

# Employment rates in Europe – 2000

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On its Stockholm summit in March 2001, the European Council set the following objectives for EU's employment rates :

67 % for women and men together and 57 % for women to be attained by 2005.

50 % by the year 2010 for persons aged 55 to 64 years.

The employment rates derived from the spring 2000 Labour Force Survey are presented hereafter for the EU Member States (and their regions), as well as for 3 EFTA and 11 candidate countries. The main features are :

- In average the EU total employment rate was at 63.1 % in 2000 (against 61 % in 1998), while the female employment rate was almost 10 percentage points lower (at 53.8 % in 2000 against 51.2 % in 1998).
- Seven EU member states have already attained the 2005 objectives : Denmark, United Kingdom, Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands (with total rates around 70 % or more and female rates around 65 %), as well as Portugal and Austria (with total rates at 68 % and female rates at 60 %).
- Germany has already reached the 2005 objective for female employment but not for total employment rate (65.3 %).
- In Italy, Greece and Spain the employment rates are as low as around 40 % for females and 55 % for males and females together.

From 1998 to 2000 both the general and female employment rates increased by about 5 percentage points in Spain, Ireland and Finland (and by about 4 points in Belgium).

The employment rate of persons aged 55 to 64 was at 37.5 % in average in the EU in 2000 (increased by one percentage point since 1998); it ranged from less than 30 % in Belgium, Luxembourg, Italy, France and Austria to more than 50 % in Sweden, Denmark, Portugal and United Kingdom.

Total employment rates higher than 70 % concentrated in the following EU regions: Bayern and western Austria, Danmark, south of Sweden and very south of Finland (Uusimaa), Netherlands (except Groningen), Centro (in Portugal) and most of the United Kingdom regions.

In the candidate countries the total employment rates ranged from 49 % in Bulgaria to around 65 % in Cyprus, the Czech Republik and Romania; the employment rates were generally 8 to 12 percentage points lower for females than for males (against 19 points lower in average in the EU).

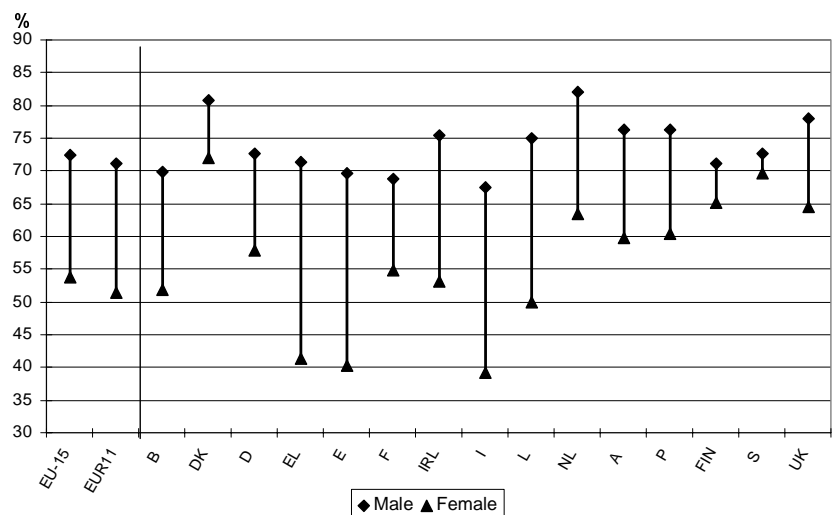


Figure 1: Employment rates, 15-64 years, by sex in the EU, spring 2000

## Statistics in focus

### POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

#### THEME 3 – 8/2001

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**Table 1 - Employment rates by age and sex in the EU, spring 2000**

		EU-15	EUR11	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL
15-64 years	Total	63.1	61.3	60.9	76.4	65.3	55.9	54.7	61.7	64.4
	Male	72.4	71.2	69.8	80.7	72.7	71.3	69.6	68.8	75.4
	Female	53.8	51.4	51.9	72.1	57.8	41.3	40.3	54.8	53.2
15-24 years	Total	39.9	36.9	30.3	67.1	46.1	26.9	31.8	28.3	47.8
	Male	43.3	40.5	33.7	70.3	48.6	31.9	37.0	31.4	52.1
	Female	36.5	33.3	26.7	64.0	43.6	22.0	26.4	25.2	43.3
25-54 years	Total	76.4	75.5	77.9	84.3	79.3	70.2	67.7	78.4	75.4
	Male	87.1	87.0	87.9	88.3	87.4	88.6	85.4	87.3	88.1
	Female	65.7	64.0	67.8	80.4	71.1	52.6	50.6	69.6	62.7
55-64 years	Total	37.5	33.9	25.0	54.6	37.4	39.0	36.6	29.3	45.1
	Male	47.6	44.2	35.1	61.9	46.2	55.3	54.8	32.8	63.0
	Female	27.7	24.1	15.4	46.2	28.7	24.4	19.9	26.0	27.1
20-64 years	Total	67.0	65.4	66.3	77.9	68.7	61.0	59.3	67.4	70.2
	Male	77.1	76.1	76.1	82.4	76.5	78.2	75.6	75.2	82.6
	Female	57.0	54.8	56.4	73.3	60.7	45.0	43.5	60.0	57.8

