

First demographic estimates for 2005

Statistics in focus

POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

1/2006

Population

Authors

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Based upon monthly data available at the end of 2005, latest forecasts and expert opinion, the net inflow of international migrants (immigration minus emigration) to the European Union is expected to show a decrease in 2005 to a level of around 1 691 000 persons, against 1 852 000 persons in 2004.

The number of live births is expected to increase slightly from 4.80 million in 2004 to 4.82 million in 2005. The total number of deaths is also expected to increase from 4.35 million in 2004 to 4.49 million in 2005. Natural population change (live births minus deaths) is therefore forecast to show a significant decrease from 447 000 in 2004 to 327 000 in 2005.

Consequently, total population increase is estimated to reach a level of around 2.0 million (compared to 2.3 million in 2004), bringing the EU population on 1 January 2006 to 461.5 million.

The increase in population is mainly due to net migration of which more than half (1 million) is accounted for by Italy and Spain (the highest net migration figure in the EU). However, for both countries the figures are inflated by regularisation programmes, thus including persons who may have arrived before 2005.

The population of the Candidate Countries amounts to 106.3 million people on 1 January 2006. This is an increase of 803 000 compared with 1 January 2005, due to positive natural growth (live births outnumbering deaths).

EU population continues to increase slowly ...

During the last 46 years, the population of the present EU has grown from 376 to almost 462 million (Figure 1). In 1967, the EU's population exceeded 400 million. Thereafter it took 12 and 20 years respectively to increase by 25 million inhabitants. Thus, population growth began to slow during the last 2-3 decades.

With an estimated population increase of around 2.0 million people, 2005 fits fairly well in this latter general trend. Although during the second half of the 1990s lower levels were recorded, the latest increase is much smaller than those observed during the 1960s (on average 3 million a year).

In relative terms, the EU population is expected to grow by 0.44% in 2005. Again compared with the late 1990s, this level is slightly higher, but from a longer-term perspective, it is a rather modest rise (Figure 2).

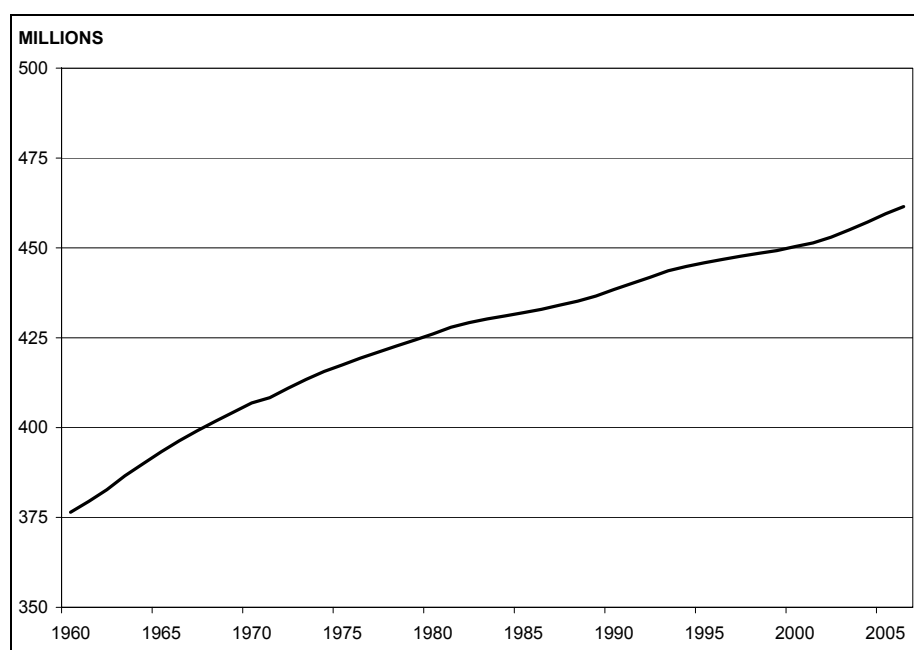


Figure 1: Total population, EU-25, 1960-2006
Source : Eurostat, First demographic estimates 2005

Table 1: Population change in 2005 (first estimates)

