

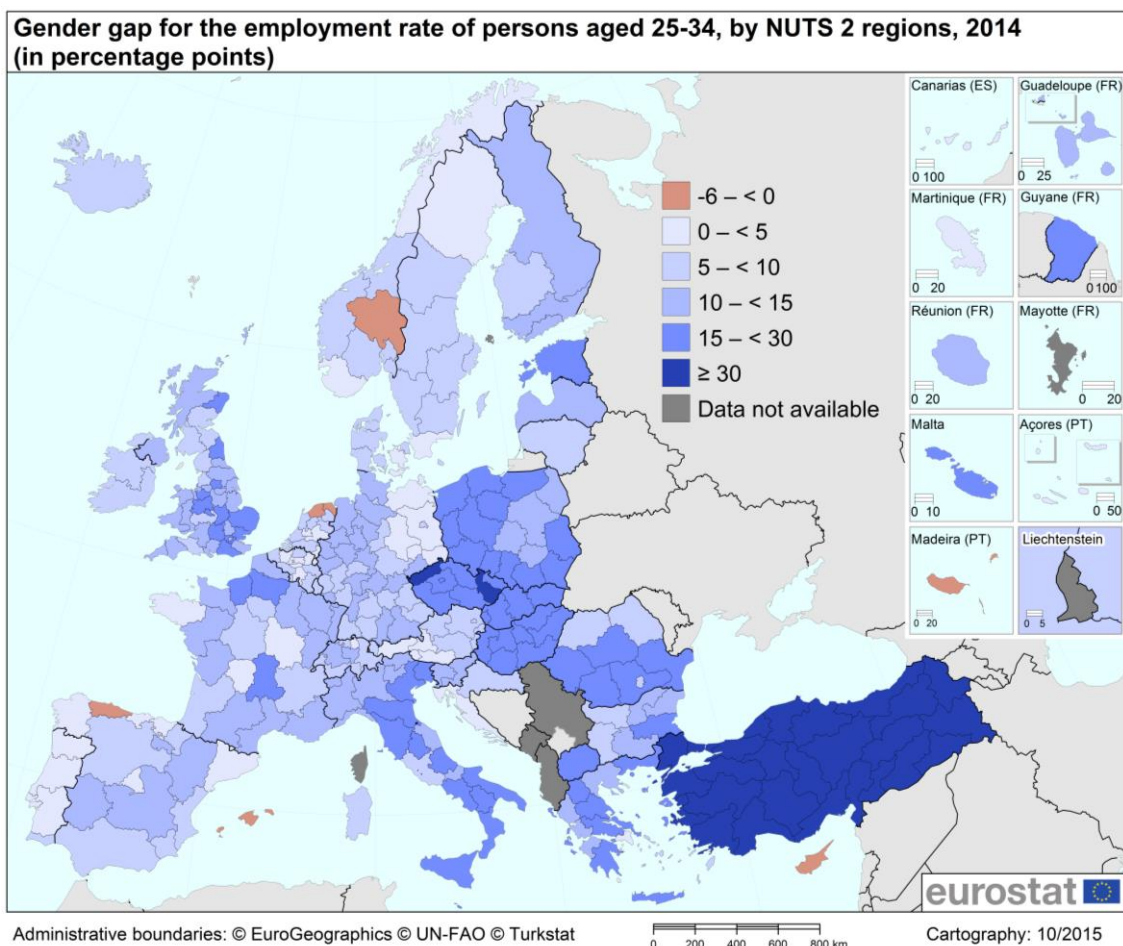
Eurostat regional yearbook 2015

A statistical portrait of the EU across the regional spectrum

The **European Union** (EU) places considerable emphasis on regional policies. The **regional yearbook**, published every year by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, provides an overview of European regional statistics covering a wide range of fields. It is thus a helpful tool to understand the regional diversity that exists within the **EU** and also shows that considering national figures does not always reveal the full and sometimes complex picture of what is happening across the **EU**.

The publication contains statistics for the 272 NUTS level 2 regions and, for some indicators, the 1 315 NUTS level 3 regions of the 28 Member States of the **EU** as well as, when available, the regions in EFTA and candidate countries. This 2015 edition contains a new chapter on EU regional policies and the local dimension of the Europe 2020 strategy. Three special focus chapters are also presented: gender differences at regional level, statistics by degree of urbanisation for quality of life and information relating to life in European cities. In addition to the regional yearbook, Eurostat offers two interactive applications on its website for visualising and analysing sub-national data: **Regional Statistics Illustrated** and the **Statistical Atlas**.

