

SDG 2 - Zero hunger

Statistics Explained

*Data extracted in April 2025.
Planned article update: June 2026.*

Highlights



EU trend of SDG 2 on zero hunger

This article is a part of a [set of statistical articles](#) , which are based on the Eurostat publication 'Sustainable development in the European Union — Monitoring report on progress towards the SDGs in an EU context — 2025 edition' . This report is the ninth edition of Eurostat's series of monitoring reports on sustainable development, which provide a quantitative assessment of progress of the EU towards the SDGs in an EU context.

SDG 2 seeks to end hunger and malnutrition, and ensure access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food. Realising this goal will largely depend on promoting sustainable production systems and increasing investment in rural infrastructure and agricultural research and development.

Zero hunger in the EU: overview and key trends

Achieving healthy diets and ensuring agricultural systems remain productive and sustainable are essential for achieving a healthy food system that is good for people and the planet. Monitoring SDG 2 in an EU context includes tracking developments in obesity, the sustainability of agricultural production and the environmental impacts of agricultural activities on land, water and the atmosphere. Over the past five years good progress has been made towards SDG 2, with some exceptions. There have been strong improvements in sustainable agricultural production practices monitored in this report, including labour productivity, public investment in farming, and reductions in the use and risk of pesticides. The area under organic farming has also grown in the EU, but stronger progress will be required to meet the respective target by 2030. No progress has been made on malnutrition, with the share of obese people in the EU stagnating. Progress on reducing some environmental impacts has been mixed, showing both positive and negative trends. Intensive agriculture remains a major driver of biodiversity decline in the EU.

Indicator	Period	Annual growth rate	Assessment
Malnutrition			
Obesity rate	Time series too short for long-term assessment		⊗
	2017–2022	– 0.1 %	→
Sustainable agricultural production			
Agricultural real factor income per annual work unit	2009–2024	4.4 %	↑
	2019–2024	3.0 %	↑
Government support to agricultural R&D	2008–2023	1.5 %	↑
	2018–2023	4.9 %	↑
Area under organic farming [⊙]	2012–2022	Observed: 6.0 %	↗
		Required: 8.4 %	
	2017–2022	Observed: 7.0 %	↗
		Required: 9.7 %	
Use and risk of chemical pesticides [⊙]	2011–2022	Observed: – 6.7 %	↑
		Required: – 4.3 %	
	2017–2022	Observed: – 10.1 %	↑
		Required: – 4.6 %	
Environmental impacts of agricultural production			
Ammonia emissions from agriculture	2007–2022	– 1.2 %	↑
	2017–2022	– 2.5 %	↑
Nitrate in groundwater (*)	2007–2022	– 0.2 % ⁽¹⁾	↗
	2017–2022	– 0.4 % ⁽¹⁾	↗
Area at risk of severe soil erosion by water (*)	2000–2016	– 0.9 %	↗
	2010–2016	– 0.1 %	→
Common farmland bird index (*)	2008–2023	– 1.7 % ⁽²⁾	↓
	2018–2023	– 2.0 % ⁽²⁾	↓

Note: See Annex II for a description of the methodology used for the compound annual growth rate calculation and the trend assessment. For indicators without a target, the growth rates observed over the specified periods are given. For indicators with a quantified EU target (marked with a target sign [⊙]), both the observed growth rates and the growth rates that would have been required in the specified periods for meeting the target are given. See Table A.1 in Annex I for the full list of EU policy targets considered for monitoring in this report.

(*) Multi-purpose indicator.

(1) Data refer to an EU aggregate based on 18 Member States.

- (2) Data refer to an EU aggregate whose composition changes over time depending on when countries joined the Pan-European Common Birds Monitoring Scheme.

Table 1: Indicators measuring progress towards SDG 2, EU

Symbol	With quantitative target	Without quantitative target
	Indicators marked with this 'target' symbol are assessed against an official and quantified EU policy target. In this case the arrow symbols should be interpreted according to the left-hand column below. All other indicator assessments should be interpreted according to the right-hand column below.	
	On track to reach the EU target	Significant progress towards SD objectives
	Moderate progress towards the EU target	Moderate progress towards SD objectives
	[Category not applicable]	No progress towards nor movement away from SD objectives
	Insufficient progress towards the EU target	Moderate movement away from SD objectives
	Movement away from the EU target	Significant movement away from SD objectives
	Assessment not possible (for example, time series too short or break in time series)	

Table 2: Explanation of symbols for indicating progress towards SD objectives and targets

Malnutrition

A healthy diet means an adequate, well-balanced diet that meets the body's dietary needs. Combined with regular physical activity and the avoidance of excessive alcohol consumption and tobacco use, a healthy diet is a cornerstone of good health. While ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition are key objectives of the 2030 Agenda, in Europe obesity is a more widespread nutrition-related health issue.

More than half of the adult EU population is overweight and every seventh person is obese

Obesity and pre-obesity are malnutrition problems related to changing consumption and activity habits and contexts that favour such unhealthy habits. Combining a balanced nutritional diet with an adequately active lifestyle is a challenge for many people. While the causes of obesity vary from person to person, the problem is generally attributed to unhealthy diets that are high in energy, fat, trans fat and saturated fat, salt and sugar, along with being low in fruit and vegetables, whole grains, legumes and nuts, and too high in red and processed meat. Low physical activity and sociological and hereditary factors are also important causes. The circumstances in which lifestyle choices are made, such as the food environment, are important determinants of healthy behaviours and obesity.

Obesity is a significant health issue in the EU. It affected almost 15% of the adult population in 2022. It is also a contributing factor in other diet-related non-communicable diseases, such as cancer, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes. Obesity also disproportionately affects people with lower levels of education and tends to increase with age until late in life¹. Childhood obesity also remains an important public health problem in Europe, despite childhood obesity rates levelling off in some European countries².

When considered together with pre-obesity, the situation looks even more severe, with more than half of the EU's adult population being **overweight** in 2022. Patterns in the pre-obesity rate follow patterns in the obesity rate,

¹Eurostat (online data code: [hlth_ehis_bm1e](#))

²World Health Organisation (2021), [WHO European Childhood Obesity Surveillance Initiative \(COSI\) Report on the fourth round of data collection 2015-2017](#), WHO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen.

though pre-obesity affected more than twice as many Europeans as obesity (36.5% of the adult population) in 2022.

Between 2017 and 2022, the share of overweight (obese and pre-obese) people fell slightly, from 51.8% to 51.3%. This is largely due to a reduction in the share of pre-obese people, from 36.9% in 2017 to 36.5% in 2022, while the share of obese people remained stable at just below 15%, affecting 14.8 % of EU adults in 2022.

At the Member State level, the obesity rate rose in 19 countries between 2017 and 2022. The rate in 2022 was highest in Malta, with 26.1%, and lowest in Italy and Romania, with 7.1% and 10.3%, respectively.

The obesity rate generally increases with age, peaking in the age group 65 to 74 years (19.7% obese in 2022) and decreasing again for people aged 75 and older. Obesity and pre-obesity rates also appear to decrease with higher educational levels, with obesity rates ranging from 10.5% in 2022 for adults with tertiary education to 17.9% for adults with lower secondary education or lower³.

Sustainable agricultural production

Sustainable agricultural production is a key element in making food systems fair, healthy and environmentally friendly. A concerted effort is needed to foster a food-production system that is based on sustainable agricultural practices and produces an adequate food supply. Four indicators are used to monitor the strong interlinkages between agricultural production and the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability. These are: agricultural income and labour productivity; investment in agricultural research and innovation; organic farming; and pesticide use.

