

2 People out of Work

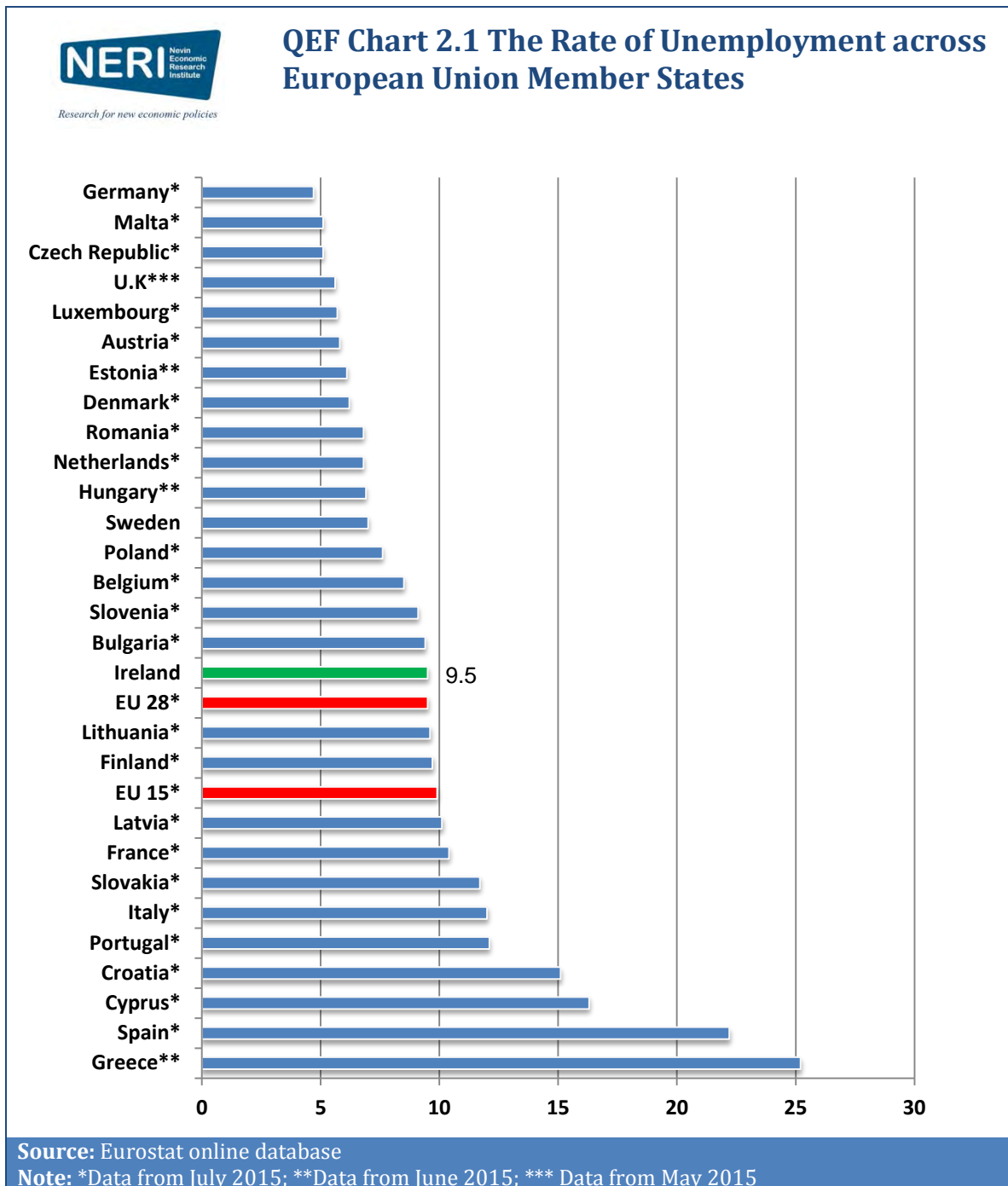
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Indicator 2.1a The Rate of Unemployment across European Union Member States, August 2015

Indicator defined

Seasonally adjusted total unemployed as a percentage of the Labour Force (ILO definition)

Data is the latest available as of 15 September 2015





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Table 2.1 The Rate of Unemployment across European Union Member States

Country	%	Country	%
Greece*	25.6	Poland	7.9
Spain	22.7	Sweden	7.8
Croatia	17.5	Hungary*	7.3
Cyprus	15.6	Netherlands	7
Portugal	13.0	Romania	6.9
Italy	12.4	Denmark	6.3
Slovakia	12.1	Estonia*	6.1
France	10.5	Czech Republic	5.9
Bulgaria	10.1	Luxembourg	5.7
Ireland	9.7	Malta	5.7
Latvia*	9.7	Austria	5.7
Finland	9.4	U.K.**	5.4
Slovenia	9.3	Germany	4.7
Lithuania	8.9	EU 15	10.0
Belgium	8.5	EU 28	9.7

Note: *Data from July 2015; **Data from June 2015; *** Data from May 2015

Interpretation

The rate of unemployment varied considerably across EU Member States. The average across the whole European Union was 9.7% while in the Republic of Ireland the rate was 9.5%.

Technical Notes

The standard definitions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) are used by Eurostat to compare rates of economic activity in the labour market in European Union Member States. Data refer to all unemployed persons aged 15 to 74 who were not employed during the reference week, had actively sought work during the past four weeks and were ready to begin working immediately or within two weeks. Employed persons are all persons who worked at least one hour for pay or profit during the reference week or were temporarily absent from such work. The unemployment rate is the number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force. The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed. Data is seasonally adjusted.