On the occasion of the 13th **European week of Regions and Cities** and to illustrate the diversity of the regional data available in **Eurostat**, this News Release presents a small selection of the indicators that can be found in the **Eurostat regional yearbook 2015**.



Largest gender gap for employment rate of persons aged 25-34 in Czech regions

Only in six EU regions was the employment rate of women aged 25-34 higher than that of men: in **Região Autónoma da Madeira** in Portugal (68.2% for women vs. 62.4% for men, or a difference of 5.8 percentage point), in **Friesland** (1.7 pp) and **Groningen** (1.5 pp) in the Netherlands, in **Principado de Asturias** (0.8 pp) and **Illes Balears** (0.3 pp) in Spain, as well as in **Cyprus** (0.5 pp).

In all other EU regions, the employment rate of women aged 25-34 was lower than that of men. In 116 regions, the employment rate of women aged 25-34 was up to 10 percentage points below the employment rate of men aged 25-34, in 128 others it was between 10 pp and 20 pp, while in 27 it was above 20 pp. The five EU regions recording the largest gap between the employment rates of women and men aged 25-34 were **Severozápad** (with a 33.2 pp gap), **Střední Morava** (30.0 pp), **Jihozápad** (28.8 pp) and **Severovýchod** (28.0 pp), all in the Czech Republic, as well as the Greek region of **Dytiki Makedonia** (28.0 pp).

Gender gap for the employment rate of persons aged 25-34, by NUTS 2 regions, 2014

	Gender gap range (in percentage points)			
	From		To	
Belgium	Prov. Brabant Wallon	2.1	Prov. Luxembourg	9.9
Bulgaria	Yugozapaden	6.9	Yugoiztochen	15.9
Czech Republic	Jihovýchod	23.5	Severozápad	33.2
Denmark	Sjælland	4.7	Midtjylland	9.8
Germany	Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	2.4	Saarland	13.9
Estonia	-	-	-	-
Ireland	Border, Midland and Western	6.4	Southern and Eastern	6.6
Greece	Attiki	4.0	Dytiki Makedonia	28.0
Spain	Principado de Asturias	-0.8	Ciudad Autónoma de Ceuta	15.3
France**	Martinique*	0.2	Auvergne	20.4
Croatia	Jadranska Hrvatska	2.9	Kontinentalna Hrvatska	9.4
Italy	Sardegna	8.2	Sicilia	20.6
Cyprus	-	-	-	-
Latvia	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-
Hungary	Dél-Dunántúl	16.4	Közép-Dunántúl	25.4
Malta	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	Friesland	-1.7	Overijssel / Flevoland	7.7
Austria	Salzburg	2.9	Vorarlberg	9.8
Poland	Łódzkie	10.6	Opolskie	21.5
Portugal	Região Autónoma da Madeira	-5.8	Algarve	7.2
Romania	București - Ilfov	6.1	Sud-Est	27.8
Slovenia	Zahodna Slovenija	10.3	Vzhodna Slovenija	13.7
Slovakia	Bratislavský kraj	17.3	Stredné Slovensko	25.7
Finland**	Länsi-Suomi	7.9	Etelä-Suomi	13.7
Sweden	Övre Norrland	1.3	Västsverige	8.9
United Kingdom	Dorset and Somerset	8.1	Cheshire / Leicestershire, Rutland and Northamptonshire	21.0
Turkey	Aydın, Denizli, Muğla	33.5	Gaziantep, Adıyaman, Kilis	57.7
Iceland	-	-	-	-
Norway	Hedmark og Oppland	-1.2	Sør-Østlandet	7.7
Switzerland	Zürich	2.4	Zentralschweiz	13.1

* 2013 data.

** Corse (FR), Åland (FI): not available.

- Not applicable: countries considered as single NUTS 2 regions. In 2014, national values were: Estonia (18.9 pp), Cyprus (-0.5 pp), Latvia (12.0 pp), Lithuania (6.7 pp), Luxembourg (8.0 pp), Malta (17.6 pp) and Iceland (8.0 pp).