Labour productivity in EU agriculture has increased, as has investment in the future of farming

To ensure its long-term viability, Europe's agricultural sector needs to achieve economic sustainability. Labour productivity is an important component of this and can be partially measured using the indicator ' [agricultural real factor income](#) per [annual work unit](#) (AWU) '.

Following a dip during the economic crisis from 2007 to 2009, agricultural real factor income per AWU has been rising in the EU. By 2024 it was 36.1% higher than it had been in 2015. This is mainly due to strong growth between 2016 and 2017 and again between 2020 and 2022, driven partly by increased output values (prices and/or yields) and partly by a reduced labour input⁴. After significantly above-average growth from 2021 to 2022, the indicator in 2024 remained 6.3% below its 2022 peak.

Agricultural real factor income per AWU varies considerably between Member States and farm types. It tends to be higher in countries with more mechanised, input-intensive production systems than in countries using more traditional, labour-intensive methods⁵.

Investment in agricultural research and innovation is crucial for decoupling agricultural productivity from environmental impacts. Such investments in sustainable productivity growth in agriculture also help to keep EU farmers competitive and adaptable to challenges such as climate change and feeding a rising population. Overall in the EU, national government support to agricultural research and development has risen in the short term, growing by 27.0% since 2018 to reach EUR 3.6 billion in 2023.

Organic farming is on the rise across the EU, but the pace needs to quicken to reach the 2030 target

[Organic farming](#) is one example of a sustainable agricultural management system. It seeks to limit environmental impacts by using agricultural practices that encourage the responsible use of energy and natural resources, maintain or enhance biodiversity, preserve regional ecological balances, increase soil fertility and water quality,

³Eurostat (online code: [ilc_hch10](#))

⁴Eurostat (online code: [aact_eaa05](#)) and [\(aact_ali02\)](#))

⁵Input-intensive agriculture increases agricultural productivity through consumable inputs, such as chemical fertilisers and pesticides, and capital inputs, such as highly mechanised approaches. Mechanised inputs frequently substitute labour inputs as factors of production.

encourage high animal welfare standards, and enhance the capacity to adapt to climate change.

In the EU, the share of organic farming in total agricultural area grew by 3.0 percentage points between 2017 and 2022, to an estimated 10.5%. Despite this, the take-up of organic farming will need to accelerate significantly to achieve the 25% target by 2030. Across the EU, Austria leads with more than 25% (2020 data) of its agricultural area farmed organically, followed by Estonia with just over 23 %, and Sweden, Portugal, Italy, Greece, Czechia, Latvia and Finland, each with levels between 15% and 20% (2022 data). In all other Member States, organic farming was practised on less than 15 % of agricultural land in 2022.

The EU is on track to meet its reduction target for the use and risk of chemical pesticides

The [Zero Pollution Action Plan](#) aims to reduce the EU food system's dependency on pesticides and antimicrobials and sets the target to reduce chemical pesticides' use and risk by 50% by 2030. According to a [trend analysis by the European Commission](#), the use and risk of chemical [pesticides](#) decreased by 46% between the baseline period of 2015–2017 and 2022 and the use of more hazardous pesticides fell by 25% over the same time span. Over both the long- and short-term periods assessed in this report (2011 to 2022 and 2017 to 2022, respectively), the use and risk of chemical pesticides fell at a rate that suggests the EU is on track to meet its 50% reduction target by 2030. Nevertheless, the presence of pesticides in soil and water continues to be a concern. In its [2023 briefing](#) on the issue, the European Environment Agency concluded that despite progress in some EU Member States, pesticide pollution still poses significant risks to human health and the environment.

To protect human and animal health, the EU aims to reduce its overall sales of antimicrobials for farmed animals and aquaculture by 50% by 2030. The use and misuse of antimicrobials in agriculture contributes to the problem of microbes such as bacteria and fungi becoming resistant to antimicrobials, which reduces the effectiveness of such treatments. According to a [2025 report from the European Medicines Agency](#), the EU achieved a 25.2% reduction in sales of antimicrobials for farmed animals and in aquaculture by 2023 compared with the 2018 baseline. This is the result of declining sales in almost all Member States. While the EU is thus about halfway to the 2030 target, further declines in EU sales of antimicrobials are needed. In 2023, antimicrobial sales for farmed animals and in aquaculture varied strongly across Member States. It was highest in Cyprus and Italy and lowest in Sweden and Finland.

Environmental impacts of agricultural production

Agriculture can provide environmental benefits such as maintaining specific farmland ecosystems and diverse landscapes. In addition, agricultural land can also act as carbon sink. However, increases in agricultural productivity and a move towards intensive agriculture practices have contributed to the degradation of environmental conditions and climate change⁶. The environmental impacts of agriculture include nutrient-related pollution, soil erosion and loss of biodiversity.

Ammonia emissions from agriculture and nitrate concentrations in groundwater bodies have fallen in recent years

[Ammonia](#) emissions and nitrates in groundwater are linked to excessive inputs of nitrogen from agricultural sources such as mineral [fertiliser](#) and [livestock manure](#). Manure from livestock is rich in nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen (ammonia and nitrates), and is used as a fertiliser alongside chemical fertilisers. If properly treated, its application improves soil structure and enhances soil organic matter content, which increases carbon sequestration. But when mineral fertilisers or manure are not properly handled and spread, excess nutrients that are not taken up by plants are released into the environment (as ammonia in air and as nitrates and phosphorus in water). When released into the atmosphere, ammonia pollutes the air and can land on soil and water, where it can harm sensitive vegetation systems, biodiversity and water quality through eutrophication and acidification.

Since the 1990s, Europe has seen a significant decrease in ammonia emissions from agriculture due to reductions in livestock density and nitrogen fertiliser use as well as changes in agricultural practices. In recent years, however, developments have been less clear, with ammonia emissions increasing between 2013 and 2016, before falling to a new low of 2.9 million tonnes in 2022. It must be noted that the national and EU totals may mask considerable variations in fertiliser application and livestock densities at regional and local levels. Overall, however, ammonia

⁶European Environment Agency (2024), [Solutions for restoring Europe's agricultural ecosystems](#).

emissions from agriculture remain the main nutrient pollutants of concern for biodiversity⁷.

The concentration of nitrate (NO₃) in EU [groundwater](#) has shown a long-term stagnation at around 21 milligrams per litre (mg/L). However, there has been a recent downward trend since 2017, with concentrations reaching 20.7 mg/L in 2022. This is 2.9% lower than in 2007 and 1.9% lower than in 2017. Nevertheless, hot spots exist where nitrate concentrations are above 50 mg/L, which is the limit set for drinkable water. Several of the countries struggling the most with high nitrate levels in groundwater are also among those with the highest ammonia emissions per hectare of utilised agricultural area in Europe, such as Malta, Belgium and Germany.

The agricultural sector is also responsible for significant quantities of [greenhouse gas](#) (GHG) emissions⁸, accounting for 11% of total GHG emissions in the EU in 2023⁹. Agricultural emissions are generally linked to the management of agricultural soils, livestock, rice production and [biomass](#) burning. While the EU's total GHG emissions have decreased by 18% since 2018 (see the article on [SDG 13 'Climate action'](#)), emissions from the agricultural sector have fallen much more slowly, by 7% over the same period. By 2023 they had reached 358 million tonnes of [CO₂equivalent](#), which is 26% lower than the 1990 level of 483 million tonnes¹⁰.