Source(s)

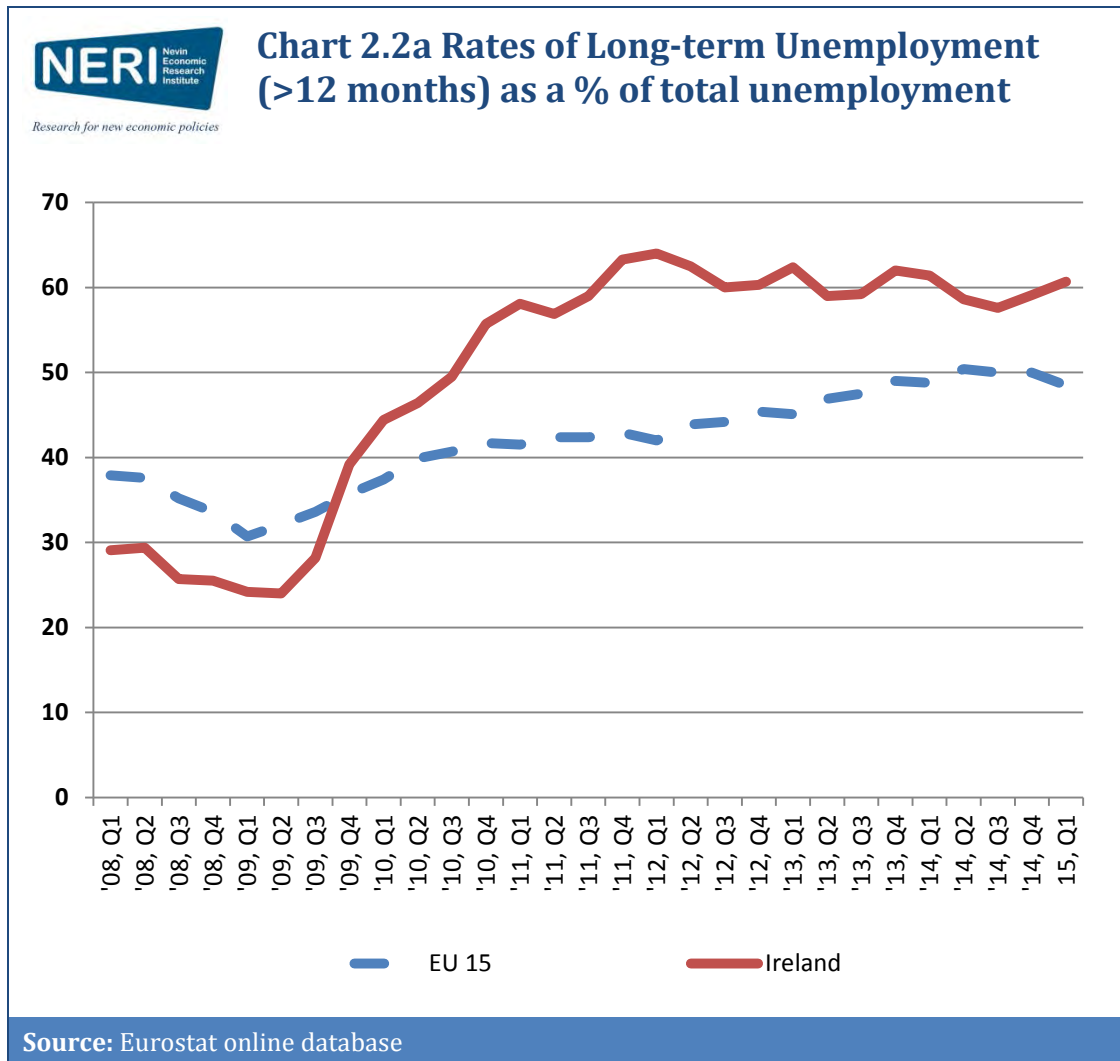
Eurostat online database <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu> (une_rt_m)

Indicator 2.2a Long-term Unemployment Trends (Republic of Ireland), 2008 Q1 — 2015 Q1

Indicator defined

Long-term unemployed as a percentage of all unemployed

Data is the latest available as of 15 September 2015.





QEF Table 2.2a Rates of Long-term Unemployment as a % of total unemployment

Period	EU 15	Rep of Ireland
2009, Q1	30.7	24.2
2009, Q2	32.1	24.0
2009, Q3	33.6	28.2
2009, Q4	35.7	39.2
2010, Q1	37.4	44.4
2010, Q2	39.9	46.4
2010, Q3	40.7	49.5
2010, Q4	41.7	55.7
2011, Q1	41.5	58.1
2011, Q2	42.4	56.9
2011, Q3	42.4	59.0
2011, Q4	42.9	63.3
2012, Q1	42.0	64.0
2012, Q2	43.9	62.5
2012, Q3	44.2	60.0
2012, Q4	45.4	60.3
2013, Q1	45.1	62.4
2013, Q2	46.9	59.0
2013, Q3	47.5	59.2
2013, Q4	49.0	62.0
2014, Q1	48.8	61.4
2014, Q2	50.4	58.6
2014, Q3	50.1	57.6
2014, Q4	50.0	59.1
2014, Q1	48.5	60.7

Interpretation

As total unemployment rates have increased across Europe the proportion of total unemployed who are long-term unemployed has increased especially since the first Quarter of 2009. The rate in the Republic of Ireland has risen sharply and overtook the EU 15 average in the last quarter of 2009. Currently, long-term unemployed account for 59% of all unemployed in the Republic compared to just fewer than 30% in 2008.

