Key figures on Europe | 2021 edition

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Bucharest
PORTUGAL
Lisbon
Madrid
SPAIN
ITALY
Rome
BULGARIA
Sofia
GREECE
Athens
0
500 km
MALTA
Valletta
CYPRUS
Nicosia

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Foreword

This fourth edition of *Key figures on Europe* follows on from the success of the three previous editions. It aims to provide intuitive visualisations, innovative data presentations and concise text, so that users can rapidly obtain an understanding of differences between EU Member States.

Key figures on Europe contains a selection of key indicators for the European Union (EU) and its individual Member States, drawing from the rich collection of data that are available at Eurostat. It provides an insight into the current situation and recent developments across the EU with regard to people and society, the economy and business, and the environment and natural resources. It is the first edition showing data on the impact of the COVID-19 crisis during 2020. The latest data relating to the impact of the pandemic are available from Eurostat's European statistical recovery dashboard ([1]).

You can find more information in Statistics Explained, a portal that forms part of Eurostat's official website, presenting statistical topics in an easily understandable way. The latest and most complete data can also be downloaded from the Eurostat website.

I hope that you find this publication interesting and useful both in your work and your daily life.

Mariana Kotzeva
Director-General, Eurostat

([1]) See: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/recovery-dashboard/.

Abstract

Key figures on Europe presents a selection of statistical data on the European Union (EU). Most data cover the EU and its Member States as well as the countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). This publication may be viewed as an introduction to EU statistics and provides a starting point for those who wish to explore the wide range of data that are freely available on Eurostat's website at https:/ec.europa.eu/eurostat; they are complemented by a comprehensive selection of online articles in *Statistics Explained*.

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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.

Table of contents

Introduction

Eurostat is the statistical office of the European Union (EU) situated in Luxembourg. Its mission is to provide high quality statistics for Europe, which allow us to have the key information on Europe's economy, society and environment that we need both as citizens and as decision makers.

Key figures on Europe is published every year with annual data. This 2021 edition describes the situation in the EU and the EFTA countries, with the most recent data generally for 2019 or 2020 depending on the source. As a consequence, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and its associated measures in 2020 may be seen for a variety of indicators; datasets reflecting the full scale and full length of the crisis will only be available in future editions.

Structure of the publication

Key figures on Europe provides users of official statistics with an overview of the wealth of information that is available on Eurostat's website and within its online databases. It has been conceived to offer 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 three main chapters. The introduction includes information concerning data coverage and more generally how to access 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 (economy and finance, prices, government finance, international trade, business, research and development, and tourism); environment and natural resources (transport, energy, environment, agriculture, fisheries and forestry).

Each chapter presents a set of key indicators: a great deal more information can be found when consulting Eurostat's website, which contains subject specific publications and online databases covering a broad and comprehensive range of data.

Data extraction and coverage

Data extraction

The statistical data presented in this publication were extracted in late April and early May 2021.

Spatial data coverage

This publication presents information for the **EU** (a sum/average covering the 27 Member States of the EU) as well as the individual EU Member States and the four EFTA countries. The order of the Member States in the figures usually reflects their ranking according to the values for (one of) the indicator(s) illustrated.

The map identifies the **EU Member States** and **EFTA countries** as well as pinpointing their capital cities.

Codes for EU Member States and EFTA countries

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, then efforts have been made to complete the coverage using data for recent previous reference years (these exceptions are footnoted). Particular attention should be paid to these deviations when the standard reference year is 2020, as for some indicators — particularly those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic — large changes in 2020 mean that earlier data may not be a good proxy for missing 2020 data.

Notes and flags

Notes and flags are means of explaining and defining specific characteristics of particular data. In this publication, these have been restricted as far as possible in order to allow more space for the illustrations. The publication includes only the main notes required for interpretation of the data and to highlight when a year has been replaced with another. A full set of notes and flags are available on Eurostat's website via online data code(s) presented for each illustration.

Accessing European statistics

The simplest way to obtain Eurostat's wide range of statistical information is through its website (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat). Eurostat provides users with free access to its databases and its publications in portable document format (PDF). The website is updated daily and presents the latest and most comprehensive statistical information available on the EU, its Member States, EFTA and enlargement countries (for some datasets information may be provided for a wider range of non-member countries).

Eurostat online data codes, such as *nama_10_gdp*, allow easy access to the most recent data on Eurostat's website (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database). In this publication these online data codes are given as part of the source below each illustration.

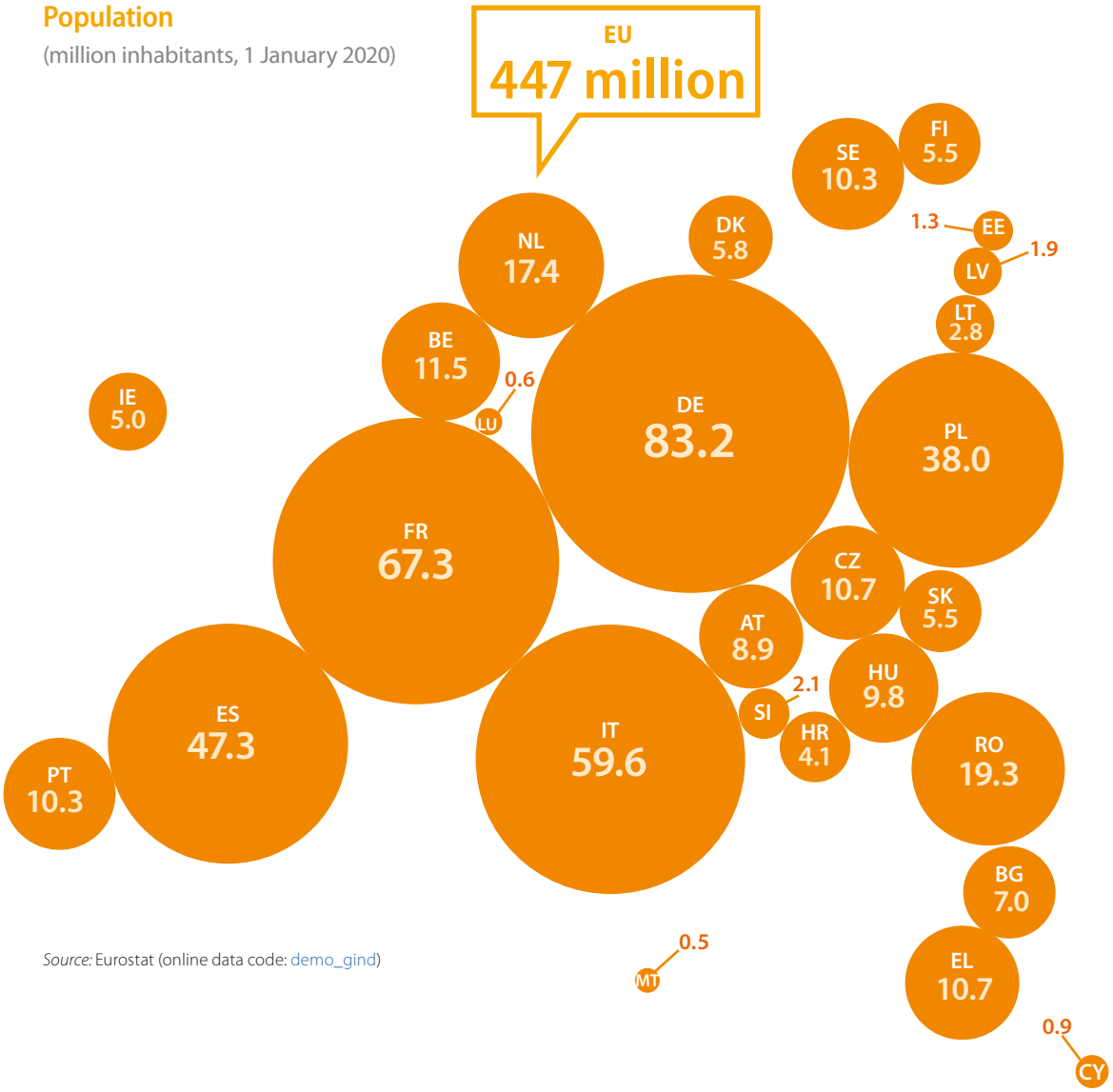
Some of the indicators presented in this publication are relatively complex. Statistics Explained provides a comprehensive online glossary with definitions for a broad range of statistical indicators, concepts and terms; it is organised under thematic headings (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Thematic_glossaries).

1 People and society

Population

Population

(million inhabitants, 1 January 2020)



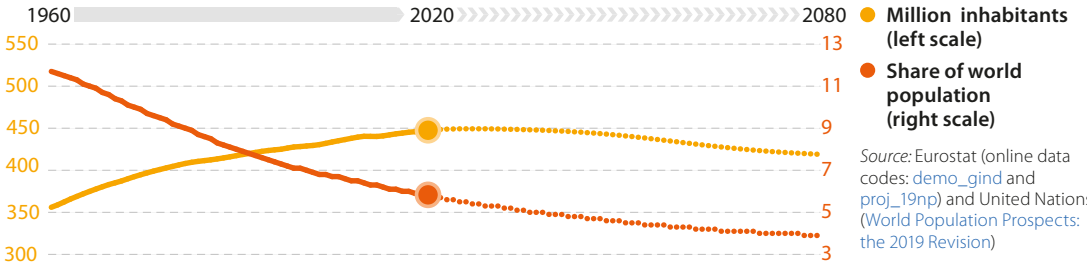
Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

In recent years, the total number of inhabitants in the EU has grown at a relatively slow pace (compared with historical developments). By 1 January 2020, the population of the EU had reached 447.3 million, which was 873 thousand more than a year before.

There are considerable differences in population levels between EU Member States: on 1 January 2020, the total number of inhabitants ranged from 0.5 million in Malta up to 83.2 million in Germany. Together, Germany, France, Italy, Spain and Poland comprised 66.0 % of the EU's population.

Population developments

(millions and % share of world total, EU, mid-year 1960-2080)

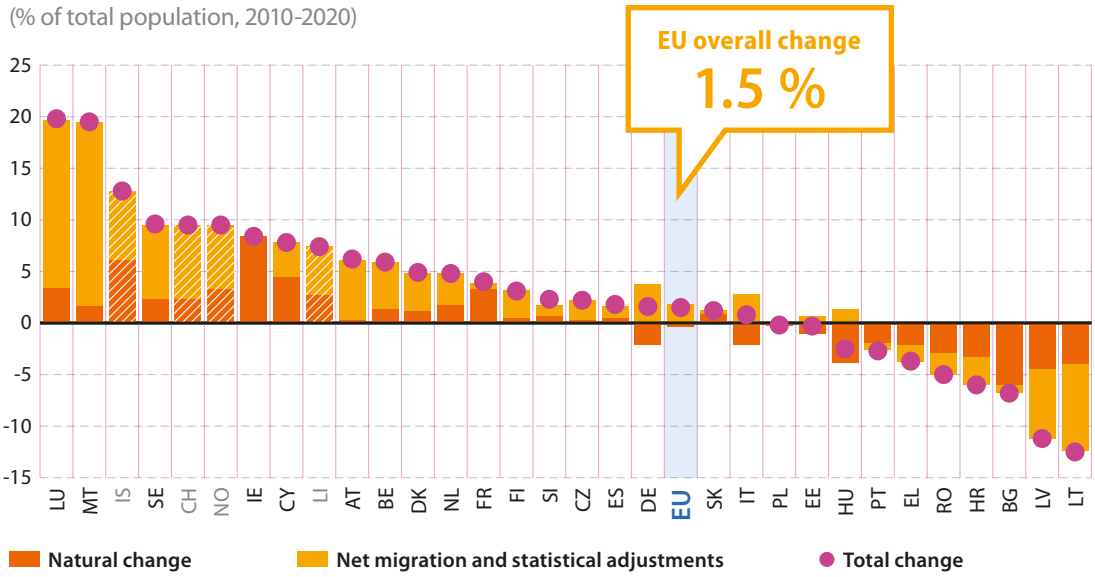


Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_gind and proj_19np) and United Nations (World Population Prospects: the 2019 Revision)

In 1974, the EU's share of the global population fell below 10.0 % and this downward pattern continued through to 2019, by when the EU accounted for 5.9 % of the total number of inhabitants in the world. According to mid-year estimates based on Eurostat's baseline projections, the population of the EU will continue growing, albeit slowly, up until the year 2026 (449.3 million inhabitants), after which it is projected to fall back to 419.1 million by 2080. These developments, coupled with faster population growth in the rest of the world, mean that it is projected that less than 1 in 25 people in the world — 3.9 % — will be living in the EU by 2080.

Population change

(% of total population, 2010-2020)



Between 1 January 2010 and 2020, the EU's population rose by 6.7 million (or 1.5 %). The rate of population increase was highest in Luxembourg, with the population increasing overall by almost one fifth (19.8 %); at the other end of the range, the biggest reductions in percentage terms took place in Latvia (-11.2 %) and Lithuania (-12.5 %). A natural decrease in the number of inhabitants (more deaths than births) in Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Croatia, Romania, Greece, Portugal and Poland was reinforced by net outward migration (more people emigrating than immigrants arriving) leading to a decline in population numbers. There was also an overall decline in the populations of Hungary and Estonia, despite net inward migration.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_gind)

Fertility rate

(live births per woman, 2019)

1.86 FR
1.77 RO
1.74 IS
1.71 CZ, IE, SE
1.70 DK
1.66 EE
1.61 LV, LT, SI
1.58 BE, BG
1.57 NL, SK
1.55 HU
1.54 DE
1.53 **EU**, NO
1.48 LI, CH
1.47 HR
1.46 AT
1.44 PL
1.43 PT
1.35 FI
1.34 EL, LU
1.33 CY
1.27 IT
1.23 ES
1.14 MT

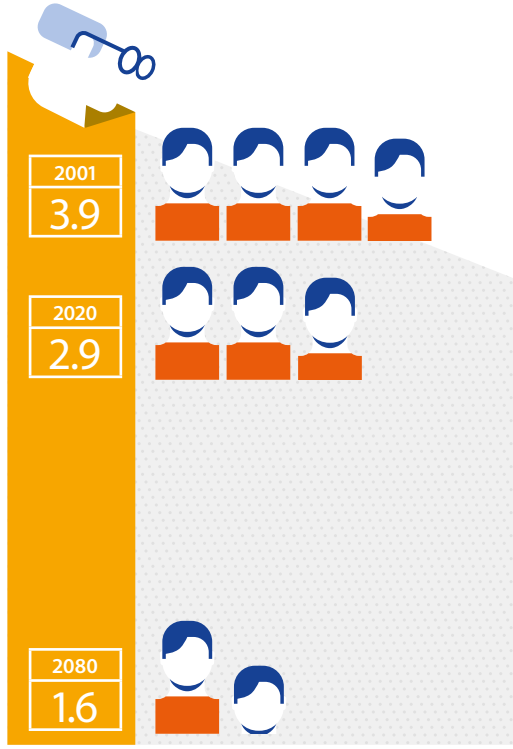
In developed world countries, a total fertility rate of 2.1 is considered to be the replacement level: in other words, this is the average number of live births per woman that is required to keep the total number of inhabitants at a constant level (in the absence of migration).

In 2019, the total fertility rate in the EU averaged 1.53 live births per woman. This rate ranged from a high of 1.86 live births per woman in France down to 1.14 in Malta; the fertility rate was also relatively low in many of the other southern EU Member States — Spain, Italy, Cyprus and Greece — as each had a rate of 1.35 or less, which was also the case in Luxembourg and Finland.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_find)

Ageing population

(ratio: number of people aged 20-64 years per older person aged 65+ years, EU, 2001, 2020 and 2080)

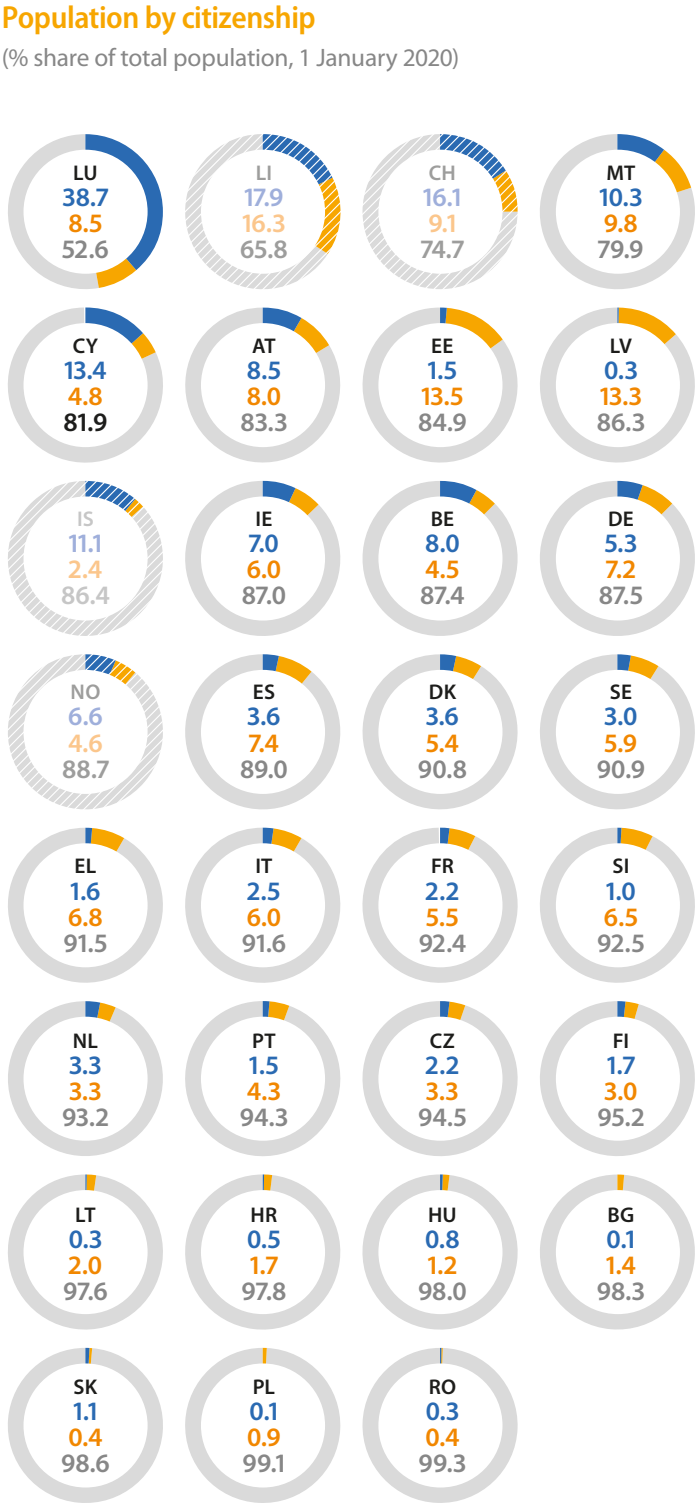


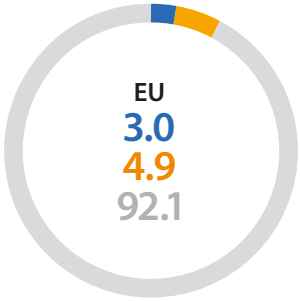
Population ageing has been observed across much of Europe in recent decades. Changes in population structure can have serious implications for issues such as pension funds, government revenues and the provision of services such as health and social care. The ratio of the size of the working-age population (defined here as those aged between 20 and 64 years) in the EU expressed relative to the number of older persons (aged 65 years or over) fell from 3.9 in 2001 to 2.9 by 2020; according to Eurostat's baseline projections, this ratio is expected to fall to 1.6 by 2080.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_pjanind and proj_19np)

Population by citizenship

(% share of total population, 1 January 2020)





On 1 January 2020, there were 36.5 million foreign citizens living in the EU; this figure was composed of 13.5 million citizens from EU Member States other than the one where they were resident, and 23.0 million citizens from non-member countries; note, the latter value includes a small number of stateless persons.

