

# Living conditions in Europe

## Statistical pocketbook

**Data 1998-2002**



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION



THEME 3  
Population  
and social  
conditions

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## Symbols and abbreviations

*	provisional/estimated data or low reliability due to small number of observations
:	not available
-	nil
.	not applicable or data not statistically significant
0	less than half the unit used

EU-15	European Union of Fifteen
EUR-12	twelve participating countries in the Euro (excluding DK, SE, UK)
B	Belgium
DK	Denmark
D	Germany
EL	Greece
E	Spain
F	France
IRL	Ireland
I	Italy
L	Luxembourg
NL	Netherlands
A	Austria
P	Portugal
FIN	Finland
S	Sweden
UK	United Kingdom
IS	Iceland
LI	Liechtenstein
NO	Norway
CH	Switzerland

## Contents

	Page
<b>Symbols and abbreviations</b>	
<b>Introduction</b> . . . . .	1
<b>Explanatory notes</b> . . . . .	2
<b>Indicators by domain</b>	
<b>1. Population</b>	
Population trends . . . . .	6
Population structure and dependency . . . . .	8
Population growth . . . . .	10
Population by citizenship . . . . .	12
Asylum . . . . .	14
<b>2. Households and families</b>	
Size and composition of households . . . . .	18
Household situation of the elderly . . . . .	20
Cohabitation, marriage and divorce . . . . .	22
Fertility . . . . .	24
<b>3. Education and training</b>	
Education outcomes . . . . .	28
Participation in education and training . . . . .	30
Foreign language learning . . . . .	32
Tertiary education . . . . .	34
Lifelong learning . . . . .	36
Continuing vocational training . . . . .	38
Expenditure on education . . . . .	40
<b>4. Labour market</b>	
Employment . . . . .	44
Equal opportunities in employment . . . . .	46
Working time . . . . .	48
Unemployment . . . . .	50
Youth unemployment . . . . .	52
Unemployment and education . . . . .	54
<b>5. Earnings</b>	
Average earnings of full-time workers . . . . .	58
Earnings of men and women . . . . .	60
Minimum wage . . . . .	62

<b>6. Income, poverty and social exclusion</b>	
Risk of poverty	66
Equivalised disposable income	68
Income distribution	70
Employment and social cohesion	72
<b>7. Social protection</b>	
Social protection expenditure	76
Social protection benefits	78
Social protection receipts	80
Labour market policies expenditure	82
<b>8. Consumption and housing</b>	
Consumer expenditure	86
Housing type, size and ownership	88
Housing problems	90
<b>9. Health and safety</b>	
Life and health expectancies	94
Perceived health	96
Selected health problems 1	98
Selected health problems 2	100
Major causes of death	102
Accidents at work	104
Transport accident deaths	106
<b>10. Social participation</b>	
Social contact and cultural activities	110
Provision of help and support	112

## Introduction

This is the fourth edition of the statistical pocketbook on **Living conditions in Europe**. It aims to provide a consistent and internationally comparable set of social statistics and indicators that best describe the current social situation in the 15 Member States of the European Union (as well as in the EFTA countries where information is available).

Each of the 10 chapters focuses on an area of social policy. Within each chapter, a range of policy-relevant indicators, as well as more descriptive data, are presented in tables and charts and accompanied by a short commentary.

Data are drawn from around 10 harmonised sources available in Eurostat, such as the European Union labour force survey (LFS) and the European Community household panel (ECHP).

The data were initially extracted in May and June 2003. However, important revisions of the data until the end of 2003 have been incorporated.

The fourth annual European Commission (jointly by the Directorate-General for Employment and Social Affairs and Eurostat) report on **The social situation in the European Union 2003**, provides a more in-depth analysis of the key social policy concerns for the European Union.

## Explanatory notes

The notes presented below cover several indicators. Other notes that are specific to one indicator appear below each table.

### Countries

Data for the three European Economic Area countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway) and Switzerland have been included where available. Data for the Federal Republic of Germany include the new German *Länder*.

### Rounding of figures

In tables where figures have been rounded to the nearest final digit, there may be a discrepancy between the sum of the components and the total as shown.

### Population scenarios

Eurostat calculates three population scenarios for each Member State. The low and high scenario can be considered as plausible extremes with respect to population growth. The baseline scenario describes the 'average development' and can therefore be used as a sort of reference. This scenario is generally fairly close to the latest population forecasts made by the National Statistical Institutes.

### Purchasing power standards (PPS)

The purchasing power parity is a conversion rate that uses the prices of a selection of comparable products and thus takes account of the real purchasing power of a currency. The amounts obtained using this rate are called purchasing power standards (PPS).

### ISCED – International Standard Classification of Education

Education data in this report are based on ISCED 97. The term 'Less than upper secondary' corresponds to primary level (ISCED 1) and lower secondary (ISCED 2) education. 'Upper secondary education' refers to ISCED 3 as well as post-secondary non-tertiary education (ISCED 4). For some countries, the end of ISCED 2 marks the end of compulsory schooling. For others, the boundary between ISCED 2 and 3 is less clear, in particular when a modular system is in place. Tertiary education (university and non-university programmes) refers to ISCED 5-6.

## Income data

The income data are based on the waves 1-6 of the European Community household panel (1994-99) but refer to the 12 months prior to the survey, i.e. 1993-98. In order to take account of differences in household size and composition in the comparison of income levels, the household's total income is divided by its 'equivalent size', computed using the modified OECD equivalence scale. This scale gives a weight of 1.0 to the first adult, 0.5 to the second and each subsequent person aged 14 and over, and 0.3 to each child aged less than 14 in the household.

## Dependent children

Dependent children include all children up to the age of 15 plus all those persons aged 16-24 who are economically inactive (mainly in education) and who are living with at least one of their parents.

**Editor:** Jukka PIIRTO  
(Eurostat, Unit D2 'Living conditions and social protection')



**POPULATION**

## Population trends

	EU-15	EUR-12	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	LI	NO	CH
<b>Total population (1 000)</b>																					
1960	314 826	250 625	9 129	4 565	72 543	8 300	30 327	45 465	2 836	50 026	313	11 417	7 030	8 826	4 413	7 471	52 164	176	16	3 568	5 296
1980	354 572	284 862	9 855	5 122	78 180	9 588	37 242	53 731	3 393	56 388	363	14 091	7 546	9 714	4 771	8 303	56 285	227	26	4 079	6 304
2002	379 613	305 429	10 310	5 368	82 440	10 598	40 409	59 344	3 883	58 018	444	16 105	8 139	10 336	5 195	8 909	60 114	287	34	4 524	7 261
2020	385 984	309 143	10 483	5 554	83 295	10 806	39 528	62 840	4 427	55 985	500	17 270	8 170	10 526	5 314	9 115	62 173	311	35	4 851	:
<b>Percentage share of total EU-15 population</b>																					
2002	100	80.5	2.7	1.4	21.7	2.8	10.6	15.6	1.0	15.3	0.1	4.2	2.1	2.7	1.4	2.3	15.8	.	.	.	.
<b>Population density (number of inhabitants per square km)</b>																					
1999	118	122	335	123	230	80	79	108	53	191	167	383	96	111	17	22	244	3	198	15	172

**Note:** Population on 1 January for the year in question. Three types of population scenarios are calculated by Eurostat (high, baseline and low). The data for 2020 are based on the baseline scenario — See explanatory notes.

**Source:** Eurostat — Demographic statistics; 1995-based demographic scenarios, 1999 revision.

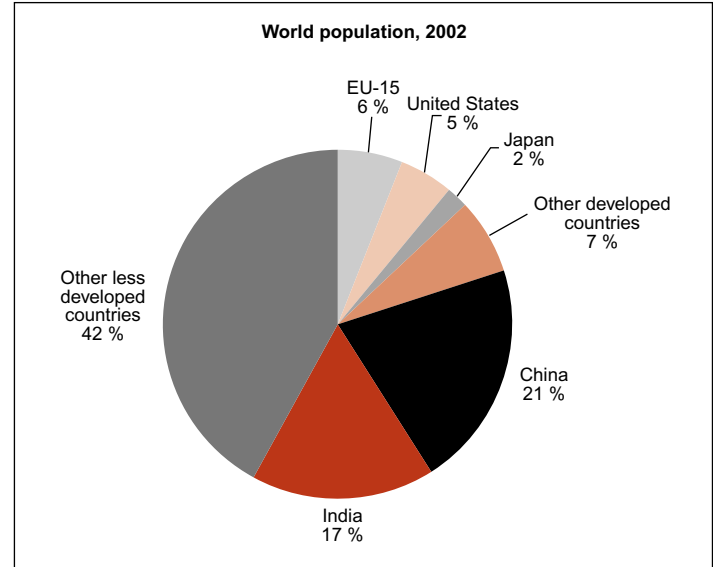
## Almost 380 million inhabitants in the Union

The population of the European Union stood at almost 380 million on 1 January 2002 compared with around 286 million in the United States and 127 million in Japan. The population of the 10 acceding States (accession to EU foreseen on 1 May 2004) is almost 75 million.

Germany has the largest population. Its 82 million inhabitants make up 22 % of the Union's population while the United Kingdom, France and Italy each account for 15 % ... 16 % of the total.

The Netherlands and Belgium are by far the most densely populated of the 15 Member States with 383 and 335 inhabitants per square kilometre respectively. In contrast, Finland and Sweden are very scarcely populated.

**Further reading:** 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'First results of the demographic data collection for 2001 in Europe', No 17/2002. 'First demographic estimates for 2002', No 25/2002, Eurostat. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Demography.



## Population structure and dependency

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	LI	NO	CH
<b>Population structure (percentage of total), 1999</b>																				
Under 15	16.7*	17.5	18.7	15.3	15.2	14.6	18.7	21.2	14.4	18.8	18.6	16.4	16.0	17.9	18.2	18.9	23.1	18.5	20.0	17.1
15-64	66.9*	65.6	66.4	67.7	67.6	68.4	65.0	67.7	67.4	67.2	67.8	68.0	67.4	66.9	64.6	65.5	65.2	71.1	65.1	67.4
65-79	12.6*	13.1	10.8	13.1	13.7	13.1	12.2	5.5	14.1	11.0	10.4	11.7	13.0	11.6	12.0	11.6	8.8	8.0	10.5	11.4
80 and over	3.8*	3.8	4.1	3.9	3.5	3.9	4.1	5.6	4.1	3.0	3.2	3.9	3.6	3.6	5.2	4.0	2.9	2.4	4.4	4.1
<b>'Very old' population (aged 80 and over)</b>																				
2002 (1 000)	14 997*	395	217	3 245	377	1 588	2 408	103	2 389	14	532	313	361	183	464	2 411	8	1	201	300
Increase 2000-10 (%)	35	45	6	36	43	41	49	17	45	45	25	35	36	34	9	14	55	36	11	:
<b>Old age dependency ratio (%)</b>																				
2002	25*	25	22	25	26	25	25	17	27	21	20	23	25	23	27	24	18	15	23	23
2010	27	27	25	30	29	27	27	17	31	24	22	26	24	25	28	24	22	21	23	:

**Note:** I and UK = 2001 and EL = 2000 data instead of 2002. The old age dependency ratio is the population aged 65 and over expressed as a percentage of the working age population (15-64 years). The data for 2010 are based on the baseline scenario — See explanatory notes.

**Source:** Eurostat — Demographic statistics; 1995-based demographic scenarios, 1999 revision.

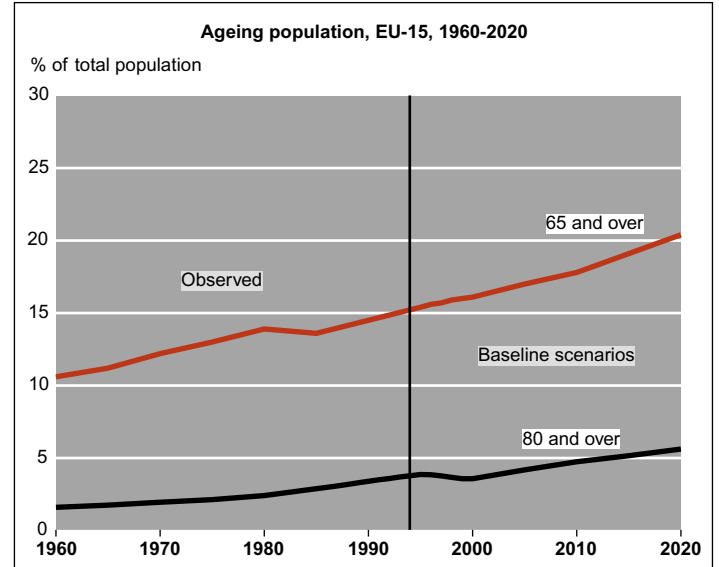
## 'Very old' population will increase by 35 % between 2000 and 2010

Between 1960 and the present day, the proportion of older people (65 years and over) in the population has risen from 11 to 16 %. By 2010, there will be twice as many older persons (69 million) as in 1960 (34 million). Even in the next decade, the number of persons aged 65 and over will rise by around 13 % in EU-15.

The growth of the population aged 80 and over has been even more pronounced. Between 2000 and 2010, numbers of 'very old' people will rise by 35 %. Belgium, Greece, France, Italy and Luxembourg are expected to experience the largest increases (43 % ... 49 %). In sharp contrast, growth will be negligible in Denmark and Sweden.

In 2002, the EU-15 population aged 65 and over corresponded to 25 % of what is considered to be the working age population (15–64 years). By 2010, this ratio will have risen to 27. From a demographic point of view, Ireland appears to be in the best position to support its older citizens (17 %).

**Further reading:** 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Demography.



**Population growth**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	LI	NO	CH
<b>Average annual population growth rates (per 1 000 population)</b>																				
1995-99	2.7	2.1	4.3	1.5	2.1	2.7	3.4	9.7	1.4	13.8	5.6	1.5	5.3	2.8	1.0	3.8	8.9	11.4	5.9	4.1
2000-01	4.1	3.4	3.6	1.7	2.1	8.4	5.1	13.9	2.9	11.5	7.6	2.3	6.7	2.3	2.7	4.1	13.3	16.7	5.1	6.7
2015-19 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.4	1.2	1.4	0.4	-0.2	-1.5	2.1	6.1	-2.8	5.9	3.2	0.2	1.7	0.7	2.2	2.2	4.2	2.7	4.2	:
<b>Average annual net migration rate (per 1 000 population)</b>																				
1995-99	1.8	1.1	3.0	2.5	1.9	2.4	0.0	4.2	2.1	9.9	2.0	1.0	1.1	0.8	1.1	2.0	0.2	4.5	2.5	1.6
2000-01	3.1	2.3	2.1	2.6	2.3	7.3	0.9	7.2	3.1	7.3	3.6	2.1	5.6	0.9	3.0	2.9	4.9	10.6	2.0	4.7
2015-19 <sup>(1)</sup>	1.6	1.4	1.8	2.4	2.3	1.5	0.8	1.1	1.4	4.1	2.0	2.4	2.4	0.9	2.2	1.1	0.5	1.4	1.7	:
<b>First calendar year of population decline – according to baseline population scenario <sup>(2)</sup></b>																				
Year	2022	2028	2034	2013	2016	2012	2034	.	2004	.	2038	2020	2040	2024	2031	2033	:	:	:	:

**Note:** Population growth rates represent the relative increase of the total population per 1 000 inhabitants during the year(s) in question. The increase in total population is made up of the natural increase (live births less deaths) and net migration. Net migration is estimated on the basis of the difference between population change and natural increase (corrected net migration). <sup>(1)</sup> Data for 2015-19 are based on the baseline scenario — See explanatory notes. <sup>(2)</sup> The population is not expected to decline in Luxembourg and Ireland.

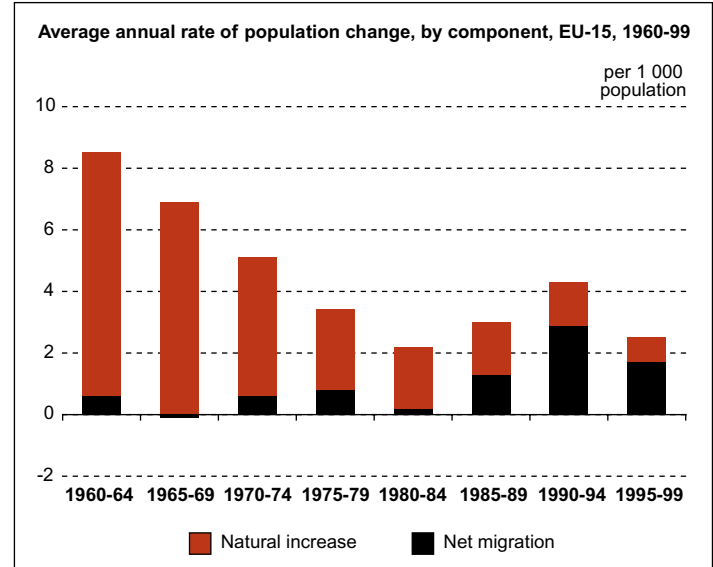
**Source:** Eurostat — Demographic statistics; 1995-based demographic scenarios, 1999 revision.

## Important role of international migration in population growth

There has been a gradual slowing down of population growth in the Union over the last 35 years. Over the period 1995-99, the population increased on average by 2.7 per 1 000 population compared with an annual average of around 8 in the 1960s. Since the mid-1980s, international migration has rapidly gained importance as a major determinant of population growth. Its contribution over the last 10 years has been around 70 % on average. Without positive net migration the populations of Germany, Italy, Sweden and Greece would be in decline.

According to the baseline scenario, the total EU population should peak around 2022 and fall to its current level by 2050. Within the Union, future population growth will be far from uniform. Italy may be faced with a population decline as early as 2004 while both Luxembourg and Ireland are unlikely to experience any decline.

**Further reading:** 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions); 'Beyond the predictable: demographic changes in the EU up to 2050', No 7/1997. 'First results of the demographic data collection for 2001 in Europe', No 17/2002, Eurostat. 'First demographic estimates for 2002', No 25/2002. 'The social situation in the European Union 2002', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Demography.



**Population by citizenship**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	LI	NO	CH
<b>Population by citizenship (1 000), 2001</b>																				
Nationals	357 800	9 402	5 091	74 963	10 172	39 746	55 258	3 683	56 379	277	15 319	7 322	10 055	5 090	8 405	:	275	19	4 319	5 780
Non-nationals	20 200	862	259	7 297	762	1 371	3 263	156	1 465	162	668	711	208	91	477	:	9	12	184	1 424
... Other EU nationals	6 000	564	54	1 873	47	417	1 195	103	154	140	202	106	57	17	180	:	3	5	79	807
... Non-EU nationals	14 300	298	204	5 424	715	953	2 068	53	1 311	23	466	605	151	74	297	:	6	7	105	618
<b>Non-nationals as a percentage of total population</b>																				
1990, Total	4.1	8.9	2.9	6.1	2.2	1.0	6.3	2.3	0.9	28.7	4.3	6.6	1.0	0.4	5.3	:	1.9	36.5	3.3	16.0
2001, Total	5.4	8.4	4.8	8.9	7.0	3.3	5.6	4.1	2.5	36.9	4.2	8.9	2.0	1.8	5.4	:	3.1	37.6	4.1	19.8
... Other EU nationals	1.6	5.5	1.0	2.3	0.4	1.0	2.0	2.7	0.3	31.8	1.3	1.3	0.6	0.3	2.0	:	1.0	16.1	1.8	11.2
... Non-EU nationals	3.8	2.9	3.8	6.6	6.5	2.3	3.5	1.4	2.3	5.1	2.9	7.5	1.5	1.4	3.3	:	2.1	21.5	2.3	8.6

**Note:** EU – Eurostat estimate for 1 January, LI = 1997 data, F = 1999 data; data for some countries are for 1 January, other data correspond to census or survey dates.

**Source:** Eurostat – Migration statistics.



## Around 20 million non-nationals in the EU

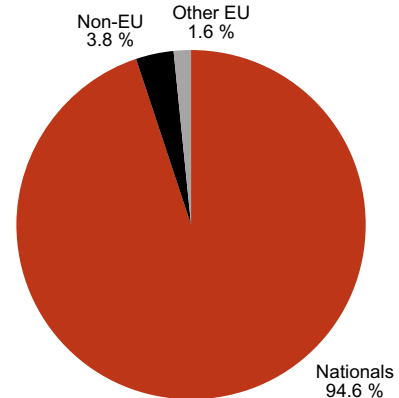
The total number of non-nationals living in the 15 Member States in 2001 was around 20 million, the equivalent of 5.4 % of the total population. In 1990, the comparable figure was 4.1 %.

Luxembourg is a unique case with non-nationals accounting for 37 % of the population. Belgium, Germany and Austria also have sizeable non-national populations (between 8 and 10 %). In contrast, non-nationals comprise less than 2 % of the population of Finland.

Among the non-nationals, around one-third are citizens of another EU Member State and the remaining two-thirds are citizens of countries outside the Union. Belgium, Ireland and Luxembourg are the only countries where 'other EU nationals' outnumber non-EU nationals.

**Further reading:** 'European social statistics — Migration statistics', 2002 edition. 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Migration keeps the EU population growing', No 7/2002, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2002', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Migration.

Population by citizenship group, EU-15, 1 January 2001



**Asylum**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	NO	CH
<b>Asylum applications (1 000)</b>																		
1985	159.2*	5.4	8.7	73.8	1.4	2.3	28.9	:	5.4	0.1	5.6	6.7	0.1	0.0	14.5	6.2	0.8	9.7
1990	397.0	12.9	5.3	193.1	4.1	8.6	54.8	0.1	3.6	0.1	21.2	22.8	0.1	2.7	29.4	38.2	4.0	35.8
1995	263.7	11.4	5.1	127.9	1.3	5.7	20.4	0.4	1.8	0.3	29.3	5.9	0.3	0.8	9.0	44.0	1.5	17.0
1996	226.8	12.4	5.9	116.4	1.6	4.7	17.4	1.2	0.7	0.3	22.9	7.0	0.3	0.7	5.8	29.6	1.8	17.9
1997	240.5	11.7	5.1	104.4	4.4	5.0	21.4	1.9	1.7	0.4	34.4	6.7	0.3	1.0	9.7	32.5	2.3	24.0
1998	297.2	22.0	5.7	98.6	3.0	4.9	22.4	4.6	13.1	1.7	45.2	13.8	0.4	1.3	12.8	46.0	8.4	41.3
1999*	333.3	35.7	6.5	95.1	1.5	7.6	30.9	7.9	18.5	2.9	39.3	20.1	0.3	3.1	11.2	71.2	10.2	46.1
2000*	370.6	44.1	10.1	78.6	3.1	7.2	38.7	10.9	15.2	0.6	43.8	18.3	0.2	3.2	16.3	80.3	:	17.6
2001*	357.7	24.5	12.4	88.4	5.5	9.2	47.3	10.3	:	0.7	32.6	30.1	0.2	1.7	23.5	71.4	:	:

**Note:** B, F, I, NL and UK = number of cases. UK = 1996 figure includes 11 050 dependents. 1999-2001 data – first applications, based on monthly figures. DK, IRL, A and FIN cannot make a distinction between first and repeat application. In the graph, the presented figures represent the number of asylum applications made during the course of the year per 1 000 total inhabitants (Population 1 January).