**Table 2 - Full time employment rates by age and sex in the EU, spring 2000**

		EU-15	EUR11	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL
15-64 years	Total	51.8	51.0	40.8	59.9	52.9	53.4	50.3	51.4	53.8
	Male	67.9	67.0	54.4	72.8	69.5	69.6	67.7	65.2	70.4
	Female	35.7	35.1	27.1	46.8	36.0	38.2	33.4	37.8	37.0
15-24 years	Total	30.7	29.8	21.8	35.5	40.6	24.6	27.5	22.0	37.5
	Male	36.1	35.1	26.5	44.4	44.4	29.6	34.3	27.3	43.9
	Female	25.3	24.5	16.8	27.0	36.6	19.8	20.5	16.7	30.9
25-54 years	Total	63.6	63.4	52.6	70.6	63.8	67.6	62.8	66.0	64.3
	Male	83.3	83.1	69.7	84.3	84.3	87.0	83.7	83.7	84.6
	Female	43.9	43.6	35.0	56.7	42.9	49.0	42.6	48.6	44.1
55-64 years	Total	29.3	27.4	13.5	43.2	28.9	37.1	34.2	22.8	36.3
	Male	43.1	40.5	21.4	57.1	43.1	54.1	53.8	29.4	57.3
	Female	16.1	14.8	6.0	27.3	14.8	21.9	16.2	16.4	15.2
20-64 years	Total	55.4	54.6	44.5	63.8	55.4	58.5	54.6	56.2	59.7
	Male	72.9	72.0	59.4	77.3	73.2	76.5	73.7	71.4	78.3
	Female	38.1	37.4	29.5	50.0	37.3	41.6	36.2	41.4	41.1

**Table 1 - Employment rates by age and sex in the EU, spring 2000**






I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK		
53.4	62.7	72.9	67.9	68.1	68.1	71.1	71.2	Total	15-64 years
67.6	75.0	82.1	76.2	76.2	71.1	72.6	77.9	Male	
39.3	50.0	63.4	59.7	60.4	65.2	69.7	64.5	Female	
26.1	31.8	68.4	52.5	41.9	45.4	36.9	55.9	Total	15-24 years
30.2	35.3	69.9	56.5	47.7	47.0	36.6	58.2	Male	
22.0	28.3	66.7	48.6	36.1	43.8	37.1	53.5	Female	
67.7	78.2	81.7	81.6	81.9	81.1	82.5	80.4	Total	25-54 years
84.6	92.8	92.2	89.7	90.2	84.6	84.1	87.5	Male	
50.7	63.0	70.9	73.5	73.9	77.6	80.9	73.1	Female	
27.3	27.2	37.9	29.2	51.7	41.2	64.3	50.5	Total	55-64 years
40.3	37.9	49.9	41.4	62.5	41.8	67.0	59.8	Male	
15.2	16.8	25.8	17.8	42.3	40.7	61.7	41.4	Female	
57.1	67.5	74.2	70.7	73.6	72.3	76.3	74.1	Total	20-64 years
72.4	80.8	84.2	79.2	82.3	75.5	78.2	81.5	Male	
42.0	53.8	64.0	62.2	65.3	69.0	74.4	66.6	Female	