In relative terms, foreign citizens accounted for 7.9 % of the total population in the EU, with this share ranging from almost half (47.3 %) of the population in Luxembourg to less than 1.0 % Romania and Poland. A majority (20) of the EU Member States reported a higher number of non-EU citizens than foreign citizens from other EU Member States within their populations.

Citizens of other EU Member States

Non-EU citizens

National citizens

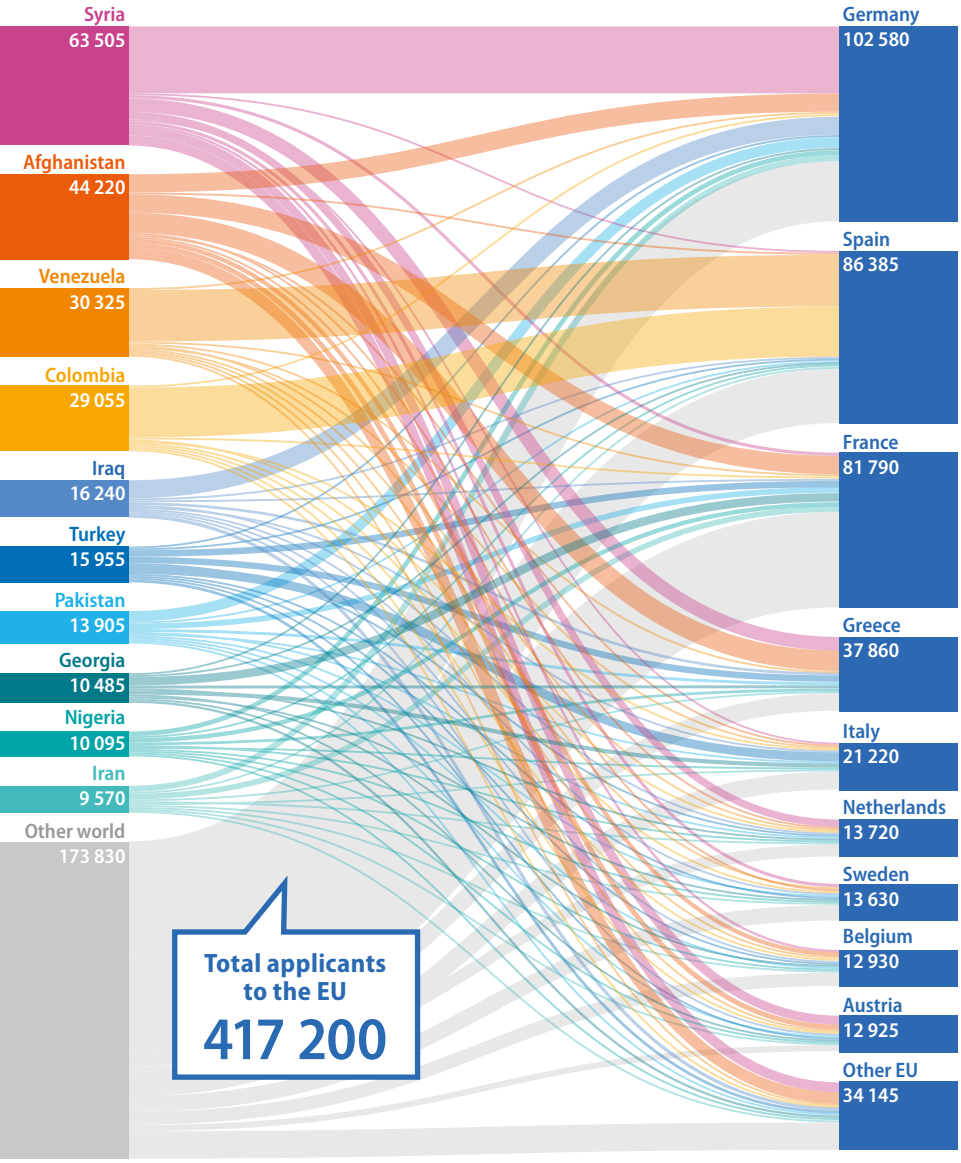
Note: due to rounding, some totals may not sum to 100.0 %. Citizens of other EU Member States for CY and MT include the UK. Citizens of non-EU Member States for CY and MT exclude the UK. EU includes data for CY and MT (as noted).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)

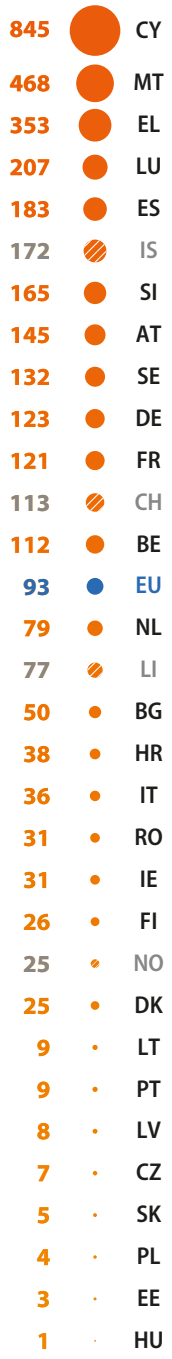
First time asylum applications

(number of applications in EU Member States, 2020)

Having peaked during the migrant crisis of 2015/2016, the number of first time asylum applications to the EU fell rapidly. There were 417 185 applications in 2020, equivalent to just 0.1 % of the EU population. The highest number of asylum applications in 2020 came from Syrian citizens (63 505), followed by Afghani (44 220) and Venezuelan (30 325) citizens. The largest numbers of applications were lodged in Germany (102 580), Spain (86 385) and France (81 790); however, in relative terms Cyprus and Malta (845 and 468 applications per 100 000 inhabitants) received the most applications.



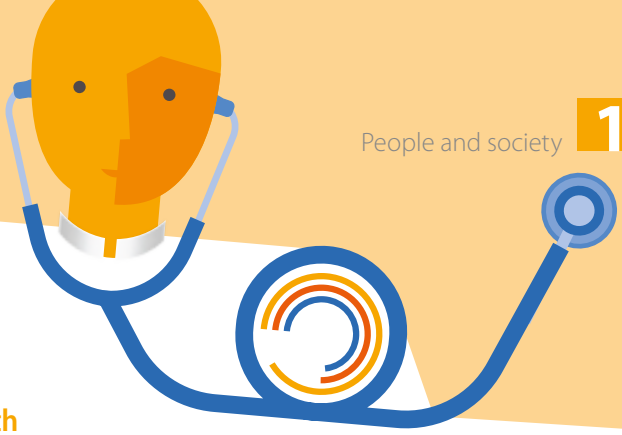
(number per 100 000 inhabitants, 2020)



Note: rounded data. Includes only applications made by non-EU citizens.

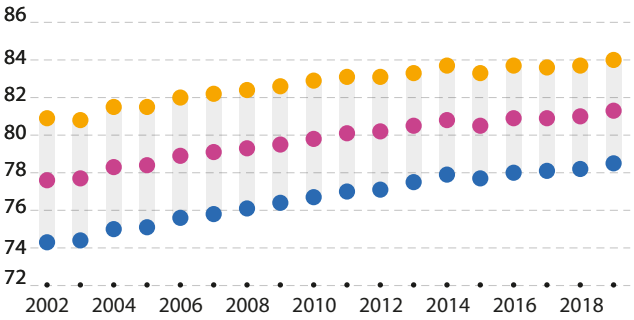
Source: Eurostat (online data codes: migr_asyappctza, and demo_gind)

Health



Developments for life expectancy at birth

(years, by sex, EU, 2002-2019)



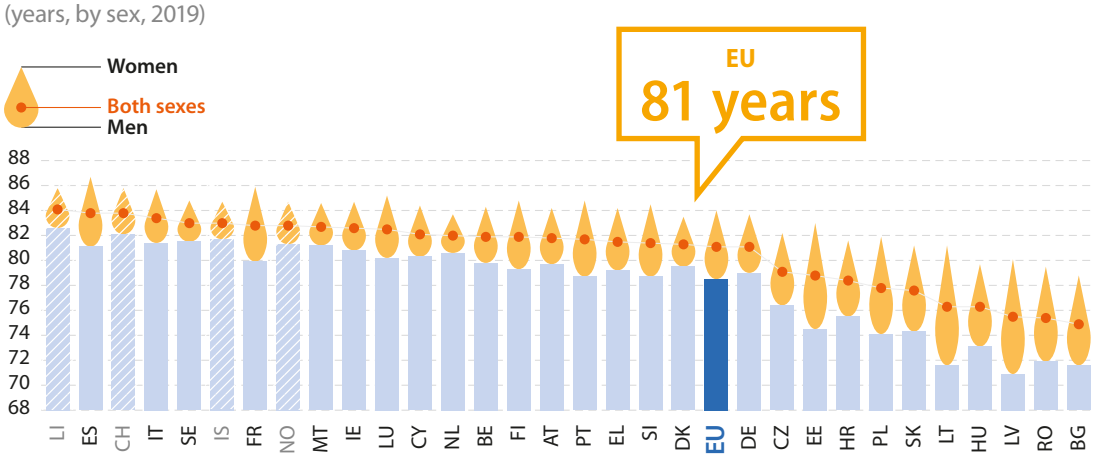
In 2019, life expectancy at birth in the EU was 84.0 years for women and 78.5 years for men. Between 2002 and 2019 this gender gap narrowed, as life expectancy in the EU increased by 3.1 years for women and 4.2 years for men.

- **Women**
- **Both sexes**
- **Men**

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_mlexpec)

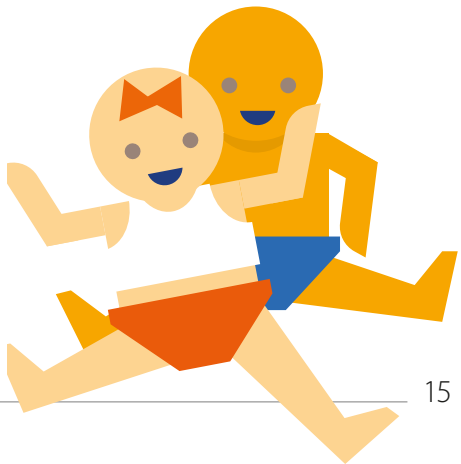
Life expectancy at birth

(years, by sex, 2019)



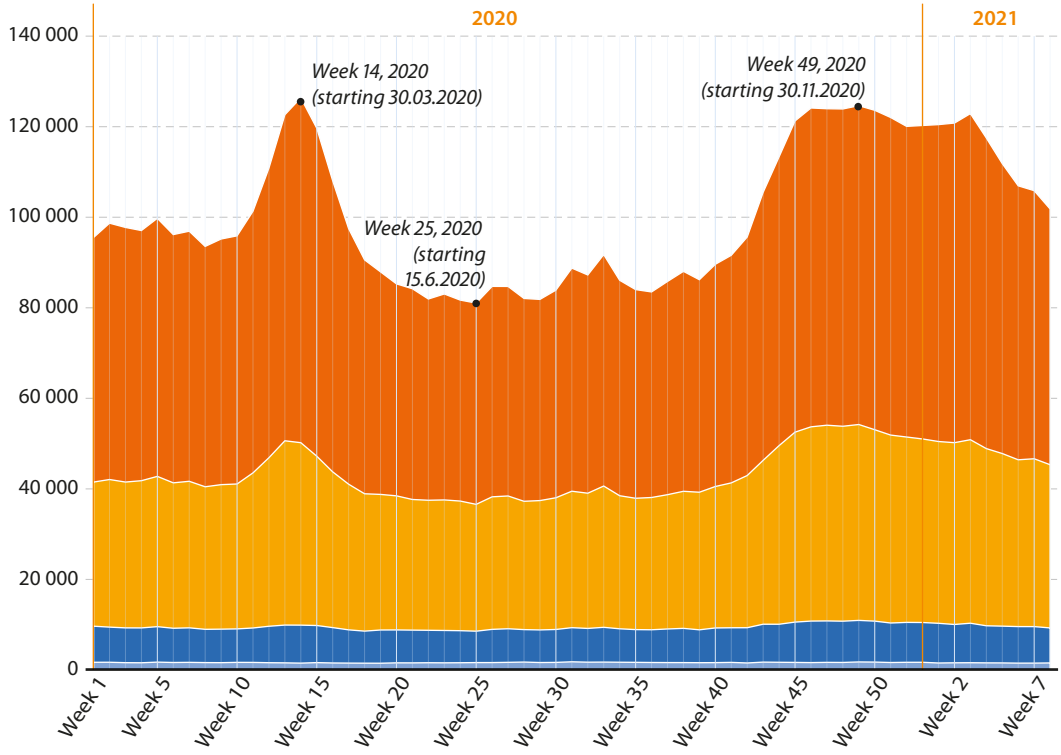
Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_mlexpec)

Across the EU, the highest average (for both sexes) life expectancy at birth was recorded in Spain (at 84.0 years), while the lowest was in Bulgaria (75.1 years). A gender gap — with higher life expectancy for women — existed in every EU Member State, with particularly large differences between the sexes in Lithuania (9.6 years), Latvia (9.2 years) and Estonia (8.5 years); the smallest gaps were recorded in the Netherlands (3.1 years), Sweden (3.3 years) and Malta (3.4 years).



Weekly deaths

(deaths, by age, EU, week 1 of 2020 to week 8 of 2021)



In 2020, there were 5.2 million deaths in the EU (excluding Ireland). Compared with 2019, this represented an increase of 619 000 deaths in absolute terms and 13.4 % in relative terms.

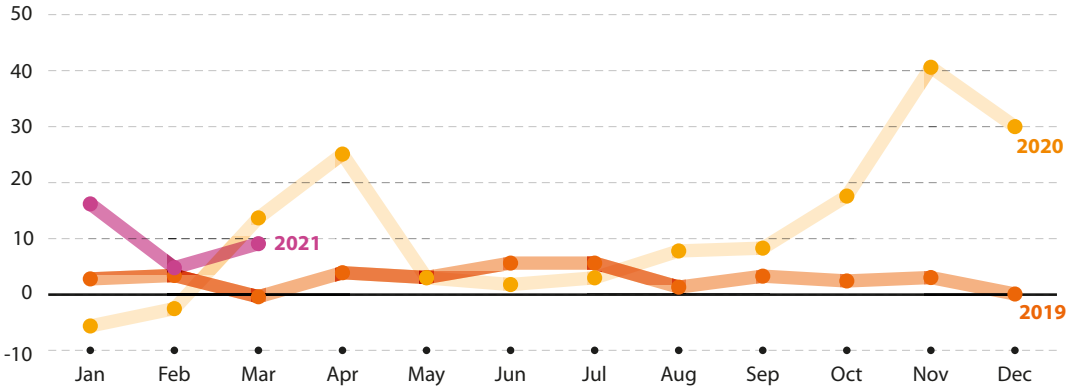
The number of deaths in any particular week of 2020 varied greatly, in large part reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 crisis. Two periods stand out with a notably higher number of deaths: the first was a quite sharp peak centred around the week 14 of 2020 (beginning 30.03.2020); the second was a longer period starting around the end of September and reaching a plateau in the middle of November (with a peak at the end of November / beginning of December) that was sustained into the beginning of 2021. Between these two periods, the lowest weekly number of deaths in 2020 was observed in week 25 of 2020 (beginning 15.06.2020).

Note: excluding IE and some deaths for SE for which the precise week of death is not available — in 2020 this concerned 2.7 % of all deaths in SE.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_r_mwk_20)

Excess mortality, developments in the EU

(%, compared with average monthly deaths (during the period 2016-2019), EU, 2019-2021)

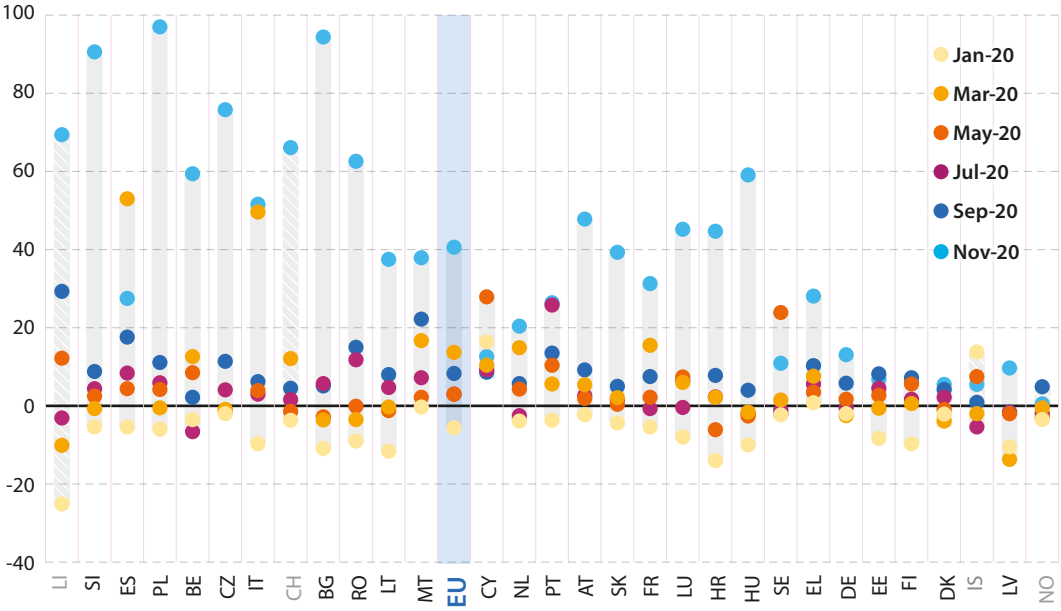


Note: excluding IE.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: demo_mexrt and demo_mmonth)

Excess mortality, developments in the Member States

(%, compared with average monthly deaths (during the period 2016-2019), 2020)



Note: ranked on the average monthly excess mortality for the whole of 2020. IE: not available. EU: excluding IE.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: demo_mexrt)

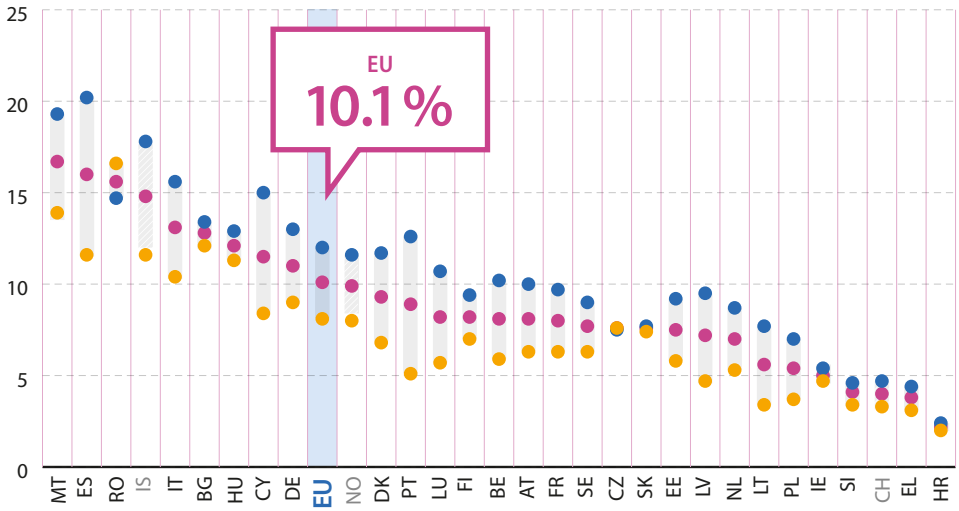
Due principally to the COVID-19 crisis, excess mortality in 2020 was much more volatile than in 2019 (which can be considered to be a more regular year). While there were fewer deaths in the EU in January and February 2020 than was typical (during the period 2016-2019), for all other months of 2020 the number of deaths was above average. Particularly high numbers of deaths compared with the average were recorded in March, April, October, November and December 2020; this was also the case in January 2021. Excess mortality was relatively high in spring 2020 in Spain and Italy and was particularly high towards the end of 2020 in Poland, Bulgaria, Slovenia and Czechia.