COUNTRY	Population	Live	Deaths	Natural	Net	Total	Population	Crude	Crude	Crude	Crude	Crude
	1.1.2005	births		change	migration ¹⁾	change	1.1.2006	birth	death	natural	net	Crude
	(1000)						per 1000					
EU-25	459,488.4	4,816.4	4,489.2	327.2	1,691.5	2,018.7	461,507.1	10.5	9.7	0.7	3.7	4.4
EU-15	385,383.4	4,109.0	3,699.7	409.4	1,628.7	2,038.0	387,421.4	10.6	9.6	1.1	4.2	5.3
Euro-zone ²⁾	310,926.1	3,232.1	2,958.3	273.8	1,399.9	1,673.7	312,599.8	10.4	9.5	0.9	4.5	5.4
Candidate Countries	105,472.5	1,692.5	877.3	815.1	-12.0	803.2	106,275.6	16.0	8.3	7.7	-0.1	7.6
EEA28	464,422.9	4,878.4	4,531.8	346.6	1,714.0	2,060.7	466,483.6	10.5	9.7	0.7	3.7	4.4
EFTA	12,349.6	133.1	104.1	29.0	57.4	86.4	12,436.1	10.7	8.4	2.3	4.6	7.0
Belgium	10,445.9	119.5	104.5	15.0	33.3	48.2	10,494.1	11.4	10.0	1.4	3.2	4.6
Czech Republic	10,220.6	102.0	107.6	-5.6	35.6	30.0	10,250.5	10.0	10.5	-0.5	3.5	2.9
Denmark	5,411.4	64.1	55.7	8.5	7.8	16.2	5,427.6	11.8	10.3	1.6	1.4	3.0
Germany	82,500.8	690.2	833.9	-143.7	98.5	-45.2	82,455.7	8.4	10.1	-1.7	1.2	-0.5
Estonia	1,347.0	14.2	17.6	-3.4	-0.4	-3.8	1,343.2	10.6	13.1	-2.5	-0.3	-2.8
Greece	11,075.7	103.8	101.5	2.3	34.3	36.5	11,112.2	9.4	9.2	0.2	3.1	3.3
Spain	43,038.0	472.6	382.0	90.6	652.3	742.9	43,781.0	10.9	8.8	2.1	15.0	17.1
France ³⁾	60,561.2	763.1	535.5	227.7	102.9	330.5	60,891.7	12.6	8.8	3.7	1.7	5.4
Ireland	4,109.2	63.5	26.9	36.6	47.2	83.8	4,193.0	15.3	6.5	8.8	11.4	20.2
Italy	58,462.4	580.1	608.3	-28.3	338.1	309.8	58,772.2	9.9	10.4	-0.5	5.8	5.3
Cyprus ⁴⁾	749.2	8.3	5.1	3.2	20.7	23.8	773.0	10.9	6.7	4.1	27.2	31.3
Latvia	2,306.4	21.4	32.7	-11.3	-1.1	-12.4	2,294.1	9.3	14.2	-4.9	-0.5	-5.4
Lithuania	3,425.3	30.3	43.9	-13.7	-10.3	-24.0	3,401.3	8.9	12.9	-4.0	-3.0	-7.0
Luxembourg	455.0	5.3	3.5	1.8	1.6	3.3	458.3	11.5	7.6	3.9	3.4	7.3
Hungary	10,097.5	96.8	136.5	-39.7	18.1	-21.6	10,076.0	9.6	13.5	-3.9	1.8	-2.1
Malta	402.7	4.0	2.9	1.1	2.0	3.1	405.8	9.9	7.2	2.7	5.0	7.8
Netherlands	16,305.5	188.8	137.6	51.2	-19.1	32.1	16,337.6	11.6	8.4	3.1	-1.2	2.0
Austria	8,206.5	77.4	74.4	3.0	61.0	63.9	8,270.4	9.4	9.0	0.4	7.4	7.8
Poland	38,173.8	358.9	371.8	-12.9	-13.0	-25.8	38,148.0	9.4	9.7	-0.3	-0.3	-0.7
Portugal	10,529.3	110.3	102.0	8.3	41.1	49.4	10,578.7	10.5	9.7	0.8	3.9	4.7
Slovenia	1,997.6	17.5	18.4	-0.9	7.2	6.3	2,003.9	8.8	9.2	-0.5	3.6	3.1
Slovak Republic	5,384.8	53.9	52.9	1.0	4.1	5.1	5,389.9	10.0	9.8	0.2	0.8	0.9
Finland	5,236.6	57.6	48.2	9.4	8.8	18.2	5,254.8	11.0	9.2	1.8	1.7	3.5
Sweden	9,011.4	93.5	89.3	4.2	24.7	28.9	9,040.3	10.4	9.9	0.5	2.7	3.2
United Kingdom	60,034.5	719.3	596.3	122.9	196.3	319.2	60,353.7	11.9	9.9	2.0	3.3	5.3
Bulgaria	7,761.0	69.3	112.9	-43.6	-13.7	-57.3	7,703.8	9.0	14.6	-5.6	-1.8	-7.4
Croatia	4,443.9	41.9	49.4	-7.4	11.5	4.1	4,448.0	9.4	11.1	-1.7	2.6	0.9
Romania	21,658.5	220.2	265.1	-44.9	-9.8	-54.7	21,603.9	10.2	12.3	-2.1	-0.5	-2.5
Turkey	71,609.0	1,361.0	450.0	911.0	0.0	911.0	72,520.0	18.9	6.2	12.6	0.0	12.6
Iceland	293.6	4.2	1.8	2.3	0.6	2.9	296.5	14.2	6.2	7.9	2.0	10.0
Liechtenstein	34.6	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	34.9	10.8	6.4	4.5	3.8	8.3
Norway	4,606.4	57.5	40.6	16.9	21.8	38.7	4,645.1	12.4	8.8	3.7	4.7	8.4
Switzerland	7,415.1	71.1	61.5	9.6	34.9	44.5	7,459.6	9.6	8.3	1.3	4.7	6.0