Soil erosion remains a major threat, but signs of improvement exist across the EU

Healthy soils are essential for sustainable and productive agricultural systems. Because soils take years to form, they can be considered a non-renewable resource for food production. One of the biggest threats to soil health in Europe is soil erosion, which can be caused by both wind and water. Though erosion is a natural process, inappropriate land management and other human activities can cause it to accelerate to such an extent that soil can be irreversibly lost. The area at risk of severe soil erosion by water (leading to the loss of more than 10 tonnes of soil per hectare per year) is a model-based indicator based on spatial data of rainfall erosivity, soil erodibility, topography, [land cover](#) and management practices.

In the EU, 196 853 square kilometres (km²) of land were at risk of severe soil loss from water erosion in 2016 — an area equal to about 1.5 times Greece's total land area. However, the risk of severe soil erosion has been decreasing in the EU, in part due to mandatory measures in the EU [Common Agricultural Policy \(CAP\)](#). The share of non-artificial erodible area¹¹ estimated to be at risk of severe soil erosion by water decreased from 6.1% to 5.3% between 2000 and 2016.

The EU's farmland bird populations continue to decline sharply

Some agricultural landscapes provide valuable and unique habitats for a host of species, both common and threatened. However, [biodiversity](#) has suffered under growing pressure from the race to increase productivity and where ecosystem services, which are provided by features that support biodiversity, have not been given economic value or adequate regulatory protection. Species related to agroecosystems are likely to have fared worse without the agri-environmental measures contained in EU policies — primarily the Common Agriculture Policy — but measures have not yet been effective enough to halt overall biodiversity loss in agricultural habitats¹².

Farmland [bird species](#) depend on agricultural habitats. Because they are relatively visible, they are a good indicator species for monitoring biodiversity. The common farmland bird index measures the relative abundance and diversity of 39 farmland bird species compared with the 2000 base year. Between 2008 and 2023, the EU saw dramatic

⁷See section 3.2 in the report: European Commission (2022), [First 'zero pollution' monitoring and outlook](#), COM(2022) 674 final.

⁸The main GHG emissions from agricultural practices are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O).

⁹2023 data for GHG emissions presented in this report have been calculated based on the approximated estimates for greenhouse gas emissions published by the European Environment Agency: EEA (2024), [Approximated estimates for Greenhouse Gas emissions](#).

¹⁰Source: Eurostat (online data code: [\(env_air_gge\)](#)).

¹¹Generally, artificial, sandy, rocky and icy surfaces as well as wetlands and water bodies are not included in the land area used in calculating the soil-erosion indicator (see online metadata: [\(sdg_15_50\)](#)).

¹²European Commission (2016), [Fitness Check of the EU Nature Legislation \(Birds and Habitats Directives\)](#), SWD(2016) 472 final.

declines of 23.2% for common farmland birds, continuing a trend visible since 1990. Between 1990 and 2023, common farmland birds declined by 42.1%. Intensive agricultural practices and the use of pesticides have contributed to the loss of wildlife habitats as well as falling populations of insects. Insects are an important food source for many farmland birds and provide important ecosystem services such as pollination¹³.

Main indicators

Obesity rate

LONG TERM



Time series
too short

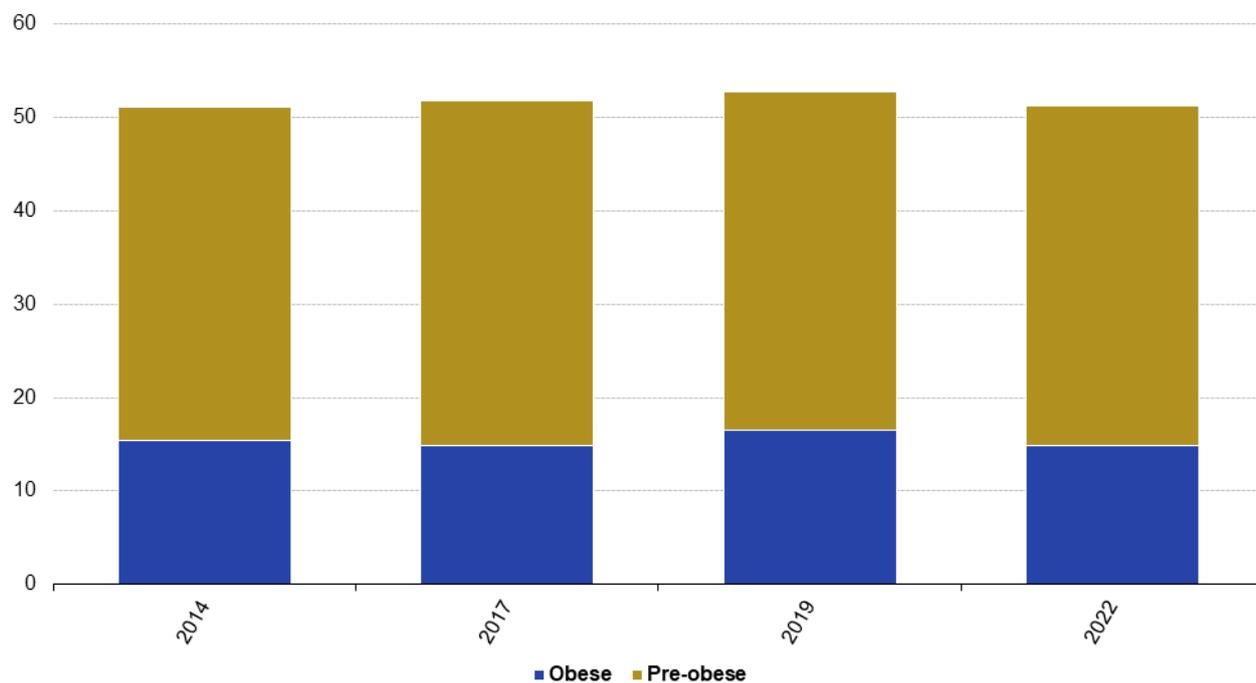
SHORT TERM 2017-2022



This indicator is derived from the [body mass index](#) (BMI), which is defined as the weight in kilograms divided by the square of the height in metres. People aged 18 years or over are considered obese if their BMI is equal to or greater than 30. The category 'pre-obese' refers to people with a BMI between 25 and less than 30. The category 'overweight' (BMI equal or greater than 25) combines the two categories pre-obese and obese. The data presented in this section stem from the [European Health Interview Survey](#) (EHIS) and the [EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions](#) (EU-SILC).

¹³European Environment Agency (2024), [Common bird index in Europe](#).

