KEY FIGURES ON EUROPE

2026 EDITION



eurostat

FLAGSHIP PUBLICATIONS



List of EU and EFTA countries

BE	Belgium	**ES**	Spain	**HU**	Hungary	**SK**	Slovakia
BG	Bulgaria	**FR**	France	**MT**	Malta	**FI**	Finland
CZ	Czechia	**HR**	Croatia	**NL**	Netherlands	**SE**	Sweden
DK	Denmark	**IT**	Italy	**AT**	Austria		
DE	Germany	**CY**	Cyprus	**PL**	Poland	**IS**	Iceland
EE	Estonia	**LV**	Latvia	**PT**	Portugal	**LI**	Liechtenstein
IE	Ireland	**LT**	Lithuania	**RO**	Romania	**NO**	Norway
EL	Greece	**LU**	Luxembourg	**SI**	Slovenia	**CH**	Switzerland

KEY FIGURES ON EUROPE

2026 EDITION

Manuscript completed in May 2026

This document should not be considered as representative of the European Commission's official position.

Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2026

© European Union, 2026



The Commission's reuse policy is implemented under Commission Decision 2011/833/EU of 12 December 2011 on the reuse of Commission documents (OJ L 330, 14.12.2011, p. 39, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2011/833/oj).

Unless otherwise noted, the reuse of this document is authorised under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). This means that reuse is allowed, provided appropriate credit is given and any changes are indicated.

For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the European Union, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective rightholders. The European Union does not own the copyright in relation to the following elements:

— maps, administrative boundaries © EuroGeographics © OpenStreetMap , © UN-FAO

Kosovo – this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the maps don't imply official endorsement or acceptance by the European Union.

Theme: General and regional statistics
Collection: Flagship publications

Print: ISBN 978-92-68-39879-1 ISSN 1830-7892 doi:10.2785/5660855 KS-01-26-035-EN-C
PDF: ISBN 978-92-68-39878-4 ISSN 2315-201X doi:10.2785/7279381 KS-01-26-035-EN-N

Foreword



Dear readers,

I am pleased to present the ninth annual edition of 'Key figures on Europe', Eurostat's most popular flagship publication.

Reliable statistics are essential for understanding the profound social, economic and environmental transformations that Europe is currently undergoing amid changing global dynamics. Offering a comprehensive overview of recent developments in the EU, as well as in EU and EFTA countries, 'Key figures on Europe' brings together a broad range of indicators grouped into 3 chapters: 'People and society', 'Economy and business', and 'Environment and natural resources'.

With its visualisations and explanations, 'Key figures on Europe' presents statistics in an engaging format, enabling readers to compare indicators across countries, and to turn data into meaningful insights. For readers who are eager to further explore European statistics, a free, publicly accessible database can be found on Eurostat's website. Together with interactive tools and background information, the website also includes the 'Statistics Explained' section, which presents complex topics in a user-friendly manner.

I hope that 'Key figures on Europe' will serve as a valuable reference and that you will find this publication both informative and inspiring.



Mariana Kotzeva
Director-General, Eurostat

Abstract

'Key figures on Europe' presents a selection of statistical data on the European Union (EU), EU countries and EFTA countries. For some readers, this publication may offer an introduction to EU statistics, while others can use it as a starting point to explore further a wide range of data and information. These are freely available on Eurostat's website and in Statistics Explained.

Editors

Eurostat, Unit B.2 – Dissemination and user relations

Contact details

Eurostat
Bâtiment Joseph Bech
5, rue Alphonse Weicker
2721 Luxembourg
E-mail: estat-user-support@ec.europa.eu

Production and layout

INFORMA s.à r.l. working under contract for Eurostat

For more information, please consult

Eurostat's website: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat
Statistics Explained: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained

Acknowledgements

The editors of this publication would like to thank colleagues in Eurostat who were involved in its preparation.

Contents

Foreword **3**
Introduction **6**
1. People and society **9**
Population 10
Health 16
Education 18
Labour market 21
Living conditions 28
Digital society 32
2. Economy and business **35**
Economy and finance 36
Prices 39
Household consumption expenditure 42
Government finance 44
International trade 46
Business 50
Research and development 57
Tourism 58
3. Environment and natural resources **61**
Transport 62
Energy 67
Environment 72
Agriculture 77
Fisheries 79
Forestry 80

Introduction

Eurostat is the statistical office of the European Union (EU). Its mission is to provide high quality statistics on Europe, such as key information on its people, economy and the environment.

'Key figures on Europe' is published every year: it focuses on annual data. The 2026 edition describes the situation in the EU and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries, with the most recent data generally for 2024 or 2025 (depending on the source). Consequently, the impact of the Russian military aggression against Ukraine, the energy market crisis and the recent period of rising consumer prices may be seen for a variety of indicators.

Structure of the publication

'Key figures on Europe' provides an overview of the wealth of information available on Eurostat's website and within its online databases. It offers a balanced set of indicators for a broad cross-section of information covering socioeconomic and environmental developments in the EU.

'Key figures on Europe' is divided into an introduction and 3 main chapters. The introduction includes information about data coverage and on accessing European statistics and supporting sources of information. The main chapters treat the following areas: people and society (population, health, education, the labour market, living conditions and the digital society); economy and business (GDP (from national accounts), prices, household consumption (from sector accounts), government finance, international trade, business, research and development, and tourism); environment and natural resources (transport, energy, the environment, agriculture, fisheries and forestry).

Each chapter presents a set of key indicators: more information can be found on Eurostat's website, such as subject-specific publications, online articles and databases covering a broad and comprehensive range of data.

Data extraction and coverage

Data extraction

The statistical data presented in this publication were extracted on 4 May 2026. Eurostat's online database may contain fresher data. Note that some older data included in this edition may differ from equivalent values published in previous editions due to revisions.

Spatial data coverage

This publication presents information for the EU (a sum/average covering the 27 current members of the EU) as well as its individual countries and the 4 EFTA countries. Data for consumer prices are an exception insofar as the composition of the EU aggregate changes over time (reflecting the composition of the EU as countries join/leave the EU).

The countries in the visualisations are usually ranked according to the values for (one of) the indicator(s) illustrated, with the EU and EFTA countries ranked separately from each other.

References in the publication to EU countries being in northern, eastern, southern or western Europe are based on groupings provided by EU vocabularies.

A map on the inside cover page shows the EU and EFTA countries.

Country codes and names

BE Belgium
BG Bulgaria
CZ Czechia
DK Denmark
DE Germany
EE Estonia
IE Ireland
EL Greece
ES Spain
FR France
HR Croatia
IT Italy
CY Cyprus
LV Latvia
LT Lithuania
LU Luxembourg
HU Hungary
MT Malta
NL Netherlands
AT Austria
PL Poland
PT Portugal
RO Romania
SI Slovenia
SK Slovakia
FI Finland
SE Sweden

IS Iceland
LI Liechtenstein
NO Norway
CH Switzerland

Temporal data coverage

If data for a reference year (or reference period) are not available for a particular country, the authors tried to complete the coverage using data for the next most recent available reference years (these exceptions are noted under each visualisation).

Notes and flags

Notes and flags explain and define specific characteristics of data. In this publication, these have been restricted as far as possible to provide more space for illustrating the data. This publication includes only the main notes needed to interpret the data and to highlight when data for one year have been replaced by data for another. Data not shown in individual visualisations may simply not be available or may be confidential. The full set of notes and flags is available on Eurostat's website via dataset code(s) presented for each map or visualisation.

Accessing European statistics

The simplest way to access Eurostat's wide range of statistical information is through Eurostat's website. Users have free access to Eurostat's databases and publications. The website is updated daily and presents the latest and most comprehensive statistical information available on the EU as well as individual EU, EFTA and enlargement countries. For some datasets, information may be provided for more non-EU countries.

You can use the Eurostat dataset codes, such as 'nama_10_gdp', to find the most recent data in Eurostat's online database. These dataset codes are included in the source below each map or figure.

If you access statistical data through artificial intelligence (AI) tools, please verify the information against the original Eurostat source before using or citing it.

Some of the indicators presented in this publication can be complex. The Statistics Explained website contains a comprehensive online glossary containing definitions for a broad range of statistical indicators, concepts and terms. Specialist terms used in the text are linked to their glossary definition.

Release dates for statistical indicators are published in the Eurostat release calendar.

1

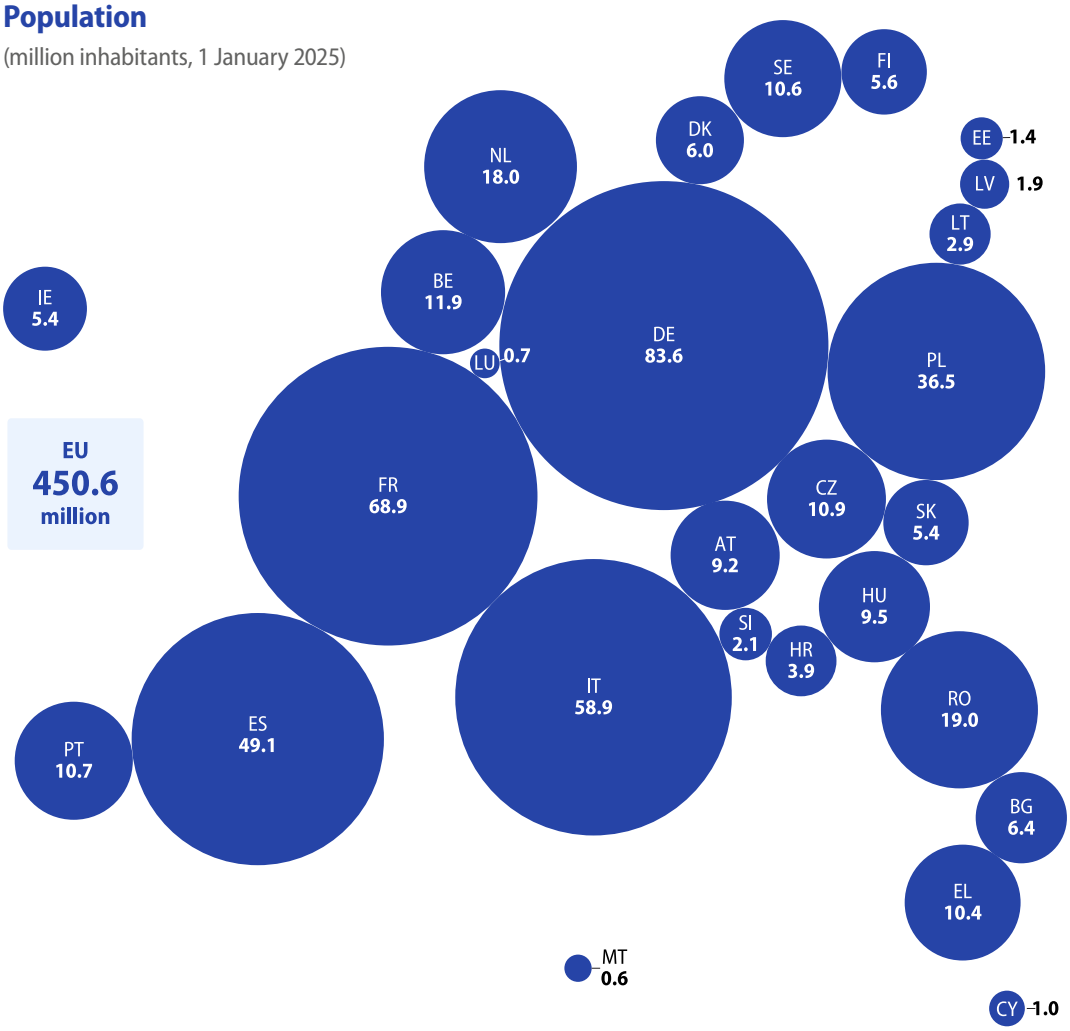
People and society



Population

Population

(million inhabitants, 1 January 2025)



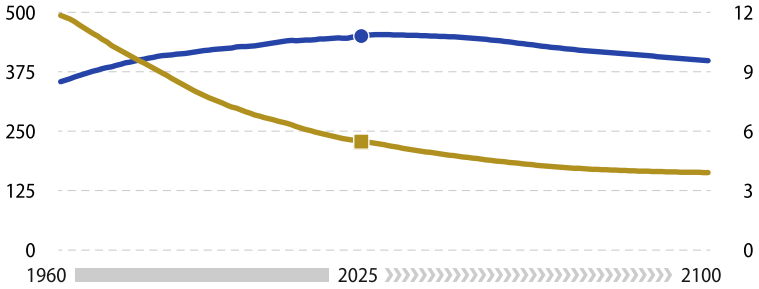
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: demo_gind)

Over the last decade, the total number of inhabitants in the EU grew at a relatively slow pace when compared with historical developments. During 2020, the EU's population declined, but it rebounded each year thereafter. As of 1 January 2025, there were 450.6 million people living in the EU, 1.2 million more than on 1 January 2024.

Population levels vary considerably between EU countries: on 1 January 2025, the number of inhabitants ranged from 0.6 million in Malta and 0.7 million in Luxembourg up to 83.6 million in Germany. Together, Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Poland were home to almost two thirds (65.9%) of the EU's population.

Population

(EU, 1 January 1960–2100)

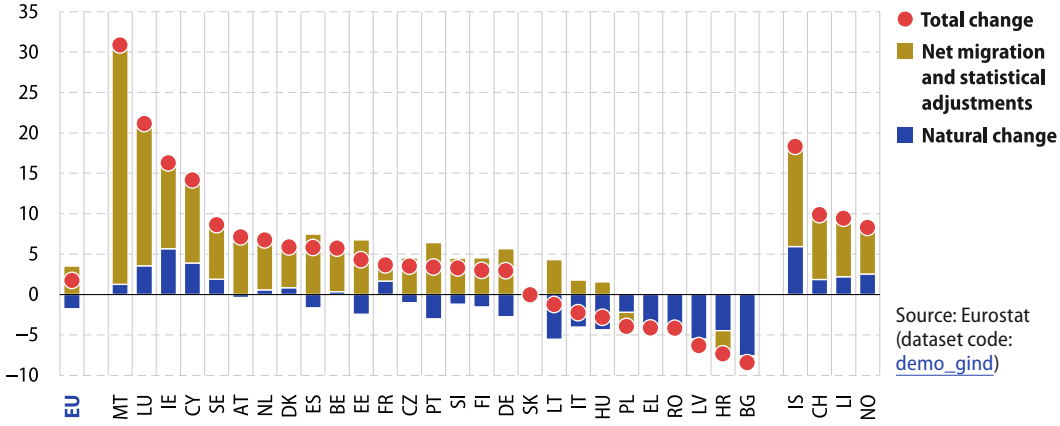


Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: demo_gind and proj_25np) and United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2024). World Population Prospects 2024, Online Edition

In 1974, the EU's share of the global population fell below 10.0%. This downward development continued through to 2025 when the EU accounted for 5.5% of the world's population. According to Eurostat's baseline projections, the population of the EU will grow to 453.3 million inhabitants in 2029. Thereafter, it is projected to fall back to 398.8 million by 2100. According to this baseline, coupled with faster population growth in the rest of the world, around 1 in 25 people – or 3.9% of the global population – will be living in the EU at the end of this century.

Population change

(% of total population, 1 January 2015–25)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: demo_gind)

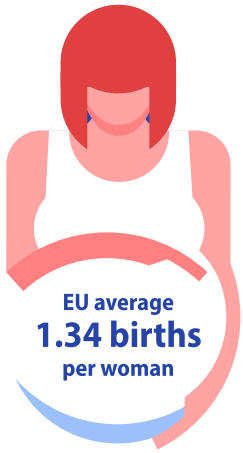
Between 1 January 2015 and 1 January 2025, the EU's population rose 7.8 million (or 1.8%); net inward migration was the driving factor behind this growth. The population increased most rapidly during this period in Malta and Luxembourg, increasing overall by 30.9% and 21.1%, respectively. At the other end of the range, the population decreased most in percentage terms in Bulgaria (down 8.4%), Croatia (down 7.3%) and Latvia (down 6.3%).

A natural decrease in the number of inhabitants (more deaths than births) in Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Poland and Romania was reinforced by net outward migration (more people leaving than entering the country) leading to a decline in population numbers. There was also an overall decline in the populations of Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Hungary and Slovakia, despite net inward migration.

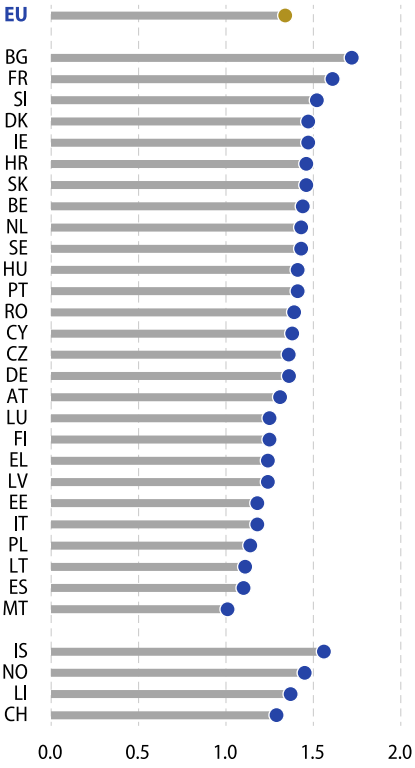
Fertility rate

(live births per woman, 2024)

In developed countries, a total fertility rate of 2.1 is considered to be the replacement level: in other words, this is the average number of live births per woman required to keep the total number of inhabitants at a constant level (in the absence of migration).



In 2024, the total fertility rate among EU countries ranged from a high of 1.72 live births per woman in Bulgaria down to 1.10 in Spain and 1.01 in Malta. The EU average was 1.34 live births per woman.

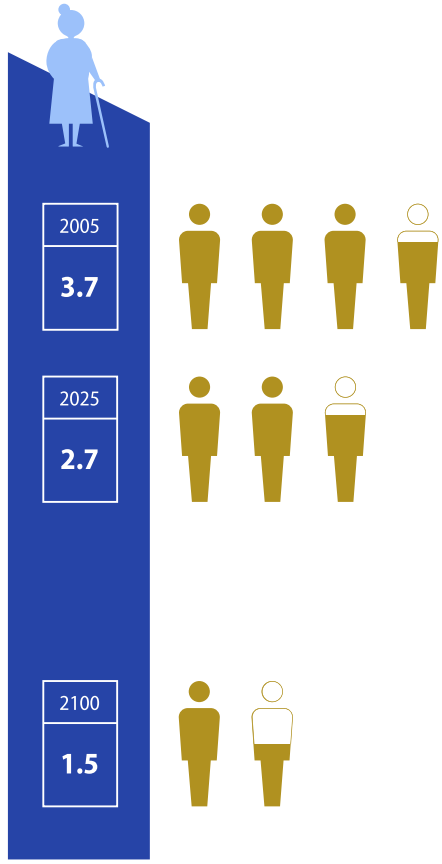


Source: Eurostat (dataset code: demo_find)

Ageing population

(ratio, number of people aged 20–64 per person aged ≥ 65, EU, 2005, 2025 and 2100)

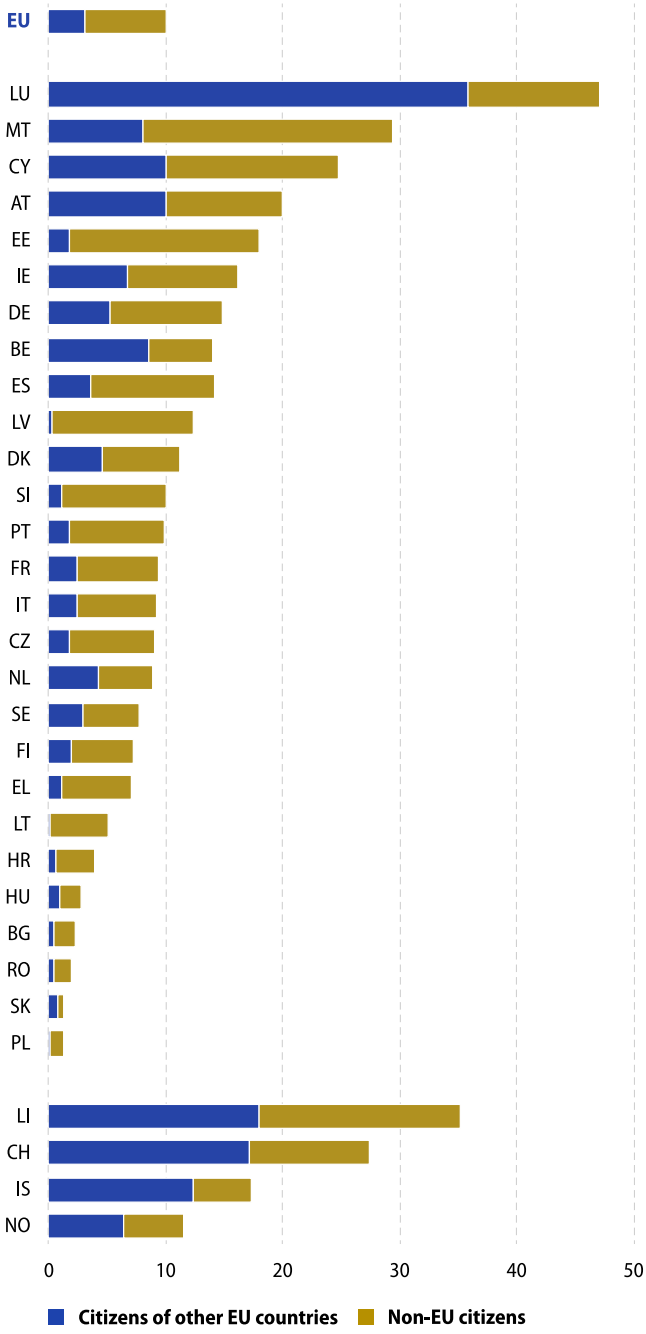
Population ageing has been observed across much of Europe in recent decades. Changes in population structure can have serious implications for issues such as pension funds, government revenues and the provision of services such as health and social care. The number of working-age people (defined here as those aged from 20 to 64) in the EU in relation to the number of older people (aged 65 or over) fell from 3.7 in 2005 to 2.7 by 2025. According to Eurostat's baseline projections, this dependency ratio is expected to fall to 1.5 by 2100.



Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: demo_pjanind and proj_25np)

Citizenship of the population

(%, share of total population, 1 January 2025)



Note: ranked on the total proportion for all foreign citizens, including stateless and unknown. EU: including 2024 data for PT. PT: 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: migr_pop1ctz)

On 1 January 2025, there were 44.8 million foreign citizens living in EU countries. Of these, 14.1 million people were citizens of EU countries other than the country in which they resided (3.1% of the population) and 30.7 million were citizens of non-EU countries (6.8% of the population). Note that there was also a small number of stateless people and people whose citizenship was unknown (not shown); together they accounted for 0.03% of the EU's total population.

In relative terms, foreign citizens accounted for 9.9% of the total population in the EU, with this share ranging from almost half (47.0%) of the population in Luxembourg to less than 2.0% in Poland, Slovakia and Romania. A large majority of the EU countries reported a higher number of non-EU citizens than citizens of other EU countries within their populations.

EU

3.1%

citizens of other EU countries

6.8%

non-EU citizens

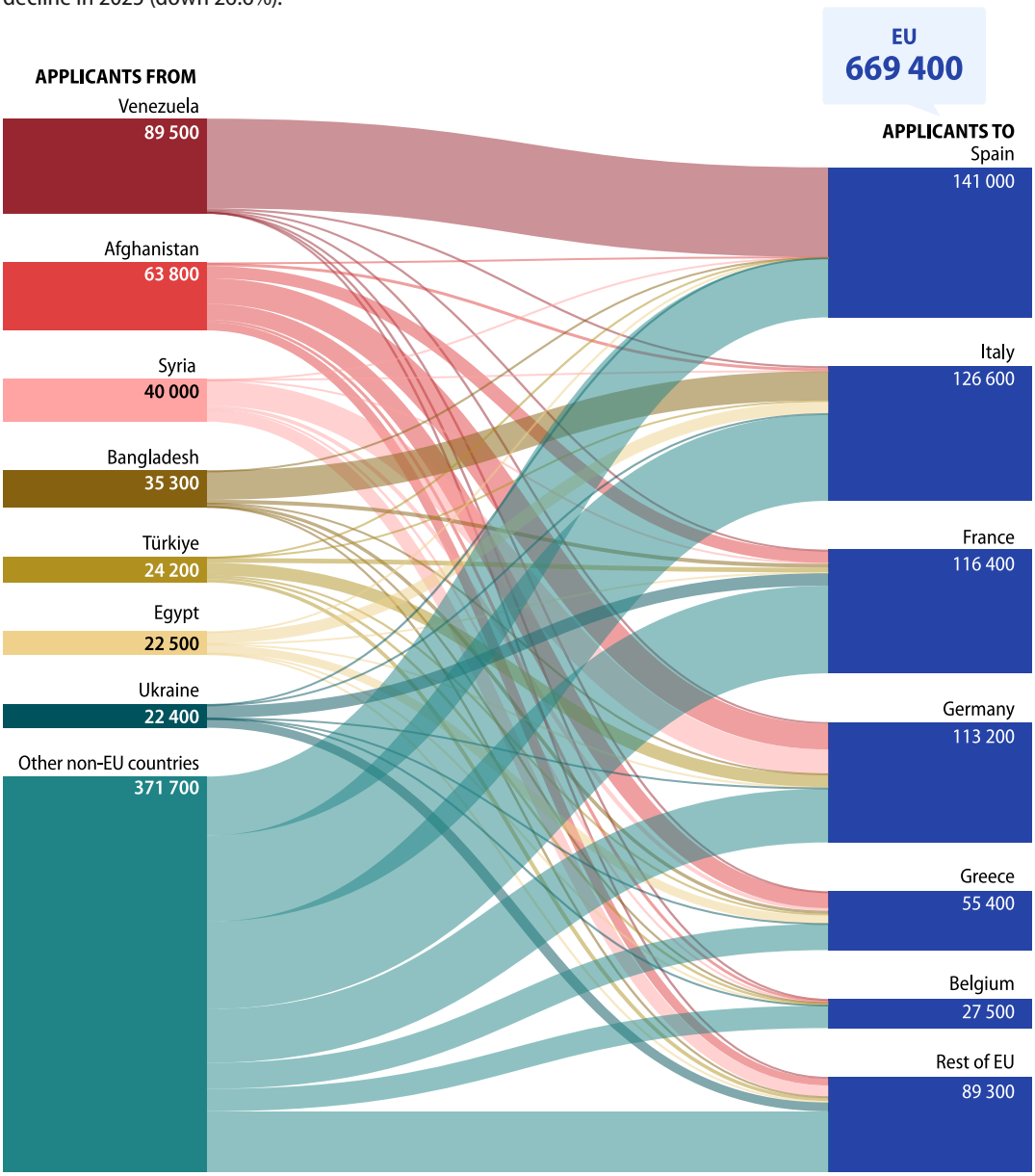
First-time asylum applicants

(number of applicants in EU countries, 2025)

Having peaked at 1.2 million during the 2015–16 period of exceptionally high migration flows, the number of first-time asylum applicants in the EU dropped to under half a million by 2020. However, the number increased each year from 2021 to 2023, reaching 1.0 million. A more moderate decline followed in 2024 (down 13.1%) and a stronger decline in 2025 (down 26.6%).

There were 669 400 asylum applicants in the EU (equivalent to 0.15% of its population) in 2025.

In 2025, the highest numbers of asylum applicants in the EU were Venezuelans (89 500), followed by Afghans (63 800). The most common EU countries for lodging applications were Spain, Italy, France and Germany.

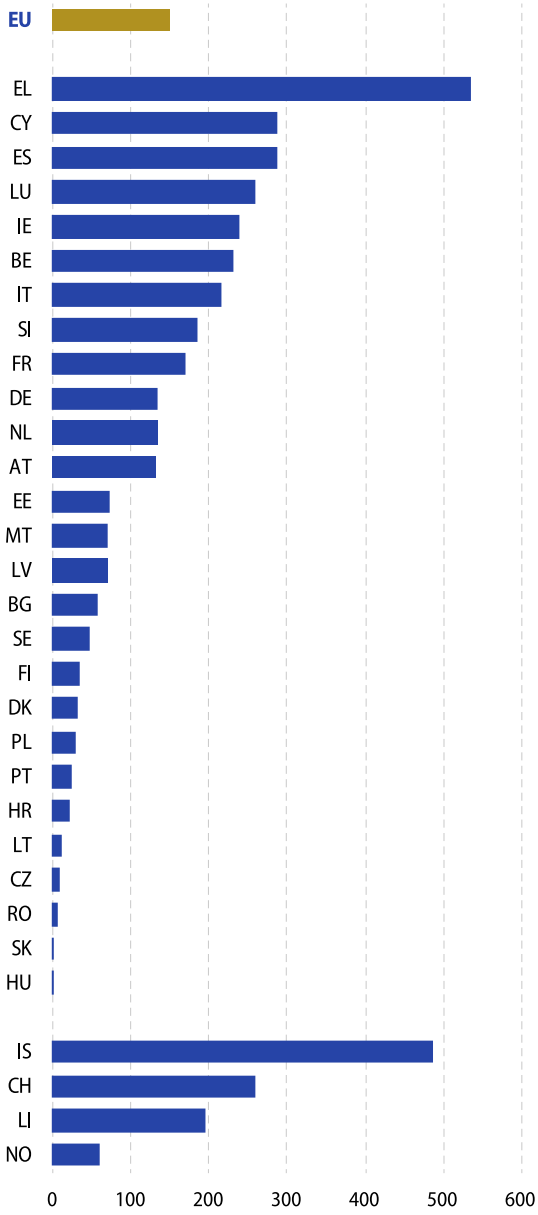


Note: rounded data. Only applicants who are non-EU citizens.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: migr_asyappctza)

First-time asylum applicants

(number per 100 000 inhabitants, 2025)



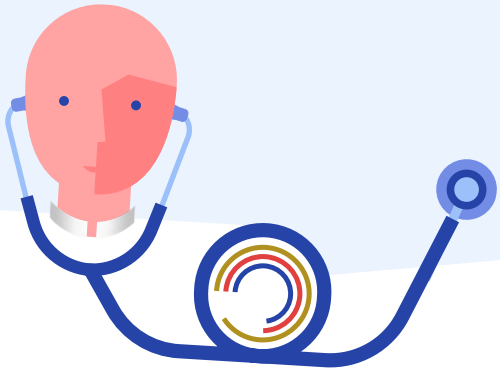
Note: applicants who are non-EU citizens. IS: 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: migr_asyappctza and demo_gind)

In 2025, the number of first-time asylum applications lodged in the EU was 149 per 100 000 inhabitants. Among the EU countries, the highest ratio – 534 applicants per 100 000 inhabitants – was in Greece. At the other end of the scale, the number of applicants per 100 000 inhabitants was 1 in Hungary, 2 in Slovakia, 6 in Romania, 9 in Czechia and 11 in Lithuania.



Health

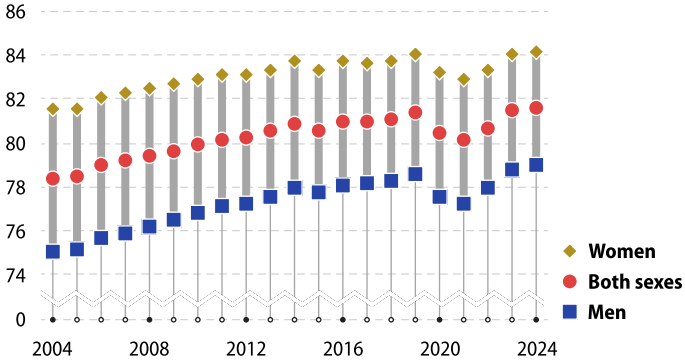


Life expectancy at birth

(years, EU, 2004–24)

Following a fall in life expectancy in both 2020 and 2021 during the COVID-19 crisis, life expectancy in the EU grew again in the next 3 years. By 2024, it had recovered to 84.1 years for women and 78.9 years for men. For women, this was the first year that life expectancy was above the pre-crisis peak; for men, this had been achieved in 2023.

The narrowing gender gap witnessed during the previous 2 decades was reversed somewhat during the crisis. However, it narrowed again in the 3 most recent years, reaching 5.2 years in 2024.