Source: Eurostat, First demographic estimates for 2005

¹⁾ Including corrections due to population censuses, register counts, etc. which cannot be classified as births, deaths or migrations.²⁾ Total of the 12 EU countries that participate in the Euro zone from 1.1.2001 (Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland).³⁾ Data for France are for the metropolitan France.⁴⁾ Government controlled area.

...and differently

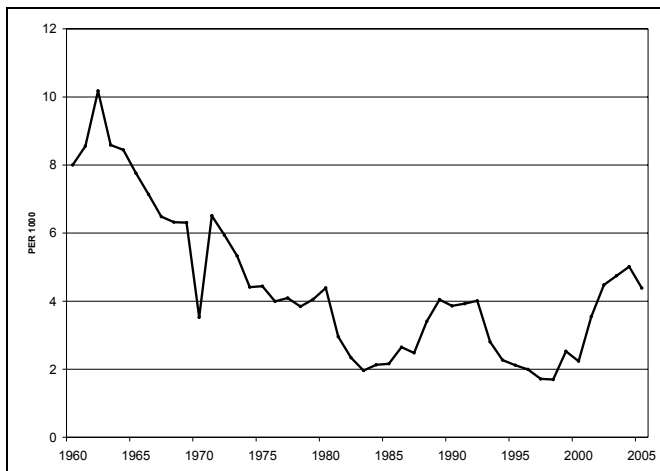


Figure 2: Population growth rate, EU-25, 1960-2005

Table 1 and Figure 3 show that in 2005 the EU Member States experienced very different rates of population growth. The population of Cyprus has grown at over 3.1%, whereas population change in Lithuania is the most negative.

These first estimates confirm that international migration is still an important component of population change. For example, without migration the Czech Republic, Italy and Slovenia would have experienced a population loss.

The majority of the EU countries are expected to experience a slowdown in their population growth in 2005 (Figure 4).