Technical Notes

See notes for Indicator 2.1, above.

Source(s)

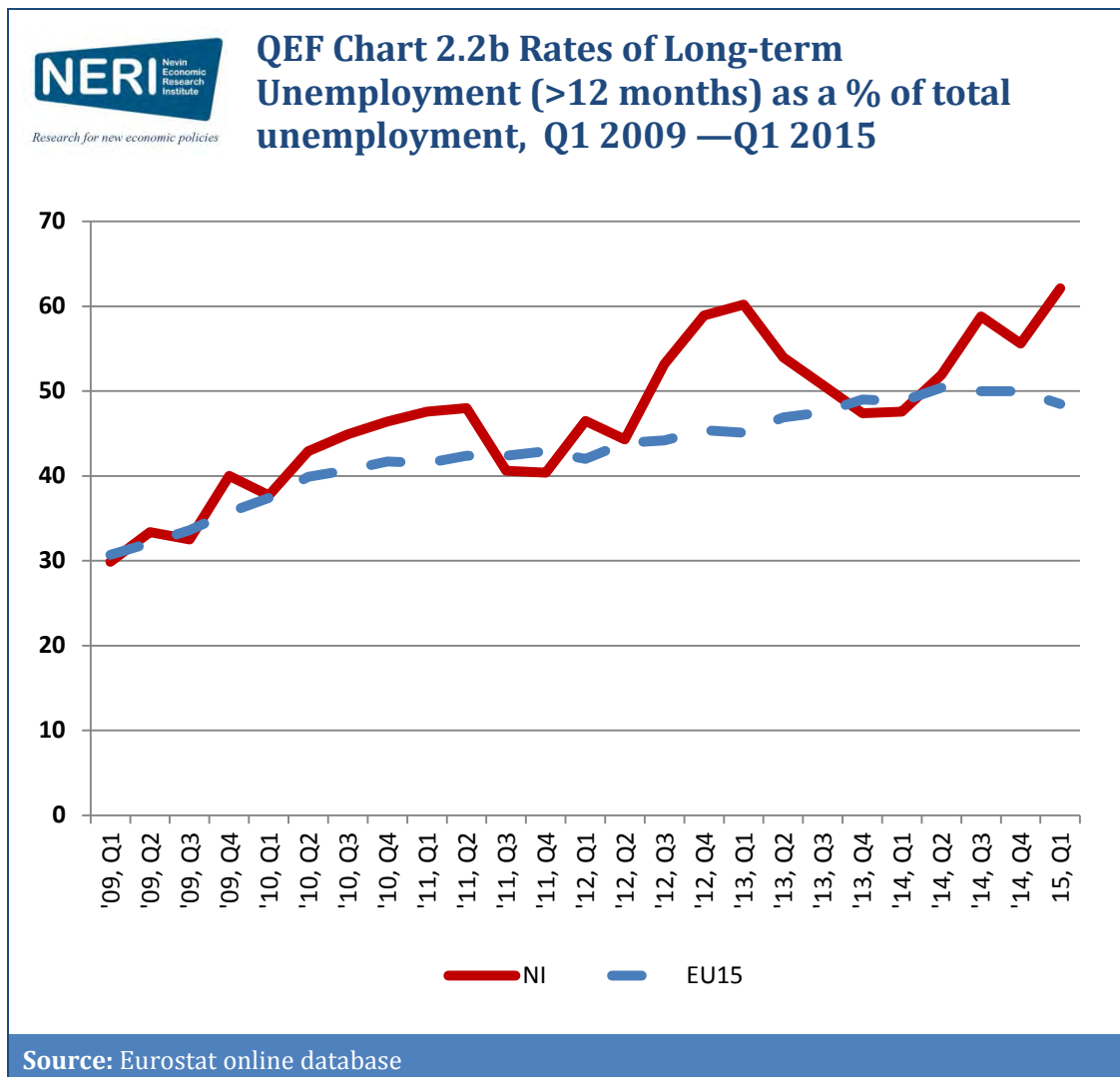
Eurostat online database <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu> (une_ltu_q)

Indicator 2.2b Long-term Unemployment Trends (Northern Ireland), Q1 2009 —Q1 2015

Indicator defined

Long-term unemployed as a percentage of all unemployed

Data is the latest available as of 15 September 2015





QEF Table 2.2b Rates of Long-term Unemployment (>12 months) as a % of total unemployment

Year	Northern Ireland %	EU 15 %
2010, Q1	37.4	37.7
2010, Q2	39.9	42.9
2010, Q3	40.7	44.9
2010, Q4	41.7	46.4
2011, Q1	41.5	47.6
2011, Q2	42.4	48.0
2011, Q3	42.4	40.6
2011, Q4	42.9	40.4
2012, Q1	42	46.5
2012, Q2	43.9	44.3
2012, Q3	44.3	53.2
2012, Q4	45.4	58.9
2013, Q1	45.1	60.2
2013, Q2	46.9	54.0
2013, Q3	47.5	50.7
2013, Q4	49.1	47.4
2014, Q1	48.9	47.6
2014, Q2	50.4	51.9
2014, Q3	50.1	58.8
2014, Q4	55.6	50.0
2015, Q1	62.1	48.5

Interpretation

As total unemployment rates have increased across Europe the proportion of total unemployed who are long-term unemployed has increased especially since the first Quarter of 2009. The rate in Northern Ireland has risen sharply in recent years and was 14.1 percentage points above the EU 15 average in the last quarter of 2013. Currently, long-term unemployed account for 50.4% of all unemployed in the North compared to 40.5% in 2007.

