.2	9.5	2.3	3.8	3.6	7.4	4.2	5.3
2020 Q1	6.4	7.7	3.6	9.2	2.4	4.0	3.8	7.3	4.3	5.4
Q2	13.1	7.1	4.2	8.5	2.8	4.1	13.1	7.6	8.6	8.6
Q3	10.1	9.1	4.5	9.6	3.0	4.7	8.8	8.6	7.0	7.6
Q4	8.8	8.8	4.5	9.1	3.0	..	6.8	8.3	6.1	6.9
Change on qtr	-1.3	-0.3	0.1	-0.5	0.0	...	-2.0	-0.3	-1.0	-0.7
Change on yr	3.1	0.5	1.3	-0.4	0.7	...	3.2	0.9	1.9	1.6

Source: OECD, Harmonised Unemployment Rates

### Subject Specialist

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### Next Update

OECD, [Harmonised Unemployment Rates](#),  
10 March 2021