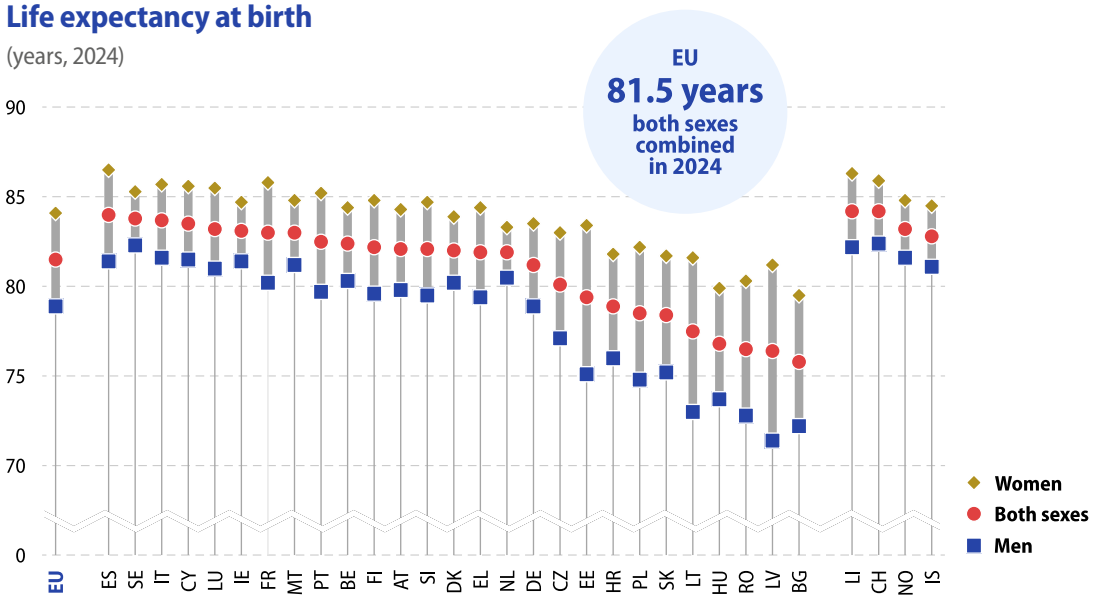


Note: break mark included in the y-axis. Breaks in series.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: demo_mlexpec)

Life expectancy at birth

(years, 2024)



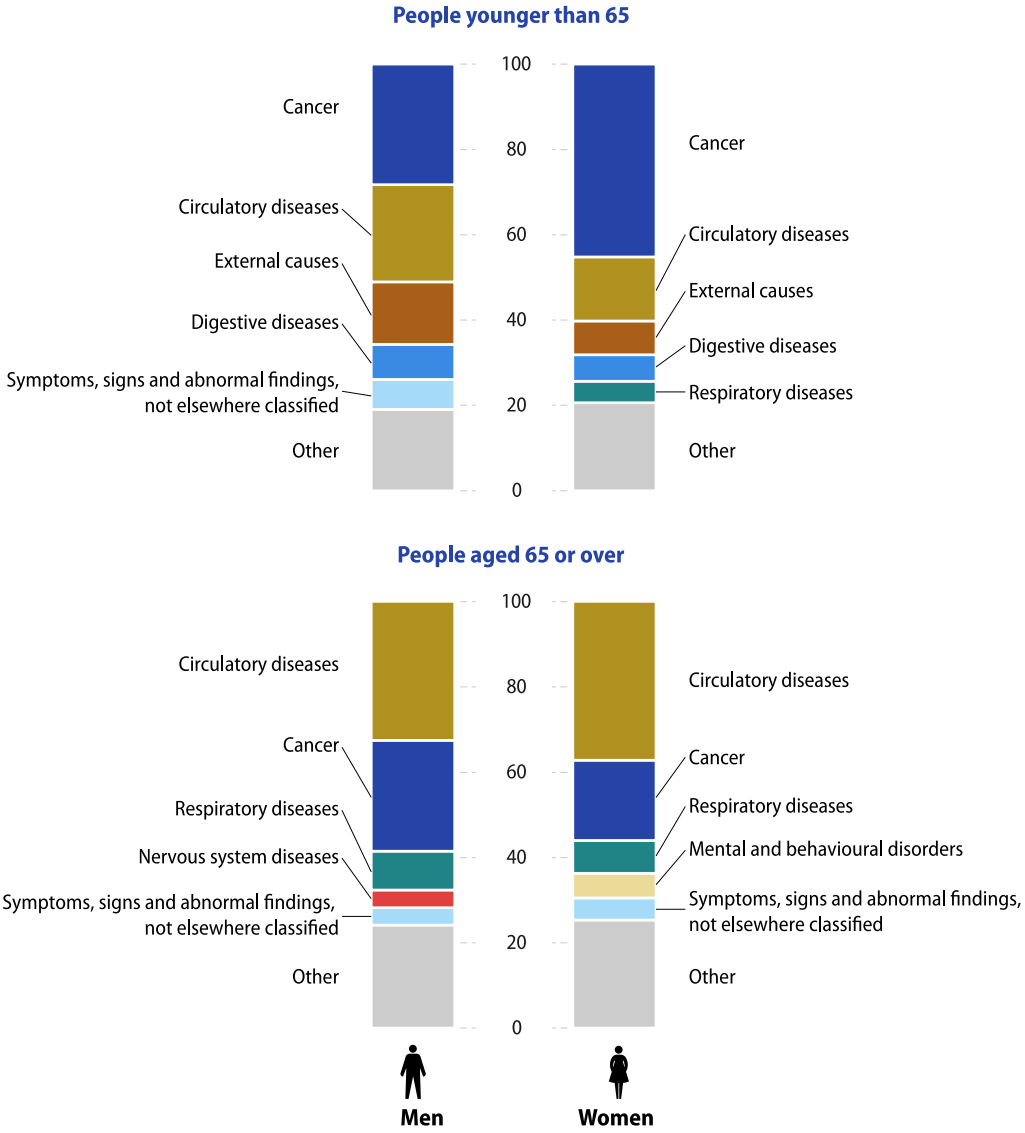
Note: break mark included in the y-axis.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: demo_mlexpec)

Among the EU countries, Spain (84.0 years), Sweden (83.8 years), Italy (83.7 years) and Cyprus (83.5 years) recorded the highest average life expectancies at birth (for both sexes combined) in 2024; the lowest was in Bulgaria (75.8 years). New-born girls had higher life expectancy than new-born boys in every EU country, with particularly large gender gaps in the Baltic countries – Latvia (9.8 years), Lithuania (8.6 years) and Estonia (8.3 years). The narrowest gaps were in the Netherlands (2.8 years), Sweden (3.0 years) and Ireland (3.3 years).

Major causes of death

(% of all deaths, 2023)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: hlth_cd_aro)

In 2023, there were 4.8 million deaths in the EU, among which the vast majority (85.2%) occurred among people aged 65 or over.

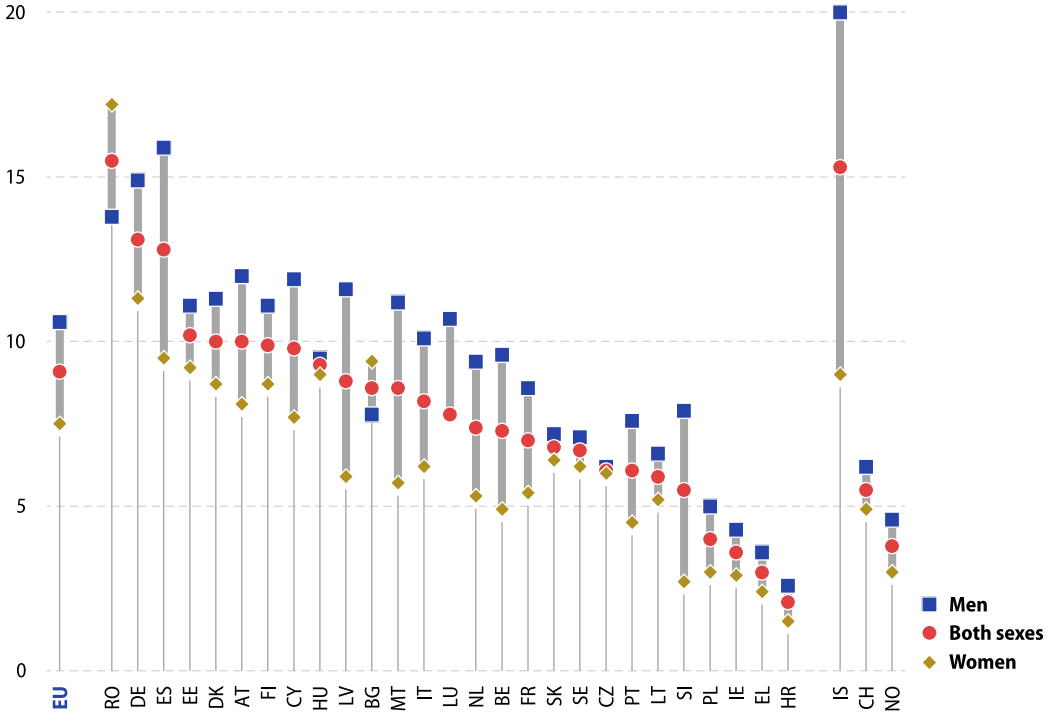
The main causes of death (based on a list of 18 causes) varied considerably between older and younger people and somewhat between men and women. Among people younger than 65, the most common cause was cancer (28% for men and 45% for women), followed by circulatory diseases (23% for men and 15% for women), external causes (15% for men and 8% for women) and digestive diseases (8% for men and 6% for women). Among older people, the most common cause was circulatory diseases (33% for men and 37% for women), followed by cancer (26% for men and 19% for women) and respiratory diseases (9% for men and 8% for women).

Education



Early leavers from education and training

(%, share of people aged 18–24, 2025)



Note: early leavers are defined as people who have attained at most a lower secondary education and who are not involved in further education or training. LU and IS: 2024. LU women: not available due to a small sample size.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: edat_lfse_14)

The risk of poverty, unemployment or social exclusion is higher among people leaving school at a relatively young age. In 2025, the share of early leavers from education and training in the EU was 9.1% (for both sexes combined), ranging from 15.5% in Romania to 2.1% in Croatia. The EU has set itself the goal of reducing this level to below 9% by 2030.

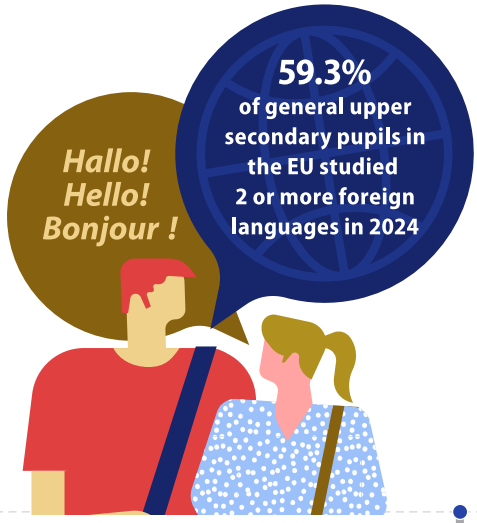
In 2025, young men (10.6%) in the EU were more likely to be early leavers than young women (7.5%). A gender gap with higher shares for young men existed in the vast majority of EU countries. The only exceptions with a higher share of early leavers among young women were Romania and Bulgaria.

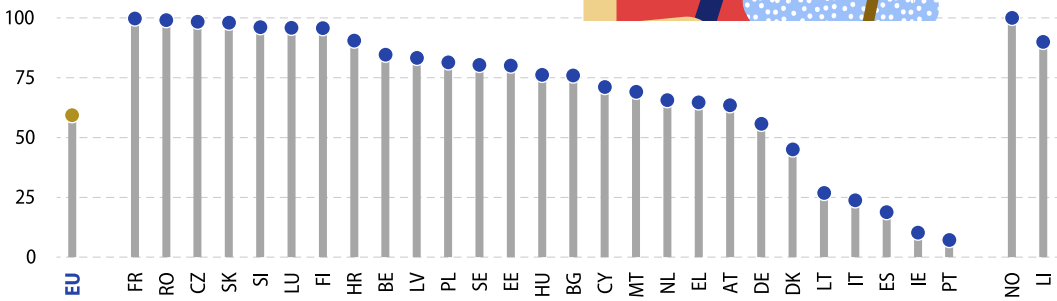
The biggest gender gap was in Spain, where the share of early leavers among young men (15.9%) was 6.4 percentage points higher than that among young women (9.5%). Latvia, Malta, Slovenia and Belgium also had gender gaps wider than 4.5 percentage points.

Learning 2 or more foreign languages

(%, share of pupils in general upper secondary education, 2024)

In 2024, 59.3% of general upper secondary pupils in the EU were studying 2 or more foreign languages. More than 98.0% of all general upper secondary pupils in France, Romania, Czechia (2023 data) and Slovakia were studying 2 or more foreign languages, compared with 10.3% in Ireland and 7.2% in Portugal.





Note: CZ, 2023. LI: 2022.

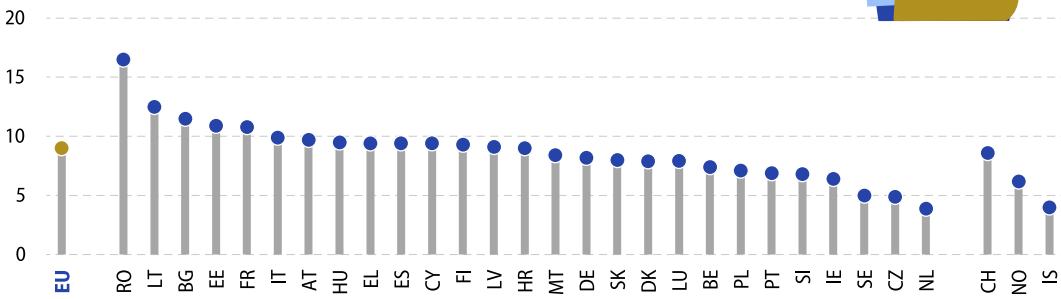
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: educ_uoe_lang02)

Young people neither in employment nor in education and training

(%, share of people aged 15–24, 2025)

The share of young people (aged 15 to 24) neither in employment nor in education and training (NEET) concerns people who were not employed and had not participated recently in any form of education or training. In 2025, the NEET rate for young people in the EU stood at 9.0%. The rate in Romania (16.5%) was 4.2 times as high as that observed in the Netherlands (3.9%).



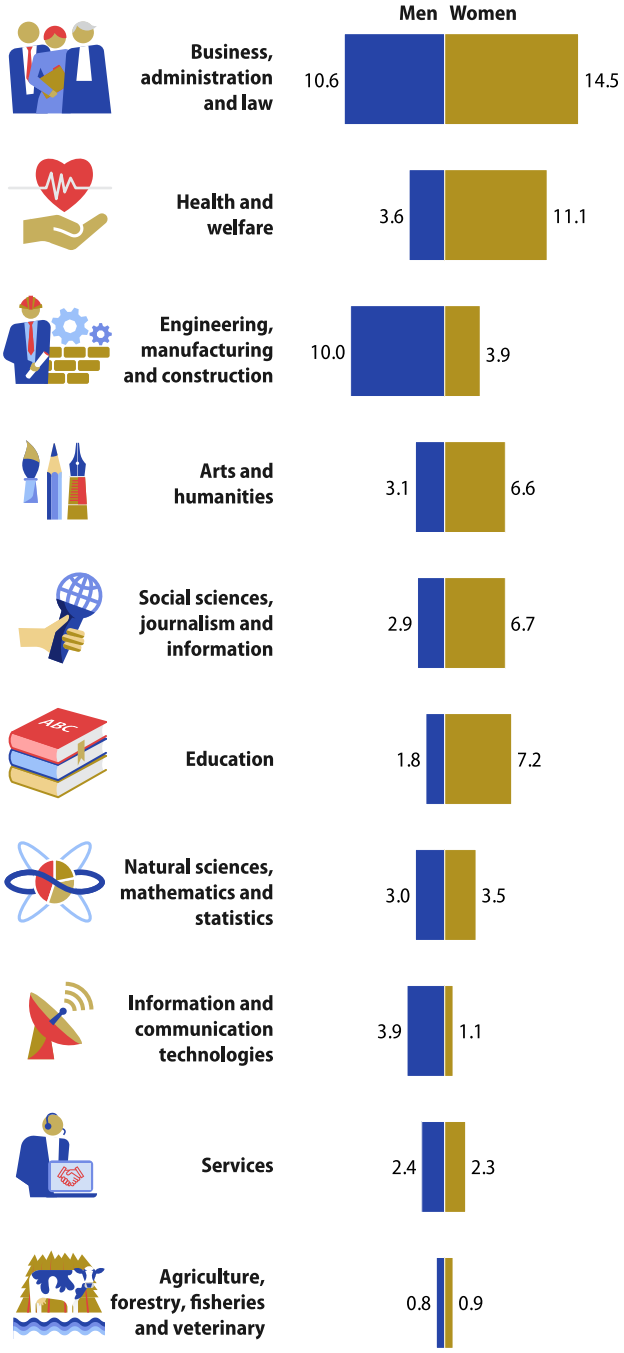


Note: not having been in education or training refers to the situation during the 4 weeks prior to being surveyed. IS: 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: edat_lfse_20)

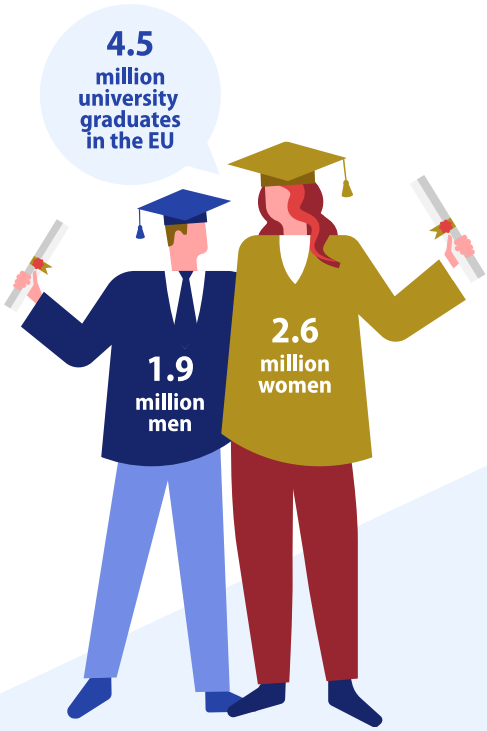
Fields of study for university graduates

(%, share of all graduates, EU, 2024)



Note: ranked on the total share of graduates (male and female combined).
Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: educ_uoe_grad01 and educ_uoe_grad03)

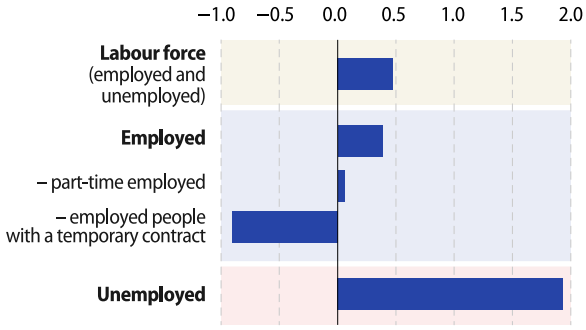
In 2024, there were 4.5 million tertiary education graduates across the EU: female university graduates (2.6 million) outnumbered their male counterparts (1.9 million). This pattern of more female than male graduates was repeated for a majority of fields of study; it was particularly apparent among people having studied education, where there were 4.0 times as many female as male graduates. The numbers of male and female graduates were similar for agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary fields as well as for services. By contrast, there were 3.7 times as many male as female graduates among those having studied information and communication technologies.



Labour market

Annual change in the labour force composition

(%, people aged 20–64, EU, 2025)

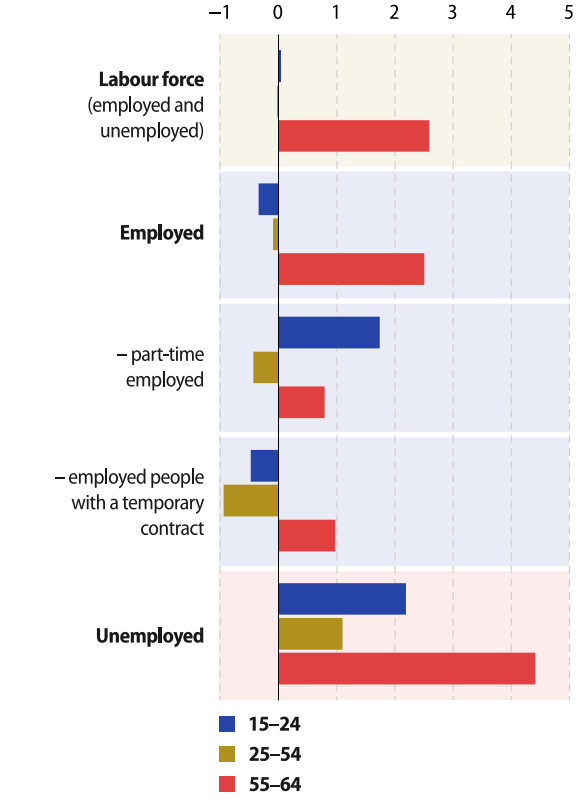


Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: lfsi_emp_a, lfsi_pt_a and une_rt_a)

The size of the EU's labour force (employed and unemployed people aged 20 to 64) increased 0.5% between 2024 and 2025, reaching 210 million. The number of people in employment grew 0.4%, while the number of unemployed people grew 1.9%. Among employed people, the number of part-time workers increased weakly (up 0.1%) and the number of employed people with a temporary contract fell (down 0.9%).

Annual change in the labour force composition, by age group

(%, EU, 2025)



In 2025, a core group of working-age people (aged 25 to 54) accounted for 70.8% of the EU's labour force aged 15 to 64.

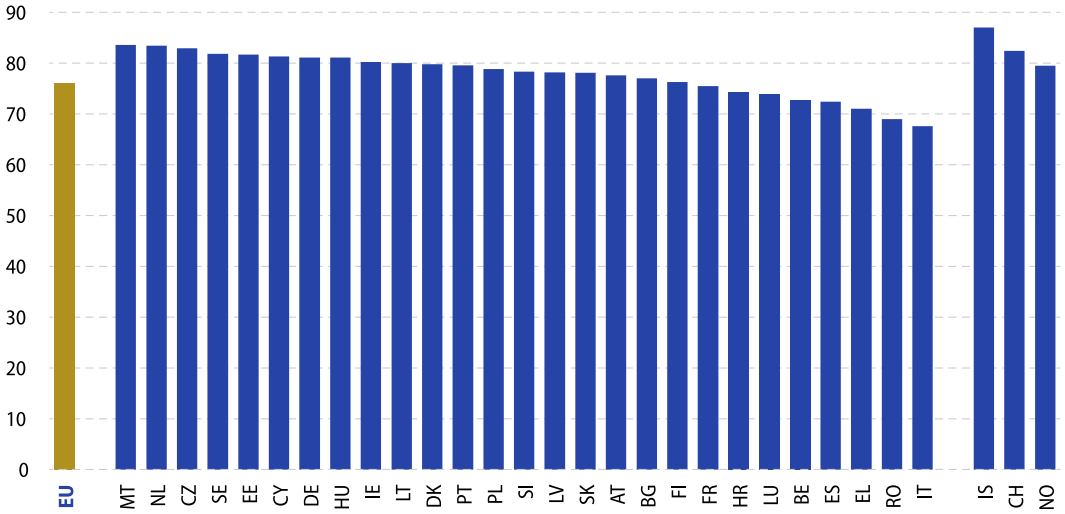
While young people (aged 15 to 24) accounted for 9.0% of the total number of employed people in the EU in 2025, their shares of part-time employment (15.9%) and employment with a temporary contract (33.3%) were considerably higher.

Between 2024 and 2025, the size of the EU's labour force and the number of employed people were relatively stable among people aged 15 to 24 and 25 to 54 but increased more strongly among older people. Growth in part-time employment was stronger for younger and older employed people, while the number of people employed with a temporary contract decreased most notably among people aged 25 to 54. The number of unemployed people increased overall and in all age groups, with the number rising the most for older people.

Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: lfsi_emp_a, lfsi_pt_a and lfsa_ugan)

Employment rate

(%, share of population aged 20–64, 2025)



Note: IS, 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: lfsi_emp_a)

The EU employment rate – which measures the share of employed people aged 20 to 64 within the population of the same age – was 76.1% in 2025. There were 10 EU countries where at least 80.0% of adults aged 20 to 64 were in employment: the highest rates were in Malta (83.6%), the Netherlands (83.4%), Czechia (82.9%), Sweden (81.8%) and Estonia (81.7%). At the other end of the range, fewer than 70.0% of adults aged 20 to 64 were in employment in Italy (67.6%) and Romania (69.0%).

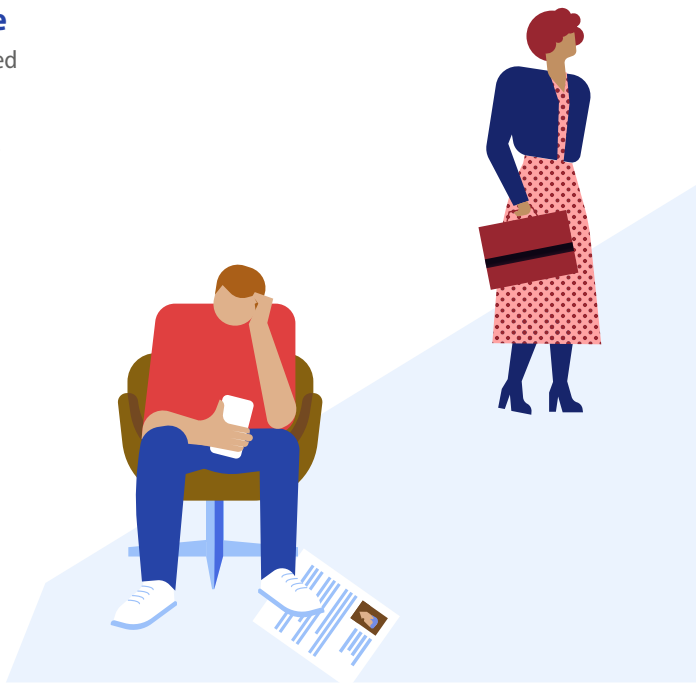


Annual change in the employment rate

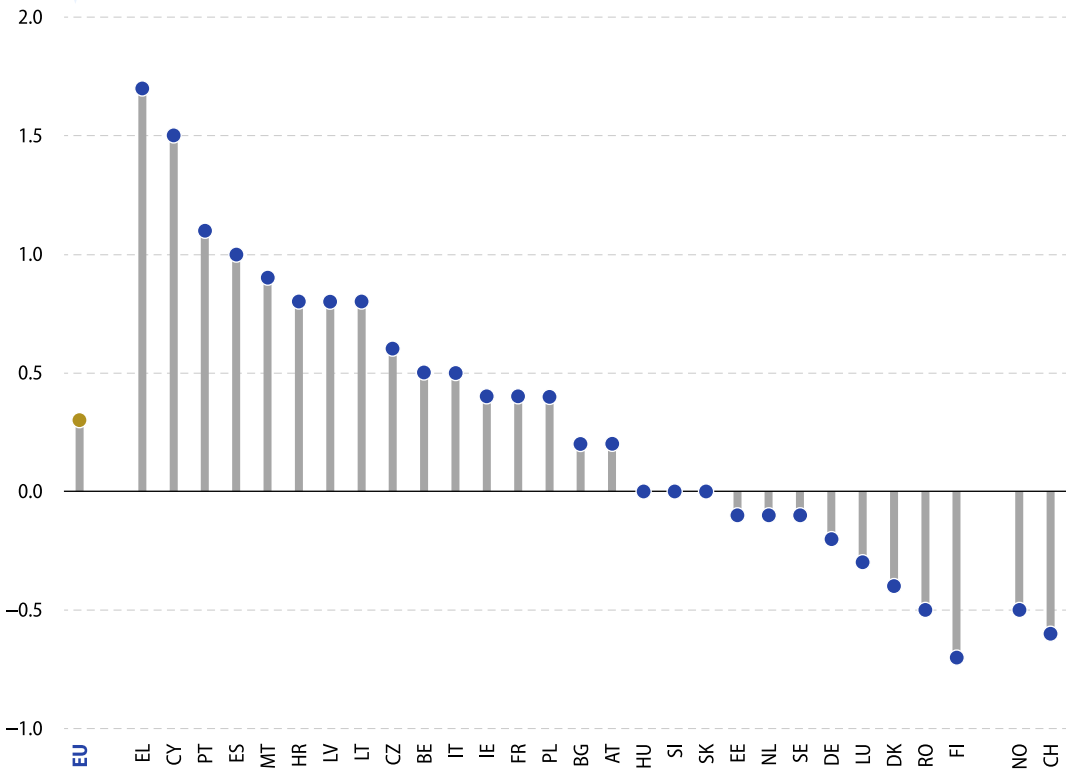
(percentage points based on share of population aged 20–64, 2025)

The EU's employment rate for people aged 20 to 64 reached 76.1% in 2025, up 0.3 percentage points compared with the previous year.

Between 2024 and 2025, the employment rate for people aged 20 to 64 rose in 16 EU countries, was unchanged in 3 and fell in the remaining 8. The rate increased most in Greece (up 1.7 percentage points) and Cyprus (up 1.5 percentage points), while Finland (down 0.7 percentage points) decreased most.



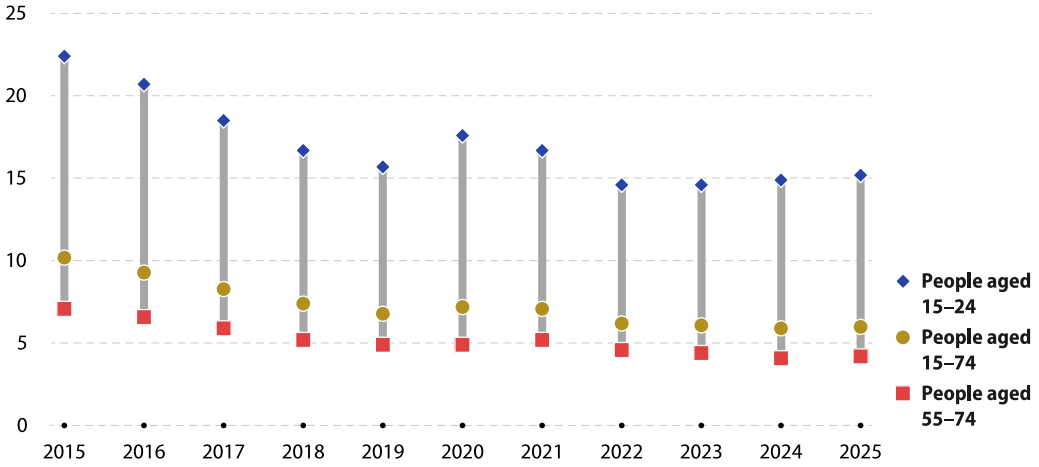
EU employment rate
up 0.3 points
in 2025



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: lfsi_emp_a)

Unemployment rate

(%, share of labour force, EU, 2015–25)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: une_rt_a)

The EU's unemployment rate for people aged 15 to 74 was 10.2% in 2015 and fell during the following 4 years, reaching a low of 6.8% by 2019. In 2020, as the COVID-19 crisis impacted labour markets, the rate increased to 7.2%. It then decreased slightly in 2021, more markedly in 2022 and moderately again in 2023 and 2024. In 2025, the rate increased marginally, to 6.0%.

The EU youth unemployment rate (for people aged 15 to 24) was 15.2% in 2025, 2.5 times as high as the rate for the whole population (aged 15 to 74) and 3.6 times as high as the rate for older people (aged 55 to 74), which was 4.2%. During the period from 2015 to 2025, the unemployment rate for older people increased in 2020 and 2025, while the rate for younger people increased in 2020, 2024 and 2025.

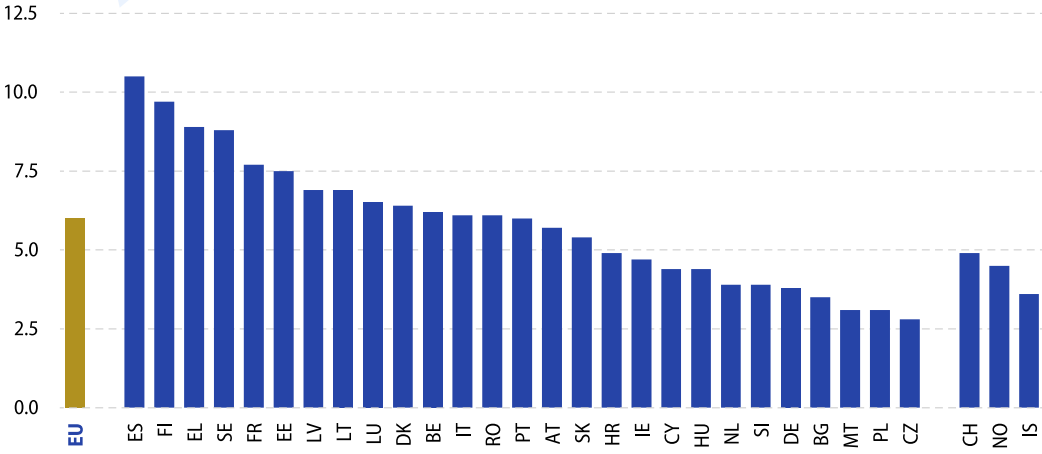


Unemployment rate

(%, share of labour force aged 15–74, 2025)

EU unemployment rate
6.0%
in 2025

In 2025, the highest unemployment rates among the EU countries for people aged 15 to 74 were in Spain (10.5%) and Finland (9.7%); the next highest rates were 8.9% in Greece and 8.8% in Sweden. Unemployment rates of 3.1% were recorded in Malta and Poland, while the lowest rate was in Czechia (2.8%).



