In a majority of the selected countries, unemployment rates were higher in 2010 than they were in 2000, in part because of the effects of the global recession at the end of the decade.

- The global recession had the most profound effect on unemployment rates in Southern and Eastern Europe; unemployment rates increased sharply in those countries between 2008 and 2010.
- Ireland and Spain had the largest increases in the unemployment rate between 2000 and 2010.

**Sources:** U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.