

LEGAL BASIS

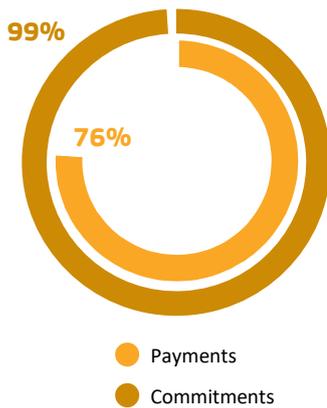
Regulation (EU) 2017/1951 of the European Parliament and of the Council

MORE INFORMATION

<http://europa.eu/!PF77Td>

BUDGET ALLOCATION 2014-2020

EUR 449.1 million

**OVERALL EXECUTION
(2014-2020)****Evaluations/
studies conducted**

For further information on evaluations of the European statistical programmes please consult:

<http://europa.eu/!uB67Wp>

How is it implemented?

The programme is implemented by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.

STATISTICAL PROGRAMME

EUROPEAN STATISTICAL PROGRAMME

What is the statistical programme?

Political decision-makers and actors in the market constantly need statistics in order to make decisions and monitor and evaluate their implementation. Statistics provide an essential basis for democracies and modern economies to function soundly and efficiently. The EU needs a high-quality statistical information service in order to fulfil its mission. European statistics must be reliable, timely, independent of political influence and provided in a convenient form for users. Together with the national statistical authorities and other national authorities responsible in each Member State for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics, Eurostat has created a partnership called the European Statistical System. This partnership also includes the European Economic Area countries. Member States collect data and compile statistics for national and EU purposes.

The EU's strategic objectives rely on European statistical data in order to provide evidence-based EU policy definition, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The European statistical programme is designed to provide high-quality statistical information in a timely manner, while maintaining a balance between economic, social and environmental fields, and to serve the needs of the wide range of users of European statistics, including other decision-makers, researchers, businesses and EU citizens in general, in a cost-effective manner without unnecessary duplication of effort.



Specific objectives

- To provide statistical information, in a timely manner, to support the development, monitoring and evaluation of the policies of the EU, ensuring that they properly reflect priorities, while maintaining a balance between economic, social and environmental fields and serving the needs of the wide range of users of European statistics, including other decision-makers, researchers, businesses and EU citizens in general, in a cost-effective manner and without unnecessary duplication of effort.
- To implement new methods of production of European statistics that aim to achieve gains in efficiency and improvements in quality.
- To strengthen the partnership within the European Statistical System and beyond in order to further enhance its productivity and its leading role in official statistics worldwide.
- To ensure that the delivery of statistics is kept consistent throughout the whole duration of the programme, provided that this does not interfere with the priority-setting mechanisms of the European Statistical System.

Why is it necessary?

A coordinated approach to the development, production and dissemination of European statistics – as provided for in the European statistical programme – guarantees the coherence, comparability and common quality standards required for statistics that are relevant for EU activities. The European Statistical System facilitates the sharing of knowledge and best practices across Member States and the development of new technologies, common tools and collaborative networks with a view to taking advantage of possible synergies and avoiding duplication of effort, thus paving the way for a modern production system equipped to meet future challenges.

Efforts to harmonise, streamline and regulate can best be initiated at the EU level, where such projects can be carried out with optimal efficiency.

Outlook for the 2021-2027 period

For the next multiannual financial framework, this programme will be included within the new single market programme.

Budget implementation (in million EUR)

EXECUTED COMMITMENTS		EXECUTED PAYMENTS	
61.6	2018	64.7	
75.4	2019	56.0	
76.9	2020	64.3	

Key performance indicators

	Baseline	PROGRESS TO TARGET	Target	Results	Assessment
Number of data extractions made from Eurostat reference database by external users ⁽¹⁾	7.9 m	 > 100%	8.7 m	13.9 million data extractions made compared to a target of 8.7 million	On track
Achievements of specific objective 1 as a percentage of the outputs related to it ⁽¹⁾		 94%	100%	94% out of 100%	On track
Achievements of specific objective 2 as a percentage of the outputs related to it ⁽¹⁾		 92%	100%	92% out of 100%	On track
Average punctuality of statistics (on foreign trade with countries outside the EU) sent by Member States to Eurostat ⁽¹⁾		 > 100%	> 0	sent 2 days in advance of deadline	On track
Achievements of specific objective 3 as a percentage of the outputs related to it ⁽¹⁾		 92%	100%	92% out of 100%	Moderate progress

 % of target achieved by the end of 2020

⁽¹⁾ Average of results for 2014-2020.

