



CAP CONTEXT INDICATORS

2014-2020

4. POPULATION DENSITY

2017 update

CONTEXT INDICATOR 4: POPULATION DENSITY

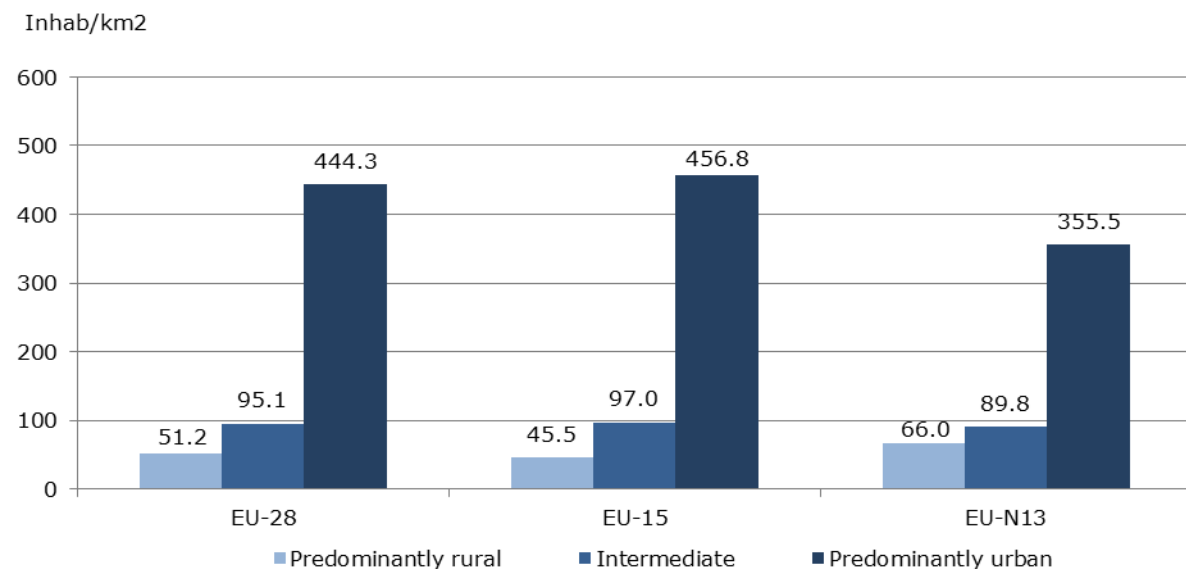
Predominantly rural regions are more densely populated in the EU-N13 than in the EU-15...

In 2015, the population density in the EU-28 was 117.1 inhabitants per km². It increased by 1.4 inhabitants/km² compared to 2011. The EU-15 was more densely populated than the EU-N13 with 125.2 and 93.5 inhabitants per km², respectively.

Predominantly rural regions in the EU-28 had a population density of 51.2 inhabitants/km², lower than in intermediate (95.1 inhabitants/km²) and in predominantly urban regions (444.3 inhabitants/km²). Rural regions in the EU-N13 are more densely populated than those in the EU-15 (66 versus 46 inhabitants/km²), while the opposite is true for predominantly urban regions (Graph 1).

Population density varies greatly between countries (Table 1) and regions (Map 1). For predominantly rural regions it ranges from 9 inhabitants/km² in Sweden and Finland to 145 inhabitants/km² in the Netherlands. In 11 countries, rural regions had fewer than 50 inhabitants/km². Population density is higher than 100 inhabitants/km² in the intermediate regions of 13 countries, and higher than 300 inhabitants/km² in the predominantly urban regions of 18 Member States.

Graph 1 - Population density by type of region in the EU-28, EU-15 and EU-N13, 2015



...and a significant increase of population density was observed in urban regions over the period 2011-2015.