100 FR, LU, NO
99 CZ, RO, FI
98 EE, SK
95 HR
92 SI
91 LI
86 BE
83 LV
80 SE
75 PL
73 BG
69 NL
67 HU
65 MT, AT
60 EU
59 DE
56 IS
49 DK
38 LT, CY
27 ES
25 IT
13 IE
6 PT
1 EL

Education

Early leavers from education and training

(% share of people aged 18-24 years, by sex, 2020)



The risk of poverty, unemployment or social exclusion is higher among people leaving school at a relatively young age. In 2020, the share of early leavers in the EU was 10.1 %, ranging from 16.7 % in Malta to 2.2 % in Croatia. Young men in the EU (12.0 %) were more likely than young women (8.1 %) to be early leavers.

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.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: edat_lfse_14)

Learning two or more foreign languages

(% share of students in general upper secondary education, 2019)

Some 60 % of general upper secondary students in the EU (2018 data) were studying two or more foreign languages. In 2019, at least 99 % of all general upper secondary students in Luxembourg (2018 data), France, Romania, Czechia and Finland were studying two or more foreign languages, compared with less than 15 % in Ireland (2018 data), Portugal and Greece.

Note: 2018 data for EU, DK, EE, IE, IT, LU and NO.

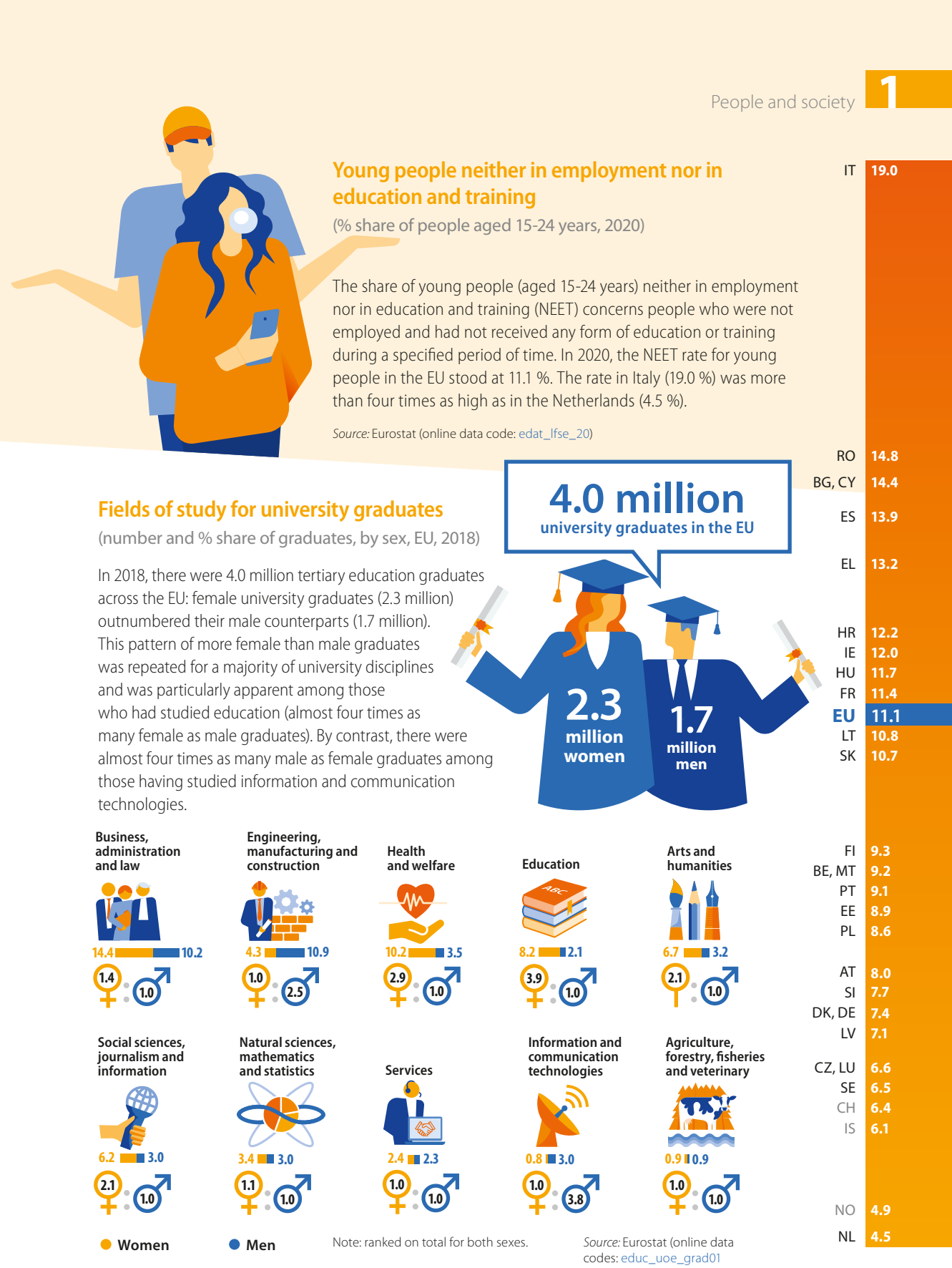
Source: Eurostat (online data code: educ_uoe_lang02)

Young people neither in employment nor in education and training

(% share of people aged 15-24 years, 2020)

The share of young people (aged 15-24 years) neither in employment nor in education and training (NEET) concerns people who were not employed and had not received any form of education or training during a specified period of time. In 2020, the NEET rate for young people in the EU stood at 11.1 %. The rate in Italy (19.0 %) was more than four times as high as in the Netherlands (4.5 %).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: edat_lfse_20)



Fields of study for university graduates

(number and % share of graduates, by sex, EU, 2018)

In 2018, there were 4.0 million tertiary education graduates across the EU: female university graduates (2.3 million) outnumbered their male counterparts (1.7 million). This pattern of more female than male graduates was repeated for a majority of university disciplines and was particularly apparent among those who had studied education (almost four times as many female as male graduates). By contrast, there were almost four times as many male as female graduates among those having studied information and communication technologies.

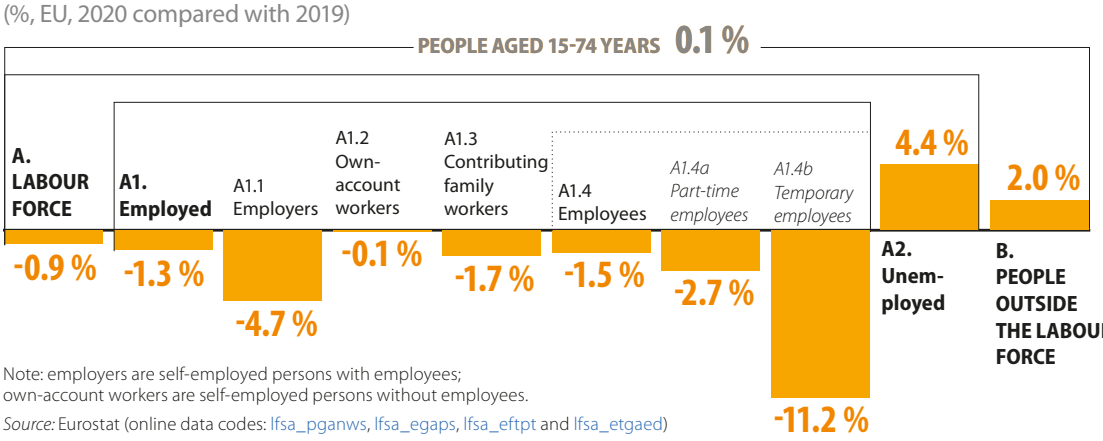
Note: ranked on total for both sexes.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: educ_uoe_grad01

Labour market

Change in the labour force composition

(%, EU, 2020 compared with 2019)

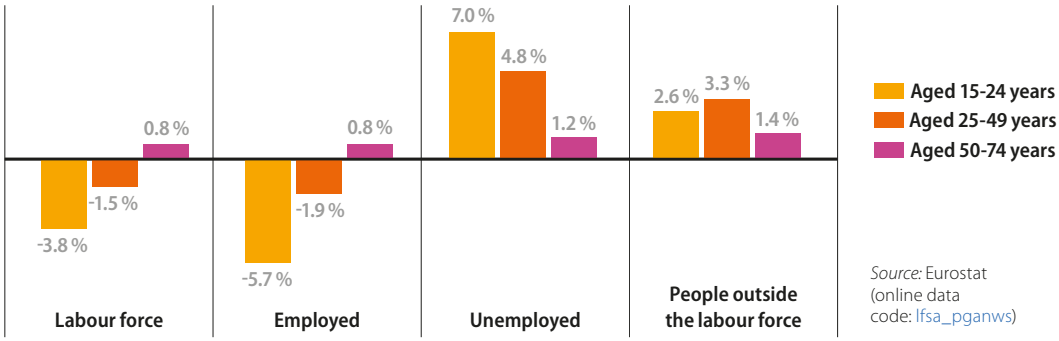


Note: employers are self-employed persons with employees; own-account workers are self-employed persons without employees.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: lfsa_pganws, lfsa_egaps, lfsa_eftpt and lfsa_etgaed)

Change in the labour force composition by age group

(%, EU, 2020 compared with 2019)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: lfsa_pganws)

The COVID-19 crisis impacted heavily on labour markets in the EU Member States, softened to some extent by efforts of national governments to support businesses and employment.

While the population aged 15-74 years in the EU hardly changed between 2019 and 2020, the size of the labour force contracted by 0.9 % and the number of people outside the labour force expanded by 2.0 %. Within the labour force, the number of persons in employment fell by 1.3 %, while the number of unemployed persons increased by 4.3 %. Among employees, large falls were observed for the number of part-time workers (down 2.7 %) and temporary employees (down 11.2 %).

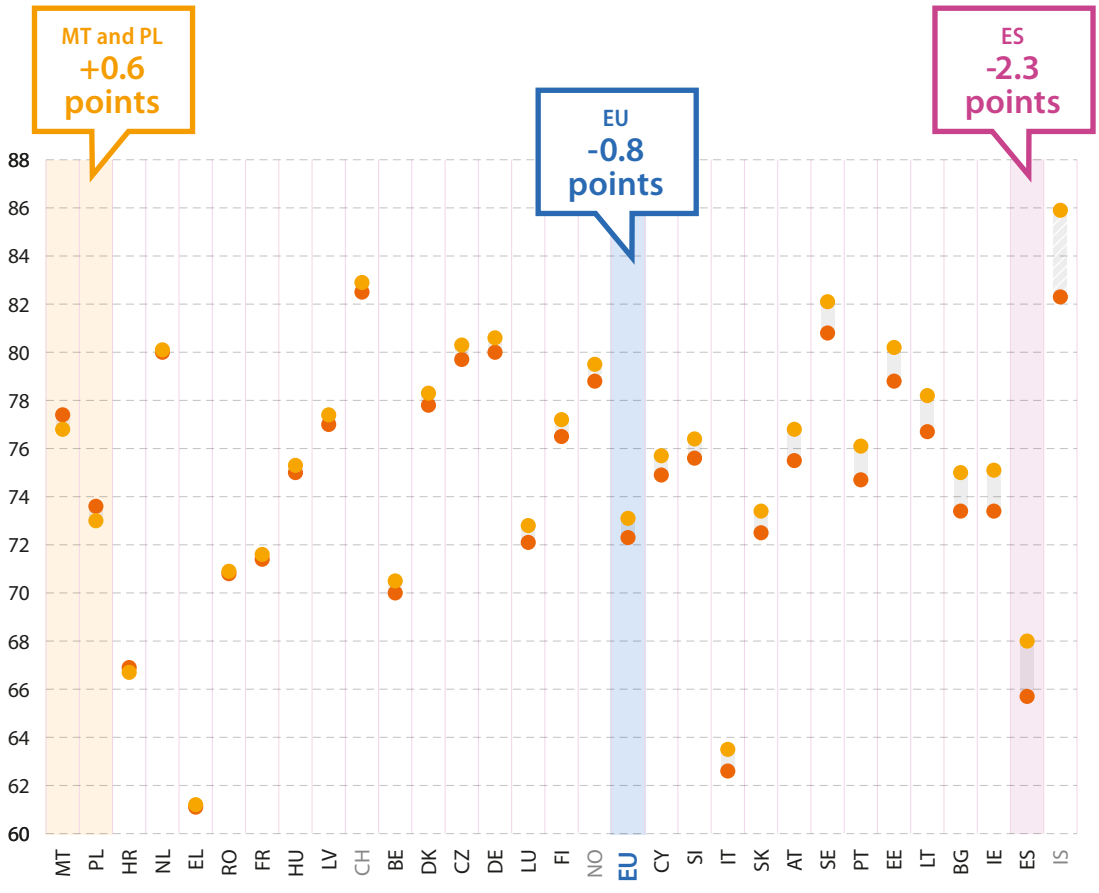
The fall in the number of persons in employment was relatively high for younger workers (aged 15-24 years; down 5.7 %), while there was a small increase in the number of older workers (aged 50-74 years) in employment (up 0.8 %). The increases in unemployment and the number of people outside the labour force were larger for younger workers (up 7.0 % and 2.6 %) than for older workers (up 1.2 % and 1.4 %).

Employment rate

(% share of population aged 20-64 years, 2019 and 2020)

The EU employment rate — which measures the share of the population aged 20-64 years who were in work — stood at 72.3 % in 2020. There were three EU Member State where at least 80.0 % of adults aged 20-64 years were in employment in 2020 — Sweden (80.8 %), the Netherlands and Germany (both 80.0 %). At the other end of the range, less than 70.0 % of this age group were in employment in Croatia (66.9 %), Spain (65.7 %), Italy (62.6 %) and Greece (61.1 %).

Between 2019 and 2020, the employment rate in the EU fell by 0.8 percentage points, largely due to the COVID-19 crisis. This was the first fall observed since the low reached in 2013 following on from the global financial and economic crisis and the subsequent sovereign debt crisis. Malta, Poland and Croatia were the only EU Member States that did not record a fall in their employment rate in 2020. The largest decline, down 2.3 percentage points, was observed in Spain.

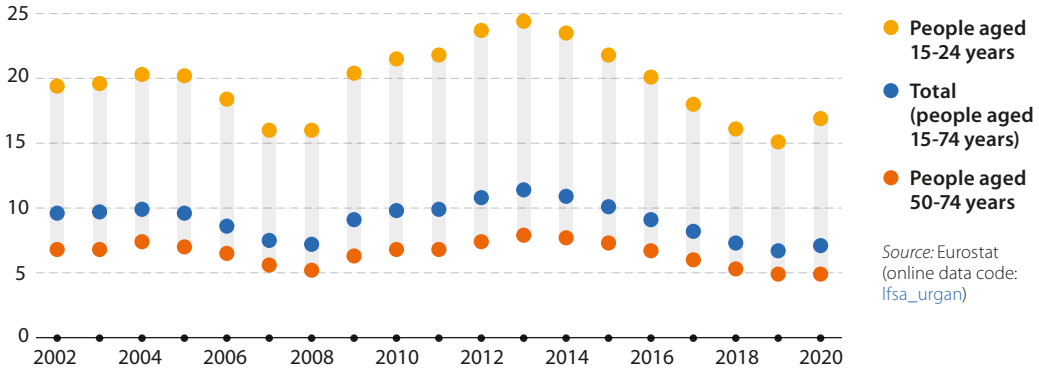


Note: ranked on the change (in percentage points) between 2019 and 2020.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: lfsa_ergan)

Unemployment rate developments

(% share of labour force, EU, 2002-2020)



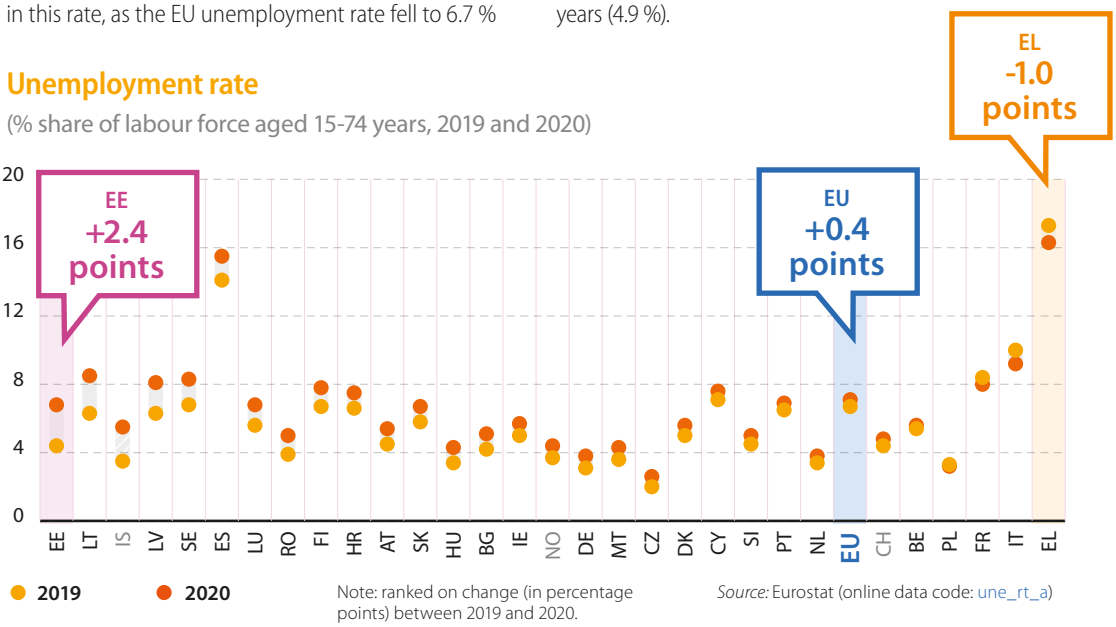
Source: Eurostat (online data code: lfsa_urgan)

In 2008, the EU unemployment rate for people aged 15-74 years hit a low of 7.2 %. In the wake of the global financial and economic crisis, the unemployment rate rose sharply, peaking at 11.4 % in 2013. During the following six years, there was a considerable reduction in this rate, as the EU unemployment rate fell to 6.7 % by 2019. In 2020, as labour markets were hit by the COVID-19 crisis, this rate increased again, reaching 7.1 %.