Where are we in the implementation?

- The extension of the programme to 2020 paved the way for a range of ambitious actions to give the European Statistical System greater capacity and flexibility. In addressing high-level requests from policymakers, the extension of the European statistical programme included measures for higher-quality, timelier statistics to support the Commission's political priorities and the European Parliament's political agenda.
- The 2019-2020 work programme aims at advancing towards the completion of the European Statistical System's vision 2020 strategy. The strategy was adopted to cope with the challenges that the production of official statistics faces and identifies five key areas in which common action is needed in order for European statistics to be fit for the future: (1) user needs, (2) data sources, (3) quality assurance, (4) partnership and (5) dissemination and communication. The strategy is progressing with the implementation of common projects carried out in the European Statistical System, to be completed in 2020.

Performance assessment

- The implementation of the European statistical programme progressed well overall, producing significant results under the programme's different objectives. This is shown by the majority of the performance indicators being on track and even surpassing their targets. The remaining indicators show moderate progress in a year made difficult by the COVID-19 pandemic. The programme has four specific objectives.
- The first specific objective is to provide statistical information, in a timely manner, to support the development, monitoring and evaluation of the policies of the EU properly reflecting priorities. Eurostat's very good performance in relation to this objective is shown by the three related performance indicators. The statistical coverage has increased by around 5%. The number of data extractions by external users from the Eurostat databases has increased by 17%. In relation to the effectiveness of the work carried out under the objective, 94% of all planned outputs have been achieved or on target.
- The second specific objective is to implement new methods of production of European statistics, aiming at efficiency gains and improvements in quality. The first related performance indicator shows the improvements in quality. The timeliness of the main quarterly and monthly statistics shows a very slight increase (half a day). The effectiveness of the work carried out under the objective increased slightly, with 97% of all planned outputs being achieved or on target.
- The third specific objective is to strengthen the partnership within the European Statistical System and beyond in order to further enhance its productivity and its leading role in official statistics worldwide. The related indicator shows that the publication of the principle European economic indicators decreased slightly, probably due to the COVID-19 pandemic that began early in 2020. The production of statistics on foreign trade with countries outside the EU is consistently ahead of the legal target.
- The fourth specific objective is to ensure that the delivery of statistics is kept consistent throughout the whole duration of the programme. Consistency is shown by the indicator measuring the percentage of statistics covering 10 or more consecutive years, which has increased compared to the baseline in 2017, but not compared to the last 2 years, due to more new statistics. However, the absolute number (which has higher indicative value) has increased.

Concrete examples of achievements

- With regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, Eurostat and the national statistical institutes have turned to innovative methods and new data sources in order to respond to the emerging new demands for information, and have expanded the production of statistics into newly emerging fields, such as the links between income, consumption and wealth. At the end of April 2020, Eurostat introduced a dedicated section on COVID-19 on its website, containing all relevant information and providing easy access in one place, which was later developed into the European Statistical Recovery Dashboard (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/recovery-dashboard/>).
- A new statistical information tool was developed and disseminated in a very short amount of time. The European Statistical Recovery Dashboard responds to the needs of policymakers at the national and EU levels in the COVID-19 context. It brings together 23 monthly and quarterly indicators and covers all of the statistical areas that are relevant for tracking the economic and social recovery from the pandemic.
- In response to emerging needs in the analysis of the labour market effects of the COVID-19 crisis, Eurostat developed a new approach to adapt to the evolution of the labour market. The data were published faster than in the past, and Eurostat is currently working with Member States to further improve its timeliness. Eurostat also provided high-quality and timely business and trade statistics, in particular the principal European economic indicators.
- Concerning the sustainable development goals, the Eurostat monitoring report on the subject and the accompanying communication package are key sources of information for a wide range of users. Similarly, Eurostat launched a new data collection on packaging and packaging waste.
- The trusted smart statistics initiative is a major development that Eurostat initiated together with its partners in the European Statistical System. It aims at providing the system with the ability to embrace the opportunities provided by new technologies and data originating from the digitalisation of society and the economy. Eurostat laid down the foundations of the Web Intelligence Hub, a platform to collect and process internet data to better assess labour market developments on a timely basis, using advanced technologies.