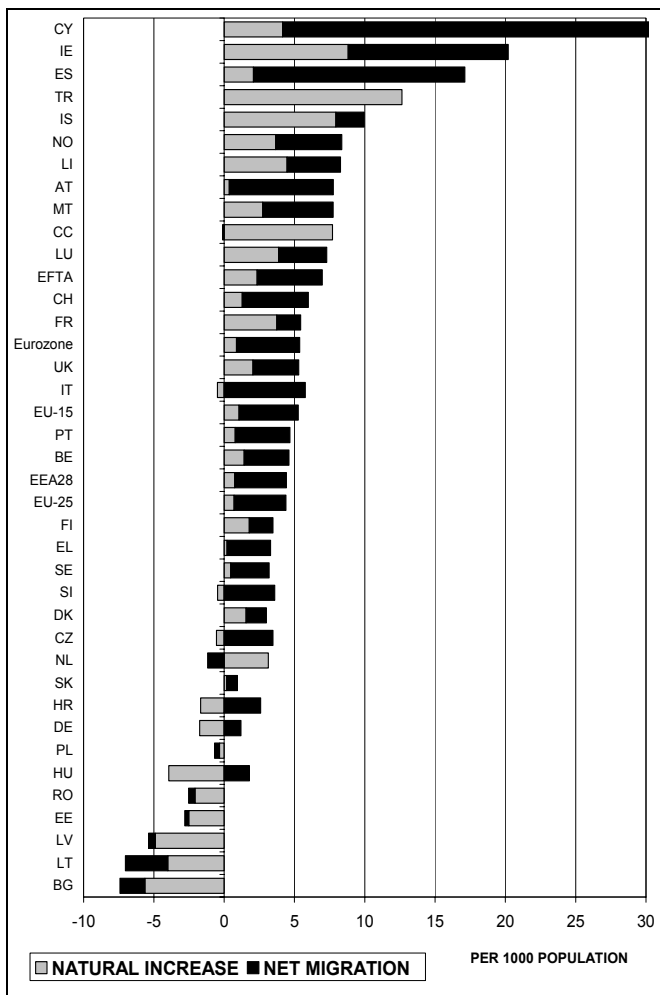


Figure 3: Crude total population growth rates, 2005

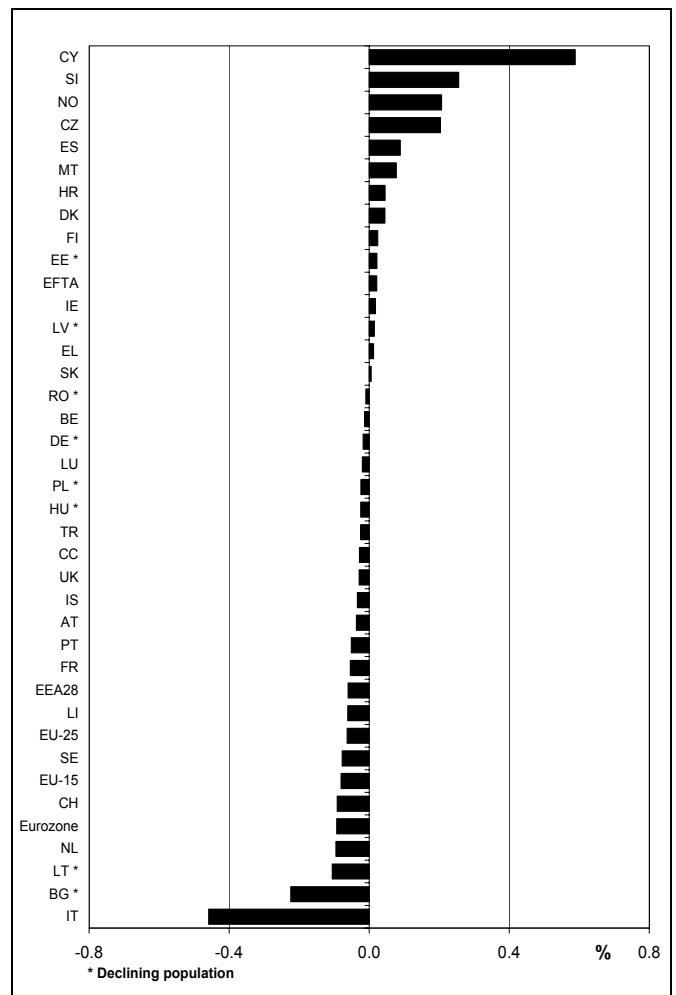


Figure 4: Population growth rates, change in percentage points from 2004 to 2005

Slightly more live births

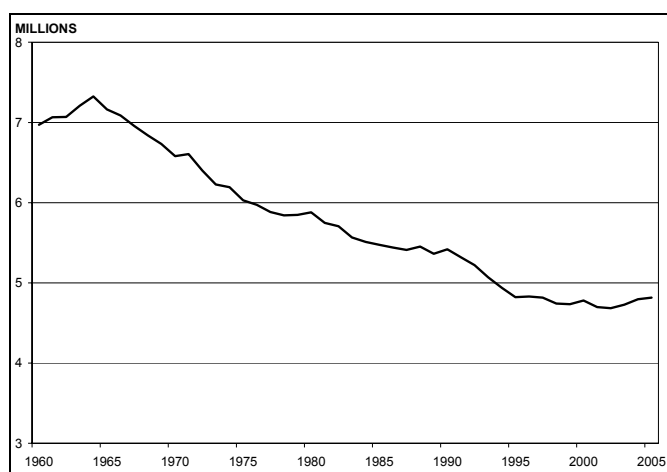


Figure 5: Live births, EU-25, 1960-2005

In 2005 the number of live births in the EU is expected to reach a level of 4.82 million, which is about 2.8% higher than the post-war low of 2002. In the mid-1960s the annual number of babies was over 2 million higher, but during the period 1965 to 1995 fertility dropped dramatically (Figure 5).

Crude birth rates in the EU are forecast to remain highest in Ireland and lowest in Germany (Figure 6).

Twelve EU countries will probably see a fall in live births (Figure 7), with Sweden facing the largest decrease (-7.4%). Malta, on the other hand, is expected to be the EU country with the largest rise in births (8.7%).

