

25/2019 - 5 February 2019

Children's health in the EU in 2017

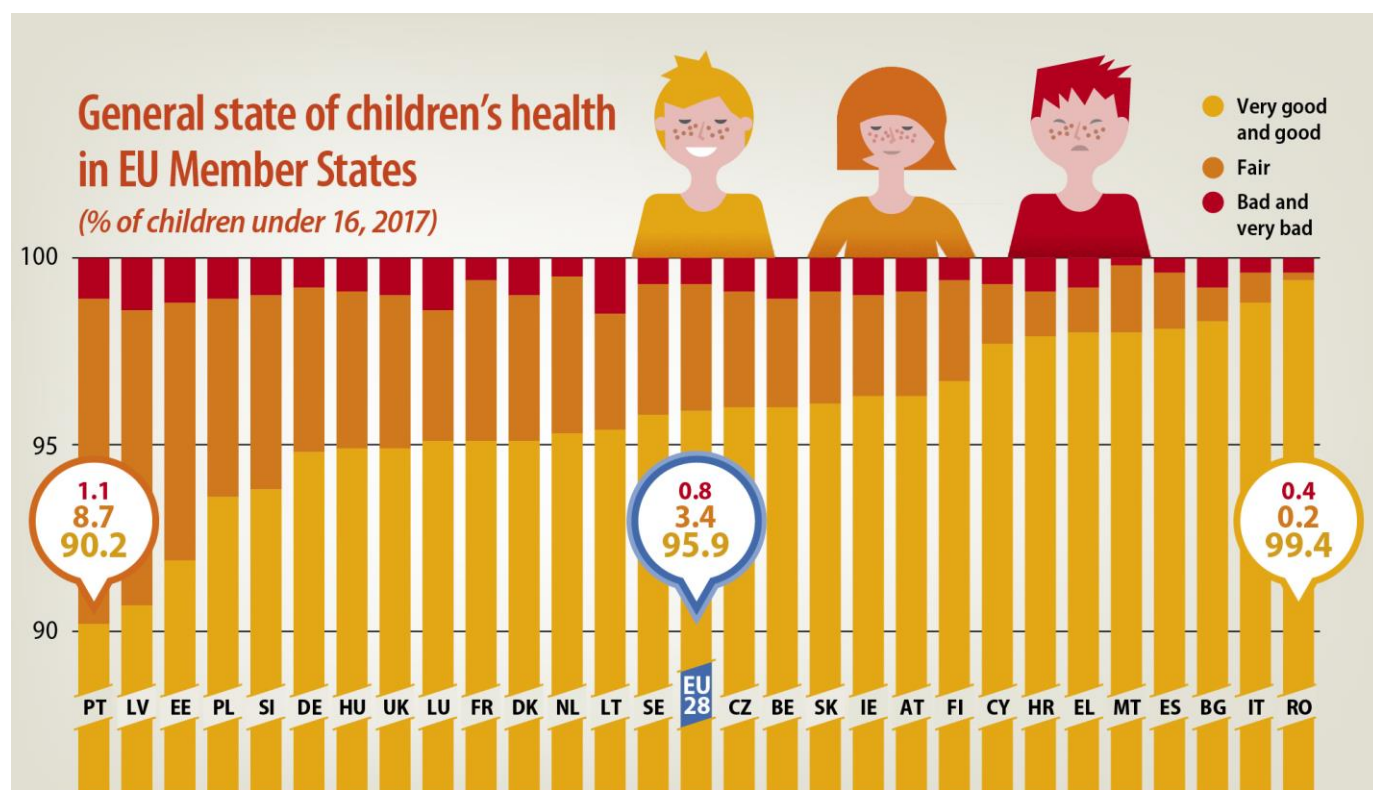
More than 95% of children in the EU considered to be in good or very good health

Under 5% of children face activity limitations due to health problems

In 2017, more than 95% of children in the **European Union** (EU) were considered to be in good or very good general health. This percentage changes only slightly by age group, from 96.5% for those aged under five, to 95.9% for those aged five to nine and 95.2% for those aged ten to fifteen. The percentage of children whose general health was considered to be bad or very bad was under 1% for all age groups.

Less than 5% of children in the **EU** in 2017 were considered to have limitations in activities due to health problems: 3.7% with moderate limitations and 1.2% with severe limitations. The proportion facing each category of limitations in activity increases with age. Among those aged under five, 2.2% had moderate and 0.6% had severe limitations in activities, while for those aged five to nine the proportions were 4.1% and 1.2% respectively and 4.4% and 1.6% for those aged ten to fifteen.

