

Introduction

As the population of the European Union (EU) grew beyond 500 million inhabitants in 2010, its structure continued to change. Recent demographic developments show that the EU's population is increasing, while its age structure is becoming older as post-war baby-boom generations reach retirement age. Furthermore, people are living longer, as life expectancy continues to increase. On the other hand, while fertility is increasing slowly, it remains well below a level that would keep the size of the population constant in the absence of inward or outward migration. As a result, the EU will, in the coming decades, face a number of challenges associated with an ageing society which will impact on a range of areas, including labour markets, pensions and provisions for healthcare, housing and social services.

Population change and the structure of the population are gaining importance in the political, economic, social and cultural context of demographic behaviour. Demographic trends in population growth, fertility, mortality and migration are closely followed by policymakers. EU policies, notably in social and economic fields, use demographic data for planning and for programme monitoring and evaluation.

Eurostat provides a wide range of demographic data, including statistics on populations at national and regional level, as well as for various demographic factors (births, deaths, marriages and divorces, immigration and emigration) influencing the size, the structure and the specific characteristics of these populations. Eurostat also collects detailed information on different areas related to migration and asylum: foreign resident populations, annual flows of immigrants and emigrants, persons acquiring citizenship, monthly and quarterly information on asylum applicants and on asylum decisions, residence permits issued to non-EU nationals and information on persons found illegally present in EU Member States. These statistics concerning migration and asylum provide the basis for the development and monitoring of EU policy initiatives in several areas, including: the impact of migration on labour markets, the promotion of migrant integration, the development of a common asylum system, the prevention of unauthorised migration, and trafficking in human beings.

2.1 European population compared with world population

This subchapter gives an overview of the European Union's (EU's) population in relation to the rest of the world by looking at several key demographic indicators; it includes information on population levels, population density, fertility, life expectancy and old-age dependency ratios. The figures presented portray a diverse range of developments: with slow or even diminishing population numbers in some developed economies in contrast to rapid population increases in certain developing countries.

Main statistical findings

The world's population reached 7000 million inhabitants towards the end of 2011 and continues

to grow. Asia accounted for the majority of the world's population (just over 60% in 2010) with 4164 million inhabitants, while Africa was the next most populous continent with 1022 million inhabitants, or 14.8% of the world total.

The world's population more than doubled between 1960 and 2010. The increase in global population between 1960 and 2010 can be largely attributed to growth in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The most populous countries in the world in 2010 were China (19.5% of world's population) and India (17.8%), followed at some distance by the United States (4.5%), Indonesia (3.5%) and Brazil (2.8%). The share of the EU-27 in the world's population was 7.3%.



Population density within the EU-27 was 116.7 persons per km² in 2010, more than 3.5 times as high as in the United States, but below the values recorded for Indonesia, China, Japan, India and South Korea.

The latest United Nations (UN) population projections (World Population Prospects, the 2010 Revision) suggest that the pace at which the world's population is expanding will slow somewhat in the coming decades; however, the total number of inhabitants is nevertheless projected to reach more than 9 600 million by 2060. According to these projections (the medium variant), the world's population will also be relatively older (in other words, with a higher median age) in 2060 than it is now.

Ageing societies

Ageing society represents a major demographic challenge and is linked to several issues, including, persistently low fertility rates and significant increases in life expectancy during recent decades (see Table 2.1.3). Improvements in the quality and availability of healthcare are likely, at least in part, to explain the latter, alongside other factors such as increased awareness of health issues, higher standards of living, or changes in workplace occupations from predominantly manual labour to tertiary activities. The average life expectancy of a new-born baby in the world was estimated at 67.9 years (for the period 2005 to 2010): the value of this indicator increased by 3.5 years compared with the period 1990 to 1995. In the EU-27, life expectancy at birth is generally higher than in most other regions of the world.

The old-age dependency ratio is used as indicator of the level of support of the old population (aged 65 years and over) by the working age population (those aged between 15 to 64 years). Both the UN's and Eurostat's population projections suggest that the population of older persons in the EU-27 will increase to such an extent that there will be fewer than two persons of working age for each person aged 65 or more by the year 2050.

Data sources and availability

The data in this subchapter is based on information from two sources: Eurostat and the United Nations Population Division (World Population Prospects, the 2010 Revision).

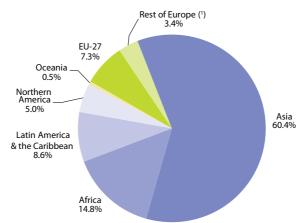
The UN is involved in several multi-national survey programmes whose results provide key information about fertility, mortality, maternal and child health. UN population data is often based on registers or estimates of mid-year population; this may be contrasted with Eurostat's data that generally reflect the situation as of 1 January in each reference year.

UN population projections are used in this subchapter to provide comparisons between EU and non-EU countries; within this subchapter use was made of the medium variant projections. Eurostat regularly produces population projections at a national level for the EU Member States. The latest Eurostat Population Projections were made in 2010 (EUROPOP2010).

Context

Europe's ageing society and its relatively static number of inhabitants may be contrasted against a rapid expansion in the world's population, driven largely by population growth in developing countries. However, the demographic challenge that the EU-27 is confronted with is by no means unique. Most developed, and also some emerging economies, will undergo changes in their demographic composition in the next five decades. Shrinking working age populations, a higher proportion of elderly persons, and increasing old-age dependency rates suggest that there will be a considerable burden to provide social expenditure related to population ageing (pensions, healthcare, institutional care). The challenges associated with an ageing society are likely to be even more acute in countries such Japan and South Korea where this dependency ratio will rise rapidly and to a very high level, while the share of older persons in the total population is also expected to increase at a rapid pace in China.

Figure 2.1.1: World population, 2010 (% of total)



⁽¹⁾ Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland and Ukraine.

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population: World Population Prospects, 2010 revision

Table 2.1.1: World population, 1960-2010

	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010
						(million))				
World	3 038	3 3 3 3	3 696	4076	4453	4863	5 306	5726	6123	6507	6 8 9 6
Europe (1)	604	634	656	676	693	707	720	727	727	731	738
Africa	287	324	368	420	483	555	635	721	811	911	1 022
Asia	1 708	1886	2135	2393	2638	2907	3 199	3 470	3719	3 945	4164
Latin America and the Caribbean	220	253	286	323	362	402	443	483	521	557	590
Northern America	204	219	231	242	254	267	281	296	313	329	345
Oceania	16	17	20	21	23	25	27	29	31	34	37
				(% of the	world po	pulation	n)			
Europe (1)	19.9	19.0	17.7	16.6	15.6	14.5	13.6	12.7	11.9	11.2	10.7
Africa	9.4	9.7	10.0	10.3	10.8	11.4	12.0	12.6	13.2	14.0	14.8
Asia	56.2	56.6	57.8	58.7	59.2	59.8	60.3	60.6	60.7	60.6	60.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	7.2	7.6	7.7	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.6
Northern America	6.7	6.6	6.3	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.0
Oceania	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

⁽¹⁾ EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland and Ukraine.

Source: United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population: World Population Prospects, 2010 revision

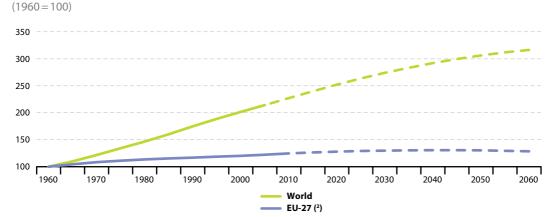
Table 2.1.2: Population and population density, 1960 and 2010

	Population	on (million)	Population densi	ty (persons per km²)
	1960	2010	1960	2010
EU-27 (1)	402.6	501.1	94.0	116.7
Argentina	20.6	40.4	7.4	14.5
Australia	10.3	22.3	1.3	2.9
Brazil	72.8	194.9	8.5	22.9
Canada	17.9	34.0	1.8	3.4
China	658.3	1 341.3	68.6	139.8
India	447.8	1 224.6	136.2	372.5
Indonesia	91.9	239.9	48.3	125.9
Japan	92.5	126.5	244.8	334.9
South Korea	25.1	48.2	251.9	484.1
Mexico	38.4	113.4	19.6	57.9
Russia	119.9	143.0	7.0	8.4
Saudi Arabia	4.0	27.4	1.9	12.8
South Africa	17.4	50.1	14.2	41.1
Turkey	28.2	72.8	35.9	92.8
United States	186.3	310.4	19.4	32.2
World	3 038.4	6895.9	22.3	50.6

^{(&#}x27;) Excluding French overseas departments for 1960; population density is calculated as the ratio between (annual average) population and the surface (land) area; whenever land area was not available, the total surface area was used instead.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_pjan and demo_r_d3area); United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population: World Population Prospects, 2010 revision

Figure 2.1.2: Population, 1960-2060 (1)



⁽¹⁾ Population projections are shown as a dotted line.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_pjan and proj_10c2150p); United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population: World Population Prospects, 2010 revision

⁽²⁾ Excluding French overseas departments up to and including 1997.



Table 2.1.3: Fertility and mortality, 1990 and 2008 (1)

	Total fert (live births)		Life expecta (ye	ncy at birth ars)
	1990	2008	1990	2008
EU-27	:	1.60	:	79.4
Argentina	2.90	2.25	72.1	75.3
Australia	1.86	1.93	77.5	81.4
Brazil	2.60	1.90	67.3	72.2
Canada	1.69	1.65	77.8	80.5
China	2.01	1.64	69.9	72.7
India	3.72	2.73	59.0	64.2
Indonesia	2.90	2.19	63.1	67.9
Japan	1.48	1.32	79.5	82.7
South Korea	1.70	1.29	72.9	80.0
Mexico	3.19	2.41	71.8	76.2
Russia	1.55	1.44	66.6	67.7
Saudi Arabia	5.45	3.03	69.6	73.1
South Africa	3.34	2.55	61.2	51.2
Turkey	2.90	2.15	64.4	73.0
United States	1.99	2.07	75.6	78.0
World	3.04	2.52	64.4	67.9

⁽¹⁾ World and non-member countries, averages for 1990-95 and 2005-2010.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_frate and demo_mlexpec); United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population: World Population Prospects, 2010 revision

Table 2.1.4: Old-age dependency ratio, 1960-2060 (¹) (population aged 65 years and over as % of population aged 15-64)

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2060
EU-27 (2)	:	:	:	20.6	23.2	25.9	31.4	38.3	45.5	50.2	52.6
Argentina	8.7	10.8	13.1	14.8	15.8	16.4	18.5	20.8	24.1	30.3	35.9
Australia	14.0	13.3	14.8	16.8	18.6	19.9	25.5	31.5	35.9	39.0	42.8
Brazil	5.9	6.5	6.9	7.4	8.5	10.4	13.8	20.0	26.6	35.8	43.6
Canada	12.7	12.7	13.9	16.6	18.4	20.3	27.7	37.8	41.0	42.3	44.9
China	7.1	7.1	8.7	9.0	10.4	11.3	16.8	23.9	36.9	41.9	51.8
India	5.4	5.8	6.3	6.5	6.9	7.6	9.5	12.2	15.4	19.9	25.4
Indonesia	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.3	7.1	8.2	10.0	15.1	22.2	30.0	36.1
Japan	8.9	10.2	13.4	17.1	25.2	35.5	48.2	52.9	63.3	69.6	68.6
South Korea	6.8	6.1	6.2	7.2	10.2	15.4	22.4	37.3	52.0	60.7	64.3
Mexico	6.4	7.5	7.4	7.6	8.6	9.8	12.5	17.4	24.8	31.3	38.6
Russia	9.9	11.7	15.0	15.3	17.9	17.7	22.5	29.4	31.2	38.5	42.4
Saudi Arabia	7.0	6.7	5.6	4.8	5.8	4.4	6.6	9.0	13.0	22.2	32.1
South Africa	7.0	6.3	5.6	5.5	5.9	7.1	9.4	11.7	12.5	14.6	18.7
Turkey	5.5	6.8	7.3	6.3	8.0	8.8	11.7	16.5	22.5	30.5	36.9
United States	15.3	15.9	17.1	19.0	18.7	19.5	25.3	32.7	34.7	35.4	36.8
World	8.8	9.3	10.1	10.2	10.9	11.6	14.3	18.0	22.2	25.7	29.6

⁽¹) From 2020 onwards: Eurostat's population projections Europop2010 for EU-27 and UN's medium variant for the world total and non-member countries. (²) Excluding French overseas departments in 1990.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_pjanind and proj_10c2150p); United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population: World Population Prospects, 2010 revision



2.2 Population structure and ageing

The impact of demographic ageing within the European Union (EU) is likely to be of major significance in the coming decades. Consistently low birth rates and higher life expectancy will transform the shape of the EU-27's age pyramid; probably the most important change will be the marked transition towards a much older population structure and this development is already becoming apparent in several Member States. As a result, the proportion of people of working age in the EU-27 is shrinking while the relative number of those retired is expanding. The share of older persons in the total population will increase significantly in the coming decades, as a greater proportion of the post-war baby-boom generation reaches retirement. This will, in turn, lead to an increased burden on those of working age to provide for the social expenditure required by the ageing population for a range of related services.

Main statistical findings

Population structure in 2010

Young people (0 to 14 years old) made up 15.6% of the EU-27's population in 2010, while persons considered to be of working age (15 to 64 years old) accounted for 67.0% of the population, and older persons (65 or more years old) had a 17.4% share (see Table 2.2.1). Across the EU Member States, the highest share of young people in the total population was observed in Ireland (21.3%), while the lowest share was recorded in Germany (13.5%). The reverse situation was observed for the proportion of older persons in the total population, where Germany recorded the highest proportion (20.7%) and Ireland had the lowest share (11.3%).

The median age of the EU-27's population was 40.9 years in 2010: this means that half of the EU-27's population was older than 40.9 years, while half was younger (see Table 2.2.2). The median age of populations across the EU Member States ranged between 34.3 years in Ireland and 44.2 years in Germany, confirming the relatively young and relatively old population structures recorded in each of these two countries.

Age dependency ratios may be used to study the level of support given to young and/or older persons by the working age population; these ratios are expressed in terms of the relative size of young and/or older populations relative to the working age population. The old-age dependency ratio for the EU-27 was 25.9% in 2010; as such, there were around four persons of working age for every person aged 65 or over. The old-age dependency ratio ranged across the EU Member States from 16.8% in Ireland to 31.4% in Germany.

The combination of young and old age dependency ratios provides the total age dependency ratio, which in 2010 was 49.3% in the EU-27, indicating that there were about two working age persons for every dependent person. The lowest total age dependency ratio was observed in Slovakia (38.1%) and the highest in France (54.2%).

Population pyramids (see Figures 2.2.1 and 2.2.2) show the distribution of population by sex and by five-year age groups. Each bar corresponds to the share of the given sex and age group in the total (men and women combined) population. The population pyramid for the EU-27 in 2010 is narrow at the bottom and is shaped more as a rhomboid due to the baby-boom cohorts of the 1960s. The babyboom was a phenomenon characterised by high fertility rates in several European countries in the middle of the 1960s. Baby boomers currently represent an important part of the working age population and the first of these large cohorts, born over a period of 20-30 years, are now getting close to retirement (this may be observed by comparing the 2010 population pyramid with a previous year - in Figure 2.2.1 a comparison is made with 1990).

Past and current trends of population ageing in the EU

Population ageing is a long-term trend which began several decades ago in the EU. This ageing is visible in the development of the age structure of the population and is reflected in an increasing share of older persons and a declining share of working age persons in the total population.



In the past two decades, the share of the working age population in the EU-27 increased by 0.3 percentage points, while the share of the older population increased by 3.7 percentage points; as a result, the top of the EU-27 age pyramid for 2010 became larger as compared with 1990 (see Figure 2.2.1). The growth in the relative share of older people may be explained by increased longevity - a pattern that has been evident for several decades as life expectancy has risen (see mortality and life expectancy statistics) - this development is often referred to as 'ageing at the top' of the population pyramid.