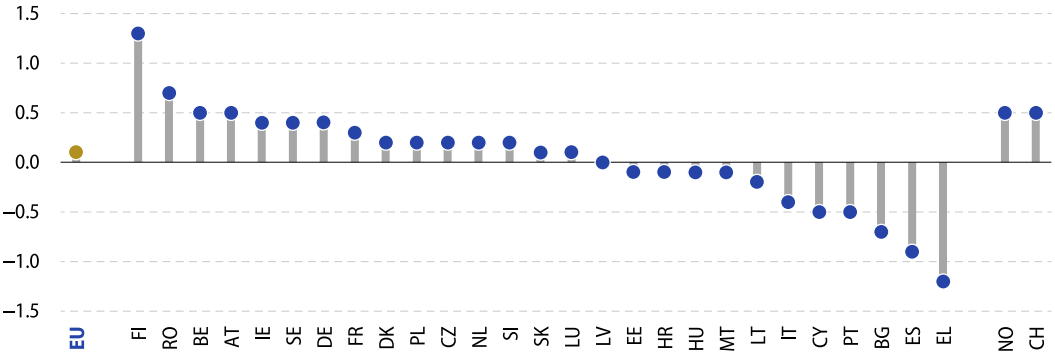
Note: IS, 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: une_rt_a)

Annual change in the unemployment rate

(percentage points based on share of labour force aged 15–74, 2025)

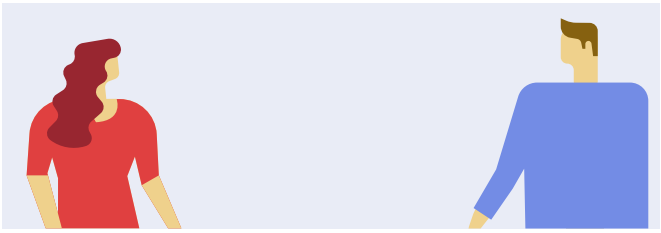
The EU's unemployment rate for people aged 15 to 74 was 0.1 percentage points higher in 2025 than in the previous year. This rate rose in 15 EU countries, was unchanged in 1 and fell in the remaining 11. The rate increased most in Finland (up 1.3 percentage points), while it decreased most in Greece (down 1.2 percentage points), Spain (down 0.9 percentage points) and Bulgaria (down 0.7 percentage points).

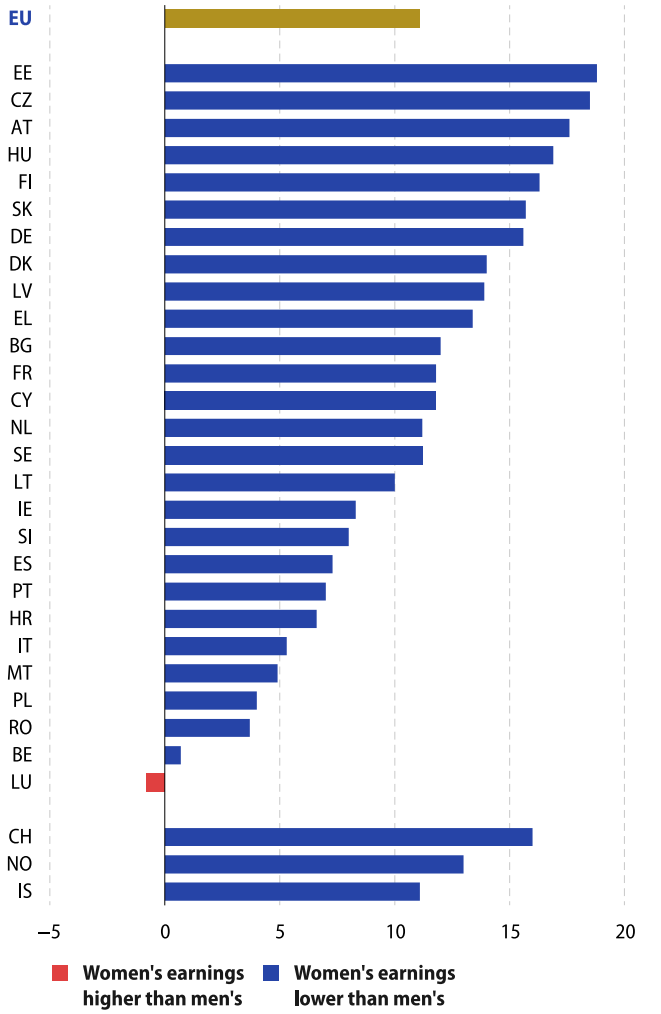


Source: Eurostat (dataset code: une_rt_a)

Unadjusted gender pay gap

(%, 2024)



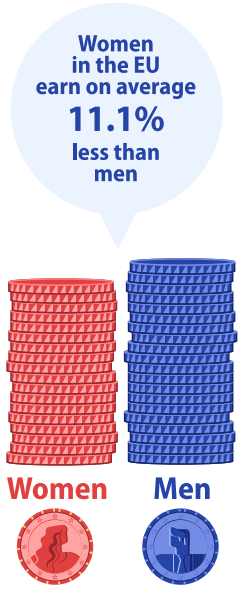


Note: difference between earnings of female and male employees as a percentage of earnings of male employees, based on average gross hourly earnings.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: earn_gr_gpgr2)

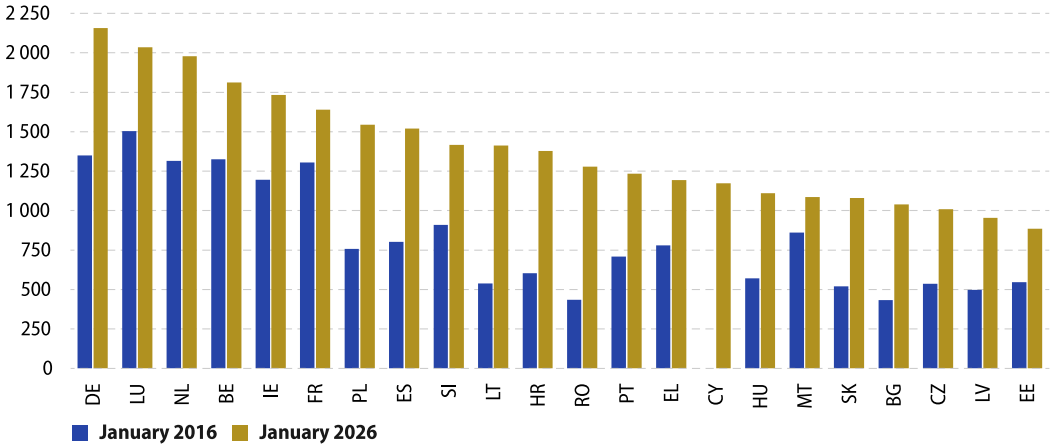
The unadjusted gender pay gap provides an overall picture of the differences in pay between men and women. It measures the gap in hourly earnings between male and female employees in industry, construction and services among enterprises with 10 or more employees.

In 2024, average hourly earnings for women across the EU were 11.1% lower than those for men. The widest gender pay gaps were in Estonia and Czechia, where women's earnings were, respectively, 18.8% and 18.5% lower than those of men. By contrast, the gap was 4.0% or narrower in Poland (4.0%), Romania (3.7%) and Belgium (0.7%). Luxembourg was the only country where women earned more than men, with the average earnings of women higher by 0.8%.



National monthly minimum wage

(PPS, January 2016 and January 2026)



Note: no national minimum wage in DK, IT, AT, FI and SE.
January 2016: CY, not available.

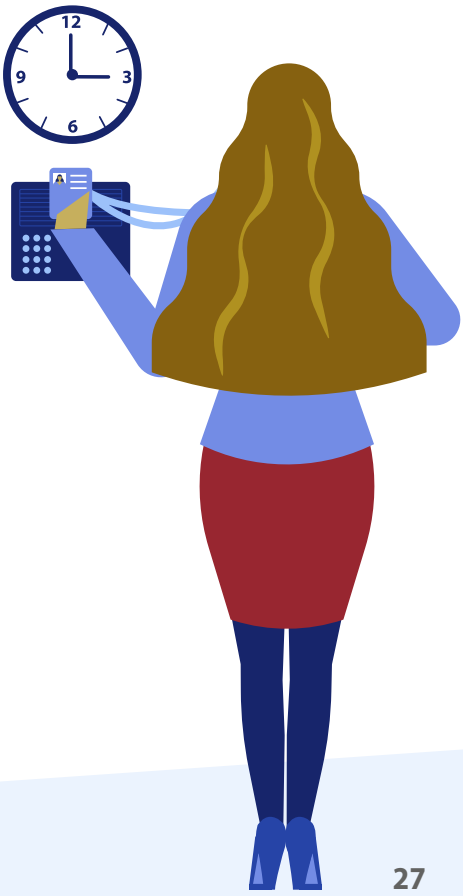
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: earn_mw_cur)

The minimum wage is the lowest wage that employers may legally pay their employees. A national minimum wage usually applies to all or a large majority of employees in a country; some countries have exceptions, for example, for younger workers, apprentices or workers with disabilities.

Minimum wage statistics are presented here as monthly rates for gross earnings, in other words, before the deduction of income tax and social security contributions payable by the employee. Expressed in purchasing power standards (PPS), these rates have been adjusted to price differences across countries.

In January 2026, the highest minimum wages were in Germany and Luxembourg, at 2 157 PPS and 2 035 PPS, respectively. The lowest minimum wages were in Estonia at 886 PPS.

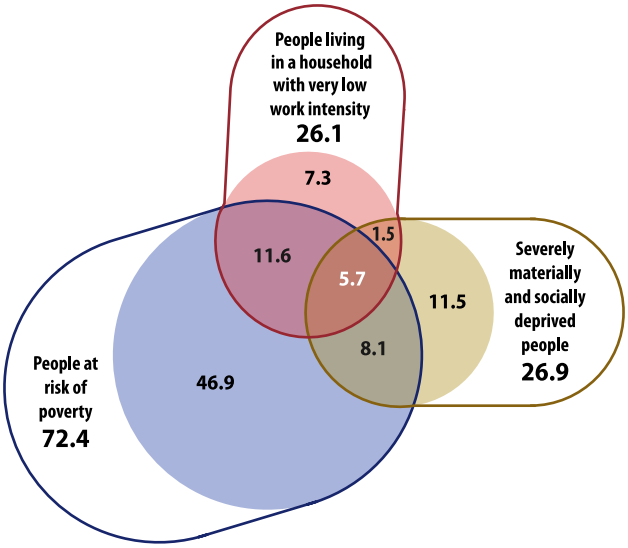
Between 1 January 2016 and 1 January 2026, minimum wages nearly tripled in PPS terms in Romania and also more than doubled in Lithuania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Slovakia and Poland. In relative terms, minimum wages increased least in France and Malta.



Living conditions

People at risk of poverty or social exclusion

(million people, EU, 2025)



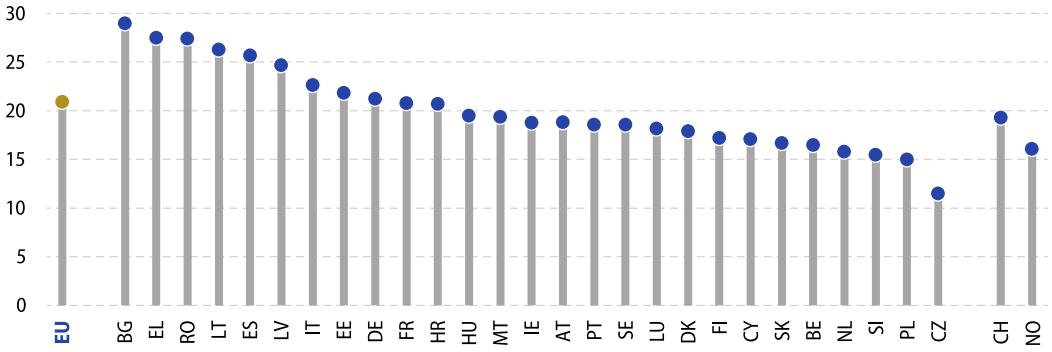
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: ilc_pees01n)

In 2025, 92.7 million people (20.9% of the EU population) were at risk of poverty or social exclusion. This means that they were in at least 1 of the following 3 situations: at risk of poverty after social transfers; facing severe material and social deprivation; or living in a household with very low work intensity.

The greatest risk of poverty or social exclusion was from income poverty, in other words, the risk of poverty after social transfers: 72.4 million people were in this situation across the EU in 2025. Among them, 25.5 million were also in 1 or both of the other 2 conditions. There were 0.5 million fewer people at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2025 than in 2024.

People at risk of poverty or social exclusion

(%, share of total population, 2025)



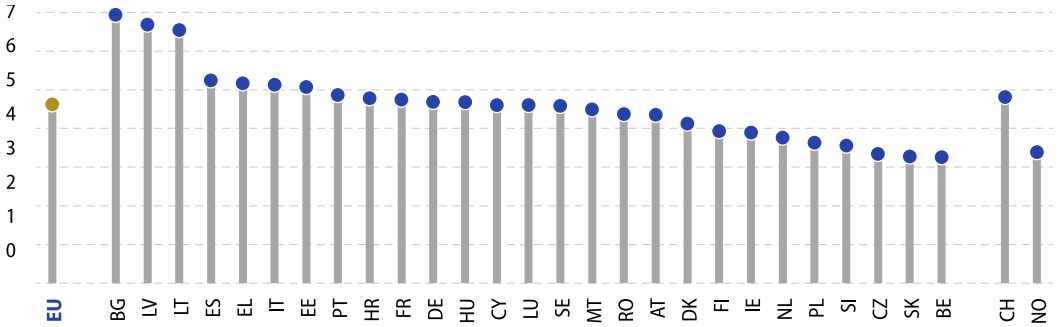
Note: CH, 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: ilc_peps01n)

Among the EU countries, the share of the population at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2025 was highest in Bulgaria (29.0%), followed by Greece (27.5%), Romania (27.4%), Lithuania (26.3%), Spain (25.7%) and Latvia (24.7%). At the other end of the range, 11.5% of people in Czechia were at risk of poverty or social exclusion.

Income quintile share ratio for disposable income

(2025)



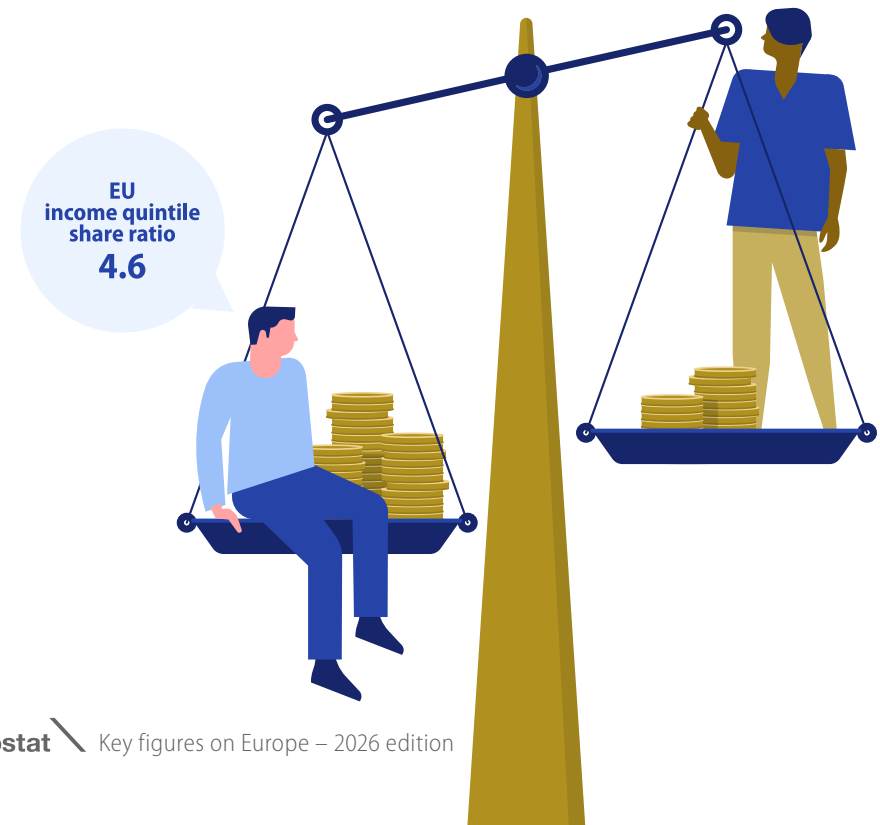
Note: CH, 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: tessi180)

The income quintile share ratio refers to the ratio of total income received by the 20% of a country's population with the highest income (top quintile) to that received by the 20% of a country's population with the lowest income (lowest quintile). The income measure is equivalised disposable income.

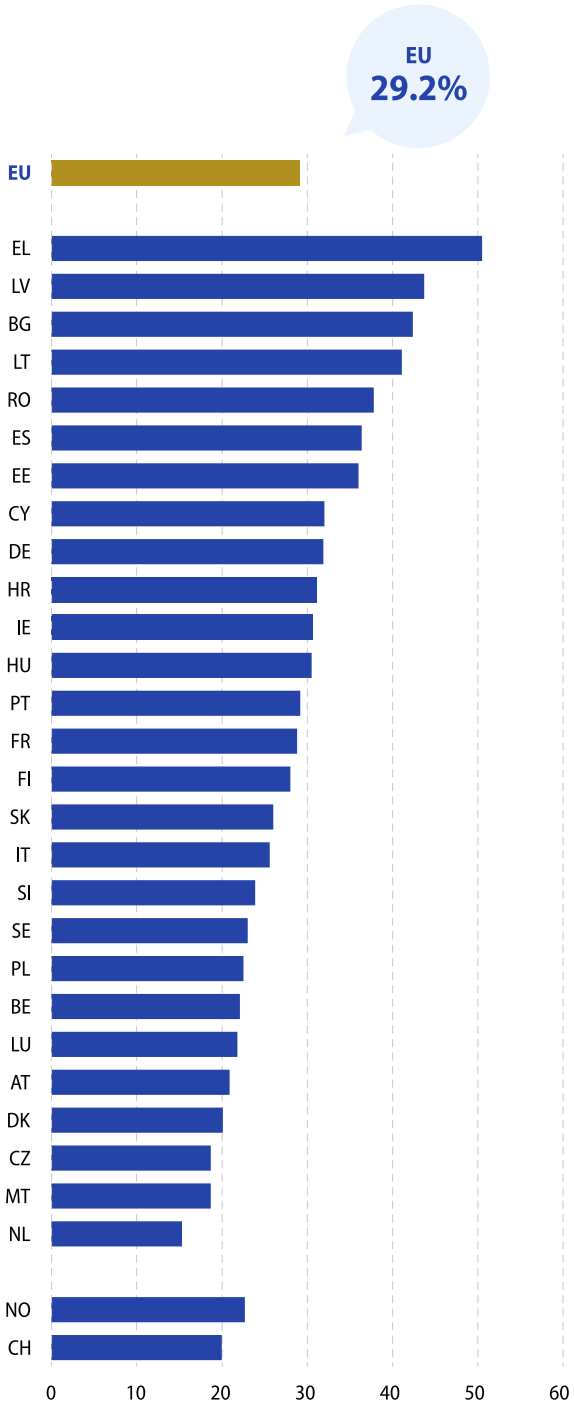
Across the EU, the total income in 2025 of people in the top quintile was 4.6 times as high as that of people in the bottom quintile.

Based on the income quintile share ratio, Bulgaria, Latvia and Lithuania recorded the highest levels of income inequality among EU countries; in 2025, the total income of their top quintile was between 6.5 and 6.9 times as high as that of their bottom quintile. The lowest levels of inequality, according to this measure, were recorded in Belgium, Slovakia and Czechia (all with ratios of 3.3).



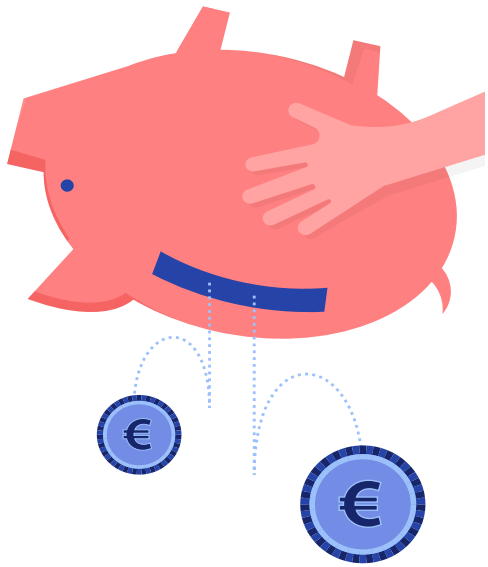
Inability to face unexpected financial expenses

(%, share of total population, 2025)



Material deprivation refers to the enforced inability (rather than the choice not to do so) to pay for specific expenses; an example is unexpected financial expenses. In 2025, almost 3 in 10 (29.2%) people in the EU living in private households were unable to face an unexpected financial expense. This share was 0.8 percentage points lower than in 2024.

More than 40.0% of the population were unable to face an unexpected financial expense in 2025 in 4 EU countries: Greece (50.5%), Latvia (43.7%), Bulgaria (42.4%) and Lithuania (41.1%). By contrast, a relatively small share of the population in the Netherlands was unable to face such expenses (15.3%).

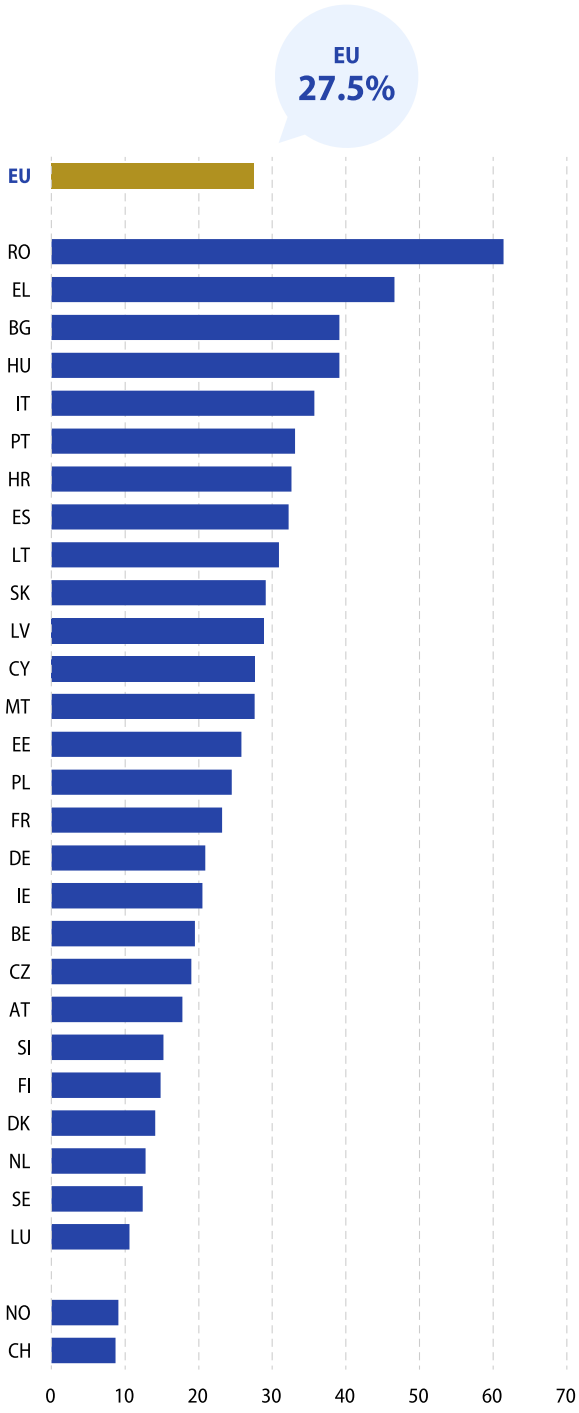


Note: CH, 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: ilc_mdes04)

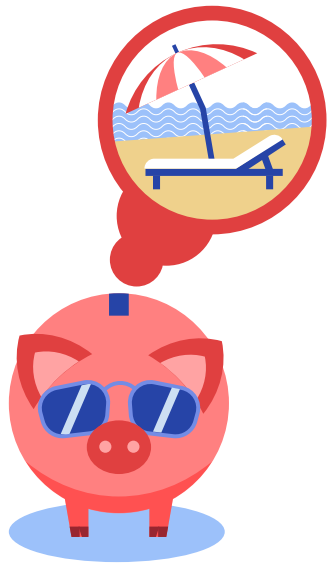
Inability to afford a week's annual holiday away from home

(%, share of total population, 2025)



Another measure of material deprivation is the inability to afford a week's annual holiday away from home. In 2025, 27.5% of the EU population were unable to afford such a holiday. Not being able to afford a week's holiday away from home reflects financial constraints, rather than other reasons for not going on holiday (for example, a preference to stay at home).

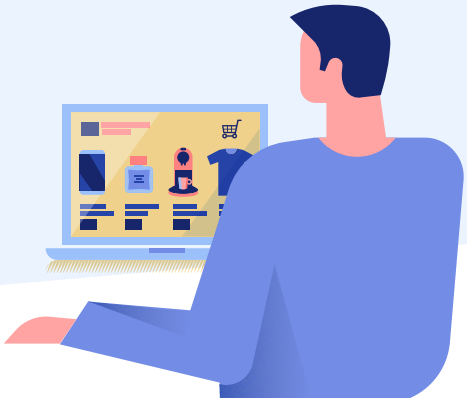
The highest share of people who could not afford a week's annual holiday away from home in 2025 was in Romania, at 61.4%, with the next highest shares in Greece (46.6%), Bulgaria and Hungary (both 39.1%). By contrast, the share of the population unable to afford a week's annual holiday away from home was 12.8% in the Netherlands, 12.4% in Sweden and even lower in Luxembourg, at 10.6%.



Note: CH, 2024.

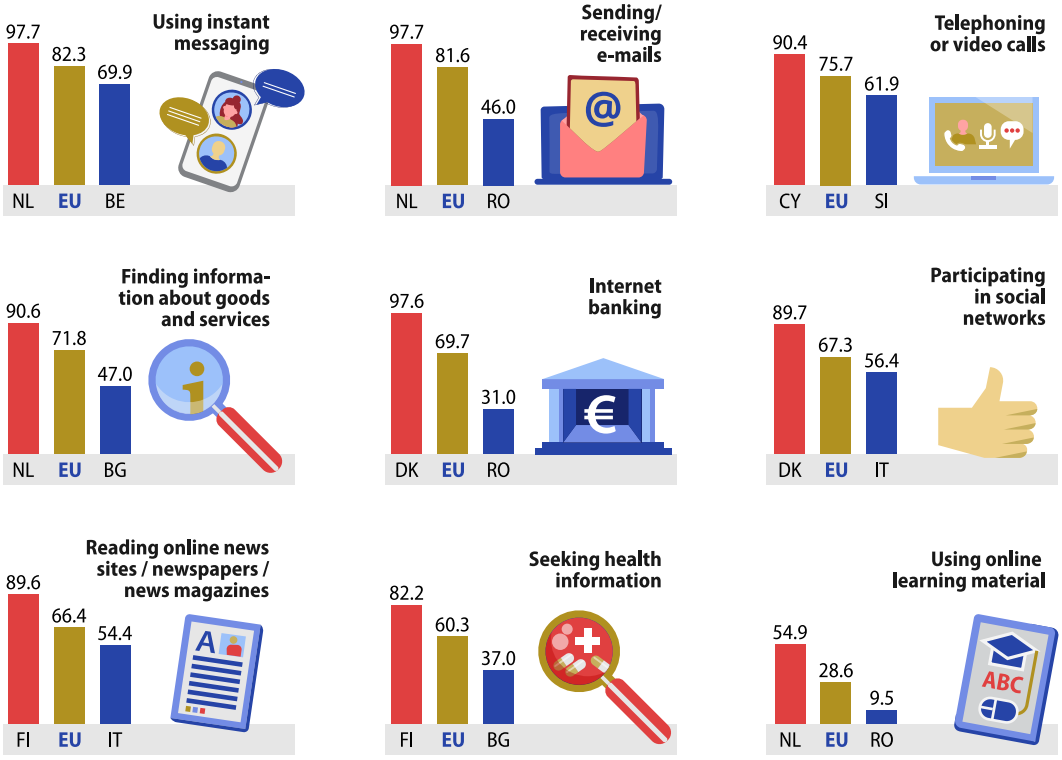
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: ilc_mdes02)

Digital society



Internet activities

(%, share of people aged 16–74, 2025)



Note: activities ranked on the EU value.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: isoc_ci_ac_i)

In 2025, 93.8% of people (aged 16 to 74) in the EU declared they had used the internet during the 3 months prior to being surveyed.

Across the EU, some of the internet activities that people aged 16 to 74 most commonly performed in 2025 included using instant messaging (82.3%), sending/receiving e-mails (81.6%) and telephoning or making video calls (75.7%).

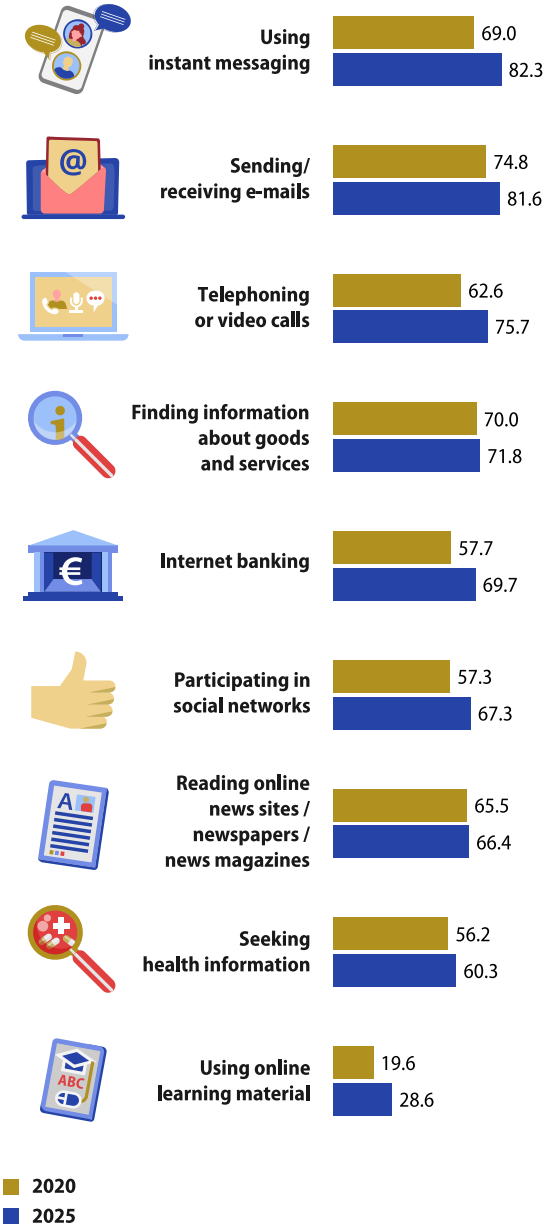
A majority of people in the EU also used the internet for finding information about goods and services (71.8%), internet banking (69.7%), participating in social networks (67.3%), reading online news sites / newspapers / magazines (66.4%) and seeking health information (60.3%).

Internet activities

(%, share of people aged 16–74, EU, 2020 and 2025)

The share of people aged 16 to 74 in the EU who engaged in many of the most common activities on the internet grew over the last couple of decades.

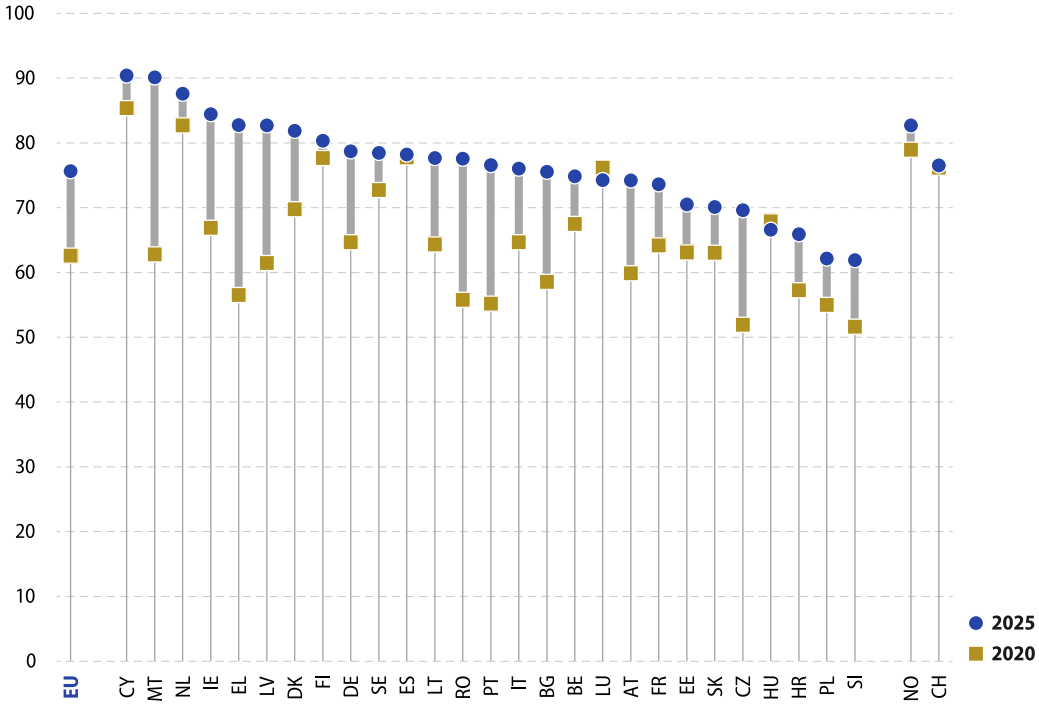
Developments between 2020 and 2025 show that the gradual upward trend in internet activities continued in recent years. All 9 of the relatively common internet activities presented here were more widespread across the EU in 2025 than in 2020. Examples are the shares of people using instant messaging (which rose 13.3 percentage points between 2020 and 2025) and telephoning or making video calls (which rose 13.0 percentage points). There were also large increases in the shares of the EU population using internet banking (up 12.0 percentage points), participating in social networks (up 10.0 percentage points) and using online learning material (up 9.1 percentage points).