**Table 2 - Full time employment rates by age and sex in the EU, spring 2000**

I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK		
48.7	55.7	43.0	56.6	62.6	60.0	54.4	54.1	Total	15-64 years
65.1	73.7	66.6	73.2	73.6	65.7	65.1	71.7	Male	
32.5	37.1	18.7	40.0	52.1	54.2	43.4	36.2	Female	
23.1	29.0	26.3	47.5	39.4	30.3	21.9	37.6	Total	15-24 years
28.2	33.7	31.6	53.7	45.6	36.5	25.6	43.4	Male	
18.1	24.2	20.9	41.4	33.2	24.3	18.0	31.6	Female	
61.9	69.2	52.0	67.0	76.6	74.9	65.9	63.2	Total	25-54 years
81.9	91.5	82.1	86.6	88.5	81.1	78.6	84.2	Male	
41.8	46.1	21.1	47.3	65.3	68.6	52.8	41.9	Female	
25.2	24.2	21.1	24.4	40.8	33.0	45.4	34.5	Total	55-64 years
38.3	37.0	36.9	38.4	55.5	34.5	55.8	51.6	Male	
13.0	11.7	5.3	11.2	28.0	31.6	34.8	17.9	Female	
52.1	59.9	46.2	58.5	67.6	64.8	59.4	57.6	Total	20-64 years
69.8	79.5	71.9	76.2	79.6	70.8	71.2	76.7	Male	
34.7	39.9	19.9	41.0	56.3	58.7	47.2	38.2	Female	

**Employment rates in the EU  
males and females  
between 15 and 64 years old  
Spring 2000 – NUTS 2**

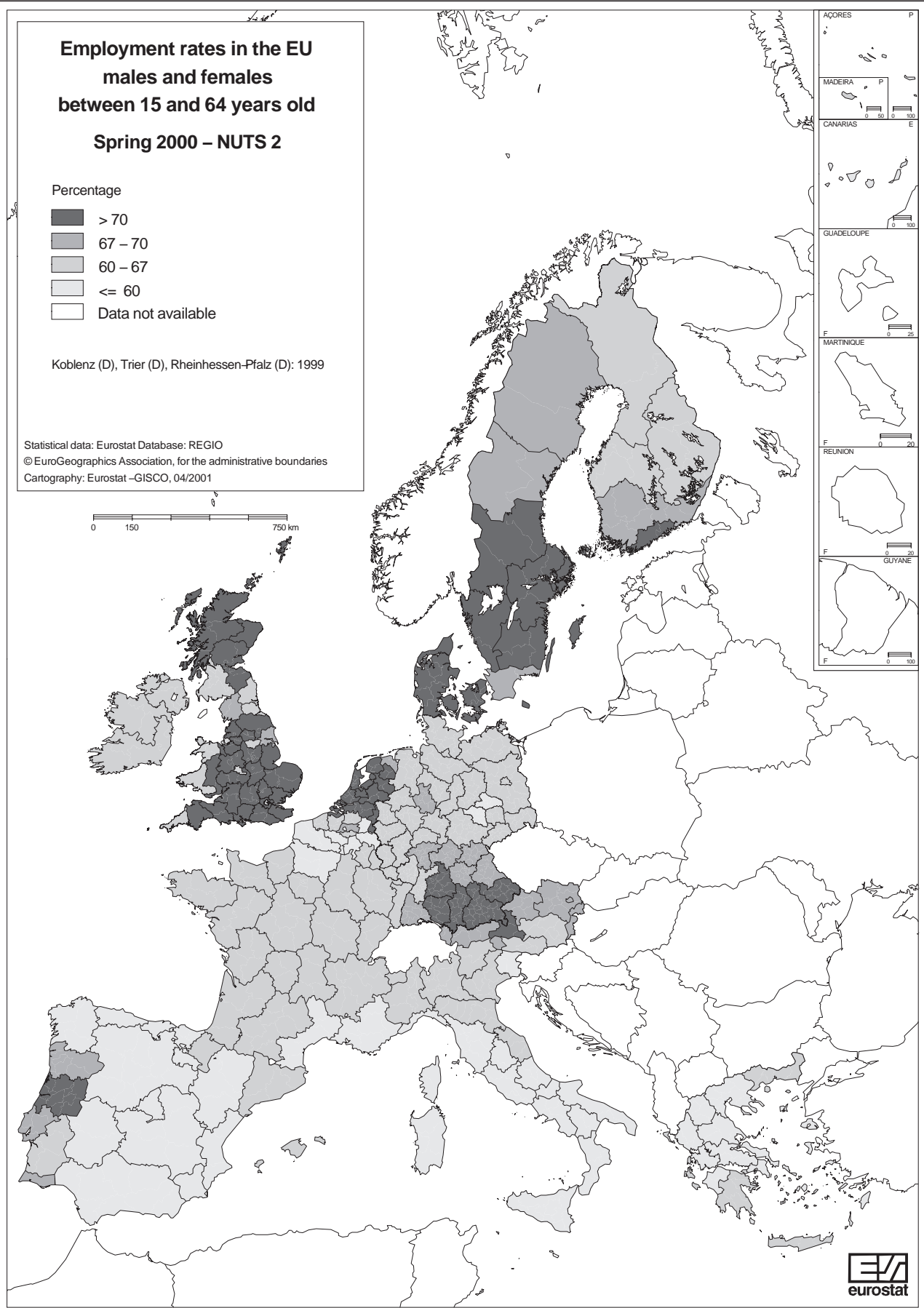
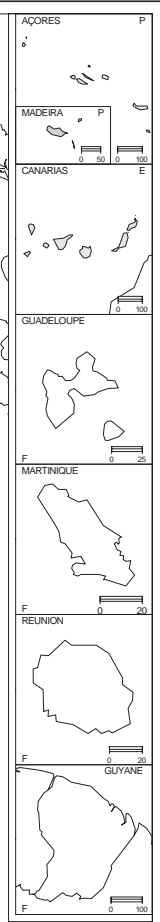
Percentage