Obesity rate, by body mass index (BMI), EU, 2014-2022 (% of population aged 18 or over)



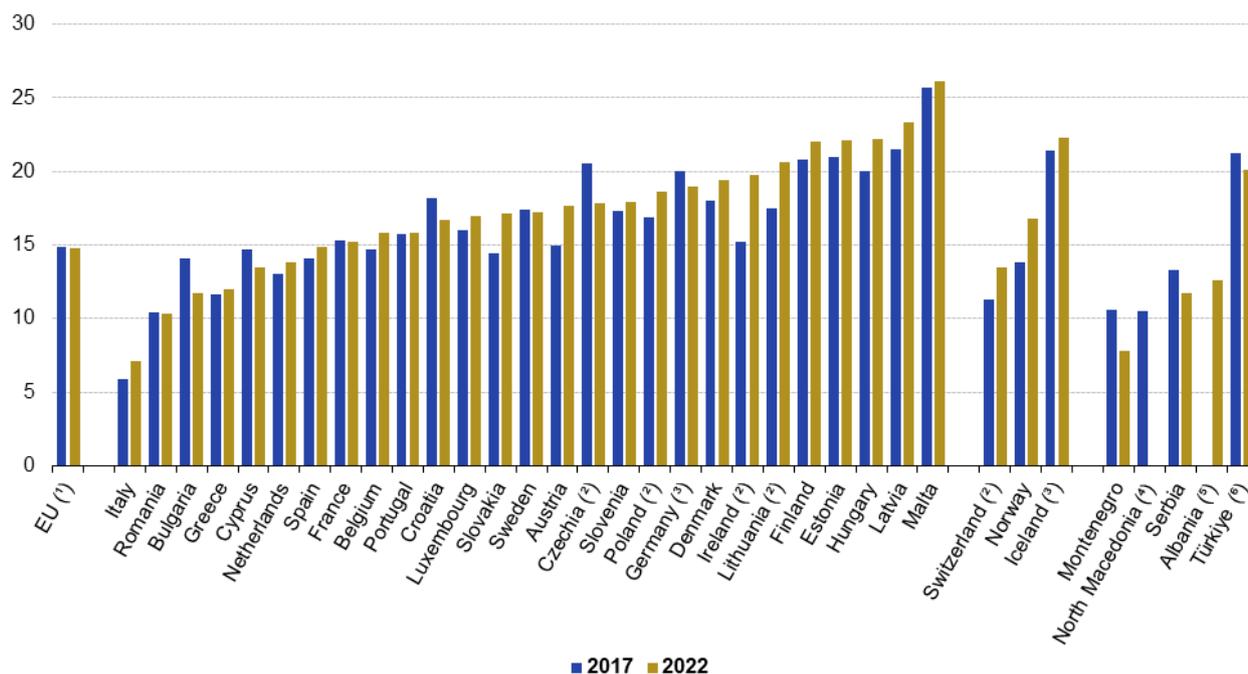
Note: 2022 data are estimated.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: sdg_02_10)

eurostat 

Figure 1: Obesity rate, by body mass index (BMI), EU, 2014–2022 (% of population aged 18 or over) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_10)

Obesity rate, by country, 2017 and 2022 (% of population aged 18 or over)



(¹) 2022 data are estimated.

(²) 2017 and/or 2022 data have low reliability.

(³) 2019 data (instead of 2022).

(⁴) No data for 2022.

(⁵) No data for 2017.

(⁶) 2014 data (instead of 2017).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: sdg_02_10)

eurostat

Figure 2: Obesity rate, by country, 2017 and 2022 (% of population aged 18 or over) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_10)

Agricultural real factor income per annual work unit

LONG TERM

2009-2024



SHORT TERM

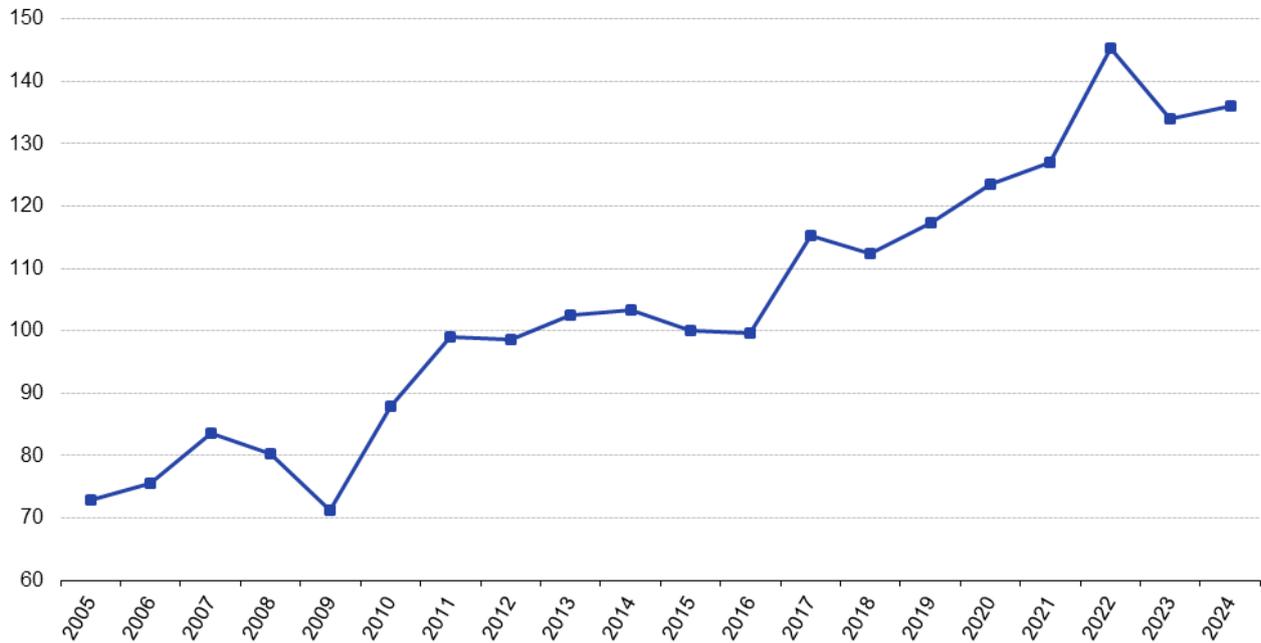
2019-2024



Agricultural real factor income measures the income generated by farming, which is used to remunerate borrowed or rented factors of production (capital, wages and land rents) as well as own production factors (own labour, capital and land). [Annual work units](#) (AWUs) are defined as [full-time equivalent](#) employment (corresponding to the number of full-time equivalent jobs), which is calculated by dividing total hours worked by the average annual number of hours worked in full-time jobs within the economic territory. This can be interpreted as a measure of labour productivity in agriculture. The data stem from the [Economic Accounts for Agriculture](#) (EAA), which provide detailed information on agricultural sector income.

Agricultural real factor income per annual work unit (AWU), EU, 2005-2024

(chain-linked volumes, index 2015=100)

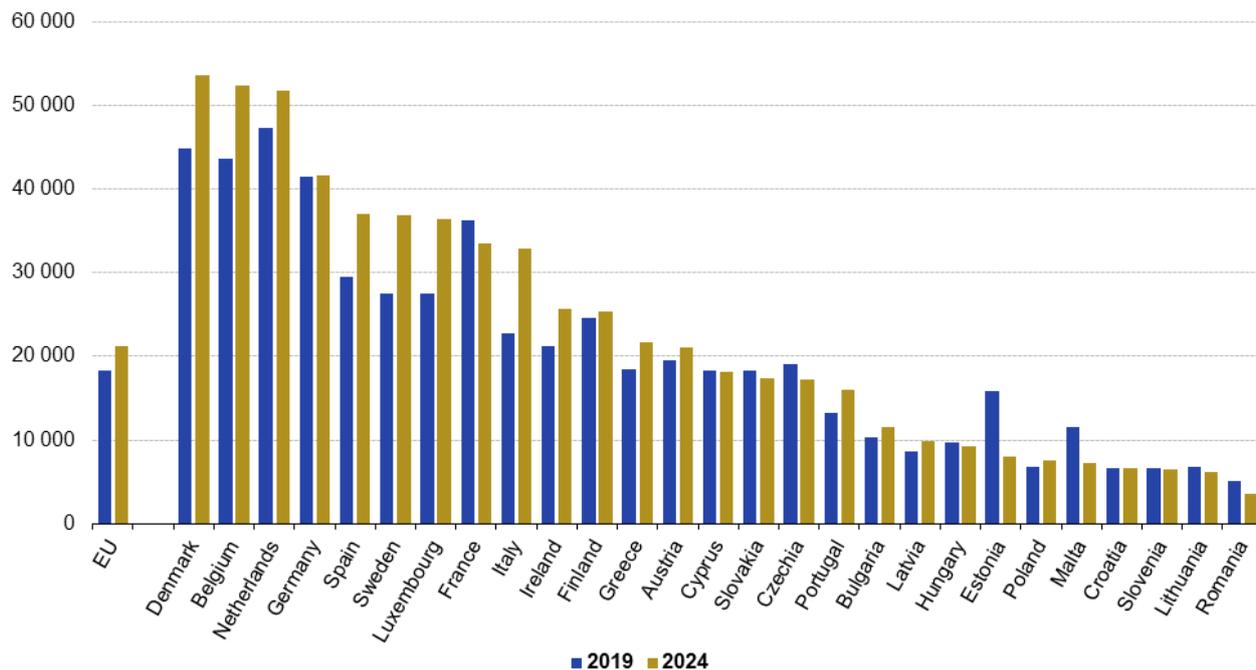


Source: Eurostat (online data code: sdg_02_20)