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: isoc_ci_ac_i)

Using the internet for telephoning or video calls

(%, share of people aged 16–74, 2020 and 2025)

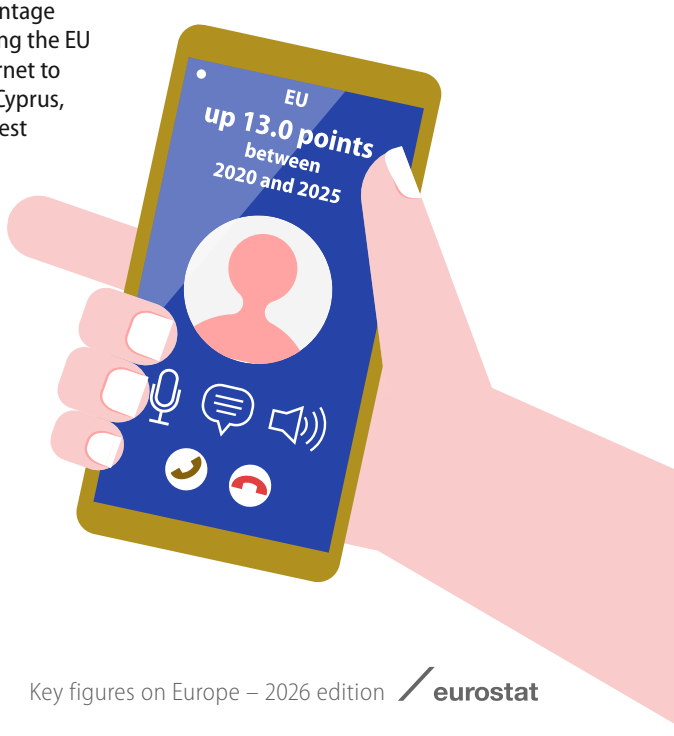


Note: FR and CH, 2021 instead of 2020.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: isoc_ci_ac_i)

The share of people aged 16 to 74 in the EU using the internet to make telephone or video calls increased 13.0 percentage points between 2020 and 2025, reaching 75.7%. Among the EU countries, the highest shares of people using the internet to make telephone or video calls in 2025 were 90.4% in Cyprus, 90.1% in Malta and 87.6% in the Netherlands. The lowest shares were 61.9% in Slovenia and 62.1% in Poland.

The share of people using the internet to make such calls rose in nearly all of the EU countries during the period from 2020 to 2025. The largest increases were in Malta (up 27.3 percentage points) and Greece (up 26.2 percentage points). The only decreases were in Luxembourg (down 1.9 percentage points) and Hungary (down 1.3 percentage points).



2

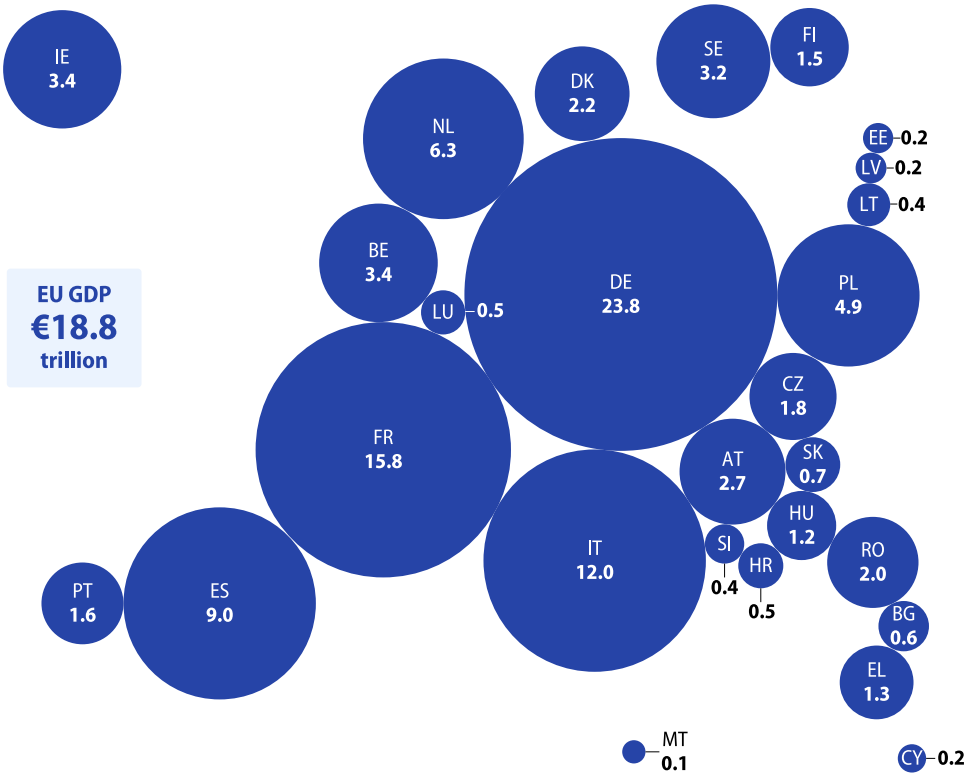
Economy and business



Economy and finance

GDP

(%, share of EU total, 2025)

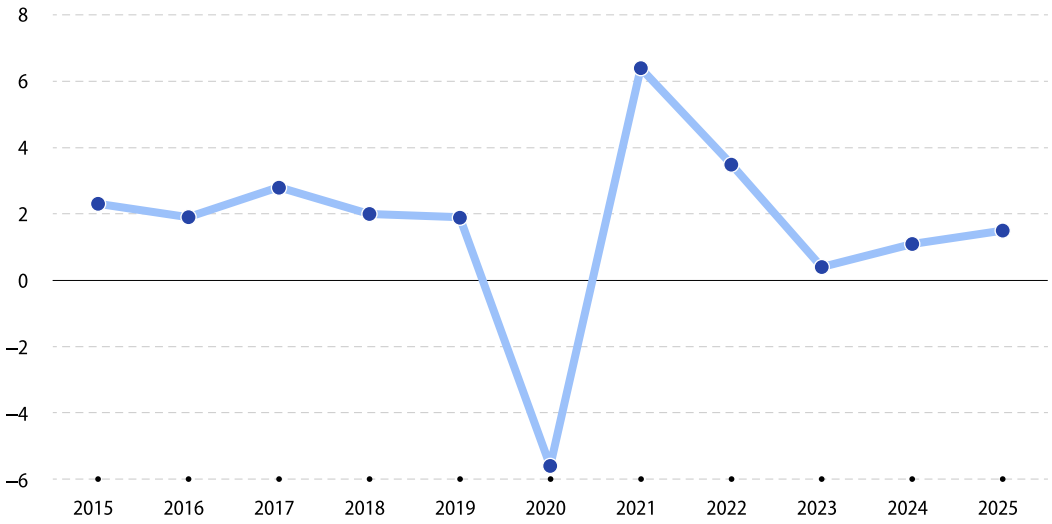


Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nama_10_gdp)

Gross domestic product (GDP) is an indicator used to measure the size and performance of an economy. It provides information on the value of goods and services produced during a given period. Within the EU, GDP was valued at €18.8 trillion in 2025. Germany had the largest economy among the EU countries (€4.5 trillion, or 23.8% of the EU total), followed by France (15.8%) and Italy (12.0%). At the other end of the range, Malta (0.1%) had the smallest economy in the EU, behind Cyprus, Estonia and Latvia (all 0.2%).

Real change in GDP

(%, annual change, based on chain-linked volumes, EU, 2015–25)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: naida_10_gdp)

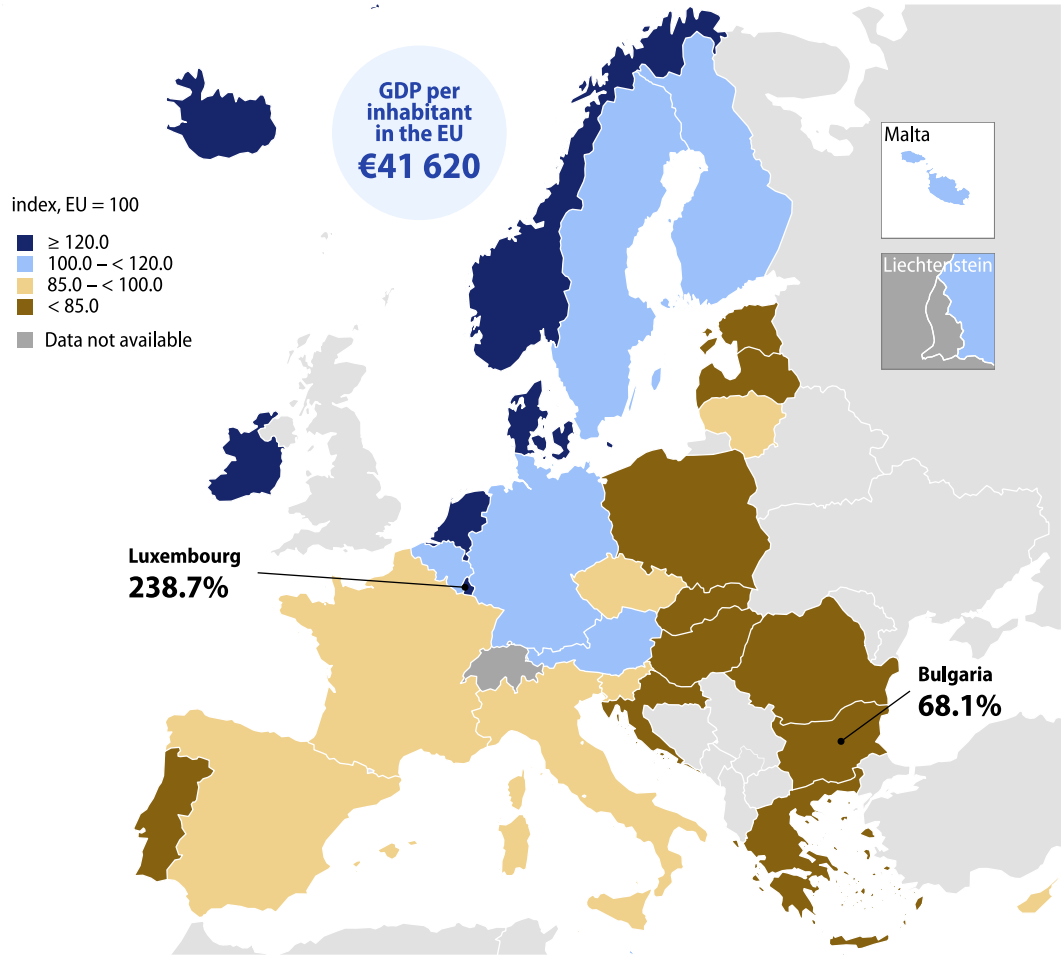
The real change in GDP shows the rate of change in economic output having removed the effects of price changes (inflation or deflation). Between 2015 and 2019, the EU recorded annual growth rates in the range of 1.9% to 2.8%. In 2020, the economy was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions; GDP fell 5.6%. GDP then rebounded, rising 6.4% in 2021 and 3.5% in 2022. Growth in 2023, 2024 and 2025 was more modest, at 0.4%, 1.0% and 1.5%, respectively.



Gross domestic product

GDP per inhabitant

(EU = 100, based on PPS, 2025)



Note: IS and NO, 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nama_10_pc)

GDP per inhabitant can be used to compare economic output of economies of different sizes. Within the EU, this ratio increased from €39 960 in 2024 to €41 620 in 2025.

As the cost of living varies from place to place, this ratio has been adjusted to reflect price level differences using an artificial currency unit called a purchasing power standard (PPS). Based on this measure, the relative living standards of individual EU countries can be expressed in relation to the EU average (set equal to 100).

In 2025, the highest values were in Luxembourg and Ireland, where GDP per inhabitant in PPS was, respectively, 238.7% and 237.3% of the EU average, in other words, 2.4 times as high. By contrast, GDP per inhabitant in Bulgaria and Greece was just over two thirds (68.1% and 68.4%, respectively) of the EU average.

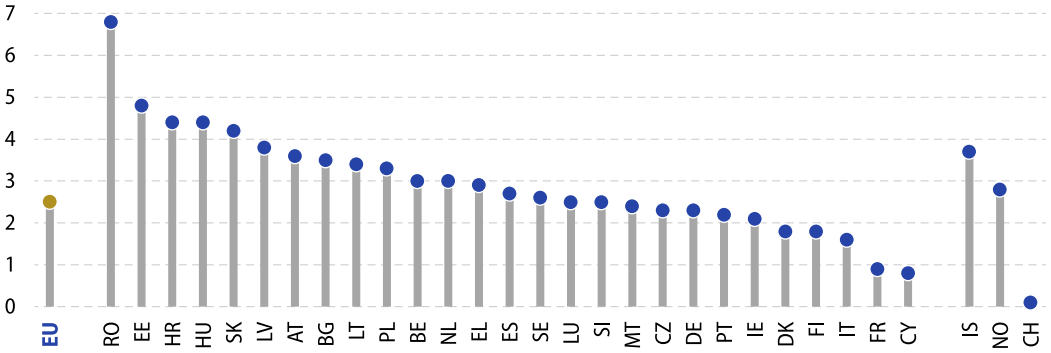
Differences between GDP and income/consumption may be the result of various factors. For example, foreign-owned enterprises contribute to the GDP where they operate but may transfer income to their foreign owners. Cross-border workers contribute to the GDP where they work, whereas they are included in the population figures where they live.

Prices



Inflation rate

(%, annual change, 2025)

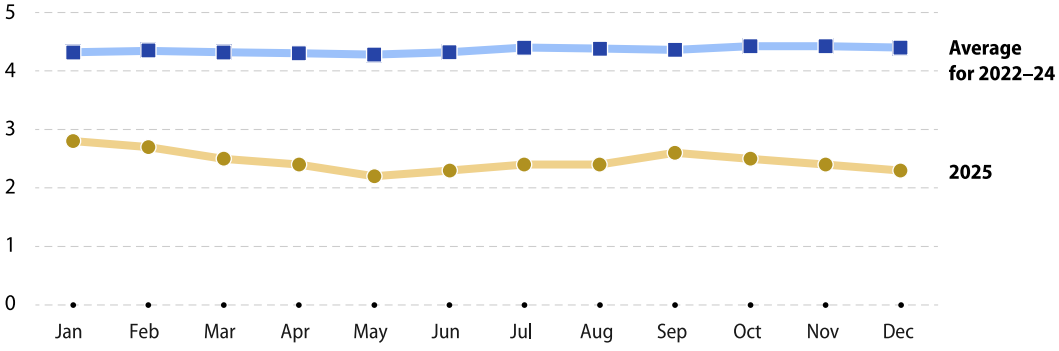


Source: Eurostat (dataset code: prc_hicp_ainr)

The inflation rate shows the change in the price of a basket of consumer goods and services. Inflation in the EU increased to 9.2% in 2022, reflecting, at least in part, the impact of Russian military aggression against Ukraine. In 2023, 2024 and 2025, prices continued to rise, but at slower rates, increasing by 6.4%, 2.6% and 2.5%, respectively. In 2025, prices increased by more than 4.0% in 5 EU countries: Romania (6.8%), Estonia (4.8%), Croatia, Hungary (both 4.4%) and Slovakia (4.2%).

Inflation rate

(%, annual rate of change, EU, average for 2022–24 and 2025)



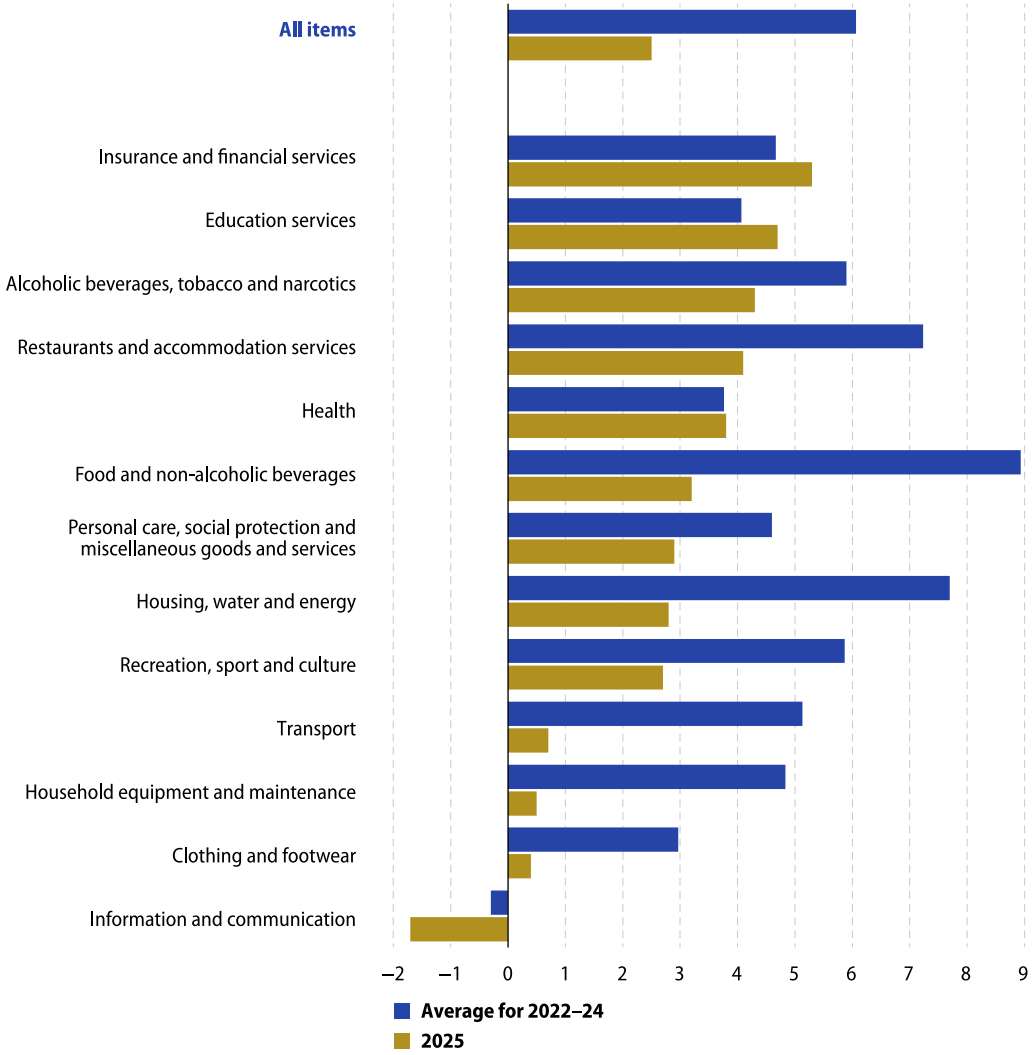
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: prc_hicp_minr)

EU inflation was relatively modest in the years up to 2020. Thereafter, the rate of inflation accelerated and by December 2021 it was 5.3%. This pattern continued into 2022: prices rose until a peak in October when the inflation rate reached 11.5%.

The EU experienced a period of disinflation (price increases, but at a slower rate) most months from November 2022 until September 2024 when a rate of 2.1% was observed. Since then, the monthly inflation rate has ranged between 2.2% and 2.8%.

Consumer prices

(%, annual rate of change, EU, 2022–24 and 2025)



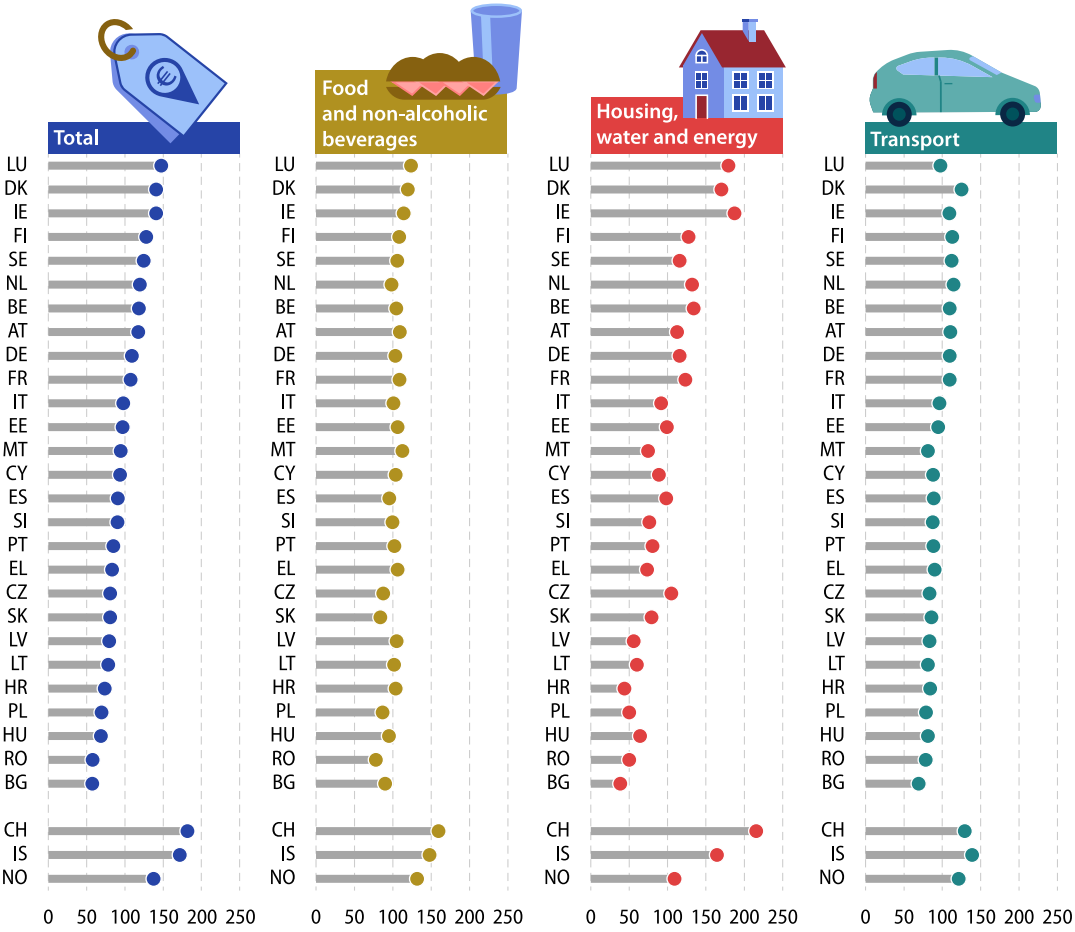
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: prc_hicp_ainr)

In 2025, the EU's overall inflation rate (covering all items) was 2.5%. When looking across 13 broad categories, the highest inflation rate was recorded for insurance and financial services, at 5.3%. The lowest rate of change was for information and communications, where prices fell 1.7% (after decreasing 1.6% in 2024).

The sharp increase in prices experienced during 2022 and subsequent slowdown was not uniform. For example, the second highest price increase across the EU in 2022 was observed for transport, which then had below average increases in each of the more recent years. By contrast, alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics recorded lower than average price increases in 2022, but above average increases in each of the next 3 years.

Comparative price levels

(EU = 100, 2024)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: prc_ppp_ind_1)

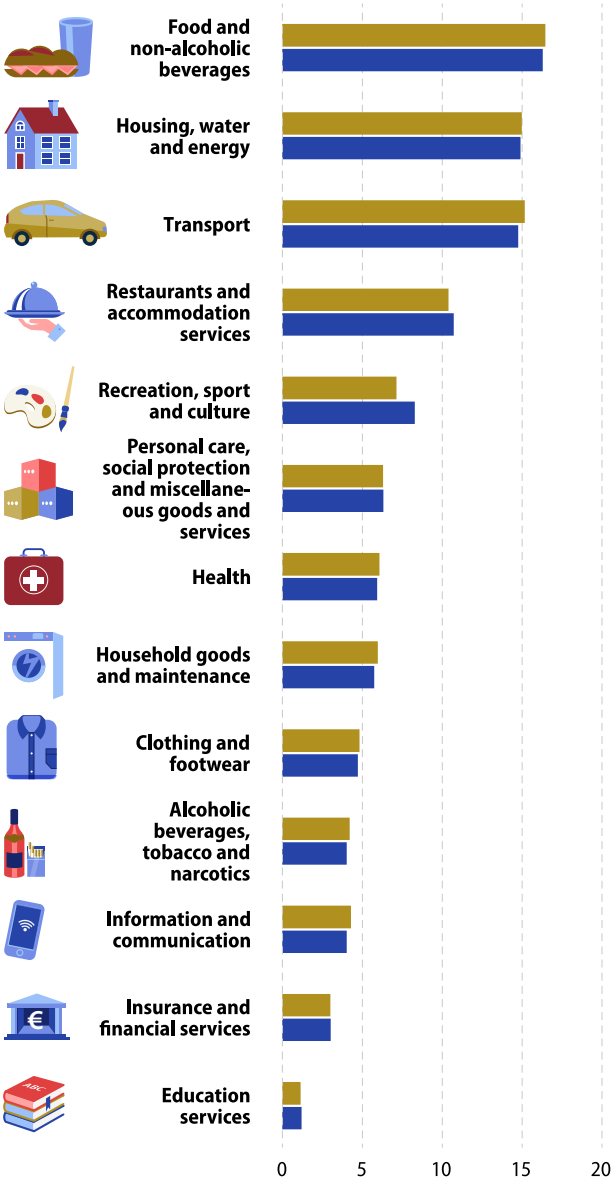
Price level indices measure price differences between countries; these are expressed as a percentage of prices for the EU average, which is set equal to 100. Among the EU countries, the overall price level index in 2024 was highest in Luxembourg, Denmark and Ireland, all with values which were more than 40% above the EU average. In Romania and Bulgaria, price levels were 58% of the EU average; in other words, 42% below the average.

Price levels for food and non-alcoholic beverages did not vary greatly, with the highest prices in Luxembourg and Denmark (24% and 20%, respectively, above the EU average) and the lowest in Romania (22% below). A similar pattern existed for transport, with the highest prices in Denmark (25% above the EU average) and the lowest in Bulgaria (31% below). By contrast, the price of housing, water and energy displayed a greater variation, from at least 70% above the EU average in Ireland, Luxembourg and Denmark down to 61% below the average in Bulgaria.

Household consumption expenditure

Household budget structure

(%, share of total household consumption expenditure, EU, January 2025 and 2026)



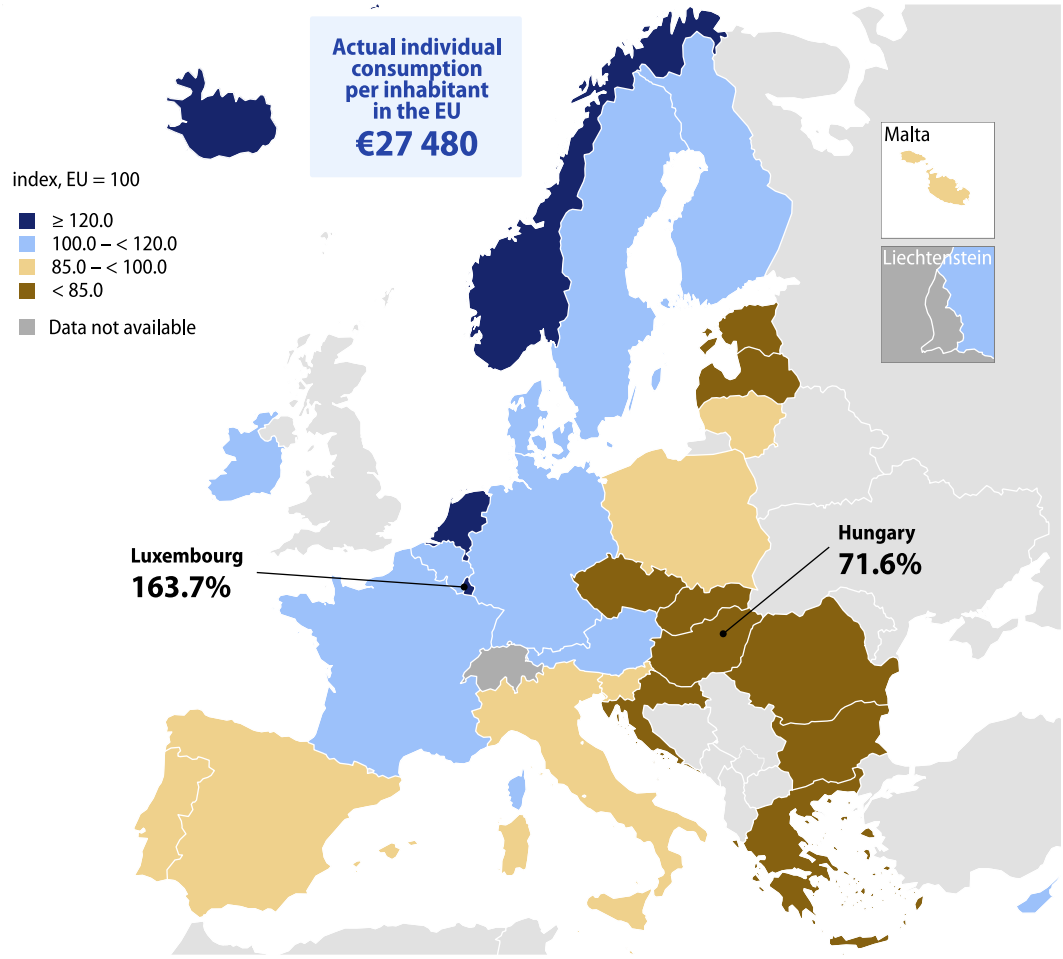
In January 2026, almost half (46.0%) of total household consumption expenditure in the EU was for 3 categories: food and non-alcoholic beverages, housing, water and energy, and transport. Each of these categories was characterised by substantial price increases in at least 1 recent year, underlining their importance in explaining the broader rise in consumer prices during this period.

Across the EU, the shares of household expenditure increased for 3 categories between January 2025 and January 2026: recreation, sport and culture (up 1.2 percentage points), restaurants and accommodation services (up 0.3 percentage points) and education (up 0.1 percentage points). By contrast, the largest decreases were for the shares of expenditure on transport (down 0.4 percentage points) and information and communication (down 0.3 percentage points).

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: prc_hicp_iw)

Actual individual consumption per inhabitant

(EU = 100, based on PPS, 2025)



Note: IS and NO, 2024.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nama_10_pc)

Actual individual consumption is based on consumption by households and may be more useful than GDP for comparing the relative welfare of consumers across various countries.

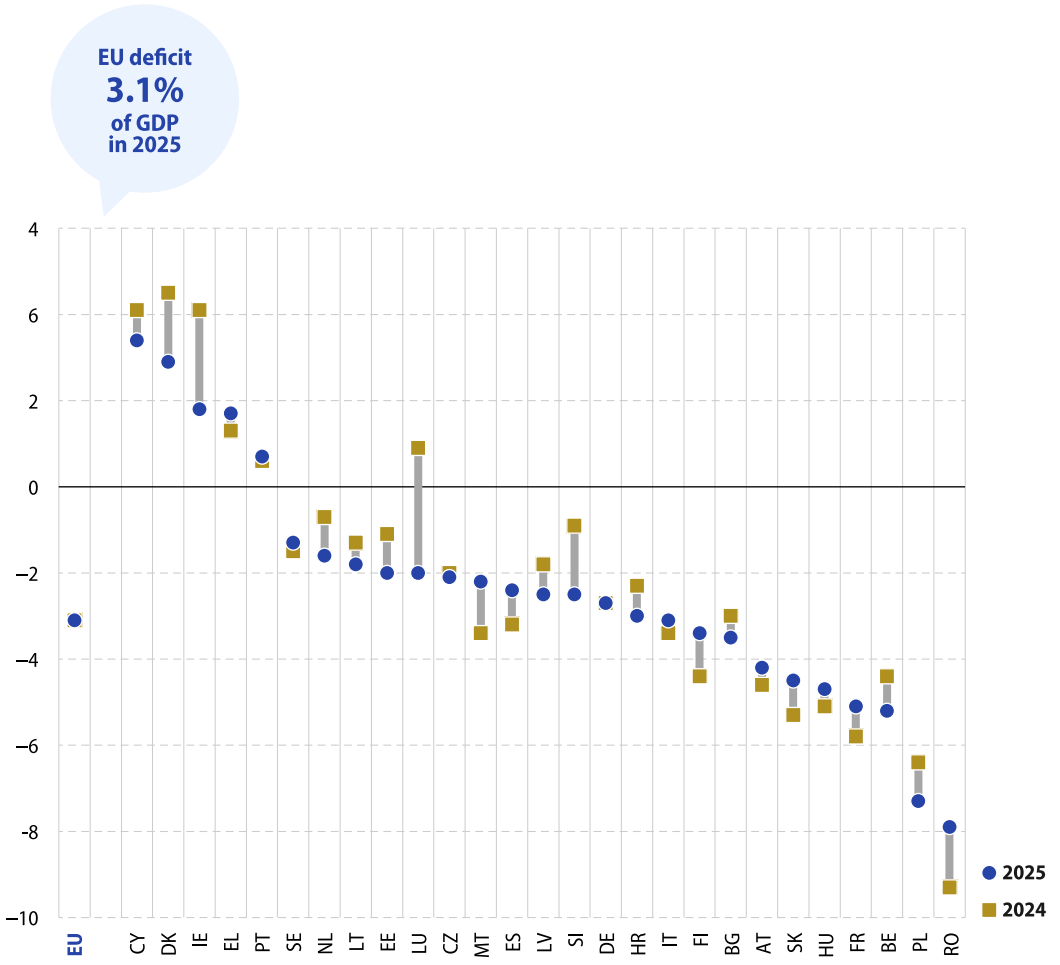
Within the EU, actual individual consumption per inhabitant grew from €26 360 in 2024 to €27 480 in 2025.