**Source:** Eurostat — Asylum statistics.

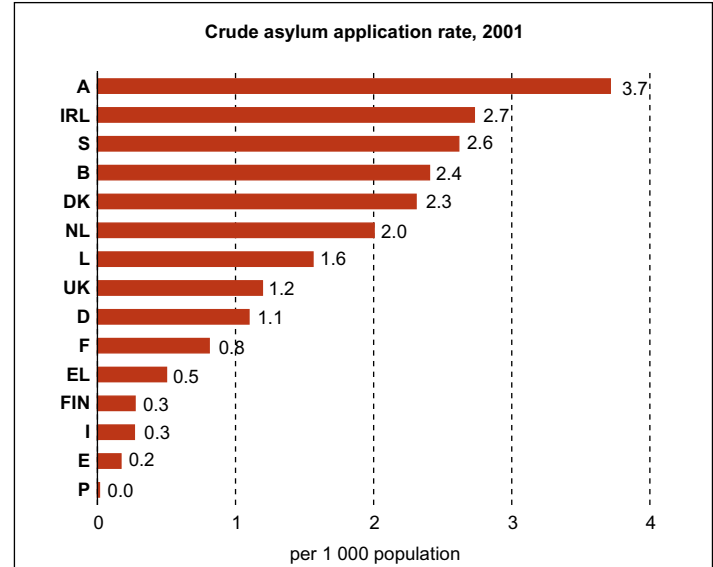
## Around 358 000 new asylum requests in the EU in 2001

After peaking at 672 000 in 1992, the number of asylum applications in the EU fell to 227 000 in 1996. Thereafter, the trend has been upward. In 2001, an estimated 358 000 (Italy excluded) new requests for asylum were made in the EU, which is almost the same as the number of requests in 2000.

During the years 2000 and 2001, a slight shift occurred with regard to the origin of people who applied for asylum. As in 1999, the largest group of asylum seekers in 2000 were citizens of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, followed by persons with Iraqi citizenship. In 2001 the most important groups of applicants were Iraqi citizens, followed by Afghan citizens.

In 2001, Germany had the largest number of applications (88 000) but, in terms of overall population, Austria had the highest rate of asylum requests, namely 4 per 1 000 inhabitants. Ireland and Sweden also had relatively large numbers of asylum seekers.

**Further information:** Eurostat, NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Migration.



# HOUSEHOLDS AND FAMILIES

**Size and composition of households**

	EU-15	B	DK <sup>(1)</sup>	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN <sup>(1)</sup>	S <sup>(1,2)</sup>	UK
<b>Average household size <sup>(3)</sup></b>																
1981/82	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.5	3.1	3.6	2.7	3.6	3.0	2.8	2.8	2.7	3.3	2.6	2.3	2.7
2002	2.4	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.6	3.0	2.4	2.9	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.9	2.1	1.9	2.3
<b>Percentage of persons living in private households household type, 2002</b>																
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
One adult living alone	13	9	26	17	9	5	13	8	10	12	14	14	5	40	42	13
Two adults without dependent children	24	26	38	29	24	17	26	16	18	21	28	23	17	25	28	27
Three or more adults without dependent children	13	12	4	10	21	23	7	18	21	9	12	15	20	3	.	11
Lone-parent with dependent children	4	6	2	4	2	2	5	5	2	2	3	4	3	2	7	8
Two adults with dependent children	34	38	24	33	33	35	41	37	35	43	35	32	34	23	24	32
Three or more adults with dependent children	10	8	6	7	12	18	7	17	13	12	9	14	21	6	.	8

**Notes:** <sup>(1)</sup> DK, FIN and S: 2001 data. <sup>(2)</sup> The Swedish subsample of the European Community household panel (ECHP) users' database (UDB) defines households as people being taxed together. Therefore households having three or more adults are impossible. <sup>(3)</sup> The average number of persons per private household.

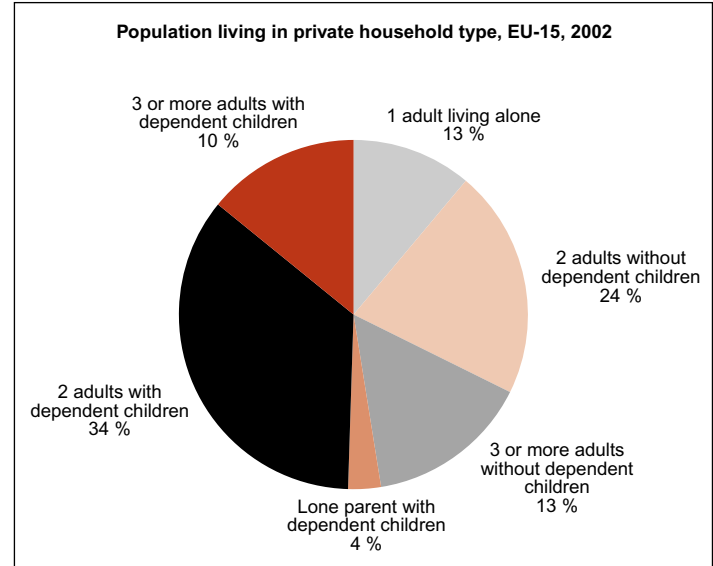
**Sources:** Eurostat – Census (data on average private household size 1981/82). Labour force survey (2002 data), except for DK, FIN and S: 2001 data from ECHP UDB version, December 2003.

## Trend towards smaller private households

In 2002, there were on average 2.4 persons per private household in the EU compared with 2.8 in 1981. Every Member State has experienced a decline, due largely to the rising number of persons living alone and lone-parent families. In 2002 around 13 % of the population lived alone compared with 8 % in 1981. The proportion of people living on their own was highest in Sweden, Finland and Denmark.

In 2002, 49 % of the population living in private households lived in households which had dependent children. The highest percentages could be observed in Ireland, Luxembourg and Portugal (57 % ... 59 %) and the lowest ones in Finland, Sweden and Denmark (31 % ... 32%).

**Further reading:** 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Lone parent families: a growing phenomenon', No 12/1998 and 'Household formation in the EU – Lone parents', No 5/2004, Eurostat.



**Household situation of the elderly**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Where the population aged 65-79 will live, 2010</b>																
Living alone	26	28	35	29	22	17	29	29	22	23	29	25	18	33	33	29
Living with partner	63	56	60	65	65	67	63	49	61	61	65	60	64	56	64	61
Living in a collective household	2	2	3	1	4	1	2	6	4	3	3	2	1	2	1	2
Other	9	14	2	5	8	14	6	16	13	14	3	13	16	9	2	7
<b>Where the population aged 80 and over will live, 2010</b>																
Living alone	44	50	62	52	36	28	46	38	38	37	44	42	30	49	62	50
Living with partner	31	28	26	29	35	34	34	19	30	28	27	29	35	23	30	31
Living in a collective household	10	8	10	10	12	4	10	19	13	9	24	11	4	14	4	8
Other	14	14	2	10	16	33	10	24	18	26	5	18	31	14	3	11

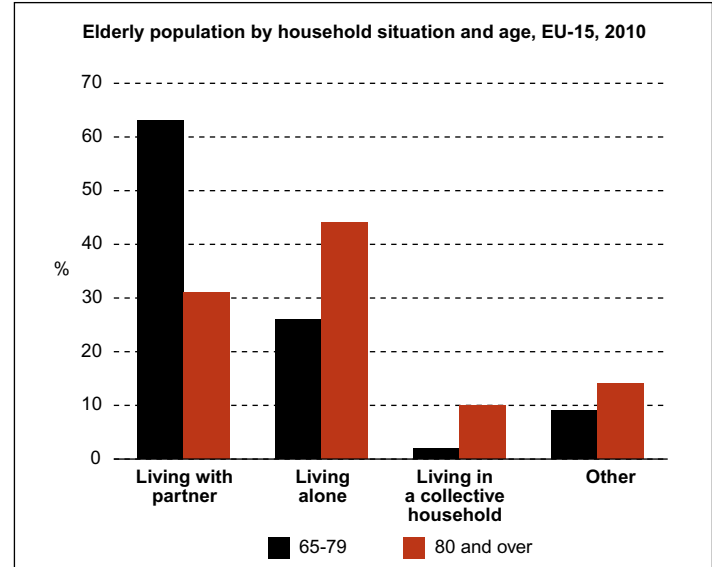
**Note:** 2010 data are based on the baseline scenario — See explanatory notes.

**Source:** Eurostat — 1995-based (baseline) household scenarios.

## In several Member States, at least half the 'very old' population will live alone in 2010

In 2010, more than 80 % of the Union's elderly population (aged 65 and over) will either be living alone or with a partner. The remainder will live with their children (or other relatives/friends) or in a home/institution. It is clear however that demand for housing and care changes considerably as people grow older. Thus, the elderly should not be regarded as a single age-group. While 63 % of those aged 65-79 will live solely with a partner, only 31 % of the 'very old' (aged 80 and over) will do so. The 'very old' will continue to have a greater tendency to live alone (44 %), in collective households (10 %) or with their children/other relatives/friends (14 %). There are marked differences between countries, particularly regarding the proportion of 'very old' people living with their children (or other relatives/friends): 30 % or more have this form of potential support in Spain and Portugal compared with 5 % or less in Denmark, Netherlands and Sweden.

**Further reading:** 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission.





## Cohabitation, marriage and divorce

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	LI	NO	CH
<b>Crude marriage rate (per 1 000 population)</b>																				
1970-74	7.6	7.6	6.6	7.0	7.7	7.5	7.8	7.3	7.5	6.3	8.7	6.8	9.4	7.9	5.1	8.2	8.2	6.2	7.3	6.9
2001 <sup>(1)</sup>	5.0	4.1	6.8	4.7	5.4	5.1	5.1	5.0	4.5	4.5	5.0	4.2	5.7	4.8	4.0	5.1	5.2	:	5.1	5.0
<b>Crude divorce rate (per 1 000 population)</b>																				
1970-74	1.0	0.8	2.5	1.5	0.4	0.0	0.9	-	0.3	0.7	1.1	1.3	0.1	1.7	2.1	1.8	1.5	-	1.1	1.2
2001 <sup>(1)</sup>	1.9	2.9	2.7	2.4	0.9	1.0	2.0	0.7	0.7	2.3	2.3	2.5	1.8	2.6	2.4	2.6	1.9	2.0	2.3	2.2
<b>Percentage of couples living in a consensual union, 1998 <sup>(2)</sup></b>																				
Total	9	9	17	9	1	3	10	4	2	7	15	9	5	21	23	13	:	:	:	:
Age-group 16-29	33	35	57	35	8	12	41	29	11	27	56	30	15	61	70	53	:	:	:	:

**Note:** The crude marriage/divorce rates are the ratios of the number of marriages/divorces to the mean population in a given year. The proportion of marriages dissolved by divorce by cohort (see graph) is the ratio between the number of divorces taking place at each duration reached during the year and the initial number of marriages of the corresponding cohort. <sup>(1)</sup> 2001 data or latest available year. <sup>(2)</sup> By definition, couples are either married or living in a consensual union. EU-15 excludes S. L = 1996 data, FIN = 1997 data.

**Source:** Eurostat — Demographic statistics. European Community household panel, users' database version, December 2001 (data on consensual union).

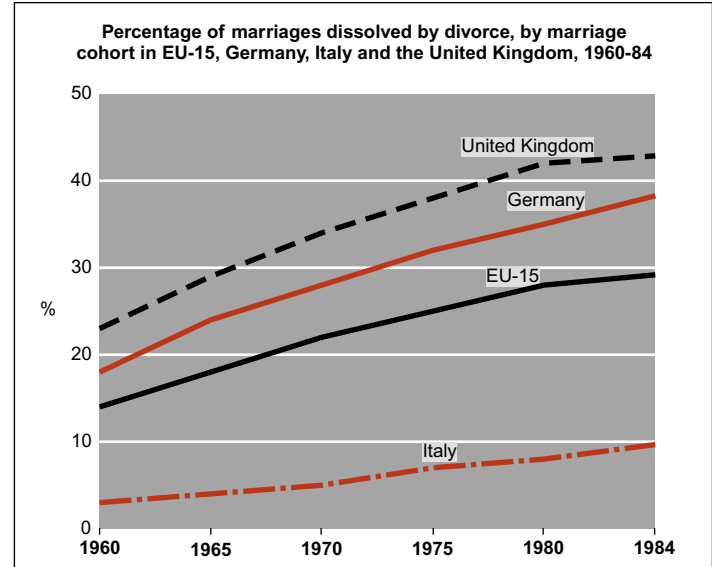
## Fewer and later marriages and more marital breakdowns

In 2001, there were only five marriages per 1 000 inhabitants in EU-15 compared with almost eight in 1970. The average age at which people first get married has also increased: for men, from 26 years in 1980 to 30 in 1999 and for women, from 23 to 28 years.

Looking at marriage cohorts, the percentage of divorces is estimated at 15 % for marriages entered into in 1960. For those more recently married couples (1984), the percentage has almost doubled to 29 %. There are however considerable differences between countries: the percentage of marriages (entered into in 1984) ending in divorce is highest in the Nordic countries (Sweden 52 %), and lowest in the southern Member States (Italy 9 %). (No data available for Ireland.)

Of the population living in couples, 9 % are cohabiting and 91 % are married. Virtually all couples are married in the southern Member States and Ireland but less than 80 % are in Sweden and Finland. For the age-group under 30, two in three couples in the Union are married.

**Further reading:** 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'About one marriage in four ends in divorce in the EU', No 14/1997, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Demography.



## Fertility

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	LI	NO	CH
<b>Total fertility rate</b>																				
1960	2.59	2.56	2.54	2.37	2.28	2.86	2.73	3.76	2.41	2.28	3.12	2.69	3.10	2.72	2.20	2.72	4.17	:	2.91	2.44
1990	1.57	1.62	1.67	1.45	1.39	1.36	1.78	2.11	1.33	1.61	1.62	1.45	1.57	1.78	2.13	1.83	2.30	:	1.93	1.59
2001 <sup>(1)</sup>	1.47*	1.65	1.74	1.29	1.29	1.25	1.90	1.98	1.24	1.70	1.69	1.29	1.42	1.73	1.57	1.63	1.95	:	1.85	1.41
2020 <sup>(2)</sup>	1.64	1.74	1.79	1.50	1.52	1.42	1.80	1.82	1.43	1.79	1.79	1.45	1.69	1.70	1.70	1.79	2.08	1.60	1.89	:
<b>Percentage of live births outside marriage</b>																				
1970	6	3	11	7	1	1	7	3	2	4	2	13	7	6	19	8	30	5	7	4
2001 <sup>(1)</sup>	30*	21	45	23	4	18	43	31	10	22	27	33	24	40	55	40	65	:	50	11

**Note:** The total fertility rate is the average number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if current fertility rates were to continue. <sup>(1)</sup> Estimated data for 2001 or latest year available. <sup>(2)</sup> Baseline scenario — See explanatory notes.

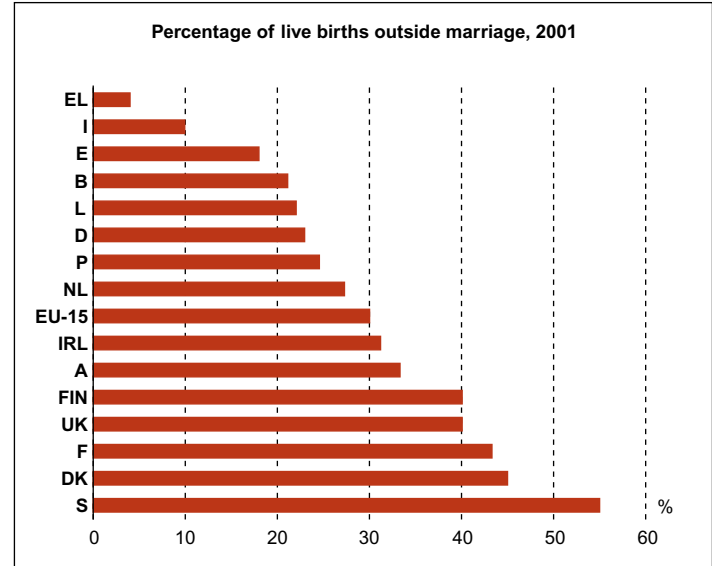
**Source:** Eurostat — Demographic statistics.

## Fewer children and later in life

The number of babies born in the EU in 2001 was around four million — one of the lowest post-war levels. Indeed, the total fertility rate for the EU fell from 2.59 in 1960 to 1.47 in 2001. Countries with the highest fertility at the beginning of the 1980s (Greece, Spain, Ireland and Portugal) are those where it has since fallen most (by 33-48 %). Today, the total fertility rate is lowest in Italy (1.24) and Spain (1.25). Despite a sharp decrease, Ireland continues to record the highest rate (1.98). According to the baseline scenario, the EU fertility rate will rise steadily to 1.64 in 2020.

Births outside marriage continue to increase throughout the Union, basically reflecting the growing popularity of cohabitation: from 6 % of all births in 1970 to 30 % in 2001. In Sweden, more than half (55 %) of the children born in 2001 were born outside marriage.

**Further reading:** 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'First results of the demographic data collection for 2001 in Europe', No 17/2002, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Demography.



# **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

**Education outcomes**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Percentage of population that has completed at least upper secondary education (ISCED 3-6), 2002</b>																			
Total, age-group 25-64	65	60	81	83	53	42	64	60	44	62	68	78	21	75	81	82	65	86	87
Age-group 25-34	75	76	86	85	74	59	79	77	60	68	77	85	35	88	92	90	67	94	91
Age-group 35-44	69	65	82	86	61	46	68	65	50	64	72	83	20	84	87	86	67	90	88
Age-group 45-54	61	54	81	84	45	31	59	51	39	58	63	75	15	72	79	77	64	83	86
Age-group 55-64	50	41	73	77	29	18	46	37	24	51	54	67	8	53	67	67	59	71	81
<b>Percentage of population that has completed tertiary education (ISCED 5-6), 2002</b>																			
Total, age-group 30-64	21	27	29	23	17	21	21	23	10	18	25	17	8	32	25	28	26	33	26
Age-group 30-39	25	34	32	25	24	31	28	30	12	23	27	18	11	40	26	30	30	40	29
Age-group 40-64	19	23	17	22	14	16	18	19	9	16	23	16	6	29	25	27	24	29	24

**Note:** The levels of education are defined according to ISCED 97 (International Standard Classification of Education). F = Information on education and training is collected if this is under way on the date of the survey. UK = GSCE are considered as upper secondary (ISCED 3) educational attainment. For the graph: UK = Data not shown due to comparability problems.

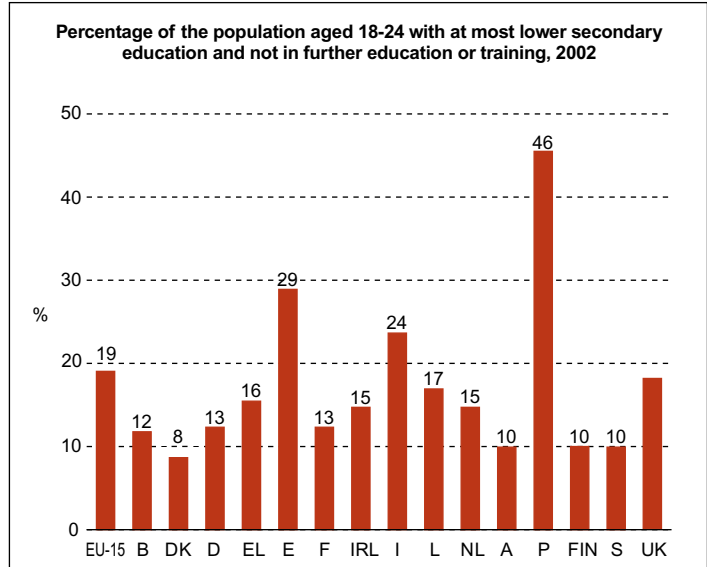
**Source:** Eurostat — European Union labour force survey.

## Younger generations are better educated although one in five 'school leavers' are lowly qualified

Attainment levels of the population have improved significantly over the last 40 years. In 2002, 75 % of the younger generation aged 25-34 had completed at least upper secondary education compared with only 50 % of persons aged 55-64. Greece, Spain, Italy and Portugal have the lowest levels of educational attainment but have witnessed the most significant increases in the last four decades. Over the same period, the proportion of those attaining a tertiary education qualification increased from 19 % among those aged 40-64 to 25 % among those aged 30-39.

Despite this improvement in education levels, 19 % of 18-24 year-olds have left the education system without completing a qualification beyond lower secondary schooling. The picture across the Union is far from homogeneous but the different proportions of young people still in education can largely explain disparities.

**Further reading:** 'Education across Europe — Statistics and Indicators', Eurostat. 'Key data on education in Europe 2002', European Commission. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — LFS.



**Participation in education and training**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO
<b>Age at which compulsory education ends <sup>(1)</sup></b>																		
Age	.	18	16	19	15	16	16	15	15	15	17	15	15	16	16	16	16	16
<b>Participation rates by age <sup>(2)</sup>, 2000/01</b>																		
16	93	98	90	100	92	94	97	93	81	84	99	92	81	96	97	86	91	94
17	84	100	86	94	68	80	92	81	75	80	89	89	74	94	97	74	78	93
18	74	85	80	83	69	70	80	79	69	72	77	69	66	88	95	55	68	86
19	59	73	66	64	71	60	66	51	47	52	64	43	56	48	43	52	64	54
20	48	63	49	48	54	54	52	44	36	30	58	30	47	48	46	47	49	46
<b>Participation rates (16-18 year olds) by sex, 2000/01</b>																		
Males	82	92	84	93	71	77	89	77	72	76	89	85	70	92	94	69	76	90
Females	85	97	87	93	80	85	91	93	78	82	88	82	77	94	99	74	81	92

**Note:** <sup>(1)</sup> In B, D and NL the last few years (1-3) may be part-time compulsory schooling. <sup>(2)</sup> L = Data by age not available for ISCED levels 5-6. <sup>(3)</sup> LFS data — Employment rates represent persons in employment (according to the ILO definition) as a percentage of the population of the same age.

