

The EU in the world

A statistical portrait of the European Union compared with the 15 non-EU G-20 countries

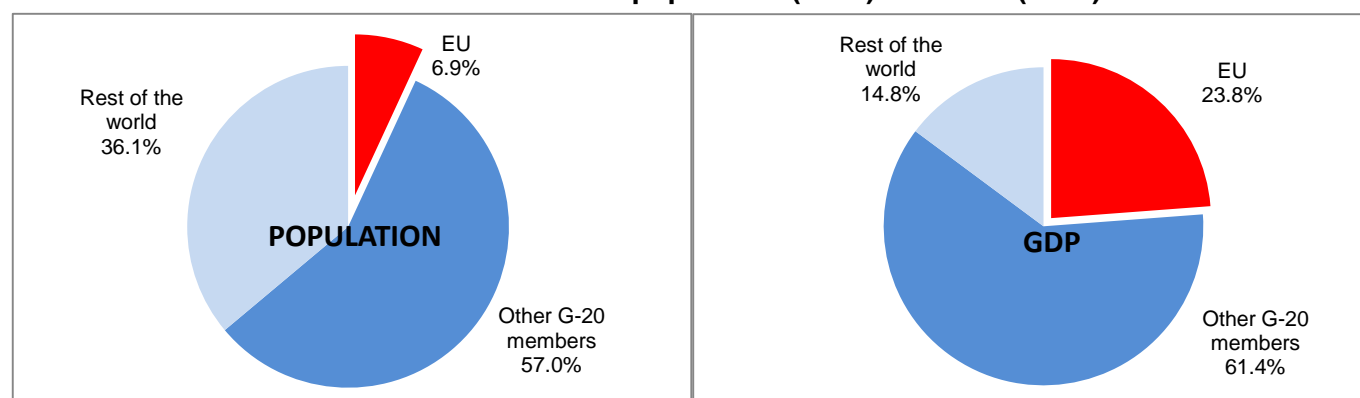
Population, living conditions, health, education & training, labour market, economy & finance, trade, industry & services, research & communication, transport, agriculture, environment and energy: the 2016 edition of the Eurostat publication “The EU in the world” compares the **European Union** (EU) with the 15 non-EU G-20 countries across thirteen statistical fields using a range of European and international statistics.

The G-20 comprises the world’s major advanced and emerging economies. It includes the EU, four EU Member States (Germany, France, Italy and the United Kingdom) and 15 countries from the rest of the world (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey and the United States). Together the members of the G-20 covered over 61% of the world’s land area, were home to 64% of the world population and generated 85% of the global GDP in 2014.

Today, on the occasion of the upcoming G-20 meeting in Hangzhou (China), **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, releases the latest edition of the publication “The EU in the world”, which provides a portrait of the EU total compared with the major economies of the world. For many indicators, the total for the world is also included.

Some examples of the statistical indicators covered in the publication are presented below.

Share of the EU in world population (2015) and GDP (2014)



7% of the world population live in the EU

With 509 million inhabitants in 2015, the **EU** accounted for just below 7% of the world population (7.3 billion inhabitants). **China** (1 376 million inhabitants or 18.7% of the world population) and **India** (1 311 mn or 17.8%) were more populous, while the **United States** (322 mn or 4.4%), **Indonesia** (258 mn or 3.5%) and **Brazil** (208 mn or 2.8%) accounted for a lower share of the world population than the **EU**.