The information in the map is based on data in purchasing power standards (PPS) and presented as an index in relation to the EU average (set equal to 100). In 2025, the highest value among the EU countries was in Luxembourg, at 163.7%, indicating that actual individual consumption in PPS was 63.7% above the EU average. By contrast, actual individual consumption per inhabitant was at least a quarter below the EU average in Hungary (71.6%), Bulgaria (72.3%) and Latvia (74.5%).

Government finance

General government deficit/surplus

(%, relative to GDP, 2024 and 2025)



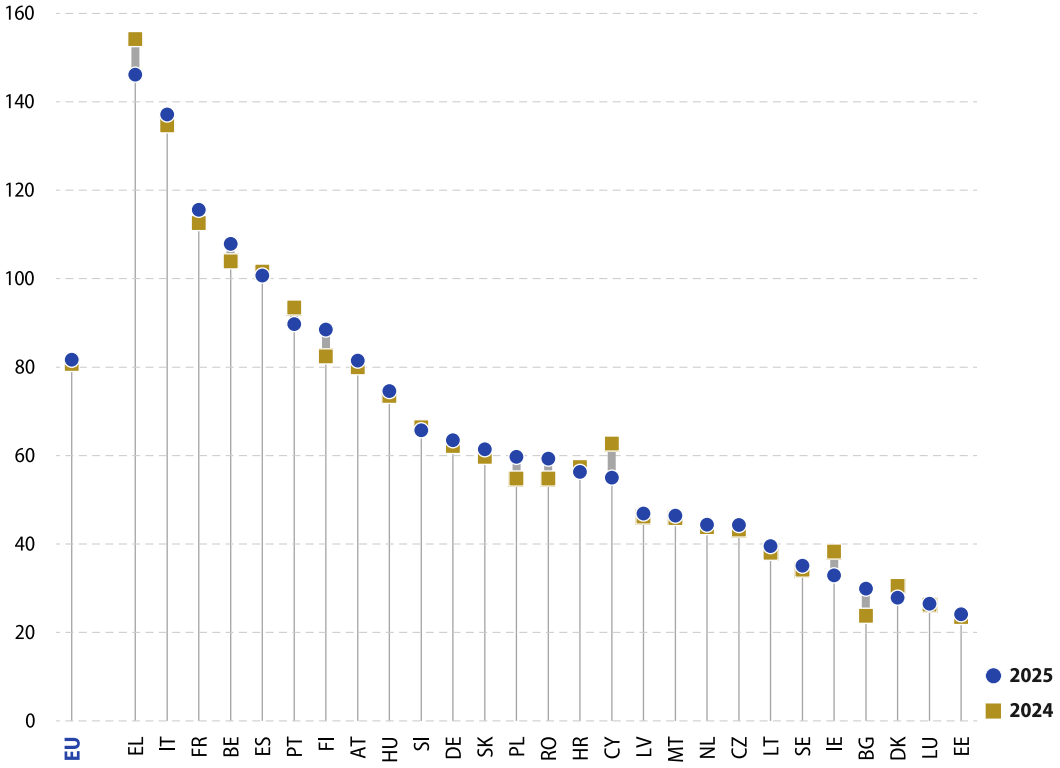
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: gov_10dd_edpt1)

In 2025, the general government deficit across the EU was stable, having narrowed in 2024. In 2025, the deficit was equivalent to 3.1% of GDP.

There was a budget surplus in 2025 in 5 of the EU countries. The largest surpluses were in Cyprus (3.4% of GDP) and Denmark (2.9%), while smaller surpluses were recorded in Ireland, Greece and Portugal. The largest deficits were in Romania (7.9% of GDP), Poland (7.3%), Belgium (5.2%) and France (5.1%); Hungary, Slovakia, Austria, Bulgaria, Finland and Italy also recorded deficits of more than 3.0% of GDP and Croatia a deficit of 3.0%.

General government gross debt

(%, relative to GDP, 2024 and 2025)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: gov_10dd_edpt1)

Consolidated gross debt in the EU was 81.7% of GDP in 2025, up 1.0 percentage points from 2024, but 7.8 percentage points lower than its peak of 89.5% in 2020 (which reflected the impact of the start of the COVID-19 crisis in that year). In 2025, consolidated debt was highest in Greece at 146.1% of GDP. Italy, France, Belgium, Spain, Portugal and Finland were the only other EU countries to record a ratio that was above the EU average, while 5 more EU countries recorded a ratio above 60.0%. At the other end of the range, the lowest ratio was in Estonia (24.1%).

In a majority of EU countries, debt relative to GDP rose between 2024 and 2025. This ratio increased most in Bulgaria, Finland (both up 6.1 percentage points) and Poland (up 4.9 percentage points). There were 8 countries where debt as a share of GDP fell in 2025, decreasing most in Greece (down 8.1 percentage points).



International trade



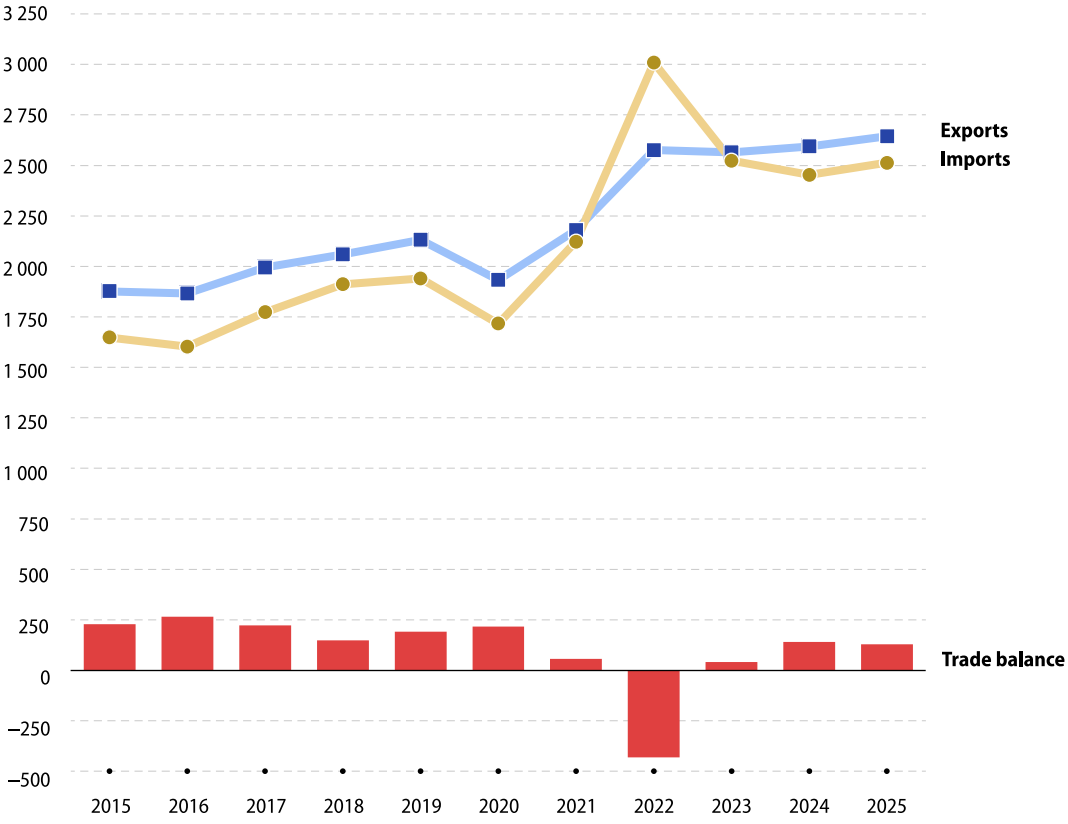
International trade in goods with non-EU countries

(€ billion, EU, 2015–25)

Having posted a trade surplus for goods during 10 consecutive years up to 2021, the EU recorded a deficit in 2022. Surpluses were again recorded in 2023, 2024 and 2025. Goods exported from the EU to non-EU countries were valued at €2 644 billion in 2025, €129 billion higher than the value of goods imported into the EU.

In 2025, the EU's exports were 1.9% higher than the previous year, while imports increased 2.5%.

EU trade in goods surplus
€129 billion
in 2025

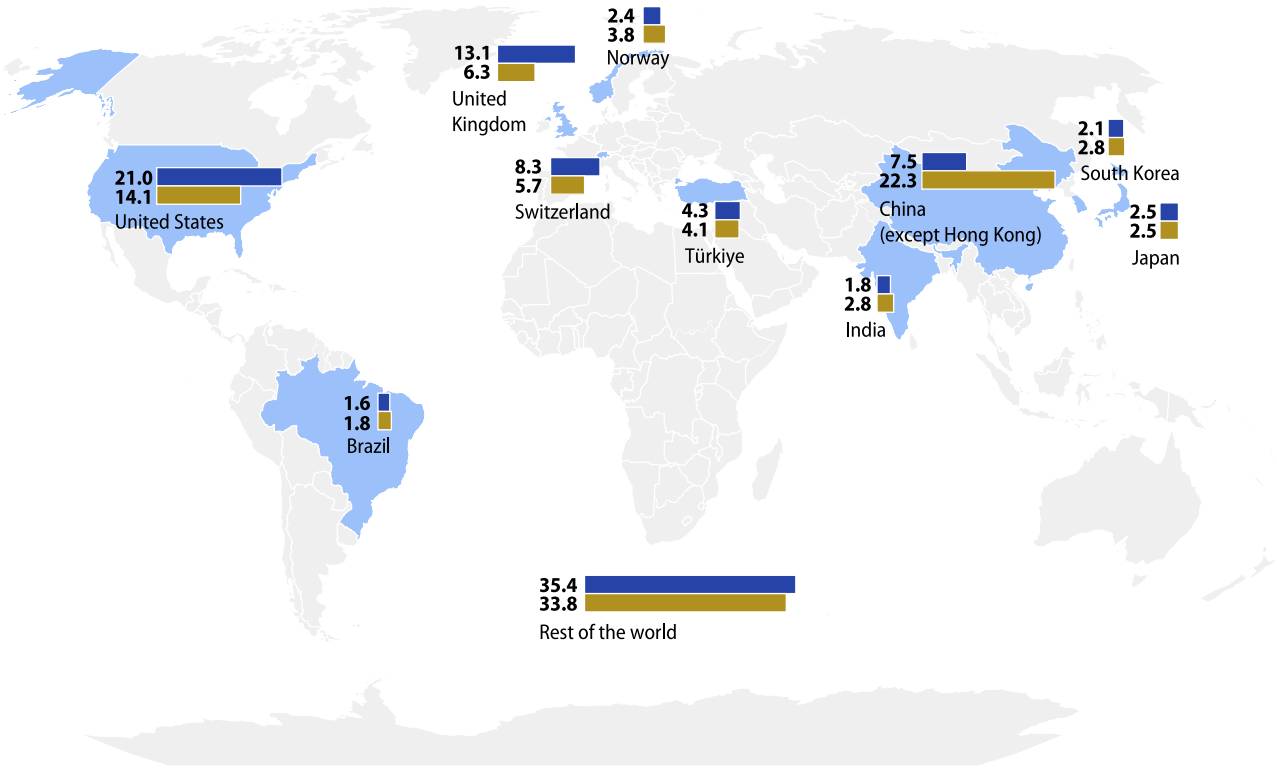


Note: the data are valued in current price terms.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: ext_lt_intratrd)

Top 10 partners for international trade in goods

(%, share of all partners, EU, 2025)



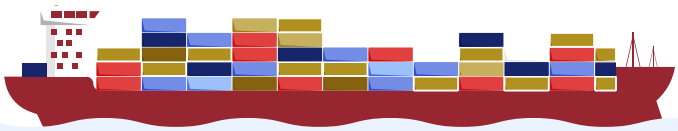
Note: the figure shows the share of EU exports to non-EU countries and the share of EU imports from non-EU countries. Selected based on the average share of exports and imports.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: ext_lt_maineu)

The top 10 partners of the EU for trade in goods were the same in 2025 as in 2024.

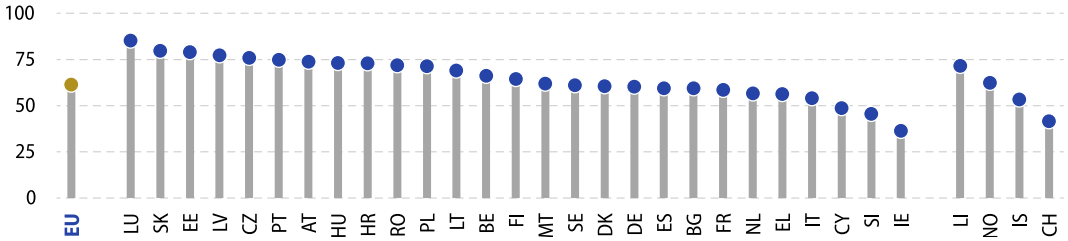
In 2025, the United States was the EU's leading export market, receiving 21.0% of the total value of goods exported from the EU. The next largest export markets for EU goods were the United Kingdom (13.1%), Switzerland (8.3%) and China (excluding Hong Kong; 7.5%).

The picture for imports was different, as more than a fifth (22.3%) of all goods imported into the EU in 2025 originated from China (excluding Hong Kong). The United States was the second largest country of origin for EU imports (14.1%).



International trade in goods with EU countries

(%, share of trade with all partners, intra- and extra-EU, 2025)



Note: calculation based on the average value of exports and imports.

Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: ext_lt_intratrd and ext_lt_intercc)

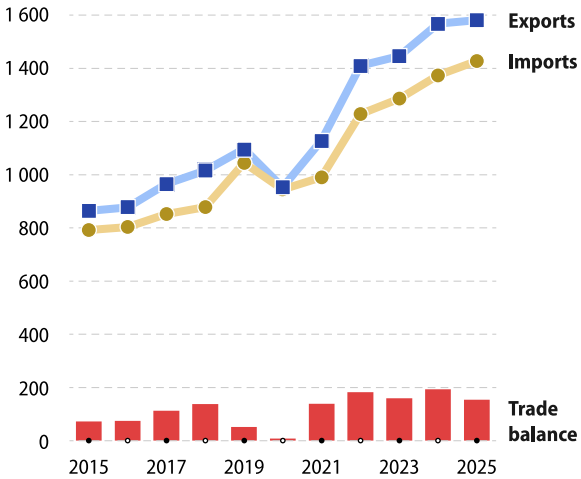
In 2025, 61.4% of the EU countries' trade in goods concerned exchanges between themselves. The relative share of intra-EU trade was highest in Luxembourg at 85.1% and was also above 75.0% of total trade in Slovakia, Estonia, Latvia and Czechia. By contrast, Ireland (with a 36.2% share for intra-EU trade), Slovenia (45.4%) and Cyprus (48.6%) had more extra-EU than intra-EU trade in goods.

Intra-EU trade in goods
61.4%
of total goods trade



International trade in services with non-EU countries

(€ billion, EU, 2015–25)



EU trade in services surplus
€154 billion
in 2025

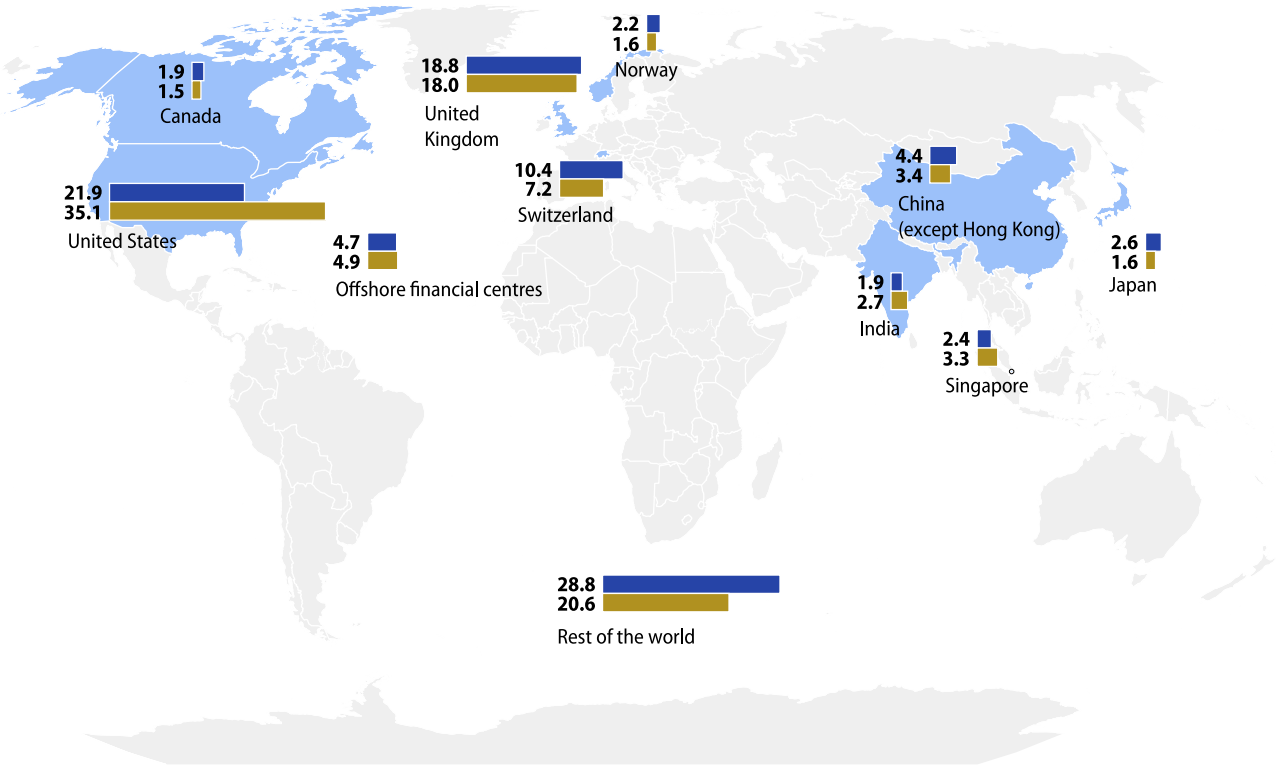
In 2025, exports of services from the EU to non-EU countries were valued at €1 581 billion while imports into the EU were valued at €1 427 billion. The EU recorded a trade surplus for services throughout the period 2015 to 2025. The surplus of €154 billion in 2025 was €40 billion lower than the previous year.

Note: the data are valued in current price terms.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: bop_its6_det)

Top 10 partners for international trade in services

(%, share of all partners, EU, 2024)



Note: the figure shows the share of EU exports to non-EU countries and the share of EU imports from non-EU countries. Selected based on the average share of exports and imports. The data shown for offshore financial centres exclude Singapore (for which information is shown separately).

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: bop_its6_tot)

In 2024, the EU's leading trade partners for services were the United States and the United Kingdom. Around two fifths of services exported from the EU were destined for the United States (21.9%) and the United Kingdom (18.8%). Switzerland was the EU's next largest trade partner for services exports (10.4%). By contrast, around one third (35.1%) of services that the EU imported from non-EU countries originated in the United States and 18.0% from the United Kingdom.



Business

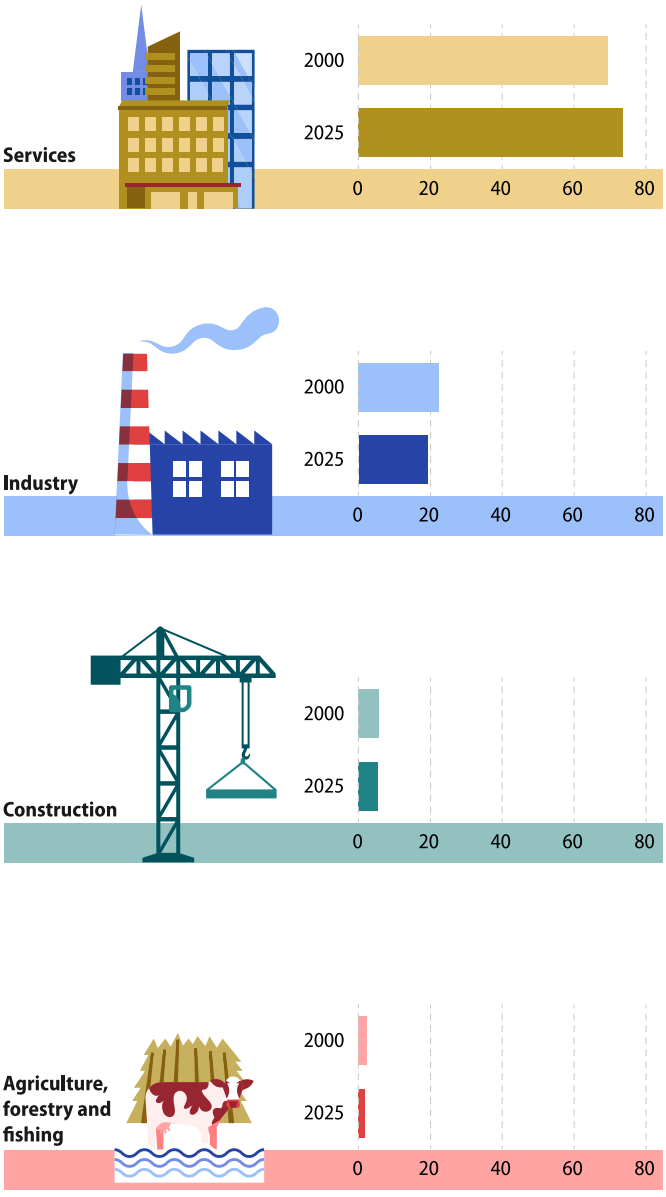
Sectoral structure of value added

(%, share of total value added, EU, 2000 and 2025)

In the quarter of a century from 2000 to 2025, the share of EU total value added generated in the services sector rose from 69.5% to 73.5%, mainly due to increases in the output of professional, scientific, technical, administrative and support service activities. The other parts of the EU economy contracted in relative terms: industry's share fell from 22.4% to 19.2%, the share of value added in construction fell slightly from 5.7% to 5.5%, and the share of agriculture, forestry and fishing fell from 2.4% to 1.8%.

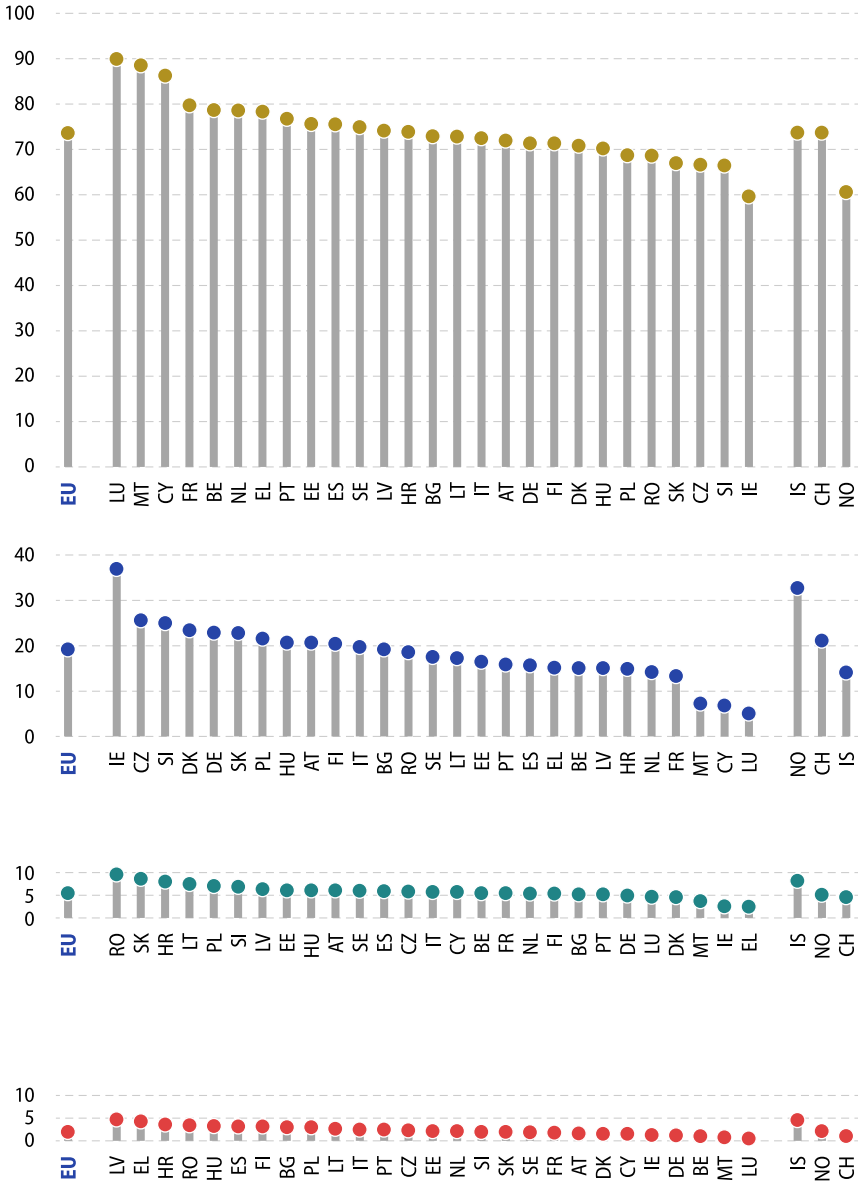
Looking at the changes between 2024 and 2025, value added increased (in current price terms) for all parts of the EU economy. Agriculture, forestry and fishing (up 5.4%) increased most, followed by construction (4.8%) and services (4.2%); value added in industry increased 3.5%.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nama_10_a10)



Sectoral value added

(%, share of total value added, 2025)



EU 73.5%
Services

EU 19.2%
Industry

EU 5.5%
Construction

EU 1.8%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nama_10_a10)

In 2025, the highest share of services in total value added was observed in Luxembourg – which is characterised by a large financial services sector – at 89.9%. In the tourism-oriented economies of Cyprus (86.2%) and Malta (88.5%), this share was also above 80.0%. The industrial economy contributed 36.9% of total value added in Ireland, with the next highest shares in Czechia (25.6%) and Slovenia (25.0%). The largest contribution from construction was in Romania (9.6%), while the largest contributions from agriculture, forestry and fishing were in Latvia (4.6%) and Greece (4.1%).



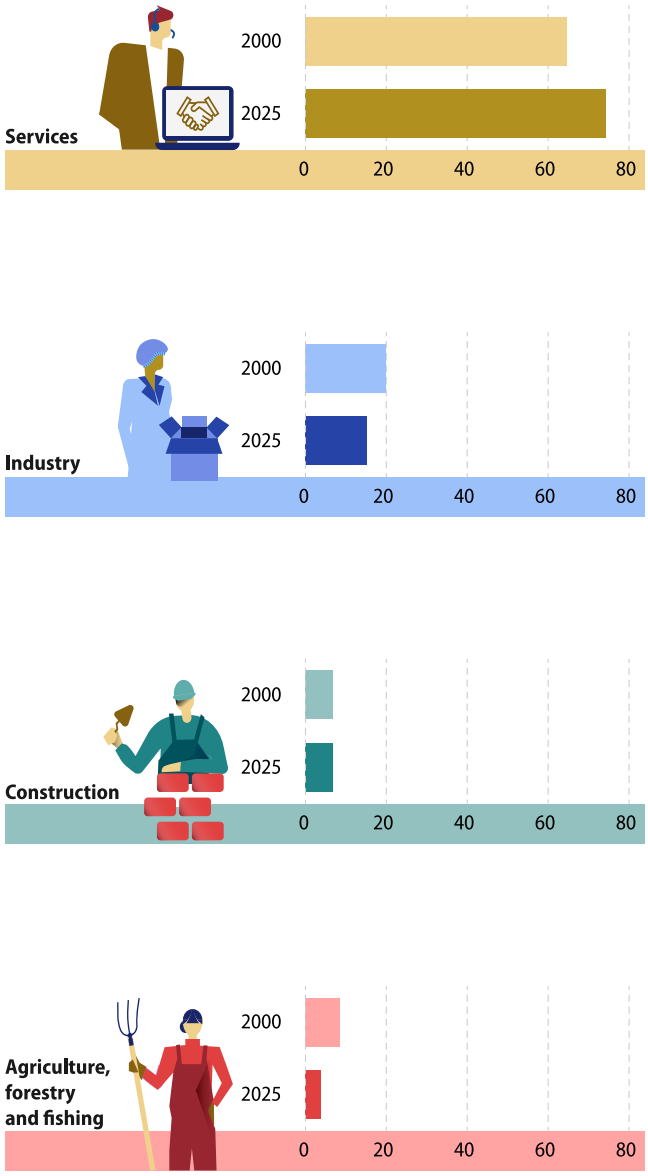
Sectoral structure of employment

(%, share of total employment, EU, 2000 and 2025)

Services contributed to the EU's economy slightly more in employment terms than in value added terms. In 2025, services provided work to 74.4% of all people employed in the EU, compared with 64.7% in 2000. The shares of each of the other sectors decreased between 2000 and 2025. The share of people employed in the industrial economy fell from 19.9% to 15.1% and the share in construction fell slightly from 6.9% to 6.7%; the share in agriculture, forestry and fishing more than halved from 8.6% to 3.8%.

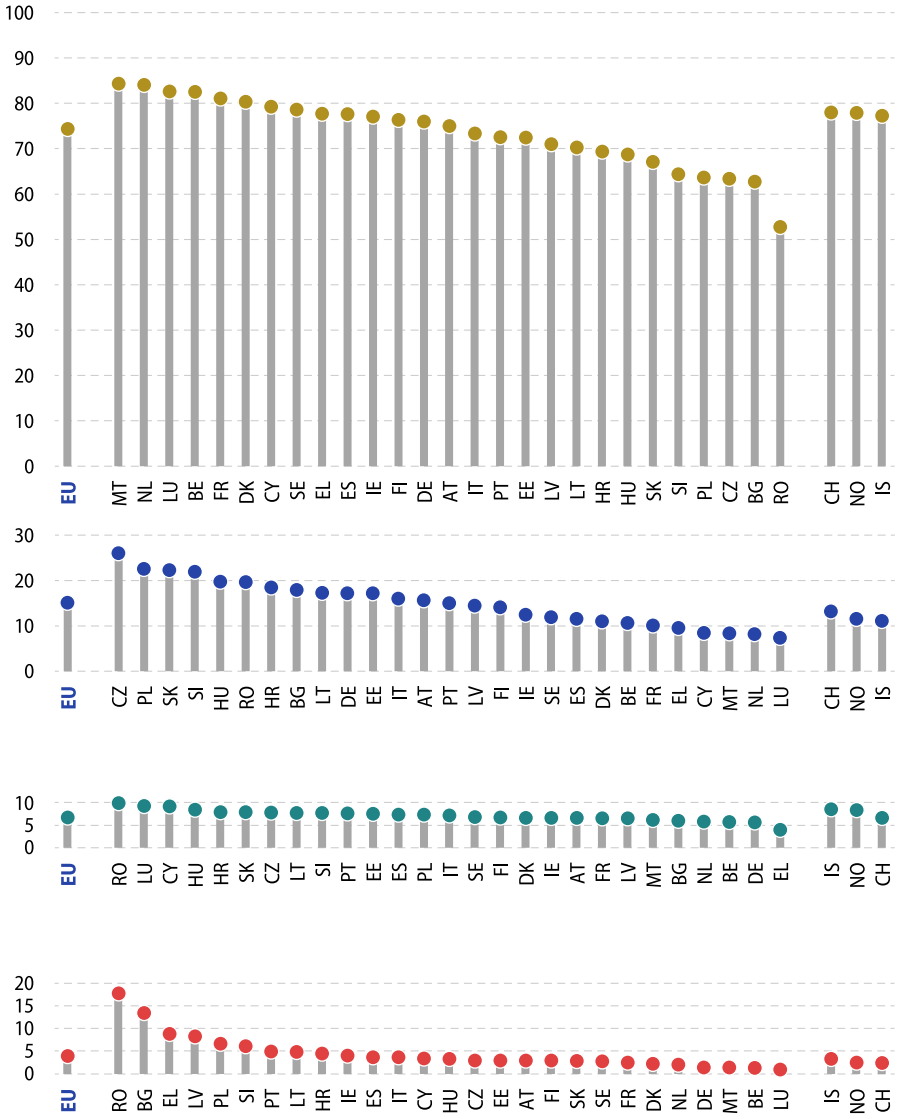
Looking at the changes between 2024 and 2025, EU employment grew 0.5% and the number of people employed increased in 2 of the 4 broad activity groupings. Growth was registered for construction (up 1.1%) and services (up 0.9%), while the declines were for industry (down 0.5%) and agriculture, forestry and fishing (down 4.8%).