The EU youth (people aged 15-24 years) unemployment rate was 16.9 % in 2020, which was 3.4 times as high as the unemployment rate for persons aged 50-74 years (4.9 %).

Unemployment rate

(% share of labour force aged 15-74 years, 2019 and 2020)



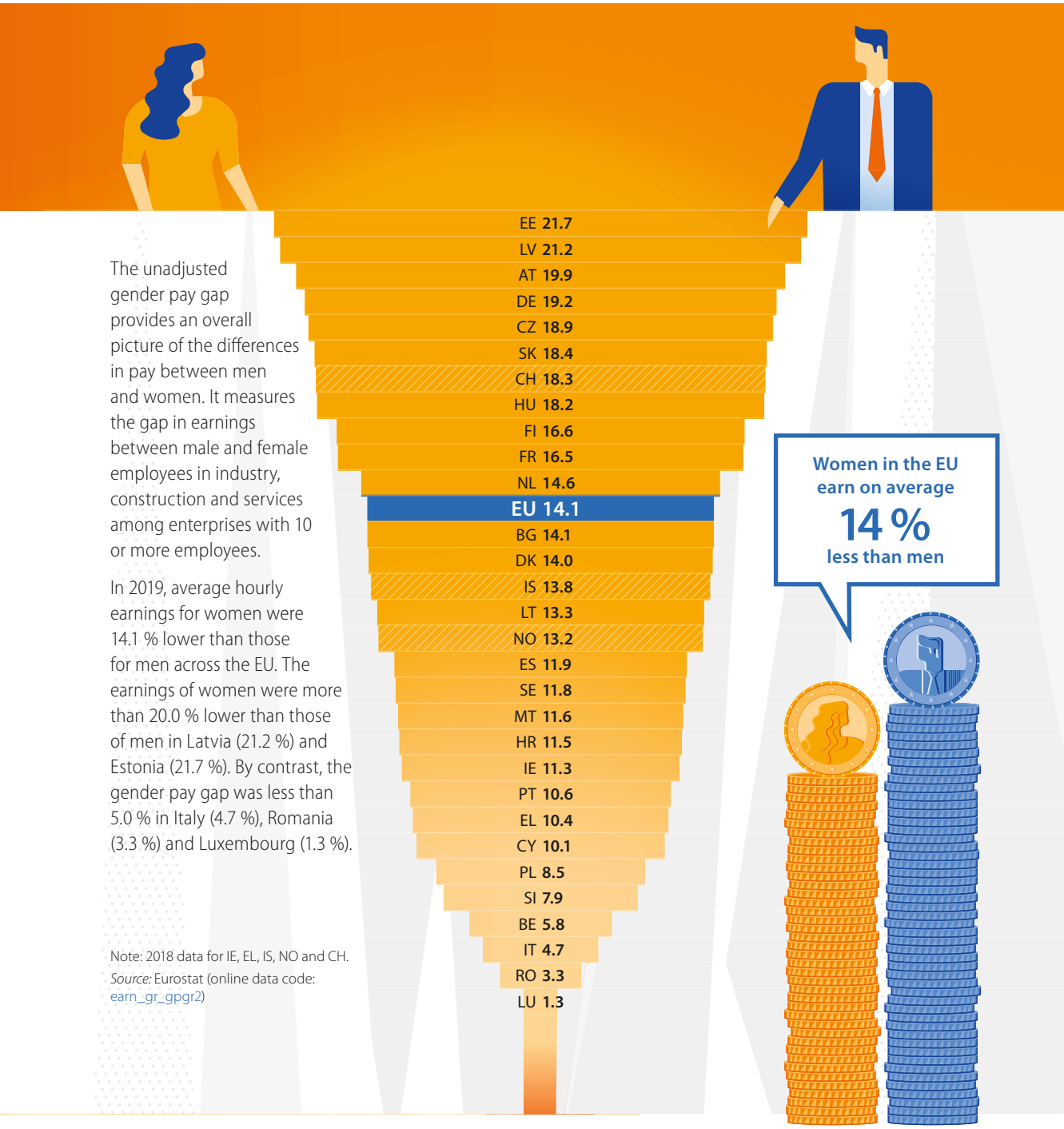
Note: ranked on change (in percentage points) between 2019 and 2020.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: une_rt_a)

In 2020, among the EU Member States the highest unemployment rate for people aged 15-74 years was recorded in Greece (16.3 %), while Spain also recorded a double-digit rate (15.5 %). Relatively low unemployment rates — within the range of 3.2-3.8 % — were recorded in Germany, the Netherlands and Poland, with the rate in Czechia (2.6 %) even lower. Between 2019 and 2020, the unemployment rate fell in Greece, Italy, France and Poland, while it grew elsewhere. The largest increases were in the Baltic Member States, up 1.8 percentage points in Latvia, 2.2 points in Lithuania and 2.4 points in Estonia.

Gender pay gap

(difference between average gross hourly earnings of male and female employees, as a percentage of earnings for male employees, 2019)



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

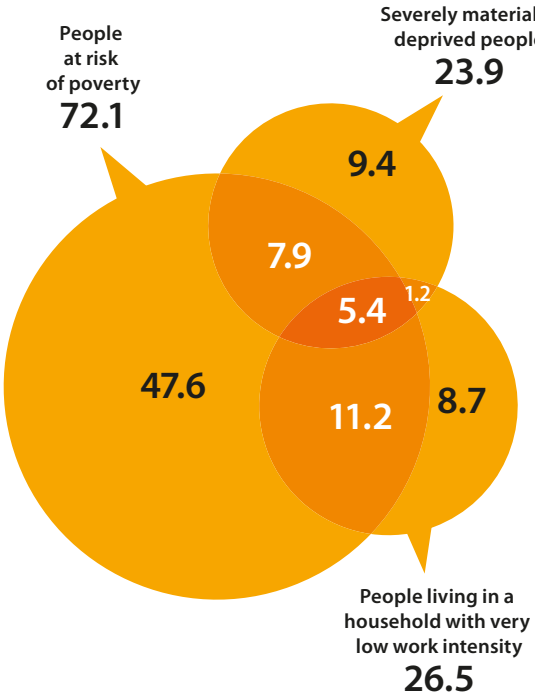
In 2019, average hourly earnings for women were 14.1 % lower than those for men across the EU. The earnings of women were more than 20.0 % lower than those of men in Latvia (21.2 %) and Estonia (21.7 %). By contrast, the gender pay gap was less than 5.0 % in Italy (4.7 %), Romania (3.3 %) and Luxembourg (1.3 %).

Note: 2018 data for IE, EL, IS, NO and CH.
Source: Eurostat (online data code: earn_gr_gpgr2)

Living conditions

People at risk of poverty or social exclusion

(million persons, EU, 2019)



In 2019, 91.4 million people, or 20.9 % of the EU population, were at risk of poverty or social exclusion. This means that they were in at least one of the following three conditions: at risk of poverty after social transfers; severely materially deprived; or living in a household with low work intensity. The greatest risk of poverty or social exclusion was from income poverty, in other words, people who were at risk of poverty after social transfers: this condition touched 72.1 million people across the EU in 2019, among which 24.5 million were affected at the same time by one or both of the other two conditions. Compared with five years earlier, there were 15.4 million fewer people at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2019.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: ilc_pees01)

People at risk of poverty or social exclusion

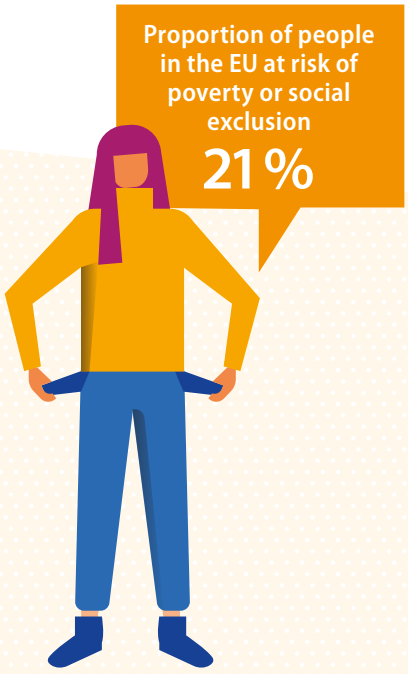
(% share of total population, 2019)

32.8	BG
31.2	RO
30.0	EL
27.3	LV
26.3	LT
25.6	IT
25.3	ES
24.3	EE
23.3	HR
22.3	CY
21.6	PT
20.9	**EU**
20.6	IE, LU
20.1	MT
19.5	BE
18.9	HU
18.8	SE, CH
18.2	PL
17.9	FR
17.4	DE
16.9	AT
16.5	NL
16.4	SK
16.3	DK
16.1	NO
15.6	FI
14.4	SI
12.5	CZ
11.0	IS

In 2019, the share of the population that was at risk of poverty or social exclusion peaked, among the EU Member States, at 32.8 % in Bulgaria. At least 30.0 % of the population in Romania and Greece were also at risk of poverty or social exclusion. At the other end of the range, less than one in six people in the Netherlands, Slovakia, Denmark, Finland and Slovenia were at risk of poverty or social exclusion, with a low of 12.5 % recorded in Czechia.

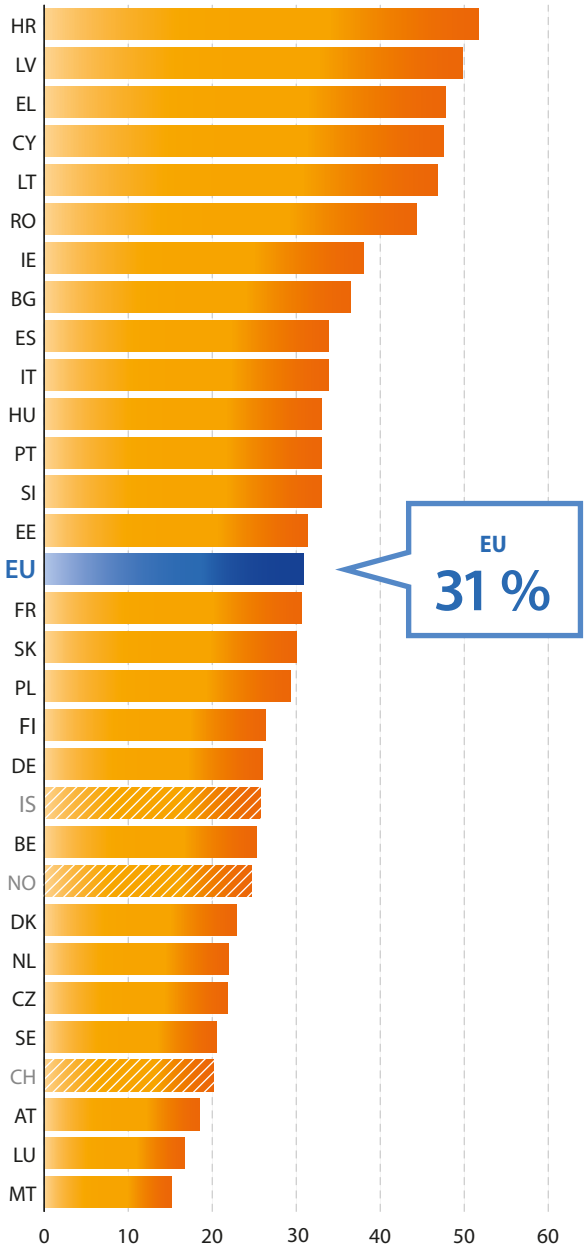
Note: 2018 data for IS.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: ilc_peps01)



Inability to face unexpected financial expenses

(% share of total population, 2019)



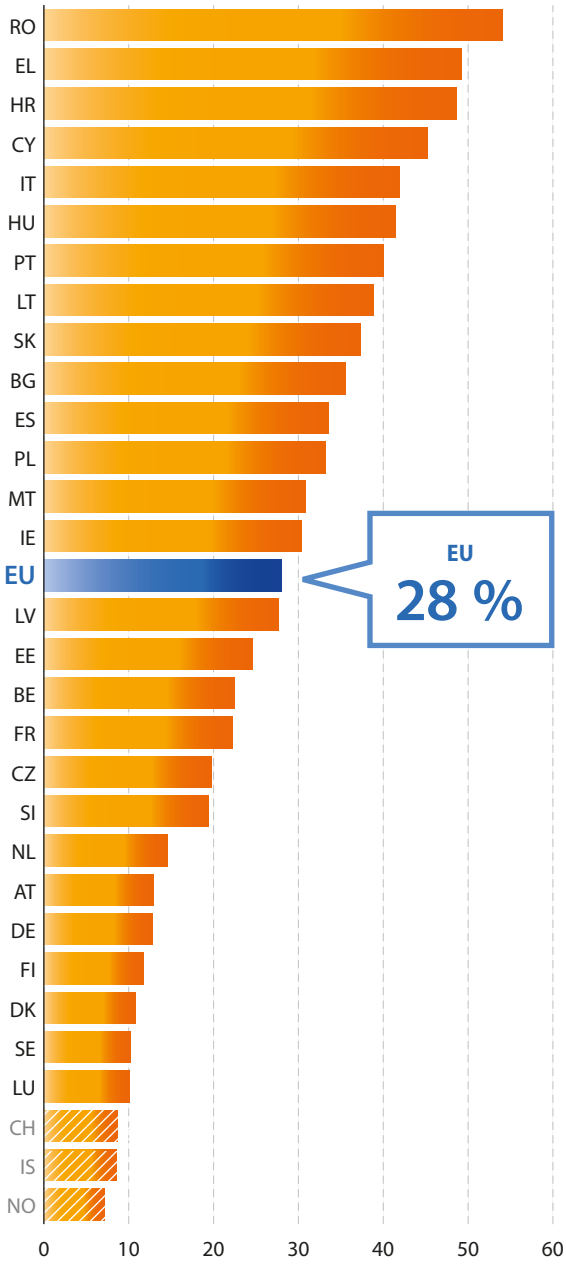
Material deprivation refers to the enforced inability (rather than the choice not to do so) to pay for/afford specific expenses; one example is unexpected financial expenses. In 2019, a little less than one third (30.9 %) of the EU population living in private households were unable to face an unexpected financial expense. More than two fifths of the population were unable to face an unexpected financial expense in six of the EU Member States, with this share peaking in Croatia at 51.7 %. By contrast, a relatively small share of the population in Malta was unable to face such expenses (15.1 %).

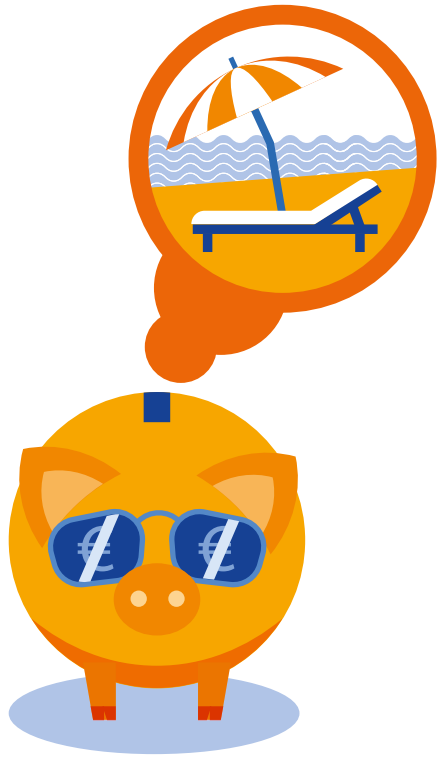
Note: 2018 data for IS.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: ilc_mdes04)

Inability to afford paying for one week annual holiday away from home

(% share of total population, 2019)





Another component of the material deprivation rate is the inability to afford one week of holiday away from home each year. In 2019, some 28.0 % of the EU population were unable to afford such a holiday, with this share reaching two fifths or more of the population in Portugal, Hungary, Italy, Cyprus, Croatia and Greece, and peaking at 54.1 % in Romania. By contrast, the share of the population that was unable to afford one week's holiday away from home was around one tenth in Sweden (10.2 %) and Luxembourg (10.1 %).

Note: 2018 data for IS.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: ilc_mdes02)

Digital society

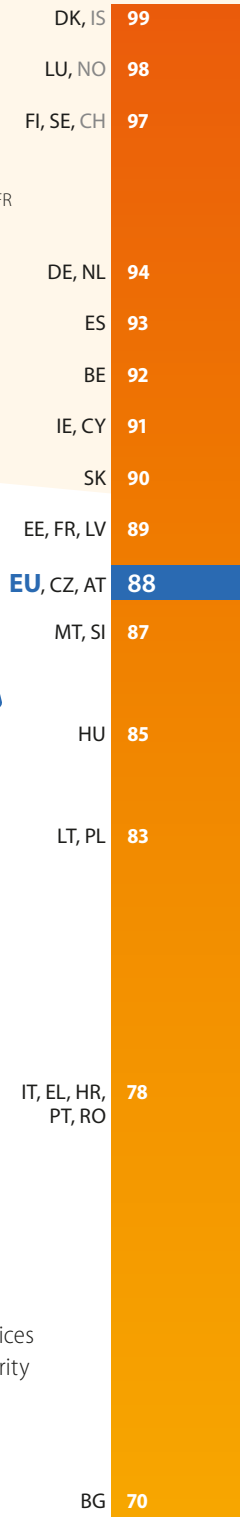
Internet usage

(% share of people aged 16-74 years, 2020)

The internet has become an integral part of most people's lives, changing the way people study, work, communicate and enjoy their free time. In 2020, 88 % of adults (aged 16-74 years) in the EU declared they had used the internet during the previous three months. This share ranged from 99 % in Denmark, 98 % in Luxembourg and 97 % in Finland and Sweden to 70 % in Bulgaria.