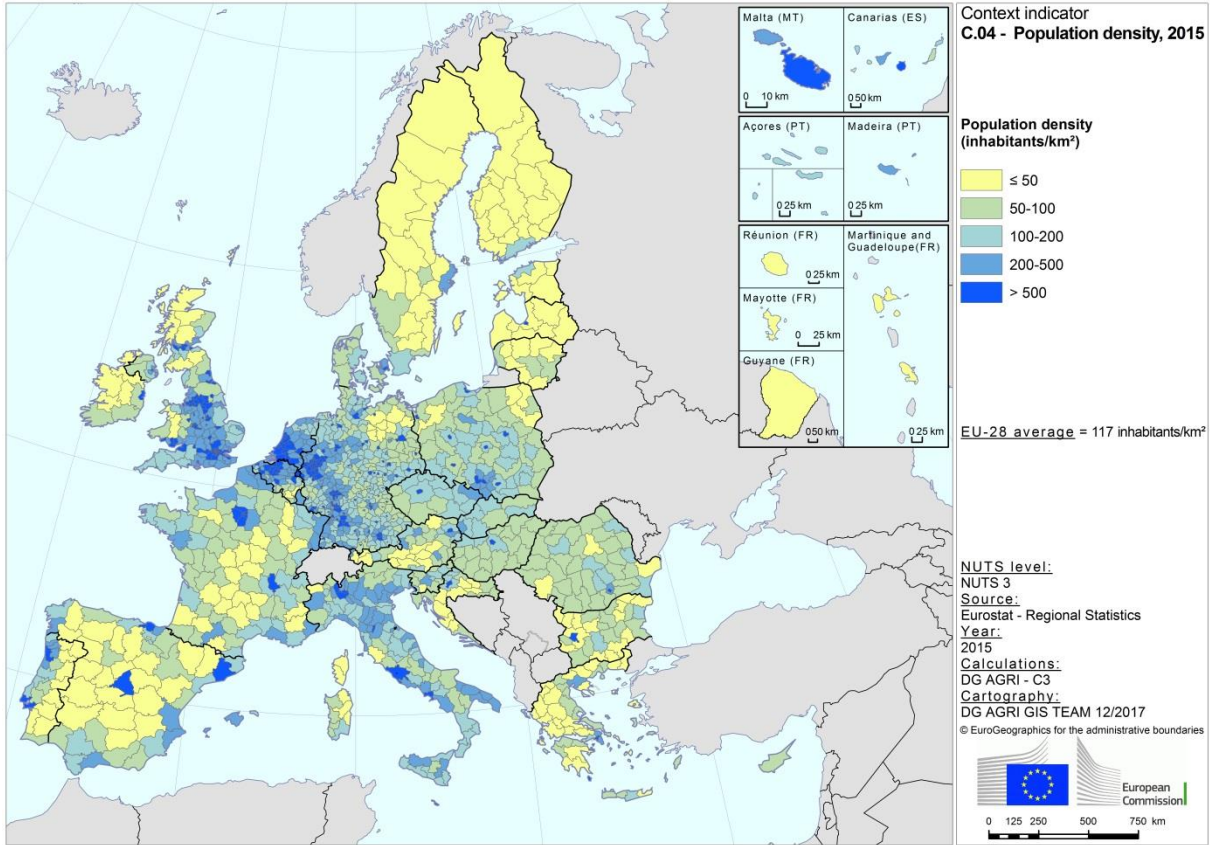
Over the period 2011-2015, population density increased in the EU-28 and EU-15 by 1.4 and 1.9 inhabitants/km², respectively. However, as identified in Table 1, a slight decrease of population density was observed in the EU-N13 driven mainly by a declining population in rural and intermediate regions.

At Member States level, the picture is more diverse. Population density in urban areas grew substantially in Denmark (73.0 inhabitants/km²), followed by Hungary (+53.8), Ireland (+53.3) and Malta (52.0%), whereas a decline was registered in Greece, Bulgaria, Portugal, Romania, Latvia, Spain and Lithuania.