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nama_10_a10_e)



Sectors of employment

(%, share of total employment, 2025)



EU 74.4%
Services

EU 15.1%
Industry

EU 6.7%
Construction

EU 3.8%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing

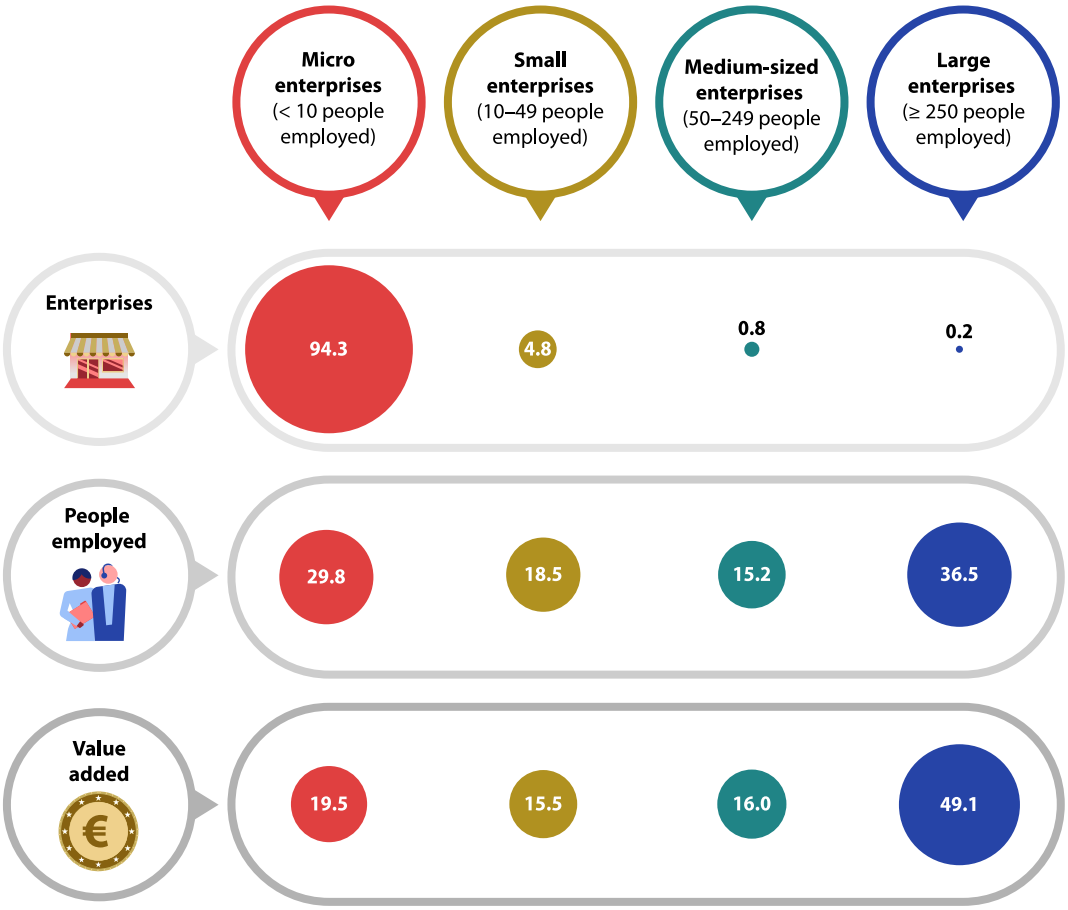
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nama_10_a10_e)

Among the EU countries, Romania had the smallest share (52.8%) of its workforce employed in the services sector in 2025. By contrast, services provided work to 84.4% of those employed in Malta and 84.1% in the Netherlands. Czechia was the only EU country in which industry accounted for more than a quarter (26.0%) of the total workforce. Regarding construction, Romania (9.9%), Luxembourg (9.2%) and Cyprus (9.1%) recorded the largest shares; Romania also had the highest share of total employment in agriculture, forestry and fishing (17.7%), ahead of Bulgaria (13.3%).



Enterprise size class structure of the business economy

(%, share for each enterprise size class, EU, 2023)



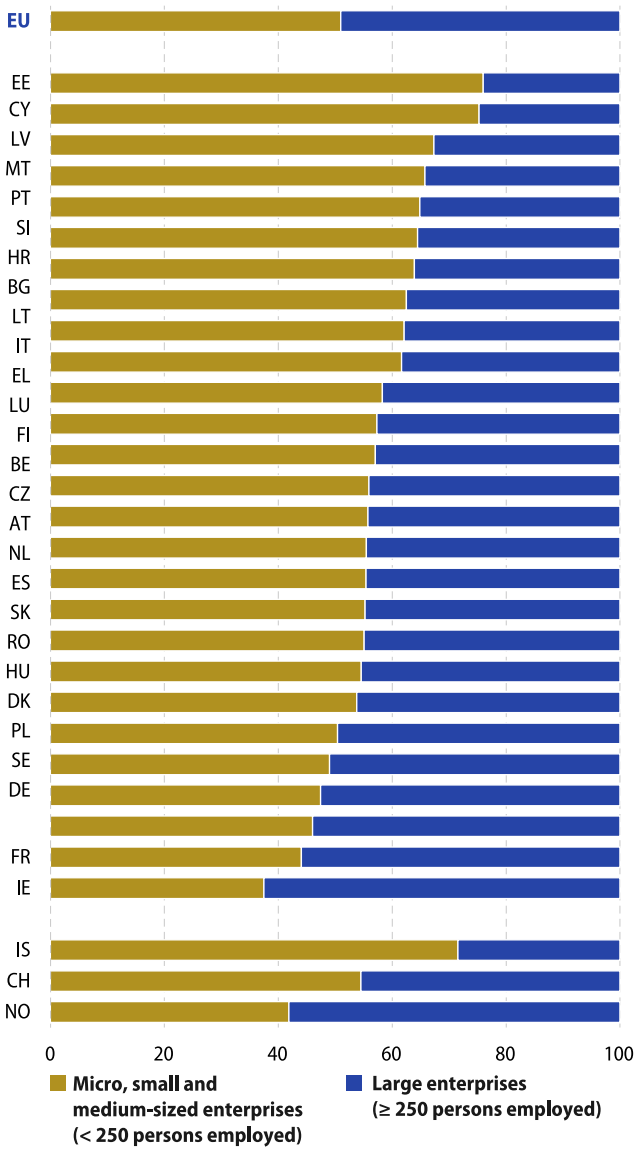
Note: the business economy includes the sectors of industry, construction, distributive trades and market services. Includes estimates made for the purpose of this publication. The shares do not always sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: sbs_sc_ovw)

In 2023, an overwhelming majority (94.3%) of enterprises in the EU's business economy had fewer than 10 people employed and were therefore classified as micro enterprises. By contrast, just 0.2% of all enterprises in the EU in 2023 had 250 or more people employed and were classified as large enterprises. The economic weight of large enterprises in the EU was considerably greater in terms of employment and value added, as they provided work to more than a third (36.5%) of the EU's business economy workforce and contributed close to half (49.1%) of its value added.

Enterprise size class shares of value added in the business economy

(%, share for each enterprise size class, 2023)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: sbs_sc_ovw)

Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (also called SMEs or 'small businesses') – in other words, enterprises with fewer than 250 people – are often referred to as the backbone of the EU's economy, providing jobs and growth opportunities.

In 2023, just over half of the enterprises in the EU's business economy (33.0 million) were SMEs. They employed 103 million people and contributed €5.33 trillion of value added. The economic contribution made by SMEs was particularly notable in Estonia and Cyprus, where SMEs provided more than 75.0% of the value added in the business economy.

By contrast, large enterprises (with 250 or more people) generated 62.6% of value added within the Irish business economy in 2023 and also for more than half of total value added in France, Germany, Sweden and Poland.





Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises

EU

50.9%

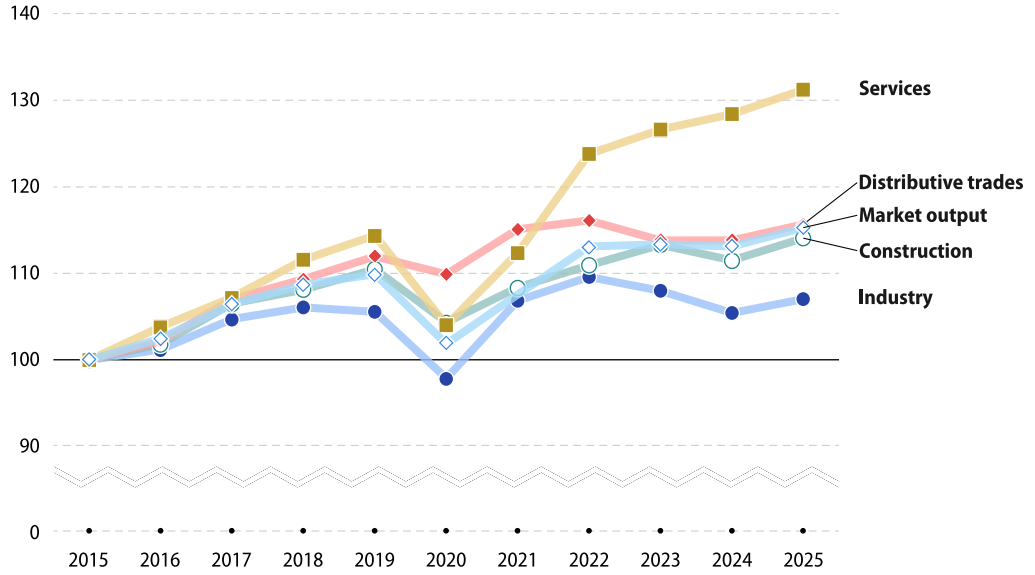
Large enterprises

EU

49.1%

Volume developments of market production

(index 2015 = 100, EU, 2015–25)



(%, overall change in output, 2015–25)



15.3%
Market output



7.1%
Industry



14.1%
Construction



15.7%
Distributive trades



31.2%
Services

Note: annual indices are calendar adjusted. The indices were originally compiled with 2021 as their base year and have been re-referenced to 2015 = 100. Break mark included in the y-axis.

Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: sts_tot_prod_a, sts_inpr_a, sts_copr_a, sts_trtu_a and sts_sepr_a)

In real terms, the EU's market output peaked in 2019; it decreased 7.3% in 2020 in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. Output partially rebounded in 2021 (up 5.6%) and then reached a level in 2022 that was above the 2019 peak, resulting from growth of 5.2%. Output stabilised in 2023 (up 0.2%) and 2024 (down 0.2%) before increasing 1.9% in 2025. Overall, market output in 2025 was 15.3% higher than in 2015.

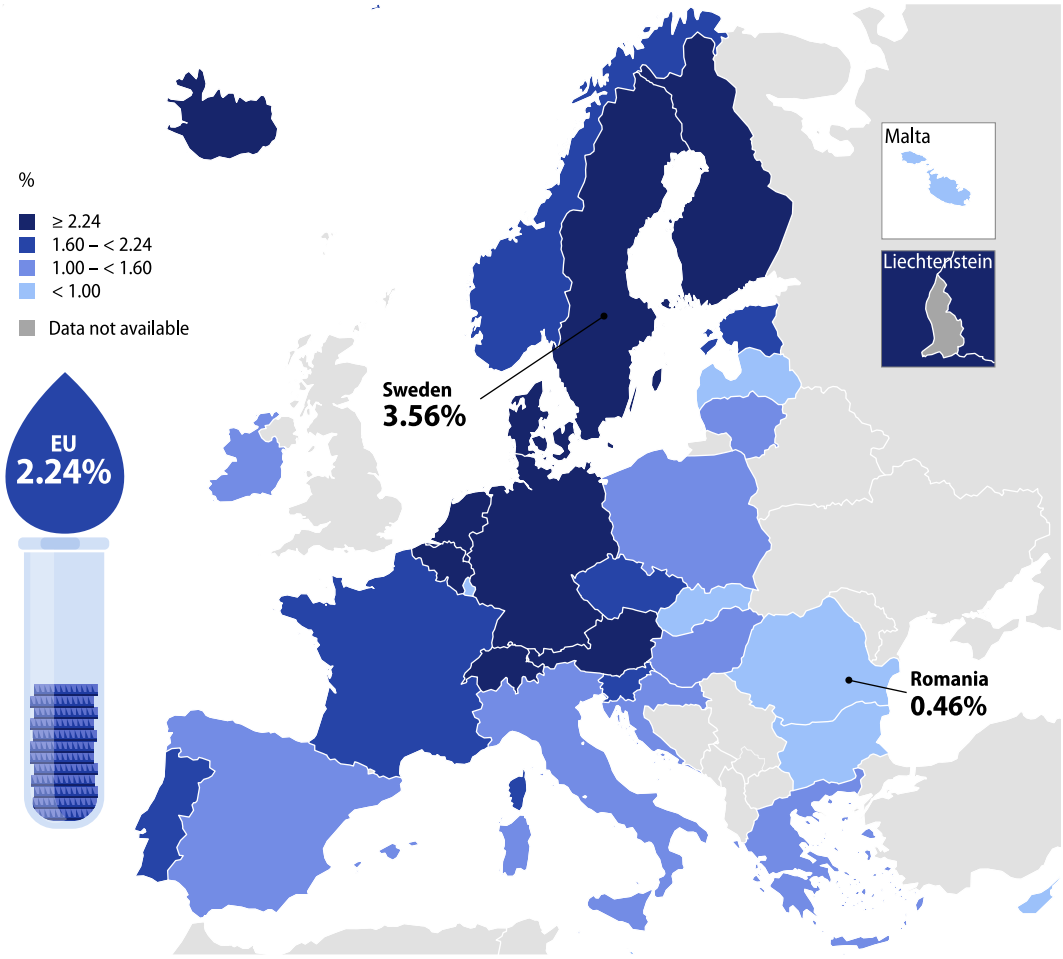
Between 2015 and 2025, output in the EU increased

- 7.1% in industry
- 14.1% in construction
- 15.7% in distributive trades
- 31.2% in services.

Research and development

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D

(%, relative to GDP, 2024)



Note: CH, 2023.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: rd_e_gerdtot)

Research and development (R&D) and innovation are key elements for technical solutions to global societal challenges such as climate change or active and healthy ageing. EU gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) was €403 billion in 2024, 3.6% higher than in 2023 (this rate of change is based on current price data and is therefore not adjusted for inflation).

GERD is often expressed relative to GDP, resulting in an indicator that is also known as R&D intensity. With economic activity rebounding from the COVID-19 crisis at a faster rate than R&D expenditure, the EU's R&D intensity fell to 2.24% in 2021 and 2.22% in 2022. This rate recovered to 2.26% in 2023 and returned to 2.24% in 2024. Among the EU countries, R&D intensity in 2024 ranged from 0.46% in Romania to 3.56% in Sweden.

Tourism

3.09
billion nights spent in the EU in 2025

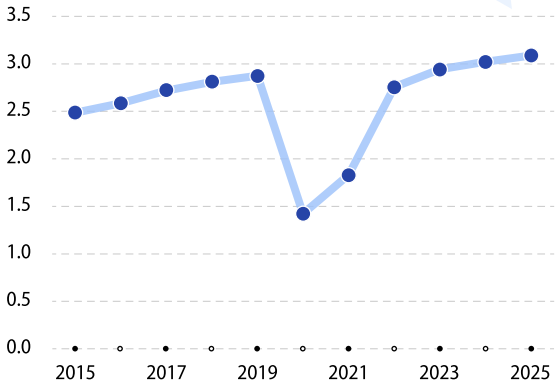
Number of nights spent at tourist accommodation

(billion nights, EU, 2015–25)

The total number of nights spent in tourist accommodation across the EU halved between 2019 (2.88 billion nights spent) and 2020 (1.42 billion), largely as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. The number of nights spent in tourist accommodation partially recovered in 2021 and 2022. In 2023, this number surpassed its pre-pandemic level and it increased further in the next 2 years, reaching 3.09 billion nights spent across the EU in 2025.

Note: these statistics cover business and leisure travellers.

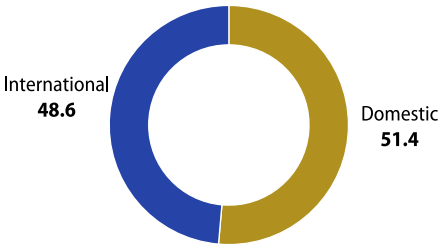
Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: tour_occ_ninat and tour_occ_nim)



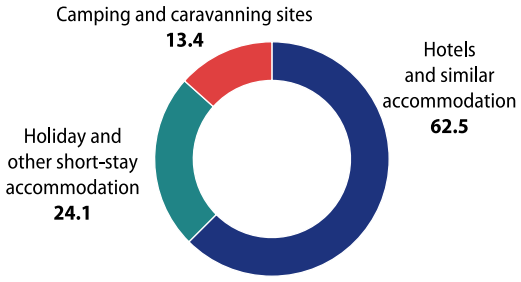
Distribution of nights spent at tourist accommodation

(%, EU, 2025)

By residence of the tourist



By type of accommodation



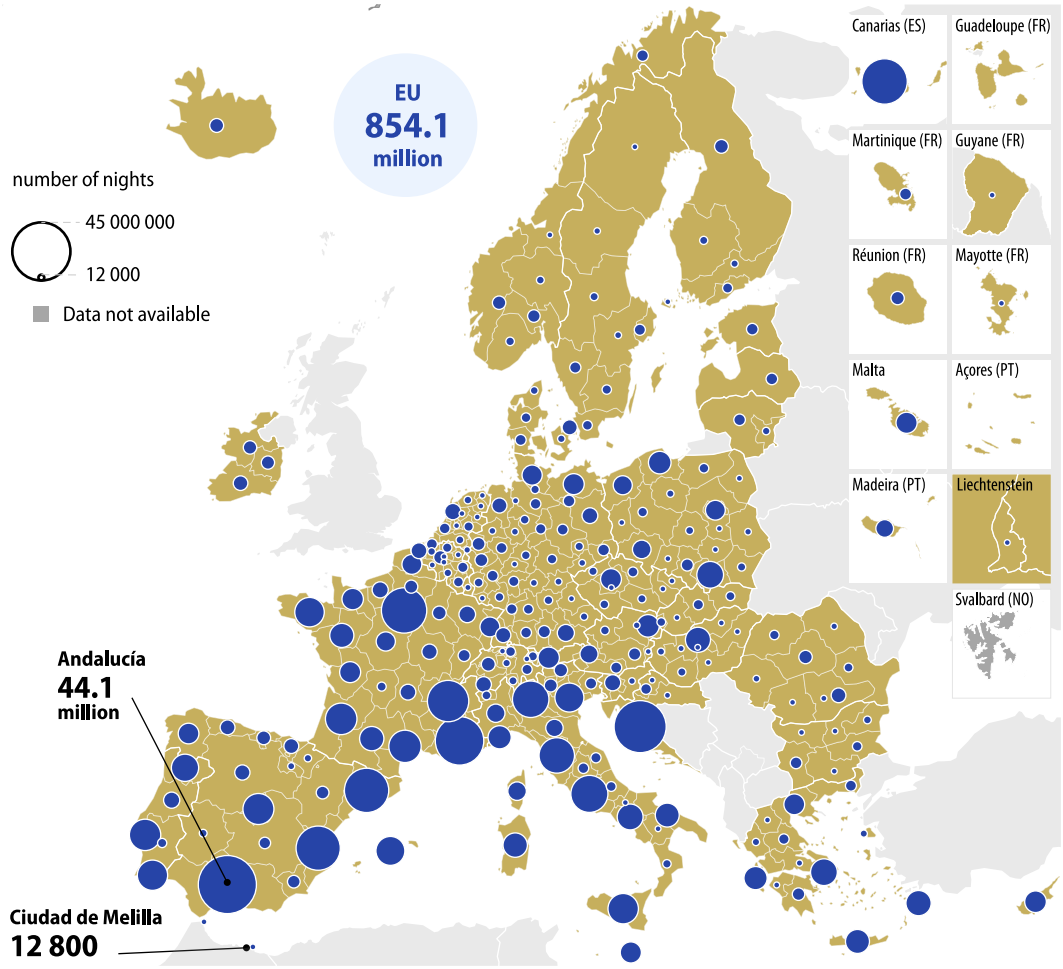
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: tour_occ_nim)

The numbers of nights spent at tourist accommodation by domestic tourists and by international tourists were relatively balanced across the EU in 2025; nights spent by domestic tourists had been in a large majority during the COVID-19 crisis. In 2025, domestic tourists accounted for 51.4% of the total nights spent in EU tourist accommodation.

The share of nights spent by tourists in hotels and similar accommodation, holiday and other short-term accommodation, and camping grounds also returned to its pre-pandemic structure. Hotels and similar accommodation accounted for 62.5% of all nights spent in EU tourist accommodation in 2025; smaller shares were recorded for holiday and other short-term accommodation (24.1%) and camping and caravanning sites (13.4%).

Guest nights spent at short-term accommodation booked via online platforms

(nights, NUTS level 2 regions, 2024)



Note: the online platforms are Airbnb, Booking, Expedia and TripAdvisor. The size of the circle is proportional to the number of guest nights in each region.

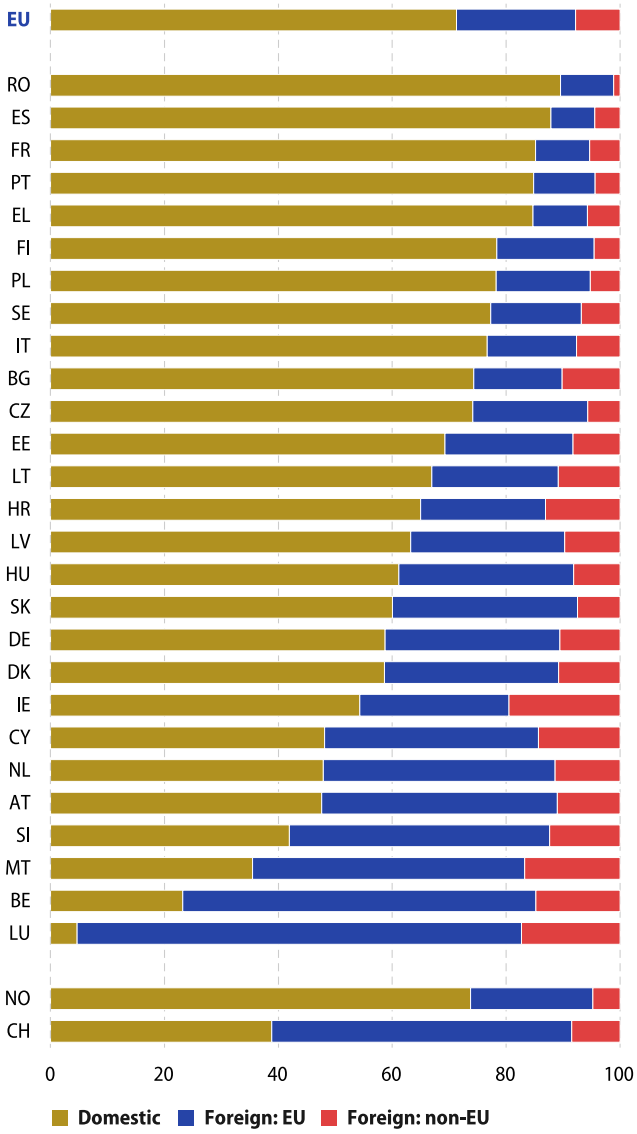
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: tour_ce_omn12)

Large online collaborative economy platforms (Airbnb, Booking, Expedia and TripAdvisor) provide data on guest nights spent in short-stay accommodation. In 2024, 854.1 million guest nights were spent in accommodation booked via these 4 online platforms.

In 2024, the region Andalucía in Spain had the highest number (44.1 million) of guest nights spent at accommodation facilities booked via these online platforms. This number was higher than 10.0 million in 20 NUTS level 2 regions: Spain, France (6 regions each), Italy (5 regions), Portugal (2 regions) and Croatia (1 region).

Destination of trips by residents

(%, aged 15 or over, 2024)



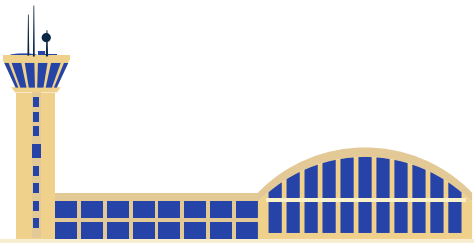
Note: CH, 2022.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: tour_dem_ttw)

In 2024, EU residents made 1.19 billion tourism trips involving at least 1 overnight stay. Nearly three quarters (71.3%) of these trips were domestic. EU residents conducted most of their foreign trips elsewhere within the EU (20.9% of all trips) and the remainder (7.8%) to non-EU countries. The largest destinations outside the EU were United Kingdom, Türkiye, the United States and Switzerland.

The share of domestic trips in 2024 was relatively low in some of the smallest EU countries, notably Luxembourg (4.7%). Patterns of foreign travel within and outside the EU depend on several factors, including location (being close to non-EU countries or not) and language. In Ireland, 1.3 times as many trips were to other EU countries as to non-EU countries; by contrast, the equivalent ratio in Romania was 8.5.





3

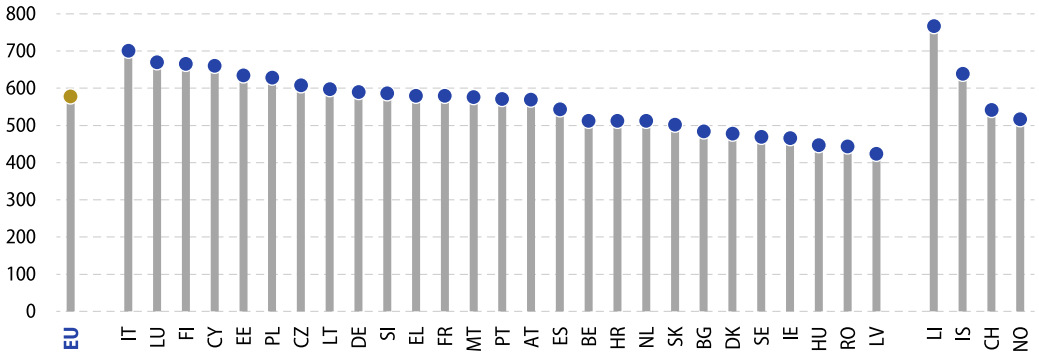
Environment and natural resources



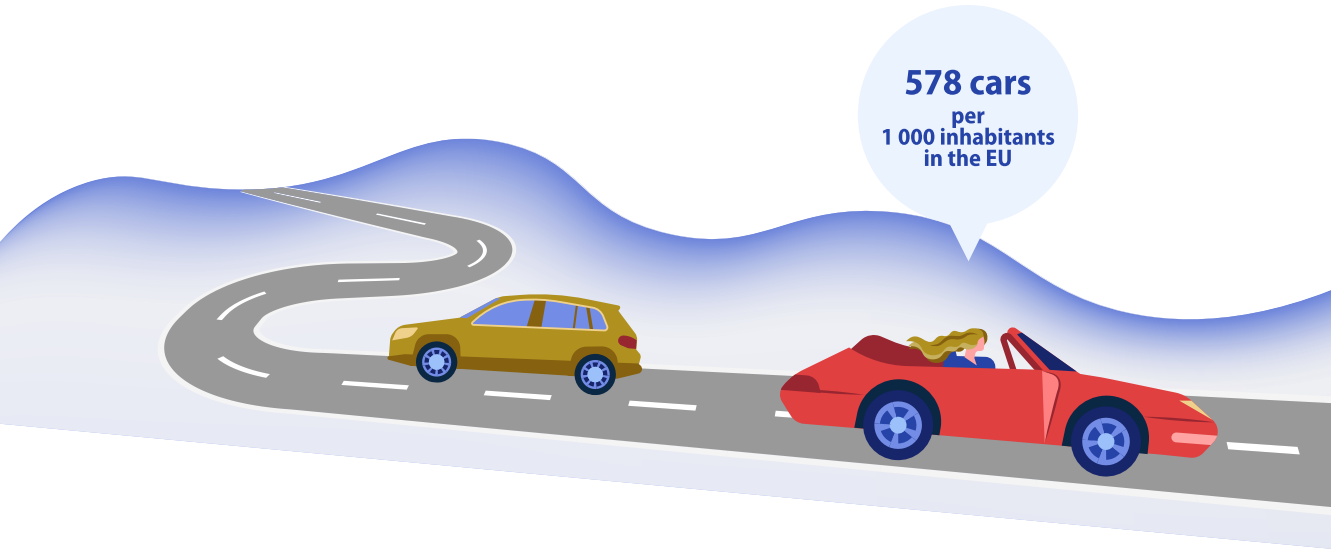
Transport

Passenger cars

(number of cars per 1 000 inhabitants, 2024)



Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: road_eqs_carhab and demo_pjan)

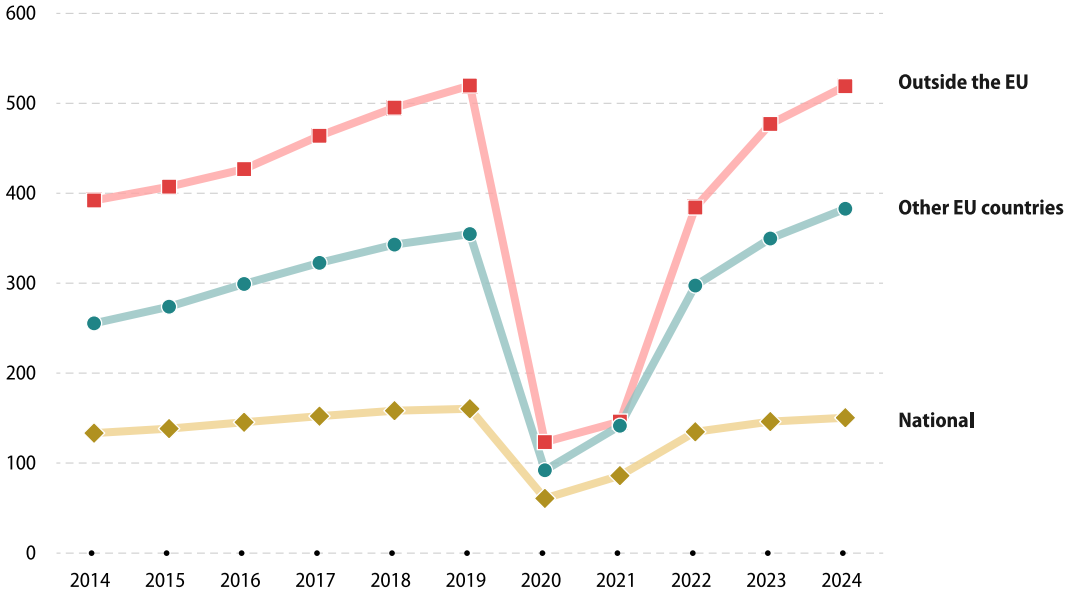


In 2024, there were around 260 million passenger cars on the EU's roads, equivalent to 578 cars per 1 000 inhabitants. The passenger car motorisation rate was highest in Italy (701 per 1 000 inhabitants) while it was lowest in Latvia (424 cars per 1 000 inhabitants).

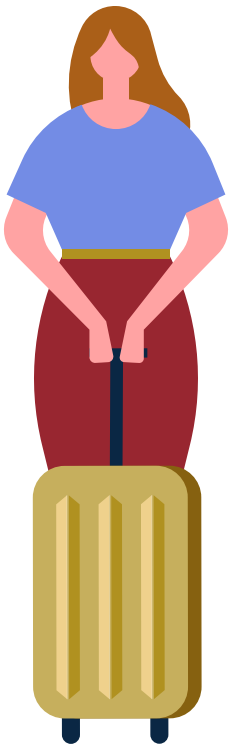
Newer cars may be less environmentally-damaging, with more efficient engines and lower emissions. These benefits may, however, be offset to some extent by trends towards heavier or more powerful vehicles. Nonetheless, it is estimated that in 2024 more than half (56%) of all passenger cars in the EU were at least 10 years old, compared with around 10% that were less than 2 years old.