Technical Notes

See notes for Indicator 2.1, above.

Source(s)

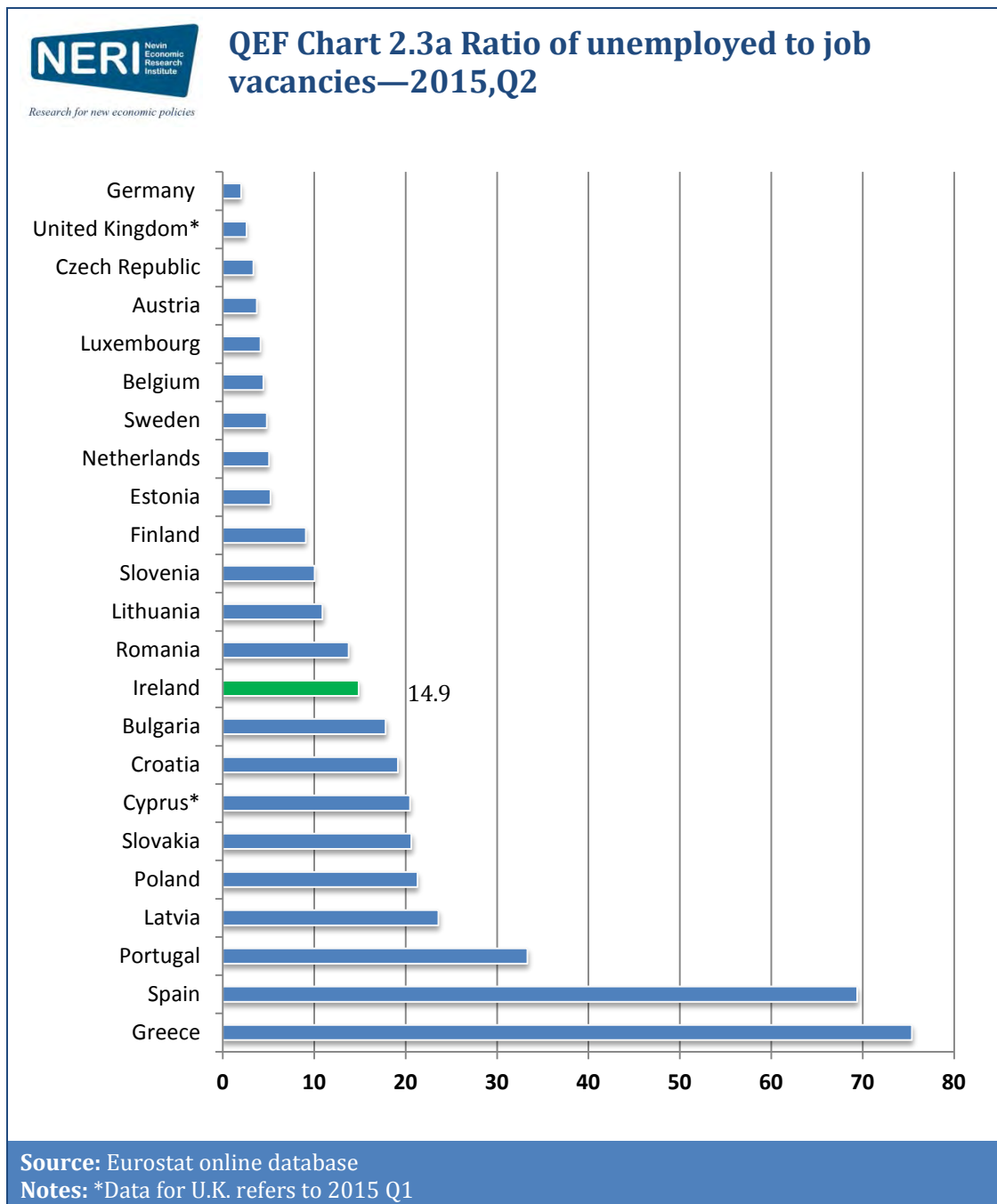
Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/labour_market_statistics.htm and Eurostat online database <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu> [une_ltu_q]

Indicator 2.3a Unemployed Persons per Job Vacancy (Republic of Ireland), 2015 Q2

Indicator defined

Ratio of the number of unemployed to the number of job vacancies

Data is the latest available as of 15 September 2015.





QEF Table 2.3a Ratio of unemployed to job vacancies in the second quarter of 2014

Country	Ratio	Country	Ratio
Greece	75.4	Slovenia	10.1
Spain	69.4	Finland	9.1
Portugal	33.3	Estonia	5.2
Latvia	23.6	Netherlands	5.1
Poland	21.3	Sweden	4.8
Slovakia	20.6	Belgium	4.5
Cyprus*	20.5	Luxembourg	4.1
Croatia	19.2	Austria	3.7
Bulgaria	17.8	Czech Republic	3.4
Ireland	14.9	United Kingdom*	2.6
Romania	13.8	Germany	2.0
Lithuania	10.9		

Notes: *Data for U.K refers to 2015 Q1

Interpretation

The ratio of unemployed to job vacancies is an inverse measure of the extent of labour market tightness. The higher the ratio, the less opportunity unemployed individuals have to find employment.

Technical Notes

Data are published by the European Commission on a quarterly basis. Two sources are used for this indicator: the EU Job Vacancy survey and the Labour Force Survey (both undertaken by Eurostat).

Stock of *unemployed*: unadjusted, age 15-74. ILO definition.