eurostat 

Figure 3: Agricultural real factor income per annual work unit (AWU), EU, 2005–2024 (chain-linked volumes, index 2015=100) Note: y-axis does not start at 0. Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_20)

Agricultural real factor income per annual work unit (AWU), by country, 2019 and 2024 (EUR, chain linked volumes (2015))



Note: Caution should be exercised when comparing absolute levels of agricultural factor income per annual work unit (AWU) because they are influenced by different national rules related to the full-time working hours comprising an AWU.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: sdg_02_20)

eurostat

Figure 4: Agricultural real factor income per annual work unit (AWU), by country, 2019 and 2024 (EUR, chain linked volumes (2015)) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_20)

Government support to agricultural R&D

LONG TERM
2008-2023

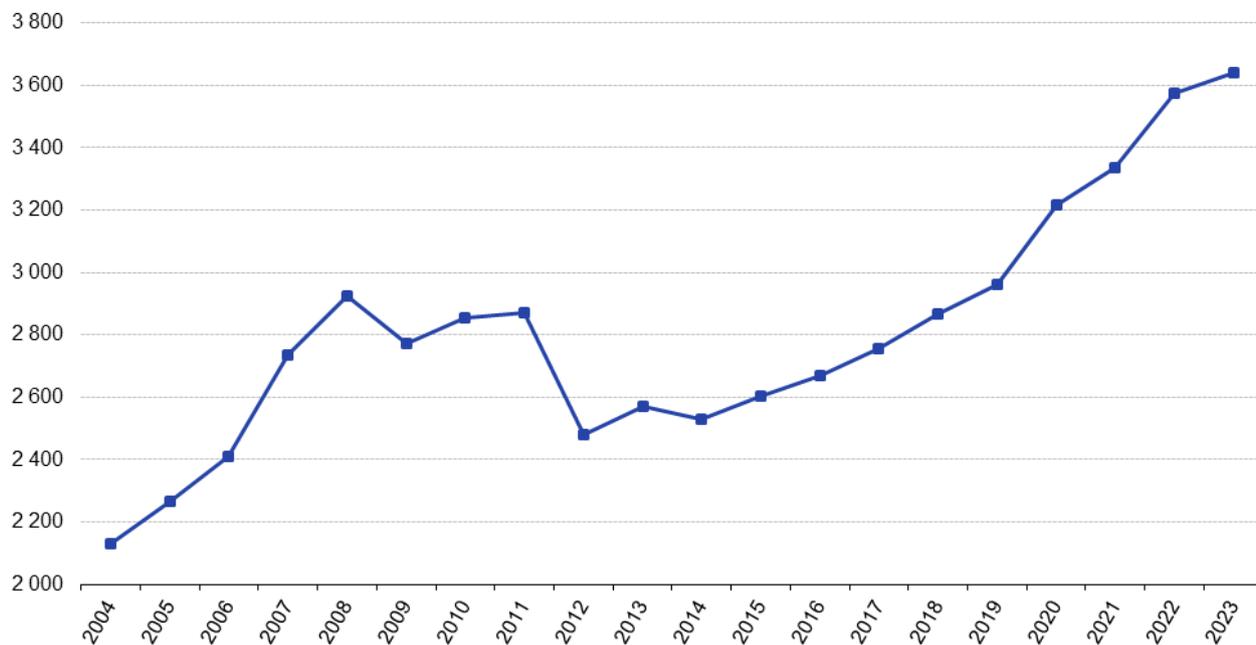


SHORT TERM
2018-2023



This indicator refers to [government budget allocations for R&D \(GBARD\)](#) . GBARD data measure government support to research and development (R&D) activities or, in other words, the level of priority that governments place on the public funding of R&D. GBARD data are built up using the guidelines laid out in the standard practice for surveys of research and experimental development, the [OECD 's Frascati Manual from 2015](#) and the [European Business Statistics Methodological Manual for R&D statistics](#) of 2023.

Government support to agricultural research and development, EU, 2004-2023 (million EUR)

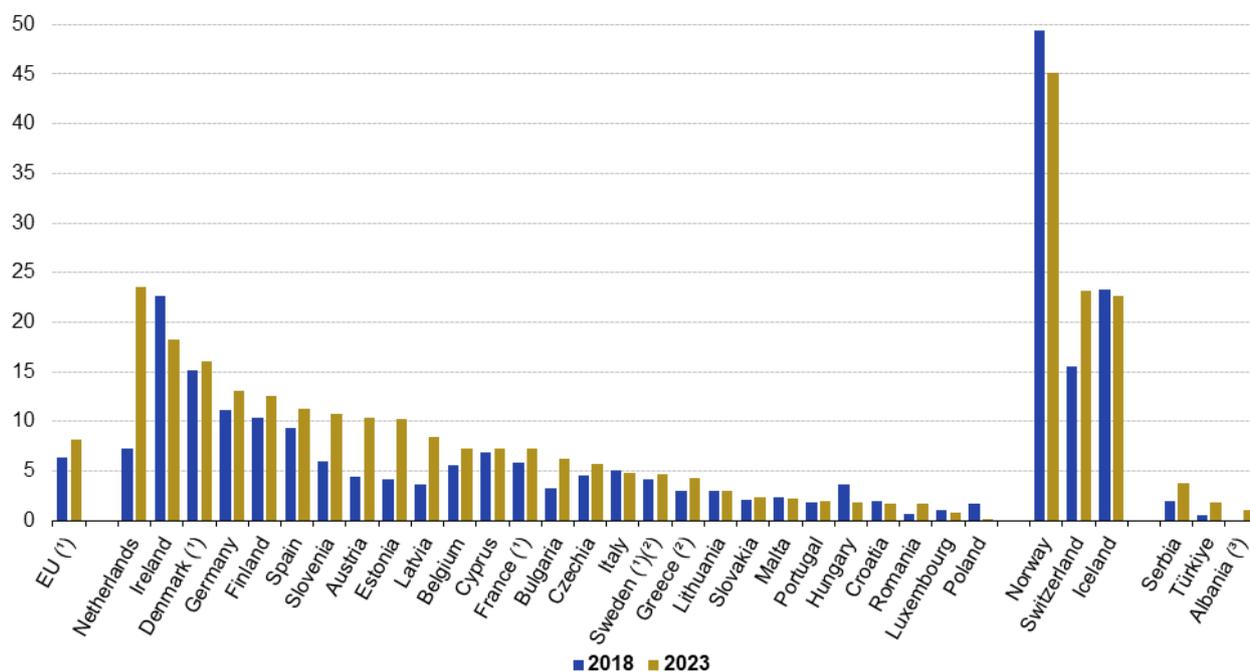


Note: Data for 2004 to 2022 are estimated.
Source: Eurostat (online data code: sdg_02_30)



Figure 5: Government support to agricultural research and development, EU, 2004–2023 (million EUR) Note: y-axis does not start at 0. Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_30)

Government support to agricultural research and development, by country, 2018 and 2023 (EUR per capita)



(*) 2018 data are estimated or provisional.

