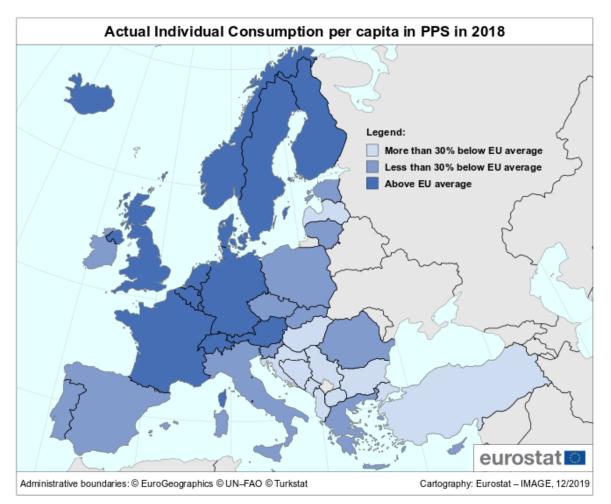
# eurostat newsrelease

188/2019 - 13 December 2019

## Consumption per capita in purchasing power standards in 2018 Consumption per capita varied between 56% and 134% of the EU average

Actual Individual Consumption (AIC) is a measure of material welfare of households. Across the Member States in 2018, AIC per capita expressed in Purchasing Power Standards (PPS) varied from 56% of the **European Union** (EU) average in **Bulgaria** to 134% in **Luxembourg**.



These data, published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, are based on revised purchasing power parities, and the latest GDP and population figures.

### Eighteen Member States below the EU average

Ten Member States recorded AIC per capita above the EU average in 2018. The highest level in the EU was recorded in **Luxembourg**, 34% above the EU average, ahead of **Germany** (20% above). They were followed by **Austria**, **Denmark**, **Belgium**, the **Netherlands**, the **United Kingdom**, **Finland**, **Sweden** and **France** with levels of 7 to 17% above the EU average.

AIC per capita for fourteen Member States lay between the EU average and 30% below. In **Italy**, **Ireland**, **Cyprus** and **Spain** the levels were 10% or less below the EU average, while **Lithuania**, **Portugal**, **Czechia** and **Malta** were between 10% and 20% below. **Slovenia**, **Greece**, **Poland**, **Estonia**, **Slovakia** and **Romania** were between 20% and 30% below the average. Four Member States recorded AIC per capita more than 30% below the EU average. **Latvia**, **Croatia** and **Hungary** were between 30% and 40% below, while **Bulgaria** had AIC per capita more than 40% below the EU average.

Over the last three years, AIC per capita relative to the EU average remained relatively stable in a majority of Member States. However, clear increases have been registered in **Romania** (71% of the EU average in 2018 compared with 65% in 2016), **Slovakia** (73% vs. 68%) and **Lithuania** (89% vs. 85%). In contrast, the most noticeable decreases were recorded in **Sweden** (108% in 2018 vs. 112% in 2016) and **France** (107% vs. 110%).

#### GDP per capita varied by one to five across the Member States

In 2018, GDP per capita expressed in PPS ranged between 51% of the EU average in **Bulgaria** and 261% in **Luxembourg**.

#### Geographical information

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

The **euro area** consists of Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

#### Methods and definitions

Data presented in this News Release are produced by the Eurostat-OECD purchasing power parities program. The full methodology used is described in the Eurostat-OECD Methodological manual on purchasing power parities.

Actual Individual Consumption consists of goods and services actually consumed by individuals, irrespective of whether these goods and services are purchased and paid for by households, by government, or by non-profit organisations. In international volume comparisons of consumption, AIC is often seen as the preferable measure, since it is not influenced by the fact that the organisation of certain important services consumed by households, like health and education services, differs a lot across countries.

The **Purchasing Power Standard** (PPS) is an artificial currency unit that eliminates price level differences between countries. Thus one PPS buys the same volume of goods and services in all countries. This unit allows meaningful volume comparisons of economic indicators across countries. Aggregates expressed in PPS are derived by dividing aggregates in current prices and national currency by the respective Purchasing Power Parity (PPP). The level of uncertainty associated with the basic price and national accounts data, and the methods used for compiling PPPs imply that differences between countries that have indices within a close range should not be over-interpreted.

#### Country note:

**Luxembourg:** The high GDP per capita in Luxembourg is partly due to the country's large share of cross-border workers in total employment. While contributing to GDP, these workers are not taken into consideration as part of the resident population which is used to calculate GDP per capita.

#### Revisions and timetable

The regular publication schedule of PPPs includes four estimates for a particular year. The first estimate for 2018 was published in News Release 100/2019 of 19 June 2019. The present News Release corresponds to the second estimate. The 2018 figures will be revised again in December 2020 and finalised in 2021.

#### For more information

Eurostat Statistics Explained article on GDP per capita, consumption per capita and price level indices.

Eurostat website section dedicated to purchasing power parities.

Eurostat database on purchasing power parities.

Eurostat metadata on purchasing power parities.

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	AIC per capita			GDP per capita		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
EU	100	100	100	100	100	100
Euro area	105	104	104	106	106	106
Luxembourg*	135	133	134	269	261	261
Germany	121	121	120	123	123	122
Austria	119	118	117	128	127	127
Denmark	113	114	114	127	127	128
Belgium	114	113	113	119	118	117
Netherlands	111	112	113	127	128	129
United Kingdom	115	114	113	108	106	105
Finland	112	111	112	110	110	111
Sweden	112	111	108	123	122	120
France	110	108	107	105	103	104
Italy	98	98	98	97	97	96
Ireland	95	94	95	176	181	189
Cyprus	92	93	94	87	88	89
Spain	90	91	90	91	92	91
Lithuania	85	87	89	75	78	80
Portugal	82	81	83	77	77	77
Czechia	79	81	82	87	89	91
Malta	78	78	80	95	97	98
Slovenia	77	78	79	83	85	87
Greece	77	76	77	68	67	68
Poland	74	75	76	68	69	70
Estonia	72	72	74	76	78	82
Slovakia	68	69	73	72	72	73
Romania	65	69	71	59	63	65
Latvia	66	67	69	64	66	69
Croatia	61	62	64	60	61	63
Hungary	62	63	64	68	68	71
Bulgaria	54	54	56	49	50	51
Norway	127	126	126	144	146	151
Switzerland	127	124	124	160	155	155
Iceland	114	116	118	129	129	130
Turkey	67	68	67	65	65	64
Montenegro	56	56	58	44	46	48
Serbia	47	47	48	39	38	39
North Macedonia	42	41	41	37	36	37
Albania	37	38	39	29	30	31
Bosnia & Herzegovina	41	40	41	31	31	31

AIC and GDP per capita in PPS, EU = 100

Countries are ranked according to AIC per capita in 2018. Countries with the same value are ranked by protocol order. \* See country note under "Methods and definitions".

The source dataset can be found here.