Stock of *job vacancies*: number of paid posts that are newly created, unoccupied, or about to become vacant for which the employer is taking active steps and is prepared to take further steps to find a suitable candidate from outside the enterprise concerned, and which the employer intends to fill either immediately or within a specific period of time. Agriculture is excluded from the stock of job vacancies. Data are not available for Denmark, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Malta, Poland or Finland.

Source(s)

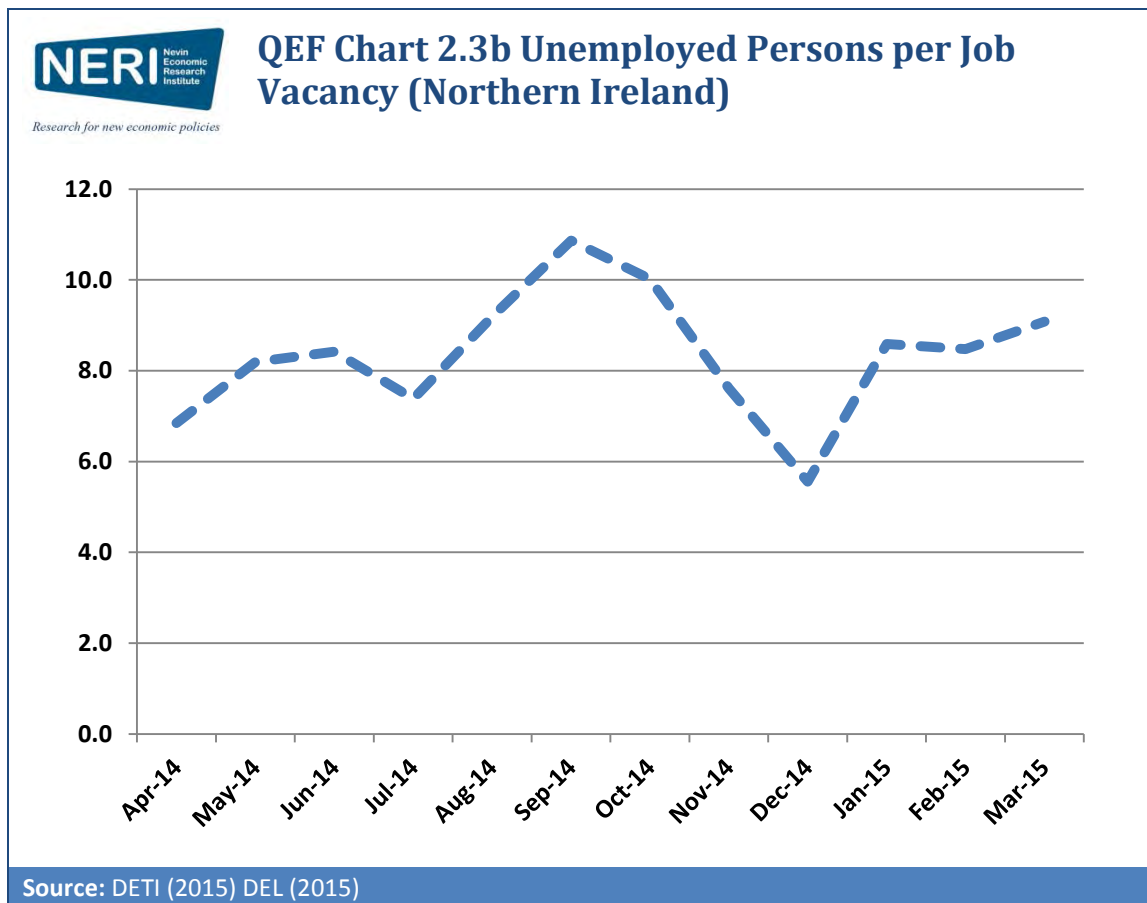
Eurostat online database <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu> (jvs_q_nace2 and lfsq_ugan)

Indicator 2.3b Unemployed Persons per Job Vacancy (Northern Ireland)

Indicator defined

Ratio of number of unemployed persons (16yrs+) per notified job vacancy in Northern Ireland

Data is the latest available as of 18 September 2015





QEF Table 2.3 Unemployed Persons per Job Vacancy (Northern Ireland)

Quarter	No.'s Unemployed	No. of Vacancies	Unemployed per Vacancy
Apr-14	61,000	4,178	6.8
May-14	59,000	4,836	8.2
Jun-14	58,000	4,883	8.4
Jul-14	57,000	4,210	7.4
Aug-14	53,000	4,870	9.2
Sep-14	52,000	5,651	10.9
Oct-14	55,000	5,512	10.0
Nov-14	50,000	3,803	7.6
Dec-14	50,000	2,780	5.6
Jan-15	52,000	4,466	8.6
Feb-15	53,000	4,492	8.5
Mar-15	55,000	4,995	9.1
Note:	Note if required here under the table		
Source:	DEL (2015) & DETI (2015)		

Interpretation

Vacancy statistics are an important measure of the surplus demand for labour in the economy while unemployment numbers represent an important measure of the surplus supply of labour in the economy. Taken together these statistics can indicate the degree to which the economy suffers from a lack of supply or a lack of demand. In Northern Ireland for the last four years has suffered from a lack of demand in the economy. While there has been a fall in the total numbers unemployed over the last year, job vacancies have also decreased leading to a 2.3 increase in the ratio.

Technical Notes

The number of unemployed persons is those aged 16 and over who meet ILO definition of unemployment. Vacancies are defined as those notified to Job Centres/Jobs & Benefits Offices of the Department for Employment and Learning that have been placed or cancelled. This includes vacancies filled by Job Centres/Jobs & Benefits Offices or other recruitment channels and vacancies that have been withdrawn.