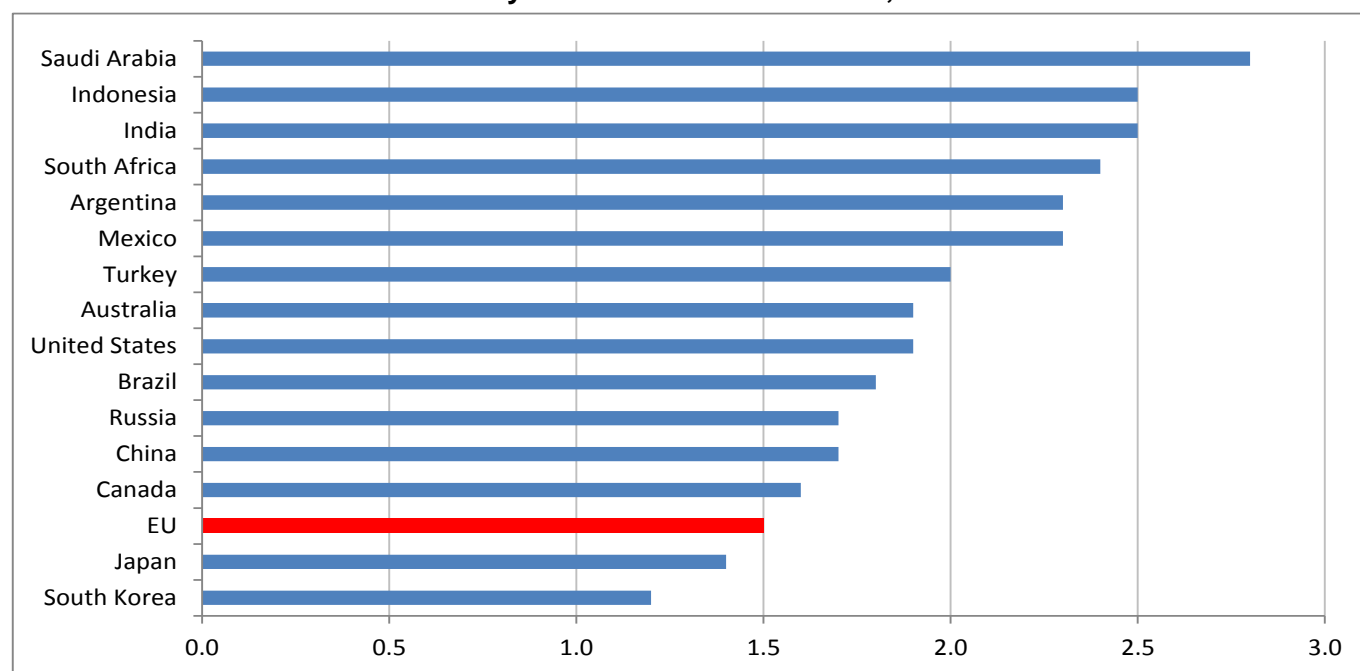
The EU has the third lowest fertility rate among G-20 members

The average number of births per woman in the **EU** stood at 1.5 in 2013. It was the third lowest rate among G-20 members surpassing only **South Korea** (1.2) and **Japan** (1.4). The highest fertility rates were registered in **Saudi Arabia** (2.8), **Indonesia** and **India** (both 2.5). 2.5 births per women is also the world average.

Old age dependency, measured as the ratio of the number of older persons (aged 65 and over) to the number of persons of working age (from 15 to 64), was by far the highest in 2014 in **Japan** (41.9%), followed by the **EU** (28.1%), **Canada** (23.0%), **Australia** (22.1%) and the **United States** (21.6%). The old age dependency ratio in these countries is well above the world average (12.3%).

In 2015, the G-20 countries with the highest share of foreign-born population were **Saudi Arabia** (32.3% of the population), **Australia** (28.2%), **Canada** (21.8%) and the **United States** (14.5%). Almost 7% (6.8%) of the **EU** population were born outside the **EU**, also above the world average of 3.3%. In contrast, less than 1% of the population was foreign-born in **Indonesia** (less than 0.05%), **China** (0.1%), **Brazil** (0.3%) and **Mexico** (0.9%).

Fertility rate in the G-20 members, 2013



Population and demography

	Total population (in millions), 2015	% of world population, 2015	Fertility rate, 2013	Old age dependency ratio, 2014	Share of foreign born population, 2015
EU	508.5	6.9	1.5	28.1	6.8
Argentina	43.4	0.6	2.3	16.9	4.8
Australia	24.0	0.3	1.9	22.1	28.2
Brazil	207.8	2.8	1.8	11.0	0.3
Canada	35.9	0.5	1.6	23.0	21.8
China	1 376.0	18.7	1.7	12.5	0.1
India	1 311.1	17.8	2.5	8.4	2.0
Indonesia	257.6	3.5	2.5	7.6	0.0
Japan	126.6	1.7	1.4	41.9	1.6
Mexico	127.0	1.7	2.3	9.6	0.9
Russia	143.5	2.0	1.7	18.8	8.1
Saudi Arabia	31.5	0.4	2.8	4.1	32.3
South Africa	54.5	0.7	2.4	7.7	5.8
South Korea	50.3	0.7	1.2	17.4	2.6
Turkey	78.7	1.1	2.0	11.1	3.8
United States	321.8	4.4	1.9	21.6	14.5
World	7 349.5	100.0	2.5	12.3	3.3