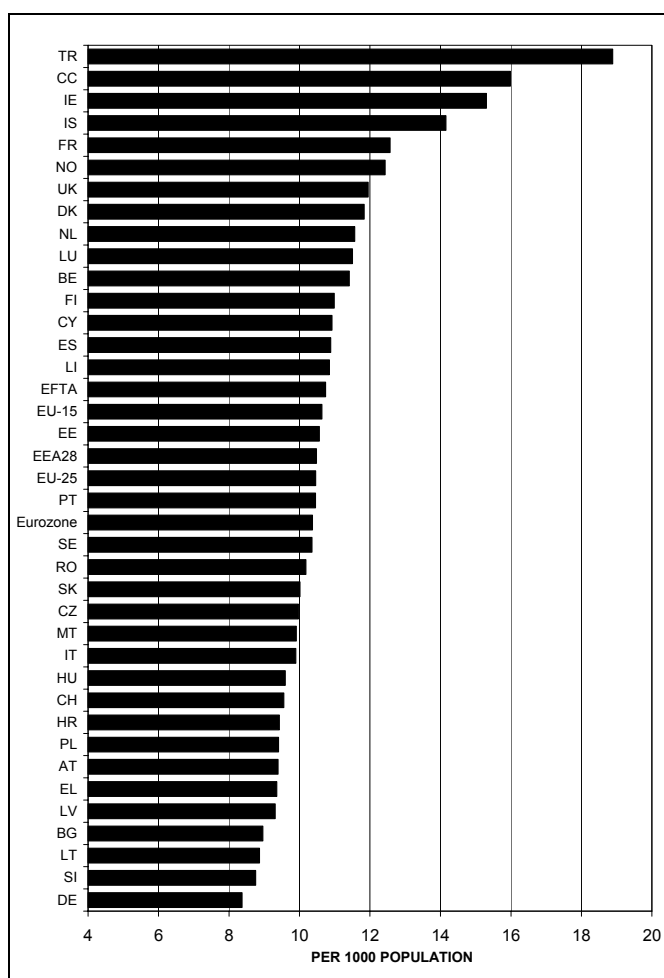


Figure 6: Crude birth rates, 2005

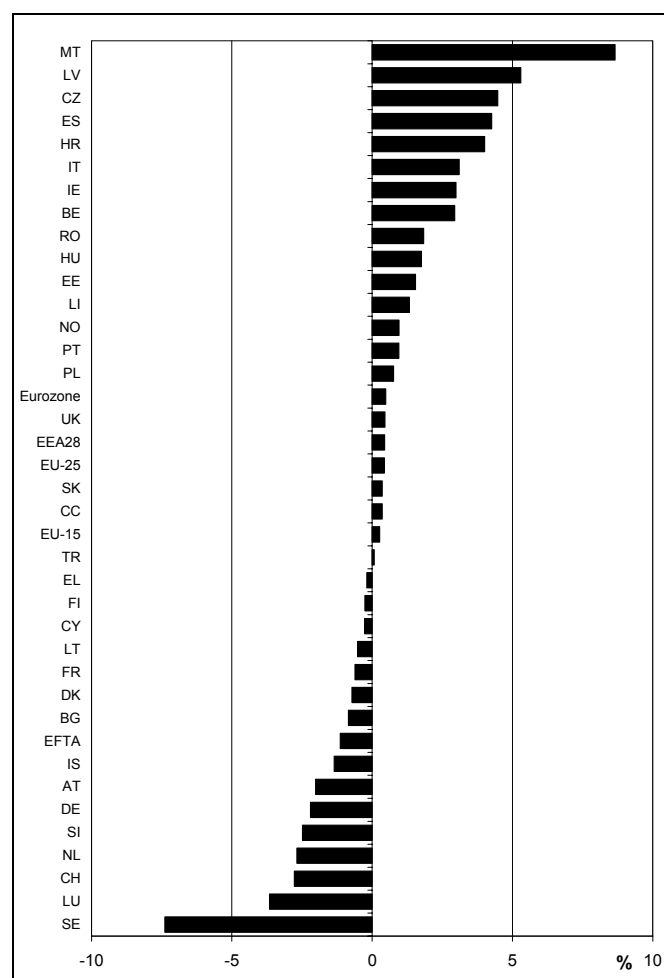


Figure 7: Live births, relative change from 2004 to 2005

Number of deaths increases as well

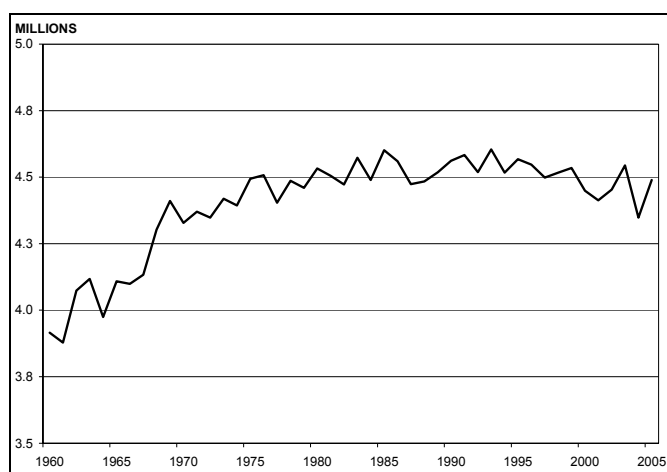


Figure 8: Deaths, EU-25, 1960-2005

In 1993 the number of deaths in the EU reached a high of 4.6 million. Thereafter, the annual number of deaths fluctuated and decreased somewhat to a level of around 4.5 million (Figure 8). In 2005, there are expected to be about 141 000 more deaths than in the previous year.