Source(s)

Unemployment: Northern Ireland Labour Force Survey [DETI Labour Market Statistics](#) (LFS Key Data Historical Series 1995 - Present).

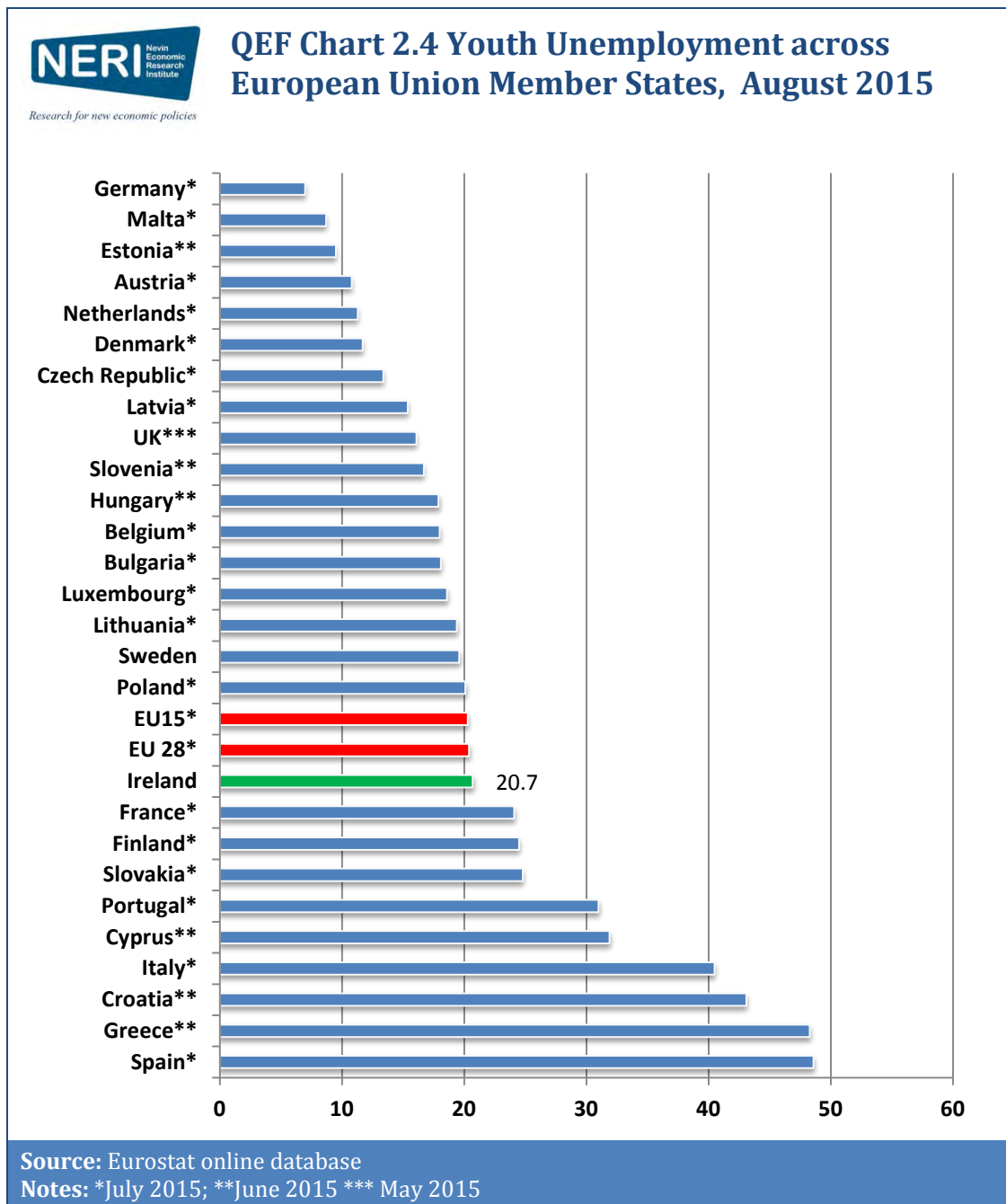
Vacancies: Department of Employment and Learning [Statistics and Research](#)

Indicator 2.4 Youth Unemployment across European Union Member States, August 2015

Indicator defined

Total unemployed under the age of 25 as a percentage of the corresponding Labour Force (ILO definition)

Data is the latest available as of 15 September 2015





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Table 2.4 Rates of Unemployment among persons aged < 25, Sept 2014

Country	%	Country	%
Spain*	48.6	Belgium*	18
Greece**	48.3	Hungary**	17.9
Croatia**	43.1	Slovenia**	16.7
Italy*	40.5	United Kingdom***	16.1
Cyprus**	31.9	Latvia*	15.4
Portugal*	31	Czech Republic*	13.4
Slovakia*	24.8	Denmark*	11.7
Finland*	24.5	Netherlands*	11.3
France*	24.1	Austria*	10.8
Ireland	20.7	Estonia**	9.5
Poland*	20.1	Malta*	8.7
Sweden	19.6	Germany*	7
Lithuania*	19.4	EU 28*	20.4
Luxembourg*	18.6	EU15*	20.3
Bulgaria*	18.1		

Notes: *July 2015; **June 2015 *** May 2015

Interpretation

The rate of youth unemployment (for persons under the age of 25) is, on average, over twice the rate for all persons. However, in some Member States it is currently over one half of the entire young labour force.

Technical Notes

See notes for Indicator 2.1, above.