On the other hand, low levels of fertility have been maintained across most of the EU (see fertility statistics); this has resulted in a decreasing share of young people in the total population. This process, known as 'ageing at the bottom', is visible in the population pyramids through a reduction at the base of the age pyramids, as seen between 1990 and 2010.

The development of the median age of the EU-27 population also provides an illustration of population ageing. The median age increased from 35.2 years in 1990 to 40.9 years by 2010 (see Figure 2.2.4). Over the period from 1990 to 2010, the median age increased in all of the EU Member States, rising by at least six years in Slovenia, Portugal, Lithuania, Germany, Spain, Malta, Italy, the Netherlands and Austria (see Figure 2.2.5).

Future trends in population ageing

Eurostat's latest set of population projections (EUROPOP2010) were made covering the period from 2011 to 2060 - and show that population ageing is likely to affect all EU Member States over this period. The convergence scenario is one of several possible population change scenarios that aim to provide information about the likely future size and structure of the population. According to this scenario, the EU's population will be slightly higher in 2060, while the age structure of the population will be much older than it is now.

According to the convergence scenario of EUROPOP2010, the EU-27's population is projected to increase to 525 million by 2035, peaking at 526 million around 2040, and thereafter gradually declining to 517 million by 2060. During the same

period, the median age of the EU-27's population is projected to rise to 47.6 years. The population of working age is expected to decline steadily, while older persons will likely account for an increasing share of the total population - those aged 65 years or over will account for 29.5 % of the EU-27's population by 2060 (17.4% in 2010).

Another aspect of population ageing is the progressive ageing of the older population itself, as the relative importance of the oldest people is growing at a faster pace than any other age segment of the EU's population. The share of those aged 80 years or above in the EU-27's population is projected to almost triple between 2010 and 2060 (see Figure 2.2.6).

As a result of the population movement between age groups, the EU-27's old age dependency ratio is projected to more than double from 25.9 % in 2010 to 52.6% by 2060. The total age dependency ratio (calculated as the ratio of dependent people, young and old, compared with the population aged 15 to 64 years old) is projected to rise from 49.3 % in 2010 to 77.9 % by 2060.

Age pyramids for 2010 and 2060 (see Figure 2.2.2) show that the EU-27's population is projected to continue to age. In the coming decades, the high number of baby boomers will swell the number of elderly people. The population pyramid shows how the baby boomer bulge is moving up while the middle and the base of the pyramid (those of working age and children) are projected to narrow considerably by 2060.

Data sources and availability

Eurostat provides information for a wide range of demographic data. Data on population includes breakdowns by several characteristics, such as age and sex. Eurostat produces population projections at a national level every three years. These projections are what-if scenarios that aim to provide information about the likely future size and age structure of the population based on assumptions of future trends in fertility, life expectancy and migration; the latest projection exercise was EUROPOP2010.



Context

Eurostat's population projections are used by the European Commission to analyse the likely impact of ageing populations on public spending. Increased social expenditure related to population ageing, in the form of pensions, healthcare and institutional or private (health)care, is likely to result in a higher burden for working age populations.

A number of important policies, notably in social and economic fields, use demographic data for planning actions, monitoring and evaluating programmes – for example, population ageing and its likely effects on the sustainability of public finance and welfare provisions, or the economic and social impact of demographic change.

Table 2.2.1: Population age structure by major age groups, 1990 and 2010 (% of the total population)

	0-14 ye	ears old	15-64 y	ears old	65 years o	old or over
	1990	2010	1990	2010	1990	2010
EU-27	19.5	15.6	66.7	67.0	13.7	17.4
Belgium	18.1	16.9	67.1	65.9	14.8	17.2
Bulgaria	20.5	13.6	66.5	68.9	13.0	17.5
Czech Republic	21.7	14.2	65.8	70.6	12.5	15.2
Denmark	17.1	18.1	67.3	65.6	15.6	16.3
Germany	16.0	13.5	69.2	65.9	14.9	20.7
Estonia (1)	22.3	15.1	66.1	67.8	11.6	17.1
Ireland	27.4	21.3	61.3	67.3	11.4	11.3
Greece	19.5	14.4	66.8	66.7	13.7	18.9
Spain	20.2	14.9	66.3	68.2	13.4	16.8
France (2)	20.1	18.5	65.9	64.8	13.9	16.6
Italy	16.8	14.1	68.5	65.7	14.7	20.2
Cyprus	26.0	16.9	63.1	70.1	10.8	13.1
Latvia	21.4	13.8	66.7	68.9	11.8	17.4
Lithuania	22.6	15.0	66.6	68.9	10.8	16.1
Luxembourg	17.2	17.7	69.4	68.3	13.4	14.0
Hungary	20.5	14.7	66.2	68.6	13.2	16.6
Malta	23.6	15.6	66.0	69.6	10.4	14.8
Netherlands	18.2	17.6	69.0	67.1	12.8	15.3
Austria	17.5	14.9	67.6	67.5	14.9	17.6
Poland	25.3	15.2	64.8	71.3	10.0	13.5
Portugal	20.8	15.2	66.0	66.9	13.2	17.9
Romania	23.7	15.2	66.0	69.9	10.3	14.9
Slovenia	20.9	14.0	68.5	69.4	10.6	16.5
Slovakia	25.5	15.3	64.3	72.4	10.3	12.3
Finland	19.3	16.6	67.4	66.4	13.3	17.0
Sweden	17.8	16.6	64.4	65.3	17.8	18.1
United Kingdom	19.0	17.5	65.3	66.1	15.7	16.5
Iceland	25.0	20.9	64.4	67.1	10.6	12.0
Liechtenstein	19.4	16.4	70.6	70.1	10.0	13.5
Norway	18.9	18.9	64.8	66.2	16.3	14.9
Switzerland	17.0	15.2	68.4	68.0	14.6	16.8
Montenegro (1)	:	19.6	:	67.7	:	12.7
Croatia (1)	:	15.3	:	67.5	:	17.3
FYR of Macedonia (1)	:	17.7	:	70.7	:	11.6
Turkey	35.0	26.0	60.7	67.0	4.3	7.0

⁽¹) The population of unknown age is redistributed for calculating the age structure. (²) Excluding French overseas departments in 1990.

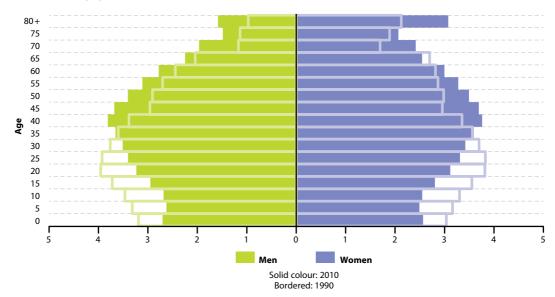
Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_pjanind)

Table 2.2.2: Population age structure indicators, 2010

	Median age	Young age dependency ratio	Old age dependency ratio	Total age dependency ratio	Share of population aged 80 or over
	(years)			(%)	
EU-27	40.9	23.3	25.9	49.3	4.7
Belgium	40.9	25.6	26.0	51.7	4.9
Bulgaria	41.4	19.7	25.4	45.1	3.8
Czech Republic	39.4	20.2	21.6	41.7	3.6
Denmark	40.5	27.6	24.9	52.4	4.1
Germany	44.2	20.5	31.4	51.8	5.1
Estonia	39.5	22.3	25.2	47.5	4.1
Ireland	34.3	31.7	16.8	48.5	2.8
Greece	41.7	21.5	28.4	49.9	4.6
Spain	39.9	21.9	24.7	46.6	4.9
France	39.8	28.6	25.6	54.2	5.2
Italy	43.1	21.4	30.8	52.2	5.8
Cyprus	36.2	24.1	18.6	42.7	2.9
Latvia	40.0	20.0	25.2	45.1	3.9
Lithuania	39.2	21.8	23.3	45.0	3.6
Luxembourg	38.9	26.0	20.4	46.4	3.6
Hungary	39.8	21.5	24.2	45.7	3.9
Malta	39.2	22.4	21.2	43.6	3.3
Netherlands	40.6	26.2	22.8	49.0	3.9
Austria	41.7	22.0	26.1	48.1	4.8
Poland	37.7	21.2	19.0	40.2	3.3
Portugal	40.7	22.7	26.7	49.4	4.5
Romania	38.3	21.7	21.4	43.0	3.1
Slovenia	41.4	20.2	23.8	44.0	3.9
Slovakia	36.9	21.2	16.9	38.1	2.7
Finland	42.0	25.0	25.6	50.6	4.6
Sweden	40.7	25.4	27.7	53.1	5.3
United Kingdom	39.6	26.4	24.9	51.3	4.6
Iceland	34.8	31.2	17.9	49.1	3.3
Liechtenstein	40.8	23.4	19.3	42.7	3.2
Norway	38.6	28.5	22.5	51.0	4.5
Switzerland	41.5	22.3	24.7	47.0	4.8
Montenegro	36.2	29.0	18.8	47.8	2.1
Croatia	41.3	22.7	25.6	48.3	3.5
FYR of Macedonia	35.8	25.1	16.4	41.5	1.8
Turkey	28.8	38.8	10.5	49.2	1.2

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_pjanind)

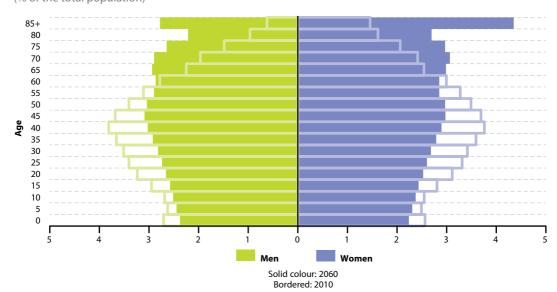
Figure 2.2.1: Population pyramids, EU-27, 1990 and 2010 (¹) (% of the total population)



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Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_pjangroup)

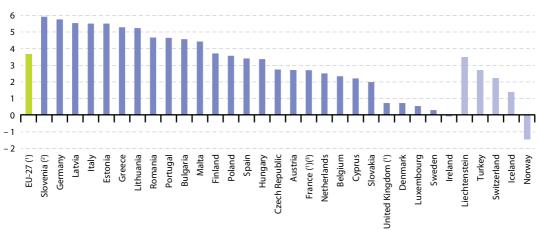
Figure 2.2.2: Population pyramids, EU-27, 2010 and 2060 (¹) (% of the total population)



(1) 2010, provisional; 2060 data are projections (EUROPOP2010 convergence scenario).

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_pjangroup and proj_10c2150p)





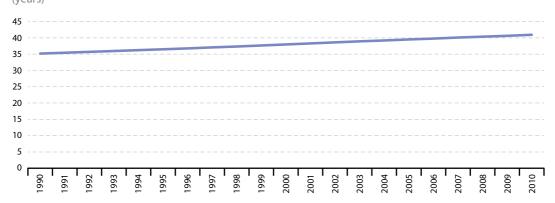
(1) Provisiona

(2) Data may be affected by the change of population definition in 2008

(3) Excluding French overseas departments in 1990.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_pjanind)

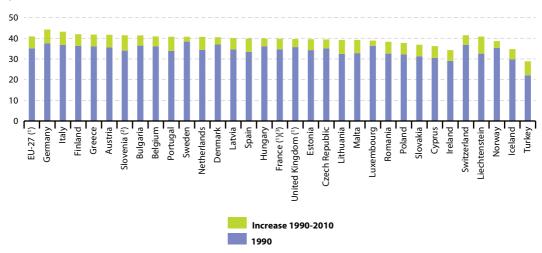
Figure 2.2.4: Median age of population, EU-27, 1990-2010 (¹) (years)



(1) Excluding French overseas departments before 1998; 2008-2010, provisional.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_pjanind)

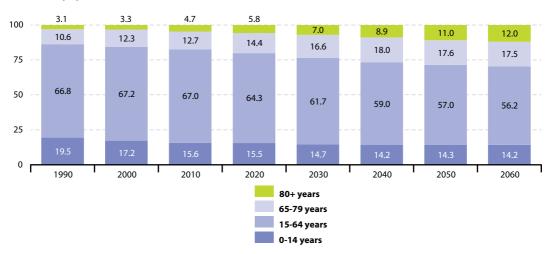
Figure 2.2.5: Median age of population, 1990 and 2010 (years)



- (1) Increase 1990-2010, provisional.
- (2) Data may be affected by the change of population definition in 2008.
- (3) Excluding French overseas departments in 1990.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_pjanind)

Figure 2.2.6: Population structure by major age groups, EU-27, 1990-2060 (¹) (% of total population)



(1) Excluding French overseas departments in 1990; 2010, provisional; 2020-2060 data are projections (EUROPOP2010 convergence scenario).

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_pjanind and proj_10c2150p)



2.3 Population and population change

This subchapter gives an overview of the development of European Union (EU) population statistics, detailing the two components of population change: natural population change and net migration plus statistical adjustment. More information on net migration is provided within a subchapter on migration and migrant population statistics.

Main statistical findings

EU-27 population continues to grow

On 1 January 2011 the population of the EU-27 was estimated at 502.5 million; this was 1.4 million people more than the year before and therefore continued a pattern of uninterrupted EU-27 population growth that has been apparent since 1960. The number of inhabitants in the EU-27 grew from 402.6 million in 1960, rising by almost 100 million persons through to 2011 (see Figure 2.3.1).

Natural population growth in the EU-27 is slowly increasing in importance

Just over one third (36.8%) of the population increase in the EU-27 during 2010 resulted from natural growth (the positive difference between live births and deaths). Net migration plus statistical adjustment continued to be the main determinant of population growth in the EU-27, accounting for 63.2% of the population increase during 2010.

The contribution of net migration plus statistical adjustment to the total population change in the EU-27 has been greater than that of natural change since 1992 (see Figure 2.3.2). The share of net migration plus statistical adjustment in total population growth peaked, in relative terms, in 2003 (95.1% of total change). Since this date, the contribution of net migration plus statistical adjustment decreased somewhat. Thus, the share of natural change in total population growth followed an upward development over the most recent period (from 2004 onwards).

The relatively low contribution of natural change to total population growth is the result of two factors: net migration in the EU-27 increased considerably from the mid-1980s onwards; secondly, the number of live births fell, while the number of deaths increased

The gap between live births and deaths in the EU-27 narrowed considerably from 1960 onwards (see Figure 2.3.3), almost reaching parity in 2003 before diverging again somewhat. Since the number of deaths is expected to increase as the baby-boom generation moves into retirement, and, assuming that the fertility rate continues to remain at a relatively low level, negative natural change (more deaths than births) cannot be excluded in the future. In this event, the extent of population decline or population growth is likely to depend on the contribution made by migration.

Population change at a national level

The number of inhabitants in EU Member States on 1 January 2011 ranged from 81.8 million in Germany to 0.4 million in Malta. Germany together with France, the United Kingdom and Italy comprised more than half (53.7%) of the total EU-27 population in 2011 (see Table 2.3.1).

Although the population of the EU-27 increased during 2010, population growth was unevenly distributed across the Member States. A total of 20 Member States observed an increase in their respective populations, while the number of inhabitants fell in Lithuania, Latvia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Germany and Portugal.

Analysing the two components of population change at a national level, eight types of population change can be distinguished, separating growth from decline, and the relative weights of natural change and net migration – see Table 2.3.3 for the full typology. Luxembourg, Belgium, Sweden, Malta and the United Kingdom recorded the highest population growth rates in 2010 (more than 6 persons per 1000 inhabitants), which was more than twice the EU-27 average of 2.8 persons per 1000 inhabitants (see Table 2.3.2). The highest rates of natural change were registered in Ireland (10.4 persons per 1000 inhabitants)

and Cyprus (5.7 per 1000 inhabitants), while the highest net migration plus statistical adjustment was recorded in Luxembourg, followed by Belgium, Malta, Sweden, and Italy (all above 5 persons per 1000 inhabitants).

Data sources and availability

The demographic balance provides an overview of annual demographic developments in the EU Member States; statistics on population change are available in absolute figures and as crude rates.