These data on children's health in the **EU** (reported by a household member) are issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. They are taken from the 2017 EU-Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) ad-hoc module on health and children's health.



Note: Reported by a household member

More than 99% of children under five in good health in Bulgaria, Malta, Romania and Italy

In 2017, the percentage of children aged under five considered to be in good or very good health ranged from 92.4% in **Estonia** to more than 99% in **Bulgaria, Malta, Romania and Italy**.

Among children aged five to nine, the proportion of those considered to be in good or very good health was lowest in **Portugal** (89.3%) and **Latvia** (91.2%) and highest in **Romania** (99.8%), **Cyprus** (98.9%), **Italy** (98.8%) and **Greece** (98.7%).

Among those aged ten to fifteen, the percentage considered to be in good or very good health varied from below 90% in **Latvia** (88.0%), **Portugal** (88.7%) and **Estonia** (89.6%) to above 98% in **Romania** (99.1%), **Italy** (98.4%) and **Bulgaria** (98.2%).

In nearly all Member States, less than 1% of children under five have severe limitations in activity due to health problems

In 2017, among children aged under five, the percentage considered to have severe limitations in activity due to health problems was under 1% in all Member States except the **United Kingdom** (1.1%), **Belgium** (1.4%), **Finland** (1.5%) and **Austria** (1.6%). For moderate limitations in activity there was greater variation between Member States, ranging from less than 1% in **Italy** (0.2%), **Cyprus** (0.6%), **Malta** (0.7%) and **Bulgaria** (0.9%) to 4.9% in **Denmark**, 7.8% in **Lithuania**, 8.6% in **Latvia**.

For children aged five to nine, the proportion with severe limitations in activity was highest in the **United Kingdom** (3.7%), **Denmark** (2.4%), **Luxembourg** (2.3%) and **Hungary** (2.2%), and lowest in **Italy** and **Bulgaria** (both 0.3%). Moderate limitations in activity ranged from 0.2% in **Italy** and 0.9% in **Greece** to 7.9% in **Finland**, 8.3% in **Lithuania**, 8.4% in **Estonia** and 11.9% in **Latvia**.

Among those aged ten to fifteen, proportions with severe limitations in activity ranged from 0.1% in **Lithuania** to 2.9% in **Luxembourg** and 4.7% in the **United Kingdom**, while moderate limitations varied between 0.7% in **Slovakia** and 0.8% in **Italy** and **Cyprus** to 10.9% in **Denmark**, 11.4% in **Finland** and 13.5% in **Latvia**.

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, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Methods and definitions

This News Release is based on the EU-Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) ad hoc module 2017. The EU-SILC survey is the EU reference source for comparative statistics on income distribution, poverty and living conditions. More information can be found [here](#).

The reference population is all private households and their current members residing in the territory of a given Member State at the time of data collection. Persons living in collective households and in institutions are generally excluded from the target population as well as small and remote parts of the national territory amounting to no more than 2% of the national population.

The information on general health and limitation in activities due to health problems was provided for each child aged 0-15 by personal interview with the household respondent.

For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) on income, social inclusion and living conditions.

Eurostat [website section](#) on EU-SILC ad-hoc modules

Eurostat [database](#) on income and living conditions

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

Tim ALLEN

Tel: +352-4301-33 444

eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

 [EurostatStatistics](#)

 ec.europa.eu/eurostat/


Production of data:

Emilio DI MEGLIO

Tel: +352-4301-38 378

emilio.di-meglio@ec.europa.eu

 [@EU_Eurostat](#)

 **Media requests:** Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33 408 / eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu

General state of children's' health and limitations in activity, 2017
% of all children aged under 16