Passengers carried by air

(million passengers carried – arrivals and departures, EU, 2014–24)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: avia_paoc)





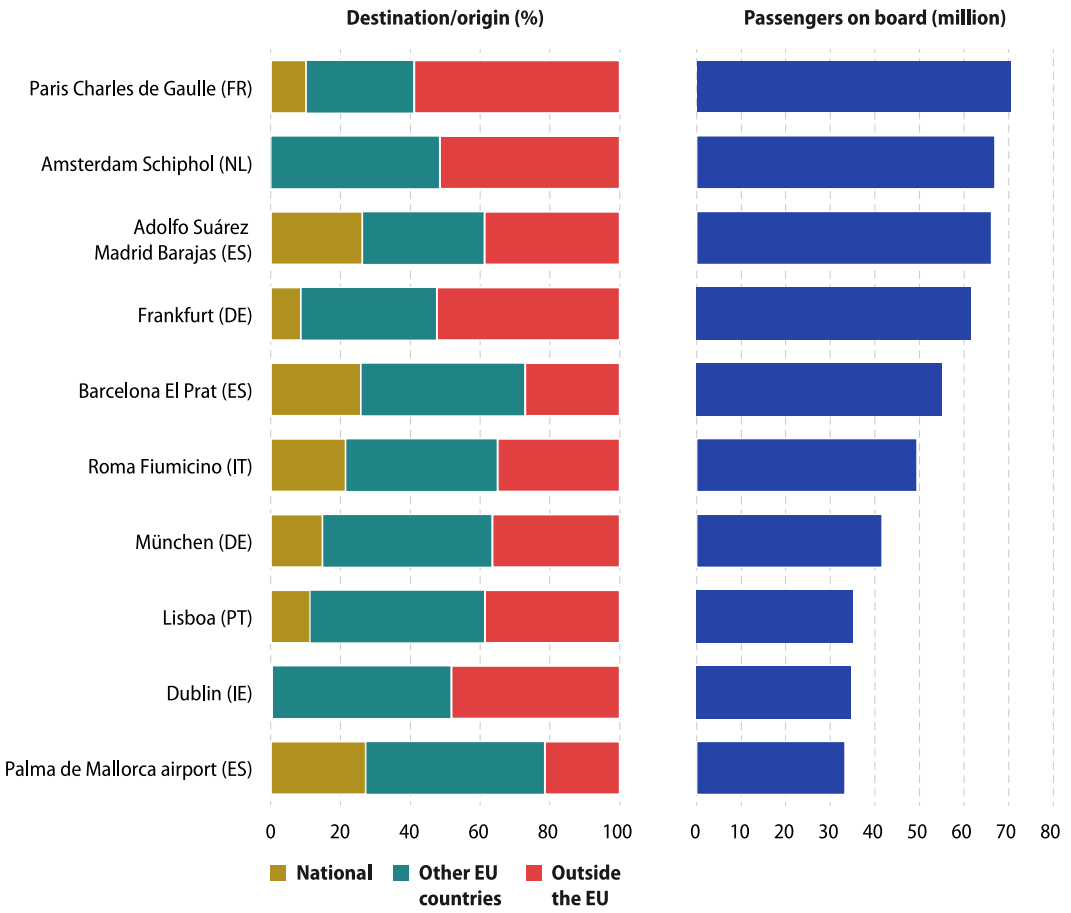
In 2024, the total number of passengers carried by air to or from airports in the EU was 1.05 billion. There were 150 million air passengers carried on national flights within EU countries, 383 million on flights between different EU countries and 519 million on international flights starting or finishing outside of the EU.

In 2019, the total number of passengers carried by air to or from airports in the EU had been 1.04 billion. The COVID-19 crisis impacted heavily on this figure in 2020 and 2021, as it first dropped to 277 million and rebounded weakly to 374 million. There was a stronger rebound in 2022 (to 817 million) and the number of air passengers continued to grow in the next 2 years, reaching 1.05 billion in 2024.

Comparing the number of passengers carried by air to or from airports in the EU with the pre-pandemic 2019 level, the total was 1.7% higher in 2024. Passenger numbers on flights within the EU were 7.9% higher, while there was almost no difference (0.1% lower in 2024) in passenger numbers on flights from or to countries outside the EU. By contrast, passenger numbers on national flights had not recovered fully: in 2024, they were 6.2% below their 2019 level.

Busiest EU passenger airports

(passengers on board, 2024)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: avia_paoa)

In terms of the number of passengers carried, the busiest airport in the EU was Paris Charles de Gaulle, with 70.3 million passengers on board in 2024. It was followed by Amsterdam Schiphol (66.8 million), Adolfo Suárez Madrid Barajas (66.1 million) and Frankfurt (61.5 million).

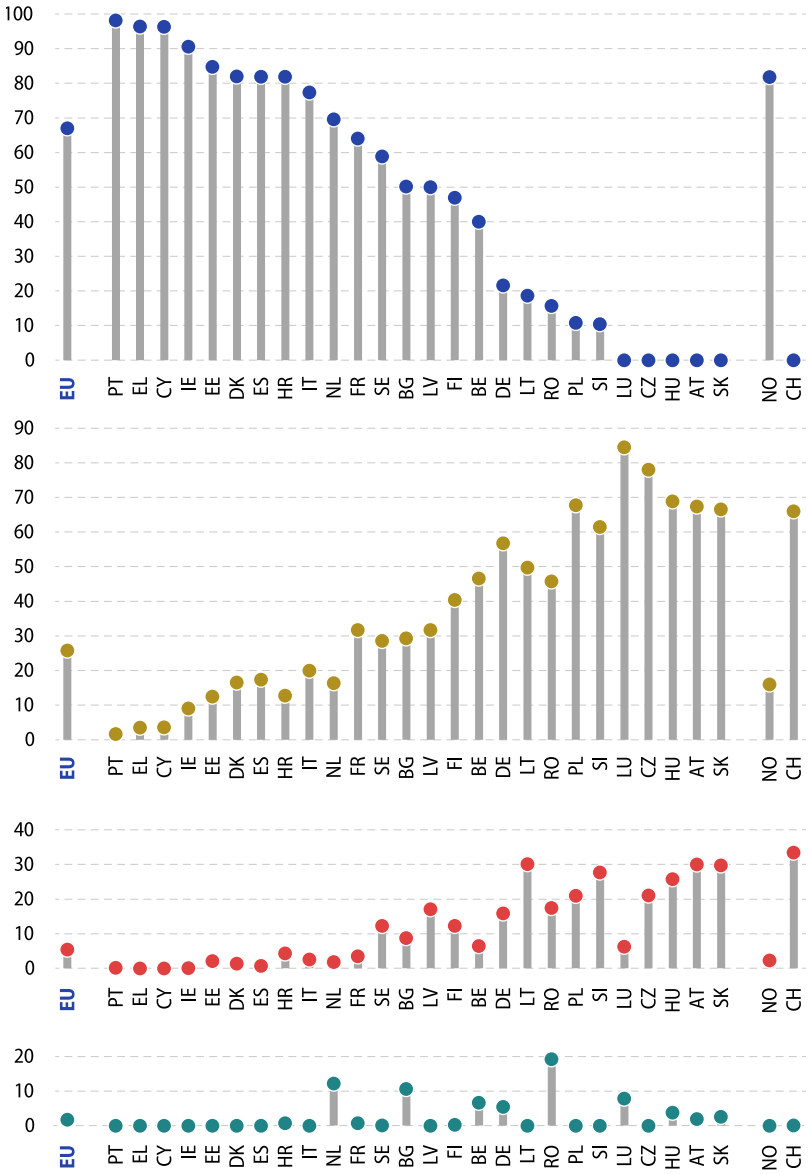
The origin/destination of passengers who used the busiest airports in the EU varied considerably in 2024:

- more than half of the passengers in Paris Charles de Gaulle, Frankfurt or Amsterdam Schiphol were on **international flights** starting or finishing outside the EU
- more than half of the passengers using Palma de Mallorca, Dublin or Lisboa airports were flying t**o/ from other EU countries**
- more than a quarter of the passengers using Palma de Mallorca, Adolfo Suárez Madrid Barajas or Barcelona El Prat were on **national flights**.

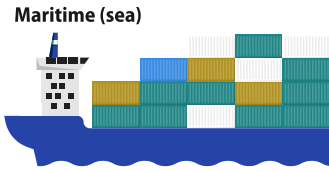


Freight modes of transport

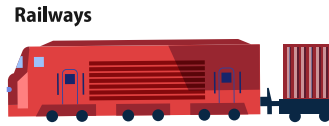
(%, share of freight based on tonne-kilometres, 2024)



67.0%
of EU freight transport was by sea









Note: MT, not available. CY: no railways. CZ, DK, EE, IE, EL, ES, IT, CY, LV, PL, PT, SI and NO: negligible or no navigable inland waterways. CZ, LU, HU, AT, SK and CH: no maritime transport. Air transport: not shown due to small share. Ranked on maritime.

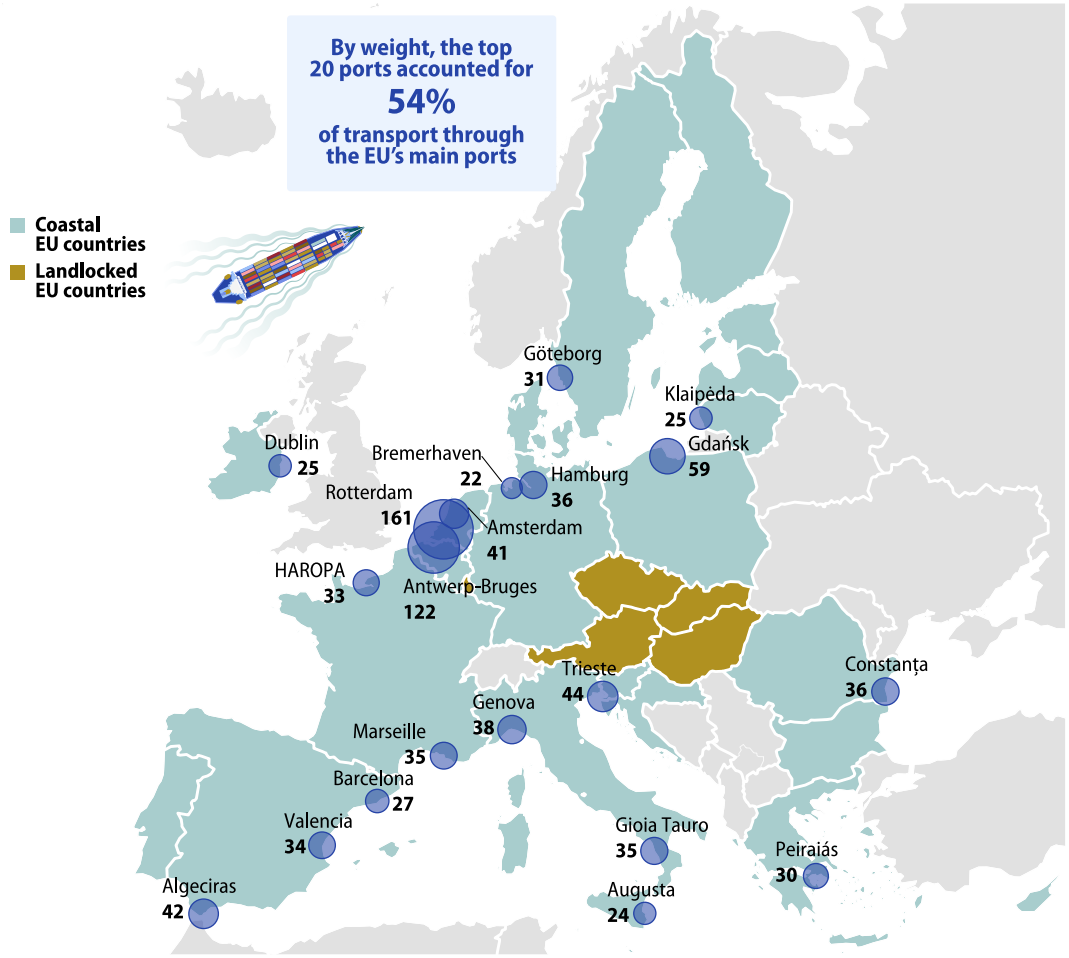
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: tran_hv_ms_frmod)

Based on tonne-kilometres, the vast majority of EU freight transport in 2024 was carried by sea (67.0%) or by road (25.7%). The remainder was split mainly between rail (5.4%) and inland waterways (1.7%), with air freight having a smaller share (0.2%).

The largest shares for rail freight were recorded in Lithuania (30.1%), Austria (30.0%) and Slovakia (29.8%). Inland waterways accounted for more than a tenth of Romanian (19.2%), Dutch (12.2%) and Bulgarian (10.6%) freight.

Busiest short sea shipping ports

(million tonnes of goods transported to/from main ports in the EU, 2024)



Note: excludes the movement of cargo across oceans (deep sea shipping). HAROPA includes Le Havre and Rouen.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: mar_sg_am_pw)

In 2024, the total weight of goods transported to/from main ports in the EU by short sea shipping was 1.6 billion tonnes, 3.1% higher than in 2023. Rotterdam in the Netherlands was by far the busiest EU port in terms of goods transported (161 million tonnes; 9.8% of the EU total). The second busiest was the port of Antwerp-Bruges in Belgium (122 million tonnes), which was more than twice as busy as the next port, Gdańsk in Poland (59 million tonnes).

Energy

Structure of final energy consumption

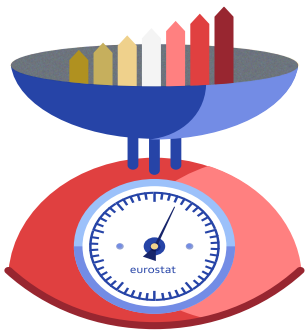
(%, based on joules, EU, 1994 and 2024)

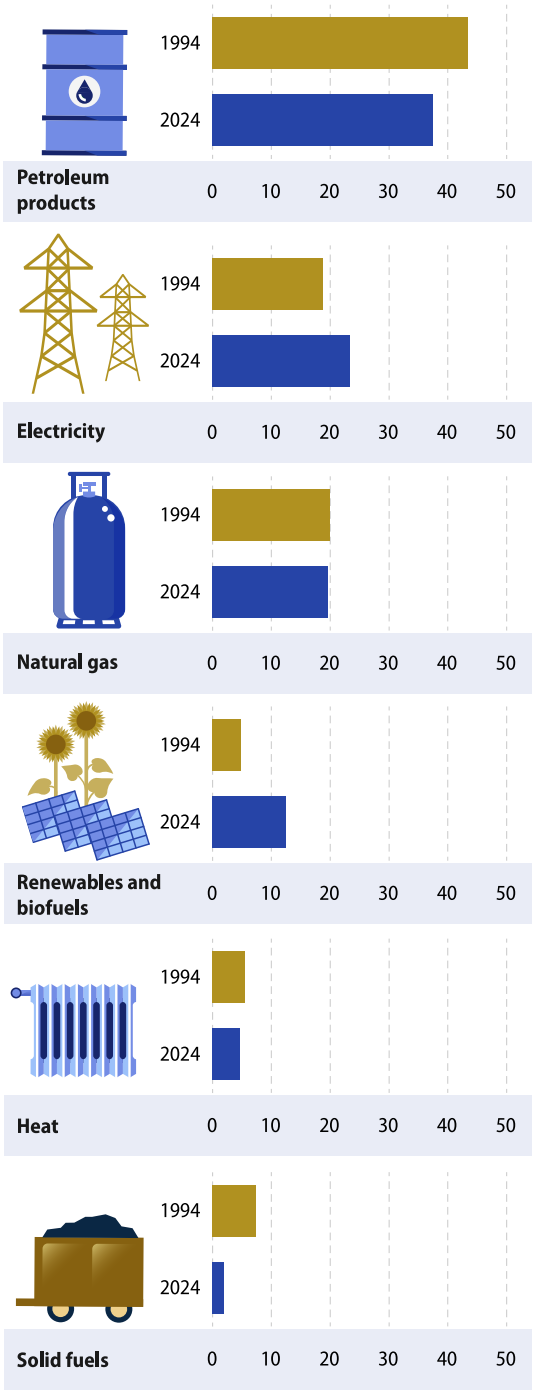
In 2024, the EU's final energy consumption was 36 800 petajoules (PJ); this was 0.6% higher than the level recorded in 2023. Petroleum products make up more than a third (37.4%) of the EU's final energy consumption in 2024, with electricity (23.4%) and natural gas (19.6%) recording the next highest shares.

Final energy consumption in the EU was 0.4% higher in 2024 than it had been 30 years earlier (in 1994). This overall similarity in the level conceals a considerable shift in the structure of consumption, moving away from solid fuels as well as oil and petroleum products towards renewables and biofuels, as well as electricity. For example, the share of solid fuels fell from 7.5% to 1.9% between 1994 and 2024, while that of renewables and biofuels rose from 4.8% to 12.4% over the same period.

Note: solid fuels includes coal, manufactured gases, peat, oil shale and oil sands. The residual category of waste (non-renewable) – not presented here – accounted for 0.6% of EU final energy consumption in 2024.

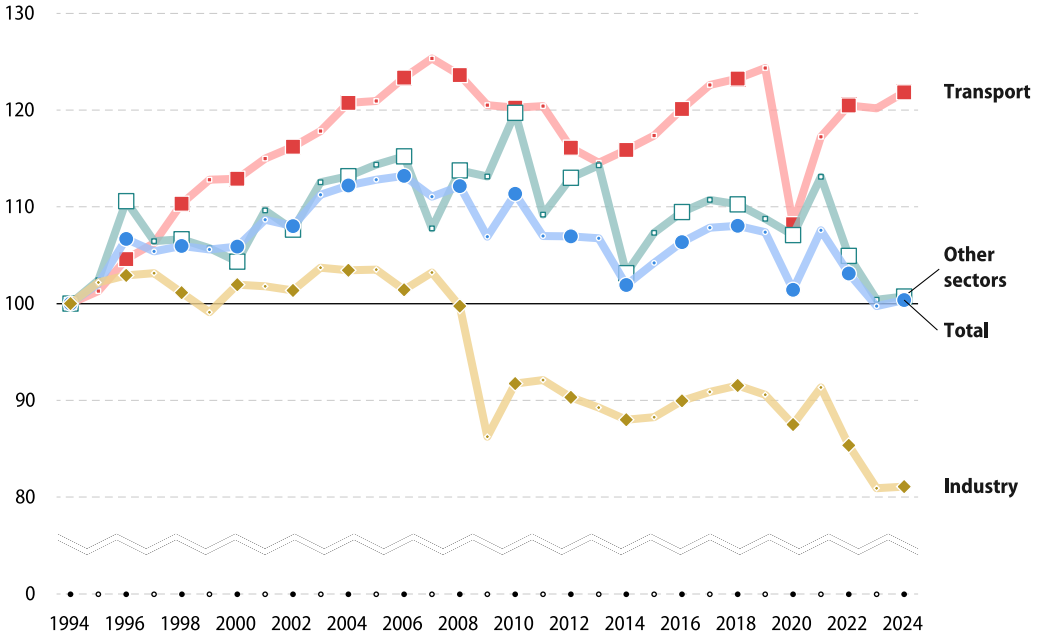
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nrg_bal_s)





Final energy consumption, by end use

(1994 = 100, based on joules, EU, 1994–2024)



Note: data presented as an index with 1994 = 100. The residual category of other sectors includes residential use, agriculture, forestry and fishing, and services other than transport. Break mark included in the y-axis.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nrg_bal_s)

In 2024, transport accounted for slightly less than a third (32.3%) of the energy consumed within the EU, while the share for industry was 24.5%, leaving 43.1% for other sectors – these mainly concern residential use and services.

Energy consumption for transport rose between 1994 and 2007, slowed down during the global financial and economic crisis and its aftermath and then grew again from 2013 to 2019. Overall, consumption for transport increased 24.3% from 1994 to 2019. By contrast, final energy consumption within industry fell by close to a tenth (down 9.4%) over the same period, with a particularly large decline during the global financial and economic crisis in 2009 (down 13.6%).

From 2020 onwards, these long-term developments were interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent period of rising consumer prices. The overall level of final energy consumption in the EU fell 5.6% in 2020, with a particularly large decline for transport (consumption down 13.0%). Overall energy consumption rebounded in 2021 (up 6.1%) before decreasing again in 2022 (down 4.2%) and 2023 (down 3.3%) and rising modestly in 2024 (up 0.6%). The decreases in 2022 and 2023 were followed by a modest increase in 2024; these changes may partially reflect efforts by energy users to consume less and in this way limit somewhat the impact of high energy prices.

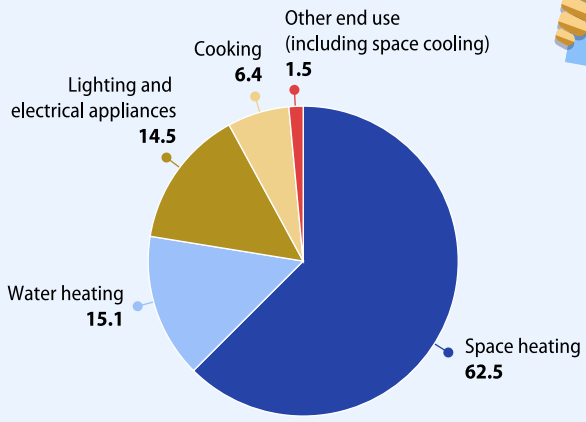


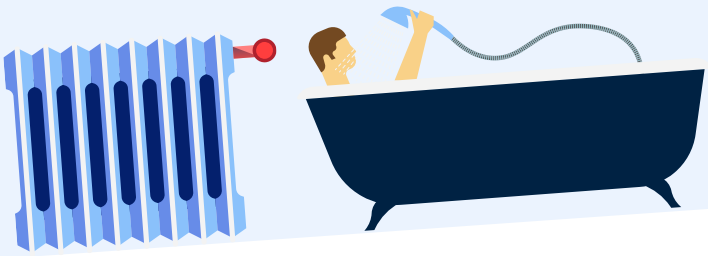
Final energy consumption in the residential sector, by use

(%, EU, 2023)

In the EU, energy in the residential sector was mainly used in 2023 for heating homes, accounting for 62.5% of final energy consumption. The share used for water heating was 15.1%, just ahead of lighting and electrical appliances (14.5%; this excludes the use of electricity for the main heating, cooling or cooking systems). Main cooking devices required 6.4% of the energy used. Space cooling and other uses accounted for 0.6% and 0.8%, respectively. Despite remaining at a relatively low share, residential energy use for cooling has increased more rapidly than other residential end uses in recent years.

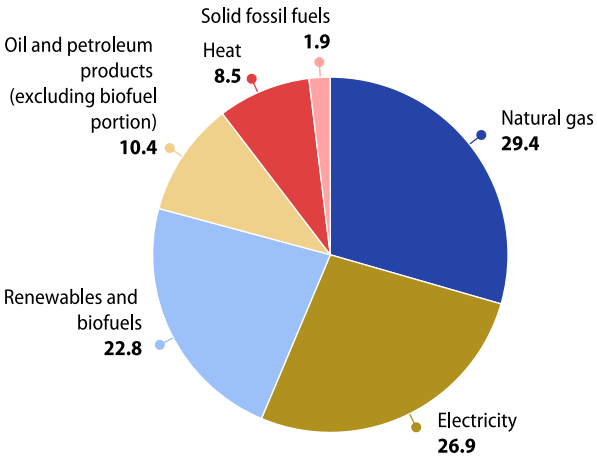
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nrg_d_hhq)





Final energy consumption in the residential sector, by fuel

(%, EU, 2024)



In 2024, 79.1% of the final energy consumption in the EU's residential sector was covered by 3 fuels:

- natural gas (29.4%)
- electricity (26.9%)
- renewables and biofuels (22.8%).

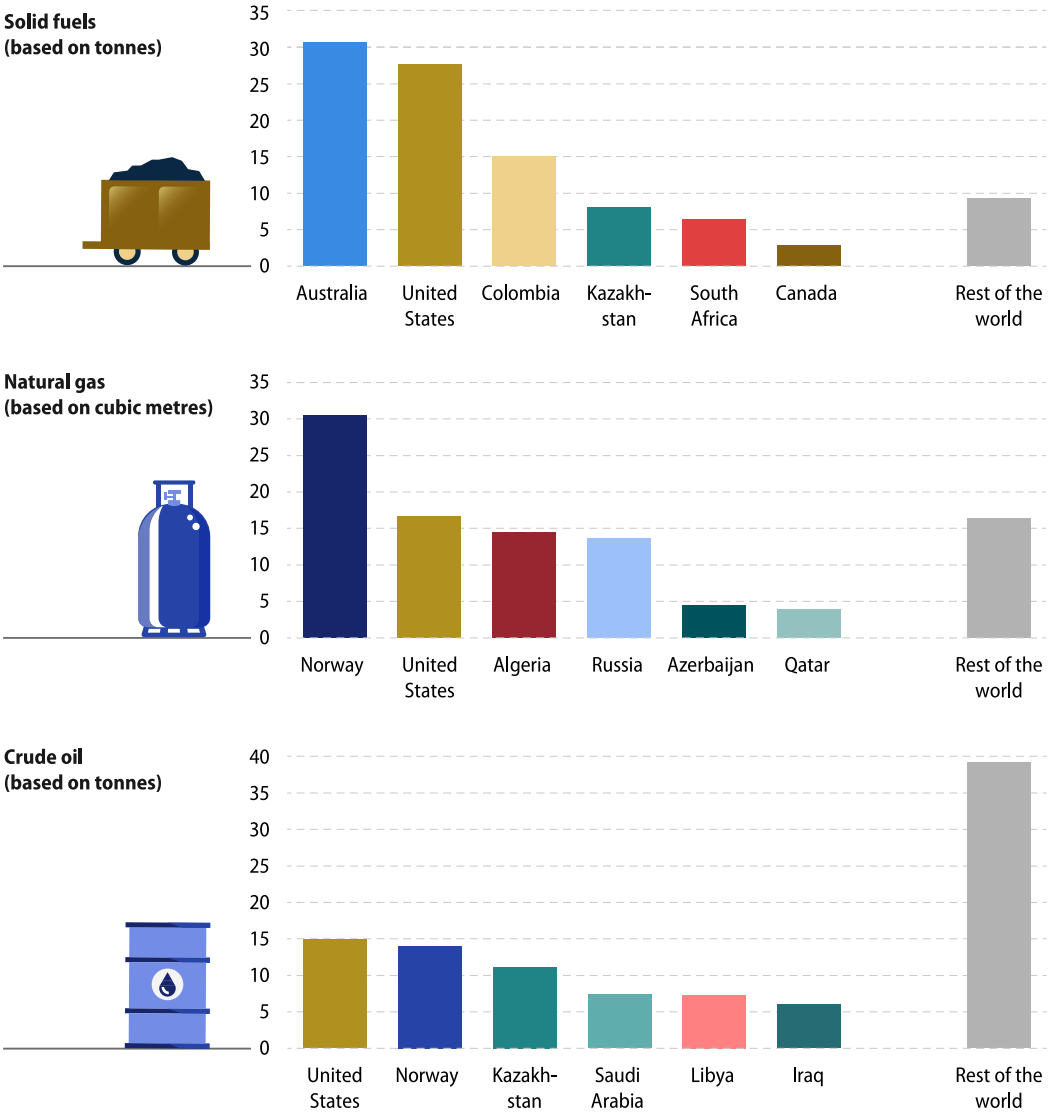
There were notably smaller shares for oil and petroleum products (10.4%), derived heat (8.5%) and solid fossil fuels such as coal (1.9%).

Note: the shares do not sum to 100.0% due to rounding.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nrg_bal_c)

Origin of energy imports

(%, share of all extra-EU imports, EU, 2024)



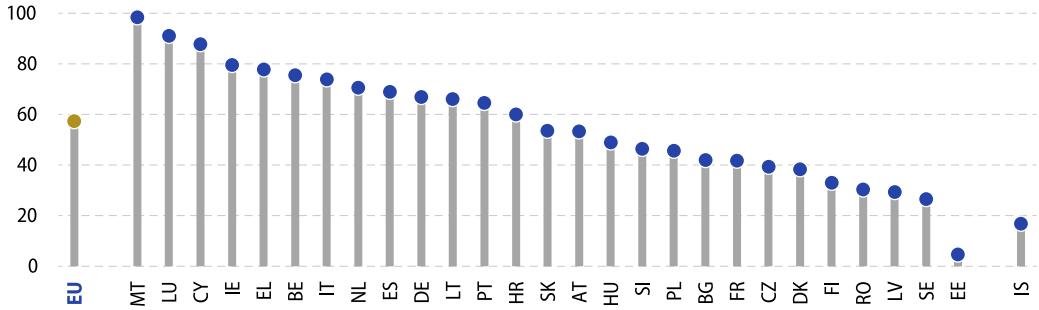
Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: nrg_ti_sff, nrg_ti_gas and nrg_ti_oil)

Traditionally, the EU relied heavily on energy imports from Russia; in 2021, Russia was the largest supplier of solid fuels (52.3% of EU imports), natural gas (44.1%) and crude oil (25.3%). This situation has changed greatly due to sanctions and/or restrictions on Russian imports. While Russia was still the fourth largest supplier of natural gas to the EU in 2024 (13.6% of the total), it was not among the top suppliers of solid fuels or crude oil.

The United States (14.9%) and Norway (14.0%) were the largest suppliers of the EU's crude oil imports in 2024. They were also the largest suppliers of natural gas: Norway provided 30.5% of the total and the United States 16.7%. Furthermore, the United States (27.7%) was also the second largest provider of the EU's imports of solid fuels, with only Australia (30.7%) having a larger share.

Energy dependency rate

(%, net imports as a share of gross available energy, 2024)



Note: NO, value not shown (= −677.2%). A negative value indicates that a country exports more energy than it imports.

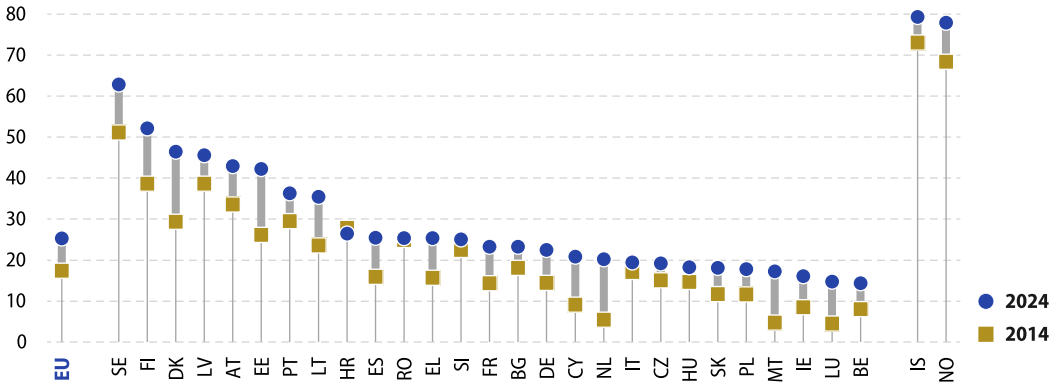
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nrg_ind_id)

The energy dependency rate indicates the extent to which an economy relies upon imports to meet its energy needs. In 2024, the EU's dependency rate was 57.3%: in other words, net imports accounted for close to three fifths of gross available energy.

None of the EU countries were self-sufficient in relation to their energy needs, with 2 of the smaller ones – Malta and Luxembourg – reliant on external supplies for more than 90.0% of their needs. Estonia had the lowest energy dependency rate, at 4.6%.

Energy from renewable energy sources

(%, share of total gross final energy consumption, 2014 and 2024)



Source: Eurostat (dataset code: nrg_ind_ren)

In 2024, 25.2% of the EU's gross final energy consumption was from renewable energy sources, compared with 17.4% a decade earlier. In 2024, 62.8% of the final energy consumption in Sweden was from renewable sources as was more than half (52.1%) in Finland; shares of more than 40.0% were also recorded in Denmark, Latvia, Austria and Estonia.



Environment

Employment in the environmental economy

(million full-time equivalents, EU, 2002 and 2022)

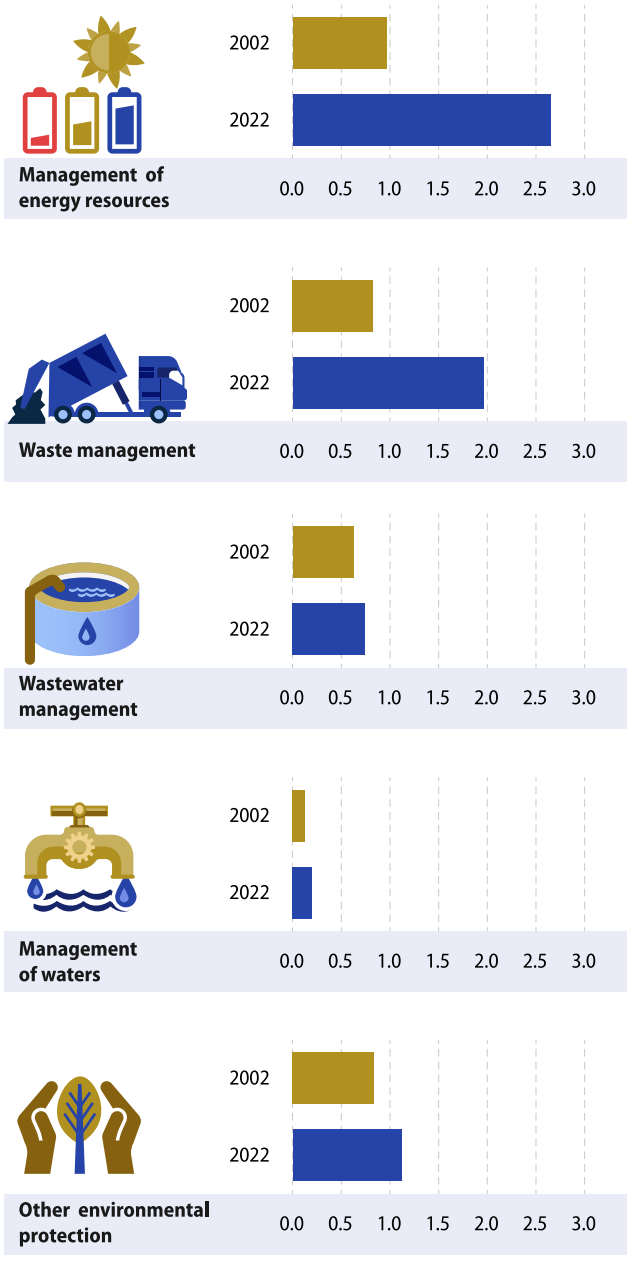
The environmental economy includes activities related to environmental protection and the management of natural resources. Overall, there were 6.7 million people working in the EU's environmental economy in 2022, 97.7% more than in 2002.