Source(s)

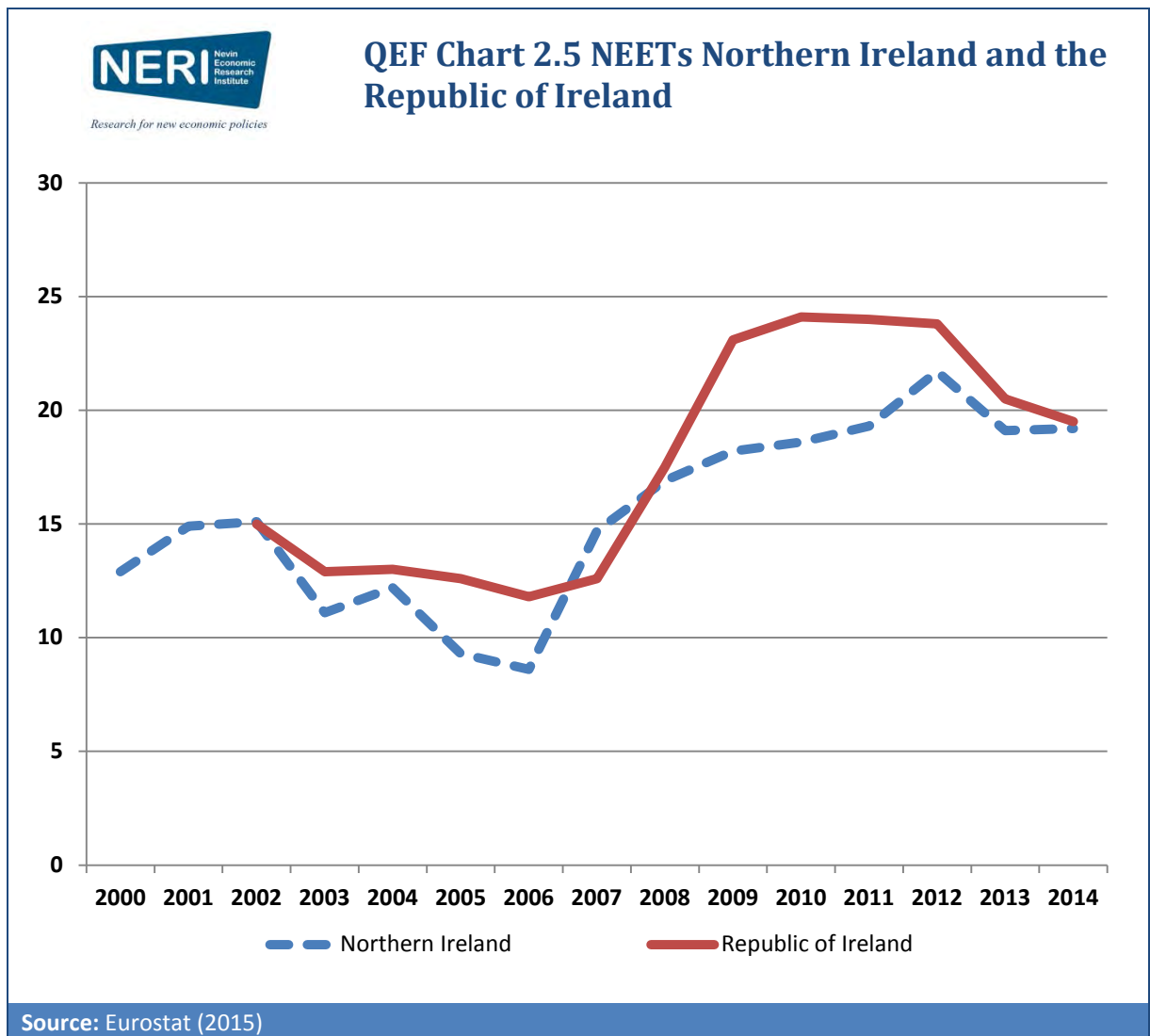
Eurostat online database <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu> (code une_rt_m).

Indicator 2.5 Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs), ROI and NI

Indicator defined

Percentage of young people aged 18-24 not in employment and not in any education and training

Data is the latest available as of 18 September 2015





QEF Table 2.5 NEETs Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland

Year	NI	Rep. of Ireland
2000	12.9	-
2001	14.9	-
2002	15.1	15
2003	11.1	12.9
2004	12.2	13.0
2005	9.3	12.6
2006	8.6	11.8
2007	14.7	12.5
2008	16.9	17.4
2009	18.2	23.1
2010	18.6	24.1
2011	19.3	24.0
2012	21.7	23.8
2013	19.1	20.5
2014	19.2	19.5

Source: Eurostat (2015)

Interpretation

NEET describes a situation where a young person is unemployed and not engaged in any education or training. This situation could lead to a state of permanent detachment from the labour market as the individual lacks experience or the training and skills necessary to gain employment. The NEET rate as described in the graph and table above shows the picture across the island of Ireland. The rate increased significantly in both jurisdictions since 2007, peaking in 2010 in the Republic and 2012 in Northern Ireland. There has been a substantial decrease in the Republic of Ireland in the last two years, but the NEET rate increased in Northern Ireland in 2014.

Technical Notes

The indicator corresponds to the percentage of the population of a given age who are not employed and not involved in further education or training. The numerator of the indicator refers to persons who meet the following two conditions: (a) they are not employed (i.e. unemployed or inactive according to the International Labour Organisation definition) and (b) they have not received any education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey. The denominator is the total population.