-  > 70
-  67 – 70
-  60 – 67
-  <= 60
-  Data not available

Koblenz (D), Trier (D), Rheinhessen-Pfalz (D): 1999

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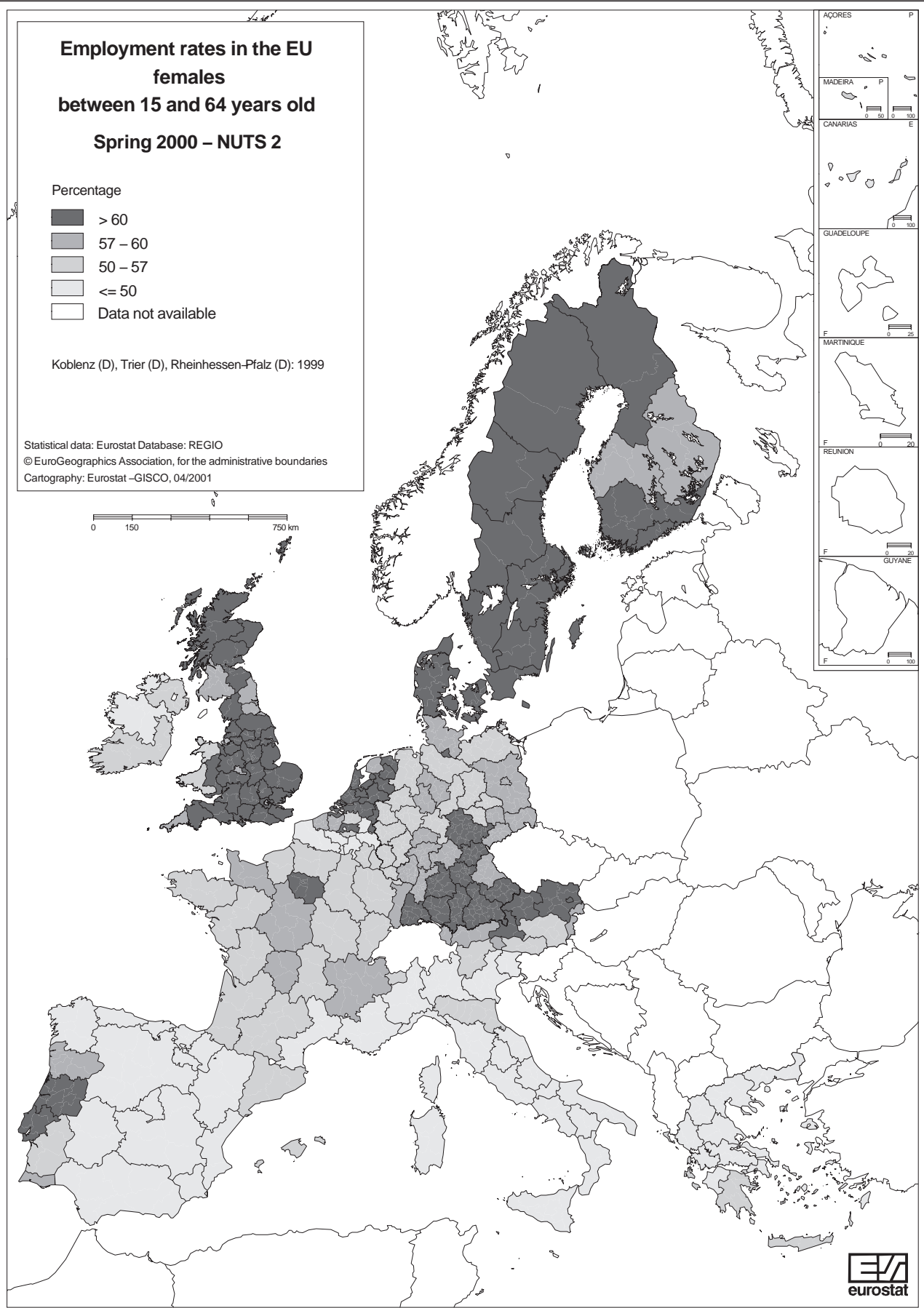
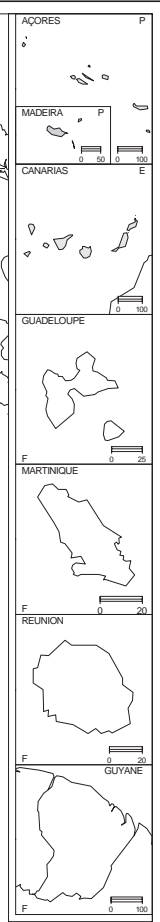