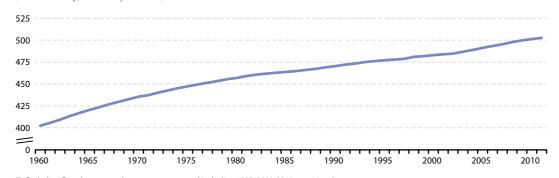
Population change – or population growth – in a given year is the difference between the population size on 1 January of the given year and the corresponding level from 1 January of the previous year. It consists of two components: natural change and net migration plus statistical adjustment. Natural population change is the difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths. If natural change is positive then it is often referred to as a natural increase. Net migration is the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants. In the context of the annual demographic balance, Eurostat produces net migration figures by taking the difference between total

population change and natural change; this concept is referred to as net migration plus statistical adjustment.

Context

Statistics on population change and the structure of population are increasingly used to support policymaking and to provide the opportunity to monitor demographic behaviour within political, economic, social and cultural contexts. In particular, this concerns demographic developments that focus on a likely reduction in the relative importance of the working age population and a corresponding increase in the number of older persons. These sta tistics may be used to support a range of different analyses, including studies relating to population ageing and its effects on the sustainability of public finance and welfare, the evaluation of fertility as a background for family policies, or the economic and social impact of demographic change. The European Commission assessed many of these issues in a Communication titled, 'The demographic future of Europe – from challenge to opportunity' (COM(2006) 571 final).

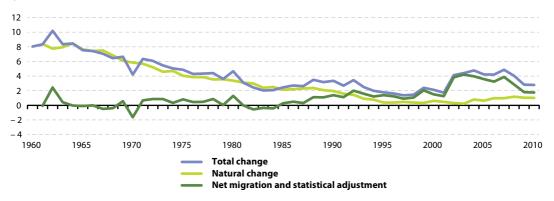
Figure 2.3.1: Population, EU-27, 1960-2011 (¹) (at 1 January, million persons)



(¹) Excluding French overseas departments up to and including 1997; 2009-2011, provisional

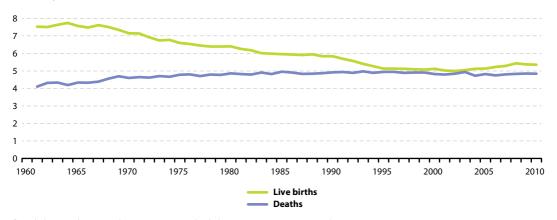
Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

Figure 2.3.2: Population change by component (annual crude rates), EU-27, 1960-2010 (¹) (per 1 000 inhabitants)



(') Excluding French overseas departments up to and including 1997; net migration and natural change, not available for 1960. Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

Figure 2.3.3: Births and deaths, EU-27, 1961-2010 (¹) (million persons)



(') Excluding French overseas departments up to and including 1997; 2009-2010, provisional. Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)



Table 2.3.1: Demographic balance, 2010 (1000 persons)

	Population, 1 January 2010	Live births	Deaths	Natural change (¹)	Net migration and statistical adjustment (²)	Total change between 1 January 2010 and 2011	Population, 1 January 2011
EU-27	501 125.9	5 358.7	4845.4	513.3	880.8	1 394.1	502 520.0
Belgium	10839.9	127.0	104.5	22.5	89.3	111.8	10 95 1.7
Bulgaria	7 563.7	75.5	110.2	-34.7	- 24.2	- 58.8	7 504.9
Czech Republic	10506.8	117.2	106.8	10.3	15.6	26.0	10532.8
Denmark	5 534.7	63.4	54.4	9.0	16.8	25.9	5 560.6
Germany	81 802.3	677.9	858.8	- 180.8	130.2	-50.7	81 751.6
Estonia	1 340.1	15.8	15.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	1 340.2
Ireland	4467.9	73.7	27.1	46.6	-33.6	13.0	4 480.9
Greece	11 305.1	110.0	106.7	3.3	17.5	20.8	11 325.9
Spain	45 989.0	485.6	381.4	104.2	59.8	163.9	46 152.9
France	64716.2	829.0	545.0	284.0	75.2	359.2	65 075.4
Italy	60 340.3	561.9	587.5	- 25.5	311.7	286.1	60 626.4
Cyprus	803.1	10.0	5.4	4.6	-3.3	1.3	804.4
Latvia	2 248.4	19.2	30.0	- 10.8	-7.9	- 18.7	2 229.6
Lithuania	3 329.0	35.6	42.1	-6.5	- 77.9	-84.4	3 244.6
Luxembourg	502.1	5.9	3.8	2.1	7.7	9.8	511.8
Hungary	10014.3	90.3	130.5	-40.1	11.5	-28.6	9 985.7
Malta	414.4	4.0	3.0	1.0	2.2	3.2	417.6
Netherlands	16575.0	184.4	136.1	48.3	32.5	80.8	16 655.8
Austria	8375.3	78.7	77.2	1.5	27.4	29.0	8 404.3
Poland	38 167.3	413.3	378.5	34.8	-2.1	32.7	38 200.0
Portugal	10637.7	101.3	105.9	-4.5	3.8	-0.7	10637.0
Romania	21 462.2	212.2	259.7	-47.5	-0.8	-48.4	21 413.8
Slovenia	2 047.0	22.3	18.6	3.7	-0.5	3.2	2 050.2
Slovakia	5 424.9	60.4	53.4	7.0	3.4	10.3	5 435.3
Finland	5 351.4	61.0	50.9	10.1	13.8	23.8	5 375.3
Sweden	9 340.7	115.6	90.5	25.2	49.7	74.9	9415.6
United Kingdom	62 027.0	807.3	561.7	245.6	163.1	408.7	62 435.7
Iceland	317.6	4.9	2.0	2.9	-2.1	0.8	318.5
Liechtenstein	35.9	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	36.1
Norway	4858.2	61.4	41.5	19.9	42.2	62.1	4 920.3
Switzerland	7 785.8	80.3	62.6	17.6	63.1	80.7	7866.5
Montenegro	616.4	7.4	5.6	1.8	0.0	1.8	618.2
Croatia	4425.7	43.4	52.1	-8.7	-4.9	- 13.6	4412.1
FYR of Macedonia	2052.7	24.3	19.1	5.2	-0.6	4.6	2057.3
Turkey	72 561.3	1 279.0	459.0	820.0	341.7	1 161.7	73 723.0

⁽¹⁾ Live births minus deaths.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

⁽²⁾ Total change minus natural change.



Table 2.3.2: Crude rates of population change, 2008-2010 (per 1 000 inhabitants)

	Т	otal chang	ge	Na	atural char	ige		ation and : adjustmen	
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
EU-27	4.0	2.8	2.8	1.2	1.0	1.0	2.9	1.8	1.8
Belgium	8.0	8.0	10.3	2.2	2.1	2.1	5.9	5.9	8.2
Bulgaria	-4.4	-5.6	-7.8	-4.3	-3.6	-4.6	-0.1	-2.1	-3.2
Czech Republic	8.3	3.7	2.5	1.4	1.0	1.0	6.9	2.7	1.5
Denmark	6.5	4.2	4.7	1.9	1.4	1.6	4.6	2.8	3.0
Germany	-2.6	-2.4	-0.6	-2.0	-2.3	-2.2	-0.7	-0.1	1.6
Estonia	-0.4	-0.2	0.0	-0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Ireland	11.0	4.0	2.9	10.3	10.2	10.4	0.7	-6.2	-7.5
Greece	4.1	4.0	1.8	0.9	0.9	0.3	3.2	3.1	1.5
Spain	12.0	3.5	3.6	2.9	2.4	2.3	9.0	1.1	1.3
France	5.6	5.4	5.5	4.5	4.3	4.4	1.2	1.1	1.2
Italy	7.1	4.9	4.7	0.0	-0.4	-0.4	7.1	5.3	5.2
Cyprus	9.6	7.8	1.6	5.1	5.5	5.7	4.5	2.3	-4.1
Latvia	-4.2	-5.7	-8.4	-3.1	-3.6	-4.8	-1.1	-2.1	-3.5
Lithuania (1)	-4.9	-6.2	-25.7	-2.6	-1.6	-2.0	-2.3	-4.6	-23.7
Luxembourg	19.9	17.2	19.3	4.1	4.0	4.2	15.8	13.2	15.1
Hungary	-1.4	-1.7	-2.9	-3.1	-3.4	-4.0	1.6	1.7	1.2
Malta	8.1	1.8	7.8	2.1	2.2	2.4	5.9	-0.4	5.4
Netherlands	4.9	5.4	4.9	3.0	3.1	2.9	1.9	2.3	2.0
Austria	4.4	2.4	3.5	0.3	-0.1	0.2	4.1	2.5	3.3
Poland	0.5	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	-0.4	0.0	-0.1
Portugal	0.9	1.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.4	0.9	1.4	0.4
Romania	-1.4	-1.7	-2.3	- 1.5	-1.6	-2.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0
Slovenia	10.9	7.2	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.8	9.2	5.6	-0.3
Slovakia	2.1	2.3	1.9	0.8	1.5	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.6
Finland	4.9	4.7	4.4	2.0	2.0	1.9	2.9	2.7	2.6
Sweden	8.0	9.1	8.0	1.9	2.3	2.7	6.0	6.7	5.3
United Kingdom	6.6	7.0	6.6	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.1	3.3	2.6
Iceland	12.3	-5.5	2.6	9.0	9.5	9.1	3.3	-15.0	-6.5
Liechtenstein	6.6	8.5	7.1	4.1	5.0	2.5	2.5	3.6	4.6
Norway	13.0	12.2	12.7	3.9	4.2	4.1	9.1	8.0	8.6
Switzerland	14.2	10.8	10.3	2.0	2.0	2.3	12.1	8.8	8.1
Montenegro (²)	4.2	4.4	2.9	4.1	4.4	2.9	0.1	0.0	0.0
Croatia	-0.3	-2.1	-3.1	- 1.9	-1.8	-2.0	1.6	-0.3	-1.1
FYR of Macedonia	1.7	2.0	2.2	1.9	2.3	2.5	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3
Turkey	13.1	14.5	15.9	11.4	10.8	11.2	1.7	3.7	4.7

⁽¹) Due to administrative reasons emigration recorded in Lithuania in 2010 may include emigration that took place over previous years. (²) Break in series in 2010.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

Table 2.3.3: Contribution of natural change and net migration (and statistical adjustment) to population change, 2010

Demographic drivers	Member States
Growth due to:	
Only natural change	Ireland, Cyprus, Poland, Slovenia
Mostly natural change	Estonia, Spain, France, Netherlands, Slovakia, United Kingdom
Mostly net migration (and adjustment)	Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Greece, Luxembourg, Malta, Austria, Finland, Sweden
Only net migration (and adjustment)	Italy
Decline due to:	
Only natural change	Hungary, Portugal
Mostly natural change	Bulgaria, Germany, Latvia, Romania
Mostly net migration (and adjustment)	Lithuania
Only net migration (and adjustment)	-

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

2.4 Marriage and divorce

This subchapter presents developments that have taken place in relation to family formation and dissolution through an analysis of marriage and divorce indicators. Marriage, as recognised by the law of each country, has long been considered to mark the formation of a family unit. Recent demographic data show that the number of marriages per 1 000 inhabitants has decreased within the EU-27 in recent years, while the number of divorces has increased—this has generally led to an increase in the number of children who are born to unmarried women.

Main statistical findings

Fewer marriages, more divorces

The number of marriages that took place in the EU-27 in 2009 was 2.3 million, while around 1.0 million divorces were recorded in 2008. The crude marriage rate, in other words the number of marriages per 1000 inhabitants, was 4.5, and the crude divorce rate was 2.0.

The crude marriage rate in the EU-27 declined from 7.9 marriages per 1 000 inhabitants in 1970 to 4.5 marriages in 2009, an overall reduction of 34% in the number of marriages. Over the same period, marriages

became less stable, as reflected by the increase in the crude divorce rate, which doubled from 1.0 divorce per 1000 inhabitants in 1970 to 2.0 divorces by 2008. When considering the increase in the divorce rate it should be noted that national laws did not allow divorce in several countries until recently; thus, the increased number of divorces in the EU-27 may, at least in part, reflect the addition of divorces in those Member States where divorce was not previously possible (for example, Italy, Spain, Ireland or Malta).

Table 2.4.1 shows that in 2010 the crude marriage rate was highest in Cyprus (7.9 marriages per 1000 inhabitants in 2009) and Poland (6.0); the lowest crude marriage rates were reported by Slovenia and Bulgaria (both with 3.2 marriages per 1000 inhabitants).

The lowest crude divorce rates were recorded in Ireland (0.7 divorces per 1 000 inhabitants in 2010) and Italy (0.9 in 2009). A number of other southern Member States also recorded relatively low crude divorce rates, including Slovenia and Greece (in 2008). The highest crude divorce rates were recorded in Lithuania and Belgium (3.0 divorces per 1 000 inhabitants in 2010), ahead of the Czech Republic (2.9) – see Table 2.4.2.

A rise in births outside marriage

The proportion of live births outside marriage increased across the EU-27 over the last two decades, reflecting a change in the pattern of traditional family formation, away from the model of parenthood following marriage; children born outside of marriage may be born to a couple in a non-marital relationship (for example, cohabiting couples) or to a single mother.

In the EU-27 some 37.4% of children were born outside marriage in 2010, while the corresponding figure for 1990 was 17.4% (see Table 2.4.3). The share of extra-marital births has been on the rise in recent years in almost every Member State. Indeed, extra-marital births accounted for the majority of live births in Estonia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Sweden and France. The number of births outside of marriage was lowest in Greece (6.9% in 2010) and Cyprus (11.7% in 2009), while more than one in every five births was outside of marriage in Poland (the EU Member State with the third lowest proportion of births outside of marriage).

Data sources and availability

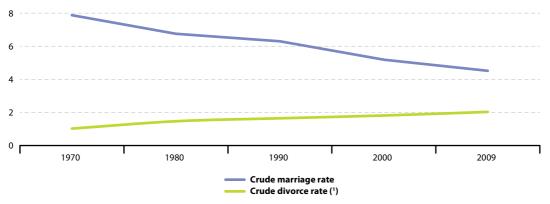
Eurostat compiles information on a wide range of demographic data, including data on the number of marriages by sex and previous marital status and statistics relating to the number of divorces. Data on the number of live births according to the mother's marital status may be used to derive the share of births outside marriage.

Context

The family unit is a changing concept: what it means to be a member of a family and the expectations people have of family relationships vary with time and space, making it difficult to find a universally agreed and applied definition. Legal alternatives to marriage, like registered partnership, have become more widespread and national legislation has evolved to confer more rights to unmarried couples. Alongside these new legal forms, other forms of non-marital relationships have appeared, making it more difficult for statisticians to collect data within this domain that can be compared across countries.

Due to differences in the timing and formal recognition of changing patterns of family formation and dissolution, these concepts have become more difficult to measure in practice. Analysts of demographic statistics therefore have access to relatively few complete and reliable datasets with which to make comparisons over time and between or within countries.