(*) Break(s) in time series between the two years shown.

(*) 2019 data (instead of 2018).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: sdg_02_30)

eurostat

Figure 6: Government support to agricultural research and development, by country, 2018 and 2023 (EUR per capita) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_30)

Area under organic farming

LONG TERM
2012-2022

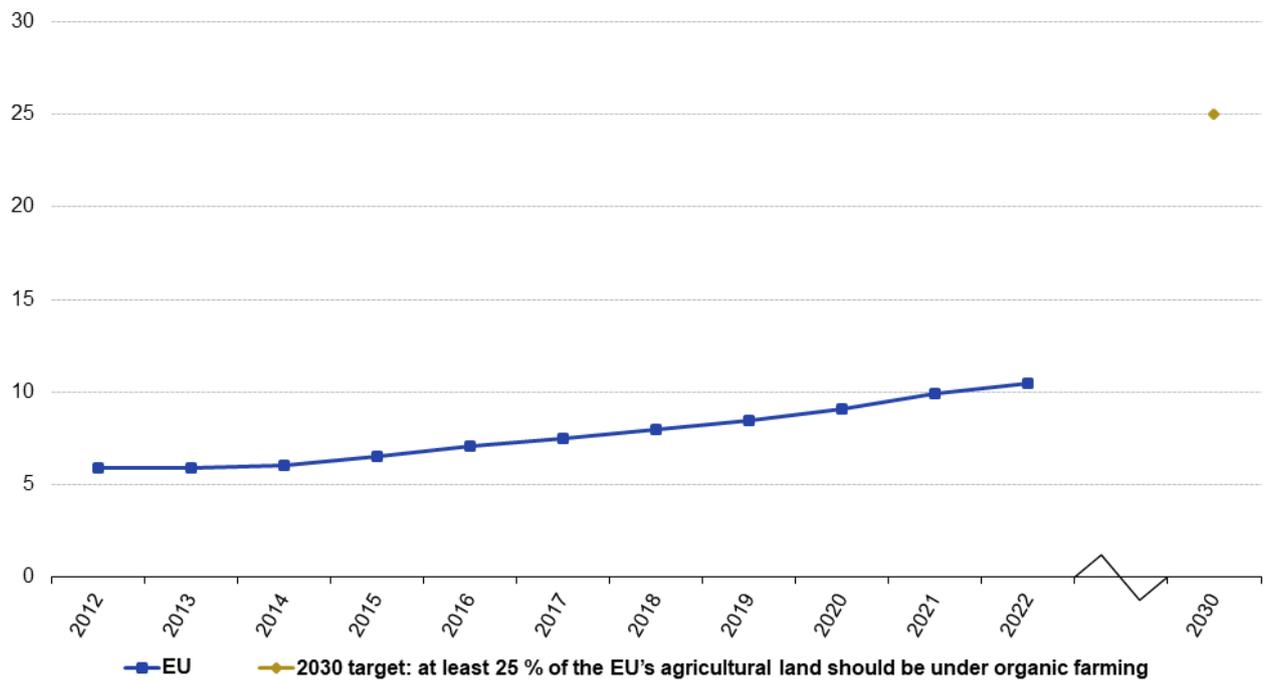


SHORT TERM
2017-2022



This indicator is defined as the share of total [utilised agricultural area](#) (UAA) occupied by [organic farming](#) (existing organically farmed areas and areas undergoing conversion). Organic farming is a production method that puts the highest emphasis on environmental and wildlife protection and, with regard to livestock production, on animal welfare considerations. It avoids or largely reduces the use of synthetic chemical inputs such as fertilisers, pesticides, additives and medical products.

Area under organic farming, EU, 2012-2022 (% of utilised agricultural area)

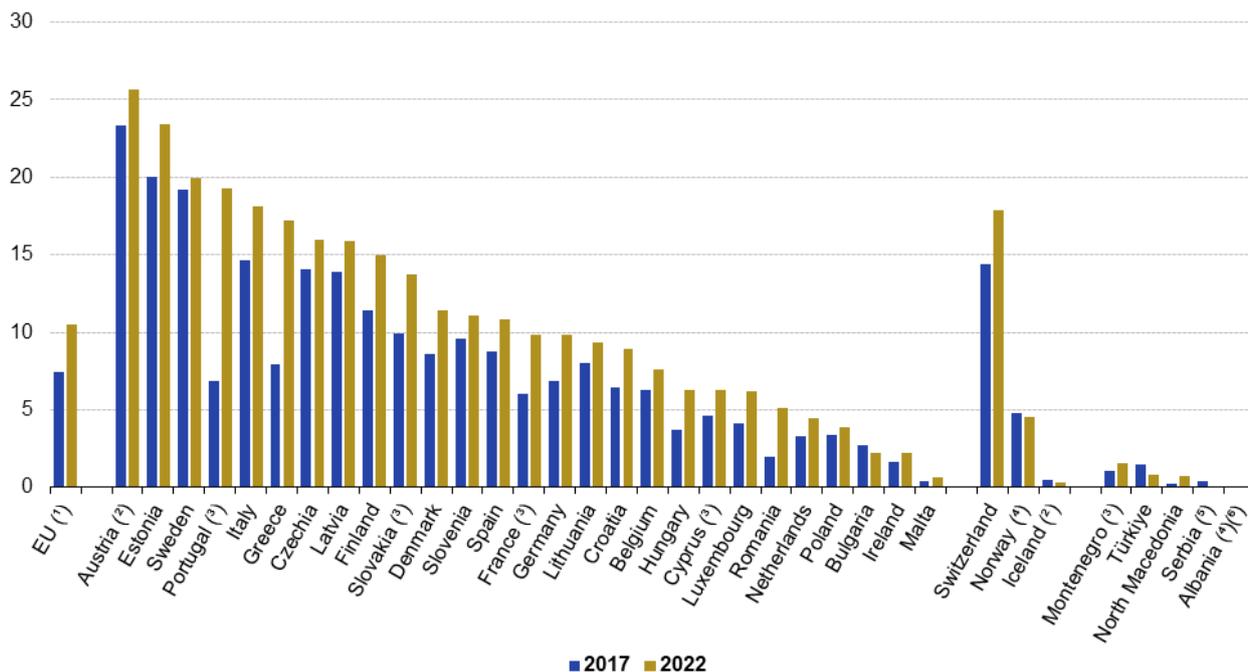


Note: 2018-2022 data are estimated, 2021 and 2022 estimates made for the purpose of this publication.
Source: Eurostat (online data code: sdg_02_40)

eurostat 

Figure 7: Area under organic farming, EU, 2012–2022 (% of utilised agricultural area) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_40)

Area under organic farming, by country, 2017 and 2022 (% of utilised agricultural area)



(1) 2022 data: estimate made for the purpose of this publication.

(2) 2020 data (instead of 2022).

(3) 2022 data are provisional or estimated.

(4) 2021 data (instead of 2022).

(5) No data for 2022.