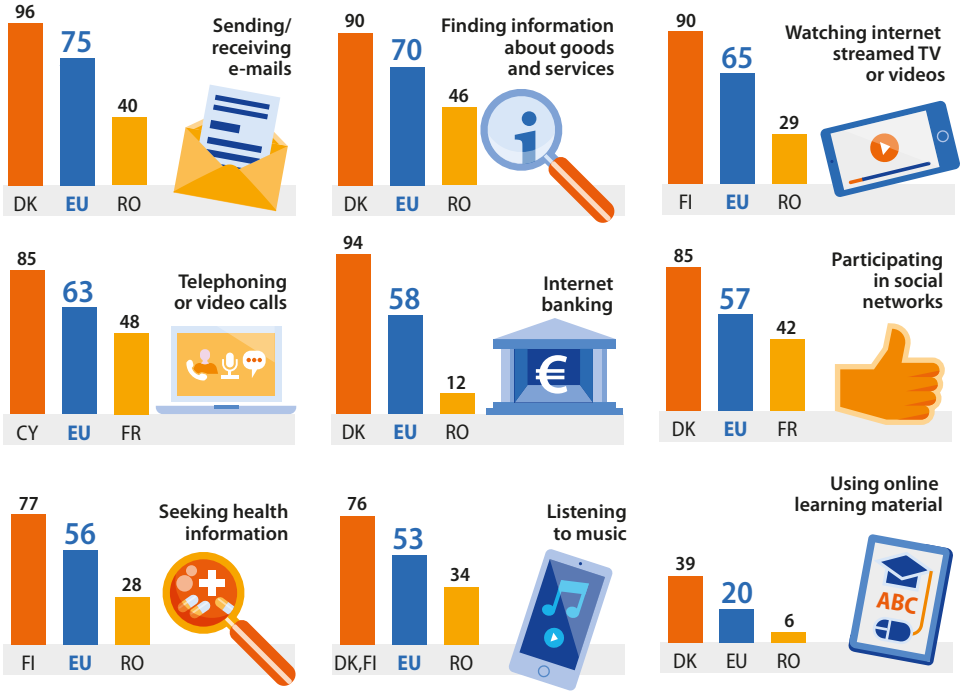
Note: 2019 data for FR and CH.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: isoc_ci_ifp_iu)



Internet activities

(% share of people aged 16-74 years, 2019)



Highest value
EU value
Lowest value

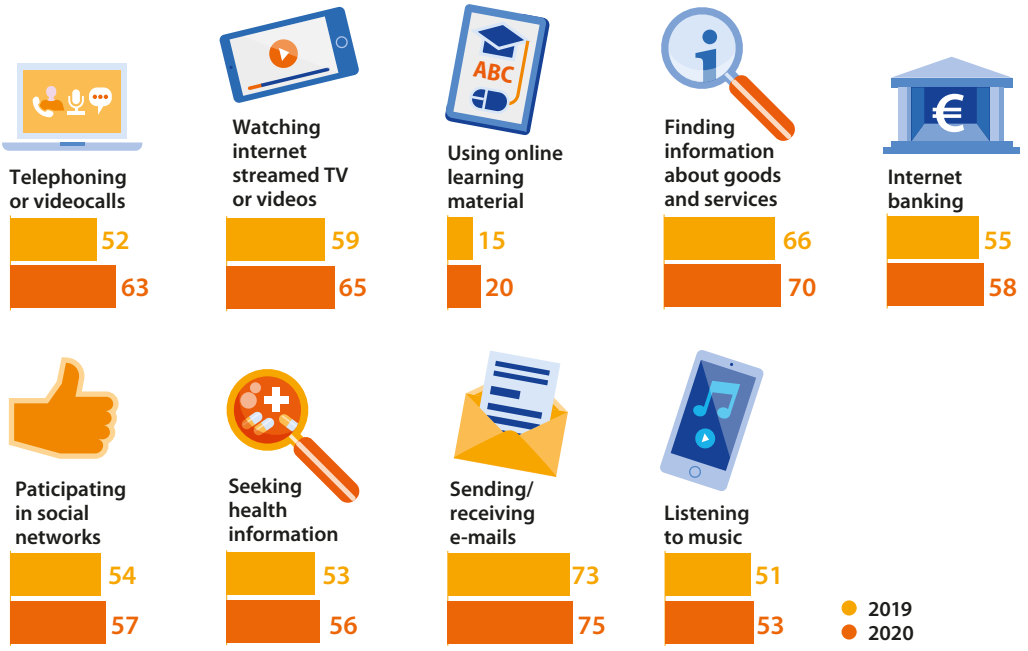
Note: 2019 data for FR, except for watching internet streamed TV or videos (2018 data).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: isoc_ci_ac_i)

Across the EU, some of the internet activities most commonly performed in 2020 by people aged 16-74 years included: sending/ receiving e-mails (75 %), finding information about goods and services (70 %) and watching internet streamed TV or videos (65 %). A majority of adults in the EU also used the internet for making telephone or video calls (63 %), internet banking (58 %), participating in social networks (57 %), seeking health information (56 %) or listening to music (53 %).

Internet activities

(% share of people aged 16-74 years, EU, 2019 and 2020)



The proportion of people in the EU having participated in many of the most commonly performed internet activities continued to grow in 2020. As well as reflecting a continuation of the existing trend, this may also have reflected the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on people's internet activities. However, it should be noted that the survey used to collect information society statistics is conducted relatively early each year, and so it may have been too early to fully reflect the impact of the pandemic on internet usage.

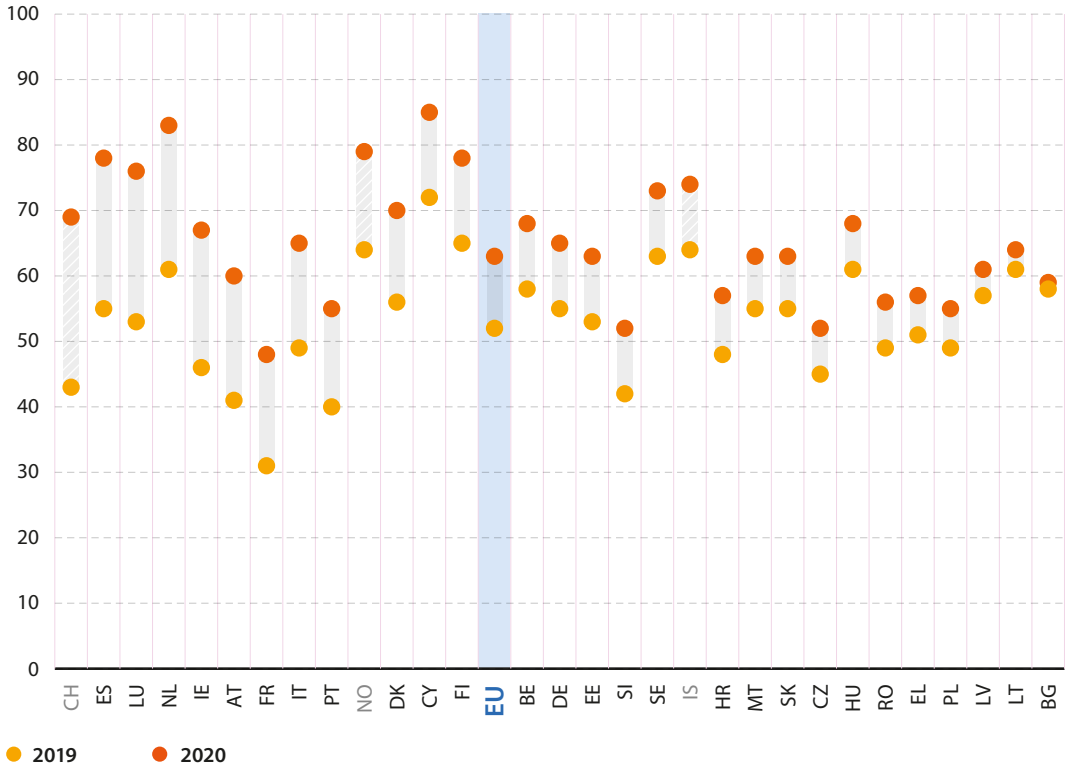
Given the widespread use of remote learning for schools and tertiary education during 2020, it is unsurprising that the share of the population using online learning material increased, up 5 percentage points; note that a large part of the school-age population (pupils aged less than 16 years) is not covered by these statistics.

Note: ranked on the change (in percentage points) between 2019 and 2020. Watching internet streamed TV or videos, 2018 instead of 2019.

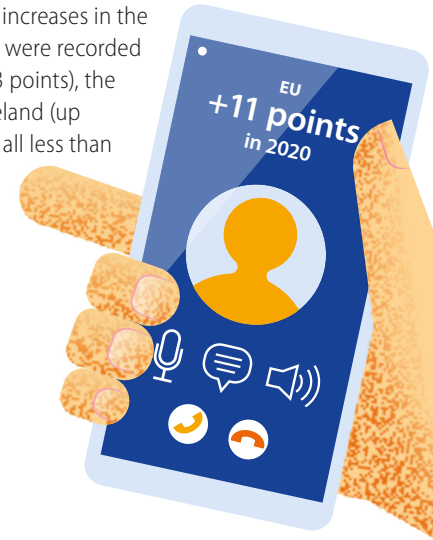
Source: Eurostat (online data code: isoc_ci_ac_i)

Using the internet for telephoning or video calls

(% share of people aged 16-74 years, 2019 and 2020)



The share of people aged 16-74 years using the internet to make telephone or video calls increased 11 percentage points in 2020, repeating the 11 point increase in 2019. Particularly large increases in the use of the internet for this activity were recorded in Spain, Luxembourg (both up 23 points), the Netherlands (up 22 points) and Ireland (up 21 points). The smallest increases, all less than 5 points, were recorded in Latvia, Lithuania and Bulgaria.



Note: ranked on change (in percentage points) between 2019 and 2020. FR: 2018 and 2019 data instead of 2019 and 2020. CH: 2017 and 2019 data instead of 2019 and 2020.

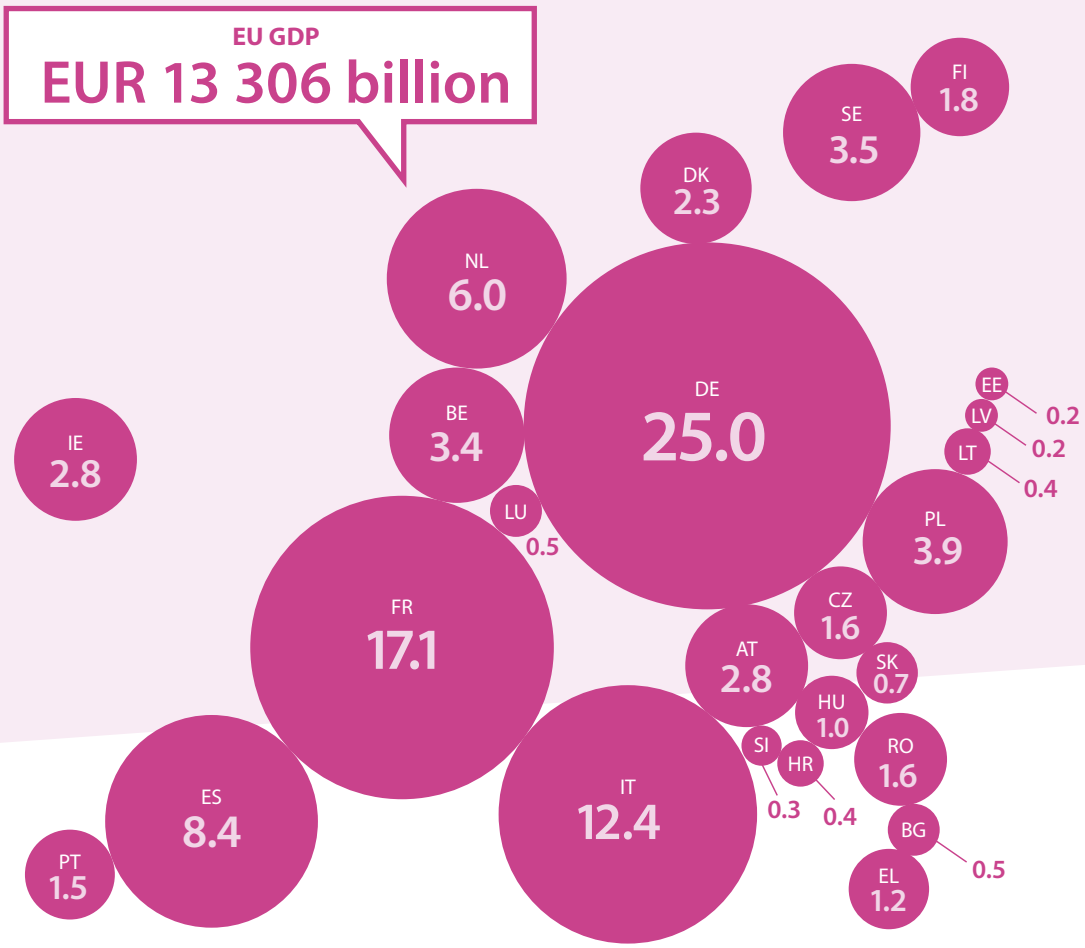
Source: Eurostat (online data code: isoc_ci_ac_i)

2 Economy and business

Economy and finance

GDP

(% share of EU total, 2020)

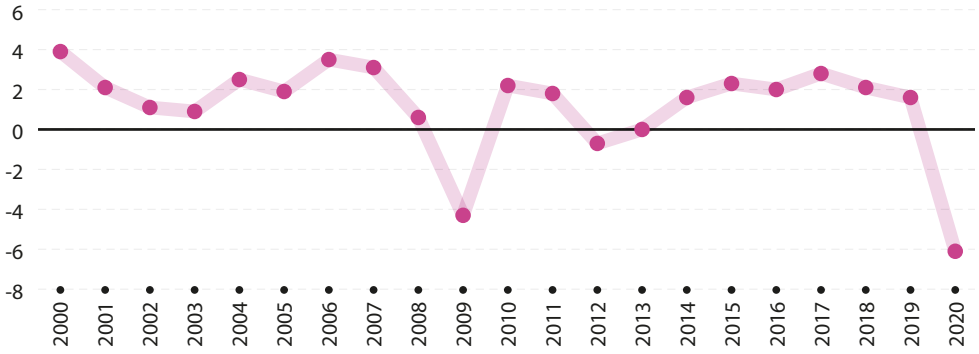


Gross domestic product (GDP) is an indicator used to measure the size and performance of an economy; it provides information on the total value of goods and services produced during a given period. Within the EU, GDP was valued at EUR 13 306 billion in 2020. Germany had the largest economy among the EU Member States (EUR 3 332 billion, or 25.0 % of the EU total), followed by France (17.1 %) and Italy (12.4 %). At the other end of the range, Malta (0.1 %) had the smallest economy in the EU.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama_10_gdp)

Real change in GDP

(%, annual average, based on chain-linked volumes, EU, 2000-2020)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: naida_10_gdp)

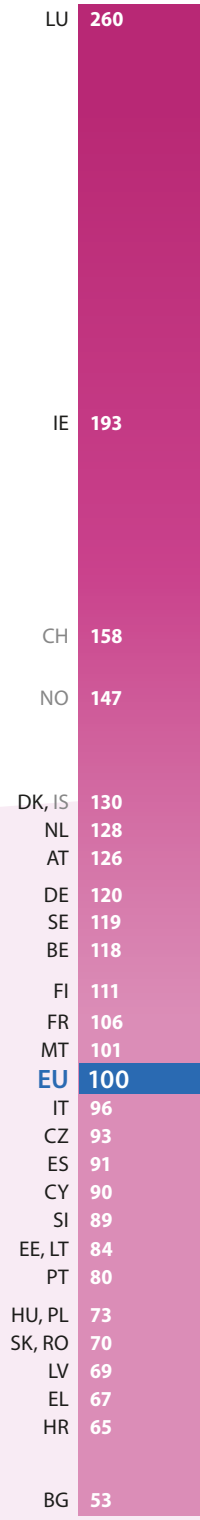
The real change in GDP shows the rate of change in economic output having removed the effects of price changes (inflation). Between 2000 and 2007, the EU economy grew each year, with GDP rising in real terms by 0.9-3.9 % per annum. From 2008 to 2013, the economy was strongly affected by the global financial and economic crisis, with GDP falling by 4.3 % in 2009 and by a much smaller amount (-0.7 %) in 2012, while output was unchanged in 2013. Thereafter, the EU economy progressively recovered, with annual growth rates in the range of 1.6 % to 2.8 % per annum between 2014 and 2019. In 2020, the economy was heavily impacted by the COVID-19 crisis (the direct health consequences and related restrictions) and GDP fell by 6.1 %.

GDP per capita

(EU = 100, based on PPS, 2019)

GDP per capita can be used to compare economic output of different sized countries. GDP per capita in the EU fell from EUR 31 170 per capita in 2019 to EUR 29 660 per capita in 2020. As the cost of living varies from place to place, the information presented here has been adjusted to reflect price level differences using an artificial currency unit called a purchasing power standard (PPS). Using this measure, the relative living standards of individual EU Member States can be expressed in relation to the EU average set to equal 100. In 2019, the highest value was recorded in Luxembourg, where GDP per capita in PPS was slightly more than two and a half times as high as the EU average. On the other hand, GDP per capita in Bulgaria was just over half (53 %) the EU average.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama_10_pc)



Prices

Inflation rate

(% annual rate of change, 2020)

The inflation rate shows the change in the price of a basket of consumer goods and services. The latest information available reveals that prices increased by 0.7 % in the EU between 2019 and 2020, with annual inflation peaking at 3.7 % in Poland. Eight EU Member States recorded deflation in 2020, the strongest being falls of 1.1 % in Cyprus and 1.3 % in Greece.

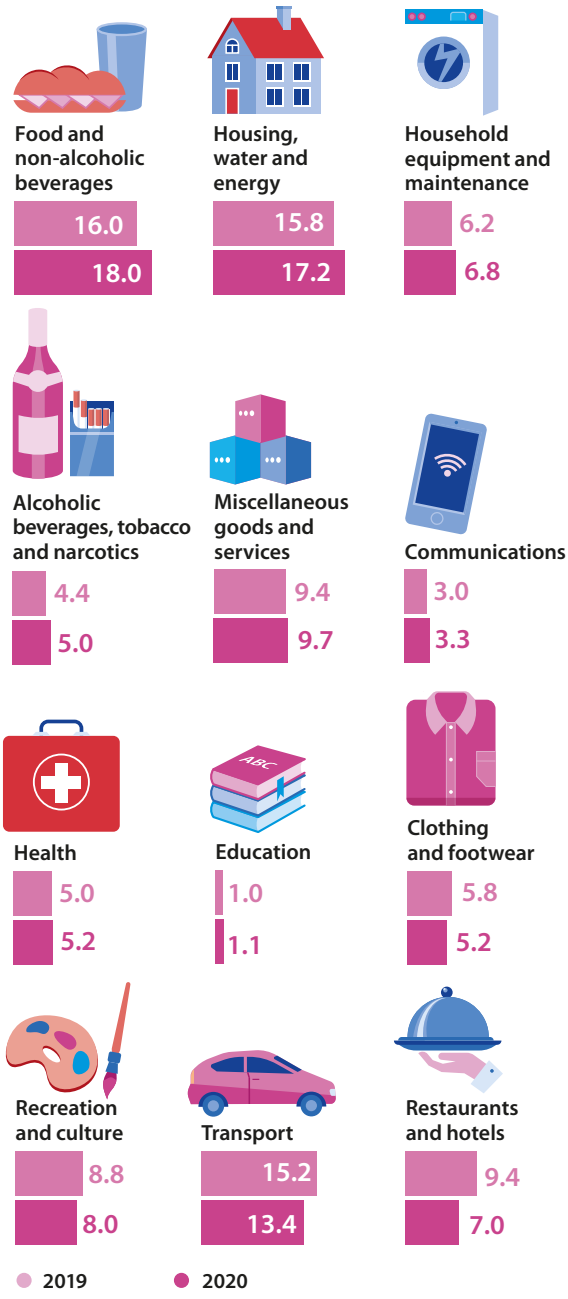
Source: Eurostat (online data code: prc_hicp_aind)

3.7 PL
3.4 HU
3.3 CZ
2.3 RO
2.0 SK
1.4 AT
1.2 BG, IS, NO
1.1 LT, NL
0.8 MT
0.7 EU, SE
0.5 FR
0.4 BE, DE, FI
0.3 DK
0.1 LV
0.0 HR, LU
-0.1 IT, PT
-0.3 ES, SI
-0.5 IE
-0.6 EE
-0.8 CH
-1.1 CY
-1.3 EL

Household budget structure

(% share of total household consumption expenditure, EU, 2019 and 2020)

The COVID-19 crisis impacted not only on overall economic activity, but also on household consumption patterns. The share of expenditure on several categories related to eating and living at home increased between 2019 and 2020. For example, there were increases of 2.0 percentage points for food and non-alcoholic beverages, 1.5 points for housing, water and energy, 0.6 points for household equipment and maintenance, and 0.5 points for alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics. The counterbalance was lower expenditure outside the home, most notably falls of 2.4 points for restaurants and hotels, 1.7 points for transport, and 0.8 points for recreation and culture.