(1) 1971 instead of 1970; 2008 instead of 2009.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_nind and demo_ndivind)

Table 2.4.1: Crude marriage rate, 1960-2010 (per 1000 inhabitants)

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
EU-27 (1)	:	7.9	6.8	6.3	5.2	4.5
Belgium	7.1	7.6	6.7	6.5	4.4	4.2
Bulgaria	8.8	8.6	7.9	6.9	4.3	3.2
Czech Republic	7.7	9.2	7.6	8.8	5.4	4.4
Denmark	7.8	7.4	5.2	6.1	7.2	5.6
Germany	9.5	7.4	6.3	6.5	5.1	4.7
Estonia	10.0	9.1	8.8	7.5	4.0	3.8
Ireland	5.5	7.0	6.4	5.1	5.0	4.6
Greece	7.0	7.7	6.5	5.8	4.5	5.1
Spain	7.8	7.3	5.9	5.7	5.4	3.6
France (2)	7.0	7.8	6.2	5.1	5.0	3.8
Italy	7.7	7.4	5.7	5.6	5.0	3.6
Cyprus (1)(3)	:	8.6	7.7	9.7	13.4	7.9
Latvia	11.0	10.2	9.8	8.9	3.9	4.2
Lithuania	10.1	9.5	9.2	9.8	4.8	5.7
Luxembourg	7.1	6.4	5.9	6.1	4.9	3.5
Hungary	8.9	9.4	7.5	6.4	4.7	3.6
Malta	6.0	7.9	8.8	7.1	6.7	6.2
Netherlands (1)	7.7	9.5	6.4	6.5	5.5	4.4
Austria	8.3	7.1	6.2	5.9	4.9	4.5
Poland	8.2	8.6	8.6	6.7	5.5	6.0
Portugal	7.8	9.4	7.4	7.2	6.2	3.7
Romania	10.7	7.2	8.2	8.3	6.1	5.4
Slovenia	8.8	8.3	6.5	4.3	3.6	3.2
Slovakia	7.9	7.9	8.0	7.6	4.8	4.7
Finland	7.4	8.8	6.2	5.0	5.1	5.6
Sweden	6.7	5.4	4.5	4.7	4.5	5.3
United Kingdom (1)	7.5	8.5	7.4	6.6	5.2	4.3
Iceland	7.5	7.8	5.7	4.5	6.3	4.9
Liechtenstein	5.7	5.9	7.1	5.6	7.2	5.0
Norway	6.6	7.6	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.8
Switzerland	7.8	7.6	5.7	6.9	5.5	5.5
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	6.0
Croatia	8.9	8.5	7.2	5.9	4.9	4.8
FYR of Macedonia	8.6	9.0	8.5	8.3	7.0	6.9
Turkey	:	:	8.2	:	:	8.0

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_nind)

⁽¹) 2009 instead of 2010. (²) Excluding French overseas departments for 1960 to 1990.

⁽²⁾ Up to and including 2002, data refer to total marriages contracted in the country, including marriages between non-residents; from 2003 onwards, data refer to marriages in which at least one spouse was resident in the country.

Table 2.4.2: Crude divorce rate, 1960-2010 (1) (per 1000 inhabitants)

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
EU-27 (²)(³)	:	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.0
Belgium	0.5	0.7	1.5	2.0	2.6	3.0
Bulgaria	:	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.5
Czech Republic	1.4	2.2	2.6	3.1	2.9	2.9
Denmark	1.5	1.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.6
Germany	1.0	1.3	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.3
Estonia	2.1	3.2	4.1	3.7	3.1	2.2
reland	_	_	_	_	0.7	0.7
Greece (3)	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.6	1.0	1.2
Spain	=	=	-	0.6	0.9	2.2
France (3)(4)	0.7	0.8	1.5	1.9	1.9	2.1
taly (²)(5)	_	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.9
Cyprus (⁵)	:	0.2	0.3	0.6	1.7	2.2
_atvia	2.4	4.6	5.0	4.0	2.6	2.2
_ithuania	0.9	2.2	3.2	3.4	3.1	3.0
uxembourg	0.5	0.6	1.6	2.0	2.4	2.1
Hungary	1.7	2.2	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.4
Malta	_	-	_	_	-	-
Netherlands (5)	0.5	0.8	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.9
Austria	1.1	1.4	1.8	2.1	2.4	2.1
Poland	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.6
Portugal (5)	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.9	1.9	2.5
Romania	2.0	0.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5
Slovenia	1.0	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.2
Slovakia	0.6	0.8	1.3	1.7	1.7	2.2
inland	0.8	1.3	2.0	2.6	2.7	2.5
Sweden	1.2	1.6	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.5
United Kingdom (5)	:	1.0	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.0
celand	0.7	1.2	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8
iechtenstein	_	-	:	:	3.9	2.4
Norway	0.7	0.9	1.6	2.4	2.2	2.1
Switzerland	0.9	1.0	1.7	2.0	1.5	2.8
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	0.8
Croatia	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.1
FYR of Macedonia	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.8
Turkey	:	:	:	:	:	1.6

⁽¹) Divorce was not possible by law in Italy until 1970, in Spain until 1981, in Ireland until 1995 and in Malta until 2011. (²) 1971 instead of 1970.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_ndivind)

^{(3) 2008} instead of 2010.

⁽⁴⁾ Excluding French overseas departments for 1970 to 1990.

^{(5) 2009} instead of 2010.

Table 2.4.3: Live births outside marriage, 1960-2010 (% share of total live births)

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
EU-27 (1)	:	:	:	17.4	27.4	37.4
Belgium	2.1	2.8	4.1	11.6	28.0	47.0
Bulgaria	8.0	8.5	10.9	12.4	38.4	54.1
Czech Republic	4.9	5.4	5.6	8.6	21.8	40.3
Denmark	7.8	11.0	33.2	46.4	44.6	47.0
Germany	7.6	7.2	11.9	15.3	23.4	33.3
Estonia	:	:	:	27.2	54.5	59.1
Ireland	1.6	2.7	5.9	14.6	31.5	33.6
Greece	1.2	1.1	1.5	2.2	4.0	6.9
Spain	2.3	1.4	3.9	9.6	17.7	33.1
France (2)(3)	6.1	6.8	11.4	30.1	43.6	53.7
Italy	2.4	2.2	4.3	6.5	9.7	25.4
Cyprus (3)	:	0.2	0.6	0.7	2.3	11.7
Latvia	11.9	11.4	12.5	16.9	40.3	44.1
Lithuania	:	3.7	6.3	7.0	22.6	28.7
Luxembourg	3.2	4.0	6.0	12.8	21.9	34.0
Hungary	5.5	5.4	7.1	13.1	29.0	40.8
Malta	0.7	1.5	1.1	1.8	10.6	25.2
Netherlands (3)	1.4	2.1	4.1	11.4	24.9	43.3
Austria	13.0	12.8	17.8	23.6	31.3	40.1
Poland	:	5.0	4.8	6.2	12.1	20.6
Portugal (3)	9.5	7.3	9.2	14.7	22.2	38.1
Romania	:	:	:	:	25.5	27.7
Slovenia	9.1	8.5	13.1	24.5	37.1	55.0
Slovakia	4.7	6.2	5.7	7.6	18.3	33.0
Finland	4.0	5.8	13.1	25.2	39.2	41.1
Sweden	11.3	18.6	39.7	47.0	55.3	54.1
United Kingdom	5.2	8.0	11.5	27.9	39.5	46.9
Iceland	25.3	29.9	39.7	55.2	65.2	64.3
Liechtenstein	3.7	4.5	5.3	6.9	15.7	21.3
Norway	3.7	6.9	14.5	38.6	49.6	54.8
Switzerland	3.8	3.8	4.7	6.1	10.7	18.5
Montenegro (3)	:	:	:	:	:	15.7
Croatia	7.4	5.4	5.1	7.0	9.0	13.3
FYR of Macedonia	5.1	6.2	6.1	7.1	9.8	12.2

⁽¹) Excluding French overseas departments and Romania for 1990; 2009 instead of 2010.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_find)

⁽²⁾ Excluding French overseas departments for 1960 to 1990.

^{(3) 2009} instead of 2010.



2.5 Fertility

This subchapter looks at the development of a range of indicators concerning the number of births and fertility across European Union (EU). Fertility steadily declined from the mid-1960s through to the turn of the century in those countries which form the EU. However, in recent years the total fertility rate in the EU-27 showed some signs of rising slightly.

Main statistical findings

From the 1960s up to the beginning of the 21st century, the number of live births in the EU-27 declined sharply from 7.5 million to a low of 5.0 million in 2002 (see Figure 2.5.1). Since then there has been a modest rebound in the number of live births, with 5.4 million children born in the EU-27 in each of the last three years for which data are available (2008-2010).

In recent decades Europeans have generally been having fewer children, and this can partly explain the slowdown in the EU-27's population growth (see population and population change statistics). A total fertility rate of around 2.1 live births per woman is considered to be the replacement level: in other words, the average number of live births per woman required to keep the population size constant if there were no inward or outward migration is 2.1.

The total fertility rate in the EU-27 declined to a level well below this replacement level in recent decades. The lowest total fertility rate of 1.45 live births per woman was registered in the EU-27 in 2002, according to the available aggregated information. A slight recovery in the fertility rate was subsequently observed in most of the Member States, such that the EU-27 average had increased to 1.59 live births per woman by 2009.

The slight increase in the total fertility rate observed in recent years may, in part, be attributed to a catching-up process following a general pattern

of postponing the decision to have children. When women give birth later in life, the total fertility rate tends to decrease at first, before a subsequent recovery.

Total fertility rates across EU Member States tended to converge during the last few decades. In 1980, the gap between the highest rate (3.2 live births per woman in Ireland) and the lowest rate (1.5 live births per woman in Luxembourg) was 1.7 live births per woman (see Table 2.5.1). By 1990 the difference had decreased to 1.1 live births per woman, and by 2009 it had narrowed still further to 0.8. Ireland continued to report the highest fertility rate in 2009, with an average of 2.1 live births per woman, just ahead of France (which was the only other EU Member State to report a fertility rate in excess of 2.0 children per woman). In contrast, the lowest fertility rates were recorded in Latvia, Portugal and Hungary (all 1.3 live births per woman).

As noted above, another reason that partly explains the downward development of fertility rates within the EU Member States is the decision of many parents to delay starting a family. While only a relatively short time series is available for the EU-27 aggregate, Table 2.5.2 shows that the mean age of women at childbirth continued to rise between 2003 and 2009, when it stood at 29.8 years.

Data sources and availability

Eurostat compiles information for a large range of demographic data, including statistics on the number of live births by sex, by the mother's age, education and marital status. Fertility statistics are also collected in relation to the number of births by the rank of the child (first, second, third child and so on). A series of fertility indicators are produced from the information collected, including the total fertility rate and fertility rates according to the mother's age, the mean age of women at childbirth, the crude birth rate or the relative proportion of births outside of marriage.

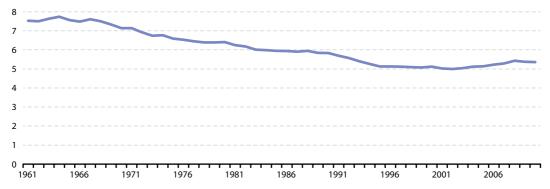


Context

The EU's social policy does not include a specific strand for family issues. Policymaking in this area remains the exclusive responsibility of Member States, reflecting different family structures, historical developments, social attitudes and traditions from one Member State to

another. Nevertheless, policymakers may well evaluate fertility statistics as a background for family policymaking. Furthermore, a number of common demographic themes are apparent across the whole of the EU, such as a reduction in the average number of children being born per woman and an increasing mean age of mothers at childbirth.

Figure 2.5.1: Number of live births, EU-27, 1961-2010 (1) (million)



⁽¹⁾ Excluding French overseas departments before 1998; provisional values for 2009 and 2010.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

Table 2.5.1: Total fertility rate, 1960-2009 (live births per woman)

	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2003	2009
EU-27	:	:	:	:	:	1.47	1.59
Belgium	2.54	2.25	1.68	1.62	1.67	1.66	1.84
Bulgaria	2.31	2.17	2.05	1.82	1.26	1.23	1.57
Czech Republic	2.09	1.92	2.08	1.90	1.14	1.18	1.49
Denmark	2.57	1.95	1.55	1.67	1.77	1.76	1.84
Germany	:	:	:	:	1.38	1.34	1.36
Estonia	:	:	:	2.05	1.38	1.37	1.62
Ireland	3.78	3.85	3.21	2.11	1.89	1.96	2.07
Greece	2.23	2.40	2.23	1.40	1.26	1.28	1.52
Spain	:	:	2.20	1.36	1.23	1.31	1.40
France (1)	2.73	2.47	1.95	1.78	1.89	1.89	2.00
Italy	2.37	2.38	1.64	1.33	1.26	1.29	1.41
Cyprus	:	:	:	2.41	1.64	1.50	1.51
Latvia	:	:	:	:	:	1.29	1.31
Lithuania	:	2.40	1.99	2.03	1.39	1.26	1.55
Luxembourg	2.29	1.97	1.50	1.60	1.76	1.62	1.59
Hungary	2.02	1.98	1.91	1.87	1.32	1.27	1.32
Malta	:	:	1.99	2.04	1.70	1.48	1.43
Netherlands	3.12	2.57	1.60	1.62	1.72	1.75	1.79
Austria	2.69	2.29	1.65	1.46	1.36	1.38	1.39
Poland	:	:	:	2.06	1.35	1.22	1.40
Portugal	3.16	3.01	2.25	1.56	1.55	1.44	1.32
Romania	:	:	2.43	1.83	1.31	1.27	1.38
Slovenia	:	:	:	1.46	1.26	1.20	1.53
Slovakia	3.04	2.41	2.32	2.09	1.30	1.20	1.41
Finland	2.72	1.83	1.63	1.78	1.73	1.76	1.86
Sweden	:	1.92	1.68	2.13	1.54	1.71	1.94
United Kingdom	:	:	1.90	1.83	1.64	1.71	1.94
Iceland	:	2.81	2.48	2.30	2.08	1.99	2.23
Liechtenstein	:	:	:	:	1.57	1.36	1.71
Norway	:	2.50	1.72	1.93	1.85	1.80	1.98
Switzerland	2.44	2.10	1.55	1.58	1.50	1.39	1.50
Montenegro (2)	:	:	:	:	:	:	1.77
Croatia	:	:	:	:	:	1.32	1.49
FYR of Macedonia	:	:	:	:	1.88	1.77	1.52
Turkey (2)	:	:	:	:	:	:	2.10

⁽¹⁾ Excluding French overseas departments, up to and including 1990.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_frate)

Table 2.5.2: Fertility indicators, EU-27, 2002-2009

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Total fertility rate (live births per woman)	1.45	1.47	1.50	1.51	1.54	1.56	1.60	1.59
Mean age of women at childbirth (years)	:	29.3	29.4	29.5	29.6	29.7	29.7	29.8

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_find)

⁽²) 2008 instead of 2009.

2.6 Mortality and life expectancy

This subchapter provides information relating to mortality in the European Union (EU). Life expectancy at birth rose rapidly during the last century due to a number of factors, including reductions in infant mortality, rising living standards, improved lifestyles and better education, as well as advances in healthcare and medicine.

Main statistical findings

Some 4.85 million persons died in the EU-27 in 2010 – this was broadly in line with the number of deaths recorded over the previous 40 years.

Life expectancy is increasing

The most commonly used indicator for analysing mortality is that of life expectancy at birth. Improvements in living standards and the establishment and improvement in health systems across Europe have led to a continuous increase in life expectancy at birth. Indeed, life expectancy at birth in the EU-27 increased over the last 50 years by about ten years. Even in the last six years for which data at an aggregated EU-27 level are available (2002 to 2008) there was an increase in life expectancy of 1.5 years for women and 1.9 years for men (see Figure 2.6.2).

Life expectancy in the EU-27 is generally higher than in most other regions of the world. Based on EU-27 observations for 2008, a new born male is expected to live, on average, to 76.4 years old, while a new born female is expected to live to 82.4 years old (see Table 2.6.1).

Significant differences in life expectancy at birth are nevertheless observed between the EU Member States. Looking at the extremes of the ranges (2009 data for the majority of countries), a woman born in 2009 is expected to live between 77.4 years

(Bulgaria) and 85.0 years (France), a range of 7.6 years. A man born in 2009 can be expected to live between 67.5 years (Lithuania) and 79.4 years (Sweden), a range of 11.9 years.

The gender gap is shrinking

With a gender gap of six years of life in 2008, women generally outlive men in the EU-27. However, the gap between male and female life expectancies at birth varied substantially between Member States. In 2009, the largest difference between the sexes was found in Lithuania (11.2 years) and the smallest in Sweden (4.1 years) – see Figure 2.6.3.