Latvia is the EU Member State with the highest crude death rate (Figure 9). Ireland with its relatively young population is the Member State with the lowest level.

About half of the EU countries have had a relatively 'bad' year (Figure 10), with Italy experiencing the largest increase in the number of deaths (around 11%). Ireland is forecast to see a decrease in the number of deaths of about 4.5%.

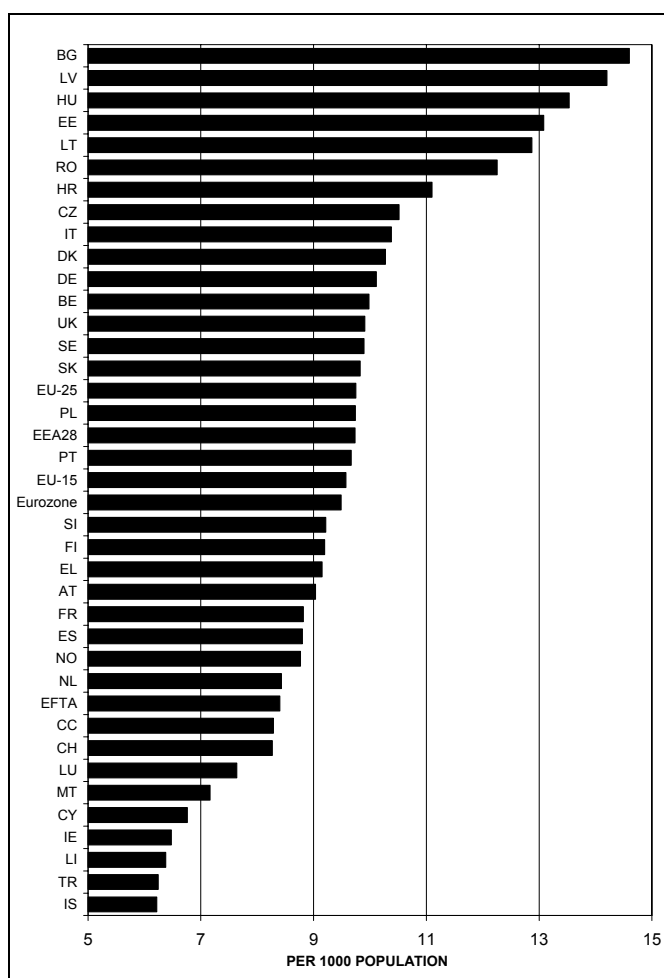


Figure 9: Crude death rates, 2005

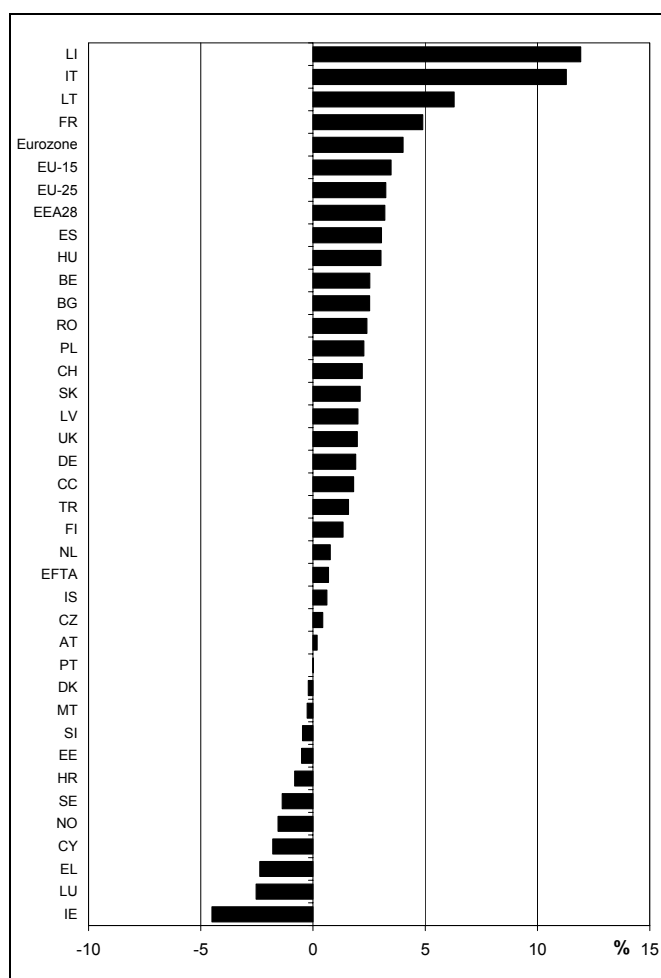


Figure 10: Deaths, relative change from 2004 to 2005

Net migration remains high

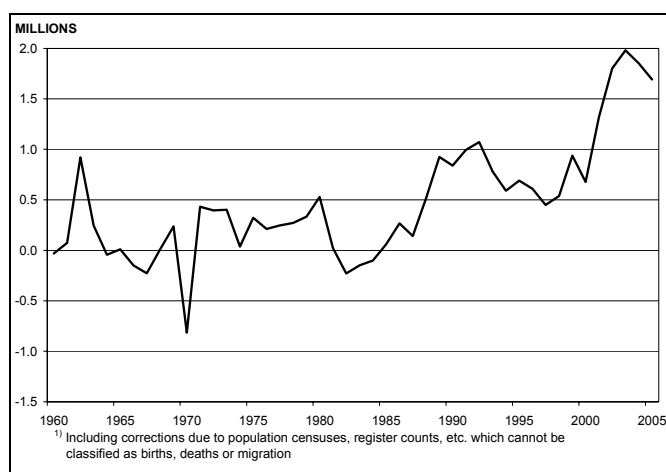


Figure 11: Net migration¹⁾, EU-25, 1960-2005

After a period of rather strong decline in the 1990s, the net inflow of international migrants to the EU increased to 1 981 000 in 2003 (Figure 11). For 2005 net migration is expected to decrease to a level of around 1 691 000 persons.

Spain, Italy, the United Kingdom and Germany together have received around 76% of this net inflow. Cyprus is expected to be the EU country with the highest crude net migration rate.

The majority of the EU countries are expected to experience a decrease in their net migration rates in 2005 (Figure 13).