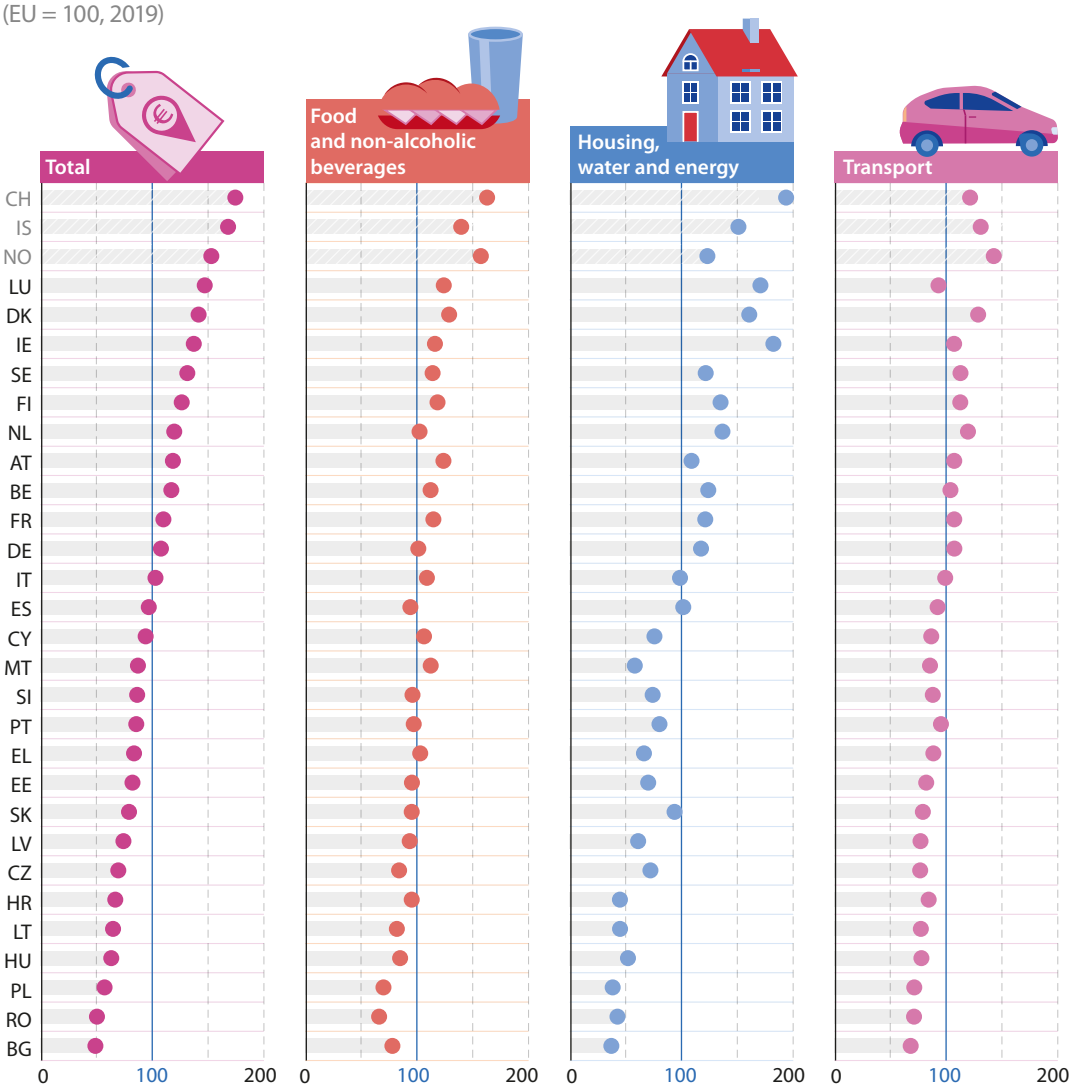


Note: ranked on change (in percentage points) between 2019 and 2020.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: prc_hicp_inw)

Comparative price levels

(EU = 100, 2019)



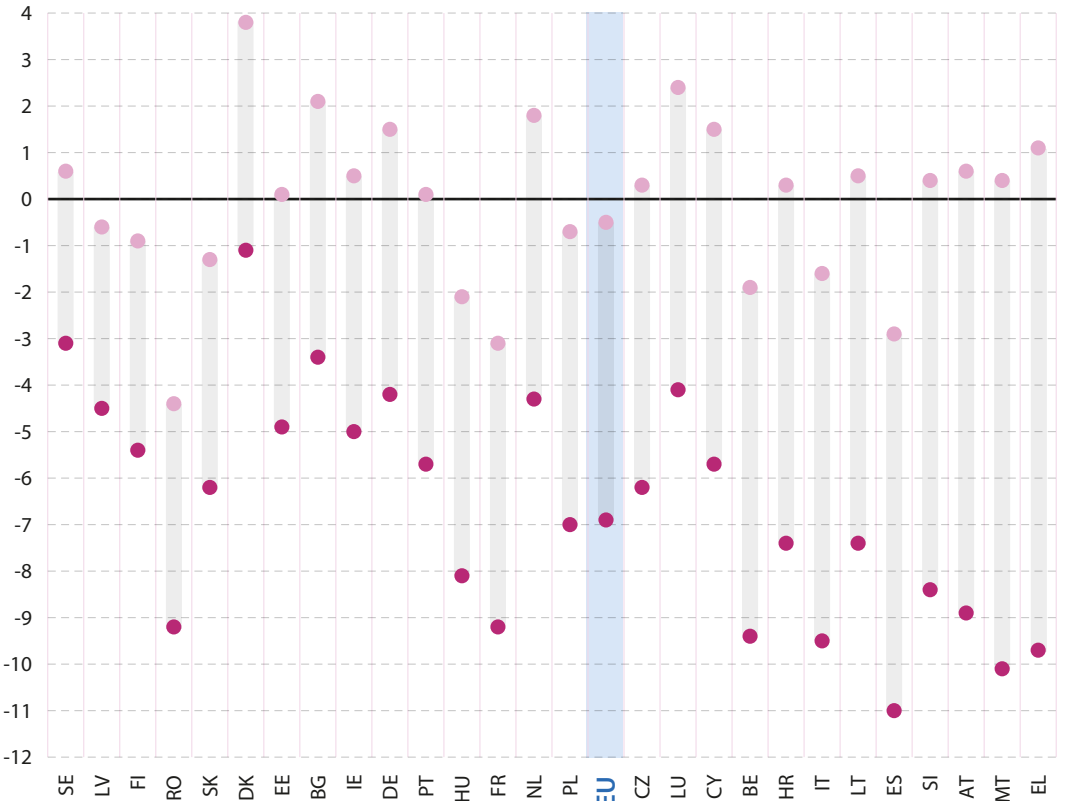
Price level indices measure price differences between countries (expressed in relation to prices for the EU average set to equal 100). In 2019, the overall price level index peaked in Luxembourg and Denmark at more than 40 % above the EU average, while price levels were around half the EU average in Romania and Bulgaria. There was a relatively low degree of variation in price levels for transport and for food and non-alcoholic beverages, with the highest prices in Denmark (both 29 % above the EU average) and the lowest in Romania (34 % below) for food and non-alcoholic beverages and Bulgaria (32 % below) for transport. By contrast, the price of housing, water and energy displayed a greater variation, from 82 % above the EU average in Ireland down to 63 % below in Bulgaria.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: prc_ppp_ind)

Government finance

General government deficit/surplus

(% relative to GDP, 2019 and 2020)



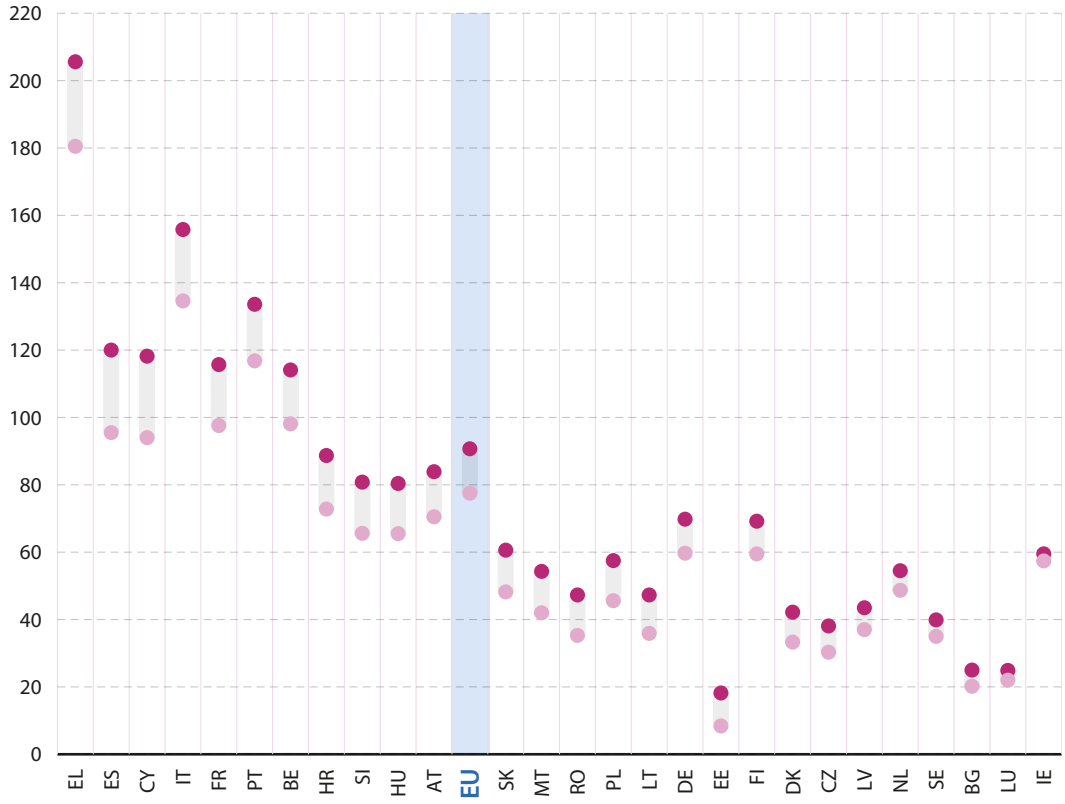
Note: ranked on change (in percentage points) of general government deficit/surplus between 2019 and 2020.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: gov_10dd_edpt1)

In 2020, the general government deficit across the EU was equivalent to 6.9 % of its GDP, a much larger deficit than recorded in 2019 (0.5 %) in large part reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 crisis. All of the EU Member States recorded a budget deficit in 2020, ranging from 1.1 % of GDP in Denmark to 11.0 % in Spain. The largest changes in government deficits/surpluses relative to GDP between 2019 and 2020 were in Greece, Malta, Austria and Slovenia.

General government gross debt

(% relative to GDP, 2019 and 2020)



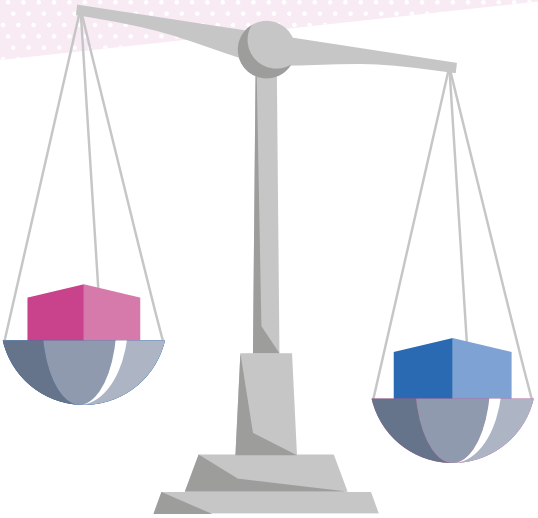
2019 2020

Note: ranked on change (in percentage points) of consolidated gross debt between 2019 and 2020.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: gov_10dd_edpt1)

Consolidated gross debt in the EU was 90.7 % of GDP in 2020, up 13.2 percentage points from 77.5 % in 2019 in large part reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 crisis. In 2020, consolidated debt was highest in Greece at 205.6 %. Italy, Portugal, Spain, Cyprus, France and Belgium recorded ratios of more than 100 % when compared with GDP. The largest increases in debt relative to GDP between 2019 and 2020 were in Greece, Spain, Cyprus and Italy, all up more than 20.0 percentage points.

International trade

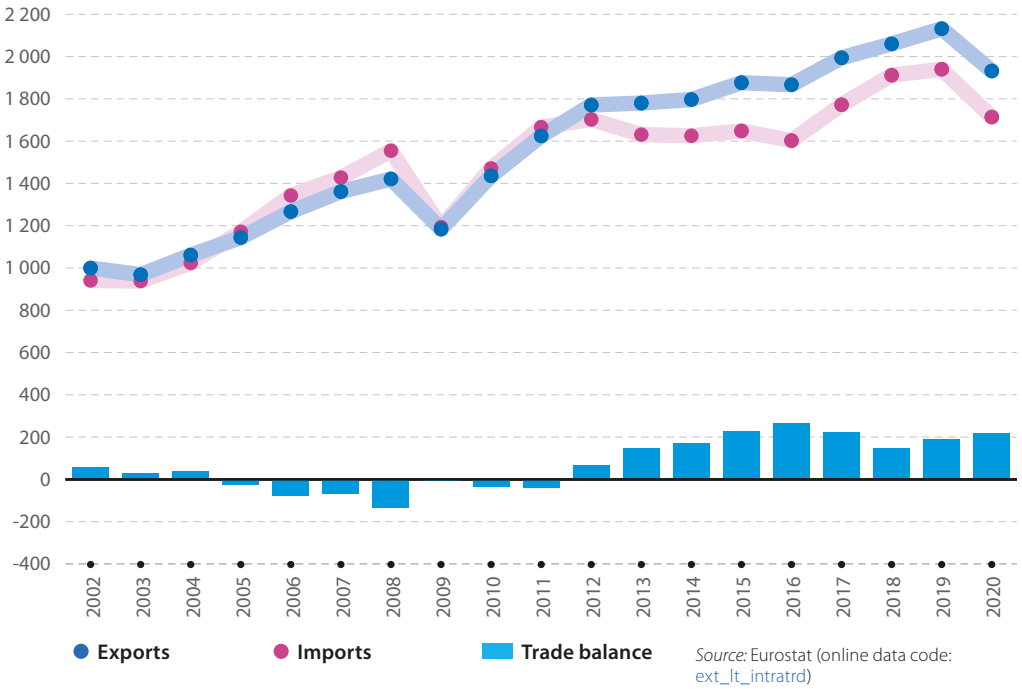


EU trade surplus
EUR 218 billion

International trade in goods with non-member countries

(billion EUR, EU, 2002-2020)

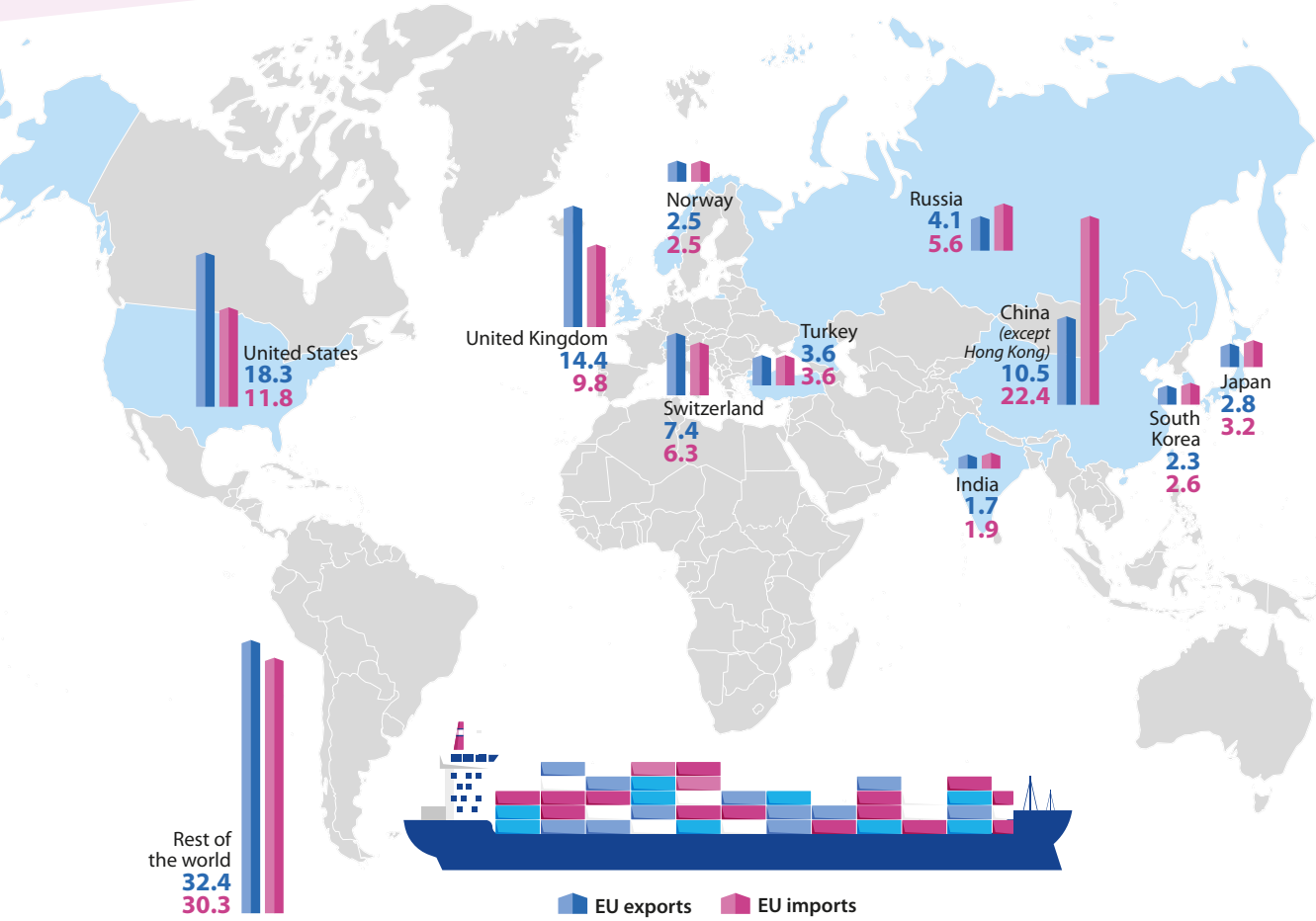
In 2020, the EU exported goods to non-member countries that were valued at EUR 1 932 billion, which was EUR 218 billion higher than the value of its imported goods. As a result, the EU recorded its ninth successive annual trade surplus for goods. The COVID-19 crisis impacted on the value of the trade in goods in 2020: exports were 9.4 % lower than in 2019, while imports were 11.7 % lower.