Table 1 - Population density (inhabitants/km²)

Country	C.04 - Population density					Change in population density			
	inhab/km ² - 2015 - NUTS 3					inhab/km ² - 2011 to 2015 - NUTS 3			
	MS	by type of region			Flag	MS	by type of region		
Rural		Intermediate	Urban	Rural			Intermediate	Urban	
Belgium	371.8	96.9	324.3	842.2	7.5	1.8	5.5	19.0	
Bulgaria	66.2	39.2	59.2	1,029.8	-1.2	-1.6	-1.5	-17.3	
Czech Republic	136.6	79.5	151.6	228.9	0.7	0.1	-0.7	6.6	
Denmark	132.4	74.0	136.0	2,464.0	2.7	-0.1	2.7	73.0	
Germany	228.6	93.6	188.2	843.9	3.8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Estonia	30.3	16.6	43.9	132.5	-0.3	-0.4	-2.2	2.2	
Ireland	68.4	45.8	91.6	1,429.4	1.5	0.6	2.8	53.3	
Greece	81.9	39.5	65.8	655.8	-2.2	-0.8	-0.4	-26.8	
Spain	92.5	19.1	52.2	248.9	-0.7	-0.8	-0.7	-0.6	
France	105.2	61.4	92.1	466.9	2.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Croatia	74.4	51.0	78.2	1,249.1	-1.3	-1.5	-1.6	15.5	
Italy*	201.0	80.2	157.3	445.7	-0.2	-0.8	-1.5	4.8	
Cyprus	92.0	n.a.	92.0	n.a.	-0.3	n.a.	-0.3	n.a.	
Latvia	31.8	17.4	19.7	100.6	-1.3	-1.0	-1.4	-1.9	
Lithuania	46.3	29.1	41.4	85.5	-2.0	-2.0	-2.3	-0.3	
Luxembourg	220.3	n.a.	220.3	n.a.	19.8	n.a.	19.8	n.a.	
Hungary	105.8	72.8	93.0	3,349.5	-1.2	-1.5	-1.5	53.8	
Malta	1,369.3	n.a.	n.a.	1,369.3	52.0	n.a.	n.a.	52.0	
Netherlands	502.9	144.4	265.0	750.4	8.4	-0.8	1.4	15.4	
Austria	104.8	56.8	163.4	469.2	2.9	0.5	4.9	24.7	
Poland	124.1	82.9	114.0	580.3	2.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Portugal	112.3	44.8	170.1	818.7	-2.2	-1.5	-2.4	-11.3	
Romania	86.1	68.7	95.6	415.9	-1.5	-4.5	-3.4	-4.1	
Slovenia	102.4	82.7	155.2	n.a.	0.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Slovakia	110.6	90.1	113.1	306.5	0.5	0.2	-0.2	12.6	
Finland	18.0	8.8	37.8	177.2	0.3	0.0	0.5	7.8	
Sweden	24.1	8.9	15.8	90.7	1.0	0.2	0.5	4.7	
United Kingdom	268.6	33.5	136.9	713.0	7.7	0.5	3.4	21.7	
EU-28	117.1	51.2	95.1	444.3	1.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
EU-15	125.2	45.5	97.0	456.8	1.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
EU-N13	93.5	66.0	89.8	355.5	-0.2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	

Map 1 - Population density (inhabitants/km²), 2015



Context indicator	4 – Population density
<p>Comments on methodology and data</p>	<p>National and regional data on total population density: table demo_r_d3dens.</p> <p>Both at national and regional level, population density by type of region calculated by DG AGRI using data on average population (demo_r_gind3) and land area (demo_r_d3area). If no data on land area is available, total area is used instead.</p> <p>In 2011, no data on area was available at NUTS3 level for SI and some regions in FR (FRA10, FRA20, FRA30, FRA40, FRA50), PL (PL12B, PL12C, PL12D, PL12E, PL218, PL219, PL21A, PL426, PL427, PL428, PL523, PL524) and in DE (DE80J, DE80K, DE80L, DE80M, DE80N, DE80O). Therefore, change in population density by type of region was not calculated for these countries and for the EU as a whole.</p>