Infant mortality

Improvements in life expectancy at birth are achieved through reductions in the probability of dying. One of the most significant changes in recent decades has been a reduction in infant mortality rates. During the 15 years from 1994 to 2009 the infant mortality rate in the EU-27 was almost halved. The biggest reductions in infant mortality were generally recorded within those Member States which tended to record higher than average levels of infant mortality in 1994. The lowest infant mortality rate within the EU-27 in 2009 occurred in Slovenia (2.4 deaths per 1000 live births), Luxembourg, Sweden (both 2.5%) and Finland (2.6%). In contrast, infant mortality rates were approximately four times higher in Romania (10.1 ‰) and Bulgaria (9.0 %).

Data sources and availability

Eurostat provides information on a wide range of demographic data, including statistics on the number of deaths by age, deaths by year of birth,

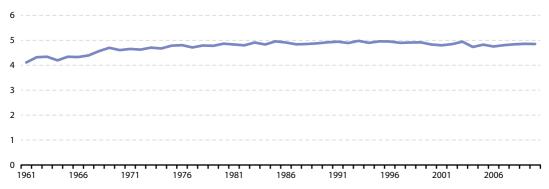


deaths according to sex, and deaths according to educational attainment, while statistics are also collected for infant mortality and late foetal deaths. A series of mortality indicators are produced, which may be used to derive a range of information on subjects such as crude death rates or life expectancy measures by age, sex or educational attainment.

Context

The gradual increase in life expectancy is one of the contributing factors to the ageing of the EU-27's population – alongside relatively low levels of fertility that have persisted for decades (see the subchapters on population structure and ageing and fertility statistics).

Figure 2.6.1: Number of deaths, EU-27, 1961-2010 (1) (million)



(1) Excluding French overseas departments up to 1997; provisional, 2009 and 2010.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

Figure 2.6.2: Life expectancy at birth, EU-27, 2002-2008 (years)

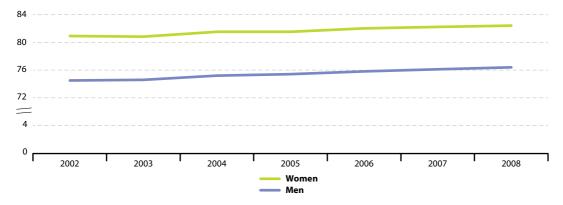


Table 2.6.1: Life expectancy at birth, 1994 and 2009 (years)

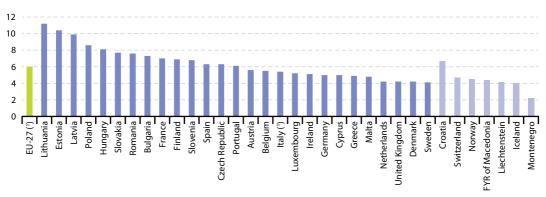
	Total		М	en	Women		
	1994	2009	1994	2009	1994	2009	
EU-27 (1)	:	79.4	:	76.4	:	82.4	
Belgium	76.8	80.1	73.4	77.3	80.2	82.8	
Bulgaria	70.9	73.7	67.3	70.1	74.8	77.4	
Czech Republic	73.2	77.4	69.6	74.2	76.8	80.5	
Denmark	75.5	79.0	72.8	76.9	78.2	81.1	
Germany	76.6	80.3	73.1	77.8	79.7	82.8	
Estonia	66.6	75.2	60.6	69.8	72.9	80.2	
Ireland	75.8	79.9	73.1	77.4	78.6	82.5	
Greece	77.5	80.2	75.1	77.8	80.0	82.7	
Spain	78.1	81.8	74.4	78.6	81.8	84.9	
France (2)	78.0	81.6	73.8	78.0	82.2	85.0	
Italy (1)	78.1	81.9	74.8	79.1	81.2	84.5	
Cyprus	77.2	81.1	75.0	78.6	79.3	83.6	
Latvia	:	73.3	:	68.1	:	78.0	
Lithuania	68.6	73.2	62.6	67.5	74.9	78.7	
Luxembourg	76.7	80.8	73.2	78.1	79.9	83.3	
Hungary	69.6	74.4	65.0	70.3	74.5	78.4	
Malta (3)	77.2	80.3	74.8	77.9	79.6	82.7	
Netherlands	77.6	80.9	74.6	78.7	80.4	82.9	
Austria	76.7	80.5	73.2	77.6	79.8	83.2	
Poland	71.8	75.9	67.5	71.5	76.1	80.1	
Portugal	75.5	79.6	72.0	76.5	79.0	82.6	
Romania	69.4	73.5	65.7	69.8	73.3	77.4	
Slovenia	74.0	79.4	70.1	75.9	77.8	82.7	
Slovakia	72.5	75.3	68.4	71.4	76.7	79.1	
Finland	76.7	80.1	72.9	76.6	80.3	83.5	
Sweden	78.9	81.5	76.2	79.4	81.6	83.5	
United Kingdom	76.8	80.5	74.1	78.3	79.5	82.5	
Iceland	79.3	81.8	77.1	79.8	81.5	83.8	
Liechtenstein	78.7	81.7	75.3	79.5	81.8	83.6	
Norway	77.9	81.0	74.9	78.7	80.8	83.2	
Switzerland	78.7	82.3	75.2	79.9	82.0	84.6	
Montenegro (1)	:	75.3	:	74.4	:	76.6	
Croatia	:	76.4	:	73.0	:	79.7	
FYR of Macedonia	71.7	74.4	69.4	72.3	74.1	76.7	

^{(1) 2008} instead of 2009.

⁽²⁾ Excluding French overseas departments in 1994.

^{(3) 1995} instead of 1994.





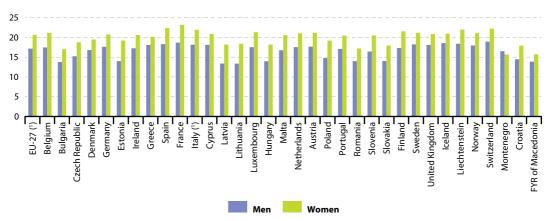
(1) 2008 instead of 2009.

Table 2.6.2: Life expectancy at age 65, 1994 and 2009 (years)

	Total		М	Men		Women	
	1994	2009	1994	2009	1994	2009	
EU-27 (1)	:	19.1	:	17.2	:	20.7	
Belgium	17.3	19.5	14.8	17.5	19.3	21.1	
Bulgaria	14.2	15.5	12.9	13.8	15.5	17.0	
Czech Republic	14.7	17.2	12.7	15.2	16.1	18.8	
Denmark	16.2	18.2	14.3	16.8	17.9	19.5	
Germany	17.0	19.3	14.7	17.6	18.6	20.8	
Estonia	14.1	17.1	11.6	14.0	15.7	19.2	
Ireland	15.7	19.0	13.8	17.2	17.4	20.6	
Greece	17.2	19.2	16.0	18.1	18.2	20.2	
Spain	18.3	20.5	16.2	18.3	20.1	22.4	
France (2)	18.9	21.2	16.3	18.7	21.0	23.2	
Italy (1)	17.8	20.2	15.7	18.2	19.6	22.0	
Cyprus	17.1	19.5	16.1	18.1	18.0	20.9	
Latvia	:	16.3	:	13.4	:	18.2	
Lithuania	15.1	16.4	12.7	13.4	16.8	18.4	
Luxembourg	17.1	19.7	14.7	17.6	19.0	21.4	
Hungary	14.2	16.4	12.1	14.0	15.9	18.2	
Malta (3)	16.6	18.8	15.5	16.8	17.6	20.6	
Netherlands	17.2	19.4	14.8	17.6	19.2	21.0	
Austria	17.2	19.6	15.0	17.7	18.7	21.2	
Poland	14.9	17.3	12.8	14.8	16.4	19.2	
Portugal	16.6	18.9	14.8	17.1	18.2	20.5	
Romania	14.2	15.8	12.8	14.0	15.3	17.2	
Slovenia	15.8	18.8	13.6	16.4	17.3	20.5	
Slovakia	14.8	16.3	12.8	14.1	16.4	18.0	
Finland	17.1	19.6	14.7	17.3	18.7	21.5	
Sweden	18.2	19.8	16.1	18.2	20.0	21.2	
United Kingdom	16.7	19.6	14.7	18.1	18.4	20.8	
Iceland	18.5	19.8	16.8	18.6	20.0	21.0	
Liechtenstein	18.0	20.4	16.4	18.4	19.2	22.0	
Norway	17.4	19.6	15.3	18.0	19.4	21.1	
Switzerland	18.6	20.8	16.2	19.0	20.6	22.2	
Montenegro	:	15.9	:	16.5	:	15.7	
Croatia	:	16.4	:	14.5	:	17.9	
FYR of Macedonia	14.1	14.9	13.2	13.9	15.0	15.8	

⁽¹) 2008 instead of 2009. (²) Excluding French overseas departments in 1994. (³) 1995 instead of 1994.

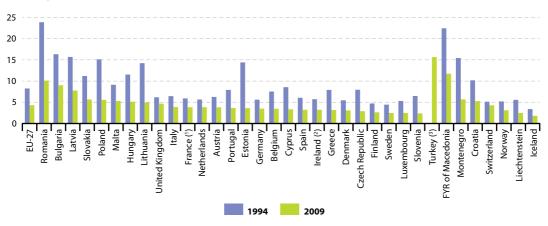




(1) 2008 instead of 2009.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_mlexpec)

Figure 2.6.5: Infant mortality, 1994 and 2009 (deaths per 1000 live births)



- (1) Excluding French overseas departments in 1994.
- (2) 2009, provisional.
- (3) 1994, not available.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_minfind)

2.7 Migration and migrant population

This subchapter presents European Union (EU) statistics on international migration, population stocks of national and foreign (non-national) citizens, and the acquisition of citizenship. Migration is influenced by a combination of economic, political and social factors, either in a migrant's country of origin (push factors) or in the country of destination (pull factors); historically, the relative economic prosperity and political stability of the EU are thought to have exerted a considerable pull effect on immigrants.

In destination countries, international migration may be used as a tool to solve specific labour market shortages. However, international migration alone will almost certainly not reverse the ongoing trend of population ageing experienced in many parts of the EU.

Main statistical findings

Migration flows

During 2009, about 3.0 million people immigrated into one of the EU Member States (see Table 2.7.1), while at least 1.9 million emigrants were reported to have left an EU Member State. The latest figures available reveal a substantial decline in immigration in 2009 as compared with 2008. However, it is difficult to quantify exactly the magnitude of this decline as some countries (including Germany, Austria and the Netherlands) have modified the underlying definitions of migration (for example, immigration into Germany in 2009 was 347 000, but the level would have been more than double under the earlier definition).

It should be noted that these figures do not represent the migration flows to/from the EU as a whole, since they also include flows between different EU Member States. However, more than half of the immigrants into the EU Member States, an estimated 1.6 million people in 2009, were previously residing outside the EU.

The United Kingdom reported the largest number of immigrants (566 500) in 2009, followed by

Spain (499 000) and Italy (442 900); just over half (50.3 %) of all immigrants into EU Member States were recorded in these three countries.

The United Kingdom also reported the highest number of emigrants in 2009 (368 000), followed by Spain with 324 000 and Germany with 287 000. Most EU Member States reported more immigration than emigration in 2009, but in Ireland, Malta and the three Baltic Member States emigrants outnumbered immigrants.

Relative to the size of the resident population (see Figure 2.7.1), Luxembourg recorded the highest number of immigrants in 2009 (31 immigrants per 1000 inhabitants), followed by Malta (17), Slovenia and Cyprus (both 15); immigration was also high in the EFTA countries, greatly exceeding the EU average of 6.1 immigrants per 1000 inhabitants.

Among EU Member States, Luxembourg (20 emigrants per 1 000 inhabitants) and Malta (16) reported the highest rate of emigration in 2009; these levels were surpassed in Iceland, where almost 29 residents per 1 000 inhabitants left the country.

Immigrants include both nationals (former emigrants returning 'home' and citizens born abroad who are immigrating for the first time) and nonnationals (people who are not citizens of the destination country). Among all immigrants into EU Member States in 2009, 18% were nationals (see Figure 2.7.2), 31% were citizens of other EU Member States, and 51% were third-country nationals, that is citizens of non-member countries. These third-country nationals can be differentiated according to the level of development of their country of citizenship, based on the human development index (HDI) calculated by the United Nations (UN) under the UN Development Programme. According to this analysis, the largest share (28%) of immigrants into the EU came from medium HDI countries, while relatively low shares came from low HDI countries (5%), candidate countries (2%) or EFTA countries (1%).

The relative importance of nationals within the total number of immigrants was highest in Lithuania



(74%) and Portugal (56%) in 2009. In contrast, Spain, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Italy, Hungary and Slovenia reported relatively low shares, with nationals accounting for less than 10% of all immigrants.

Regarding the gender distribution of immigrants in 2009, there was a slight prevalence for more men than women to immigrate into the EU as a whole (52 % compared with 48 %). The country reporting the highest share of male immigrants was Slovenia (76 %); in contrast, the highest share of female immigrants was reported by Cyprus (58 %).

Immigrants into EU Member States in 2009 were, on average, much younger than the population already resident in their country of destination. On 1 January 2010, the median age of the EU-27 population was 40.9 years. The median age of immigrants in 2009 ranged from 24.9 years (in Portugal) to 33.7 years (in Latvia).

Non-national population

The total number of non-nationals (people who are not citizens of their country of residence) living on the territory of an EU Member State on 1 January 2010 was 32.5 million persons, representing 6.5% of the EU-27 population (see Table 2.7.2). More than one third (a total of 12.3 million persons) of all non-nationals living in the EU-27 on 1 January 2010 were citizens of another EU Member State.

In absolute terms, the largest numbers of nonnationals living in the EU were found in Germany (7.1 million persons on 1 January 2010), Spain (5.7 million), the United Kingdom (4.4 million), Italy (4.2 million) and France (3.8 million). Nonnationals in these five Member States collectively represented 77.4% of the total number of nonnationals living in the EU-27, while the same five Member States had a 62.8% share of the whole of the EU-27 population. In relative terms, the EU Member State with the highest share of nonnationals was Luxembourg, as they accounted for 43.0% of the total population at the beginning of 2010. The vast majority (86.3%) of non-nationals living in Luxembourg were citizens of other EU Member States. As of 1 January 2010, a high proportion of non-nationals (10% or more of the resident

population) was also observed in Latvia, Cyprus, Estonia, Spain and Austria.

In most Member States the majority of nonnationals are citizens of non-member countries (third-country nationals). At the beginning of 2010 citizens of other EU Member States represented the majority of non-nationals living in Luxembourg, Ireland, Belgium, Slovakia, Cyprus and Hungary. In the case of Latvia and Estonia, the proportion of citizens from non-member countries is particularly large due to the high number of recognised non-citizens; these are mainly former Soviet Union citizens, who are permanently resident in these countries but have not acquired Latvian/Estonian citizenship or any other citizenship.

Looking at the distribution by continent of origin of third-country nationals living in the EU, the largest proportion (36.5%) were citizens of a European country outside the EU-27 (see Figure 2.7.5), a total of 7.2 million people; among these more than half were citizens of Turkey, Albania or Ukraine. The second biggest group was from Africa (25.2%), followed by Asia (20.9%), the Americas (16.4%) and Oceania (0.9%). More than half of the citizens of African countries that were living in the EU were from North Africa, often from Morocco or Algeria. Many Asian non-nationals living in the EU came from southern or eastern Asia, in particular from India or China. Citizens of Ecuador, Brazil and Colombia made up the largest share of nonnationals from the Americas living in the EU.

Among the nationals from non-member countries living in the EU-27 in 2010, some 45.8 % possessed the citizenship of a high HDI country (with Turkey, Albania and Russia accounting for almost half of these), while a slightly higher share (46.6 %) came from medium HDI countries (one fifth of whom were citizens of Morocco, with nationals of China and Ukraine the next largest groups), the remaining 7.6 % of nationals of non-member countries living in the EU were from low HDI countries (30 % of whom had Nigerian or Iraqi citizenship). In order to give some perspective, a breakdown of the world's population (outside of the EU) shows that the medium HDI group accounted for by far the largest share (68.4 %) of global inhabitants, followed

by those living in the high HDI group (21.3%) and the low HDI group (10.4%).