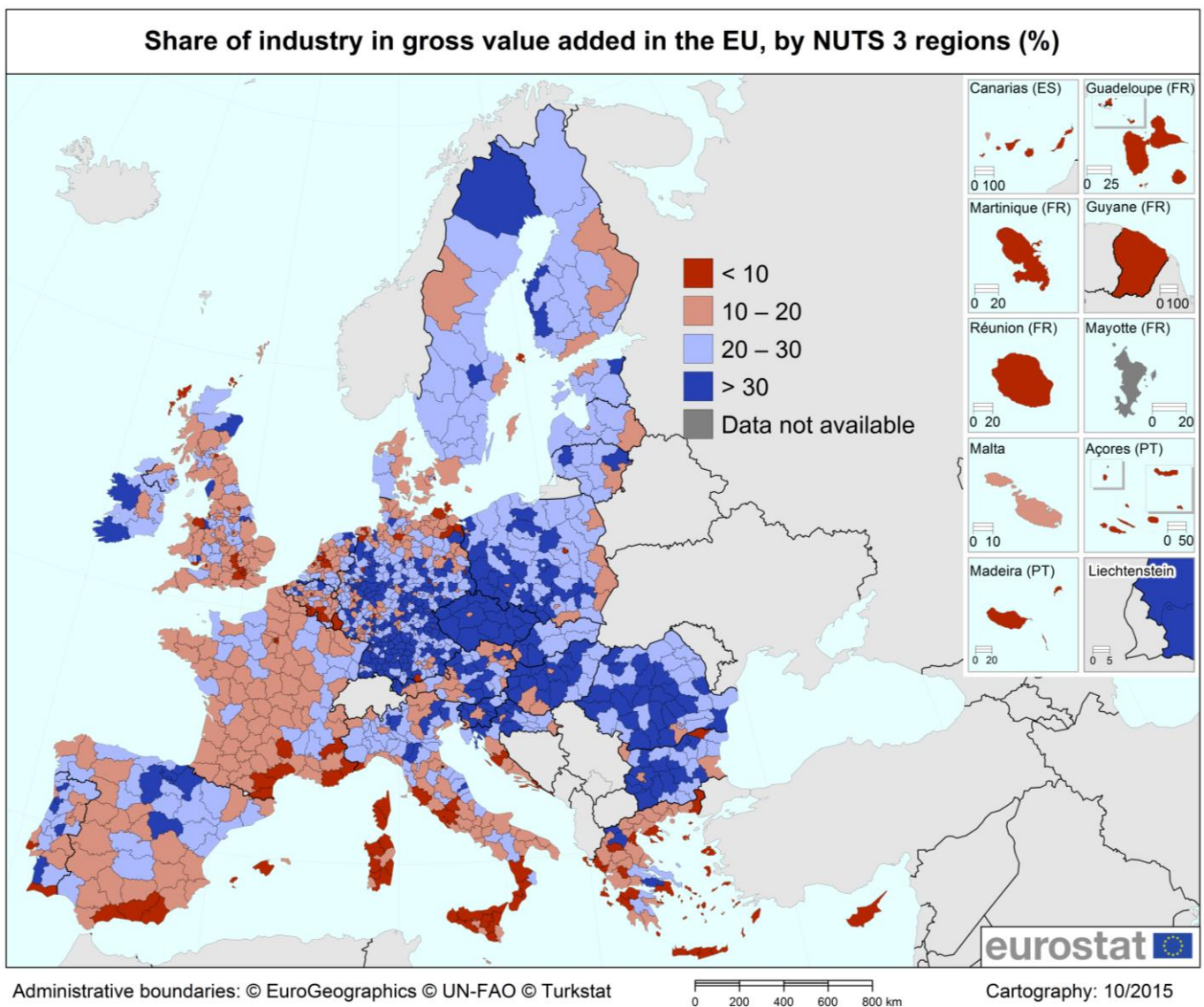
The source dataset is available [here](#).

Highest weight of the industry in central EU regions

A relatively high contribution of industrial activities to regional gross value added was largely concentrated in a cluster of regions — shown by the dark blue shade at the centre of the map — that spread over southern **Germany**, the whole of the **Czech Republic** (apart from the capital region), up into **Poland**, and down through regions of **Slovakia**, **Austria**, **Hungary** and **Slovenia**. The majority of regions in **Bulgaria** and **Romania** also had a very high share of industrial gross value added. Aside from these two clusters, a relatively high share of regional gross value added (above 30%) was generated by industrial activities in peripheral regions of other Member States. Among the 10 EU regions recording the highest share of industry in the total gross value added of their economy, seven were located in **Germany** and one each in **Poland**, **Bulgaria** and the **Netherlands**.