(6) No data for 2017.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: sdg_02_40)

eurostat 

Figure 8: Area under organic farming, by country, 2017 and 2022 (% of utilised agricultural area) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_40)

Use and risk of chemical pesticides

LONG TERM
2011-2022

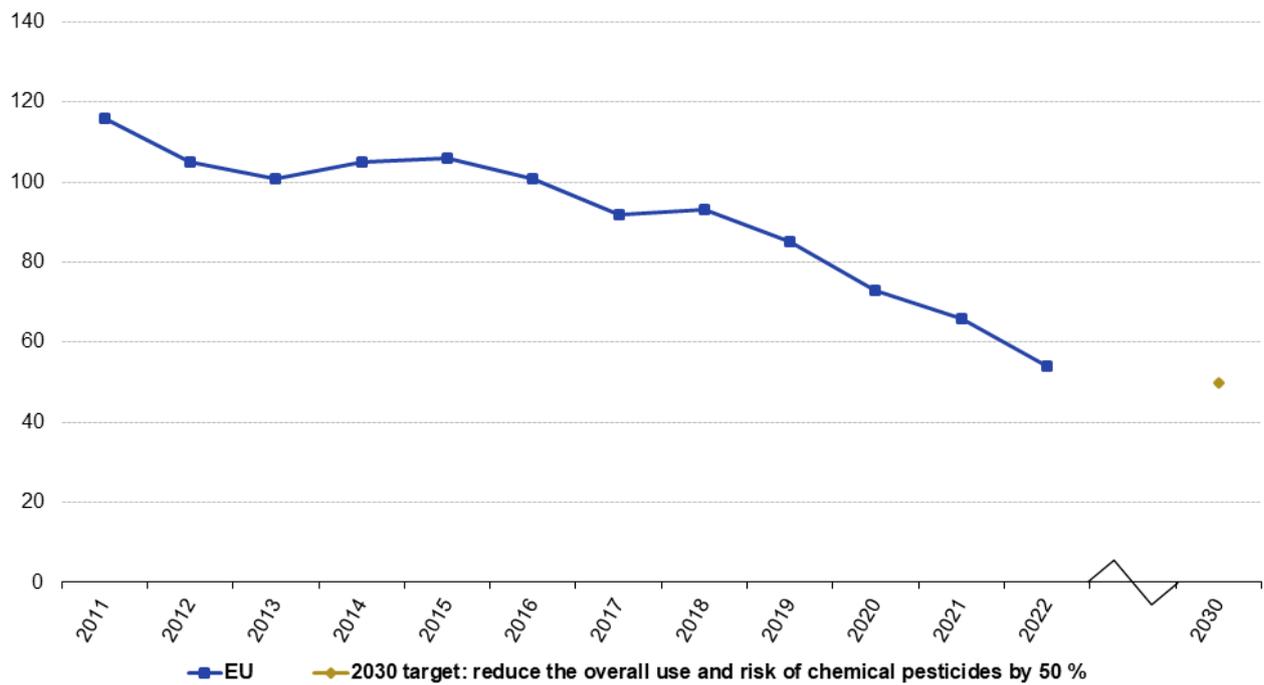


SHORT TERM
2017-2022



The indicator monitors the trends in the use and risk of chemical [pesticides](#) in the EU and its Member States. The use of pesticides entails risks and impacts on human health and the environment. The indicator is based on the quantities of active chemical substances contained in the pesticides which are placed on the market (sold), and therefore used, in each Member State, and the hazard properties of these active substances. The data are presented as an index relative to the average results for the period 2015 to 2017.

Use and risk of chemical pesticides, EU, 2011-2022
(index 2015-2017 = 100)



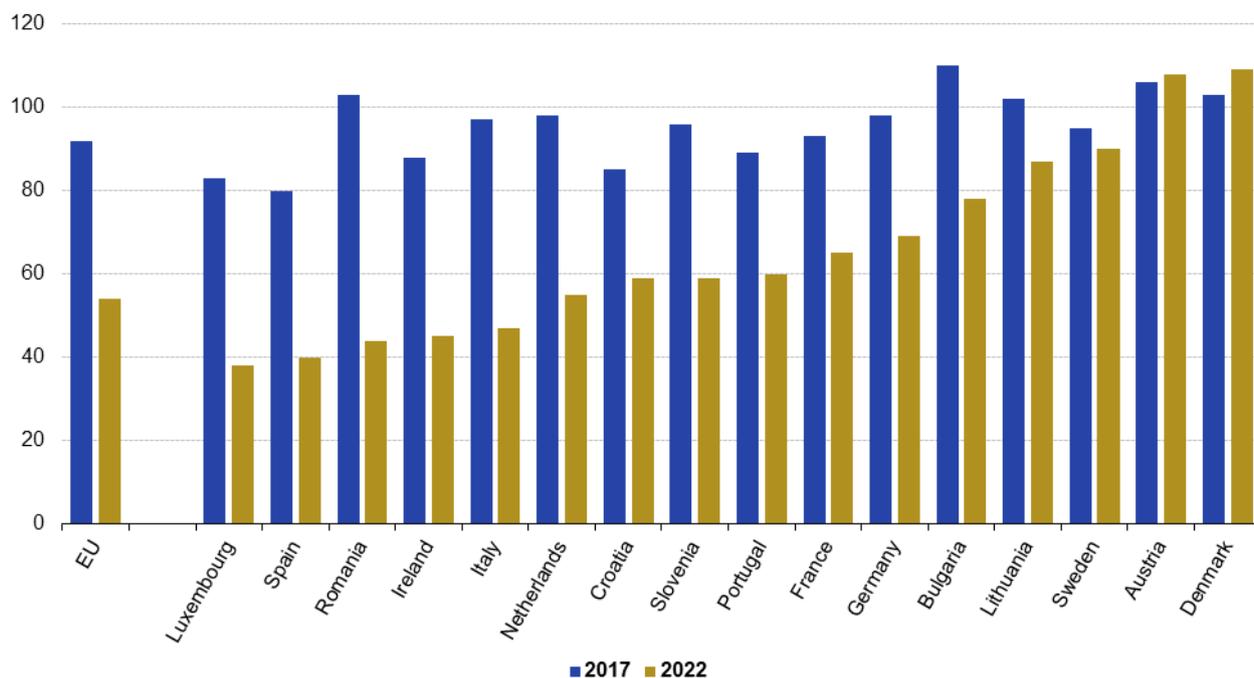
Source: DG Health and Food Safety (Eurostat online data code: sdg_02_53)



Figure 9: Use and risk of chemical pesticides, EU, 2011–2022 (index 2015–2017 = 100) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_53)

Use and risk of chemical pesticides, by country, 2017 and 2022

(index 2015-2017 = 100)



Note: Data for all 27 Member States are included in the EU aggregate, but only 16 Member States have agreed to disclose country level data.

