

The **population figure** , or **total population** or simply **population** , of a given area is the total number of people in that area at a given time.

For the population figures compiled by [Eurostat](#) from the data provided by [European Union \(EU\)](#) Member States, that time is *1stJanuary* and the resulting figure is called **population on 1 January** . The recommended definition is the **usual resident population** , representing the number of inhabitants of a given area on 1stJanuary of the year in question (or, in some cases, on 31stDecember of the previous year). The population can be based on data from the most recent [census](#) adjusted by the components of [population change](#) produced since the last census, or based on population registers.

The **average population during a calendar year** is calculated as the [arithmetic mean](#) of the population on 1stJanuary of two consecutive years. The average population is further used in the calculation of demographic indicators, like the crude rates per 1 000 inhabitants, and for some ' [per capita](#) ' indicators.

Further information

- [Population and demography](#)

Related concepts

- [Life expectancy](#)
- [Population change](#)
- [Population density](#)

Statistical data

- [Population statistics at regional level](#)