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First estimates for 2012

GDP per capita in the Member States ranged from 47% to 271% of the EU27 average in 2012

Based on first preliminary estimates for 2012[1], Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita expressed in Purchasing Power Standards[2] (PPS) varied from 47% to 271% of the **EU27** average across the Member States.

The highest level of GDP per capita in the EU27 was recorded in **Luxembourg**[3] with a level of more than two and a half times the EU27 average. **Austria**, **Ireland**, the **Netherlands** and **Sweden** were around 30% above the average. **Denmark**, **Germany**, **Belgium** and **Finland** were between 15% and 25% above the average, while the **United Kingdom** and **France** were around 10% above.

In **Italy** and **Spain**, GDP per capita was just below the EU27 average. **Cyprus** was around 10% below the average, while **Malta**, **Slovenia**, the **Czech Republic**, **Slovakia**, **Greece** and **Portugal** were between nearly 15% and 25% lower. **Lithuania**, **Estonia**, **Poland**, **Hungary** and **Latvia** were between 30% and 40% lower than the average, while **Romania** and **Bulgaria** were more than 50% below the average.

These figures for GDP per capita, expressed in PPS, are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. They cover the 27 EU Member States, three EFTA countries, one acceding state, four candidate countries and two potential candidate countries.

Actual Individual Consumption per capita in the Member States ranged from 48% to 141% of the EU27 average

While GDP per capita is often used as an indicator of countries' level of welfare, it is not the only such indicator. An alternative welfare indicator, better adapted to reflect the situation of households, is Actual Individual Consumption (AIC) per capita[4]. Generally, levels of AIC per capita are more homogeneous than those of GDP but still there are substantial differences between the Member States. In 2012, AIC per capita expressed in PPS ranged between 48% of the EU average in **Romania** to 141% in **Luxembourg**.

GDP and Actual Individual Consumption per capita in PPS in 2012, EU27 = 100

	GDP per capita	AIC per capita
EU27	**100**	**100**
Euro area (EA17)[5]	108	106
Luxembourg	271	141
Austria	131	119
Ireland	129	98
Netherlands	128	112
Sweden	128	118
Denmark	125	115
Germany	121	121
Belgium	119	112
Finland	115	114
United Kingdom	110	120
France	108	113
Italy	98	97
Spain	97	93
Cyprus	91	94
Malta	86	85
Slovenia	82	79
Czech Republic	79	69
Slovakia	75	72
Greece	75	84
Portugal	75	77
Lithuania	70	74
Estonia	68	59
Poland	66	71
Hungary	66	61
Latvia	62	61
Romania	49	48
Bulgaria	47	49
Norway	195	138
Switzerland	160	133
Iceland	112	110
Croatia	61	59
Turkey	56	60
Montenegro	42	55
Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	35	40
Serbia	35	43
Albania	30	34
Bosnia and Herzegovina	28	36

1. The figures are based on GDP and population data for 2012, extracted on 1 June 2013, and the most recent PPPs available. Revised estimates will be published in December 2013.
2. 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.
   For further information, see the Statistics Explained article on the Eurostat website:
   http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/GDP_per_capita,_consumption_per_capita_and_price_level_indices
3. 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.
4. Indicators reflecting directly the situation of households are more adapted than GDP to reflect welfare. The level of consumption per head is one of these. Actual Individual Consumption (AIC) 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. AIC is listed among the recommendations of the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi report.
5. The euro area (EA17) consists of Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

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