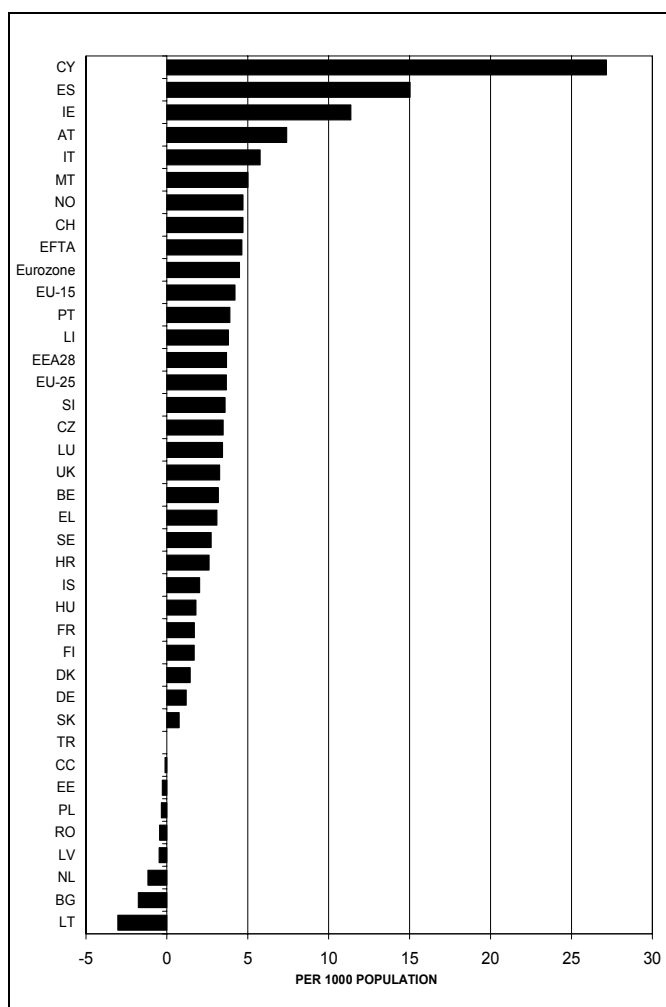


Figure 12: Crude net migration rates, 2005

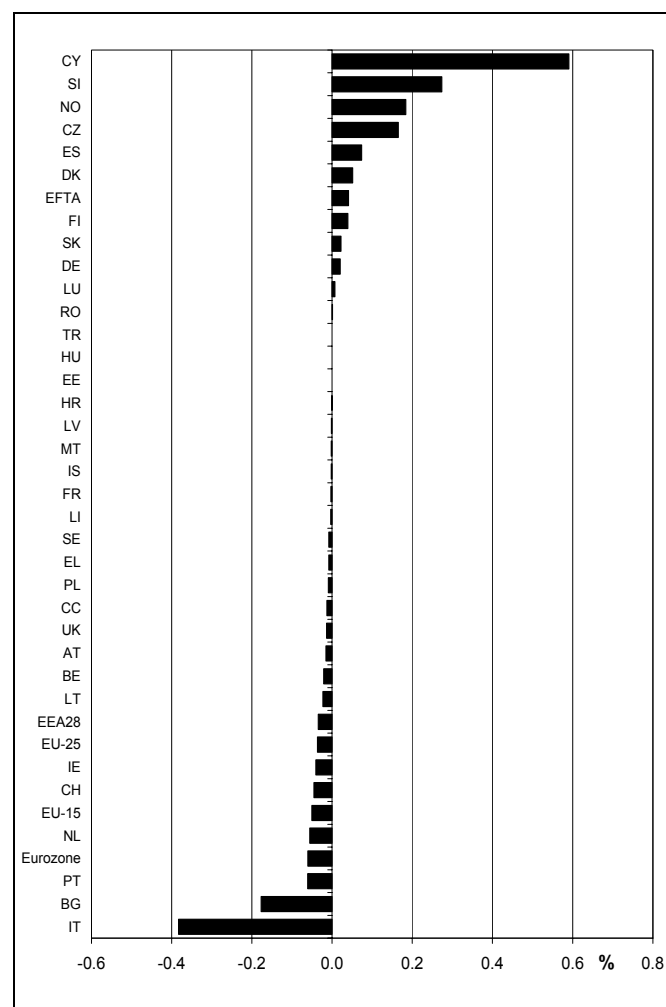


Figure 13: Crude net migration rates, changes in percentage points from 2004 to 2005

Table 2: Information base for 2005, first estimates ¹⁾

COUNTRY	Monthly data availability (up to and including)			
	Live births	Deaths	Immigration	Emigration
Belgium	December 2004	December 2004	—	—
Czech Republic	September 2005 ²⁾	September 2005 ²⁾	September 2005 ²⁾	September 2005 ²⁾
Denmark	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005 ³⁾	September 2005 ³⁾
Germany	August 2005 ²⁾	August 2005 ²⁾	June 2005	June 2005
Estonia	September 2005 ²⁾	September 2005 ²⁾	—	—
Greece	March 2005	March 2005	—	—
Spain	December 2004 ²⁾	December 2004 ²⁾	December 2004 ²⁾	December 2004 ²⁾
France	July 2005	June 2005	—	—
Ireland	March 2005	March 2005	April 2005 ⁴⁾	April 2005 ⁴⁾
Italy	March 2005	March 2005	March 2005	March 2005
Cyprus	June 2005	June 2005	September 2005	June 2005
Latvia	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005
Lithuania	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005
Luxembourg	September 2005	September 2005	—	—
Hungary	August 2005 ²⁾	August 2005 ²⁾	August 2005 ²⁾	August 2005 ²⁾
Malta	June 2005	March 2005	September 2005	September 2005
Netherlands	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005
Austria	September 2005	August 2005	March 2005	March 2005
