

Europe 2020 Strategy

How is the European Union progressing towards its Europe 2020 targets?

The Europe 2020 strategy¹, adopted by the European Council in June 2010, aims at establishing a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy with high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion. The key objectives of the strategy are expressed in the form of five ambitious targets in the areas of employment, research & development (R&D), climate change & energy, education and poverty reduction, to be reached by 2020. These have been translated into national targets in order to reflect the situation and possibilities of each Member State to contribute to the common goal. A set of nine headline indicators and four sub-indicators, compiled by Eurostat, give an overview of how far or close the EU is from reaching its overall targets.

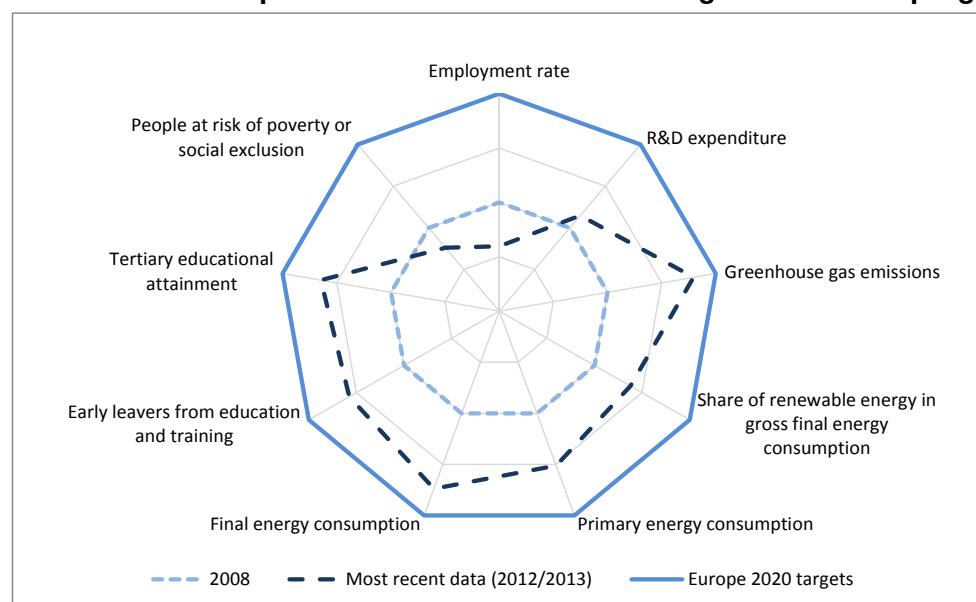
Today **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, publishes the 2015 edition of the publication “**Smarter, greener, more inclusive?**”², which provides past trends and latest statistics useful to support the Europe 2020 strategy and to back up the monitoring towards its headline targets.

A complete picture of the headline indicators of the Europe 2020 strategy

The publication contains a chapter for each of the five headline targets of the Europe 2020 strategy. The statistical analysis is based on the Europe 2020 headline indicators chosen to monitor the strategy's targets. The purpose of the publication is not to predict whether Europe 2020 targets will be reached, but to help to understand the factors behind the changes observed so far by providing additional related statistics. Each chapter also links to various European Commission initiatives and reports that support the different areas.

The radar chart³ below presents the current situation of the EU by showing the progress made since 2008 and the distance still to cover towards the Europe 2020 key targets.

Europe 2020 headline indicators: target values and progress since 2008



Since 2008 substantial progress has been made both in the area of climate change and energy (through the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and the increase in the use of renewable energy sources) and in the area of education (through the increase in the rate of tertiary educational attainment and the reduction in the number of early leavers from education and training).

Progress has been more limited for R&D expenditure, while the distance to the employment and poverty targets has increased.

What is the situation in each EU Member State?

After the thematic chapters of the new publication follows a country profile for each Member State. These country profiles give an overall picture of the situation in relation to their national Europe 2020 targets. The country profiles provide for each Member State a table with the national Europe 2020 indicators and illustrate the situation in each Member State in the form of a radar chart, which shows the distance between the most recent data and the defined national targets.

Europe 2020 strategy headline indicators, EU28

	Headline indicator	Past situation	Current situation		2020 Target
		2008	2012	2013	
Employment	Employment rate, total (% of the population aged 20-64)	70.3	68.4	68.4	75.0
	Employment rate, females (% of the female population aged 20-64)	62.8	62.4	62.6	-
	Employment rate, males (% of the male population aged 20-64)	77.8	74.5	74.3	-
R&D	Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	1.85	2.01	2.02^e	3.00
Climate change & energy	Greenhouse gas emissions* (index 1990=100)	90.4	82.1	:	80.0
	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)	10.5	14.1	:	20.0
	Primary energy consumption (Million tonnes of oil equivalent)	1 689	1 584	:	1 483
	Final energy consumption (Million tonnes of oil equivalent)	1 175	1 103	:	1 086
Education	Early leavers from education & training, total (% of population aged 18-24)	14.7	12.7	12.0	<10.0
	Early leavers from education & training, females (% of the female population aged 18-24)	12.6	10.9	10.2	-
	Early leavers from education & training, males (% of the male population aged 18-24)	16.6	14.4	13.6	-
	Tertiary educational attainment, total (% of population aged 30-34)	31.2	35.9	36.9	≥40.0
	Tertiary educational attainment, females (% of the female population aged 30-34)	34.4	40.2	41.2	-
	Tertiary educational attainment, males (% of the male population aged 30-34)	28.0	31.7	32.7	-
Poverty or social exclusion**	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion (million)	116.6	123.1	121.4^e	96.6
	People at risk of poverty or social exclusion (% of total population)	23.8	24.8	24.4 ^e	-
	People living in households with very low work intensity (%)	9.1	10.4	10.6 ^e	-
	People at risk of poverty after social transfers (%)	16.6	16.9	16.6 ^e	-
	Severely materially deprived people (%)	8.5	9.9	9.6 ^e	-

* Total emissions, including international aviation, but excluding emissions from land use, land use change and forestry.

** People at risk of poverty or social exclusion are in at least one of the following three conditions: at-risk-of-poverty after social transfers (income poverty), severely materially deprived or living in a household with very low work intensity. Persons are only counted once even if they are present in several sub-indicators. The overall EU target is to lift at least 20 million people out of risk of poverty or social exclusion by 2020 with 2008 as a baseline year. All data on poverty and social exclusion refer to EU27.

e estimate

p provisional

: Data not available

- not applicable

1. For more information on the Europe 2020 strategy: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/index_en.htm.
2. Eurostat publication **“Smarter, greener, more inclusive? - Indicators to support the Europe 2020 strategy”** (2015 edition). PDF-version available on the Eurostat website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=KS-EZ-14-001>
3. The radar chart and more detailed information about the Europe 2020 indicators are presented on the dedicated section of the Eurostat website: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/europe-2020-indicators/europe-2020-strategy>.

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