Fourth quarter of 2018

Household real income per capita up in the euro area and in the EU28

Real consumption per capita stable in the euro area and up in the EU28

In the euro area, in real terms, household income per capita increased by 0.3% in the fourth quarter of 2018, after an increase of 0.2% in the previous quarter. Household real consumption per capita was stable in the fourth quarter of 2018 as well as in the third quarter of 2018.

In the EU28 household real income per capita increased by 0.3% in the fourth quarter of 2018, after an increase of 0.6% in the previous quarter. Household real consumption per capita increased by 0.2% in the fourth quarter of 2018, after an increase of 0.3% in the third quarter of 2018.

These data come from a detailed set of seasonally adjusted quarterly European sector accounts released by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union and the European Central Bank (ECB). The dataset is available on the Eurostat website, and the key indicators are also presented in Statistics Explained.
Geographical information

The euro area (EA19) consists of 19 Member States: Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland, plus the European Central Bank and the European Stability Mechanism.

The European Union (EU28) consists of 28 Member States: Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, 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 plus the EU institutions.

Methods and definitions

**Household real income per capita** is defined as the adjusted gross disposable income of households, in nominal terms, divided by the total population (source: National Accounts concept) and by the deflator (price index) of household final consumption expenditure.

**Household real consumption per capita** is defined as the actual final consumption expenditure of households, in nominal terms, divided by the total population (source: National Accounts concept) and by the deflator (price index) of household final consumption expenditure.

The compilation of the European sector accounts follows the European System of Accounts 2010 (ESA 2010) and covers the period from the first quarter of 1999 onwards.

Institutional sectors bring together economic units with broadly similar characteristics and behaviour, namely: households (including non-profit institutions serving households), non-financial corporations, financial corporations, government and the rest of the world. In the latter, to measure the external transactions of the euro area / European Union, it is necessary to remove cross-border flows within the area concerned.

Eurostat website includes detailed annual and quarterly sector accounts of Member States of the European Economic Area and derived key indicators published around 120 days after each quarter (which also cover annual indicators such as debt-to-income ratios). A subset of quarterly key indicators is published around 94 days after each quarter.

Due to the conversion to euro, the growth rates of European Union aggregates may be affected by movements in exchange rates.

Revisions and timetable

A first release, focussing on data for household saving and investment rates in the euro area, is published around 94 days after each quarter.

Compared with News Release 18/2019 of 29 January 2019, the growth rate of household income per capita in real terms for the third quarter of 2018 has been revised from +0.3% to +0.2% for the EA19 and from +0.8% to +0.6% for the EU28. The growth rate of household consumption has been revised from +0.1% to 0.0% for the EA19 and has been revised from +0.4% to +0.3% for the EU28.

For more information

Eurostat quarterly data on sector accounts (including complete euro area dataset – previous vintage)

Eurostat annual data on sector accounts (including complete euro area dataset – previous vintage)

Eurostat metadata on European sector accounts compilation

Detailed data and methodology on the Eurostat website here and on the ECB website here

Eurostat €-indicators release calendar

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EurostatStatistics
Household adjusted gross disposable income and consumption
(seasonally adjusted, percentage change compared with the previous quarter)

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Q2</th>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Q4</th>
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</table>

The source dataset is available [here](ec.europa.eu/eurostat). Please note that the data in the table are independently rounded to the nearest 0.1.