Source: Eurostat (online data code: ext_lt_intratrd)

Top 10 partners for EU international trade in goods

(% share of total, EU, 2020)



In 2020, the United States was the EU's leading export market, accounting for 18.3 % of the total value of goods exported outside the EU. The second largest export market for EU goods was the United Kingdom with a 14.4 % share, followed by China (excluding Hong Kong; 10.5 %) and Switzerland (7.4 %).

There was a different picture for imports, as more than one fifth (22.4 %) of all goods imported into the EU in 2020 originated from China (excluding Hong Kong). The United States was the second largest country of origin for EU imports (11.8 %), followed by the United Kingdom (9.8 %) and Switzerland (6.3 %).

Note: the figure shows the share of EU imports from non-member countries and the share of EU exports to non-member countries.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: ext_lt_maineu)

85 LU
80 SK
76 CZ
75 HU
74 RO
73 PT, HR, AT
71 EE, PL
70 LV
65 LI
63 BE, BG, LT, SI, FI
61 EU
60 DK, FR, SE
59 ES
57 DE, EL
56 IS
55 MT
54 NL, IT
52 CY
45 CH
40 IE

International trade in goods with Member States

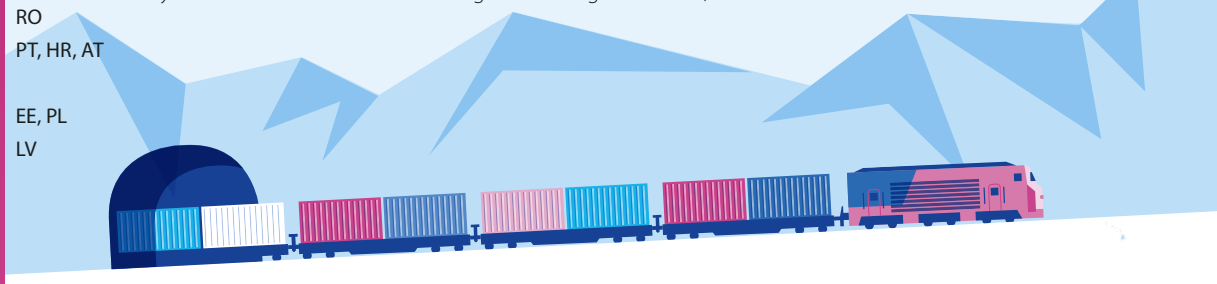
(% share of total trade, 2020)

In 2020, 61 % of the EU Member States' trade in goods concerned exchanges between Member States. The relative share of intra-EU trade peaked at 85 % in Luxembourg and also accounted for three quarters or more of total trade in Slovakia, Czechia and Hungary. By contrast, the share of intra-EU trade was 52 % in Cyprus and 40 % in Ireland (where the share of intra-EU trade was notably lower than in previous years as a result of the United Kingdom having left the EU).

Intra EU trade
61 %
of total trade

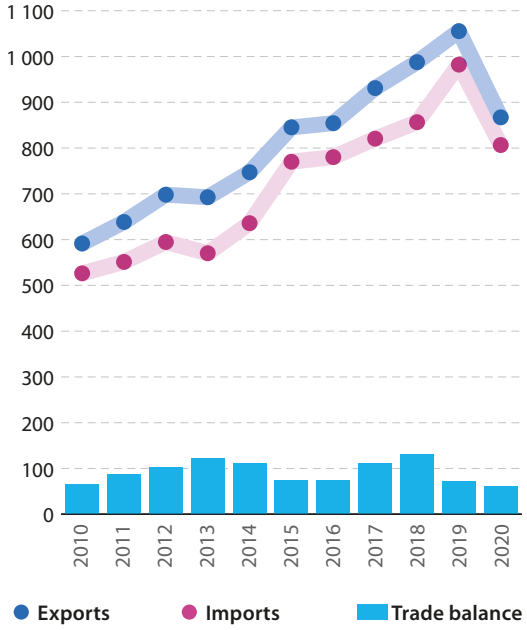
Note: calculation based on the average value of exports and imports.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: ext_lt_intratrd and ext_lt_intercc)



International trade in services with non-member countries

(billion EUR, EU, 2010-2020)

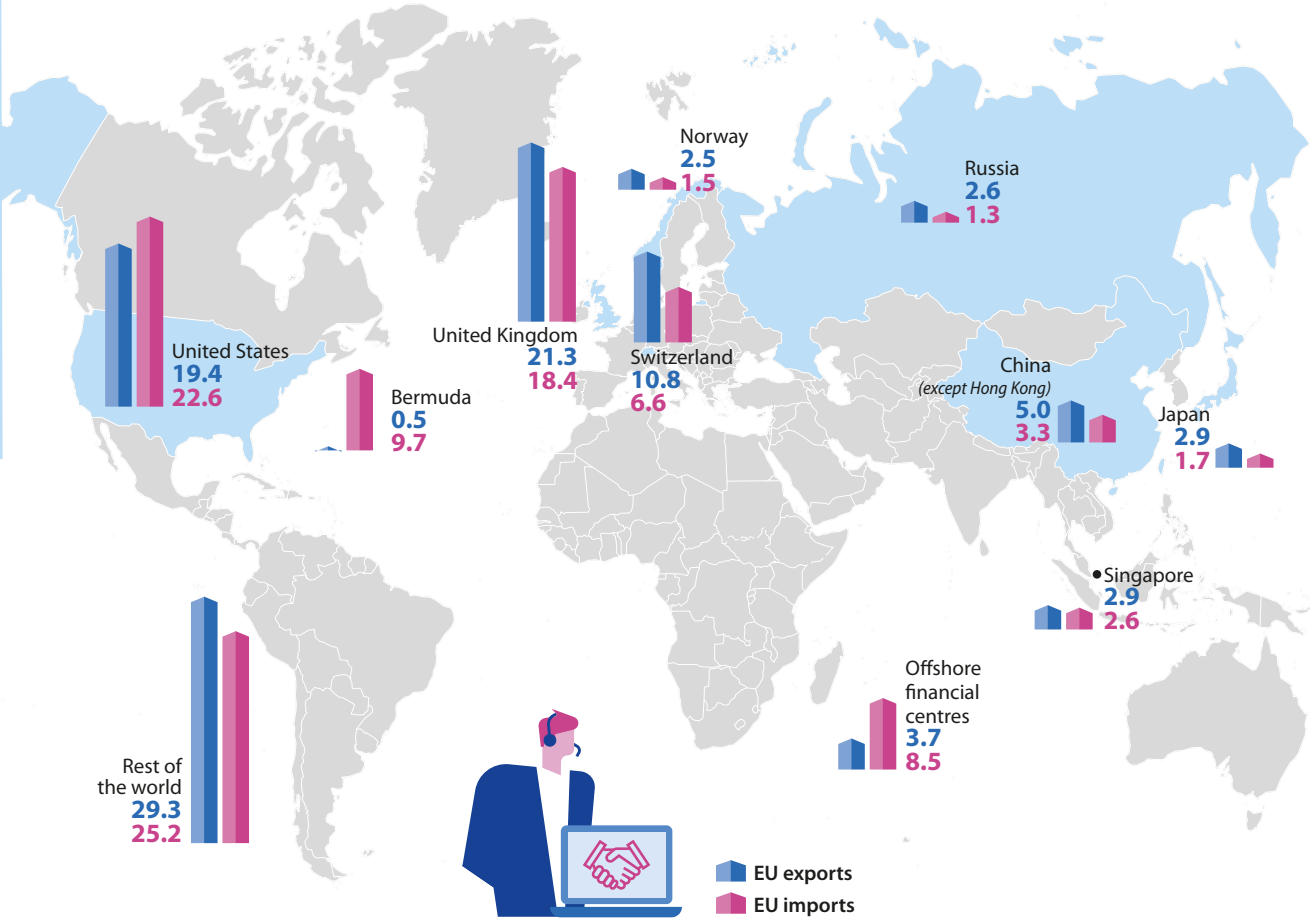


Source: Eurostat (online data code: bop_its6_det)

In recent years, there has been a rapid increase in the value of world trade in services. This pattern was also observed across the EU, with the value of exports increasing overall by 46.6 % between 2010 and 2020 and the value of imports by 53.3 %. Exports of services from the EU to non-member countries were valued at EUR 867 billion while imports into the EU were valued at EUR 807 billion. The EU ran a trade surplus for services throughout the period 2010-2020, with a peak recorded in 2018 (EUR 131 billion). The COVID-19 crisis had a greater impact on the value of the trade in services in 2020 than it had on trade in goods: exports were 17.8 % lower than in 2019, while imports were 17.9 % lower. This reflected, at least in part, lower levels of travel.

Top 10 partners for EU international trade in services

(% share of total, EU, 2019)



In 2019, the EU's leading trade partners for services were the United States and the United Kingdom. More than one fifth (21.3 %) of services exported from the EU were destined for the United Kingdom, with a slightly lower share for the United States (19.4 %). Switzerland was the third largest trade partner for the EU's service exports (10.8 %). By contrast, the highest share (22.6 %) of services imported into the EU from non-member countries originated in the United States, while a lower share was recorded for the United Kingdom (18.4 %).

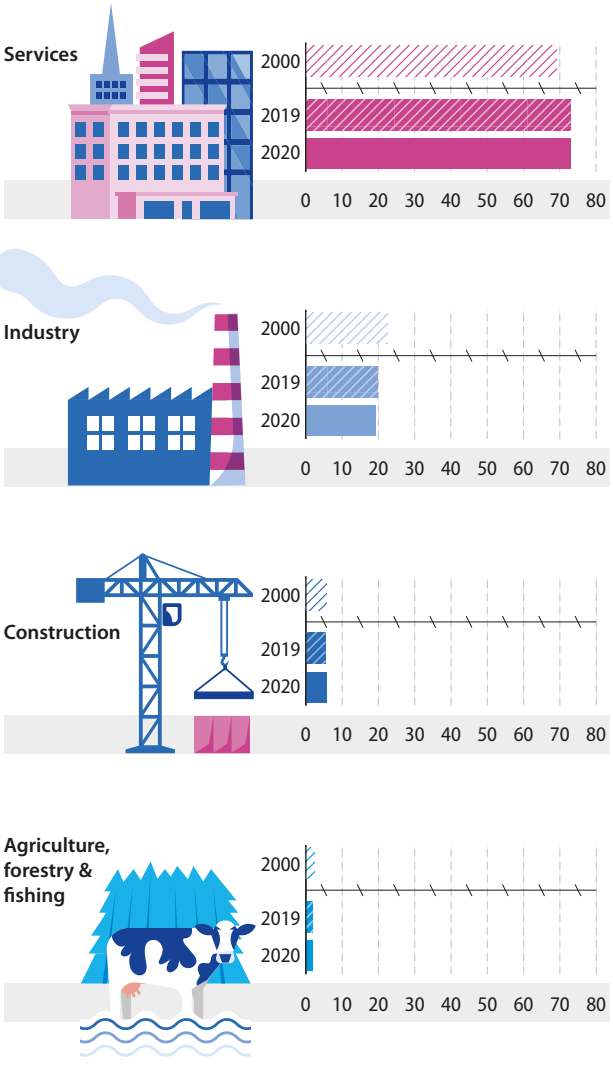
Note: the figure shows the share of EU imports from non-member countries and the share of EU exports to non-member countries. Offshore financial centres exclude Singapore and Bermuda (for which information is shown separately).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: bop_its6_tot)

Business

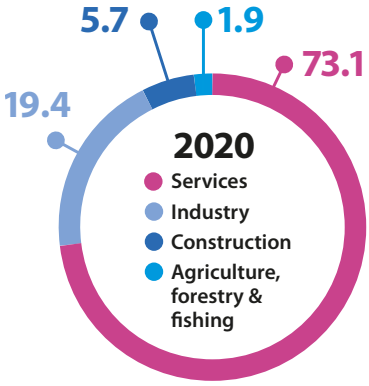
Change in the structure of value added

(% share of total value added by sector, EU, 2000, 2019 and 2020)



Note: the two time intervals between the three years shown are not equal.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama_10_a10)



Between 2000 and 2020, the share of EU total value added that was generated within the services sector rose from 69.2 % to 73.1 %, mainly due to increases in the output of professional, scientific and technical activities. By contrast, the relative share of some other parts of the EU economy contracted during the same period: industry's share went down from 22.6 % to 19.4 %, while the share of agriculture, forestry and fishing fell from 2.5 % to 1.9 %. The share of construction was 5.7 % in 2000 and also in 2020; this masks an increase in the share between 2000 and 2008, a stronger fall between 2008 and 2015, and a recovery since then.

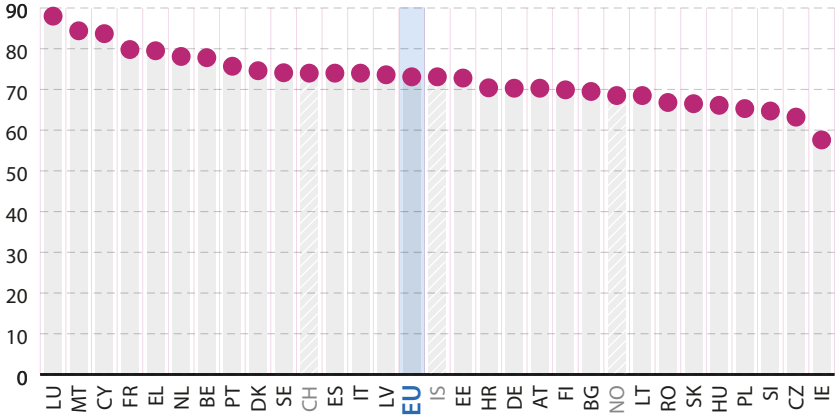
The share of services within the EU's total value added increased marginally between 2019 and 2020, rising from 73.0 % to 73.1 %. However, the COVID-19 crisis led to a considerable contraction in activity for some particular service activities. For example, the output of arts, entertainment and recreation, other service activities, activities of household and extra-territorial organizations and bodies fell by 14.8 % between 2019 and 2020 (in current price terms), while the output of wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food service activities fell by 11.5 %.

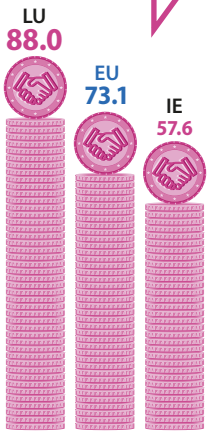
Gross value added by sector

(% share of total, 2020)

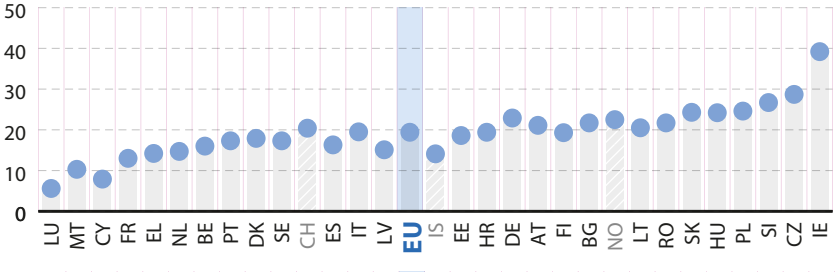
Services represent **73 %** of EU gross value added

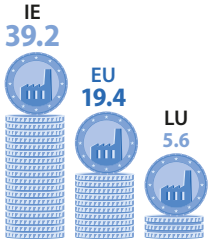
Services



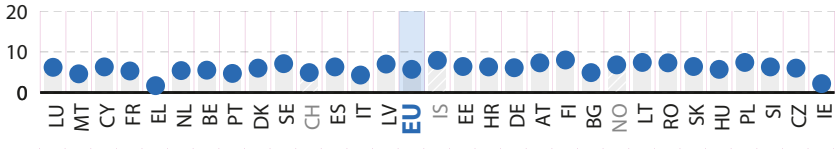


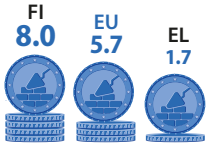
Industry



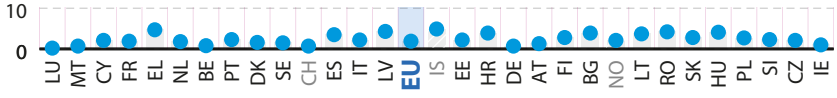


Construction





Agriculture, forestry & fishing



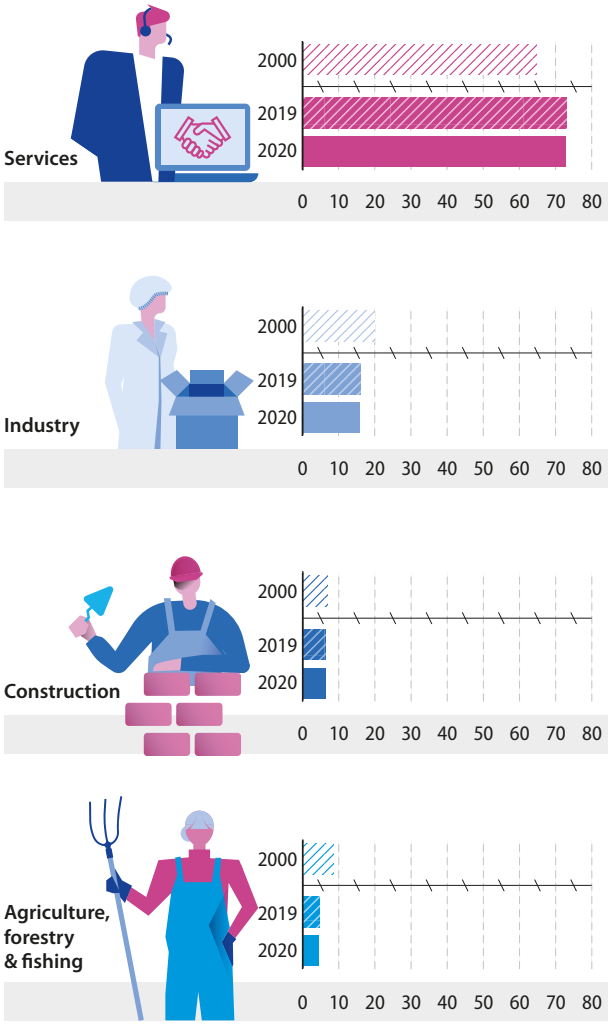
In 2020, the share of services in total value added was above 80 % in the tourism-oriented economies of Cyprus and Malta, although it peaked at 88.0 % in Luxembourg (which is characterised by a large financial services sector). The industrial economy contributed nearly two fifths of total value added in Ireland (39.2 %), with the next highest share in Czechia (28.7 %). By contrast, the largest relative contribution from construction was in Finland (8.0 %), while the highest contribution from agriculture, forestry and fishing was recorded in Greece (4.7 %).

