

EMBARGO: Friday 18 October 2018 - 11:00 CET

160/2019 - 18 October 2019

20 October: European Statistics Day

## New publication 'Ageing Europe – looking at the lives of older people'

20 October is the fourth European Statistics Day.

**Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union (EU)**, celebrates it with a new publication **'Ageing Europe – looking at the lives of older people'**.

The publication provides a broad range of statistics that describe the everyday lives of the EU's older generations. Population ageing is a phenomenon that affects almost every developed country in the world, with both the number and proportion of older people growing across the globe, and this affects most aspects of society and the economy, including housing, healthcare and social protection, labour markets, the demand for goods and services, macroeconomic and fiscal sustainability, family structures and intergenerational ties.

At the start of 2019, 101.1 million people in the EU had reached the age of 65 – 20% of the total population. By 2050, this share is projected to increase to 29%. The ageing is mainly due to a long-term fall in fertility rates and increased life expectancy.

The publication looks at different socioeconomic indicators by age groups providing a detailed picture of the lives of older people across the EU in six areas:

- Population developments,
- Housing and living conditions,
- Health and disability,
- Working and moving into retirement,
- Pensions, income and expenditure,
- Social life and opinions.

A selection of indicators is available as a [digital publication](#), with interactive graphs.





Also today, Eurostat has updated three other publications:

- **'Key figures on Europe - statistics illustrated'** and **'Key figures on Europe - statistics visualised'**, first issued for the European Statistics Day in 2018,
- Digital publication **'The life of women and men in Europe'**, first issued for the European Statistics Day in 2017.

To promote the awareness of sound statistics among young students, Eurostat and 17 National Statistical Institutes are launching the third edition of the **European Statistics Competition**. Registrations open as of this week. This is a competition for schools, in which students compete against each other by solving statistical problems, searching for data and producing statistical analyses.

### Background

The European Statistics Day emphasises the value of official statistics in society and complements the United Nations' World Statistics Day, which takes place every five years. The first European Statistics Day was on 20 October 2016.

For more than 60 years, the statistical authorities of the European Union's Member States have been working together with Eurostat to produce reliable and comparable data. European statistics present two main features that make them irreplaceable. They give comparable data for each Member State and their regions, helping to illustrate the similarities and differences within the EU, and as a result they can provide aggregates for the euro area and the EU.

### For more information

Eurostat publication ['Ageing Europe – looking at the lives of older people'](#)

Eurostat digital publication ['Ageing Europe – looking at the lives of older people'](#)

Eurostat publication ['Key figures on Europe - statistics illustrated'](#)

Eurostat digital publication ['Key figures on Europe - statistics visualised'](#)

Eurostat digital publication ['The life of women and men in Europe'](#)

[European Statistics Competition](#) and Eurostat [news article](#) about European Statistics Competition.

[Themes in the Spotlight](#) page on European Statistics Day with a quiz on statistics

[European Statistics Day](#)

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