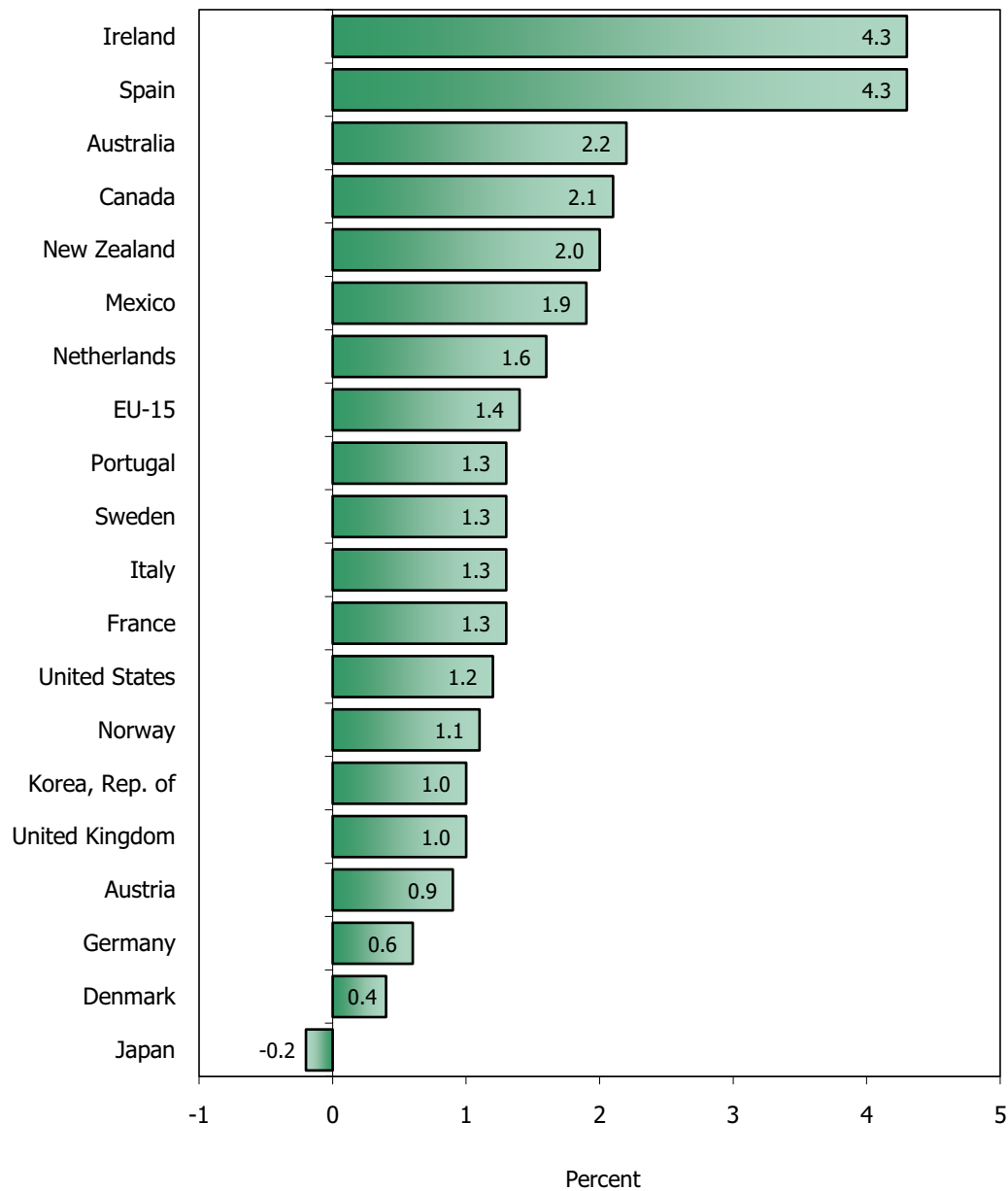


## 2.7 Average annual growth rates for employment, 1997-2007

- Ireland and Spain had the highest growth rates for employment. Employment declined only in Japan.
- U.S. employment growth outpaced that of 5 of the 12 European countries, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.



**SOURCES:** Bureau of Labor Statistics and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.