In 2022, the management of energy resources had the largest workforce within the EU's environmental economy (2.7 million full-time equivalents), followed by waste management (2.0 million) and other environmental protection (1.1 million).

The size of the EU workforce for the management of energy resources was 2.8 times as large in 2022 as it had been in 2002; the waste management workforce also grew rapidly, to 2.4 times its 2002 level.

Note: the residual category of other environmental protection includes, for example, general environmental administration and education.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: env_ac_egss1)

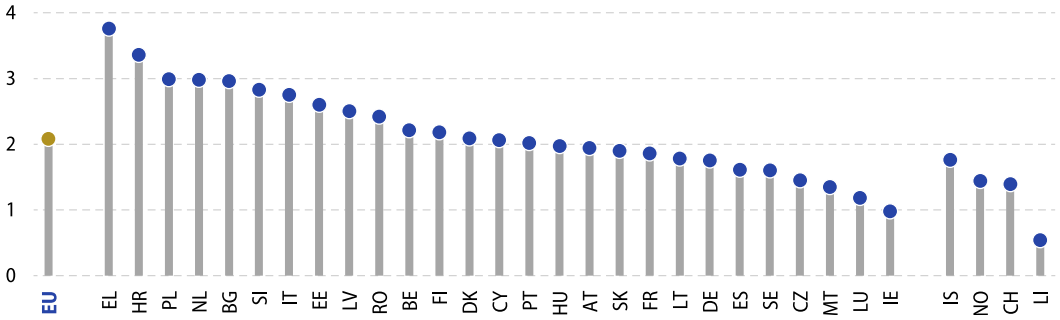


Environmental tax revenue

(%, relative to GDP, 2024)

Environmental taxes can be used to try to influence the behaviour of economic operators, both producers and consumers. In 2024, EU environmental tax revenues were valued at €375 billion, equivalent to 2.08% of GDP.

Among EU countries, this ratio peaked at 3.76% in Greece, followed by Croatia with 3.36%. By contrast, environmental tax revenues accounted for 0.98% of GDP in Ireland and for 1.18% in Luxembourg.



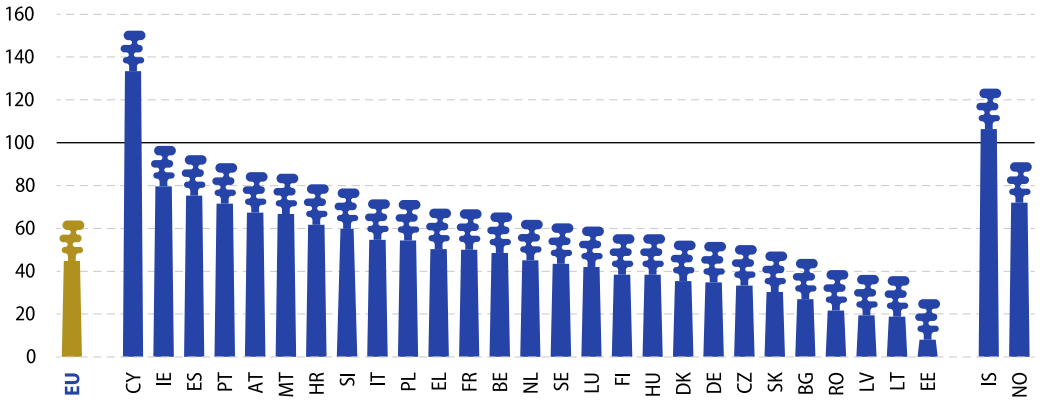
Note: LI, 2023.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: env_ac_tax)

Greenhouse gas emissions

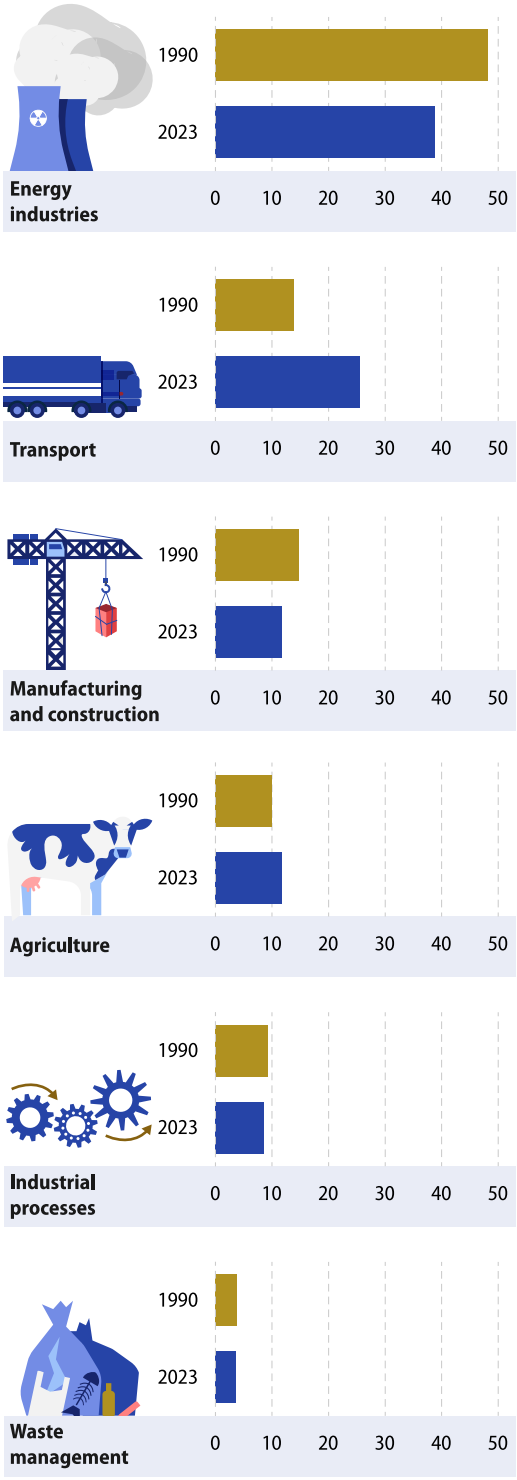
(1990 = 100, based on tonnes of CO_2 equivalents, 2023)

Developments in the level of greenhouse gas emissions may be traced using data for the Kyoto basket of greenhouse gases. By 2023, greenhouse gas emissions in the EU had fallen 36.3% compared with their 1990 levels. Between 1990 and 2023, the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions fell in all but 1 EU country: Cyprus. The level of emissions more than halved in the Baltic countries as well as in Romania, Bulgaria and Slovakia.



Note: greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, nitrogen trifluoride and sulphur hexafluoride. These gases are aggregated by using global warming potential (GWP) factors to obtain data in CO_2 equivalents.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: env_air_gge), based on European Environment Agency (EEA)



Source sectors of greenhouse gas emissions

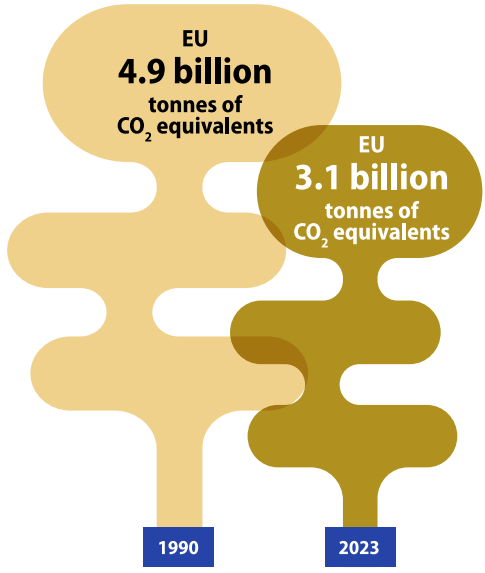
(%, based on tonnes of CO_2 equivalents, EU, 1990 and 2023)

In 2023, the total quantity of EU greenhouse gas emissions was 3.1 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents. The main sources of greenhouse gas emissions in the EU were fuel combustion in energy industries (38.8% of the total) and in transport (25.6%).

The only source that increased the quantity of its greenhouse gas emissions across the EU between 1990 and 2023 was transport, increasing 17.9% overall. For each of the remaining sources, the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions fell between 1990 and 2023. Decreases of at least two fifths were recorded for fuel combustion in manufacturing and construction (down 49.6%), fuel combustion in energy industries (down 48.6%), waste management (down 41.3%) and industrial processes (down 41.2%).

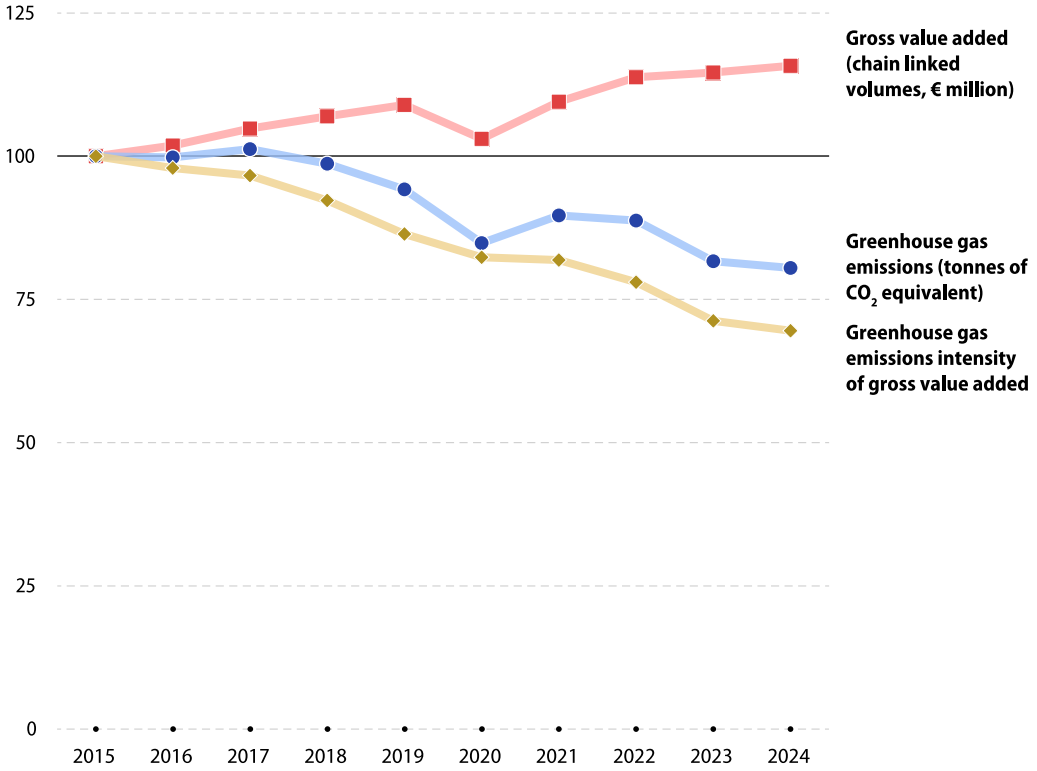
Note: energy industries includes not only fuel combustion in energy industries but also in sectors other than transport, manufacturing and construction.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: env_air_gge), based on European environment agency (EEA)



Greenhouse gas emissions and gross value added

(2015 = 100, EU, 2015–24)



Note: excluding emissions of households.

Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: nama_10_a64 and env_ac_ainah_r2)

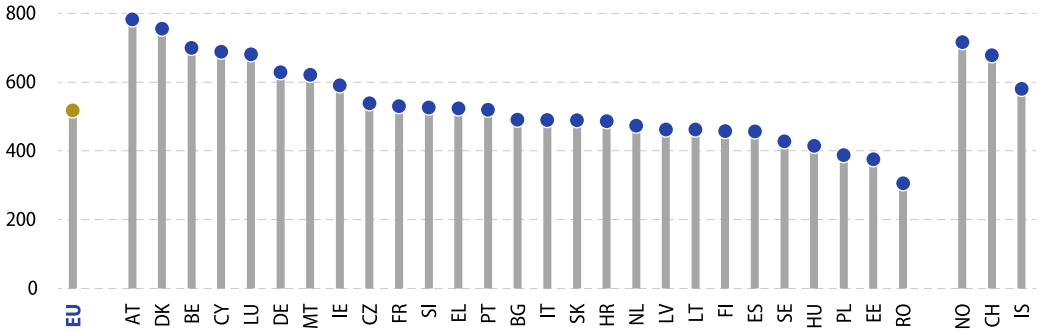
The greenhouse gas emissions intensity of the economy can be analysed by linking emissions to gross value added, which measures the contribution of production activities to the economy. A decrease in the emissions intensity indicates fewer emissions per unit of economic value added.

From 2015 to 2024, greenhouse gas emissions from the EU economy decreased by 19.5% while its gross value added increased by 15.8%. Consequently, the EU's greenhouse gas emissions intensity of value added decreased by 30.5%.



Municipal waste generation

(kg per inhabitant, 2024)



Note: BG, CZ, IE, EL, IT, AT, RO, IS and CH, 2023.
Source: Eurostat (dataset code: env_wasmun)

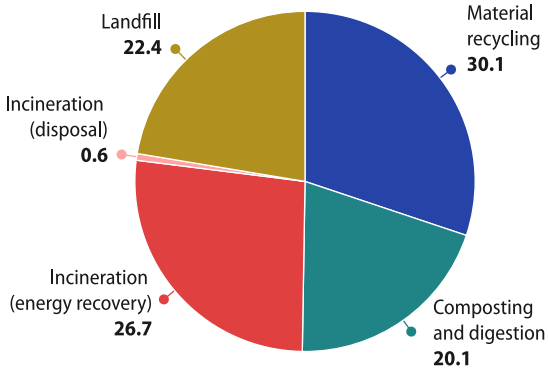


Municipal waste constituted 10.3% of the total waste generated in the EU in 2022. On average, each person living in the EU generated 517 kg of municipal waste in 2024. Among the EU countries, municipal waste generation was highest in Austria (782 kg per inhabitant; 2023 data) and Denmark (755 kg per inhabitant). By contrast, municipal waste generation was lowest in Romania (305 kg per inhabitant; 2023 data).

In 2024, 222 million tonnes of municipal waste were treated in the EU, representing 95.6% of the municipal waste generated. Material recycling was used for 30.1% of the municipal waste treated across the EU, while the share treated by composting or digestion was 20.1%; these are generally considered to be the most environmentally sustainable treatment methods. In addition, more than a quarter (27.3%) of the municipal waste treated in the EU was incinerated: 26.7% with energy recovery and 0.6% without recovery. More than a fifth (22.4%) was landfilled.

Municipal waste treatment methods

(%, share of all methods, EU, 2024)

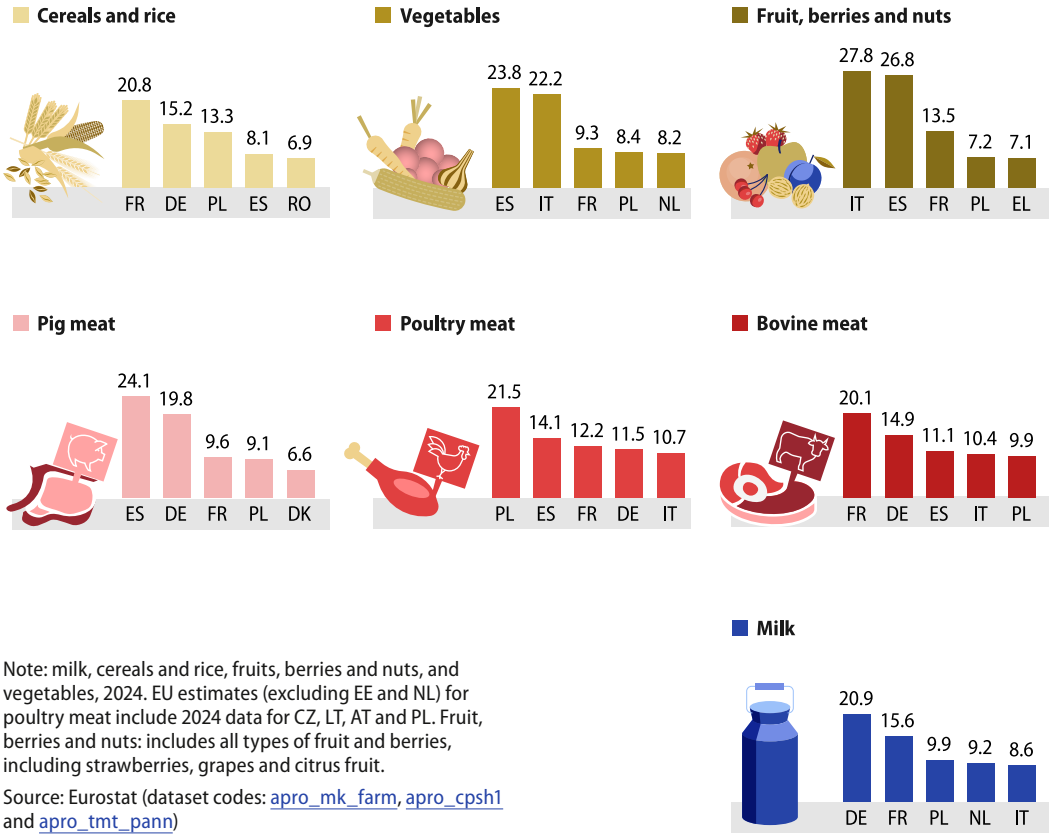


Source: Eurostat (dataset code: env_wasmun)

Agriculture

Top 5 EU countries for the production of selected agricultural products

(%, 2025)



Note: milk, cereals and rice, fruits, berries and nuts, and vegetables, 2024. EU estimates (excluding EE and NL) for poultry meat include 2024 data for CZ, LT, AT and PL. Fruit, berries and nuts: includes all types of fruit and berries, including strawberries, grapes and citrus fruit.

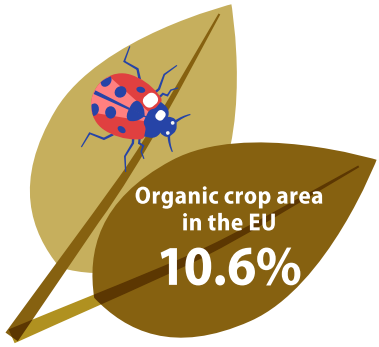
Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: apro_mk_farm, apro_cpsh1 and apro_tmt_pann)

Agricultural products are a major part of the EU's regional and cultural identity. In 2024, there were 257.7 million tonnes of cereals and rice harvested in the EU, France accounting for the largest share (20.8%). A total of 62.3 million tonnes of vegetables were harvested in the EU in 2024, with Spain (23.8%) and Italy (22.2%) accounting for the largest shares. There were 58.7 million tonnes of fruits, berries and nuts harvested in the EU in 2024, with Italy (27.8%) and Spain (26.8%) recording the largest shares; these figures comprise all types of fruit, including those used for the production of beverages. In a similar vein, 161.8 million tonnes of raw milk were available on EU farms in 2024, with Germany recording the largest share (20.9%).

In 2025, the EU produced 21.9 million tonnes of pig meat, an estimated 13.5 million tonnes of poultry meat and 6.3 million tonnes of bovine meat. Spain (24.1%) and Germany (19.8%) accounted for the largest shares of the pig meat produced in the EU. Poland (2024 data) had the largest share (21.5%) of the EU's production of poultry meat and France the largest share (20.1%) for bovine meat production.

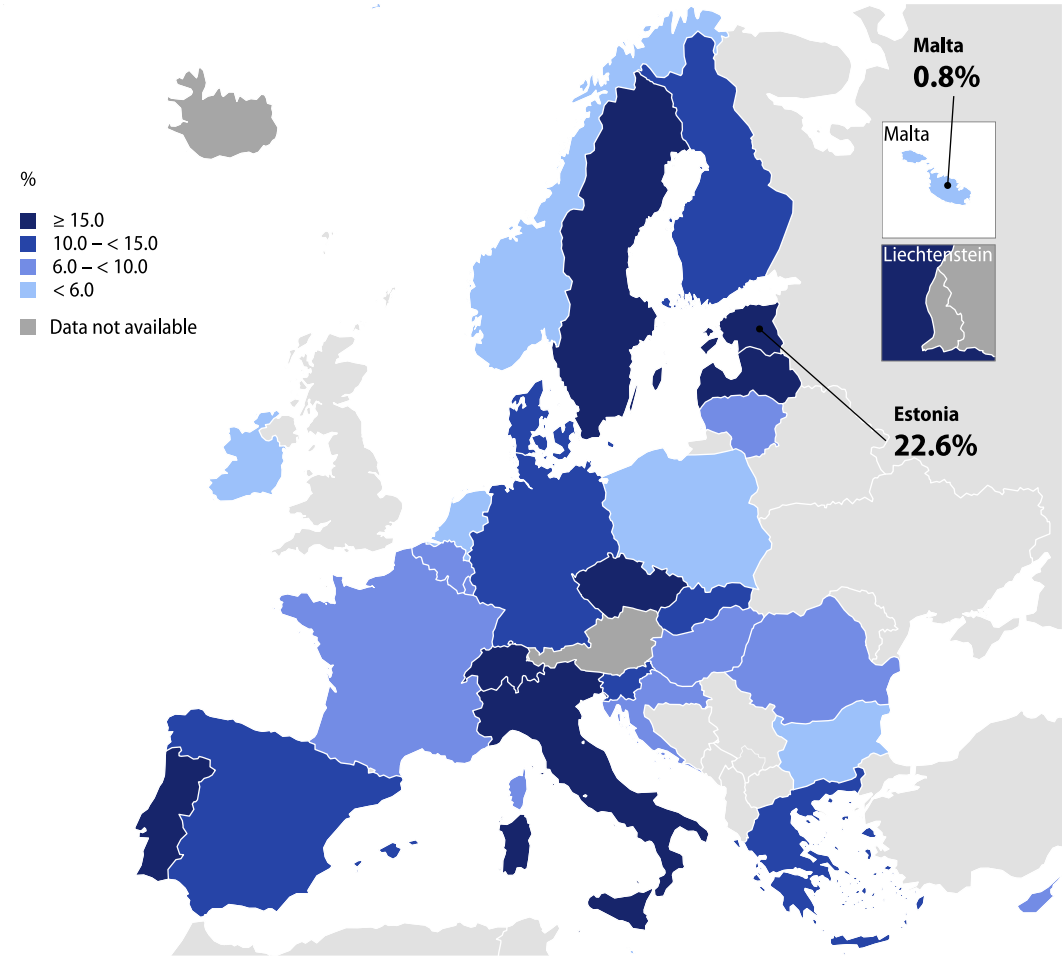
Organic crop area

(%, share of utilised agricultural area, 2024)



In 2024, the fully converted organic area and area under conversion to organic farming across the EU was larger than 16.8 million hectares, equivalent to 10.6% of the EU's total utilised agricultural area.

The share of organic area in the utilised agricultural area ranged from a low of 0.8% in Malta to a high of 22.6% in Estonia. In Bulgaria, Ireland, Romania and Croatia, the area used for organic crop farming grew by more than 10.0% between 2023 and 2024; by contrast, the area in Sweden fell 9.9%.



Note: the indicator shows the area fully converted or under conversion to organic farming as a share of the utilised agricultural area (excluding kitchen gardens).
DK and NO: 2023. EL: 2021.

Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: org_cropar and apro_cpsh1)

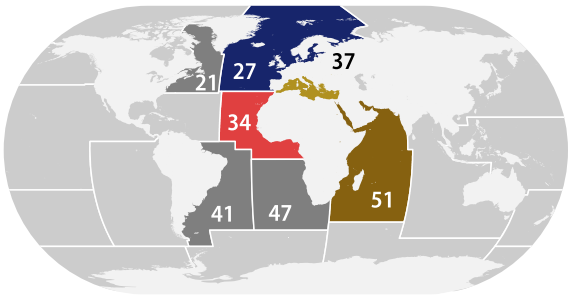
Fisheries

EU countries with the largest fish catches

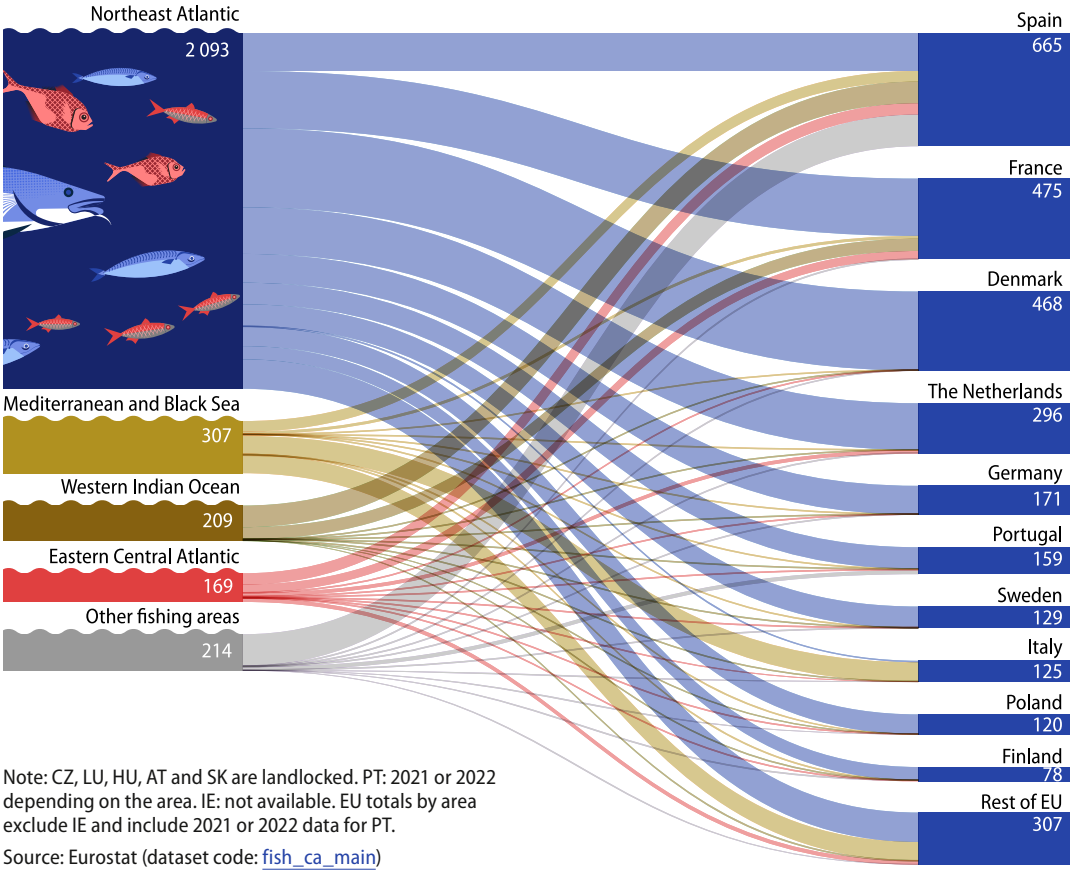
(1 000 tonnes live weight, main fishing areas, 2024)

Although the EU fishing fleet operates worldwide, the vast majority (70.0%) of its catch in 2024 was taken from the Northeast Atlantic. Denmark, France, the Netherlands and Spain had the largest fish catches (by weight) in this area, with the most common species including herring, blue whiting, sprat and mackerel. The next largest fishing areas for the EU were the Mediterranean and Black Sea (10.3% of the total catch), the Western Indian Ocean (7.0%) and the Eastern Central Atlantic (5.6%).

FAO major fishing areas



27 Northeast Atlantic
37 Mediterranean and Black Sea
34 Eastern Central Atlantic
51 Western Indian Ocean
21 Northwest Atlantic
41 Southwest Atlantic
47 Southeast Atlantic



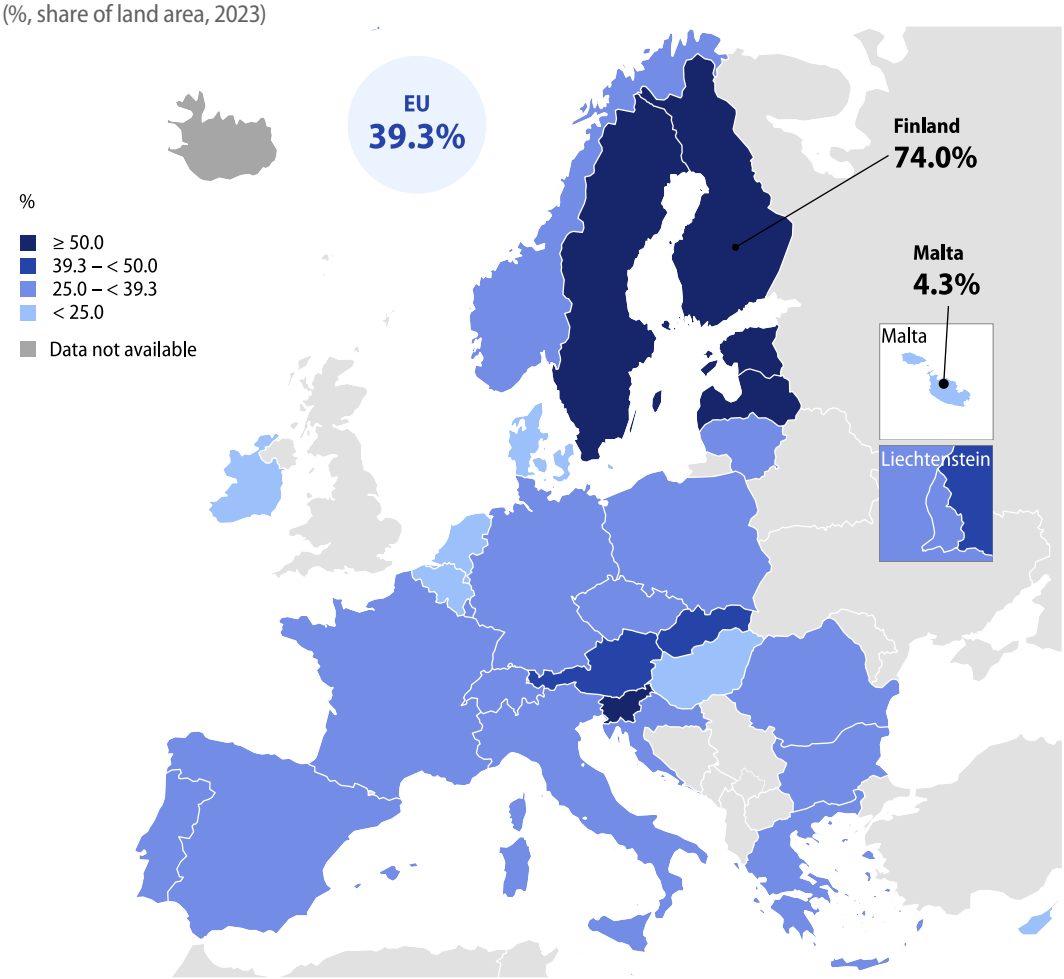
Note: CZ, LU, HU, AT and SK are landlocked. PT: 2021 or 2022 depending on the area. IE: not available. EU totals by area exclude IE and include 2021 or 2022 data for PT.

Source: Eurostat (dataset code: fish_ca_main)

Forestry

Forest area

(%, share of land area, 2023)



Source: Eurostat (dataset codes: for_area_efa and reg_area3)

The EU has many different types of forests, reflecting its climatic diversity, soil types, altitude and topography. Forests provide an important renewable resource: for example, they offer a habitat for animals and a livelihood for humans, while mitigating climate change and providing some protection from concerns such as soil erosion or surface run-off.

In 2023, there were 161 million hectares of forests covering 39.3% of the EU's land area. In absolute terms, Sweden (27.9 million hectares) and Finland (22.5 million hectares) had the largest forest areas. In relative terms, the forests of Finland (74.0%) and Sweden (68.6%) covered the largest shares of land area. Malta (4.3%) was the only EU country to record a share below 10.0% and had the smallest forest area (1 360 hectares).

Getting in touch with the EU

In person

All over the European Union there are hundreds of Europe Direct centres. You can find the address of the centre nearest you online (european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en).

On the phone or in writing

Europe Direct is a service that answers your questions about the European Union. You can contact this service:

— by freephone: 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 (certain operators may charge for these calls),

— at the following standard number: +32 22999696,

— via the following form: european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/write-us_en.

Finding information about the EU

Online

Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website (european-union.europa.eu).

EU publications

You can view or order EU publications at op.europa.eu/en/publications. Multiple copies of free publications can be obtained by contacting Europe Direct or your local documentation centre (european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en).

EU law and related documents

For access to legal information from the EU, including all EU law since 1951 in all the official language versions, go to EUR-Lex (eur-lex.europa.eu).

EU open data

The portal data.europa.eu provides access to open datasets from the EU institutions, bodies and agencies. These can be downloaded and reused for free, for both commercial and non-commercial purposes. The portal also provides access to a wealth of datasets from European countries.

KEY FIGURES ON EUROPE

2026 EDITION

Print: KS-01-26-035-EN-C
PDF: KS-01-26-035-EN-N

'Key figures on Europe' presents a selection of statistical data on the European Union (EU), EU countries and EFTA countries. For some readers, this publication may offer an introduction to EU statistics, while others can use it as a starting point to explore further a wide range of data and information. These are freely available on Eurostat's website and in Statistics Explained.

For more information

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/

Follow us on social media

@EU_Eurostat
EurostatStatistics
@EU_Eurostat
Eurostat

Publications Office of the European Union
Law | Data | Publications

Print: ISBN 978-92-68-39879-1
PDF: ISBN 978-92-68-39878-4