	General state of children's' health			Limitations in activity due to health problems		
	Very bad / Bad	Fair	Good / Very good	None	Moderate	Severe
EU	0.8	3.4	95.9	95.2	3.7	1.2
Belgium	1.1	2.9	96.0	95.0	3.5	1.5
Bulgaria	0.8	0.9	98.3	97.8	1.6	0.6
Czechia	0.9	3.1	96.0	93.4	5.4	1.1
Denmark	0.9	3.9	95.1	91.1	7.6	1.3
Germany	0.8	4.4	94.8	95.4	3.8	0.8
Estonia	1.2	6.9	91.9	91.5	7.4	1.0
Ireland	1.0	2.7	96.3	95.1	3.3	1.6
Greece	0.8	1.2	98.0	98.1	1.3	0.7
Spain	0.4	1.5	98.1	97.2	2.1	0.7
France	0.6	4.3	95.1	95.2	3.7	1.1
Croatia	0.9	1.2	97.9	97.2	2.0	0.8
Italy	0.4	0.8	98.8	99.2	0.5	0.3
Cyprus	0.7	1.6	97.7	98.3	0.9	0.8
Latvia	1.4	7.9	90.7	87.6	11.4	1.0
Lithuania	1.5	3.1	95.4	91.3	7.9	0.8
Luxembourg	1.4	3.5	95.1	94.9	3.1	1.9
Hungary	1.0	4.2	94.9	95.4	3.6	1.0
Malta	0.2	1.8	98.0	97.5	1.8	0.7
Netherlands	0.5	4.2	95.3	93.9	5.3	0.9
Austria	0.9	2.8	96.3	94.0	4.5	1.5
Poland	1.1	5.3	93.6	96.4	2.6	1.0
Portugal	1.1	8.7	90.2	94.8	4.6	0.6
Romania	0.4	0.2	99.4	:	:	:
Slovenia	1.0	5.2	93.8	96.4	2.3	1.3
Slovakia	0.9	3.0	96.1	97.6	1.5	1.0
Finland	0.5	2.7	96.7	90.3	8.0	1.8
Sweden	0.8	3.5	95.8	96.3	2.9	0.8
United Kingdom	1.1	4.1	94.9	91.7	5.4	3.0
Norway	1.3	3.9	94.7	91.5	6.4	2.1
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.2	4.5	94.3	97.6	1.0	1.4
Serbia	0.8	2.3	96.9	98.3	1.0	0.7

: Data not available

The source dataset can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

General state of childrens' health, 2017
% of children by age group

	Less than 5 years old			5 to 9 years old			10 to 15 years old		
	Very bad / Bad	Fair	Good / Very good	Very bad / Bad	Fair	Good / Very good	Very bad / Bad	Fair	Good / Very good
EU	0.6	2.9	96.5	0.7	3.3	95.9	0.9	3.8	95.2
Belgium	1.0	3.1	95.9	0.6	2.3	97.0	1.6	3.2	95.3
Bulgaria	0.0	0.3	99.6	1.4	1.5	97.0	0.8	0.9	98.2
Czechia	0.7	2.2	97.2	1.1	3.4	95.6	1.0	3.6	95.3
Denmark	0.6	2.8	96.6	0.6	3.4	96.1	1.4	5.2	93.4
Germany	0.4	4.2	95.4	1.1	4.3	94.5	0.9	4.6	94.5
Estonia	0.5	7.1	92.4	1.0	5.3	93.7	2.1	8.2	89.6
Ireland	1.1	2.5	96.4	0.8	3.4	95.8	1.2	2.3	96.5
Greece	0.6	1.0	98.5	0.6	0.7	98.7	1.3	1.7	97.0
Spain	0.3	0.9	98.8	0.4	1.4	98.2	0.5	2.1	97.4
France	0.6	3.9	95.5	0.1	3.8	96.1	0.9	5.1	94.0
Croatia	0.2	1.5	98.3	0.8	1.0	98.2	1.6	1.1	97.2
Italy	0.3	0.3	99.3	0.4	0.8	98.8	0.5	1.1	98.4
Cyprus	1.2	1.3	97.5	0.2	0.9	98.9	0.8	2.4	96.8
Latvia	0.8	5.9	93.3	1.9	6.8	91.2	1.5	10.5	88.0
Lithuania	0.4	2.8	96.7	4.0	1.3	94.7	0.2	4.9	94.9
Luxembourg	0.7	2.6	96.7	2.5	2.5	95.0	1.1	5.0	93.9
Hungary	0.6	4.5	94.9	2.0	3.9	94.1	0.3	4.1	95.5
Malta	0.3	0.2	99.4	0.0	2.1	97.9	0.3	2.9	96.7
Netherlands	0.7	3.5	95.9	0.2	3.3	96.5	0.8	5.4	93.8
Austria	0.5	2.6	97.0	0.0	3.1	96.9	1.8	2.8	95.4
Poland	1.0	5.9	93.1	0.9	5.8	93.4	1.5	4.3	94.3
Portugal	0.7	5.9	93.3	1.0	9.7	89.3	1.5	9.7	88.7
Romania	0.6	0.0	99.4	0.1	0.0	99.8	0.5	0.4	99.1
Slovenia	0.4	5.6	93.9	1.6	4.1	94.3	0.9	5.8	93.3
Slovakia	0.3	2.9	96.8	0.9	4.3	94.9	1.3	2.0	96.7
Finland	0.6	2.2	97.2	0.5	1.5	98.0	0.5	4.2	95.3
Sweden	0.4	1.7	97.9	0.5	2.8	96.8	1.3	5.6	93.1
United Kingdom	0.6	2.4	97.0	1.3	4.7	94.0	1.4	5.7	92.9
Norway	0.9	3.1	96.0	1.0	2.0	97.0	1.4	4.4	94.1
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	0.7	7.1	92.2	1.5	4.1	94.5	1.5	2.7	95.9
Serbia	1.0	1.8	97.2	1.3	2.4	96.2	0.4	2.5	97.2