**Source:** Eurostat — UOE (Unesco, OECD and Eurostat) questionnaires on education statistics. For the graph: European Union labour force survey.



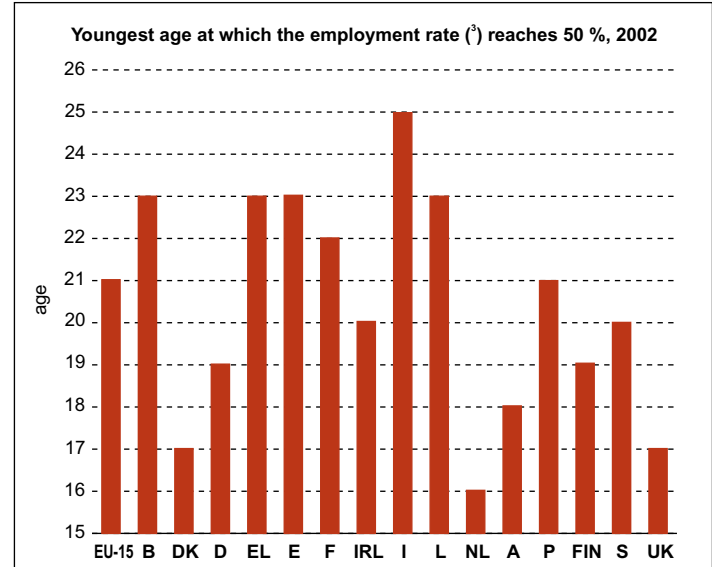
## Prolonged education and training

For most Member States, full-time compulsory schooling ends at 15-16 years of age. However, the vast majority of young people choose to stay on longer in education or training. Around 74 % of 18-year-olds in the EU-15 were still in education in 2000/01. At the age of 20, around 60 % of young people in Belgium and the Netherlands had still not left the education system.

Overall, participation rates for females are slightly higher than for males although the gap is particularly significant in Ireland in favour of females.

As a result of the longer stay in education, young people are entering the labour market at a later age. For EU-15, it is not until the age of 21 that 50 % of young people are in employment. However, there are considerable differences between countries. The average age in the Netherlands is 16 compared to 25 in Italy. The figure for Germany and Austria is also 19 but may be slightly misleading as, in the dual system, young people are classified simultaneously as both students and workers.

**Further reading:** 'Education across the European Union — Statistics and Indicators', Eurostat. 'Key data on education in Europe 2002', European Commission. Statistics in focus, Theme 3 — 13/2003 'Education in Europe — Key statistics 2000/01', Eurostat.



**Foreign language learning**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO
<b>Average number of languages learnt per pupil, 2000/01</b>																		
Primary	0.5*	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.5	.	0.7	1.8	0.3	0.8	:	0.8	0.8	:	0.6	1.0
General secondary	1.4*	1.7	1.8	1.2	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.0	1.2	2.6	1.6	1.2	:	2.5	1.8	:	1.8	1.6
<b>Percentage of pupils learning selected foreign languages in general secondary education, 2000/01</b>																		
English	92*	68	89	94	97	98	96	.	80	64	98	98	:	99	100	:	82	100
French	28*	52	12	23	60	36	.	70	31	95	27	13	:	13	22	:	10	18
German	14*	15	67	.	15	2	21	23	5	94	32	.	:	30	39	:	22	43
Spanish	12*	2	6	2	-	.	38	5	1	7	:	2	:	3	17	:	4	:

**Note:** Data refer to foreign languages studied by each pupil in 2000/01 as opposed to those studied throughout their entire schooling. L = French and German are official languages (in addition to Luxembourgish) but are taught as foreign languages at school. F = ISCED level 1 refer to 1999/2000. IRL and NL = full-time education only. NL: Data refer to ISCED level 3 only. A = 1998/99. FIN = The national language taught in schools where it is not the teaching language is counted as a foreign language. NO = Data refer to ISCED level 2 only.

**Source:** Eurostat — UOE (Unesco, OECD and Eurostat) questionnaires on education statistics.

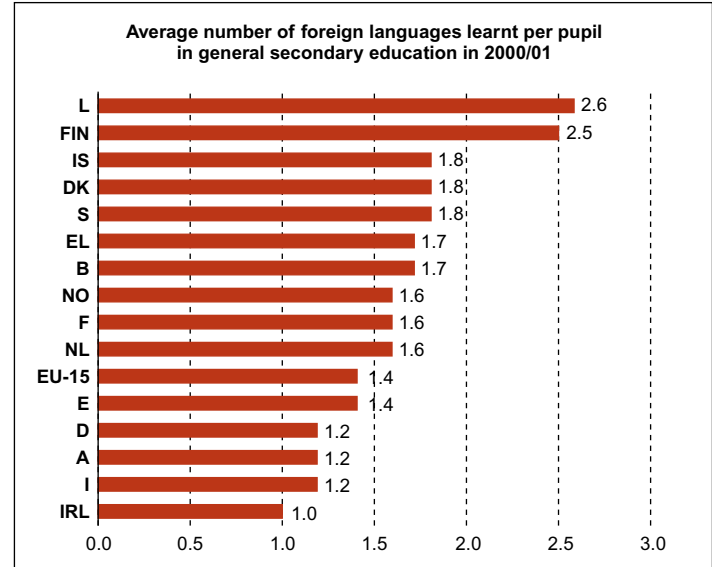
## English: the most widely-taught language at school

In most Member States, the teaching of foreign languages begins at the start of primary education. In Ireland, however, there was no language tuition at this level in 2001 while in Germany the number of pupils being taught a language was very small. In Luxembourg, most pupils learn two languages.

Pupils enrolled in general secondary education were learning on average 1.4 foreign languages in 2002. A number of countries seem to put more emphasis on language learning — Denmark, Luxembourg, Finland and Sweden.

English is the most widely taught foreign language in schools in almost all Member States. Virtually every pupil in seven Member States was being taught English in 2001 in general secondary education. Overall, French is the second most popular language, studied by almost all pupils in Luxembourg, 70 % in Ireland, 60 % in Greece, 52 % in Belgium (all communities) and 36 % in Spain. In Denmark, Netherlands, Finland and Sweden, German is the second most popular language behind English but ahead of French. More than one-third of pupils in France were studying Spanish.

**Further reading:** 'Education across the European Union — Statistics and Indicators'. 'Key data on education in Europe 2002', European Commission. Statistics in focus, Theme 3 — 13/2003 'Education in Europe — Key statistics 2000/01', Eurostat.



**Tertiary education**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO
<b>Students in tertiary education (1 000), 2000/01</b>																		
Total	12 820	359	191	2 084	478	1 834	2 032	167	1 812	3	504	265	388	280	358	2 067	10	190
<b>Percentage increase in the number of students in higher education 1991-2001</b>																		
Total	35	30	33	2	145	50	20	85	25	:	5	29	108	69	86	64	104	33
Males	21	19	21	-9	141	46	17	54	9	:	-6	14	103	63	65	44	90	16
Females	46	43	45	16	149	54	22	122	41	:	20	46	115	75	103	86	113	49
<b>Females per 100 males in tertiary education, 2000/01</b>																		
Females	114	112	130	95	105	110	118	121	127	:	102	108	133	117	144	120	168	145
<b>Median age of students in tertiary education, 2000/01</b>																		
Total	23	21	26	25	22	23	22	21	23	:	23	24	23	25	26	23	25	26

**Note:** Tertiary education corresponds to ISCED levels 5-6. D and L = Exclude ISCED level 6. L = The country does not have a complete university system, most students study abroad. No data available by sex for ISCED levels 5-6. (1) EU-15 = Data excludes EL and L.

**Source:** Eurostat — UOE (Unesco, OECD and Eurostat) questionnaires on education statistics.

## Greater numbers in tertiary education, particularly women

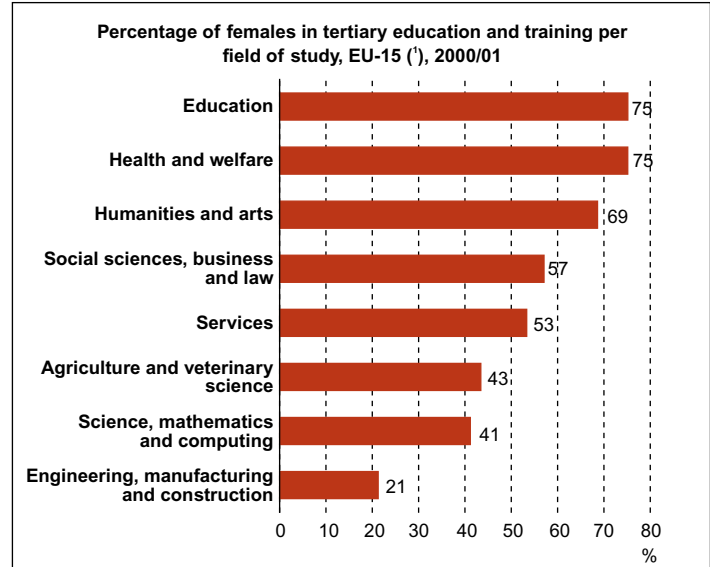
In 2001, there were 12.8 million students enrolled in tertiary education in EU-15. This represents a 35 % rise from the 1991 level. All Member States experienced a significant increase over this period. The rise has been particularly sharp among females with numbers at least doubling in Greece, Ireland, Portugal and Sweden.

EU-wide, there are now 114 females for every 100 males in tertiary education. In Denmark, Ireland, Portugal, Sweden and the UK, the ratio is at least 120:100. In contrast there are only 95 women per 100 men in Germany.

On average, in EU-15 the median age of students in tertiary education is 23 years. This figure ranges from 21 in Belgium and Ireland to 26 in Denmark and Sweden reflecting both the different ages at which students enter tertiary education and the length of study.

Females account for more than two-thirds of students in education related studies (75 %), medical science (75 %) and humanities and arts (69 %). However, they are considerably under-represented in engineering, manufacturing and construction studies (21 %) and science, mathematics and computing studies (41 %).

**Further reading:** 'Education across the European Union — Statistics and Indicators, 1998'. 'Key data on education in Europe 2002', European Commission. Statistics in focus, Theme 3 — 13/2003 'Education in Europe — Key statistics 2000/01', Eurostat.



**Lifelong learning**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO
<b>Students aged 30 and over as a percentage of all students <sup>(1)</sup>, 2000/01</b>																		
All levels (ISCED levels 0-6)	6	10	5	3	0	3	1	2	2	:	4	4	4	10	14	17	6	6
Tertiary education (ISCED levels 5-6)	17	10	24	22	1	10	7	10	11	:	14	26	13	28	34	33	27	31
<b>Percentage of the population aged 25-64 participating in education and training over the four weeks prior to the survey <sup>(2)</sup>, by sex, 2002</b>																		
Total	9	7	18	6	1	5	3	8	5	8	16	8	3	19	18	22	24	13
Males	8	7	16	6	1	5	2	7	5	9	17	8	2	17	16	19	20	13
Females	9	6	21	6	1	5	3	9	5	6	16	7	3	21	21	26	28	14
<b>Percentage of the population aged 25-64 participating in education and training over the four weeks prior to the survey <sup>(3)</sup>, by level of education attained, 2002</b>																		
Less than upper secondary level	2	3	11	2	0	1	1	3	1	2	9	2	1	8	11	8	17	6
Upper secondary level	10	7	18	6	2	9	2	7	9	9	18	7	12	18	17	21	26	11
Tertiary education	16	12	25	8	2	11	6	15	9	18	23	15	9	28	25	36	30	21

**Note:** <sup>(1)</sup> UOE data collection — B, D, E, IE, IT, L, A and FIN = Students whose age is unknown are excluded. D = Excludes ISCED level 6. L = The country does not have a complete university system. No data available by age for ISCED levels 5-6. <sup>(2)</sup> LFS data. F = Information on education and training is collected if this is under way on the date of the survey.

**Source:** Eurostat — UOE (Unesco, OECD and Eurostat) questionnaires on education statistics and European Union labour force survey.

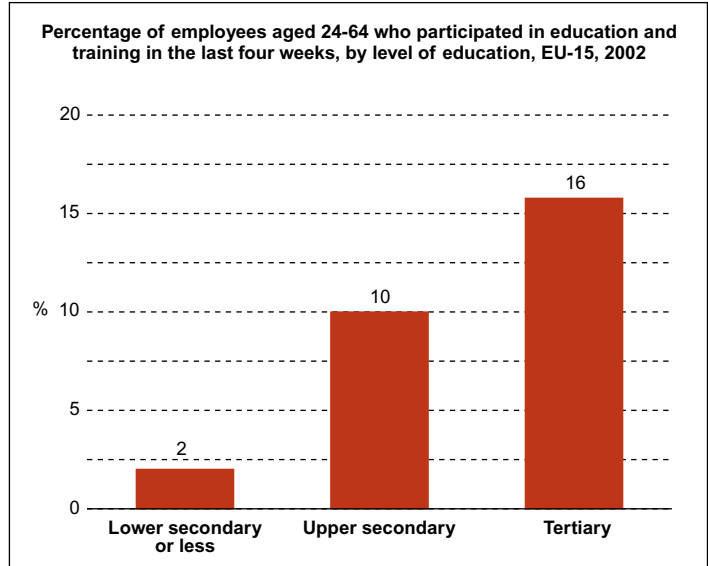
## More learning earlier in life and for the more qualified

Of all students enrolled in education in EU-15, 6 % were aged 30 or above in 2000/01. This age-group accounts for up to 17 % of all students in tertiary education. In Sweden and the United Kingdom, the proportion is over 30 %.

EU-wide, 9 % of 25- to 64-year-olds participated in some type of education and training (in the last four weeks) in 2002. Lifelong learning seems to be much more present in the Nordic countries and in the United Kingdom, where around 20 % have participated in learning activities.

Throughout the Union, participation in lifelong learning is increasing with the level of education attained. In EU-15, 16 % of those with a tertiary qualification participated against only 2 % of those with the lowest level of education. The differences between countries are quite remarkable: the participation of those with lower education qualifications in Denmark and Sweden (11 %) is higher than the participation of those with a tertiary education qualification in five of the other Member States.

**Further reading:** 'Education across the European Union — Statistics and Indicators', Eurostat. 'Key data on education in Europe 2002', European Commission.



**Continuing vocational training**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	NO
<b>Continuing vocational training in enterprises (CVTS 2 - 1999): key indicators</b>																	
Training enterprises as a percentage of all enterprises	62	70	96	75	18	36	76	79	24	71	88	72	22	82	91	87	86
Employees in training enterprises as a percentage of employees in all enterprises	88	88	99	92	56	64	93	92	56	87	96	90	52	95	98	97	94
Participants in CVT courses as a percentage of employees in all enterprises	40	41	53	32	15	25	46	41	26	36	41	31	17	50	61	49	48
Hours in CVT courses per employee (all enterprises)	12	13	22	9	6	11	17	17	8	14	15	9	7	18	18	13	16
Hours in CVT courses per participant	31	31	41	27	39	42	36	40	32	39	37	29	38	36	31	26	33

Source: Eurostat — Continuing vocational training survey 2.

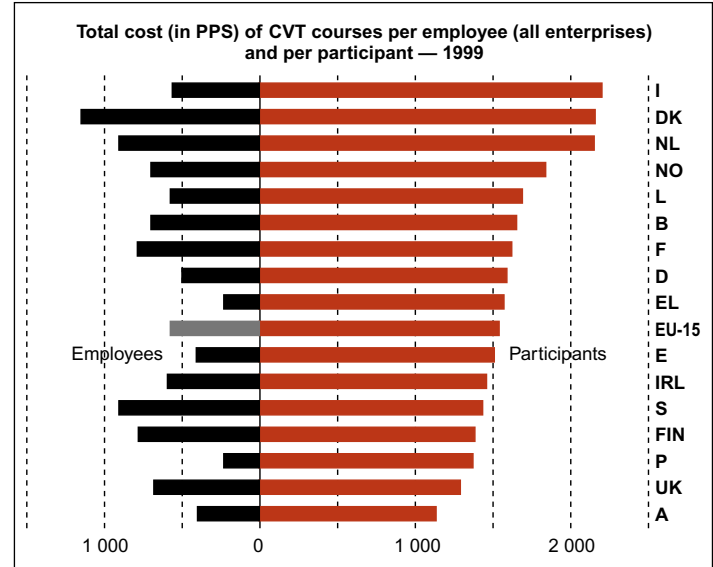


## North-south divide in the percentage of enterprises providing CVT in the EU

The second European survey of continuing vocational training in enterprises (CVTS 2) was implemented in 2000/01 in all the Member States, Norway and nine candidate countries. The survey covered enterprises with 10 and more employees in Sections C to K and O according to the classification of economic activities NACE Rev. 1; the reference year was 1999.

In the northern countries, the share of training enterprises and the participation in continuing vocational training is higher than in the south of Europe. The proportion of all enterprises that provided CVT in 1999 ranges from 18 % in Greece to 96 % in Denmark, the participation rate ranges from 15 % in Greece to 61 % in Sweden. On the other hand, the intensity of CVT training in terms of training hours per participant was higher in the southern countries than in the northern countries, except Denmark.

**Further reading:** Statistics in focus: 'Continuing vocational training in enterprises in the European Union and Norway', (Theme 3 — 3/2002) 'Costs and funding of continuing vocational training in enterprises in Europe', (Theme 3 — 8/2002) 'Providers and fields of training in enterprises in Europe', (Theme 3 — 10/2002) 'Disparities in access to continuing vocational training in enterprises in Europe' (Theme 3 — 22/2002), 'Working time spent on continuing vocational training in enterprises in Europe', (Theme 3 — 1/2003). European social statistics 'Continuing vocational training survey' (CVTS 2) — Detailed tables, 2002 edition.



**Expenditure on education**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO
<b>Total public expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP, 2000</b>																		
Total	4.9	5.2	8.3	4.5	3.8	4.4	5.8	4.4	4.6	:	4.8	5.8	5.8	5.9	7.4	4.4	5.9	6.8
<b>Expenditure (from both public and private sources) per pupil/student in public institutions by level of education, PPS, 2000</b>																		
Primary (ISCED 1)	4 157	4 635	5 897	3 827	2 496	4 031	4 253	3 145	5 496	:	3 979	6 111	3 589	3 970	5 842	3 577	5 431	6 425
Secondary (ISCED 2-4)	5 639	6 846	6 944	4 690	3 436	5 527	7 621	4 268	6 517	:	5 436	8 452	5 093	5 555	6 719	5 600	6 047	7 977
Tertiary (ISCED 5-6)	8 334	9 897	11 922	10 183	3 168	6 227	7 618	10 402	7 422	:	10 981	10 003	6 353	7 879	13 651	8 737	7 104	12 239
<b>Financial aid to students as a percentage of total public expenditure on education, 2000</b>																		
Total	5.47	4.24	23.07	6.12	1.54	2.63	3.92	6.29	4.05	:	12.43	3.96	2.26	7.94	15.41	2.36	4.81	12.11

Source: Eurostat — UOE (Unesco, OECD and Eurostat) questionnaires on education statistics.

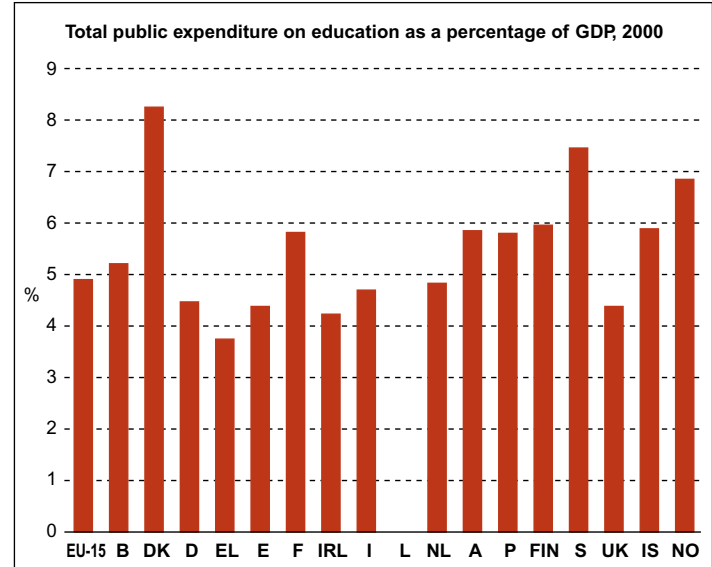
## Public expenditure on education: 4.9 % of GDP in EU

In 2000, total public expenditure on education accounted for 4.9 % of the GDP of the EU. Total public expenditure on education as a % of GDP ranged from 8.3 % (Denmark) and 7.4 % (Sweden) to 3.8 % (Greece).

In most countries, expenditure per student increases with the level of education. In the EU, 4 157 PPS were spent per pupil at primary level of education, 5 639 PPS at secondary level of education and 8 334 PPS at tertiary level of education.

Total financial aid awarded predominantly to students accounts for 5.5 % of total public expenditure on education in the EU. This proportion tends to be higher in the northern Member States.

**Further reading:** 'Education across the European Union — Statistics and Indicators, 2000'. 'Key data on education in Europe 2002', European Commission.



# LABOUR MARKET

**Employment**

	EU-15	EUR-12	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Employment rates by age group, 2001 <sup>(1)</sup></b>																				
15-64	64.1	62.1	59.9	76.2	65.8	55.4	57.7	62.8	65.7	54.9	63.1	74.1	68.4	68.7	68.2	74.1	71.8	:	77.2	:
55-64	38.8	35.1	25.1	58.0	37.9	38.0	39.2	31.9	46.8	28.1	25.6	39.6	28.6	50.1	45.8	66.8	52.3	:	65.9	:
<b>Persons in employment by sector (percentage share of total), 2002 <sup>(2)</sup></b>																				
Agriculture	4.0	4.7	1.8	3.2	2.5	15.8	5.9	4.1	6.9	4.9	2.0	2.9	5.7	12.5	5.5	2.5	1.4	7.4	3.9	4.4
Industry	28.2	29.4	25.8	23.5	32.4	22.5	31.3	25.4	27.8	31.6	20.1	21.0	28.9	33.6	27.1	23.0	24.1	22.5	21.7	24.1
Services	67.8	65.9	72.4	73.3	65.1	61.7	62.7	70.5	65.2	63.5	77.9	76.1	65.4	53.9	67.3	74.5	74.5	70.1	74.4	71.5
<b>Percentage of persons in employment who are employees, 2002 <sup>(2)</sup></b>																				
Total	84	83	85	91	89	60	81	89	82	73	92	88	87	73	87	89	88	83	92	83

**Note:** Data refer to spring 1999. Employment rates represent persons in employment aged 15-64 as a percentage of the population of the same age. Persons in employment are those who, during the reference week (of the labour force survey), worked for pay or profit for at least one hour or were not working but had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Family workers are included.