**Employment rates in the EU  
females  
between 15 and 64 years old  
Spring 2000 – NUTS 2**

- Percentage
- > 60
  - 57 – 60
  - 50 – 57
  - <= 50
  - Data not available

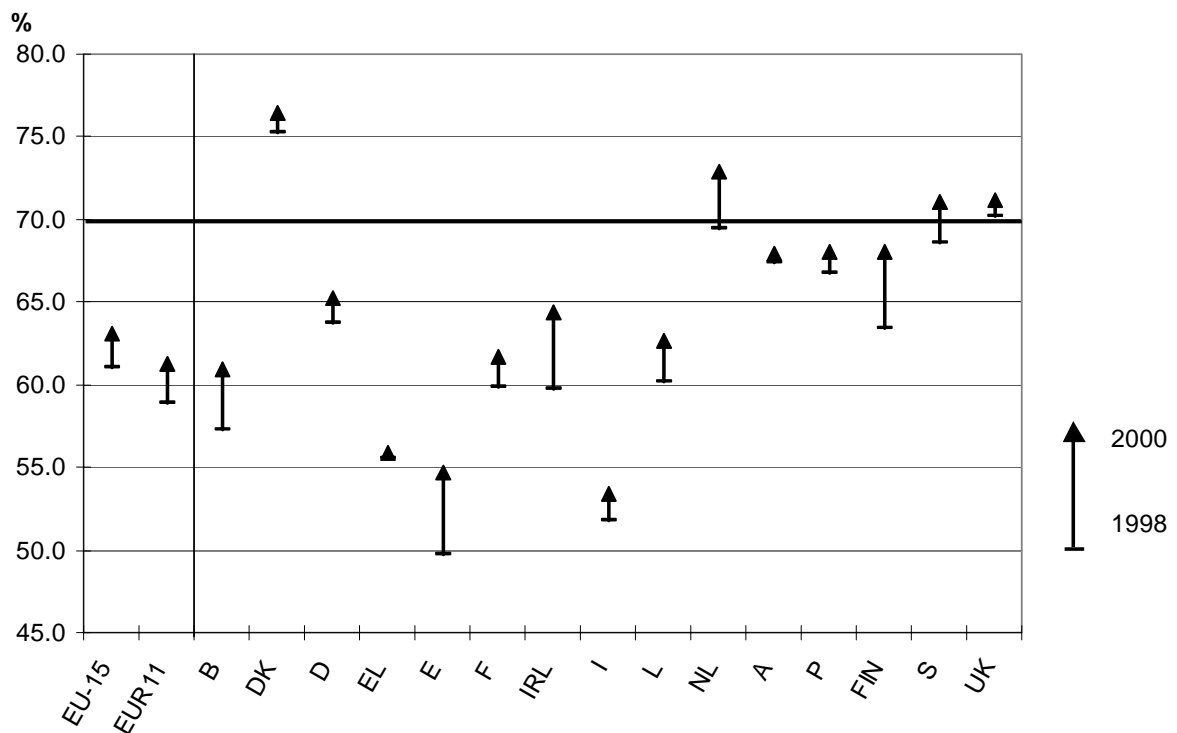
Koblenz (D), Trier (D), Rheinhessen-Pfalz (D): 1999

Statistical data: Eurostat Database: REGIO  
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Cartography: Eurostat – GISCO, 04/2001