By contrast, the contribution of industry to total gross value added was relatively low in capital regions (where services are usually the main wealth creator) and a number of regions that may be characterised as tourist destinations, especially prevalent around the Mediterranean coast. There were no regions in **Denmark** and **France**, as well as in **Cyprus**, **Latvia** and **Luxembourg** where industry represented more than 30% of the total gross value added.

Overall in the **EU**, 24% of the NUTS 3 regions had a share of industry in gross value added above 30%, and 33% between 20% and 30%.



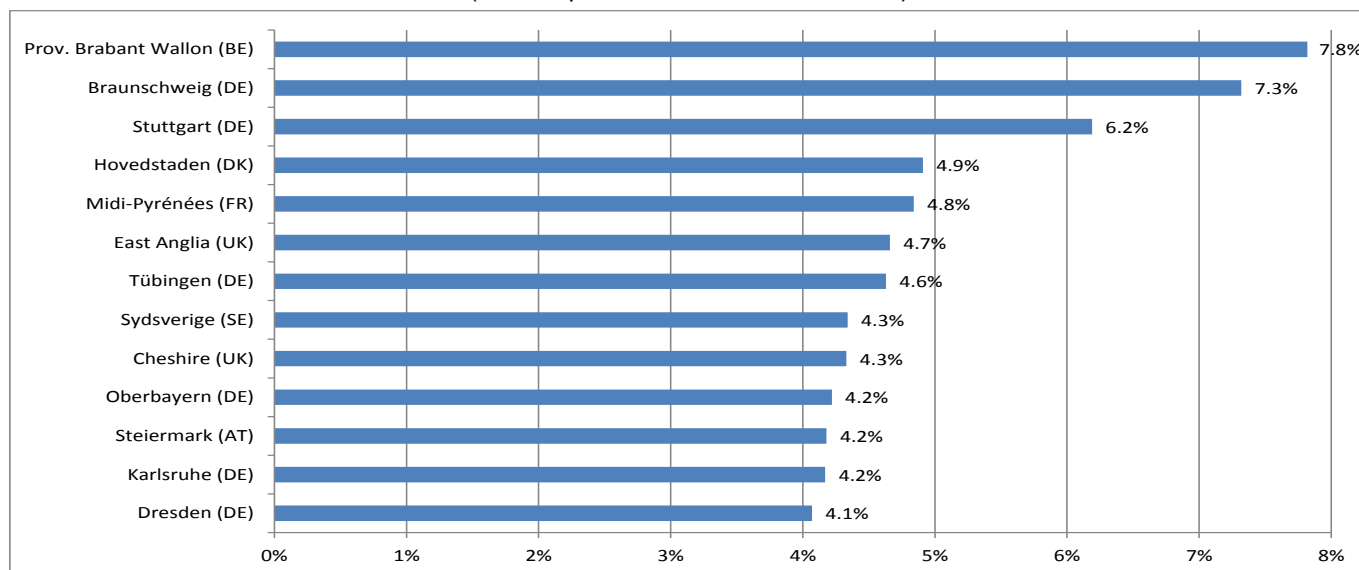
2012 data except Belgium, Denmark, Cyprus, Luxembourg, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and Slovakia (all 2013 data).
The source dataset is available [here](#).

Province Brabant Wallon, EU region with the highest R&D intensity

In 2012, the EU regions with the highest intensity in Research & Development (R&D) were **Province Brabant Wallon** in Belgium (R&D expenditure accounted for 7.8% of GDP), **Braunschweig** (7.3%) and **Stuttgart** (6.2%) both in Germany. Among the thirteen EU regions with a share of R&D expenditure above 4% of GDP, six were located in **Germany**, two in the **United Kingdom** and one each in **Belgium**, **Denmark**, **France**, **Austria** and **Sweden**. Overall in the **EU**, 35 regions had R&D intensity above 3% of GDP.

On the opposite end of the scale, **Ciudad Autónoma de Ceuta** in Spain, **Sud-Est** in Romania, **Ionía Nisia** in Greece and **Severni tsentralen** in Bulgaria (all around 0.1%) were the EU regions recording the lowest R&D intensity. Among the 10 EU regions with a share of R&D expenditure below 0.2% of GDP, three were located in **Bulgaria**, two each in **Greece**, **Spain** and **Romania** and one in **Poland**.