Source: DG Health and Food Safety (Eurostat online data code: sdg_02_53)

eurostat 

Figure 10: Use and risk of chemical pesticides, by country, 2017 and 2022 (index 2015–2017 = 100) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_53)

Ammonia emissions from agriculture

LONG TERM
2007-2022

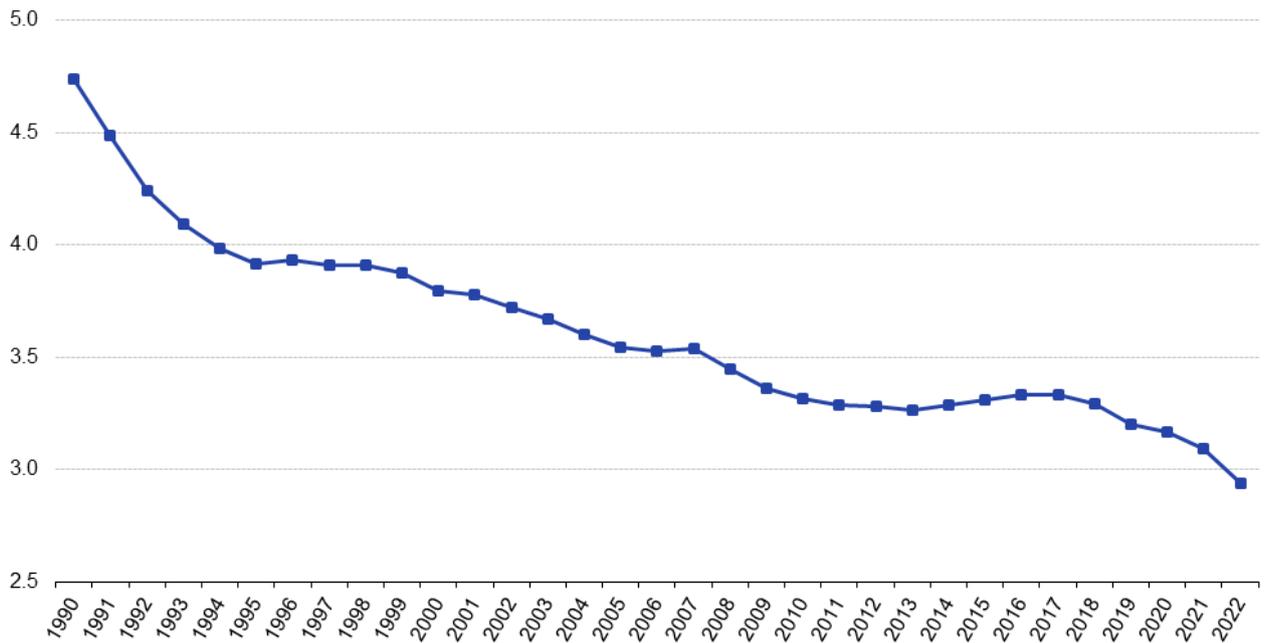


SHORT TERM
2017-2022



The indicator measures [ammonia](#) (NH₃) emissions as a result of agricultural production. These emissions result from manure management, applications of inorganic nitrogen fertilisers and animal manure applied to soil, as well as urine and dung deposited by grazing animals. Data for this indicator come from the EU inventory on air pollution compiled by the European Environment Agency (EEA) under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP) and are fully consistent with national air pollution inventories compiled by EU Member States. Data on the utilised agricultural area (UAA) stem from Eurostat's annual crop statistics. The definition of this indicator is based on the CAP indicator [C45 Emissions from agriculture](#) .

Ammonia emissions from agriculture, EU, 1990-2022 (million tonnes)

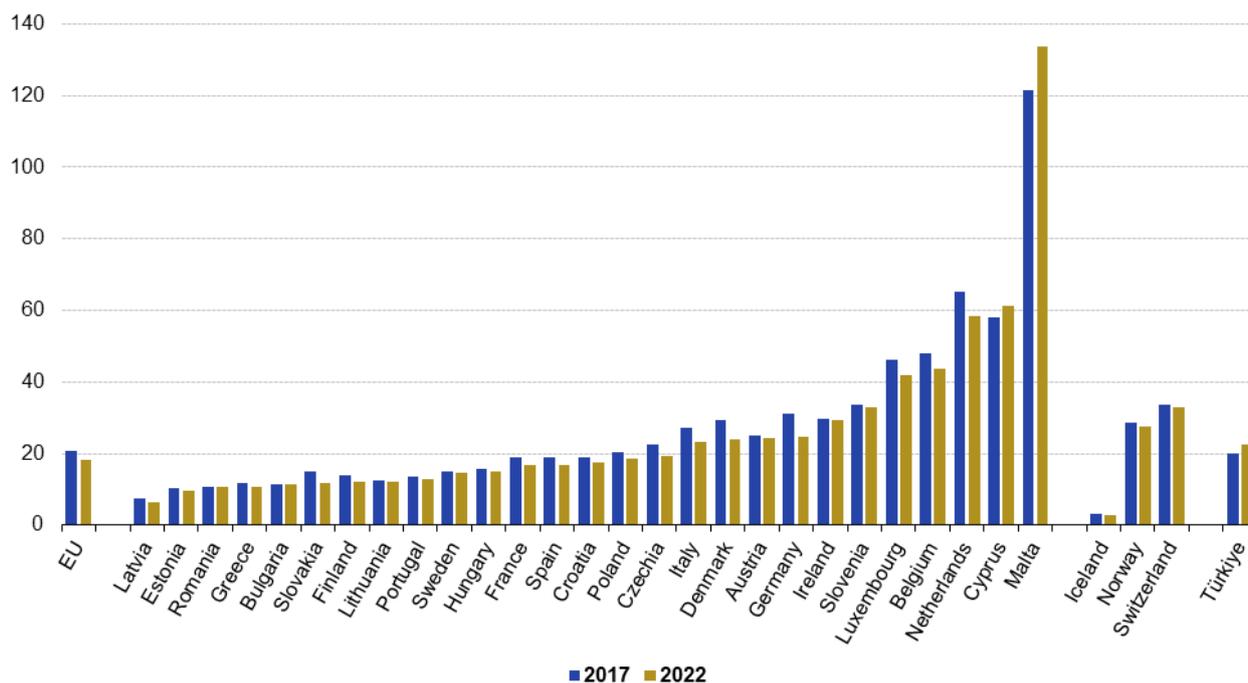


Source: EEA(Eurostat online data code: sdg_02_60)



Figure 11: Ammonia emissions from agriculture, EU, 1990–2022 (million tonnes) Note: y-axis does not start at 0. Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_60)

Ammonia emissions from agriculture, by country, 2017 and 2022 (kg per ha of utilised agricultural area)



Source: EEA(Eurostat online data code: sdg_02_60)

eurostat

Figure 12: Ammonia emissions from agriculture, by country, 2017 and 2022 (kg per ha of utilised agricultural area) Source: Eurostat (sdg_02_60)

Footnotes

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- [Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics](#)

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Publications

Further reading on zero hunger

- [European Environment Agency \(2025\), State of Europe's environment.](#)

- [European Environment Agency & Joint Research Centre \(2025\), Zero pollution monitoring and outlook 2025, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.](#)
- [FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO \(2024\), The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2024 – Financing to end hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms, Rome.](#)
- [FAO and IWMI \(2018\), More people, more food, worse water? A global review of water pollution from agriculture, FAO Publishing, Rome.](#)
- [OECD \(2019\) The Heavy Burden of Obesity, The Economics of Prevention](#)
- [FAO and UNEP. 2021. Global Assessment of Soil Pollution: Report. Rome.](#)

Methodology

More detailed information on EU SDG indicators for monitoring of progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), such as indicator relevance, definitions, methodological notes, background and potential linkages can be found in the [introduction](#) as well as in Annex II of the publication '[Sustainable development in the European Union — Monitoring report on progress towards the SDGs in an EU context — 2025 edition](#)' .

External links

Further data sources on zero hunger

- [EEA, European zero pollution dashboards – Ecosystems.](#)
- [EEA, Food consumption — animal based protein.](#)
- [European Commission, Trends in Harmonised Risk Indicators for the European Union.](#)
- [Eurostat, Economic accounts for agriculture — agricultural income \(indicators A, B, C\).](#)
- [FiBL, FiBL Statistics — Europe — Key indicators.](#)