0.0 means less than 0.05%

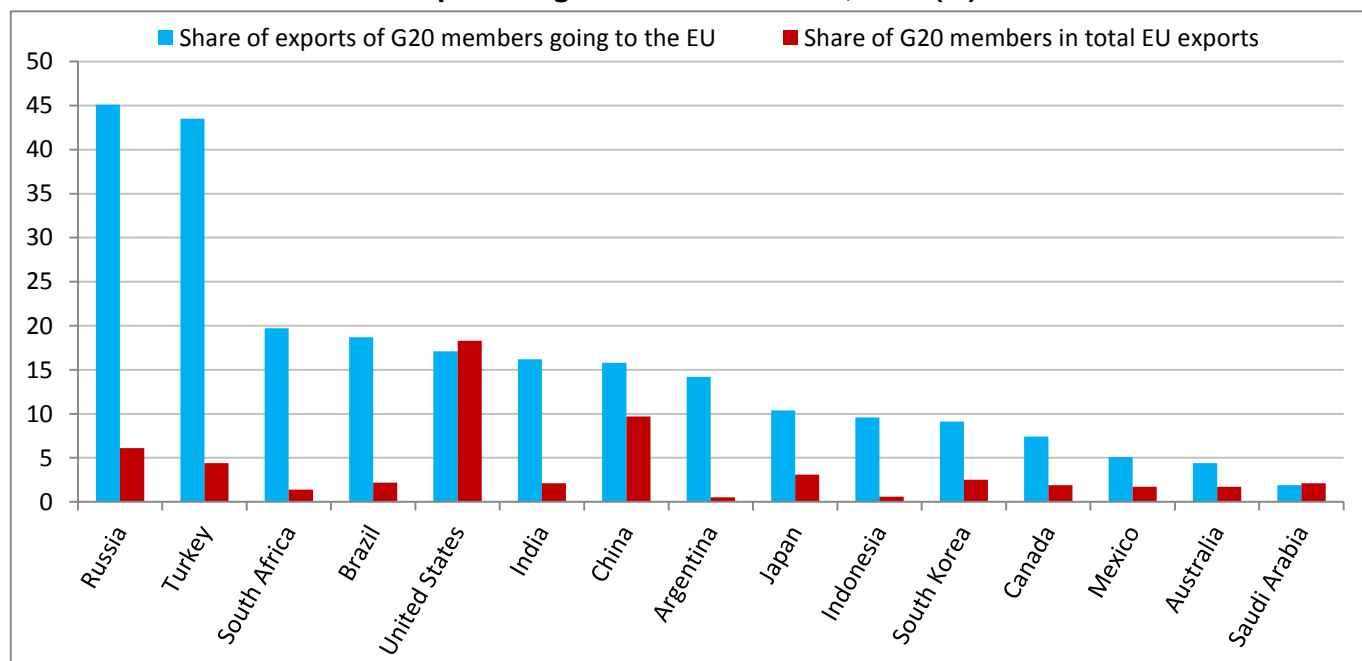
Sources: Eurostat, United Nations and the World Bank.

The EU is the largest contributor to world GDP

While accounting for slightly less than 7% of the world population, the **EU** generated in 2014 almost a quarter (23.8%) of the world GDP. The **United States** (22.2%), **China** (13.4%) and **Japan** (5.9%) also had a significant weight in world GDP. Together, these four entities accounted for almost two-thirds of world GDP.

The **EU** was a very significant trade partner for **Russia** and **Turkey**, with 45.1% of **Russian** and 43.5% of **Turkish** exports going to the **EU** in 2014, while the shares of **Russia** and **Turkey** in total **EU** exports were 6.1% and 4.4% respectively. Looking at the **EU's** two largest trading partners in absolute terms, 17.1% of **US** and 15.8% of **Chinese** exports went to the **EU**, while the shares of the **United States** and **China** in total **EU** exports were 18.3% and 9.7% respectively.