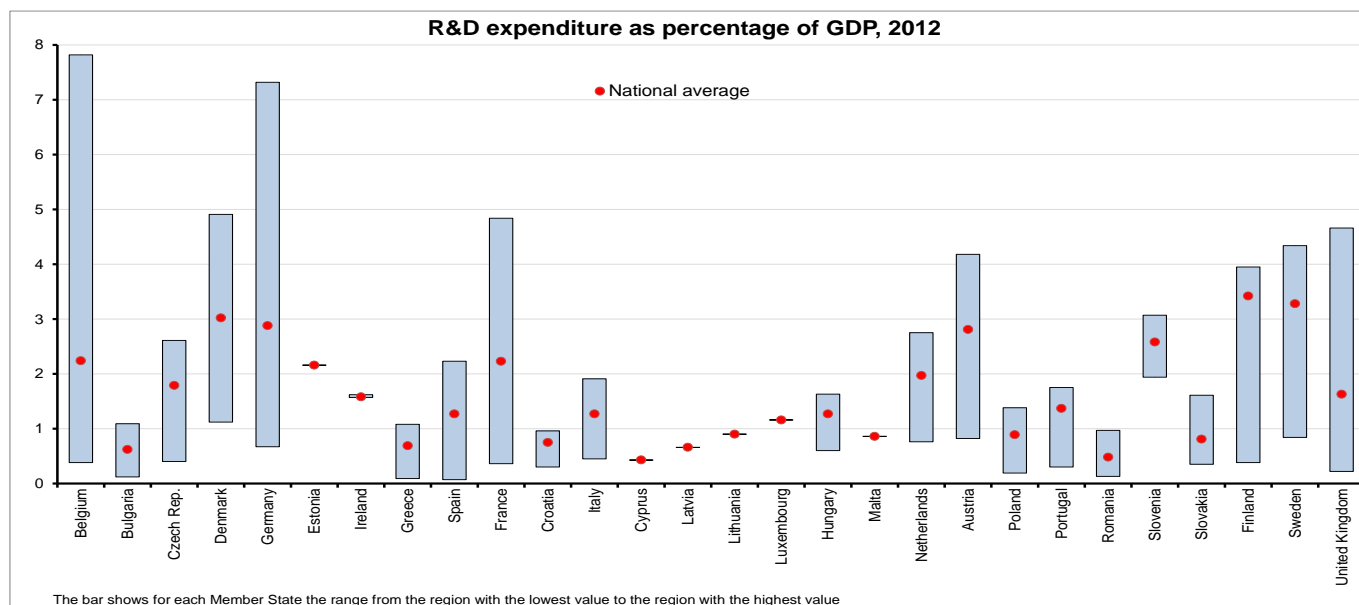
Top EU regions for R&D intensity
(R&D expenditure above 4% of GDP)



Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France, Austria and Sweden: 2011 data. United Kingdom: 2012 data

Largest regional disparities in R&D intensity in Belgium and Germany

The Member States with the largest regional disparities for R&D expenditure expressed as percentage of GDP were **Belgium** (7.8% for the region with the highest R&D intensity vs. 0.4% for the region with the lowest, or a difference of 7.4 percentage point) and **Germany** (with a 6.6 pp difference), followed at a distance by **France** (4.5 pp), the **United Kingdom** (4.4 pp), **Denmark** (3.8 pp), **Finland** (3.6 pp), **Sweden** (3.5 pp) and **Austria** (3.4 pp).



Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Greece, France, Austria and Sweden: 2011 data for regional data.

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D, by NUTS 2 regions, 2012
(as % of GDP)

	Region with the highest R&D intensity (%)		Region with the lowest R&D intensity (%)	
Belgium	Prov. Brabant Wallon	7.8	Prov. Luxembourg (BE)	0.4
Bulgaria	Yugozapaden	1.1	Severen tsentralen	0.1
Czech Republic	Jihovýchod	2.6	Severozápad	0.4
Denmark	Hovedstaden	4.9	Sjælland	1.1
Germany*	Braunschweig	7.3	Koblenz	0.7
Estonia	-	-	-	-
Ireland	Border, Midland and Western	1.6	Southern and Eastern	1.6
Greece	Kriti	1.1	Ionia Nisia	0.1
Spain	País Vasco	2.2	Ciudad Autónoma de Ceuta	0.1
France**	Midi-Pyrénées	4.8	Corse	0.4
Croatia	Kontinentalna Hrvatska	1.0	Jadranska Hrvatska	0.3
Italy	Piemonte	1.9	Molise	0.5
Cyprus	-	-	-	-
Latvia	-	-	-	-
Lithuania	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	-	-	-	-
Hungary	Közép-Magyarország	1.6	Nyugat-Dunántúl	0.6
Malta	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	Noord-Brabant	2.8	Zeeland	0.8
Austria	Steiermark	4.2	Burgenland (AT)	0.8
Poland	Mazowieckie	1.4	Opolskie	0.2
Portugal	Lisboa	1.8	Região Autónoma da Madeira	0.3
Romania	București - Ilfov	1.0	Sud-Est	0.1
Slovenia	Zahodna Slovenija	3.1	Vzhodna Slovenija	1.9
Slovakia	Bratislavský kraj	1.6	Západné Slovensko	0.4
Finland	Helsinki-Uusimaa	4.0	Åland	0.4
Sweden	Sydsverige	4.3	Mellersta Norrland	0.8
United Kingdom	East Anglia	4.7	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	0.2

Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Greece, France, Austria and Sweden: 2011 data.

* Data for Niederbayern and Oberpfalz are confidential.

** Data not available for the French overseas departments.

- Not applicable: countries considered as single NUTS 2 regions. In 2012, national values were: Estonia (2.2%), Cyprus (0.4%), Latvia (0.7%), Lithuania (0.9%), Luxembourg (1.2%) and Malta (0.9%).

The source dataset is available [here](#).

Geographical information

The yearbook uses the [Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics](#) (NUTS 2010), although a new classification (NUTS 2013) has entered into force as of 1 January 2015.

In the classification NUTS 2010, the EU has 272 regions at **NUTS level 2**: Belgium (11), Bulgaria (6), the Czech Republic (8), Denmark (5), Germany (38), Ireland (2), Greece (13), Spain (19), France (26), Croatia (2), Italy (21), Hungary (7), the Netherlands (12), Austria (9), Poland (16), Portugal (7), Romania (8), Slovenia (2), Slovakia (4), Finland (5), Sweden (8) and the United Kingdom (37). Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Malta are all considered as single NUTS 2 regions.

EFTA countries: Norway (7) and Switzerland (7). Iceland and Liechtenstein are considered as single level 2 regions.

Candidate countries: Albania (3) and Turkey (26), Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are considered as single level 2 regions.

In the classification NUTS 2010, the EU has 1 315 regions at **NUTS level 3**: Belgium (44), Bulgaria (28), the Czech Republic (14), Denmark (11), Germany (412), Estonia (5), Ireland (8), Greece (51), Spain (59), France (100), Croatia (21), Italy (110), Latvia (6), Lithuania (10), Hungary (20), Malta (2), the Netherlands (40), Austria (35), Poland (66), Portugal (30), Romania (42), Slovenia (12), Slovakia (8), Finland (19), Sweden (21) and the United Kingdom (139). Cyprus and Luxembourg are considered as single NUTS 3 regions.

EFTA countries: Iceland (2), Norway (19) and Switzerland (26). Liechtenstein is considered as a single level 3 region.

Candidate countries: Albania (12), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (8) and Turkey (81). Montenegro is considered as a single level 3 region. For Serbia, data are currently available at national level only.

Methods and definitions

The **employment rate** is the percentage of employed persons in relation to the total population of the same age group.

Gross value added (GVA) at market prices is output at market prices minus intermediate consumption at purchaser prices; it is a balancing item of the national accounts' production accounts. Gross value added of the total economy usually accounts for more than 90 % of GDP.

Research & Development, abbreviated as R&D and sometimes also called **research and experimental development**, refers to creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge (including knowledge of man, culture and society), and the use of this knowledge to devise new applications. **Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD)** includes expenditure on research and development by business enterprises, higher education institutions, as well as government and private non-profit organisations.

Revisions and time table

Data in this News Release may differ from that in the regional yearbook, due to updates made after the extractions used for the publication.

For more information

Eurostat regional yearbook 2015. Paper version free of charge, [PDF-version](#) and underlying data available on the Eurostat website. Also available as a set of [Statistics Explained articles](#).

The regional yearbook 2015 includes twelve thematic chapters on regional policies and Europe 2020, population, health, education, labour market, economy, structural business statistics, research and innovation, information society, tourism, transport and agriculture, as well as three special focus chapters on gender statistics, quality of life and European cities.

Eurostat's [Statistical Atlas](#)

Eurostat [Regional Statistics Illustrated](#)

The **European Week of Regions and Cities** is an annual four-day event during which cities and regions showcase their capacity to create growth and jobs, implement European Union cohesion policy, and prove the importance of the local and regional level for good European governance. More information on the 2015 events is available [here](#).

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