**Table 3 - Employment rates by age and sex in the EFTA and candidate countries, spring 2000**

		CH	IS	NO	BG	CY	CZ	EE
15-64 years	Total	78.3	87.1	77.9	49.2	65.5	64.9	60.6
	Male	87.3	90.4	81.8	53.4	78.9	73.1	64.3
	Female	69.3	83.8	73.9	45.3	52.5	56.8	57.1
15-24 years	Total	65.0	73.9	58.7	19.3	34.4	36.4	27.4
	Male	66.5	70.6	60.8	21.3	38.3	39.3	31.4
	Female	63.4	77.4	56.5	17.3	31.0	33.6	23.2
25-54 years	Total	85.4	91.8	85.6	67.3	78.2	81.5	76.8
	Male	95.2	96.0	89.3	69.4	92.5	89.2	79.5
	Female	75.6	87.4	81.7	65.2	63.8	73.7	74.2
55-64 years	Total	63.3	85.4	65.6	18.9	49.0	36.1	43.0
	Male	77.0	95.5	71.9	31.1	67.1	51.6	50.2
	Female	50.1	75.7	59.3	8.5	31.9	22.1	37.5
20-64 years	Total	80.9	89.4	80.7	54.1	72.4	70.9	67.5
	Male	90.5	94.2	84.9	58.7	86.7	80.1	72.3
	Female	71.2	84.6	76.4	49.7	58.3	61.8	63.2



*Figure 2: Employment rates in the EU, 15-64 years, spring 1998-2000*

**Table 3 - Employment rates by age and sex in the EFTA and candidate countries, spring 2000**

HU	LT	LV	PL	RO	SI	SK		
55.9	60.1	58.2	55.1	64.2	62.7	56.3	Total	15-64 years
62.7	61.8	62.3	61.2	69.5	66.7	61.6	Male	
49.4	58.5	54.3	49.3	59.0	58.5	51.1	Female	
33.1	26.7	30.4	24.1	34.0	31.2	28.3	Total	15-24 years
37.0	30.2	35.2	26.4	36.9	34.7	28.7	Male	
29.2	23.2	25.6	21.9	31.1	27.4	27.9	Female	
72.8	76.0	74.2	71.0	78.6	82.6	74.2	Total	25-54 years
79.0	75.1	75.4	77.5	84.6	85.5	79.1	Male	
66.7	76.8	73.0	64.5	72.7	79.6	69.3	Female	
21.9	42.2	35.4	29.0	52.0	22.3	21.5	Total	55-64 years
33.0	52.2	48.3	37.4	57.4	31.0	35.2	Male	
13.0	34.5	25.9	21.8	47.3	14.3	10.2	Female	
60.9	66.6	64.2	61.1	70.5	68.5	63.0	Total	20-64 years
68.6	68.6	69.0	67.9	76.4	72.9	69.3	Male	
53.6	64.7	59.9	54.5	64.8	64.1	56.9	Female	

## ➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

### Definition

The employment rate is the population of employed persons as a share of the total population of the same age living in private households. Employed persons are those who during the reference week performed work, even for just one hour per week, for pay, profit or family gain or were not at work but had a job from which they were temporarily absent.

The full-time employment rate is the population of employed persons working full-time as the share of the total population of the same age group

The classification by part-time or full-time employment depends on a self-assessment in all Member states except the Netherlands and Austria. When people are asked whether their job is a part-time job, they compare the number of hours in their job to the normal hours worked in similar jobs, i.e., in a similar economic activity and occupation. In the Netherlands and Austria the classification depends on a threshold in relationship with the number of hours usually worked.

### Data sources

The data source of the employment rates is the Community labour force survey. The scope of the survey is limited to private households. Conscripts and persons living in collective households, e.g., medical care institutions and religious institutions are excluded. The sample rate varies between 0.3% and 3.3% (5% in L).

The data refer to Spring and more precisely,

- in B (since '99), DK, EL, E, NL (in 2000), P and FIN (in 2000) to the 13 weeks in the second quarter
- in IRL (since '98) and UK in the Spring quarter,
- in D, I and L to one week in April or May,
- in F to one month in the first quarter,
- in A to March,
- in FIN until '99 to one week in April, May and June,
- in S to one or three months in the period from February to May

EU aggregates on the basis of a continuous labour force survey can not be calculated because the survey is not yet continuous in all Member states.

### Regional classification

A regional breakdown is applied at the NUTS 2 level (208 regions) .

# Further information:

## ➤ Databases

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