**Sources:** <sup>(1)</sup> Eurostat — Comparable estimates based on the labour force survey — Annual average. <sup>(2)</sup> Eurostat — European labour force survey — Spring data.

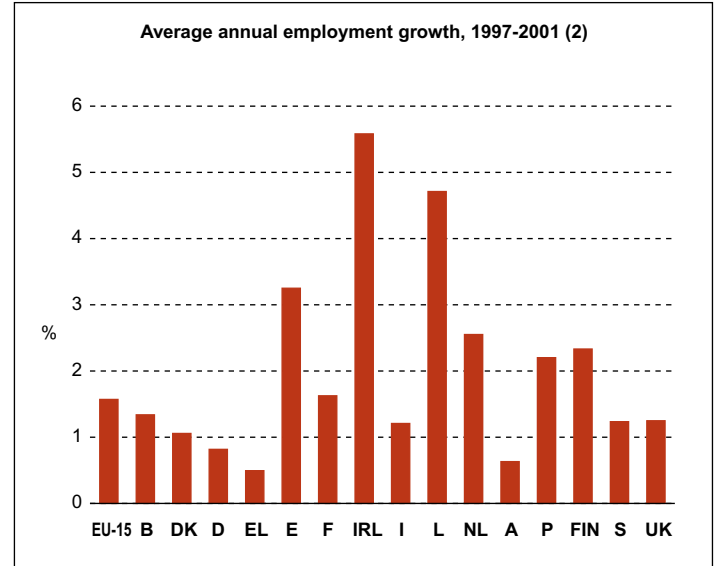
## Around 64 % of persons in employment

Over the period 1997-2001, the EU annual employment growth reached 1.5 %. The 2001 employment rate (64.1 %) was still converging towards the 2005 objective (67 %) set during the Stockholm summit of the European Council (March 2001). The 2001 employment rates for the population aged 15-64 ranged from 54.9 % in Italy to 76.2 % in Denmark, 77.2 % in Norway.

EU-wide, 4.0 % were employed in agriculture, 28.2 % in industry and the remaining 67.8 % in services. This pattern was rather similar throughout the Member States with the exception of Greece and Portugal which still have a relatively large share of people working in agriculture. The lowest share of employees among employed persons was also attained in these two latter countries (respectively 60 and 73 %) but also in Italy (73 %).

More than one-third (38.8 %) of persons around the retirement age (55-64) were in employment. The rates ranged from 25.1 % in Belgium to 66.8 % in Sweden.

**Further reading:** 'Labour force survey results 2002', Eurostat. 'Employment in Europe 2002', European Commission. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Employment (qlfd) and Theme 3 — LFS.



## Equal opportunities in employment

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH	
<b>Employment rates, 15-64 years, by sex, 2001 <sup>(1)</sup></b>																				
Males	73	69	80	73	71	72	70	76	69	75	83	77	77	71	76	78	:	81	:	
Females	55	51	72	59	41	43	56	55	41	51	65	60	61	65	72	65	:	74	:	
<b>Employment rates, 55-64 years, by sex, 2001 <sup>(1)</sup></b>																				
Males	49	35	66	47	55	58	36	65	41	36	51	40	61	47	69	62	:	71	:	
Females	29	16	50	29	23	22	28	29	16	15	28	18	40	45	64	43	:	61	:	
<b>Percentage of persons in employment working part-time by sex, 2002 <sup>(2)</sup></b>																				
Males	7	6	11	6	2	3	5	7	4	2	22	5	7	8	11	9	:	13	11	11
Females	33	38	31	39	8	17	30	30	17	26	73	36	16	17	33	44	:	45	43	57
<b>Percentage of employees with a fixed-term contract by sex, 2002 <sup>(2)</sup></b>																				
Males	12	6	7	12	10	29	12	5	8	4	12	7	20	14	13	5	:	5	8	12
Females	14	10	11	12	13	34	16	6	12	5	17	7	23	21	18	7	:	6	12	13

**Note:** Employment rates represent persons in employment as a percentage of the population aged 15-64 years. Persons in employment are those who, during the reference week, worked for pay or profit for at least one hour or were not working but had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Family workers are included. The classification by part-time or full-time job depends on a direct question in the labour force survey, except for A and NL where it depends on a threshold on the basis of the number of hours usually worked.

**Sources:** <sup>(1)</sup> Eurostat — Comparable estimates based on the labour force survey — Annual average. <sup>(2)</sup> Eurostat — European labour force survey — Spring data.

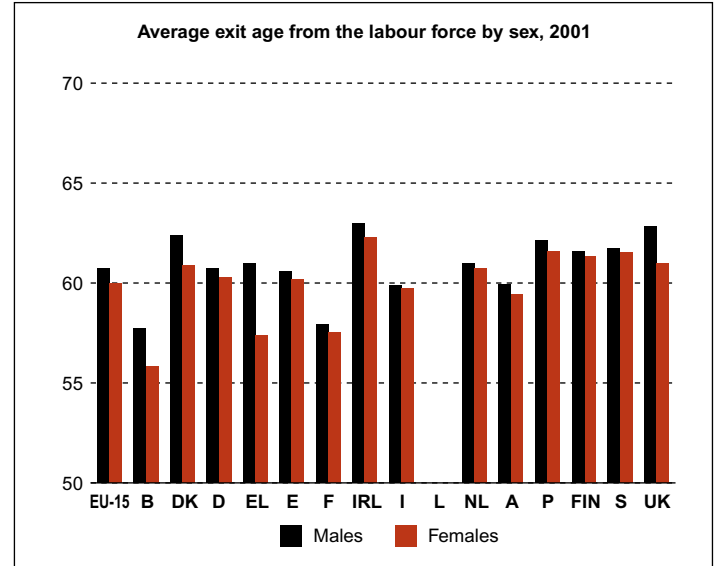
## Still a substantial gap between sexes

In 2001, employment rates for males aged 15-64 were about 20 percentage points higher than for females (73 % compared to 55 %). The gap attained about 30 points in Greece, Spain and Italy while it was less than 10 points in Denmark, Finland and Sweden.

Similar differences were observed for older workers. At EU level, males were more likely to be employed at this age than females (49 % compared to 29 %). Males were leaving the labour market at the age of 60.8 years about one year later than females.

EU-wide, 33 % of females in employment were working part-time in 2002 compared to only 6 % of males. Female part-time work was particularly prevalent in the Netherlands (73 %) and the United Kingdom (44 %). Throughout the Union, women were more likely to have a fixed-term contract, especially in Spain, Portugal and Finland (more than 20 % of all female employees).

**Further reading:** 'Labour force survey results 2002', Eurostat. 'Employment in Europe 2002', European Commission. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Employment (qlfd) and Theme 3 — LFS.





## Working time

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Average number of hours usually worked per week, full-time employees, 2002</b>																			
Total	40	39	39	40	41	40	38	40	39	40	39	40	40	39	40	43	47	39	41
Males	41	40	40	40	42	41	38	41	40	40	39	40	41	40	40	45	50	39	41
Females	39	38	38	39	40	40	37	38	36	38	38	40	39	38	40	41	43	38	41
<b>Percentage of full-time employees working long hours, 2002</b>																			
> 40 hours/week	15	8	16	8	24	12	10	10	14	4	2	5	15	9	6	37	41	5	48
> 48 hours/week	6	4	5	5	7	6	5	5	4	2	1	3	6	4	2	15	25	2	0
<b>Percentage of employees doing the following types of work <sup>(1)</sup>, 2002</b>																			
Shift work	16	10	5	15	19	17	10	17	22	11	.	18	18	24	24	19	24	23	13
Evening / night work	36	32	42	.	46	23	32	26	25	30	.	28	100	47	41	52	54	41	39
Saturday / Sunday work	47	33	40	.	47	34	47	50	49	43	.	42	43	34	37	59	63	39	38

**Note:** (1) The response categories are 'never', 'sometimes' and 'usually'. The above data refer to 'sometimes' and 'usually' combined. 'Usually' means working on at least half of the working days during the four weeks preceding the survey. An employee is classified as a shift worker if he/she usually works two or more different work shifts. Work shifts are defined as distinct periods of work within a 24-hour day. Evening and night work are defined as work done outside the usual working hours but respectively before or during the usual sleeping hours. EU results are calculated on the basis of the available data.

**Source:** Eurostat — European labour force survey — Spring.

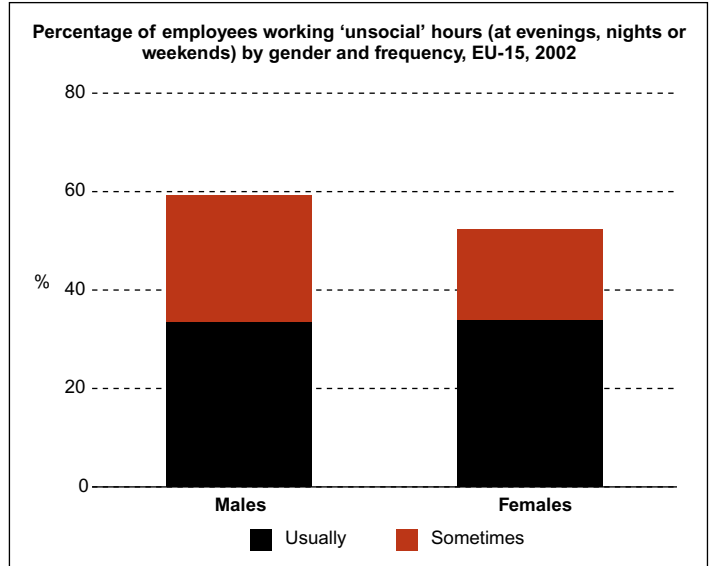
## Longest working hours in the United Kingdom

In 2002, full-time employees in EU-15 worked for an average of 40 hours per week, from 37.7 in France to 43.3 hours in the United Kingdom, 47.3 hours in Iceland. In all Member States, men worked more hours than women although in Austria and Sweden the difference was less than one hour. In contrast, the gender gap was more than four hours in the United Kingdom and Iceland.

Almost 15 % of full-time employees were working longer than the average of 40 hours per week in 2002. Around 6 % worked at least 48 hours per week, 15 % in the United Kingdom and 25 % in Iceland.

Around 36 % of EU employees had jobs which involved them 'usually' or 'sometimes' working evenings or at night while 47 % worked on Saturdays or Sundays. Combining these data, 59.6 % of male employees and 52.4 % of females were usually or sometimes working 'unsocial' hours.

**Further reading:** 'Labour force survey results 2002', Eurostat. 'Employment in Europe 2002', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — LFS.



## Unemployment

	EU-15	EUR-12	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Unemployment (1 000)</b>																				
1997	16 932.9	14 371.4	390.1	147.6	3 786.8	420.7	2 815.7	2 963.7	152.2	2 652.6	4.7	373.9	167.2	329.4	314.4	437.1	1 974.2	:	92.4	:
2002	13 560.4	11 667.2	319.4	129.1	3 395.7	435.1	2 081.1	2 285.7	79.6	2 159.7	5.4	229.7	166.0	272.4	237.3	228.1	1 533.3	:	91.7	:
<b>Unemployment rates</b>																				
1997	10.0	10.9	9.2	5.2	9.7	9.8	17.0	11.8	9.9	11.6	2.7	4.9	4.4	6.8	12.7	9.9	6.9	:	4.0	:
2001	7.4	8.0	6.7	4.3	7.8	10.4	10.6	8.5	3.9	9.4	2.1	2.4	3.6	4.1	9.1	4.9	5.0	:	3.6	:
2002	7.7	8.4	7.3	4.5	8.6	9.9	11.3	8.7	4.4	9.0	2.8	2.7	4.3	5.1	9.1	4.9	5.1	:	3.9	:
<b>Unemployment rates by sex, 2002</b>																				
Males	6.9	7.3	6.6	4.4	8.7	6.6	8.0	7.8	4.6	7.0	2.1	2.5	4.1	4.2	9.1	5.3	5.6	:	4.1	:
Females	8.7	9.8	8.2	4.6	8.3	15.0	16.4	9.9	4.0	12.2	3.9	3.0	4.5	6.1	9.1	4.5	4.5	:	3.6	:

**Note:** Unemployed people, according to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) criteria, are those persons aged 15-74 who were without work during the reference week, were currently available for work and were actively seeking work or who found a job to start later. Unemployment rates represent unemployed persons as a percentage of the active population of the same age. The active population (or labour force) is defined as the sum of employed and unemployed persons.

**Source:** Eurostat — Comparable estimates based on the European labour force survey.

## Significant drop in unemployment rate between 1997 and 2002

In 2002, 7.7 % of the EU-15 labour force was unemployed, a decrease of 2.3 percentage points since 1997, 3 300 less people than in 1997. This downward trend was regular from 1997 to 2001 when the rate reached 7.4 %. It concerned all countries except Greece. In Germany and Portugal, the 2002 rates increased by almost 1 percentage point with respect to 2001.

The 2002 unemployment rate ranged from 11.3 % in Spain to 2.7 % in the Netherlands and 2.8 % in Luxembourg. The rates were also relatively low in Denmark, Ireland, Austria, Portugal and the United Kingdom (between 4 and 6 %). German, Irish, Swedish, British and Norwegian men were more likely to be unemployed than women.

**Further reading:** 'Labour force survey results 2002', Eurostat. 'Employment in Europe 2002', European Commission. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Unemployment.



## Youth unemployment

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Number of unemployed persons aged 15-24 (1 000)</b>																			
1997	4 302	91	37	448	155	851	683	45	941	1	111	36	105	72	99	626	:	33	:
2002	3 260	79	30	440	122	513	549	26	617	1	74	34	82	69	67	555	:	36	:
<b>Youth unemployment rates (%)</b>																			
1997	20.0	22.0	7.7	10.4	30.8	34.5	28.3	15.4	33.5	7.9	9.1	6.7	15.1	25.2	20.6	13.7	:	11	:
2001	14.6	17.5	8.4	8.4	28.0	21.4	19.0	6.7	28.1	7.3	5.3	5.8	9.2	19.8	10.9	11.9	:	11	:
2002	15.1	18.2	7.7	9.7	26.4	22.2	20.0	8.0	27.2	8.3	5.2	6.8	11.5	21.0	11.8	12.1	:	11.3	:
<b>Youth unemployment rates by sex, 2002</b>																			
Males	14.8	18.5	9.4	11.3	19.6	18.4	18.3	8.8	24.1	6.4	5.3	6.5	9.6	21.2	12.0	13.7	:	12.5	:
Females	15.5	17.7	5.8	7.9	34.3	27.3	22.2	7.1	31.4	10.5	5.2	7.0	13.9	20.9	11.6	10.2	:	10.2	:

**Note:** Unemployment is defined according to the ILO definition. See 'Unemployment' for definition. (¹) Youth unemployment rates represent unemployed persons aged 15-24 as a percentage of the active population (or labour force) of the same age.

**Source:** Eurostat — Comparable estimates based on the European labour force survey.

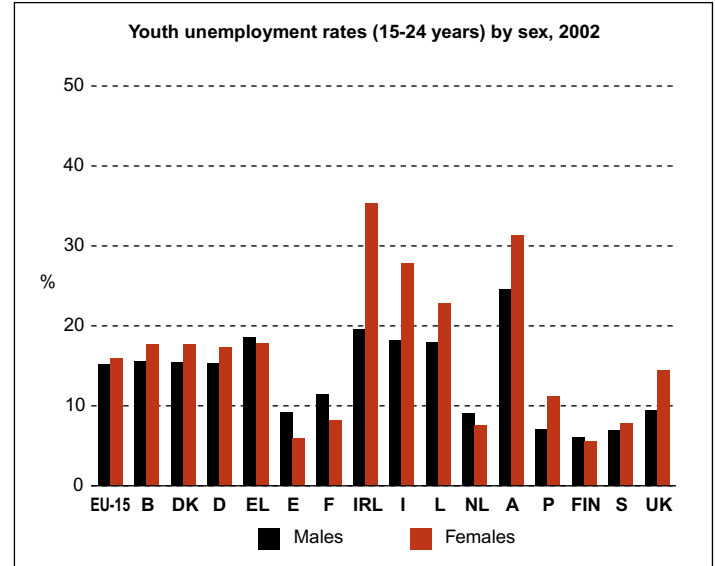
## Around 15 % of young people unemployed across the EU

Compared to 1997, the 2002 youth unemployment rate decreased by 4.9 percentage points, from 20.0 to 15.1 %. The best performing countries were Spain (-12.3 points), Sweden (-8.8 points), France (-8.3 points) and Ireland (-7.4 points). However, in Greece, Spain, France, Italy and Finland, the 2002 youth unemployment rate was still above 20 %, while it was less than 7 % in Austria and the Netherlands.

Although youth unemployment decreased by slightly more than one million people over the period 1997-2002, the downward trend was not as regular as for unemployment regardless of age. In several countries (Belgium, Denmark, Luxembourg, Austria Portugal, Sweden and Norway), youth unemployment rates started already to increase in 2000.

Young females (15.5 %) were still more likely than young males (14.8 %) to be unemployed in 2002, although the gap was not as large as it was compared both to the situation of young people in 1997 and to the population aged 25 and over in 2002.

**Further reading:** 'Labour force survey results 2002', Eurostat. 'Employment in Europe 2002', European Commission. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Unemployment.



## Unemployment and education

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Unemployment rates of the population aged 25-64 by level of education, 2002</b>																			
<b>Males and Females</b>																			
Less than upper secondary level	9.5	9.8	6.2	15.0	7.3	11.1	11.3	5.9	9.0	3.8	2.9	8.2	4.0	11.0	5.3	8.1	3.1	2.9	4.9
Upper secondary level	6.4	5.6	3.4	8.7	9.6	9.4	6.5	2.9	6.4	(1.2)	1.9	4.5	4.2	8.5	4.3	3.7	2.4	2.7	2.3
Tertiary education	4.2	3.1	3.5	4.3	6.3	7.4	5.0	1.9	5.3	(1.8)	1.7	1.7	3.3	4.0	2.6	2.4	-	2.3	2.1
<b>Males</b>																			
Less than upper secondary level	8.1	8.0	4.6	17.3	4.9	7.7	10.3	6.2	6.6	(2.5)	2.4	10.5	3.3	10.8	5.0	10.4	-	-	(4.4)
Tertiary education	3.7	3.1	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.7	5.1	2.3	3.6	-	1.8	1.6	-	3.8	3.3	2.7	-	2.4	1.9
<b>Females</b>																			
Less than upper secondary level	11.6	12.9	8.1	12.9	11.3	17.5	12.4	5.3	14.0	(5.7)	3.6	6.4	4.7	11.2	5.8	5.7	-	-	5.3
Tertiary education	4.8	3.2	3.4	4.9	8.9	10.6	4.9	(1.6)	7.2	-	1.7	1.8	(4.4)	4.1	2.1	1.9	-	2.1	(2.6)

**Note:** The three levels of education are defined according to ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education). In the UK, GCSE 'O' levels are included under ISCED 3 (educational attainment level 'upper secondary'). Data in brackets may lack reliability due to the small sample size. The symbol '-' is used when data are either not available or extremely unreliable.

**Source:** Eurostat — European labour force survey — Spring data.

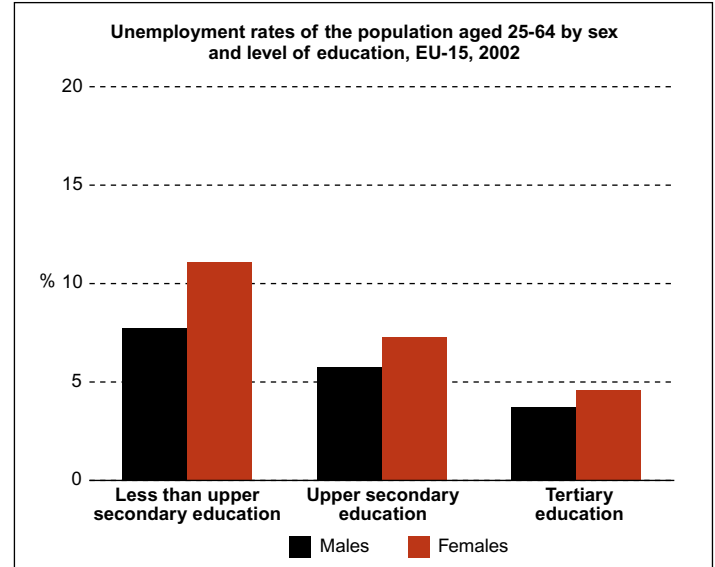
## Qualifications still tend to reduce the risk of unemployment

Higher education qualifications seem to reduce, albeit to differing degrees, the risk of unemployment in all Member States. In EU-15, the unemployment rate of persons with a tertiary education qualification stood at 4.2 % in 2002 compared with 6.4 % for persons who had completed at most upper secondary education and 9.5 % among those who had not completed upper secondary education.

The largest differences between 'tertiary' and 'lower secondary' education were found in Germany (10.7 percentage points) and Finland (7 points). In Greece, Spain and Italy, the unemployment rates were more than 9 % but regardless of the level of education (differences between 1 and 3.7 percentage points).

The gaps between 'tertiary' and 'lower secondary' education are larger for females in most countries, except in Germany, Austria and the United Kingdom. In these countries, the male unemployment rates for the education level 'lower secondary' are among the highest while the share of people with such an education level in the total population is among the lowest (about 20 % compared to 35 % for the EU).

**Further reading:** 'Labour force survey results 2002', Eurostat. 'Key data on education in Europe 2002', European Commission. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — LFS.