Source(s)

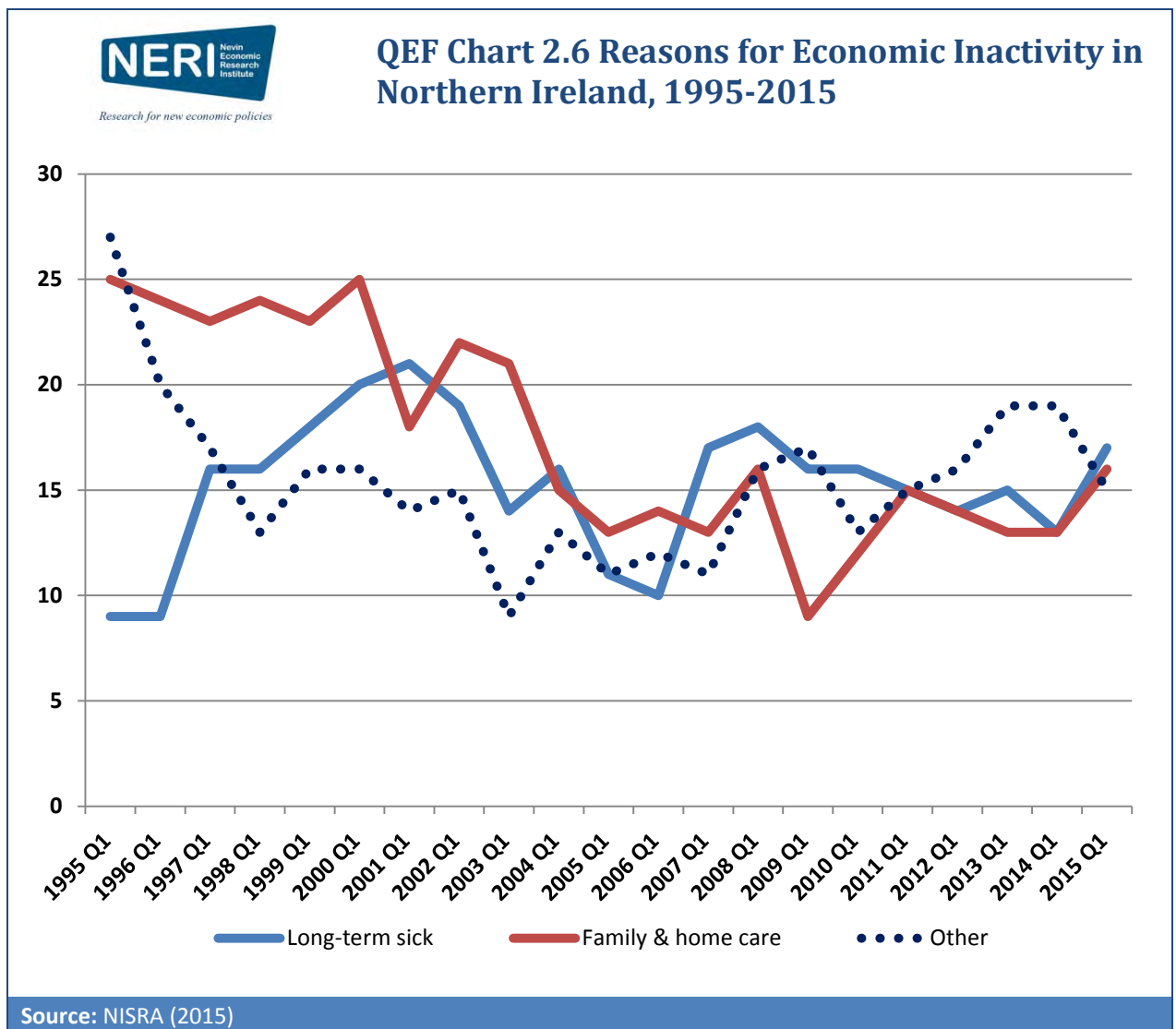
Eurostat online database <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu> (edat_lfse_22)

Indicator 2.6 A Profile of Economic Inactivity among those who want to work in Northern Ireland

Indicator defined

Reasons for economic inactivity in Northern Ireland among those who want to work

Data is the latest available as of 18 September 2015





QEF Table 2.6 Reasons for Economic Inactivity, 1995-2015 (000's of workers)

Quarter	Long-term sick	Family & home care	Other
1995 Q1	9	25	27
1996 Q1	9	24	20
1997 Q1	16	23	17
1998 Q1	16	24	13
1999 Q1	18	23	16
2000 Q1	20	25	16
2001 Q1	21	18	14
2002 Q1	19	22	15
2003 Q1	14	21	9
2004 Q1	16	15	13
2005 Q1	11	13	11
2006 Q1	10	14	12
2007 Q1	17	13	11
2008 Q1	18	16	16
2009 Q1	16	9	17
2010 Q1	16	12	13
2011 Q1	15	15	15
2012 Q1	14	14	16
2013 Q1	15	13	19
2014 Q1	13	13	19
2015 Q1	17	16	15

Source: NISRA (2015)

Interpretation

The indicator gives reasons for economic inactivity among those who want a job. Northern Ireland has higher levels of economic inactivity compared to the UK. While there has been a modest reduction in overall rates of economic inactivity, the same reduction has also taken place at UK level. The chart and table above show that there is no one clear reason why people who want to work remain economically inactive, and further research into this trend is required.

Technical Notes

The grouping above is taken from economically inactive workers aged 16+. Of these the graph and chart are based on those who want a job but had not sought employment in the previous four weeks.

Source(s)

NISRA (2014) [LFS Key Historical Data Series \(1995-Present\)](#)