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

Children with limitations in activity due to health problems, 2017
% of children by age group

	Less than 5 years old			5 to 9 years old			10 to 15 years old		
	None	Moderate	Severe	None	Moderate	Severe	None	Moderate	Severe
EU	97.2	2.2	0.6	94.8	4.1	1.2	94.0	4.4	1.6
Belgium	96.7	1.9	1.4	95.7	3.5	0.9	93.0	4.9	2.1
Bulgaria	99.0	0.9	0.1	96.8	2.9	0.3	97.6	1.1	1.3
Czechia	94.6	4.6	0.9	93.5	5.6	0.9	92.2	6.1	1.6
Denmark	94.3	4.9	0.9	91.8	5.8	2.4	88.4	10.9	0.8
Germany	98.4	1.1	0.5	94.6	5.0	0.4	93.7	5.0	1.3
Estonia	95.4	4.3	0.3	89.9	8.4	1.6	89.7	9.3	1.1
Ireland	96.8	2.3	0.9	95.1	3.3	1.6	93.8	4.1	2.1
Greece	98.5	1.1	0.4	98.8	0.9	0.4	97.1	1.8	1.1
Spain	98.2	1.4	0.3	97.0	2.0	0.9	96.6	2.7	0.7
France	97.2	2.4	0.4	95.5	4.0	0.5	93.2	4.5	2.3
Croatia	98.3	1.6	0.1	97.1	2.2	0.7	96.4	2.1	1.5
Italy	99.7	0.2	0.1	99.4	0.2	0.3	98.7	0.8	0.5
Cyprus	98.5	0.6	0.9	98.0	1.2	0.9	98.6	0.8	0.6
Latvia	90.8	8.6	0.5	86.9	11.9	1.2	85.3	13.5	1.2
Lithuania	91.6	7.8	0.6	89.9	8.3	1.8	92.3	7.6	0.1
Luxembourg	98.2	1.4	0.4	95.1	2.6	2.3	92.2	4.9	2.9
Hungary	97.1	2.6	0.3	92.9	4.8	2.2	96.2	3.4	0.4
Malta	98.7	0.7	0.5	96.7	2.2	1.1	97.0	2.5	0.5
Netherlands	97.1	2.6	0.3	94.5	4.6	0.8	90.7	7.9	1.4
Austria	95.5	2.8	1.6	93.4	5.4	1.2	93.4	5.1	1.6
Poland	97.6	1.8	0.6	96.3	2.9	0.8	95.4	3.1	1.5
Portugal	97.3	2.5	0.2	93.3	6.2	0.5	94.2	4.8	1.0
Romania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	98.1	1.0	0.9	97.1	1.8	1.1	94.6	3.6	1.9
Slovakia	97.6	2.1	0.3	96.8	1.9	1.3	98.1	0.7	1.1
Finland	95.0	3.6	1.5	90.1	7.9	2.0	86.9	11.4	1.7
Sweden	98.6	1.1	0.3	97.2	2.2	0.6	93.6	5.1	1.4
United Kingdom	96.5	2.4	1.1	89.6	6.7	3.7	87.5	7.8	4.7
Norway	97.0	2.4	0.5	94.8	4.7	0.5	90.0	7.4	2.6
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	98.6	1.1	0.3	97.0	0.9	2.1	97.3	1.1	1.6
Serbia	98.7	0.2	1.1	97.8	1.5	0.7	98.4	1.2	0.4

: Data not available

The source dataset can be found [here](#).