**EARNINGS**

## Average earnings of full-time workers

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E(2)	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Average annual gross earnings <sup>(3)</sup> of full-time workers, EUR, 2000</b>																
Industry and services (C-K)	28 402	31 644	40 962	:	14 721	17 874	26 521	:	:	35 910	31 901	:	12 620	27 398	31 621	37 677
Industry (C-F)	29 638	31 181	39 162	35 880	14 010	17 643	25 402	:	:	31 807	30 750	:	10 631	27 581	30 643	35 465
Mining and quarrying	33 772	31 869	49 514	35 917	17 729	20 646	27 051	:	:	32 408	48 396	:	12 452	27 713	31 545	45 294
Manufacturing	30 035	32 402	38 966	36 622	14 374	18 673	26 214	:	:	34 949	30 748	:	10 192	27 920	30 514	34 902
Electricity, gas and water supply	36 917	49 007	45 191	39 112	24 754	28 559	32 781	:	:	53 628	40 091	:	23 402	28 991	34 043	43 719
Construction	26 624	25 422	39 177	30 730	10 536	15 125	20 609	:	:	26 618	29 594	:	10 756	25 815	30 693	35 399
Trade and repairs	27 088	29 204	40 531	31 345	11 584	15 515	24 404	:	:	27 653	28 913	:	12 259	25 240	30 969	32 551
Hotels and restaurants	20 165	20 890	32 816	:	11 654	13 140	20 303	:	:	21 128	22 200	:	8 555	20 096	22 644	25 200
Transport	28 590	29 257	42 206	:	17 989	20 745	26 112	:	:	35 084	32 095	:	16 999	26 132	30 210	36 594
Financial intermediation	41 713	43 981	45 083	42 186	25 196	33 548	35 262	:	:	54 928	40 736	:	23 964	34 372	41 379	57 646
Real estate	32 013	35 702	46 745	:	16 664	17 110	30 753	:	:	43 313	36 014	:	15 812	28 789	35 098	43 411

**Notes:** <sup>(1)</sup> EU-15 figures a) are calculated for Spain using 2001 figures adjusted for 2000 b) do not include Germany when German data are missing c) are weighted by number of employees. <sup>(2)</sup> 2001 figures. <sup>(3)</sup> Total gross earnings paid during the reference year include overtime and regular cash supplements as well as vacation payments and bonuses.

**Source:** Eurostat — Earnings statistics.

## Considerable differences between economic activities

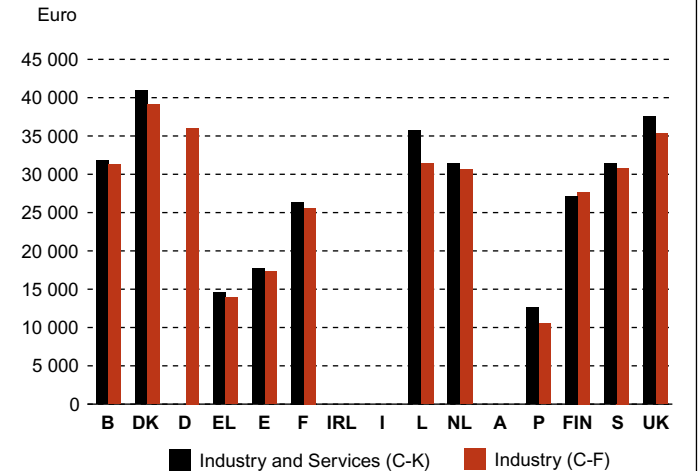
Note: The subsequent analysis of annual gross earnings is based on incomplete data. Ireland, Italy and Austria did not deliver data and for Germany most of the data for the service sections are missing.

In 2000, average annual gross earnings were higher in the northern Member States than in the southern ones. The highest average earnings in the industry and services sector were found in Denmark, United Kingdom and Luxembourg, while the lowest were in Greece, Spain and Portugal.

Hotels and restaurants (Section H) generally have the lowest gross earnings in the Member States, with Portugal showing the least with EUR 8 555. In contrast, financial intermediation (Section J) has the highest gross earnings, with the United Kingdom showing the utmost with EUR 57 646. Exceptions are Greece where lowest gross earnings are in construction (Section F), Belgium with highest gross earnings in energy (Section E) and Denmark and the Netherlands with highest gross earnings in mining and quarrying (Section C)

**More data:** Eurostat, NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Earning.

Average annual gross earnings of full-time workers by type of activity, 2000



## Earnings of men and women

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Annual gross earnings of women as a percentage of men's, 2000</b>																
Industry and services (C-K)	75	83	79	:	80	77	82	:	:	82	73	:	71	79	86	68
Industry (C-F)	77	83	82	78	83	73	84	:	:	83	77	:	67	82	89	69
Mining and quarrying	75	99	79	91	81	:	92	:	:	90	:	:	94	77	90	68
Manufacturing	75	79	82	76	74	:	79	:	:	72	75	:	65	80	89	68
Electricity, gas and water supply	78	68	75	82	81	:	83	:	:	91	81	:	89	77	83	70
Construction	88	99	84	91	94	102	100	:	:	103	82	:	90	82	90	76
Trade and repairs	72	79	73	74	76	:	77	:	:	70	68	:	71	73	83	63
Hotels and restaurants	79	91	84	:	77	:	85	:	:	79	82	:	74	90	90	72
Transport	84	91	80	:	64	:	90	:	:	84	74	:	98	87	92	81
Financial intermediation	62	70	73	75	73	:	64	:	:	72	62	:	80	57	66	46
Real estate	70	76	73	:	91	:	72	:	:	75	70	:	71	75	78	66

**Note:** The share refers to full-time earnings. EU averages are weighted by number of employees of all countries for which data are available.

**Source:** Eurostat — Earnings statistics.

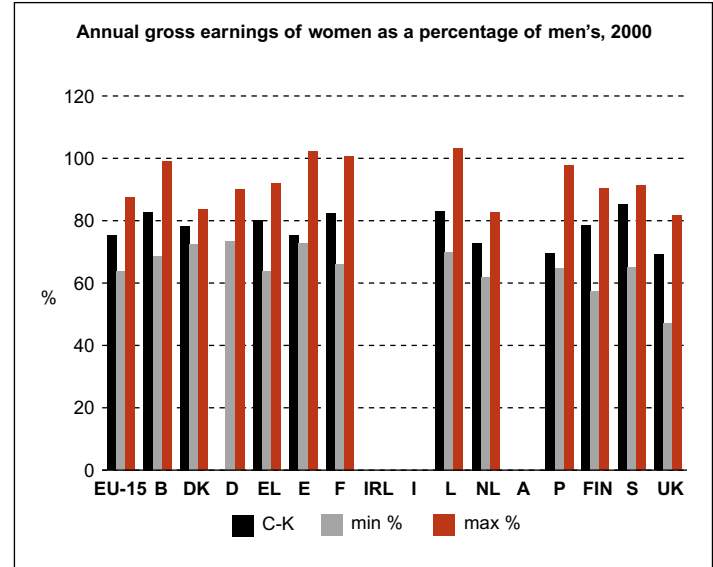
## Women's earnings at 75 % of men's earnings

**Note:** The subsequent analysis of the gender pay gap is based on estimated data for Spain, incomplete data for Germany and lack of data for Ireland, Italy and Austria.

Throughout the Union, women's average full-time earnings are below earnings of men. In 2000, the average annual gross earnings of a woman in Industry and Services working on a full-time basis was 75 % of the earnings of a man. In Belgium, France, Luxembourg and Sweden, the average annual gross earnings of women varied between 82 and 86 % of those of men. In Portugal, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, on the other hand, women's average annual gross earnings represented only 68-73 % of those of men.

These discrepancies should primarily be interpreted as the result of comparing averages for two populations of employees with very different characteristics. Firstly, women and men do not have the same jobs. Secondly, working women tend to be younger. As a result, women on average have less seniority and less of an opportunity to be in management positions. Thirdly, the attainment levels of women are in general lower than those of men. But there are also cases where women earn more than men. Examples can be found in construction, where, in some countries, earnings of women exceed those of men. The sections concerned employ many male manual workers with relatively low earnings. In contrast, there are few women with a higher education level, who work as non-manual workers and therefore have higher earnings.

**More data:** Eurostat, NewCronos Database Theme 3 – Earning.



**Minimum wage**

	B	EL	E	F	IRL	L	NL	P	UK
<b>Average minimum monthly wage</b>									
<b>Euro</b>									
1990	853	335	451	753	:	762	877	225	
2000	1 096	458	496	1 049	:	1 191	1 092	371	1 025
2003	1 163	605	526	1 154	1 073	1 369	1 249	416	1 105
<b>PPS</b>									
2003	1 162	725	617	1 150	910	1 338	1 225	543	983

**Note:** The minimum monthly wages are calculated on an annual basis (thus including the 13th and 14th month payments where applicable).

**Source:** Eurostat — Earnings statistics.

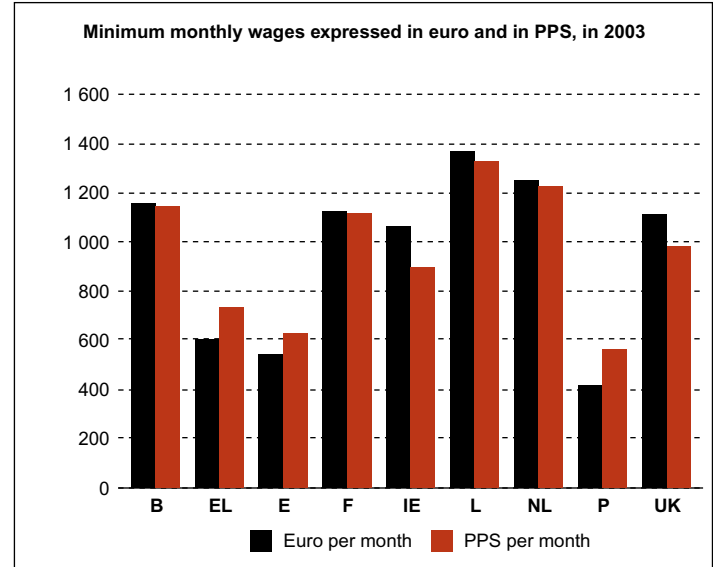
## Minimum wages in nine Member States

On 1 January 2003 nine EU Member States apply a national minimum wage. Three Member States (Portugal, Greece and Spain) had monthly minimum wages between EUR 416 and EUR 605. In the other six Member States (Ireland, the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg) minimum wages were all in excess of EUR 1 000 per month, ranging from EUR 1 073 (Ireland) to EUR 1 369 (Luxembourg).

Applying purchasing power parities (PPPs) for households' final consumption expenditure removes the effect of price level differences. Differences in the levels of the monthly minimum wages are markedly reduced when expressed in PPS, rather than euro. In particular, removing differences in price levels between the countries has the effect of raising the money value of the minimum wage in Portugal, Spain and Greece. In the other six Member States, the effect of applying PPPs is to reduce their minimum wage levels. Among the nine Member States, the minimum wage in euro ranges from EUR 416 to EUR 1 369, which represents a factor of 3.3; in contrast, the minimum wage in PPS extends between 543 and 1 338, a factor of 2.5.

For all countries for which data are available, women are approximately twice as likely as men to be paid at the level of the minimum wage.

**Further reading:** Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions) No 10/2003: 'Minimum wages. EU Member States and candidate countries, January 2003'.



# **INCOME, POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION**



## Higher profile of statistics on income poverty and social exclusion

At the Nice European Council in December 2000, Member States reconfirmed and implemented their March 2000 decision in Lisbon that the fight against poverty and social exclusion (target: eradication of poverty by 2010) would be best achieved via an open method of coordination. Key elements of this approach are the definition of commonly-agreed objectives, the development of national action plans to meet these objectives, and the periodic reporting and monitoring of progress made. It is in this context that the Laeken European Council in December 2001 adopted a first set of 18 statistical indicators for social inclusion, which give a balanced perspective of EU social concerns. They cover four important dimensions of social cohesion: monetary poverty, employment, health and education — highlighting the multi-dimensional nature of this phenomenon. Efforts are ongoing to refine and extend this list of indicators (for example, to cover non-monetary poverty, poverty in work, the situation of children, regional breakdowns, homelessness and other issues).

**Further reading:** 'European social statistics: Income poverty and social exclusion', 2000, Eurostat. 'Income poverty and social exclusion: Second report', 2003 (forthcoming), Eurostat. 'European Community household panel (ECHP): Selected indicators from the 1995 wave', 1999, Eurostat. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Poverty and social exclusion in the EU after Laeken-part 1', No 8/2003, Eurostat. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Poverty and social exclusion in the EU after Laeken-part 2', No 9/2003, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. 'Joint Inclusion Report 2001', European Commission (2003 update forthcoming). 'Report to the Spring European Council, 21 March 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 – Domain ILC.

**Risk of poverty**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>At-risk-of-poverty rate (%), 1999</b>																
Total population	15	13	11	11	21	19	15	18	18	13	11	12	21	11	9	19
Children aged 0-15	19	12	6	13	17	25	17	21	22	19	14	14	26	7	10	29
1 adult aged 16-29 living alone	32	18	52	36	15	17	38	16	:	18	44	21	:	58	40	43
1 adult aged 65 or more living alone	24	25	42	19	35	12	27	69	23	12	9	38	52	33	16	31
Single parent with dependent children	38	31	27	46	30	53	35	44	17	27	40	22	39	15	17	53
2 adults with three or more dependent children	25	11	6	14	19	32	23	27	33	31	18	24	39	11	11	39
Unemployed	39	32	7	39	35	44	34	54	49	43	18	20	34	26	19	49
Inactive	24	20	28	18	23	22	26	28	25	15	14	20	23	25	:	30
<b>At-persistent-risk-of-poverty rate (%), 1999</b>																
Total population	9	8	5	6	13	11	9	12	11	8	5	7	14	5	:	11
<b>At-risk-of-poverty threshold in PPS, 1999</b>																
Equivalised disposable income (60 % of median)	7 263	8 659	9 414	8 236	4 753	5 347	7 944	6 721	6 305	12 532	8 067	8 158	4 400	6 921	6 942	7 694

**Note:** The risk of poverty is measured in terms of the proportion of the population with an equivalised disposable income below 60 % of the median in each country. The EU value is calculated as a population weighted average of the individual national values. The notion of 'dependent children' is used — See explanatory notes. The persistent risk of poverty rate identifies those who are at risk of poverty in the current year and at least two of the preceding three years.

**Source:** Eurostat — European Community household panel, users' database version, December 2002.

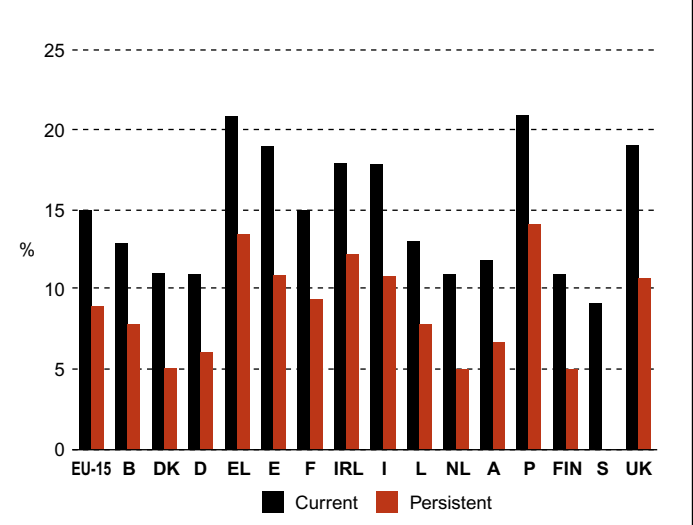
## Around 15 % of EU citizens currently at risk of poverty

In 1999, on average for the EU as a whole, 15 % of persons were living in households with an equivalised disposable income below 60 % of the national median for the country they live in. This figure masks considerable variation between Member States – with the share of the population at risk ranging from 9 % in Sweden to 21 % in Greece and Portugal. The share of the population living on a low income for an extended period of time is of particular concern. In 1999, 9 % of the EU population were at risk in the current year and at least two of the preceding three years. The persistent risk-of-poverty rate varies from 5 % in Denmark, Finland and the Netherlands to 14 % in Portugal.

In 1999, the EU average at-risk-of-poverty threshold stood at 7 263 PPS (and median income stood at 12 105 PPS). In the Member States, thresholds vary from 61 % of the EU average in Portugal to 173 % of the average in Luxembourg. This disparity suggests big differences between national standards of living.

A more explicit measure of how far below the threshold the incomes of people at-risk-of-poverty lies is the at-risk-of-poverty gap. Expressed as a percentage of the threshold, at EU level in 1999 the gap was 22 % (in other words half of those at-risk-of-poverty had an income below 78 % of the threshold which means below 47 % of median income). The gap was highest in Greece, Italy and Spain and lowest in Luxembourg and Finland.

At-risk-of-poverty rate (current) and at-persistent-risk-of-poverty rate, 1999



**Equivalised disposable income**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Equivalised disposable income in PPS, 2000</b>																
Mean	14 574	16 893	17 369	16 475	10 343	11 789	15 179	13 220	12 662	25 976	15 252	16 353	9 569	12 933	12 856	15 964
<b>Structure of mean equivalised disposable income, 2000</b>																
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Income from work	70	66	76	67	72	74	69	79	69	68	72	71	77	69	66	70
Income from private sources	4	8	3	4	6	4	4	2	4	5	2	3	2	4	2	7
Income from social transfers	26	26	21	29	22	21	27	19	27	27	26	26	21	27	32	24
<b>At-risk-of-poverty rate (%), before pensions and other transfers, 1999</b>																
At-risk-of-poverty rate	15	13	11	11	21	19	15	18	18	13	11	12	21	11	9	19
After pensions, before other transfers	24	25	24	21	22	23	24	30	21	24	21	23	27	21	28	30
Before all transfers	40	40	34	40	38	39	41	37	41	41	35	39	39	33	43	42

**Notes:** Data were collected in 1999/2000 but refer to the year prior to the survey, i.e. 1998/99. The income measure refers to the mean equivalised total net monetary income of households for the reference year. Income amounts reported in national currencies are converted to a common unit PPS using purchasing power parities. Differences in household size and composition are taken into account by considering 'equivalised incomes' — See explanatory notes.

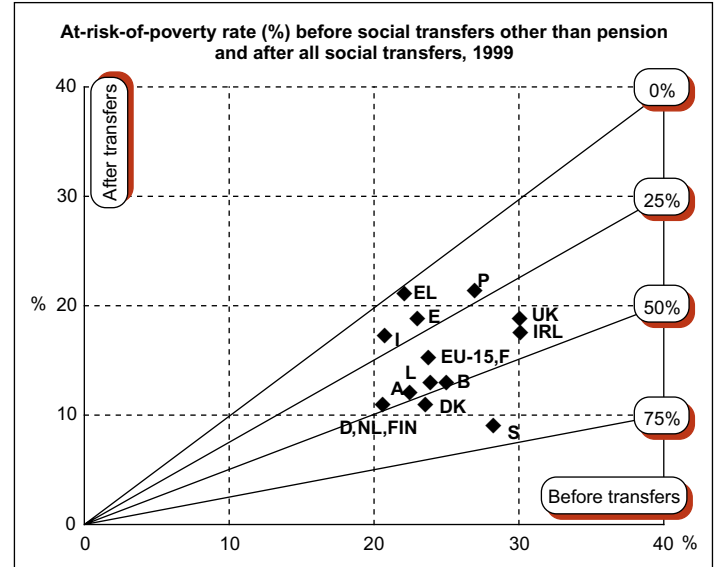
**Source:** Eurostat — European Community household panel, users' database versions, December 2002/June 2003.

## Differing sources of income

In 1999, at EU level, around 71 % of equivalised income arose from work (employment and self-employment), around 27 % from pensions and other social transfers, and the remaining 2 % from capital and other private sources. In Portugal only 21 % of income comes from pensions and other social transfers. In contrast, the share of social transfers accounts for 32 % in Sweden and the United Kingdom.

In the hypothetical absence of all social transfers, the poverty risk for the EU as a whole in 1999 would have been considerably higher than it is in reality (40 % instead of 15 %). If pensions are considered as income rather than social transfers the rate would be 24 % instead. The impact of social transfers other than pensions is lowest in Greece, Italy, Spain and Portugal. It is highest in Denmark and Sweden.

Access to employment is a key aspect of social inclusion. Poverty risk is higher amongst the unemployed and inactive (other than retired) members of the population. In 1999 the risk of poverty for unemployed stood at 39 % — which masks considerable variation from 7 % in Denmark to 54 % in Ireland.



**Income distribution**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Share of national total equivalised disposable income (%), 1999</b>																
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Bottom quintile	9	9	13	10	9	7	9	9	8	8	9	11	10	10	9	7
Second quintile	14	13	16	15	15	14	14	11	14	13	13	13	14	13	14	12
Third quintile	17	16	17	18	16	16	18	13	18	17	16	17	16	15	17	16
Fourth quintile	22	21	20	22	22	23	22	22	23	22	23	20	22	21	23	22
Top quintile	38	41	34	34	38	40	37	44	38	40	40	38	39	41	37	42
<b>Income inequality indicators, 1999</b>																
S80/S20 share ratio	4.6	4.2	3.2	3.6	6.2	5.7	4.4	4.9	4.9	3.9	3.7	3.7	6.4	3.4	3.2	5.2
Gini coefficient (%)	29	29	23	25	34	33	29	32	30	27	26	26	36	25	23	32

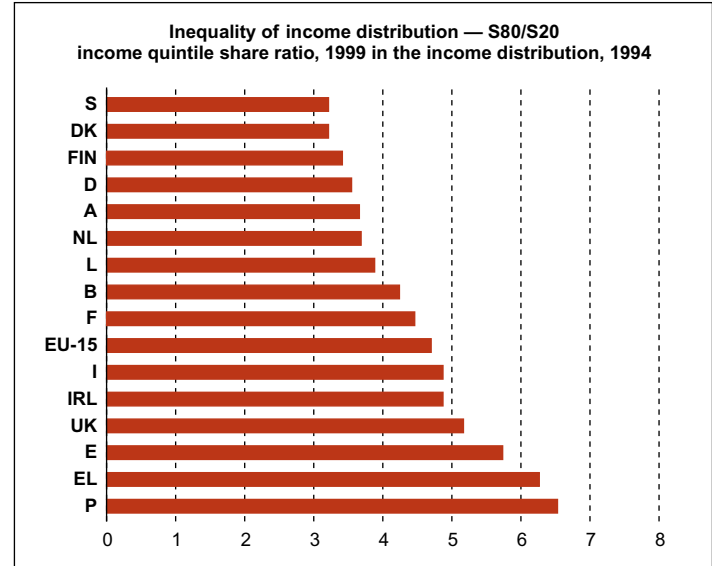
**Note:** Persons are ranked according to their income and then divided into five groups of equal size known as quintiles. The S80/S20 quintile share ratio compares the share of total income accruing to the top 20 % to that of the bottom 20 %. The Gini coefficient varies from 0 % (no inequality) to 100 % (total inequality) and provides an overall indication of the income distribution.