The citizenship structure of the population of nonnationals living in the EU varies greatly between Member States; it is influenced by factors such as labour migration, historical links between origin and destination countries, and established networks in destination countries. Turkish citizens made up the biggest group of non-nationals (see Figure 2.7.7) living in the EU in 2010, comprising 2.4 million people, or 7.2% of all non-nationals. The second largest group was Romanians living in another EU Member State (6.6% of the non-national population), followed by Moroccans (5.7%). The group of non-nationals living in the EU with the most significant increase over the period from 2001 to 2010 was Romanians, their numbers increasing seven-fold from 0.3 million in 2001 to 2.1 million by 2010. The number of Polish and Chinese citizens also increased significantly during this period, and citizens from both of these countries figured among the ten largest non-national groups in 2010.

An analysis of the age structure of the resident population shows that, for the EU-27 as a whole, the non-national population was younger than the national population. The distribution by age of non-nationals shows, with respect to nationals, a greater representation of adults aged between 20 and 47; this feature is evident when looking at the corresponding population pyramids (see Figure 2.7.8). In 2010, the median age of the EU-27 total population was 40.9 years, while the median age of non-nationals living in the EU was 34.4 years.

Acquisition of citizenship

The number of people acquiring the citizenship of an EU Member State was 776000 in 2009, corresponding to an 11.1% increase with respect to 2008 (see Figure 2.7.9). The main contribution to this increase came from the United Kingdom, where acquisitions rose from 129000 in 2008 to 204000 in 2009 (see Table 2.7.3); this was largely due to a relatively low number of acquisitions in the United Kingdom in 2008, which was a consequence of changes in staff allocation within the responsible national authority.

Several other EU Member States recorded an increase in the number of acquisitions of citizenship between 2008 and 2009. In absolute terms, the highest increases, after the United Kingdom, were observed in Italy (5700 more), Romania (3800), Portugal (3200) and Luxembourg (2800). In some cases (such as Luxembourg, Portugal and Romania) these increases are due to recent reforms of the respective nationality laws, which had the effect of boosting the number of applications.

Relative to the size of the resident population, Luxembourg granted the highest number of citizenships: 8.1 per 1 000 inhabitants, followed by Cyprus (5.1), the United Kingdom (3.3) and Sweden (3.2).

One indicator which is commonly used to measure the effect of national policies concerning citizenship is the 'naturalisation rate', in other words, the ratio between the total number of citizenships granted and the stock of foreign residents in each country at the beginning of the year (see Figure 2.7.10). The country with the highest naturalisation rate in the EU-27 in 2009 was Portugal (5.8 acquisitions per 100 foreign residents), followed by Sweden (5.3) and the United Kingdom (4.8). On the other hand, Luxembourg, due to its large share of foreign residents (43.0% on 1 January 2010) had a naturalisation rate below the EU-27 average, despite being the EU Member State with the highest number of citizenship acquisitions per inhabitant.

More than 90% of those who acquired the citizenship of an EU Member State in 2009 were previously citizens of a non-member country; this was the case in nearly all of the Member States. However, in Luxembourg and Hungary the majority of new citizenships granted were to citizens of another EU Member State. In the case of Luxembourg, the largest share (almost half of those from EU Member States that were granted citizenship) was that of Portuguese citizens, while in the case of Hungary almost exclusively that of Romanian citizens.

As in previous years, the highest number of new citizens in the EU Member States in 2009 was composed of citizens of Morocco (59700, corresponding to 8% of all citizenships granted) and Turkey (51800, or 7%). Compared with 2008, the number of citizens from Morocco acquiring citizenship of



an EU Member State fell by 6%, while the number of Turkish citizens rose by 5%. The largest share of Moroccans acquired their new citizenship in France (43%), Italy (15%) or Spain (11%), while the largest shares of Turkish people acquired their new citizenship in Germany (48%) or France (18%).

Data sources and availability

Eurostat produces statistics on a range of issues related to international migration flows, non-national population stocks and acquisition of citizenship. Data are collected on an annual basis and are supplied to Eurostat by the national statistical authorities of the Member States.

Since 2008 the collection of data has been based on Regulation 862/2007. This defines a core set of statistics on international migration flows, nonnational population stocks, acquisition of citizenship, residence permits, asylum and measures against illegal entry and stay. Although Member States are able to continue to use any appropriate data according to national availability and practice, the statistics collected under the Regulation must be based on common definitions and concepts. Most Member States base their statistics on administrative data sources such as population registers, registers of non-nationals, registers of residence or work permits. Some countries use sample surveys or estimation methods to produce migration statistics. The data on the acquisition of citizenship are normally produced from administrative systems. The implementation of the Regulation is expected to result in increased availability and comparability of migration and citizenship statistics.

Previously statistics on migration flows, nonnational population stocks and the acquisition of citizenship were sent to Eurostat on a voluntary basis, as part of a joint migration data collection organised by Eurostat in cooperation with a series of international organisations, for example the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The recent changes in methodology, definitions and data sources used to produce migration and citizenship statistics may result, for some Member States, in a lack of comparability over time for their respective series.

Emigration is particularly difficult to measure; it is harder to count people leaving a country than those arriving. An analysis comparing 2008 immigration and emigration data from the EU Member States (mirror statistics) confirmed that this was true in many countries. As a result, this subchapter focuses mainly on immigration data.

Context

Migration policies within the EU are increasingly concerned with attracting a particular migrant profile, often in an attempt to alleviate specific skills shortages. Selection can be carried out on the basis of language proficiency, work experience, education and age. Alternatively, employers can make the selection so that migrants already have a job upon their arrival.

Besides policies to encourage labour recruitment, immigration policy is often focused on two areas: preventing unauthorised migration and the illegal employment of migrants who are not permitted to work, and promoting the integration of immigrants into society. In the EU, significant resources have been mobilised to fight people smuggling and trafficking networks.

Some of the most important legal texts adopted in the area of immigration include:

- Directive 2003/86/EC on the right to family reunification;
- Directive 2003/109/EC on a long-term resident status for non-member nationals;
- Directive 2004/114/EC on the admission of students;
- Directive 2005/71/EC for the facilitation of the admission of researchers into the EU;
- Directive 2008/115/EC for returning illegally staying third-country nationals;
- Directive 2009/50/EC concerning the admission of highly skilled migrants.

Within the European Commission, the Directorate-General for Home Affairs is responsible for immigration policy. In 2005, the European Commission relaunched the debate on the need for a common set of rules for the admission of economic migrants

with a Green paper on an EU approach to managing economic migration (COM(2004) 811 final) which led to the adoption of a policy plan on legal migration (COM(2005) 669 final) at the end of 2005. In July 2006, the European Commission adopted a Communication on policy priorities in the fight against illegal immigration of third-country nationals (COM(2006) 402 final), which aims to strike a balance between security and an individuals' basic rights during all stages of the illegal immigration process. In September 2007, the European Commission presented its third annual report on migration and integration (COM(2007) 512 final). A European Commission Communication adopted in October 2008 emphasised the importance of strengthening the global approach to migration: increasing coordination, coherence and synergies (COM(2008) 611 final) as an aspect of external and development policy. The Stockholm programme, adopted by EU heads of state and government in December 2009, sets a framework and series of principles for the ongoing development of European policies on justice and home affairs for the period 2010 to 2014; migration-related issues are a central part of this programme. In order to bring about the changes agreed upon, the European Commission enacted an action plan implementing the Stockholm programme – delivering an area of freedom, security and justice for Europe's citizens in 2010 (COM(2010) 171 final). The action plan foresees a number of priority areas, providing measures for:

- evaluating justice, freedom and security policies and mechanisms:
- training legal and security professionals as well as judicial and law enforcement authorities;
- public awareness-raising activities;
- · dialogue with civil society;
- · new financial programmes.

Table 2.7.1: Immigration by main citizenship group, 2009 (1)

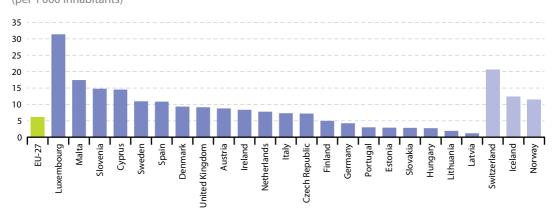
	_					Non-na	Non-nationals				
	Total immigrants (1 000)	Natio	onals	Tot	al	Citizens EU Memb		Citizens member o			
	(1000)	(1000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)		
EU-27	3 000.0	600.0	18.0	2 500.0	81.0	1 000.0	31.0	1 500.0	50.0		
Belgium	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
Czech Republic	75.6	21.7	28.8	53.9	71.2	15.5	20.5	38.4	50.7		
Denmark	51.8	19.3	37.2	32.5	62.8	16.2	31.3	16.3	31.4		
Germany	347.3	79.2	22.8	267.2	76.9	126.8	36.5	140.4	40.4		
Estonia	3.9	1.7	42.6	2.2	57.4	1.0	26.8	1.2	30.5		
Ireland	37.4	14.7	39.4	22.5	60.1	16.0	42.7	6.5	17.4		
Greece	:	:	:	84.2	:	29.5	:	54.6	:		
Spain	499.0	29.6	5.9	469.3	94.1	144.9	29.0	324.5	65.0		
France	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
Italy	442.9	36.2	8.2	406.7	91.8	136.1	30.7	270.6	61.1		
Cyprus	11.7	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
Latvia	2.7	0.5	19.4	2.2	80.6	1.1	40.2	1.1	40.4		
Lithuania	6.5	4.8	74.3	1.7	25.7	0.3	4.0	1.4	21.7		
Luxembourg	15.8	1.1	7.1	14.6	92.7	11.9	75.7	2.7	16.9		
Hungary	27.9	2.3	8.3	25.6	91.7	14.2	51.1	11.3	40.6		
Malta	7.2	1.2	17.0	6.0	83.0	4.0	54.7	2.0	28.3		
Netherlands	128.8	36.9	28.7	81.9	63.6	47.3	36.7	34.6	26.8		
Austria	73.3	9.5	13.0	63.6	86.9	39.1	53.3	24.6	33.5		
Poland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
Portugal	32.3	18.0	55.9	14.3	44.1	4.0	12.4	10.3	31.8		
Romania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
Slovenia	30.3	2.9	9.6	27.4	90.3	1.9	6.2	25.5	84.1		
Slovakia	15.6	1.2	7.7	14.4	92.3	6.9	43.9	7.6	48.4		
Finland	26.7	8.6	32.3	17.8	66.7	6.5	24.2	11.3	42.4		
Sweden	102.3	18.5	18.1	83.5	81.6	26.9	26.3	56.6	55.4		
United Kingdom	566.5	96.0	16.9	470.5	83.1	167.4	29.6	303.1	53.5		
Iceland	3.9	1.4	36.0	2.5	64.0	2.0	51.3	0.5	12.6		
Liechtenstein	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		
Norway	56.0	7.3	13.1	48.6	86.9	26.9	48.0	21.8	38.9		
Switzerland	160.6	22.4	13.9	138.3	86.1	91.1	56.7	47.1	29.3		

^{(&#}x27;) EU-27 rounded totals are based on estimates; the individual values do not add up to the total due to rounding and the exclusion of the 'unknown' citizenship group from the table.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_imm1ctz)

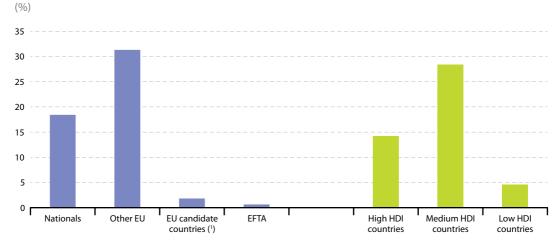


Figure 2.7.1: Immigrants, 2009 (1) (per 1 000 inhabitants)



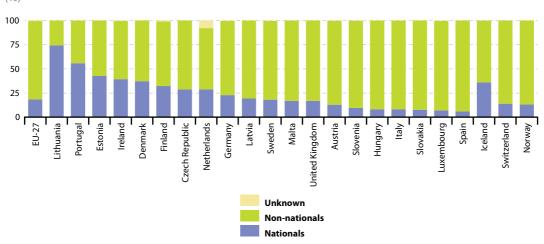
(¹) Data on the number of inhabitants refer to 1 January 2010; Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, France, Poland and Romania, not available. Source: Eurostat (online data codes: migr_imm1ctz and migr_pop1ctz)

Figure 2.7.2: Share of immigrants by citizenship group, EU-27, 2009



(¹) Candidate countries as of 1 January 2009: Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey. Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_imm1ctz)





 $(') \ \ \mathsf{Data} \ \mathsf{for} \ \mathsf{Belgium}, \mathsf{Bulgaria}, \mathsf{Greece}, \mathsf{Cyprus}, \mathsf{France}, \mathsf{Poland} \ \mathsf{and} \ \mathsf{Romania}, \mathsf{not} \ \mathsf{available}.$

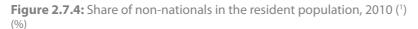
Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_imm1ctz)

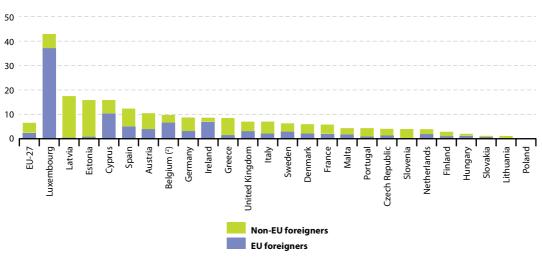
Table 2.7.2: Total population and resident non-national population by group of citizenship, 2010 (1)

	Non-						
	Total population (1 000)	То	tal	Citizens e EU Memb		Citizens of n	
	(1000)	(1000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)
EU-27	501 100.0	32 500.0	6.5	12300.0	2.5	20 200.0	4.0
Belgium	10839.9	1 052.8	9.7	715.1	6.6	337.7	3.1
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic	10506.8	424.4	4.0	137.0	1.3	287.4	2.7
Denmark	5 534.7	329.8	6.0	115.5	2.1	214.3	3.9
Germany	81 802.3	7 130.9	8.7	2546.3	3.1	4584.7	5.6
Estonia	1 340.1	212.7	15.9	11.0	0.8	201.7	15.1
Ireland	4 467.9	384.4	8.6	309.4	6.9	75.0	1.7
Greece	11 305.1	954.8	8.4	163.1	1.4	791.7	7.0
Spain	45 989.0	5 663.5	12.3	2 327.8	5.1	3 335.7	7.3
France	64716.3	3 769.0	5.8	1317.6	2.0	2451.4	3.8
Italy	60 340.3	4235.1	7.0	1 241.3	2.1	2 993.7	5.0
Cyprus	803.1	127.3	15.9	83.5	10.4	43.8	5.5
Latvia	2 248.4	392.2	17.4	9.7	0.4	382.4	17.0
Lithuania	3 329.0	37.0	1.1	2.4	0.1	34.6	1.0
Luxembourg	502.1	215.7	43.0	186.2	37.1	29.5	5.9
Hungary	10014.3	200.0	2.0	118.9	1.2	81.1	0.8
Malta	414.4	18.1	4.4	7.3	1.8	10.8	2.6
Netherlands	16575.0	652.2	3.9	310.9	1.9	341.3	2.1
Austria	8 3 6 7 . 7	876.4	10.5	328.3	3.9	548.0	6.5
Poland	38 167.3	45.5	0.1	14.8	0.0	30.7	0.1
Portugal	10637.7	457.3	4.3	94.2	0.9	363.1	3.4
Romania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	2 047.0	82.2	4.0	4.6	0.2	77.6	3.8
Slovakia	5 424.9	62.9	1.2	38.7	0.7	24.2	0.4
Finland	5 351.4	154.6	2.9	56.1	1.0	98.5	1.8
Sweden	9 3 4 0 . 7	590.5	6.3	265.8	2.8	324.7	3.5
United Kingdom	62 027.0	4362.0	7.0	1919.9	3.1	2 442.1	3.9
Iceland	317.6	21.7	6.8	17.2	5.4	4.5	1.4
Liechtenstein	35.9	:	:	:	:	:	:
Norway	4854.5	331.6	6.8	185.6	3.8	146.0	3.0
Switzerland	7 785.8	1714.0	22.0	1 073.7	13.8	640.3	8.2

⁽¹) EU-27 rounded totals are based on estimates; the individual values do not add up to the total due to rounding.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)



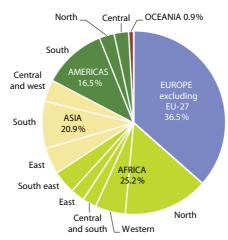


(1) Excluding Bulgaria and Romania.