Exports of goods within the G20, 2014 (%)

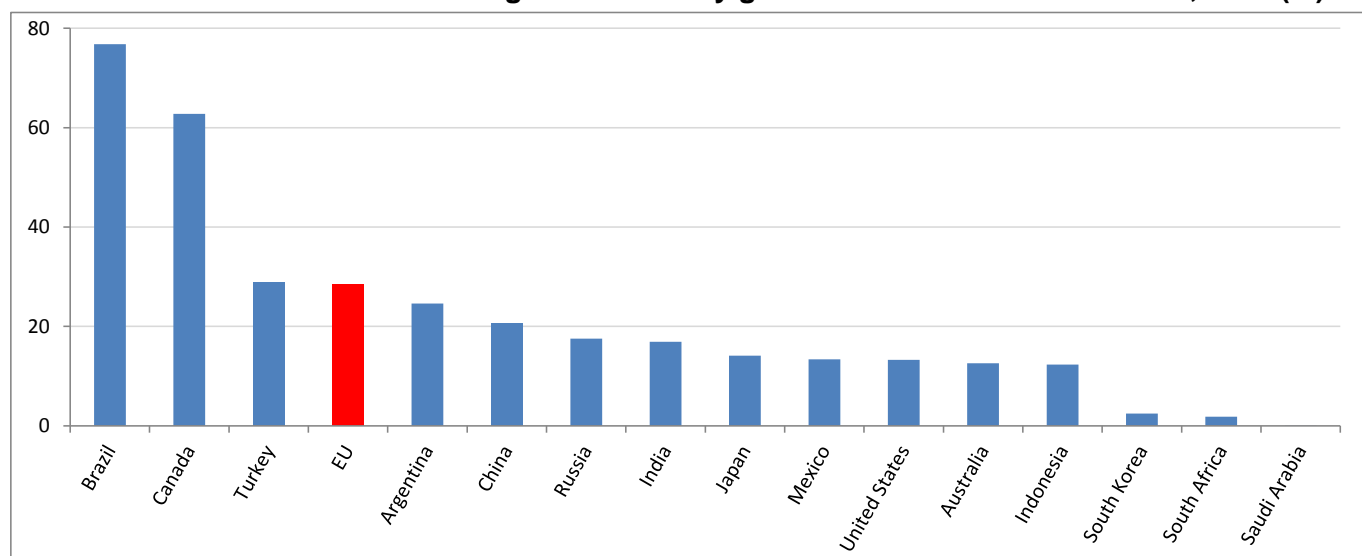


The EU among the G-20 leaders for renewable energy

With 28.5% of gross electricity generated from renewables and waste, the **EU** was among the top G-20 members for renewable energy, with only **Brazil** (76.8%), **Canada** (62.8%) and **Turkey** (28.9%) having higher proportions.

In research and development, **South Korea** (4.15%), **Japan** (3.47%), the **United States** (2.81%) and **Australia** (2.25%) had higher shares of R&D expenditure relative to GDP than that of the **EU** (2.03%).

Share of renewables & waste in gross electricity generation in the G-20 members, 2013 (%)



Economy and energy

	Share of world GDP, 2014	R&D expenditure (% of GDP), 2013	Share of EU as destination of exports, 2014	Share of EU as origin of imports, 2014	Share of renewables & waste in gross electricity generation, 2013
EU	23.8	2.03	-	-	28.5
Argentina	0.7	0.58	14.2	17.6	24.6
Australia	1.9	2.25	4.4	17.7	12.6
Brazil	3.0	1.15	18.7	20.4	76.8
Canada	2.3	1.62	7.4	12.4	62.8
China	13.4	2.01	15.8	11.3	20.7
India	2.6	0.82	16.2	10.5	16.9
Indonesia	1.1	0.08	9.6	7.1	12.3
Japan	5.9	3.47	10.4	9.5	14.1
Mexico	1.7	0.50	5.1	11.9	13.4
Russia	2.4	1.13	45.1	41.2	17.6
Saudi Arabia	1.0	0.07	1.9	25.2	0.0
South Africa	0.4	0.73	19.7	27.8	1.8
South Korea	1.8	4.15	9.1	11.1	2.5
Turkey	1.0	0.94	43.5	36.7	28.9
United States	22.2	2.81	17.1	17.3	13.3

0.0 means less than 0.05%

Sources: Eurostat, United Nations, International Energy Agency.

Geographical information

Along with the European Union, the members of the **G-20** include 19 individual countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The **European Union** (EU) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

For more information

Eurostat publication "**The EU in the world**", 2016 edition, [PDF version](#).

Also available as a set of [Statistics Explained articles](#).

Eurostat [infographic](#) on the EU in the world.

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