**Source:** Eurostat — European Community household panel, users' database version, December 2002.

## Disparities in the income distribution

At EU level in 1999, the top (highest income) quintile (20 %) of the population received 4.6 times as much income as the bottom (lowest income) quintile. This gap between the most and least well-off persons (known as the share ratio S80/S20) is smallest in Denmark (3.2) and other northern countries and it is highest in Portugal (6.8) and other southern countries. Ireland and the United Kingdom also find themselves above the EU average.

The Gini coefficient provides an overall indication of income distribution: it would be 0 % if everybody received the same amount and 100 % if income was concentrated in the hands of one person. At EU level in 1999 the coefficient was 29 %. This masks variations between 23 % (Denmark and Sweden) and 36 % (Portugal).



**Employment and social cohesion**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Poverty risk and work intensity (%)</b>																
People aged 18-59 years living in jobless households, 2002	9.7	14.2	:	10.0	9.3	7.2	10.4	8.5	10.2	6.3	6.7	7.5	4.5	:	:	11.2
At-risk-of-poverty rate for persons of working age, 1999																
... no members of the household are working	51	43	45	54	42	54	47	79	51	24	:	26	41	47	:	57
... some - but not all - members of the household are working	18	11	5	10	20	18	21	12	24	16	:	13	24	9	:	22
... all members of the household are working	5	3	3	4	11	5	5	3	4	7	:	7	13	5	:	7
<b>Long-term unemployment indicators (%), 2001</b>																
Long-term unemployment (over 12 months) rate	3.1	3.2	0.8	3.8	5.4	3.9	3.0	1.2	5.8	0.6	0.6	0.9	1.5	2.5	1.0	1.3
Very long-term unemployment (over 24 months) rate	2.0	2.2	0.3	2.5	3.1	2.3	1.7	0.7	4.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.8	1.4	:	0.7
Long-term unemployment share of total unemployment	42.5	48.4	19.6	49.1	51.6	36.7	35.3	32.0	61.6	27.8	25.8	23.6	37.7	27.2	20.9	25.3

**Note:** For definition of unemployment, see Employment.

**Sources:** Eurostat — European Union labour force survey (2002 data) and European Community household panel, users' database version December 2002 (1999 data).

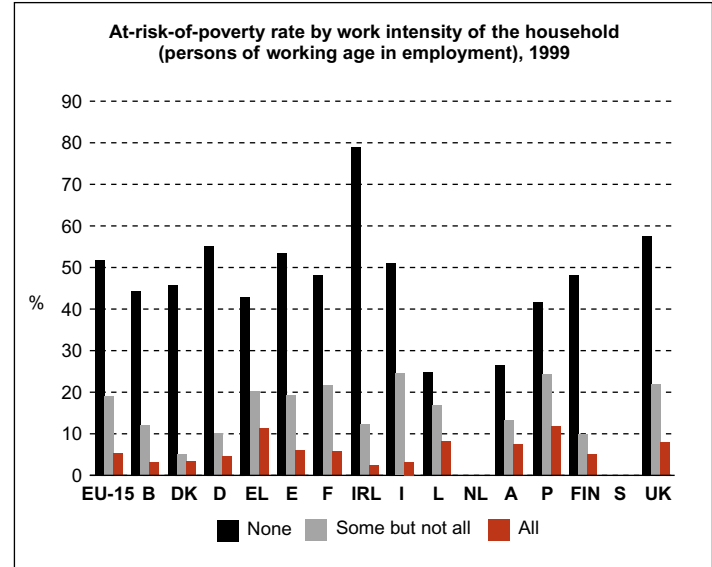


## Access to employment

Labour market participation is widely recognised as an important factor for social inclusion, although it would be wrong to assume that the absence of a job automatically leads to financial poverty or that having a job is a sufficient condition for escaping monetary poverty. In 2002, 9.7 % of the EU population aged 18-59 were living in households where none of the members of working age were in employment. This percentage masks considerable variation between Member States, varying from 4.5 % in Portugal to 14.2 % in Belgium.

The at-risk-of-poverty rate amongst jobless households is especially high: 51 % at EU level in 1999, ranging from 26 % in Austria to 79 % in Ireland. The risk is considerably lower for households where all members are employed.

Unemployment which persists over time is of particular concern. The percentage of the EU population without a job for more than 12 months stood at 3.1 % in 2001 and represented 42.5 % of the total number of unemployed. The very long-term unemployment rate (over 24 months) stands at 2 %. These figures also hide considerable variation between Member States, with the long-term rate varying from 0.6 % in Luxembourg and the Netherlands to 5.8 % in Italy, and the long-term unemployment share (of total unemployment) ranging between 20 % (Denmark) and 62 % (Italy).



# **SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**Social protection expenditure**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>As a percentage of GDP</b>																			
1991	26.4	27.1	29.7	26.1	21.6	21.2	28.4	19.6	25.2	22.5	32.6	27.0	17.2	29.8	34.3	25.7	17.7	27.3	21.3
2000	27.3	26.7	28.8	29.5	26.4	20.1	29.7	14.1	25.2	21.0	27.4	28.7	22.7	25.2	32.3	26.8	19.5	25.4	28.7
<b>Per capita in PPS</b>																			
2000	6 155	6 458	7 754	7 025	4 032	3 713	6 748	4 748	5 943	9 235	7 004	7 396	3 675	5 925	7 367	6 048	5 067	8 155	7 575
<b>Per capita in ECU/EUR</b>																			
2000	6 155	6 477	9 384	7 291	3 073	3 069	6 954	3 828	5 082	9 785	6 928	7 345	2 553	6 389	9 055	7 004	6 437	9 911	10 064

**Note:** Social protection encompasses all interventions from public or private bodies intended to relieve households and individuals of the burden of a defined set of risks or needs, provided that there is neither a simultaneous reciprocal nor an individual arrangement involved. GDP — Gross domestic product. PPS — Purchasing power standards.

**Source:** Eurostat — European system of integrated social protection statistics (Esspros).

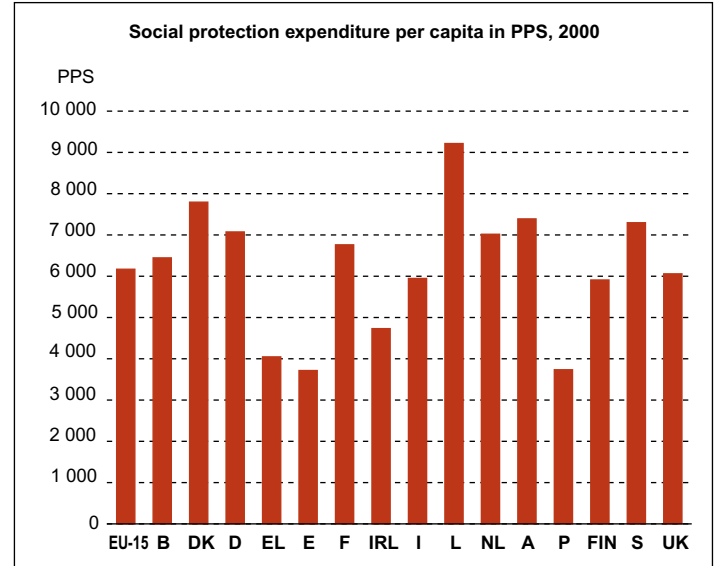
## Social protection expenditure — disparities between countries

In 2000, social protection expenditure in the European Union represented 27.3 % of GDP, compared with a figure of 26.4 % in 1991. The lowest shares of GDP attributable to social protection were in Ireland (14.1 %) and Spain (20.1 %). The figure was highest in Sweden (32.3 %), France (29.7 %) and Germany (29.5 %).

To some extent, these differences reflect differences in living standards, but they are also indicative of the diversity of national social protection systems and of the demographic, economic, social and institutional structures specific to each country.

When social protection is expressed in PPS per capita, the differences between countries are more pronounced. Within EU-15, Luxembourg has the highest expenditure, followed by Denmark. Spain and Portugal, on the other hand spend the least. The ratio between the countries that spent most and least in 2000 was thus 2.5 (compared with 3.2 in 1991).

**Further reading:** 'Social protection expenditure and receipts 1991-2000', 2003. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Social protection in Europe', No 3/2003. 'Esspros manual', 1996, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2002', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Esspros.



## Social protection benefits

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Social protection benefits by groups of functions (as a percentage of total benefits)</b>																			
<b>Old age and survivors' benefits</b>																			
1991	:	41.8	35.9	42.9	52.9	41.5	42.8	29.6	58.7	47.5	37.3	50.0	40.8	32.8	:	43.7	30.0	30.8	51.7
2000	46.4	43.8	38.0	42.2	49.4	46.3	44.0	25.4	63.4	39.9	42.4	48.3	45.6	35.8	39.1	47.7	31.1	30.7	51.6
<b>Sickness, healthcare and disability</b>																			
1991	:	33.9	29.9	37.6	30.5	36.8	34.5	38.4	34.8	38.0	45.0	32.9	48.6	42.0	:	34.5	51.5	46.4	37.0
2000	35.4	33.8	32.2	36.1	31.7	37.2	34.9	46.5	31.0	38.9	41.1	34.2	43.6	37.7	39.1	35.4	53.1	50.6	36.9
<b>Unemployment</b>																			
1991	:	13.4	16.0	8.7	4.8	19.4	8.9	15.7	2.8	2.6	8.3	5.1	3.4	8.8	:	7.4	1.5	7.1	1.9
2000	6.3	11.9	10.5	8.4	6.2	12.2	6.9	9.7	1.7	3.3	5.1	4.7	3.8	10.4	6.5	3.2	1.3	2.7	2.8
<b>Family and children</b>																			
1991	:	8.9	11.7	8.4	8.2	1.5	10.0	11.3	3.6	10.7	5.4	10.3	6.7	13.3	:	8.6	14.4	11.7	6.2
2000	8.2	9.1	13.1	10.6	7.4	2.7	9.6	13.0	3.8	16.6	4.6	10.6	5.5	12.5	10.8	7.1	11.7	12.8	5.1

**Note:** Social benefits are classified in the following eight functions: sickness/healthcare, disability, old age, survivors, family/children, unemployment, housing and social exclusion not elsewhere classified (n.e.c.). The above table has regrouped the data into four broad categories. The figures do not add up to 100 as benefits for housing and social exclusion (n.e.c.) have not been included in the table.

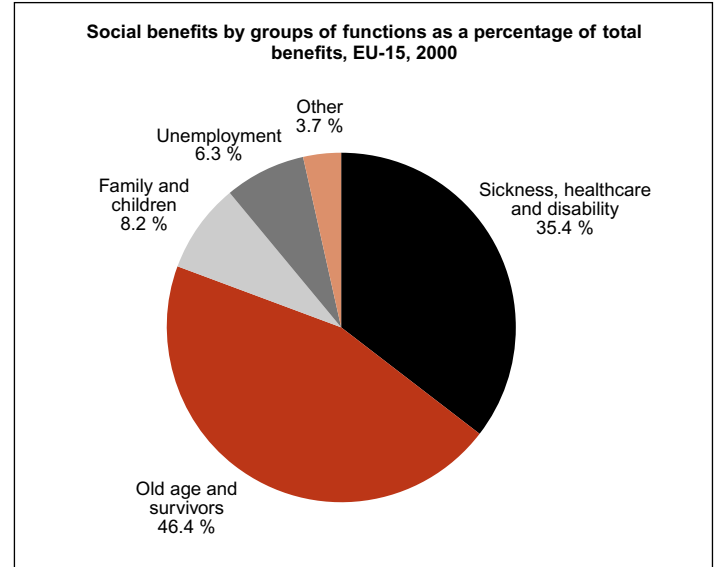
**Source:** Eurostat — European system of integrated social protection statistics (Esspros).

## The old-age and survivors functions account for the major part of benefits

In most Member States, old-age and survivors' benefits make up the largest item of social protection expenditure (EU-wide, it amounted to 46.4 % of total benefits in 2000). This was especially true of Italy, where more than 60 % of total benefits were devoted to these functions. Ireland, with the youngest population in the EU, spent the largest percentage (46.5 %) on sickness, healthcare and disability. Within the EU, the share of expenditure on families and children ranged from less than 3 % in Spain to almost 17 % in Luxembourg. For unemployment, the lowest share was less than 2 % in Italy and the highest more than 12 % in Spain.

The structure of benefits is relatively stable over time, although for EU-15 as a whole a number of changes can be identified between 1991 and 2000. Over this period the share of the 'old age/survivors' function grew in most of the European countries. At the same time the share of expenditure on unemployment-related benefits decreased significantly.

**Further reading:** 'Social protection expenditure and receipts 1991-2000', 2003. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Social protection in Europe', No 3/2003. 'Esspros manual', 1996, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2002', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Esspros.



**Social protection receipts**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Receipts of social protection by type (as a percentage of total receipts)</b>																			
<b>General government contributions</b>																			
1991	:	21.4	81.7	26.9	32.8	27.3	17.6	60.0	29.1	40.6	23.9	35.7	26.1	44.1	:	44.6	60.7	56.8	19.8
2000	35.8	25.3	63.9	32.5	29.1	26.9	30.6	58.3	39.8	47.1	14.2	35.3	38.7	43.1	46.7	47.1	51.4	60.5	21.1
<b>Employers' social contributions</b>																			
1991	:	43.7	7.2	42.2	38.1	53.2	50.4	24.0	52.6	29.8	20.1	38.1	41.8	40.9	:	27.9	31.5	27.4	31.6
2000	38.3	49.5	9.1	36.9	38.2	52.7	45.9	25.0	43.2	24.6	29.1	37.1	35.9	37.7	39.7	30.2	39.5	24.4	28.6
<b>Social contributions paid by protected persons</b>																			
1991	:	25.7	4.5	28.3	20.3	16.7	28.3	15.0	16.1	22.1	40.3	25.1	19.1	7.2	:	25.8	7.8	15.0	30.5
2000	22.4	22.8	20.3	28.2	22.6	16.4	20.6	15.1	14.9	23.8	38.8	26.8	17.6	12.1	9.4	21.4	9.1	14.0	31.4
<b>Other receipts</b>																			
1991	:	9.2	6.6	2.6	8.8	2.7	3.6	1.0	2.2	7.5	15.7	1.2	13.0	7.8	:	1.7	0.0	0.8	18.1
2000	3.5	2.5	6.7	2.4	10.1	4.0	2.9	1.5	2.1	4.5	17.9	0.8	7.8	7.1	4.3	1.3	0.0	1.1	18.9

**Note:** Other receipts come from a variety of sources, such as interest and dividends.

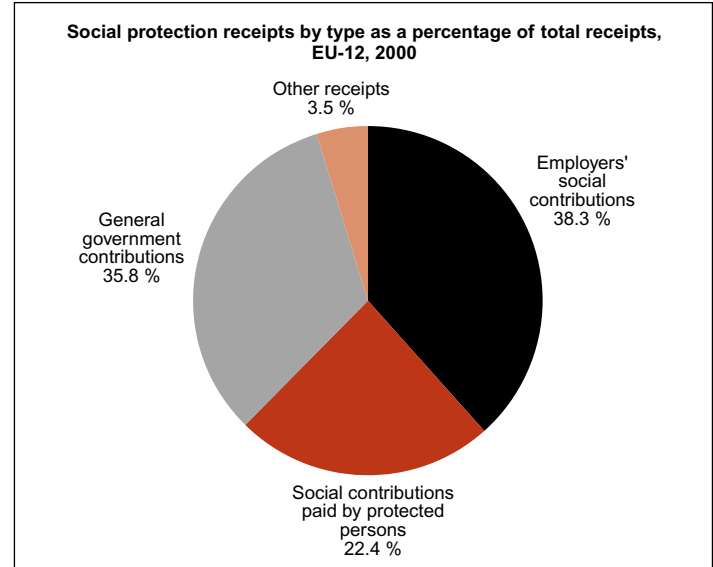
**Source:** Eurostat — European system of integrated social protection statistics (Esspros).

## Two patterns of funding social protection

At EU level, the main sources of funding for the social protection system are social contributions (employers and protected persons), which accounted for 60.7 % of total receipts in 2000, followed by tax-funded general government contributions (35.8 %). The EU average conceals considerable differences between the Member States in the structure of funding. Social security contributions are more significant (over 65 %) in Belgium, Germany, Spain, France and the Netherlands. In contrast, Denmark and Ireland finance their social protection system largely from taxes, whose relative weight in total receipts is over 58 %. Luxembourg, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom are also heavily dependent on general government contributions.

The proportion of general government contributions in total funding rose generally between 1991 and 2000 in the European countries. The largest increases were observed in France, Portugal and Italy. Over the same period, the share of employers' social contributions decreased and the share of social contributions paid by protected persons also diminished in the EU.

**Further reading:** 'Social protection expenditure and receipts 1991-2000', 2003. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Social protection in Europe', No 3/2003. 'Esspros manual', 1996, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2002', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Esspros.





## Labour market policies expenditure

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	NO
<b>LMP expenditure by category (as a percentage of GDP), 2001</b>																	
2. Training (excl. subcategory 2.4)	0.22	0.17	0.64	0.41	0.02	0.15	0.24	0.21	0.08	:	0.09	0.23	0.11	0.31	0.60	0.02	0.08
3. Job rotation and job sharing	0.01	0.13	-	-	-	0.00	-	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.02	-	0.00
4. Employment incentives	0.14	0.15	0.53	0.09	0.19	0.26	0.14	0.09	0.31	0.04	0.06	0.09	0.04	0.11	0.21	0.02	0.03
5. Integration of the disabled	0.11	0.12	0.44	0.14	0.04	0.09	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.45	0.07	0.04	0.10	0.47	0.02	0.42
6. Direct job creation	0.17	0.38	0.00	0.20	-	0.11	0.41	0.36	0.05	0.02	0.32	0.04	0.04	0.10	0.00	0.01	-
7. Start-up incentives	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.05	0.07	0.00	-	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.00
<b>Total categories 2-7</b>	<b>0.67</b>	<b>0.95</b>	<b>1.63</b>	<b>0.89</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.51</b>	:	<b>0.92</b>	<b>0.42</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.52</b>
2.4 Special support for apprenticeship	0.07	-	0.02	0.06	0.01	-	0.11	0.03	0.13	:	0.04	0.02	0.09	0.02	-	0.08	0.00
8. Out-of-work income maintenance and support	1.18	1.78	1.51	1.94	0.40	1.41	1.25	0.63	0.53	0.21	1.67	1.11	0.70	1.59	1.04	0.40	0.55
9. Early retirement	0.10	0.47	0.78	0.02	-	0.02	0.19	0.07	0.08	0.26	-	0.08	0.31	0.50	0.03	-	-
<b>Total categories 8-9</b>	<b>1.27</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>2.29</b>	<b>1.96</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>1.43</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>0.70</b>	<b>0.61</b>	:	<b>1.67</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>1.08</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>0.55</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.01</b>	<b>3.20</b>	<b>3.93</b>	<b>2.91</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>2.09</b>	<b>2.43</b>	<b>1.44</b>	<b>1.26</b>	:	<b>2.63</b>	<b>1.64</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>2.79</b>	<b>2.42</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>1.07</b>

**Note:** Data on support for apprenticeship (subcategory 2.4) are considered non-comparable between countries and are therefore treated separately.

**Source:** Eurostat — Labour market policy (LMP) database.

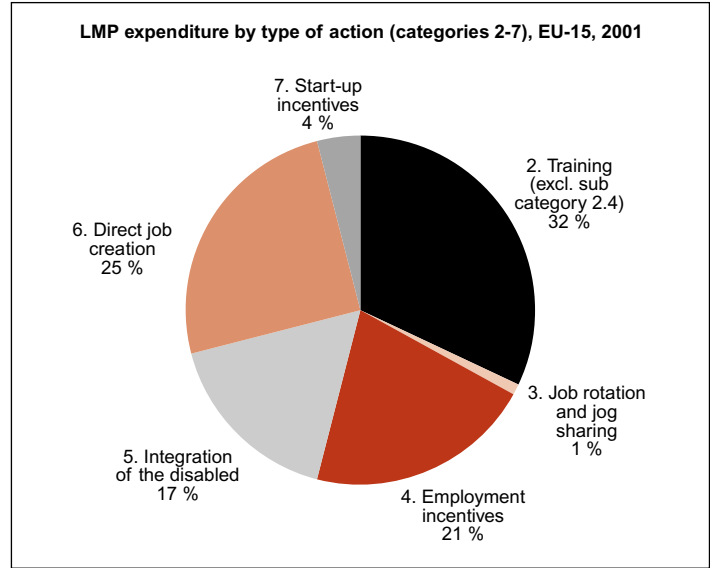
## Expenditure on labour market policies (LMP)

In 2001, total expenditure on labour market policies accounted for 2 % of GDP in the EU. However, there are significant differences between countries with Denmark spending nearly 4 % and Belgium over 3 % whilst Greece and the United Kingdom both spent well under 1 %.

LMP expenditure includes the cost of supporting 'active' interventions such as training and employment incentives to help the unemployed and other target groups in categories 2-7 as well as 'passive' support in categories 8-9, which mostly refer to unemployment and early retirement benefits. In the EU, categories 2-7 accounted for around one third of total LMP expenditure in 2001 and categories 8-9 most of the remaining two thirds (<4 % is accounted for by support for apprenticeship schemes). This breakdown varies between countries with categories 2-7 accounting for over 40 % of total expenditure in Denmark, Ireland and Italy, and over 50 % in Sweden, but less than 20 % in Portugal and the United Kingdom.

The largest shares of expenditure on categories 2-7 went on training (32 %) and direct job creation (25 %), whilst measures offering start-up incentives or job rotation/sharing opportunities together accounted for only 5 % of expenditure.

**Further reading:** European social statistics (Theme 3) 'Labour market policy – Expenditure and participants, data 2001' (also 1998-2000), Eurostat. 'Labour market policy database – Methodology, April 2000', Eurostat. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Public expenditure on labour market policies in 1999 varied greatly among Member States', No 12/2002, Eurostat. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — LMP.



# CONSUMPTION AND HOUSING

**Consumer expenditure**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Structure of consumer expenditure (percentage of total), 1999</b>																			
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Housing, water, electricity and other fuel	27	26	28	31	22	28	23	23	25	27	27	24	20	28	27	28	18	27	30
Food, drinks, tobacco	17	16	17	14	20	21	19	22	21	12	13	16	21	17	18	14	20	15	17
Transport and communication	16	15	16	16	15	15	17	15	16	18	13	17	18	20	16	16	17	23	12
Recreation, hotels and restaurants	16	16	15	17	13	15	15	15	11	18	17	18	14	15	18	21	19	15	20
Clothing and footwear	6	5	6	6	9	7	6	6	8	6	6	7	7	5	5	6	7	6	6
Furniture, household equipment, repairs	7	7	6	7	8	5	8	5	8	8	7	7	7	5	5	7	6	6	6
Other goods and services	11	15	11	9	14	9	14	14	12	11	18	12	13	11	10	8	14	9	9

**Notes:** F = 1994 data. IRL = provisional data. In the graph, the first quintile Q1 is the 20 % of households with the lowest income of each country, the upper quintile Q5 is the 20 % of households with the highest income of each country.