(2) Provisional.

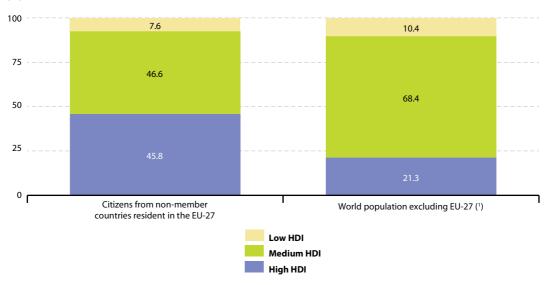
Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)

Figure 2.7.5: Citizens of non-member countries resident in the EU-27 by continent of origin, 2010 (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)

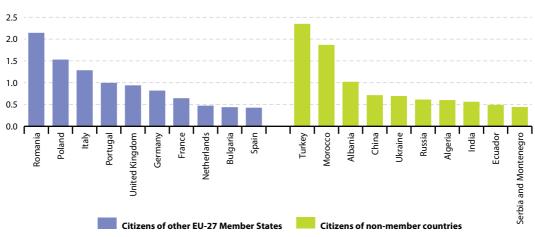
Figure 2.7.6: Non-EU citizens analysed by level of human development index (HDI), 2010 (%)



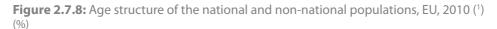
(1) UN 2009 mid-year population estimates.

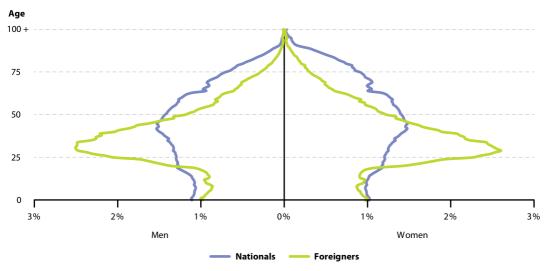
Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)

Figure 2.7.7: Main countries of origin of non-nationals, EU-27, 2010 (million)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)

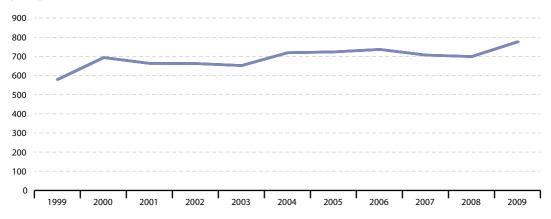




(1) Based on those Member States for which data are available.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop2ctz)

Figure 2.7.9: Number of persons having acquired the citizenship of an EU Member State, 1999-2009 (1000)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_acq)

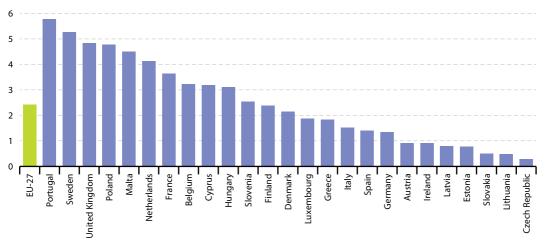


Table 2.7.3: Number of persons having acquired the citizenship of the reporting country, 2001-2009 (1 000)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
EU-27	579.7	693.9	663.3	662.5	651.9	719.1	723.6	735.9	707.1	698.7	776.1
Belgium	24.2	62.0	62.2	46.4	33.7	34.8	31.5	31.9	36.1	37.7	32.8
Bulgaria	:	:	4.4	3.5	4.4	5.8	5.9	6.7	6.0	7.1	9.2
Czech Republic	7.3	6.4	6.3	3.3	2.2	5.0	2.6	2.3	2.4	1.2	1.1
Denmark	12.4	18.8	11.9	17.3	6.6	15.0	10.2	8.0	3.6	6.0	6.9
Germany	143.1	186.7	180.3	154.5	140.7	127.2	117.2	124.6	113.0	94.5	96.1
Estonia	4.5	3.4	3.1	4.1	3.7	6.5	7.1	4.8	4.2	2.1	1.7
Ireland	1.4	1.1	2.8	3.4	4.0	3.8	4.1	5.8	4.6	3.2	4.5
Greece	:	:	1.5	1.7	1.9	1.4	1.7	2.0	3.9	16.9	17.0
Spain	16.4	16.7	16.7	21.8	26.5	38.2	42.9	62.4	71.9	84.2	79.6
France	147.5	150.0	127.5	128.1	144.6	168.8	154.8	147.9	132.0	137.5	135.8
Italy	11.3	9.6	10.4	10.7	13.4	19.1	28.7	35.3	45.5	53.7	59.4
Cyprus	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	4.5	4.0	2.9	2.8	3.2	4.1
Latvia	12.9	13.5	9.9	9.4	10.0	17.2	20.1	19.0	8.3	4.2	3.2
Lithuania	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2
Luxembourg	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	4.0
Hungary	6.1	5.4	8.6	3.4	5.3	5.4	9.9	6.1	8.4	8.1	5.8
Malta	0.1	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8
Netherlands	62.1	50.0	46.7	45.3	28.8	26.2	28.5	29.1	30.7	28.2	29.8
Austria	:	24.3	31.7	36.0	44.7	41.6	34.9	25.7	14.0	10.3	8.0
Poland	:	1.4	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.9	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.5
Portugal	1.2	1.6	2.2	2.7	2.4	2.9	3.0	4.4	9.8	22.4	25.6
Romania	0.2	:	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	5.6	9.4
Slovenia	2.3	2.1	1.3	2.8	3.3	3.3	2.7	3.2	1.6	1.7	1.8
Slovakia	1.3	4.5	2.9	3.5	3.5	4.0	1.4	1.1	1.5	0.5	0.3
Finland	4.7	3.0	2.7	3.0	4.5	6.9	5.7	4.4	4.8	6.7	3.4
Sweden	37.8	43.5	36.4	37.8	33.2	28.9	39.6	51.2	33.6	30.5	29.5
United Kingdom	54.9	82.2	89.8	120.1	130.5	148.3	161.8	154.0	164.5	129.3	203.6
Iceland	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	:	:	:	:	0.6	0.9	0.7
Liechtenstein	0.6	:	:	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1
Norway	8.0	9.5	10.8	9.0	7.9	8.2	12.7	12.0	14.9	10.3	11.4
Switzerland	20.4	28.7	27.6	36.5	35.4	35.7	38.4	46.7	43.9	44.4	43.4
Croatia	:	:	:	:	12.7	8.9	:	12.3	13.2	7.6	5.3
FYR of Macedonia	:	2.0	1.7	1.9	:	2.6	2.7	2.1	1.7	1.1	0.8
Turkey	:	:	:	:	24.8	8.2	6.9	5.1	4.4	6.0	8.1

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_acq)





(1) Number of inhabitans refers to 1 January 2010; Bulgaria and Romania, not available, as foreign population stocks are not fully comparable. Source: Eurostat (online data codes: migr_acq and migr_pop1ctz)

2.8 Asylum

This subchapter describes recent developments in international protection, presenting information on the numbers of asylum applicants and decisions on asylum applications in the European Union (EU).

The analysis focuses on characteristics of asylum applicants (country of origin, age and sex) as well as decisions on asylum applications. Most of the statistics displayed in this subchapter were collected under the regulatory framework of Regulation (EC) 862/2007 on migration and international protection statistics.

Main statistical findings

Asylum applications

In recent years, there has been a sharp decrease in the number of asylum applicants in the EU. Having peaked in 1992 (670 000 applications in the EU-15) and again in 2001 (424 200 applications in the EU-27), there were an estimated 258 950 asylum

applications received in the EU-27 in 2010 (see Figure 2.8.1).

This figure constituted a slight decrease of 5 050 applicants when compared with the year before, in part due to a lower number of applications from Zimbabwe, Somalia, Georgia, Nigeria and Iraq (see Table 2.8.1). In contrast, there was a sizeable increase of more than 12 000 Serbian applicants between 2009 and 2010 and of more than 6 000 applicants from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; as a result, both of these countries moved into the top ten countries of origin of asylum seekers in the EU-27. Nevertheless, Afghanistan and Russia remained the two most common countries of origin for asylum seekers in the EU.

The number of asylum applications and their relative importance (for example, as a percentage of the total population) vary considerably between Member States. The highest number of applications for asylum in 2010 was lodged in France, while



Germany, Sweden, Belgium and the United Kingdom, were the other main recipients of applications (see Table 2.8.2). The number of asylum claims lodged in these five Member States accounted for more than two thirds (70.6%) of the total number of applications lodged in the EU-27.

Out of each 20 asylum applicants in the EU-27 in 2010, on average close to 6 were minors, of which 1 was unaccompanied, 10 were young adults aged between 18 and 34 years and the remaining 4 persons were aged 35 and older (see Table 2.8.2). An unaccompanied minor is a person below the age of 18 who arrives on the territory of a Member State unaccompanied by an adult responsible for them or a minor who is left unaccompanied after having entered the territory of a Member State. Out of the 71 350 asylum applicants in the EU-27 who were minors in 2010, some 10 700 (excluding the Czech Republic) were unaccompanied.

Across the EU-27 as a whole, the gender distribution tends to be more balanced for asylum applicants aged less than 14 than for asylum applicants aged 14-17 or 18-34 for which around 14 out of 20 applicants were men. Male applicants were even more represented when considering the group of unaccompanied minors (see Figure 2.8.2) as approximately four in every five unaccompanied minors were male. Women outnumbered men only in the group of asylum seekers aged 65 and over though this group is relatively small and accounted for around 1930 individuals in 2010.

The historical ties between countries of origin and destination, former colonies for instance, which often implies a certain knowledge of the language used in the host country, the presence of established ethnic communities, and the economic situation of countries may also be taken into consideration by asylum seekers. These pull factors largely overlap with the drivers of other non-asylum migration flows. However, other factors such as the perceived likelihood that the destination country will grant a protection status or the benefits connected to a protection status in the country of destination are specific to asylum seekers. Table 2.8.3 provides an

overview of the five main citizenships of asylum applicants in each Member State.

Decisions on asylum applications

In 2010, a quarter (25.0%) of EU-27 first instance asylum decisions resulted in positive outcomes with the grants of a refugee, subsidiary protection status or authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons, while the share was slightly lower (21.5%) for final decisions (based on appeal or review). For first instance decisions, close to half (48.7%) of all positive decisions granted in the EU-27 in 2010 consisted of refugee status, while for final decisions the share was notably higher, over two thirds (70.7%). In absolute numbers, some 41 180 persons were granted refugee status, 24695 subsidiary protection and 9674 authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons. A wide diversity in the handling of asylum applications between Member States may be observed which is partly due to the differing citizenships of applicants in each Member State but may also reflect the current asylum and migration policies applied in each country.

In absolute terms, the highest number of positive asylum decisions in 2010 was recorded in the United Kingdom (14070), followed by Germany (12910), France (10375), Sweden (9760) and the Netherlands (8680). Altogether, these five Member States represented close to three quarter (73.9%) of the total number of positive decisions issued in EU Member States. Though refugee and subsidiary protection status are defined by EU law, humanitarian reasons are specific to the national legislation and relate to authorisation to stay for humanitarian reasons under national law concerning international protection, which explains why this latter protection status is not applicable in certain Member States.

Data sources and availability

Eurostat produces statistics on a range of issues relating to international migration. Between 1986 and 2007, data on asylum was collected on the basis



of a gentlemen's agreement. Since 2008 data have been provided to Eurostat under the provisions of Article 4 of Regulation (EC) 862/2007. Data are provided to Eurostat with a monthly frequency (for asylum application statistics), quarterly frequency (for first instance decisions) or annual frequency (for final decisions based on appeal or review, resettlement and unaccompanied minors). The statistics are based on administrative sources and are supplied to Eurostat by statistical authorities, home office ministries/ministries of the interior, or related immigration agencies in the Member States.

Two different categories of persons should be taken into account when analysing asylum statistics. The first includes asylum-seekers who have lodged a claim (asylum applications) and whose claim is under consideration by a relevant authority. The second is composed of persons who have been recognised, after consideration, as refugees or have been granted another kind of international protection (subsidiary protection) or were granted protection on the basis of the national law related to international protection (authorisations to stay for humanitarian reasons) or were rejected from having any form of protection. Since the entry into force of Regulation (EC) 862/2007, asylum decisions statistics have been made available at difference stages of the asylum procedure. First instance decisions are decisions granted by the respective authority acting as a first instance of the administrative/judicial asylum procedure in the receiving country. In contrast, final decisions in appeal or review relate to decision granted at the final instance of administrative/judicial asylum procedure and which result from an appeal lodged by an asylum seeker rejected in the preceding stage. Since asylum procedures and the number/levels of decision making bodies differ among the Member States, the true final instance may be, according to the national legislation and administrative procedures, a decision of the highest national court. However, the applied methodology defines that final decisions should refer to what is effectively a final decision in the vast majority of cases: in other words, that all normal routes of appeal have been exhausted.

Context

The 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the status of refugees (as amended by the 1967 New York Protocol) has for almost 60 years defined who is a refugee, and laid down a common approach towards refugees that has been one of the cornerstones for the development of a common asylum system within the EU. Asylum is a form of protection given by a state on its territory. It is granted to a person who is unable to seek protection in his/her country of citizenship and/or residence, in particular for fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion. Since 1999, the EU has worked towards creating a common European asylum regime in accordance with the Geneva Convention and other applicable international instruments. A number of directives in this area have been developed, the four main legal instruments on asylum including:

- the Reception Conditions Directive 2003/9/EC laying down minimum standards for the reception of asylum seekers;
- the Asylum Procedures Directive 2005/85/EC on minimum standards on procedures in Member States for granting and withdrawing refugee status;
- the Qualification Directive 2004/83/EC on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third-country nationals or stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection and the content of the protection granted;
- the Dublin Regulation (EC) 343/2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national.

The Hague programme was adopted by heads of state and government on 5 November 2004. It puts forward the idea of a common European asylum system (CEAS), in particular, it raises the challenge to establish common procedures and uniform

status for those granted asylum or subsidiary protection. The European Commission) adopted on 17 February 2006 a Communication on 'strengthened practical cooperation' (COM(2006) 67 final), presenting a vision of how Member States could further cooperate on asylum.

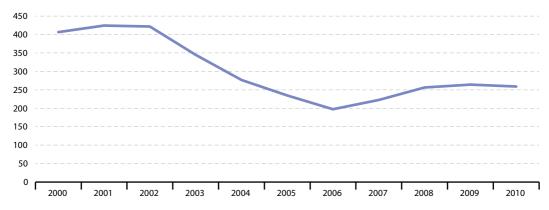
The European Commission's policy plan on asylum (COM(2008) 360) was presented in June 2008 which included three pillars to underpin the development of the CEAS:

- bringing more harmonisation to standards of protection by further aligning the Member States' asylum legislation;
- effective and well-supported practical cooperation;

 increased solidarity and sense of responsibility among EU Member States, and between the EU and non-member countries.

In May 2010, the European Commission presented an action plan for unaccompanied minors (COM(2010) 213), who are the most exposed and vulnerable victims of migration. This plan aims to set-up a coordinated approach and commits all Member States to grant high standards of reception, protection and integration for unaccompanied minors. As a complement to this action plan, the European migration network has produced a comprehensive EU study on reception policies, as well as return and integration arrangements for unaccompanied minors.