Poland	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005 ³⁾	September 2005 ³⁾
Portugal	December 2004 ²⁾	December 2004 ²⁾	—	—
Slovenia	June 2005	June 2005	June 2005	June 2005
Slovak Republic	July 2005	July 2005	July 2005	July 2005
Finland	October 2005	October 2005	October 2005	October 2005
Sweden	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005	September 2005
United Kingdom	December 2004	December 2004	December 2004 ³⁾	December 2004 ³⁾
Bulgaria	September 2005 ²⁾	September 2005 ²⁾	—	—
Croatia	December 2004	December 2004	December 2004	December 2004
Romania	September 2005 ²⁾	September 2005 ²⁾	June 2005 ^{2), 5)}	June 2005 ^{2), 5)}
Turkey	October 2005 ⁶⁾	October 2005 ⁶⁾	—	—
Iceland	December 2004	December 2004	December 2003	December 2003
Liechtenstein	September 2005 ²⁾	September 2005 ²⁾	—	—
Norway	December 2004 ⁷⁾	December 2004 ⁷⁾	December 2004 ⁷⁾	December 2004 ⁷⁾
Switzerland	July 2005	July 2005	October 2005	October 2005

¹⁾ Estimates are primarily based upon provisional monthly data series available on 13 December 2005.

²⁾ National estimates available until December 2005.

³⁾ Quarterly data.

⁴⁾ Data available for the period April 2004 to April 2005.

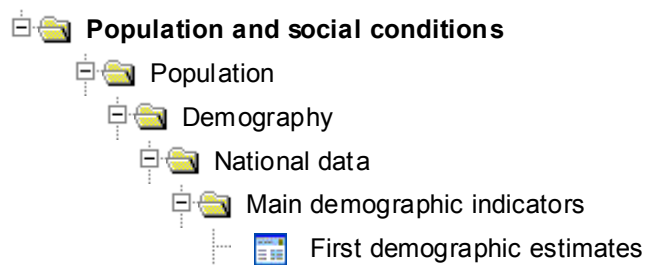
⁵⁾ Semestral data.

⁶⁾ National estimates available for the total of 2005.

⁷⁾ National estimates available for the first two quarters 2005.

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