**Source:** Eurostat — Household budget surveys.

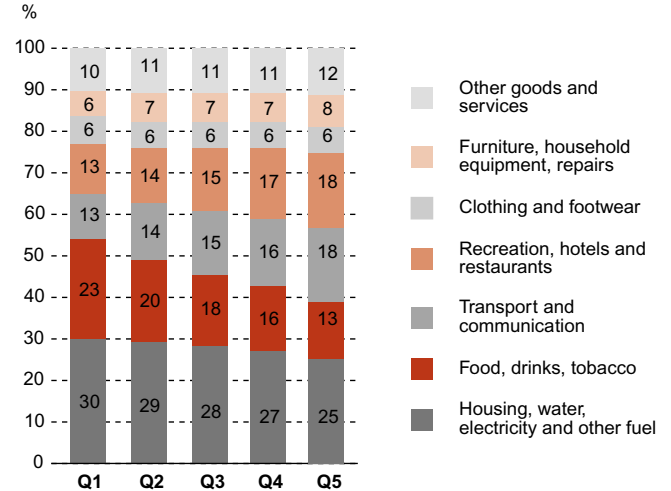
## Housing accounts for around one quarter of the household budget

In nearly all Member States, housing accounts for the largest share of household expenditure (around 27 %). The other basic necessity (food) occupies second place in most cases. The four southern Member States and Ireland tend to spend more of their budget on food, drink and tobacco than other countries. In sharp contrast, the Benelux countries, Germany and the United Kingdom spend considerably less on food.

The graph shows some significant differences in EU consumption expenditure patterns (most notably in food, housing and transport) across five income groups. Food represents 23 % of total expenditure of low income households but only 13 % of the budget of high-income households. Housing accounts for 30 % of total consumption expenditure in the lowest quintile compared with 25 % in the highest. This indicates, to some extent, the relatively high costs of adequate housing for the lower income group. Consequently, the lower income group spends considerably less of their budget on recreation, hotels and restaurants and transport.

**Further reading:** Panorama of the European Union (Population and social conditions): 'Consumers in Europe. Facts and figures. Data 1996-2000', Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — HBS.

Structure of consumption expenditure by income quintile, EU-15, 1999



**Housing type, size and ownership**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Percentage of households living in houses (versus flats), by income group, 1998</b>																
Household income less than 60 % compared to median actual current income	49	75	48	32	75	51	60	91	28	59	66	49	82	39	30	74
Household income between 140 % and greater compared to median actual current income	54	77	76	44	30	28	63	95	37	65	67	46	44	62	41	86
<b>Average number of rooms per person <sup>(1)</sup></b>																
1981/82	1.6	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.9	1.8	:	1.0	1.3	1.7	1.8
1999	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.3	1.7	1.8	2.2	1.6	2.2	2.6	2.0	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.3
<b>Percentage of households owning their accommodation by income group, 1999</b>																
Household income less than 60 % compared to median actual current income	50	58	42	29	90	81	47	65	65	46	27	44	62	44	39	54
Household income between 140 % and greater compared to median actual current income	71	79	85	52	80	84	75	91	80	78	70	61	70	80	59	88

**Notes:** <sup>(1)</sup> The precise definition of a room may vary from country to country and often depends on the source used. However, in principle, corridors, verandas, utility rooms, lobbies, bathrooms, toilets and kitchens are excluded. Comparisons made over time should take into account that data from the census are based on dwellings while data from the ECHP are based on households.

**Source:** Eurostat — Censuses of population 1981/82 and 1990/91. European Community household panel, users' database version, December 2002.

## Living in a single house does not guarantee the welfare of the households

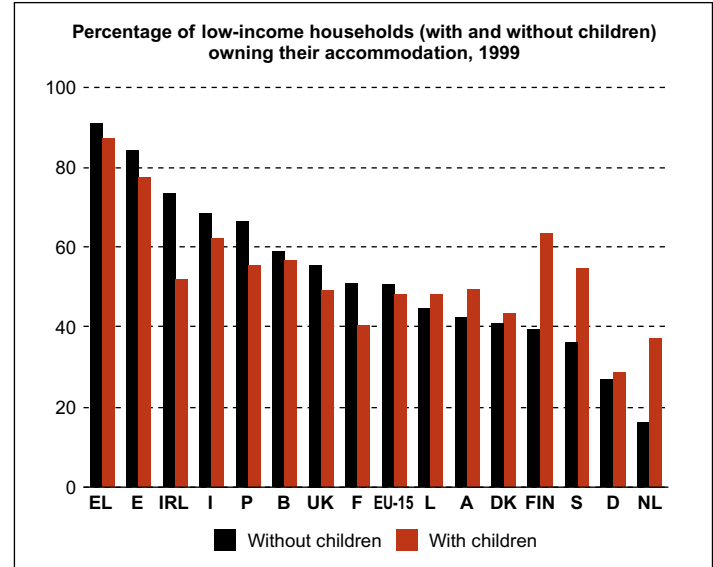
In Finland and Denmark, in particular, the higher income households tend to live more in single houses and the lower income households in flats, whereas in Greece, Spain and Portugal the situation is the other way round.

During the last two decades the average number of rooms per person has grown in all the Member States, the most in Ireland and the Netherlands. The four southern Member States all lie below the EU average.

Throughout the Union tenure status is related with the income of the households. Higher income households are mostly owners of their accommodation. However in Spain, in Greece and in Portugal this trend is not clearly confirmed. Southern lower income households have higher percentages of ownership than the northern ones and largely higher than the EU average.

The southern low-income households with children have higher percentages of ownership than the northern ones. The fact of having children seems to be more relevant for the tenure status of the Finnish, Swedish and Dutch low-income households.

**Further reading:** 'Eurostat yearbook 2002', Eurostat. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Housing.



**Housing problems**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Overcrowded households by income group, 1999</b>																
All households	10	5	5	6	28	17	7	11	22	6	1	8	21	8	5	3
Household income less than 60 % compared to median actual current income	16	10	3	11	26	24	15	19	38	22	6	11	26	11	6	5
Household income between 140 % and greater compared to median actual current income	5	1	1	2	21	10	3	4	11	1	0	6	11	4	5	2
<b>Percentage of households lacking at least one of three basic amenities <sup>(1)</sup> by income group, 1999</b>																
All households	21	19	2	10	38	62	11	16	15	14	12	17	89	4		11
Household income less than 60 % compared to median actual current income	35	33	6	25	70	84	24	33	40	20	16	33	96	9		16
Household income between 140 % and greater compared to median actual current income	10	8	1	4	14	41	4	3	4	9	9	8	80	2		7

**Note:** <sup>(1)</sup> The three basic amenities are bath/shower, indoor flushing toilet and hot running water.

**Source:** Eurostat — European Community household panel, users' database version, December 2002.



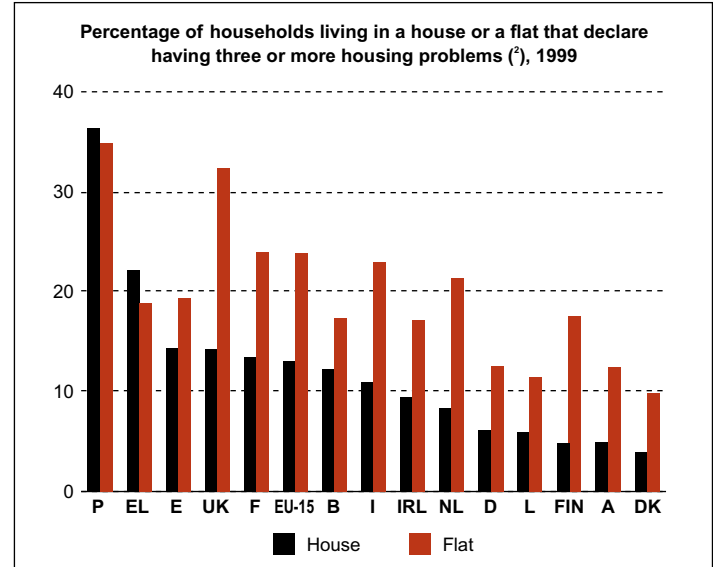
## Lower income households: the most precarious conditions concerning housing

In the EU 10 % of households are overcrowded (more than one person per room). However, southern households' rates are largely higher than the EU average and the disparity between low and higher income is significant.

The southern lower income households live in older houses often lacking in at least one of the basic amenities (bath or shower in dwelling, toilet in dwelling or heating). These problems can be found in one of three lower income households in the EU and in a considerable share of the higher income group households in Portugal and in Spain. In the EU this disparity between lower and higher income households is clear.

In Portugal and Greece the housing type (house vs. flat) doesn't correlate much with the percentage of households declaring to have several (three or more) housing problems, whereas in the other 13 countries people living in flats declare being more affected by several housing problems.

**Further reading:** 'Eurostat yearbook 2002', Eurostat. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Housing.



**HEALTH AND SAFETY**

**Life and health expectancies**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	LI	NO	CH
<b>Infant mortality rate, per 1 000 live births</b>																				
1970	23.4	21.1	14.2	22.5	29.6	28.1	18.2	19.5	29.6	24.9	12.7	25.9	55.5	13.2	11.0	18.5	13.2	11.8	12.7	15.1
2001 (1)	4.6	5.0	4.9	4.5	5.9	3.9	4.6	5.8	4.3	5.9	5.3	4.8	5.0	3.2	3.2	5.5	2.7	:	3.8	5.0
<b>Life expectancy at birth, men</b>																				
1980	71.0	70.0	71.2	69.6	72.2	72.5	70.2	70.1	70.6	69.1	72.7	69.0	67.7	69.2	72.8	70.2	73.4	:	72.3	72.8
2000 (1)	75.3	74.6	74.5	74.7	75.5	75.5	75.2	74.2	76.3	74.9	75.5	75.4	72.7	74.2	77.4	75.4	78.0	:	76.0	76.9
<b>Life expectancy at birth, women</b>																				
1980	77.0	76.8	77.3	76.1	76.8	78.6	78.4	75.6	77.4	75.9	79.3	76.1	75.2	77.6	78.8	76.2	80.1	:	79.2	79.6
2000 (1)	81.4	80.8	79.0	80.7	80.7	82.9	83.0	78.5	82.9	81.3	80.6	81.2	80.3	81.5	82.1	80.4	81.4	:	81.4	82.8
<b>Life expectancy without disability, 1996</b>																				
Men	:	49.6	47.2	:	51.9	50.0	44.9	49.4	51.5	45.4	47.5	43.9	46.3	40.8	:	45.5	:	:	:	:
Women	:	53.8	46.4	:	54.8	52.8	47.7	51.8	54.8	48.5	47.6	46.4	50.4	43.7	:	46.9	:	:	:	:

**Note:** The infant mortality rate is defined as the number of infants who die within the first year of life divided by the number of live births (per 1 000 live births). Life expectancy at birth is the average number of years a person would live if age-specific mortality rates observed for a certain calendar year or period were to continue. Life expectancy without disability is calculated by the Sullivan method and uses Eurostat mortality data and disability prevalence figures from the ECHP. (1) Estimated data for 2000 or latest available year.

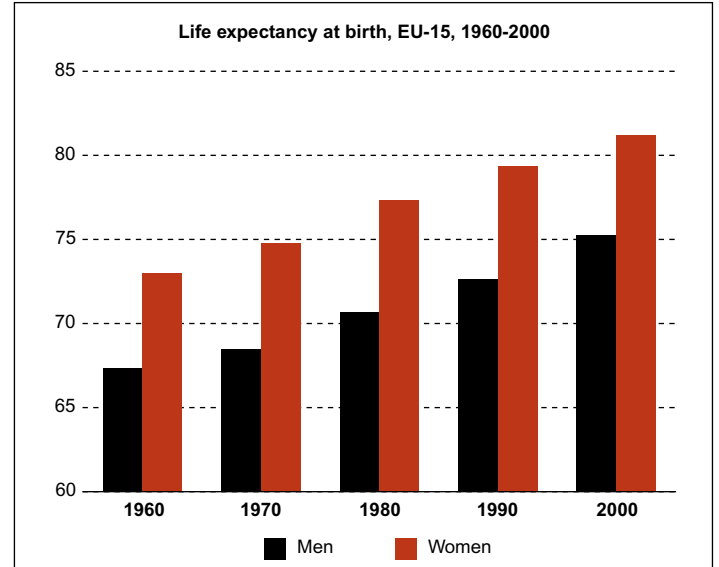
**Source:** Eurostat — Demographic statistics and health and safety statistics.

## Life expectancy continues to rise

Over the past 50 years, life expectancy of men and women has risen steadily: by around 10 years in total for each sex. Throughout the Union, women live longer than men do. In 2000, the life expectancy of women in EU-15 was 81.4 years while that for men was 75.3 years. Eurostat estimates that the life expectancy of women and men, in a baseline scenario, may reach 84.3 and 78.7 years respectively by the year 2025.

Progress in medical research and care has also led to a dramatic improvement in the infant mortality rate for EU-15 which has fallen from 23.4 deaths per 1 000 live births in 1970 to 4.6 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2001. Differences between Member States have diminished considerably.

**Further reading:** 'Key data on health 2002'. 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Demography.



**Perceived health**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Percentage of the population aged 16 and over who feel that their health is bad or very bad, 2001</b>																
Total	11.4	4.7	6.2	18.9	7.6	9.5	8.0	2.7	11.4	:	4.9	7.1	19.4	7.0	:	9.5
Men	9.4	4.2	5.3	15.9	7.2	7.5	6.7	2.5	9.2	:	3.9	5.8	16.5	6.1	:	7.6
Women	13.2	5.3	7.1	21.7	8.0	11.4	9.2	2.9	13.5	:	5.9	8.2	22.2	7.6	:	11.1
<b>Percentage of the population aged 65 and over who feel that their health is bad or very bad, by sex, 2001</b>																
Total	25.8	10.6	17.6	35.5	21.5	25.9	18.1	7.7	34.6	:	10.2	22.1	54.6	18.2	:	15.7
Men	21.8	8.9	18.2	29.0	20.5	20.6	15.8	5.1	30.1	:	9.0	17.6	49.9	16.2	:	12.8
Women	28.7	11.8	17.2	40.0	22.3	29.8	19.8	9.8	38.0	:	11.1	24.8	57.8	19.3	:	17.8
<b>Percentage of the population aged 16 and over who feel that their health is bad or very bad, by level of education, 2001</b>																
Primary and lower secondary education	16.2	8.2	14.1	25.7	12.1	14.0	11.1	4.7	17.1	:	5.0	14.4	23.9	13.3	:	13.3
Upper secondary education	7.4	4.4	3.7	17.4	2.4	3.1	3.0	1.1	3.5	:	:	4.3	2.4	5.3	:	8.2
Tertiary education	5.9	1.2	2.4	14.1	2.1	1.7	3.3	:	3.7	:	:	2.3	7.0	2.4	:	5.3

**Note:** Data on perceived health; respondents are asked 'How is your health in general?'. There are five response categories: very bad, bad, fair, good and very good. Comparing data over time from a panel survey such as the ECHP should take account of the changes in the population surveyed from one year to another. EU-15 excludes L and S.

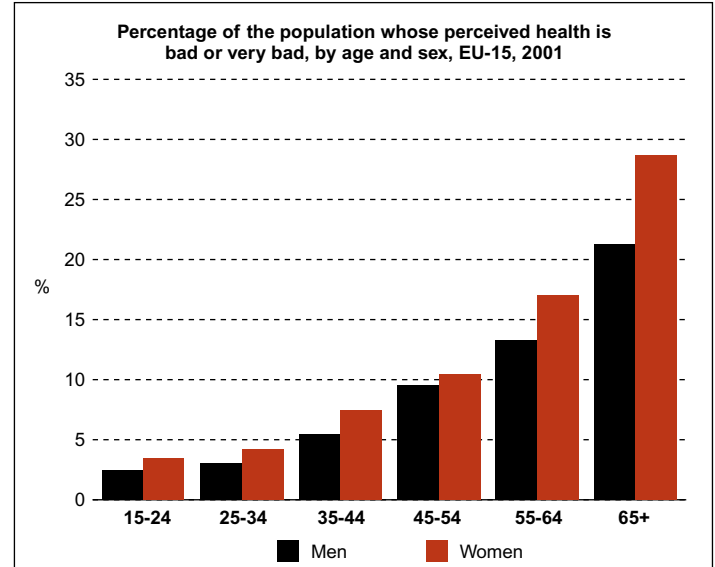
**Source:** Eurostat — Health status statistics.

## A quarter of elderly persons claim to be in (very) bad health

EU-wide, 11.4 % of adults (aged 16 and over) perceived their health to be 'bad' or 'very bad' in 2001. This perception is higher in the case of women (13.2 %) than for men (9.4 %). Up to 60.9 % of EU adults (64.6 % of men and 57.4 % of women) feel that their health is 'good' or 'very good' while the remaining 27.7 % of EU adults describe it as 'fair'. Citizens of Portugal, Germany and Italy tend to be more pessimistic about their health than those in the rest of the countries.

The proportion of persons in the category '(very) bad' increases with age: one in four elderly people (aged 65 and over) described their health as such in 2001. For all ages, women are more likely than men to perceive their health as '(very) bad'. This pattern can be observed in every Member State with minor exceptions. Throughout the Union, persons with a high level of education report better health than the persons with the lowest level. On average, 16.2 % of persons with lower education describe their health as '(very) bad' compared with only 5.9 % of persons with a highest level.

**Further reading:** 'Key data on health 2002'. 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Health and Safety.



## Selected health problems 1

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Percentage of persons aged 16-64 stating that they have a long-standing health problem or disability, 2002</b>																			
Total	16.4	18.4	19.9	11.2	10.3	8.7	24.6	11.0	6.6	11.7	25.4	12.8	20.1	32.2	19.9	27.2	:	16.4	:
Men	16.5	18.9	18.8	12.2	9.9	9.4	24.3	11.6	7.0	13.7	24.5	14.0	18.5	30.7	18.2	26.7	:	15.5	:
Women	16.3	17.9	21.1	10.3	10.6	8.0	24.8	10.5	6.3	9.6	26.4	11.6	21.6	33.6	21.7	27.8	:	17.4	:
<b>Percentage of persons aged 65 and over stating that they have a chronic physical or mental health problem/illness or disability which hampers them in their daily activities, 2001</b>																			
Total	52.8	31.8	43.3	73	38.9	37.9	54.6	38.3	32.5	:	44.4	40.7	50.7	61.5	:	33.8	:	:	:
To some extent	30.6	17.3	26.2	50.1	19.7	22.0	28.4	26.7	18.0	:	26.7	23.2	28.3	35.1	:	:	:	:	:
Severely	22.2	14.5	17.1	22.9	19.2	15.9	26.2	11.6	14.5	:	17.7	17.5	22.4	26.4	:	:	:	:	:
<b>New AIDS cases per million of population (adjusted for reporting delays)</b>																			
1995	65.0	24.5	41.0	23.0	20.6	180.2	91.2	14.7	98.9	36.9	34.9	25.6	78.2	8.0	22.1	30.2	15.0	15.4	86.3
2001	23.3	15.3	14.6	9.4	8.4	59.5	26.9	3.5	30.7	2.9	5.9	6.7	102.5	3.3	5.4	11.9	9.6	6.0	23.7

**Sources:** Eurostat (Health status statistics), EuroHIV (AIDS), Alzheimer Europe (dementias). AIDS is surveyed by the EuroHIV Centre (supported by the European Commission). Cases are recorded according to the AIDS-case definition of 1993 and later revisions. Because of reporting delays (time between diagnosis on an AIDS case and report to national level), the incidence trends are best assessed by examining data by year of diagnosis with adjustment for reporting delay rather than by year of report. Alzheimer Europe has calculated the likelihood of developing dementia using the Eurodem prevalence rates on the basis of population statistics obtained from Eurostat.

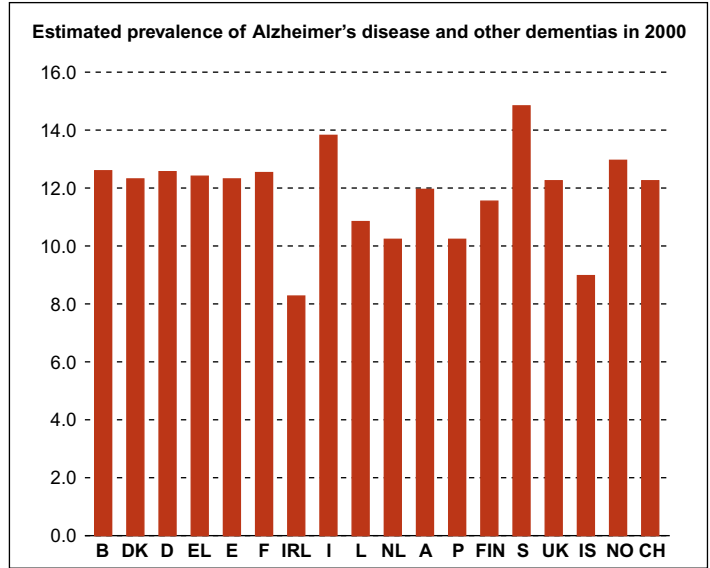
## Increasing incidence of handicaps and some severe diseases (Part 1)

EU-wide, 16.4 % of the population aged 16-64 state that they have a long-standing health problem or disability. In the EU population aged 65 and over those reporting being hampered in their daily activities by a chronic, physical or mental health problem, illness or disability are 52.8 % (22.2 % are 'severely' hampered, 30.6 % 'to some extent').

Some years after the start of the AIDS epidemic, the annual number of cases reported continues to decrease (the last increase was in 1995). Annual AIDS incidence per million (adjusted for reporting delays) was estimated at 23.3 in 2001 with a cumulative total of cases in the EU of 237 180. Injecting drug users (40.6 % of total cases), homo/bisexual males (30.4 %) and heterosexual contacts (19.2 %) remain the major risk categories of transmission.

Although dementia (including Alzheimer's disease) does not only affect older people, the likelihood of developing dementia nevertheless increases with age. It is estimated that 5.650 million Europeans between 30 and 99 years of age suffered from different types of dementia in 2000 (12.3 per 1 000 inhabitants). There were more women (3.5 million) than men (2.1 million).