Figure 2.8.1: Asylum applications (non-EU-27) in the EU-27 Member States, 2000-2010 (1) (1 000)



(¹) Cyprus, applications relate to the main applicant only; United Kingdom, 2008 data refers to new asylum applicants. Source: Eurostat (online data codes: migr_asyctz and migr_asyappctza)



Table 2.8.1: Countries of origin of (non-EU-27) asylum seekers in the EU-27 Member States, 2009 and 2010 (¹) (number)

			Change 20	09 to 2010		Ranking	
	2010	2009	Absolute (number)	Relative (%)	2010	2009	Change
Non-EU-27 total	258 945	263 990	-5045	-1.9	-	-	-
Afghanistan	20 5 9 0	20455	135	0.7	1	1	0
Russia	18590	20110	-1520	-7.6	2	2	0
Serbia	17 745	5 460	12 285	225.0	3	16	+13
Iraq	15 800	18 845	-3045	-16.2	4	4	0
Somalia	14355	19000	-4645	-24.4	5	3	-2
Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99)	14310	14275	35	0.2	6	5	– 1
Iran	10315	8 5 6 5	1 750	20.4	7	9	+2
Pakistan	9180	9925	-745	-7.5	8	8	0
FYR of Macedonia	7 5 5 0	930	6 6 2 0	711.8	9	47	+38
Georgia	6860	10500	-3640	-34.7	10	6	-4
Nigeria	6750	10270	-3520	-34.3	11	7	-4
Sri Lanka	6470	7 380	-910	-12.3	12	11	– 1
Turkey	6350	7030	-680	-9.7	13	12	– 1
Bangladesh	6190	5 9 7 0	220	3.7	14	14	0
China	5 6 5 5	5 800	- 145	-2.5	15	15	0
Armenia	5 5 2 5	6855	-1330	-19.4	16	13	-3
Dem. Rep. of Congo	5 5 1 5	4 950	565	11.4	17	18	+1
Syria	5 0 1 0	4750	260	5.5	18	19	+1
Guinea	4 8 9 5	4 4 8 5	410	9.1	19	20	+1
Eritrea	4 5 2 5	5 230	-705	- 13.5	20	17	-3
Algeria	3 5 7 5	3 405	170	5.0	21	21	0
India	3 175	3 0 3 0	145	4.8	22	22	0
Zimbabwe	2615	8 0 5 0	-5435	-67.5	23	10	-13
Haiti	2 3 4 5	1 840	505	27.4	24	30	+6
Vietnam	2320	2460	-140	-5.7	25	24	-1
Sudan	2 295	1 955	340	17.4	26	27	+1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2 1 0 5	1 3 3 0	775	58.3	27	34	+7
Azerbaijan	2060	2585	-525	-20.3	28	23	-5
Albania	1 905	2 0 6 5	-160	-7.7	29	25	-4
Mongolia	1 680	2 0 3 0	-350	- 17.2	30	26	-4
Other non-EU-27	42 690	44 455	-	-	_	-	_

⁽¹⁾ Cyprus, data relates to applications instead of applicants.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_asyappctza)

Table 2.8.2: Number of (non-EU-27) asylum applicants in the EU and EFTA Member States and their age distribution, 2010

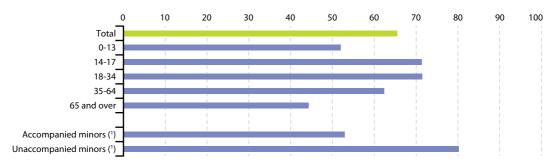
				/linors (%)			Aged '	18 and ov	er (%)	Age
	Total (number)	All minors	Accom- panied	Unaccom- panied	0-13	14-17	18-34	35-64	65 and over	un- known (%)
EU-27 (1)	258 945	27.6	23.4	4.1	20.4	7.2	51.5	19.9	0.7	0.3
Belgium	26 130	31.1	27.0	4.1	23.7	7.4	48.5	19.8	0.6	0.0
Bulgaria	1 0 2 5	11.2	9.3	2.0	6.8	4.4	60.5	26.3	2.0	0.0
Czech Republic	780	20.5	:	:	18.6	1.9	44.2	34.6	0.6	0.0
Denmark	5 0 7 0	29.5	21.4	8.1	14.6	14.9	53.1	16.6	0.9	0.0
Germany	48490	34.4	30.4	4.0	25.3	9.1	46.9	17.8	0.9	0.0
Estonia	35	14.3	14.3	0.0	14.3	0.0	57.1	14.3	0.0	0.0
Ireland	1 940	29.6	27.8	1.8	25.5	4.1	53.1	17.0	0.0	0.0
Greece	10 275	4.5	3.1	1.4	1.7	2.8	77.4	17.8	0.0	0.2
Spain	2740	13.9	13.3	0.5	11.5	2.4	60.8	23.9	1.3	0.0
France	52725	21.9	20.7	1.2	18.4	3.5	54.0	23.3	0.7	0.0
Italy	10050	20.9	17.9	3.0	15.9	5.0	64.3	14.5	0.2	0.0
Cyprus (2)	2875	9.0	7.8	1.2	6.3	2.8	66.3	24.0	0.3	0.3
Latvia	65	23.1	15.4	7.7	7.7	15.4	53.8	23.1	0.0	0.0
Lithuania	495	18.2	16.2	2.0	13.1	5.1	54.5	27.3	1.0	0.0
Luxembourg	780	26.3	23.7	2.6	19.9	6.4	51.9	21.2	0.0	0.0
Hungary	2 0 9 5	22.2	15.0	7.2	13.4	8.8	64.0	13.6	0.0	0.0
Malta	175	17.1	14.3	2.9	11.4	5.7	62.9	14.3	0.0	2.9
Netherlands	15 100	35.9	31.3	4.6	26.1	9.8	44.5	18.6	1.0	0.1
Austria	11050	37.2	31.8	5.4	27.1	10.1	46.3	16.2	0.4	0.0
Poland	6540	40.2	36.7	3.5	35.8	4.4	37.5	21.6	0.8	0.0
Portugal	160	15.6	12.5	3.1	9.4	6.3	59.4	25.0	0.0	0.0
Romania	885	11.9	7.9	4.0	6.8	5.1	68.4	19.2	0.6	0.0
Slovenia	245	26.5	16.3	10.2	10.2	16.3	51.0	22.4	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	540	10.2	9.3	0.9	6.5	3.7	68.5	20.4	0.9	0.0
Finland	3 090	24.3	14.1	10.2	14.6	9.7	57.3	17.5	0.3	0.8
Sweden	31875	33.3	25.8	7.5	23.3	10.0	46.3	19.3	1.1	0.0
United Kingdom	23715	20.4	13.6	6.7	13.2	7.2	53.2	22.7	0.8	2.9
Iceland (3)	35	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	57.1	28.6	0.0	0.0
Liechtenstein	105	28.6	28.6	0.0	23.8	4.8	47.6	23.8	0.0	0.0
Norway	10025	28.8	19.9	8.9	19.6	9.2	53.7	17.0	0.5	0.0
Switzerland	15435	26.8	25.4	1.4	22.3	4.5	58.5	14.2	0.3	0.1

⁽¹⁾ The analysis of accompanied and unaccompanied minors excludes the Czech Republic.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: migr_asyappctza and migr_asyunaa)

⁽²) Applications instead of applicants. (³) 2009.

Figure 2.8.2: Share of male (non-EU-27) asylum applicants in the EU-27, by age group and status of minors, 2010 (%)



(1) Excluding the Czech Republic.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: migr_asyappctza and migr_asyunaa)



Table 2.8.3: Five main citizenships of (non-EU-27) asylum applicants, 2010 (¹) (number, rounded figures)

EU-27	
Afghanistan	20590
Russia	18590
Serbia	17745
Iraq	15 800
Somalia	14355
Other	171 865

Belgium	
Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99)	3 230
Russia	2725
Serbia	2 2 2 2 0
Iraq	1 990
Afghanistan	1830
Other	14 135

Bulgaria	
Iraq	450
Stateless	100
Iran	60
Afghanistan	60
Armenia	60
Other	295

Czech Republic	
Ukraine	115
Mongolia	95
Belarus	55
Turkey	50
Stateless	50
Other	415

Denmark	
Afghanistan	1 465
Syria	815
Iran	655
Russia	400
Serbia	265
Other	1470

Germany	
Serbia	6 795
Afghanistan	6 0 6 5
Iraq	5 945
FYR of Macedonia	3 5 4 5
Iran	2970
Other	23 170

Estonia	
Afghanistan	10
Sri Lanka	5
Russia	5
Nigeria	5
Zimbabwe	*
Other	10

Ireland	
Nigeria	385
China (incl. Hong Kong)	230
Pakistan	200
Afghanistan	70
Dem. Rep. of Congo	70
Other	985

Greece	
Pakistan	2750
Georgia	1 160
Bangladesh	985
Albania	695
China (incl. Hong Kong)	545
Other	4140

405
240
175
165
155
1 600

France	
Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99)	5 285
Russia	4695
Dem. Rep. of Congo	3 715
Bangladesh	3 695
Sri Lanka	3410
Other	31 925

Italy	
Nigeria	1 385
Pakistan	930
Afghanistan	875
Turkey	855
Bosnia and Herzegovina	815
Other	5 190

Cyprus (2)	
Iraq	340
India	320
Vietnam	225
Egypt	210
Sri Lanka	185
Other	1 595

Lä	atvia
Afghanistan	25
Russia	5
Kyrgyzstan	5
Ghana	5
Dem. Rep. of Congo	f 5
Other	20
Other	2

Lithuania	
Georgia	250
Russia	110
Afghanistan	40
Armenia	20
Belarus	15
Other	60

Luxembourg	
Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99)	160
Serbia	150
Iraq	95
Algeria	45
Somalia	30
Other	300

Hungary	
Afghanistan	700
Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99)	380
Palestinian territory	225
Georgia	70
Serbia	65
Other	655

Malta	
Somalia	35
Pakistan	15
India	15
Eritrea	15
Syria	10
Other	85

Netherlands	
Somalia	3 6 7 0
Iraq	1 905
Afghanistan	1 585
Iran	865
Unknown	660
Other	6415

Austria	
Russia	2 3 3 0
Afghanistan	1 5 9 0
Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99)	610
Nigeria	555
India	435
Other	5 5 3 0

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_asyappctza)

 $^(^1)$ A * indicates 2 or fewer applicants.

⁽²⁾ Applications instead of applicants.

Table 2.8.3 (continued): Five main citizenships of (non-EU-27) asylum applicants, 2010 (1) (number, rounded figures)

Poland		Dauta and		Romania		Slovenia	
		Portugal					
Russia	4795	Guinea	45	Afghanistan	115	Turkey	30
Georgia	1 085	Colombia	15	Moldova	110	Afghanistan	30
Armenia	105	Guinea-Bissau	10	Turkey	70	Bosnia and Herzegovina	30
Vietnam	45	Dem. Rep. of Congo	10	Iraq	65	Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99)	20
Ukraine	45	Angola	10	China (incl. Hong Kong)	65	Serbia	15
Other	465	Other	70	Other	460	Other	120
Slovakia		Finland		Sweden		United Kingdom	
Afghanistan	75	Somalia	520	Serbia	6 2 5 5	Zimbabwe	2435
Russia	65	Iraq	515	Somalia	5 6 3 0	Iran	2350
Georgia	65	Russia	395	Afghanistan	2400	Pakistan	2 185
India	45	Afghanistan	240	Iraq	1 995	Afghanistan	1 975
Moldova	40	Serbia	155	Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99)	1715	Sri Lanka	1 660
Other	250	Other	1 265	Other	13 880	Other	13110
Iceland (²)		Liechtenstein		Norway		Switzerland	
Syria	5	FYR of Macedonia	40	Eritrea	1710	Nigeria	1 970
Albania	5	Russia	30	Somalia	1 3 9 5	Eritrea	1 800
Iraq	5	Nigeria	10	Afghanistan	980	Sri Lanka	940
Iran	5	Somalia	5	Russia	630	Serbia	910
7imbabwe	*	Serbia	5	Ethiopia	505	Afghanistan	670
Other	15	Other	15	Other	4805	Other	9 145
							- 1 10

⁽¹) A * indicates 2 or fewer applicants. (²) 2009.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_asyappctza)

Table 2.8.4: First instance decisions on (non-EU-27) asylum applications, 2010 (number)

	Total number of decisions	Positive decisions				
		Total	Refugee status	Subsidiary protection	Humani- tarian reasons	Rejected
EU-27 (1)	222 070	55 460	27 035	20410	8 0 9 0	167 025
Belgium	16 245	3 5 1 0	2700	805	_	12 740
Bulgaria	515	140	20	120	_	375
Czech Republic	500	175	75	75	20	330
Denmark	3 280	1 345	660	520	170	1 935
Germany	45 310	10445	7 755	545	2 145	34865
Estonia	40	15	10	5	-	25
Ireland	1 600	25	25	5	-	1575
Greece	3 4 5 5	105	60	20	30	3 350
Spain	2 785	610	245	350	15	2175
France	37610	5 095	4 080	1015	-	32515
Italy	11 325	4305	1615	1 465	1 225	7015
Cyprus	2 440	425	30	370	25	2015
Latvia	50	25	5	20	_	25
Lithuania	190	15	0	15	_	175
Luxembourg	:	:	55	15	-	405
Hungary	1 040	260	75	115	70	785
Malta	350	220	45	165	15	125
Netherlands	17580	8 005	810	4010	3 180	9575
Austria	13770	3 4 4 5	2055	1 390	_	10325
Poland	4420	510	80	195	230	3910
Portugal	130	55	5	50	-	75
Romania	425	70	40	30	0	355
Slovenia	115	25	20	0	-	95
Slovakia	295	90	5	55	30	205
Finland	4 2 6 0	1 595	165	1 240	190	2665
Sweden	27 650	8510	1 935	5 970	605	19140
United Kingdom	26 690	6440	4 445	1850	140	20 250
Iceland (²)	25	5	0	0	5	25
Liechtenstein	85	0	0	:	0	85
Norway	15 180	5 300	2975	1 565	760	9 9 5 5
Switzerland	18475	7815	3 380	1 155	3 280	10660

⁽¹) Total number of decisions and total number of positive decisions, excluding Luxembourg. (²) 2009.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_asydcfsta)

Table 2.8.5: Final decisions on (non-EU-27) asylum applications, 2010 (number)

	Total number of decisions	Positive decisions				
		Total	Refugee status	Subsidiary protection	Humani- tarian reasons	Rejected
EU-27 (1)	93 280	20015	14 145	4 285	1 585	73 265
Belgium	7 985	280	195	85	_	7 7 0 5
Bulgaria	35	20	0	20	_	15
Czech Republic (1)	415	25	0	0	25	390
Denmark (1)	440	130	65	70	0	310
Germany	7 775	2 4 6 5	1 220	235	1 005	5 3 1 5
Estonia	5	0	0	0	_	5
Ireland	2785	130	130	_	_	2655
Greece (1)	2 105	40	30	15	0	2 0 6 5
Spain	1 545	15	15	5	_	1 5 3 0
France	23 080	5 280	4 2 4 5	1 035	_	17800
Italy	1 530	275	70	0	200	1 260
Cyprus	2975	110	25	5	80	2870
Latvia	15	0	0	0	_	15
Lithuania	65	0	0	0	_	65
Luxembourg	190	35	30	5	_	160
Hungary	190	25	10	15	0	165
Malta	325	0	0	0	0	325
Netherlands	1 350	675	90	390	195	675
Austria	10540	1 435	1 060	375	-	9 105
Poland	110	50	0	35	15	60
Portugal	20	0	0	0	-	20
Romania	530	110	85	30	0	420
Slovenia	15	0	0	0	0	15
Slovakia	40	5	0	5	0	35
Finland	115	70	5	35	30	45
Sweden	12830	1 250	285	710	255	11 580
United Kingdom	21 975	7630	6010	1 405	210	14 345
Iceland (1)	30	5	0	0	5	30
Liechtenstein	60	0	0	:	0	60
Norway	10100	410	165	70	170	9 6 9 0
Switzerland	5 5 7 5	435	70	40	325	5 140

(1) 2009.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_asydcfina)