Further reading: Statistics in Focus (Population and social conditions): 'Trends on incidence and mortality of AIDS in the European Union' (1985-2001), No 18/2002 and 'Employment of disabled people in Europe in 2002', No 26/2003. 'Key data on health 2002'. 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Health and Safety.





## Selected health problems 2

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Incidence per 100 000 inhabitants of some infectious diseases in 2001</b>																			
Diphtheria	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	3.7	16.0	0.2	7.3	0.5	0.2	14.3	6.3	1.0	1.6	0.1	:	0.3	0.0	0.1	4.4	0.0	0.1	9.7
Malaria	3.5	3.2	2.9	1.3	0.2	1.2	12.2	0.3	1.7	0.9	3.6	0.9	0.6	0.7	1.8	3.4	1.1	1.7	4.5
Tuberculosis	11.6	12.9	9.6	9.6	5.8	18.6	11.0	10.6	7.8	7.3	9.0	12.8	42.9	9.5	4.8	11.4	4.6	6.6	7.5
Salmonellosis	40.7	104.3	54.6	94.0	2.9	19.4	21.8	11.2	12.0	82.9	13.1	81.4	5.1	52.7	53.0	29.0	59.5	42.4	37.1
<b>Incidence of cancer (all sites but skin) per 100 000 of population (European age standardised rate), 1998</b>																			
Total	339	379	370	330	273	318	364	355	342	352	361	340	306	336	346	339	:	:	:
Men	412	465	379	396	334	425	466	398	426	427	424	416	384	403	371	381	:	:	:
Women	290	321	375	291	224	236	289	328	286	301	326	294	247	306	338	316	:	:	:

**Sources:** Eurostat (Health status statistics), IARC (cancer) and IID (diabetes). Cases of cancer are collected by the European Network of Cancer Registries and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC)/WHO, with the support of the 'Europe against cancer' programme of the European Union.

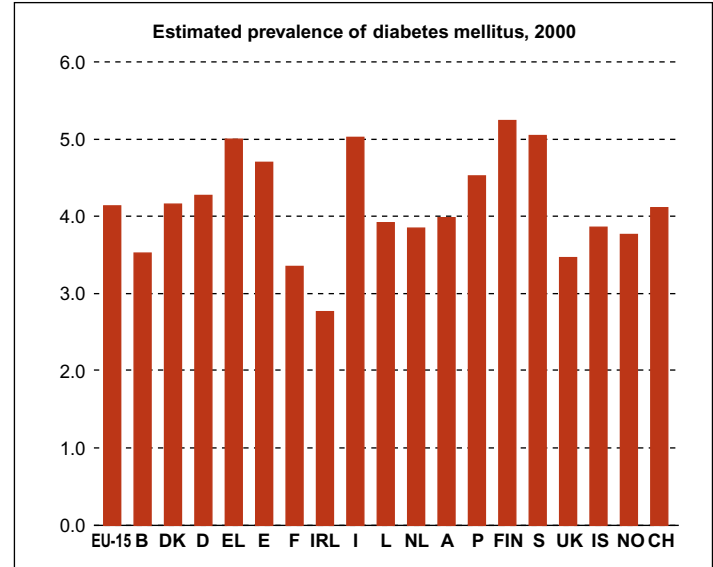
## Some severe diseases (Part 2)

Some communicable diseases preventable by immunisation can be considered practically eradicated in the EU (tetanus, poliomyelitis and diphtheria) but mumps, rubella, pertussis and measles remain a health problem in some Member States. Others, as food diseases (salmonellosis), airborne diseases (tuberculosis), viral hepatitis (notably hepatitis C) and imported diseases (malaria), emerge (or re-emerge) as important public health problems.

At the incidence rates prevailing in 1998, it would be expected that one in three men and one in four women would be directly affected by cancer in the first 75 years of life. Excluding non-melanocytic skin cancers, there were 1 580 096 new cancer cases in the EU in 1998. Cancer occurs more commonly in males than in females. The age-standardised European population incidence rate per 100 000 in the EU in 1998 for all cancers combined was 412.1 for men and 289.9 for women, resulting in an age-adjusted sex ratio of 1.4. Among all persons in the EU, the combination of cancers of the colon and rectum is the most common registrable cancer site. In men, the most common registrable cancer site is trachea, bronchus and lung and in women is breast cancer.

Projections of diabetes prevalence (insulin and non-insulin dependent) for the year 2000 for the EU, estimates a figure of 15.6 million diabetics, predicted to rise to 19.6 million by 2010 (up a further 25.9 %). In 2000, an estimated 4.1 % of the EU population were diabetic, a proportion highest in Finland (5.3 %), Sweden (5.1 %), Italy (5.0 %) and Greece (5.0 %). Ireland (2.7 %) was by far the Member State with the lowest proportion of diabetics.

**Further reading:** 'Key data on health 2002'. 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition, Eurostat. 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Health and safety.



**Major causes of death**

	EU-15	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Standardised death rates (SDRs) per 100 000 population, 1999</b>																				
<b>Men</b>	Number	SDR																		
Circulatory diseases	685 807	323	326	373	388	356	263	230	422	305	329	314	414	332	409	345	351	340	345	276
of which heart attacks	309 671	146	127	200	189	122	102	76	245	111	117	135	195	89	265	189	214	219	181	134
Cancer	521 622	248	291	268	243	218	257	276	249	250	238	270	232	220	208	190	236	241	224	213
Respiratory diseases	182 994	85	114	90	62	56	114	67	161	62	92	100	48	110	90	54	141	94	76	61
External causes of injury and poisoning	113 782	58	77	72	51	117	56	85	62	51	72	39	72	69	115	53	40	52	62	59
<b>Women</b>	Number	SDR																		
Circulatory diseases	840 698	206	207	220	250	281	178	133	258	199	202	185	282	249	219	205	214	196	202	175
of which heart attacks	281 716	71	56	99	99	53	45	31	122	54	51	59	104	46	122	87	101	93	84	68
Cancer	411 456	139	149	201	147	114	112	127	170	128	135	162	140	116	122	137	165	179	146	120
Respiratory diseases	174 241	43	43	65	28	35	46	32	108	24	42	49	23	54	40	33	95	72	48	28
External causes of injury and poisoning	65 694	23	33	34	20	37	17	37	23	20	30	20	25	21	34	23	17	18	27	24

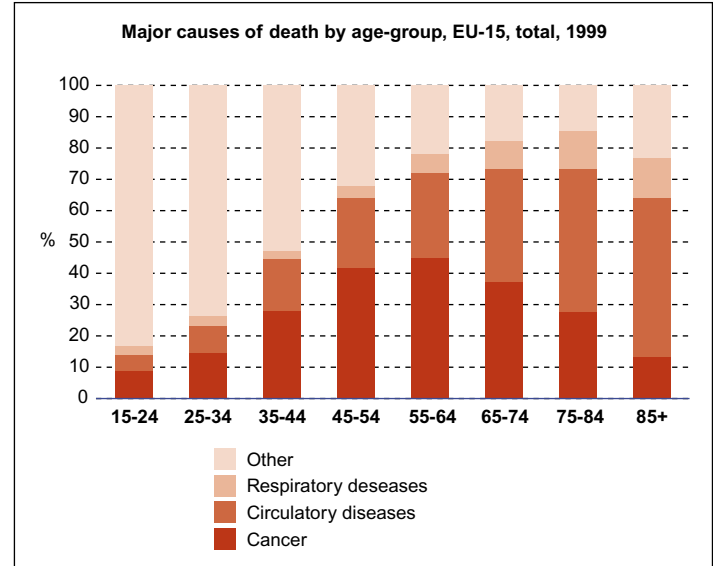
**Note:** Comparison of the general (total) mortality rates in Member States is affected by the different age structures of the populations. In a relatively 'old population' there will be more deaths than in a 'young population' because mortality is higher in older age groups. For comparisons the age effect can be offset by the use of a standard population. The standardised death rate (SDR) is thus an adjusted crude rate that enables comparisons to be made between countries and between the two sexes. Data for B, DK and IS (1996).

**Source:** Eurostat — Mortality statistics.

## Circulatory diseases and cancer remain the major causes of death

The most common cause of death in 1999 was diseases of the circulatory system (especially heart attacks and strokes) representing approximately 44.4 % of all deaths for women and 37.4 % for men. They are the main cause of death for women in all 15 EU Member States and the same for men in all countries except France. However, this cause of death shows a regressive trend: the standardised death rate (SDR) for this cause decreased by 12.5 % between 1994 and 1999 for men and by 11.7 % for women, with a larger reduction for cerebrovascular disease (strokes) than for ischaemic heart disease. The second most common cause was cancer, which accounts for around a quarter of all deaths – 28.5 % for men and 21.7 % for women. Although its relative share has increased since 1980, in absolute terms this cause of death also has a regressive trend in the EU (a reduction of 7.2 % for men and 5.9 % for women) when the 1994 and 1999 SDRs are compared. The third largest cause of death, diseases of the respiratory system, has a much smaller influence — 10.0 % for men and 9.2 % for women. However, their impact is progressively increasing: the SDR increased between 1994 and 1999 by 1.6 % for men and 10.4 % for women. Finally, the fourth leading cause was the external causes of injury and poisoning which includes (transport accidents, suicides and homicides, among others) accounting for 6.2 % for men and 3.5 % for women. The following causes of death (digestive diseases, infectious and parasitic diseases, mental diseases, etc.) account together for around 17.9 % for men and 11.2 % for women.

**Further reading:** 'Atlas of mortality in the EU', 2003 edition. 'Key data on health 2002'. 'Demographic statistics', 2002 edition, Eurostat. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Health and safety.



**Accidents at work**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Work accidents with more than three days absence, (per 100 000 employed persons), 2000</b>																
Total	4 016	4 213	2 866	4 757	2 595	7 052	5 030	1 028	4 049	4 891	4 095	3 056	4 863	3 046	1 475	1 607
Age group under 25	5 653	7 651	2 592	7 339	2 493	10 652	8 573	:	5 963	8 677	6 318	4 229	4 870	3 144	1 668	1 571
Age group 45 and over	3 446	3 005	2 616	4 031	2 606	6 094	4 090	:	3 882	3 770	2 519	3 427	4 998	2 848	1 469	1 478
<b>Fatal work accidents (per 100 000 employed persons), 2000</b>																
Total	5	5	3	4	3	7	6	2	7	.	2	7	9	2	2	2
Age group under 25	3	7	2	3	1	5	4	:	7	.	1	4	5	1	3	1
Age group 45 and over	7	6	4	5	5	10	10	:	10	.	4	11	16	3	3	3

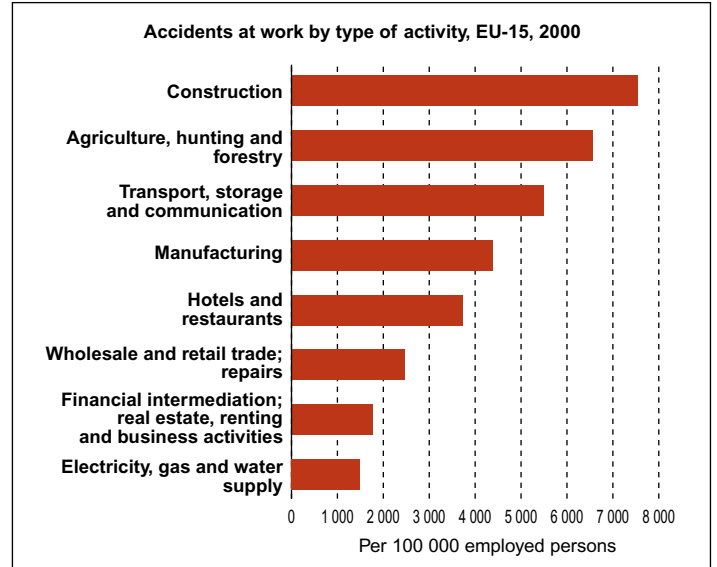
**Note:** These figures relate to almost 90 % of persons in employment in the Union. The above rates have been calculated for only nine major branches of economic activity (NACE Rev. 1 sections). UK and IRL data do not include road traffic accidents at work. This may have a significant impact on the number of fatalities. '.' indicates data are not significant.

**Source:** Eurostat — European statistics on accidents at work (ESAW).

## Around 4 % of EU workers were the victims of a working accident in 2000

In 2000, around 4.8 million accidents at work — each resulting in more than three days' absence — were recorded in the Union. This represents 4 016 accidents at work per 100 000 persons in employment or put another way, 4.0 % of all workers were the victims of an accident at work. It is estimated that 157 million working days were lost in 2000 as a result of these accidents. In addition, 5 237 fatal accidents were recorded in EU-15. Since 1996, the incidence rate has decreased by 5 % for non-fatal and by 12 % for fatal accidents at work. The incidence of accidents varies considerably depending on the economic activity of the enterprise, and the age and sex of workers. The construction industry (7.5 %) has the highest incidence of accidents. The incidence of non-fatal accidents decreases with age in most Member States. In contrast, the frequency of fatal accidents increases considerably with age.

**Further reading:** Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Accidents at work in the EU in 1998-99', No 16/2001. Statistics in focus (Population and social conditions): 'Work-related health problems in the EU 1998-99', No 17/2001. 'European statistics on accidents at work — Methodology', 2001 edition. European social statistics: 'Accidents at work and work-related health problems 1994-2000', Eurostat 2002. 'Third European survey of working conditions 2000', 2001, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Health.



**Transport accident deaths**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	IS	NO	CH
<b>Transport accident deaths, 1999</b>																			
<b>Number</b>																			
Total	44 080	1 530	555	7 986	2 537	6 419	8 122	434	7 948	57	1 154	1 020	1 734	544	563	3 625	:	401	572
Men	32 927	1 136	407	5 789	1 932	4 927	5 930	311	6 199	40	849	724	1 353	402	401	2 637	:	296	419
Women	11 153	394	148	2 197	605	1 492	2 192	123	1 749	17	305	296	381	142	162	988	:	105	153
<b>Crude death rate</b>																			
Men	18.1	22.9	15.7	14.5	37.2	25.4	20.8	16.7	22.2	18.8	10.9	18.4	27.6	16.0	9.2	9.0	16.8	13.4	12.0
Women	5.9	7.6	5.6	5.2	11.3	7.4	7.3	6.5	5.9	7.7	3.8	7.1	7.2	5.4	3.6	3.3	5.9	4.7	4.2
<b>Percentage change in the number of deaths in transport accidents</b>																			
1994-99	-9.1	-19.3	-6.0	-22.1	13.0	9.1	-3.5	-0.3	-5.6	-36.5	-10.9	-28.7	-24.7	-10.3	-36.9	-5.8	:	3.1	-23.8

**Note:** The crude death rate for the total population (all ages) by sex and by cause is a weighted average of the age-specific mortality rates. The weighting factor is the age distribution of the population whose mortality experience is being observed. Comparing the crude death rates from two or more populations (countries, regions, ...) is a comparison of a combination of different age-specific death rates and different population structures. So it does not reflect the 'real' mortality difference but includes also the effect of the population structure on the total number of deaths and on the crude death rates. Data for B, DK and IS (1996).

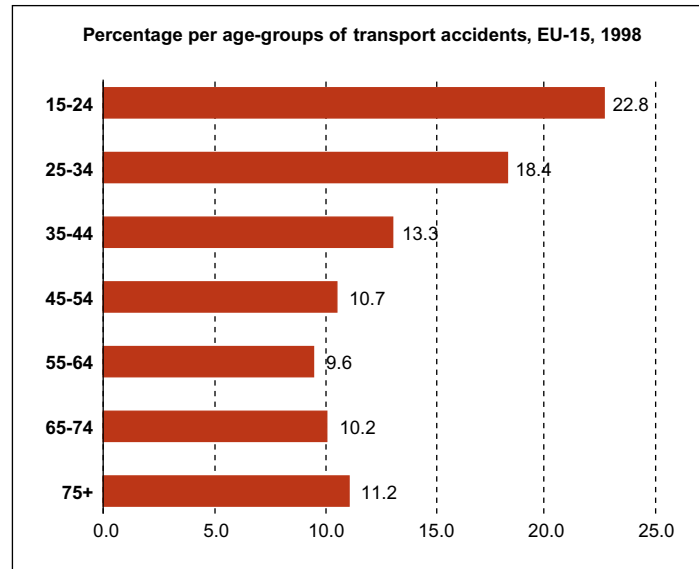
**Source:** Eurostat — Causes of death statistics.

## More than 44 000 deaths in transport in the EU

In 1999, the estimated number of deaths caused by transport accidents was 44 080 for EU-15. The majority of these accidents occurred in road traffic. Despite an increase in the number of cars on the road, the number of deaths fell by around 9 % between 1994 and 1999. The biggest improvements were recorded in Finland (−36.9 %), Luxembourg (−36.5 %), Austria (−28.7 %) and Portugal (−24.7 %). In contrast, there was a 13 % rise in the number of transport deaths in Greece and Spain (+ 9 %).

According to the crude death rate per 100 000 inhabitants, Greece, Portugal, Spain and Belgium record the worst levels of transport safety. The age-groups 15-24 and 25-34 years of age make up the most part (41.2 %) of the total transport deaths in the EU.

**Further reading:** Statistics in focus (General statistics): 'Road-traffic deaths in the regions of Europe', No 5/2001. 'Atlas of mortality in the EU', 2003 edition, 'Key data on health 2002', Eurostat. NewCronos Database Theme 3 — Health and safety.





# **SOCIAL PARTICIPATION**

**Social contact and cultural activities**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Percentage of the population aged 16 and over talking to neighbours, 1999</b>																
At least once a week	81	71	72	:	96	90	:	89	80	:	70	79	86	79	:	78
Once or twice a month	10	17	15	:	2	5	:	7	10	:	14	13	8	12	:	13
Less than once a month or never	9	12	13	:	2	5	:	4	10	:	16	8	6	9	:	9
<b>Percentage of the population aged 16 and over meeting people (at home or elsewhere), 1999</b>																
At least once a week	81	78	80	:	90	92	66	97	81	:	85	72	74	80	:	87
Once or twice a month	14	18	18	:	9	6	26	3	13	:	13	23	16	17	:	10
Less than once a month or never	5	4	2	:	2	2	8	1	6	:	2	5	9	4	:	3

**Note:** In the graph, persons with little or no contact are those who i) talk to neighbours less than once a month or never, and ii) meet people at home or elsewhere less than once a month or never. Data for D, F, L and S are not available. IRL: Both figures are 0.

**Source:** Eurostat — European Community household panel, users' database version, December 2002.

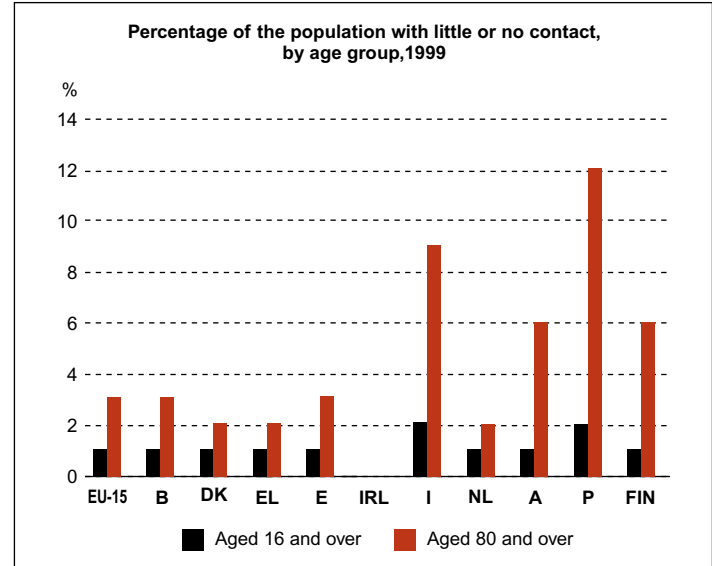
## Overall, there is a high level of social interaction throughout the EU

On average, more than 70 % of EU citizens talk to a neighbour at least once a week. At the other end of the scale, only 12 % do so less than once a month or never. Meeting people (at home or elsewhere) is also a frequent occurrence in the EU. Overall, citizens of Greece, Spain and Ireland tend to report the highest levels of face-to-face interaction.

Social interaction in old age is high although a minority of very old people have very limited social contact: on average just over 6 % of those aged over 80 years fall into this category compared with 1 % of the adult population.

The four most frequently practiced cultural activities of the Europeans' are (in decreasing order): going to the cinema, going to a library, visiting historical monuments and attending a sport event. Going to the cinema is most frequent in Spain and Ireland (and least frequent in Portugal), whereas going to a library is most frequent in the Nordic countries (and least frequent in Greece).

**Further reading:** 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission. Eurobarometer 56.0: 'Europeans' participation in cultural activities', 2002, European Commission.



**Provision of help and support**

	EU-15	B	DK	D	EL	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
<b>Percentage of the population whose daily activities include looking after children without pay, 1999</b>																
Men	19	22	27	24	10	12	14	17	18	:	31	16	8	23	:	21
Women	31	37	32	30	32	29	24	36	38	:	40	33	28	31	:	30
<b>Percentage of the population whose daily activities include looking after people other than children <sup>(1)</sup> without pay, 1999</b>																
Men	5	6	3	3	2	3	3	2	4	:	5	2	1	5	:	15
Women	8	8	7	3	6	7	4	6	9	:	9	6	7	8	:	18
<b>Percentage of the population whose daily caring activities <sup>(2)</sup> prevent them from undertaking the amount of paid work they would otherwise do, 1999</b>																
Men	4	8	12	:	7	7	1	6	5	:	4	2	1	5	:	:
Women	27	23	21	:	29	35	20	42	21	:	50	44	23	14	:	:

**Notes:** Data refer to the population aged 16 and over. <sup>(1)</sup> Providing care to sick, disabled or frail adults. <sup>(2)</sup> Either looking after children or adults.

**Source:** Eurostat — European Community household panel, users' database version, December 2002.

## One in three women provide unpaid daily care for children or adults

The main form of interpersonal help and support is childcare. EU-wide, 31 % of women and 19 % of men are involved in looking after children (their own and/or others') on a daily basis. In Portugal, Greece and Spain the disparity is larger due to the low participation of men (8-12 %). In Denmark and Germany, the difference is much smaller.

Provision of unpaid 'informal' care to sick or disabled adults and older people (in the same household and outside) is much less common than childcare: on average 8 % of women and 5 % of men in the EU are engaged in such activities on a daily basis.

Around 27 % of female and 4 % of male carers say that such informal care activities prevent them from undertaking the amount of paid work they would otherwise do. Half of female carers in the Netherlands and 12 % of male carers in Denmark say that they are affected.

**Further reading:** 'The social situation in the European Union 2003', European Commission.