Note: ranked on the share of services in total gross value added for 2020.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama_10_a10)

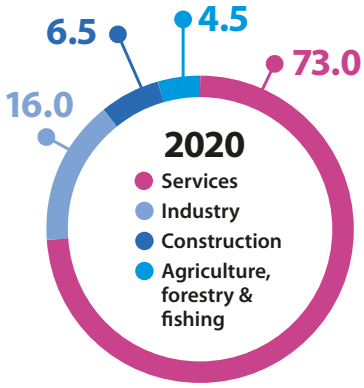
Change in the structure of employment

(% share of total employment by sector, EU, 2000 and 2019)



Note: the two time intervals between the three years shown are not equal.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama_10_a10_e)



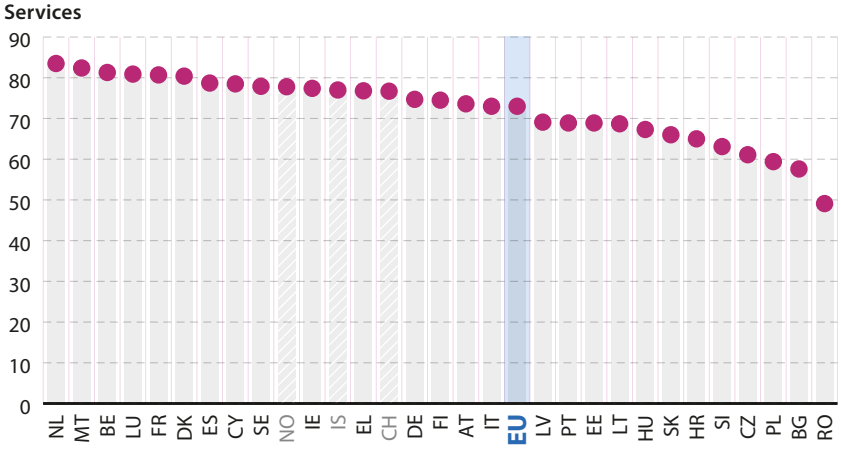
The relative importance of services within the EU economy was almost exactly the same for employment as it was for value added. In 2020, services provided work to 73.0 % of people employed in the EU, compared with 64.6 % at the turn of the millennium. By contrast, the relative importance of all other sectors decreased between 2000 and 2020: the share of the EU workforce that was employed within the industrial economy fell from 19.9 % to 16.0 %, while the agriculture, forestry and fishing workforce declined from 8.6 % to 4.5 %, and the share of persons employed in construction fell from 6.9 % to 6.5 %.

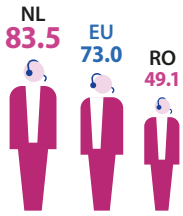
There was a 1.5 % reduction in the total number of people employed in the EU economy between 2019 and 2020; at an aggregate level, the whole of the services sector experienced an identical decline. However, a more detailed analysis reveals the varied impact of the COVID-19 crisis on EU service activities. Employment levels for wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food service activities fell by 3.3 % between 2019 and 2020 (a much smaller reduction than for value added), while the number of persons employed in information and communication activities increased by 2.2 %.

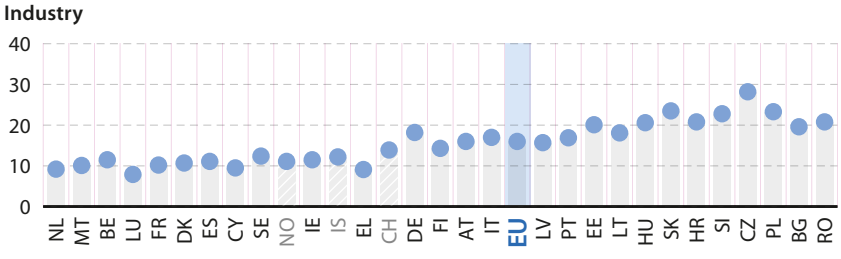
Employment by sector

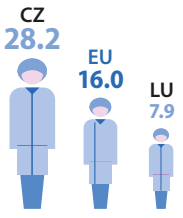
(% share of total, 2020)

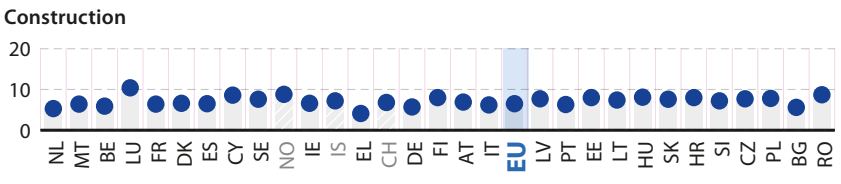
Services represent **73 %** of EU employment

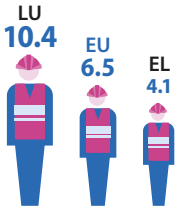


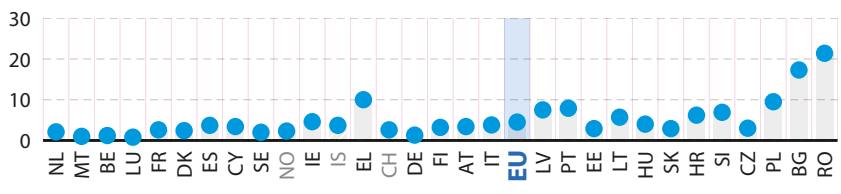


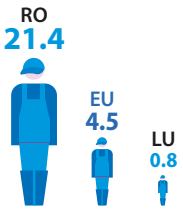












In 2020, Romania was the only EU Member State where less than half (49.1 %) of the workforce was employed in the services sector. By contrast, services provided work to 83.5 % of those employed in the Netherlands. Czechia was the only Member State to report that industry accounted for more than one quarter (28.2 %) of the total workforce. Romania (21.4 %) was characterised by a high (but falling) share of total employment in agriculture, forestry and fishing, while Luxembourg was the only Member State to report a double-digit share (10.4 %) of its workforce employed in construction.

Note: ranked on the share of services in total employment for 2020.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama_10_a10_e)

Structure of the non-financial business economy

(% share of enterprises/persons employed/value added, by enterprise size class, EU, 2018)

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) — in other words, enterprises with less than 250 persons employed — are often referred to as the backbone of the European economy, providing jobs and growth opportunities. In 2018, an overwhelming majority (93.1 %) of enterprises in the EU's non-financial business economy had less than 10 persons employed and were therefore classified as micro enterprises.

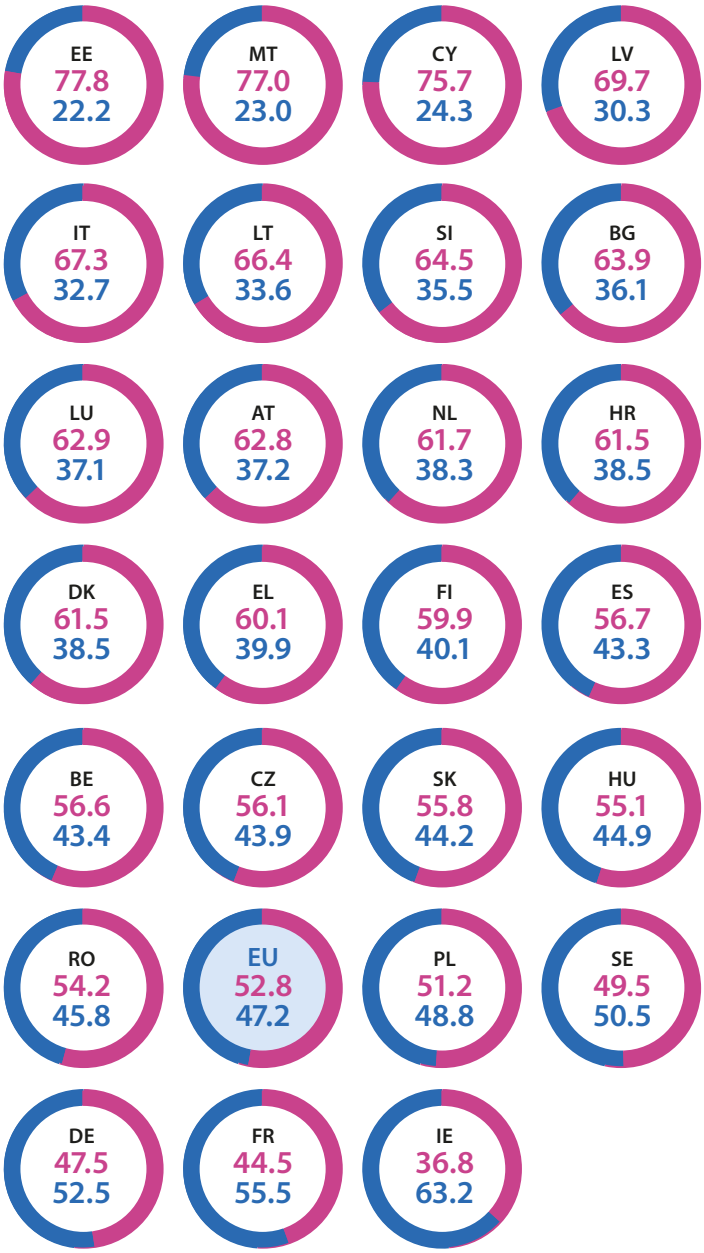
By contrast, just 0.2 % of all enterprises had 250 or more persons employed and were classified as large enterprises. The economic weight of large enterprises was considerably greater in employment and value added terms, as they provided work to more than one third (35.1 %) of the EU's non-financial business economy workforce and contributed 47.2 % of its value added.

Note: the non-financial business economy includes the sectors of industry, construction, distributive trades and most market services other than finance.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: sbs_sc_sca_r2)

Value added in the non-financial business economy

(% of total value added, by size class, 2018)



- **Small and medium-sized enterprises (< 250 persons employed)**
- **Large enterprises (≥ 250 persons employed)**

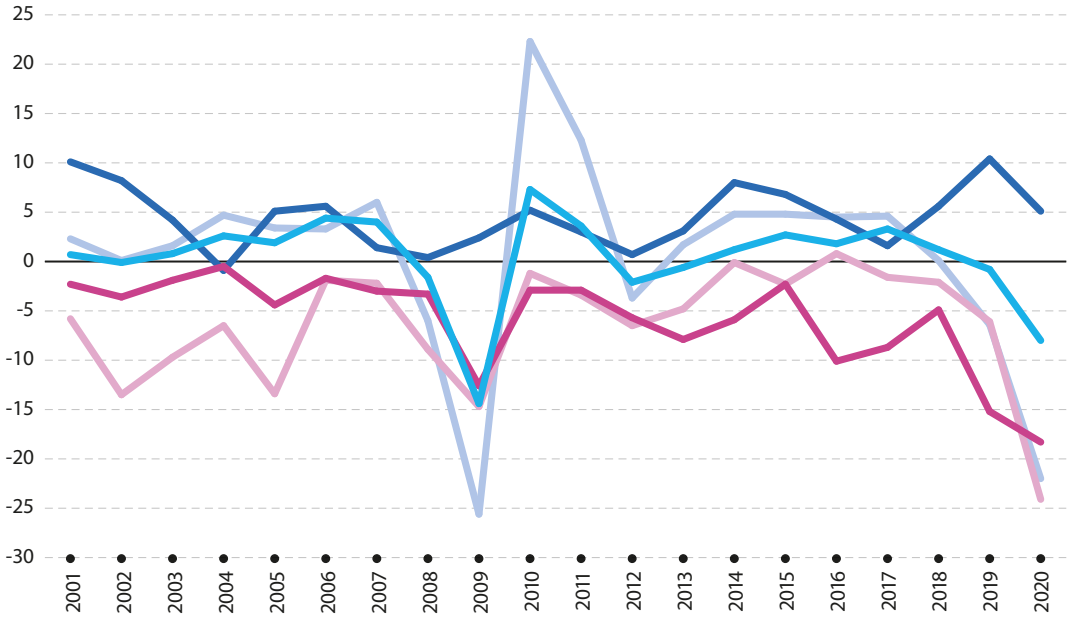
In 2018, there were 22.7 million SMEs (with less than 250 persons employed) in the EU's non-financial business economy. Together, these SMEs employed 84.0 million people and contributed EUR 3 460 billion of value added. The economic contribution made by SMEs was particularly notable in Cyprus, Malta and Estonia, where SMEs provided more than 75 % of the value added in the non-financial business economy; the contribution of micro enterprises (employing fewer than 10 persons) was particularly high. By contrast, large enterprises (with 250 or more persons employed) accounted for more than three fifths (63.2 %) of the value added in the Irish non-financial business economy and more than half of the value added in France, Germany and Sweden.

Note: 2016 data for IT and AT. Data are incomplete and therefore not available for PT.

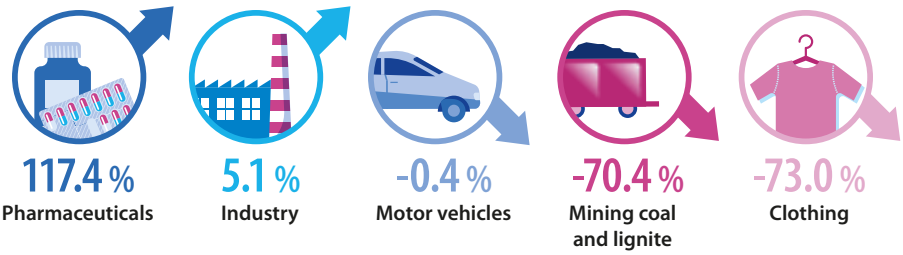
Source: Eurostat (online data code: sbs_sc_sca_r2)

Industrial output

(% change compared with the year before, EU, 2001-2020)



(%, overall change in output, 2001-2020)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: sts_inpr_a)

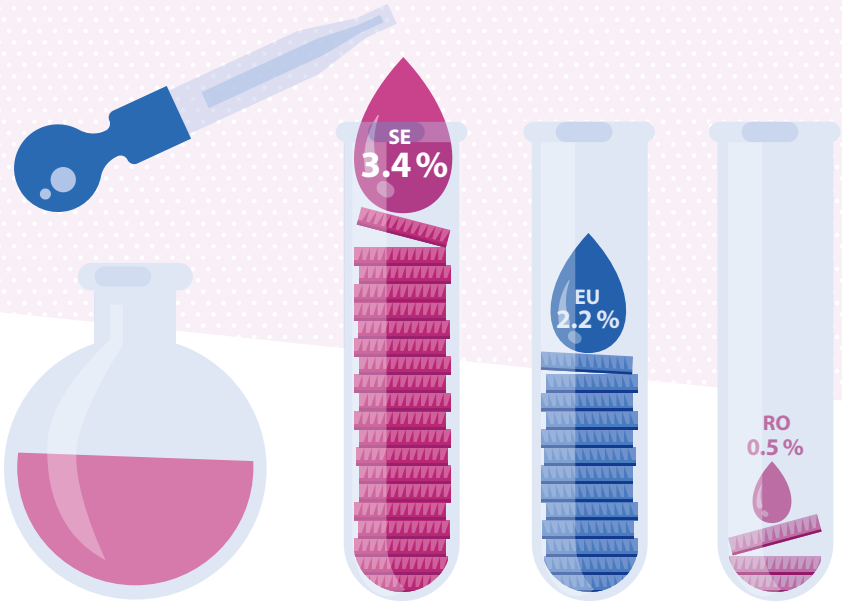
The EU's industrial output peaked in April 2008 at the onset of the global financial and economic crisis; it then declined during the remainder of 2008 and production fell by 14.4 % in 2009 (compared with a year before). During the period 2014-2018, industrial output in the EU rose for five consecutive years; this pattern came to an end in 2019 as output decreased by 0.8 % and in 2020 — as the impact of the COVID-19 crisis was felt — output decreased by a further 8.0 %.

Across the EU, the level of output for the mining of coal and lignite fell in each and every year during the period 2001-2020. A similar pattern was observed for clothing manufacturing (aside from a modest increase in 2016): with the greatest fall of 24.1 % recorded in 2020. By contrast, the level of output for pharmaceuticals increased almost continuously during the period under consideration, including growth of 5.1 % in 2020, although this was approximately half the level of growth recorded in the previous year (10.4 %). Motor vehicles manufacturing provides an example of an activity that develops in a similar way to the average for the whole of industry: its output fell by 25.6 % in 2009 during the global financial and economic crisis, but rebounded 22.3 % the following year, and this activity's output fell 22.0 % during 2020 under the impact of the COVID-19 crisis.

Research and development

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D

(% relative to GDP, 2019)



Research and development (R&D) and innovation are central to providing the scientific and technical solutions needed to meet global societal challenges such as climate change or active and healthy ageing. EU gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) stood at EUR 308 billion in 2019, which was a 4.4 % increase on the year before; note that these rates of change are in current prices and so reflect price changes as well as real changes in the level of expenditure.

GERD is often expressed relative to GDP, resulting in an indicator also known as R&D intensity. The EU's R&D intensity rose above 2.0 % for the first time in 2011 (2.02 %) and continued to grow at a modest (and almost interrupted) pace through to 2019 (2.20 %).

In 2019, R&D intensity among the EU Member States peaked at 3.40 % in Sweden, with Austria (3.19 %) and Germany (3.18 %) also recording ratios above 3.00 % (the EU's long-standing target for R&D intensity).

Note: 2017 data for CH.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: rd_e_gerdtot)

SE	3.40
AT	3.19
DE, CH	3.18
DK	2.91
BE	2.89
FI	2.79
IS	2.35
EU	**2.20**
FR	2.19
NL	2.16
NO	2.15
SI	2.04
CZ	1.94
EE	1.61
HU	1.48
IT	1.45
PT	1.40
PL	1.32
EL	1.27
ES	1.25
LU	1.19
HR	1.11
LT	1.00
BG	0.84
SK	0.83
IE	0.78
LV	0.64
CY	0.63
MT	0.59
RO	0.48

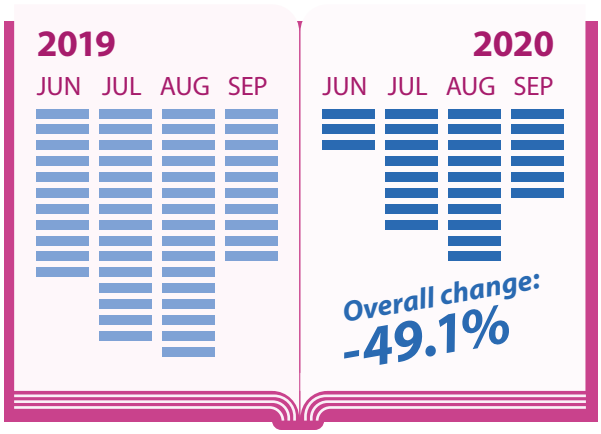
Tourism

Summer nights in EU tourist accommodation

(billion nights, EU, June-September 2019 and June-September 2020)

779 million
nights spent in the EU in June-September 2020

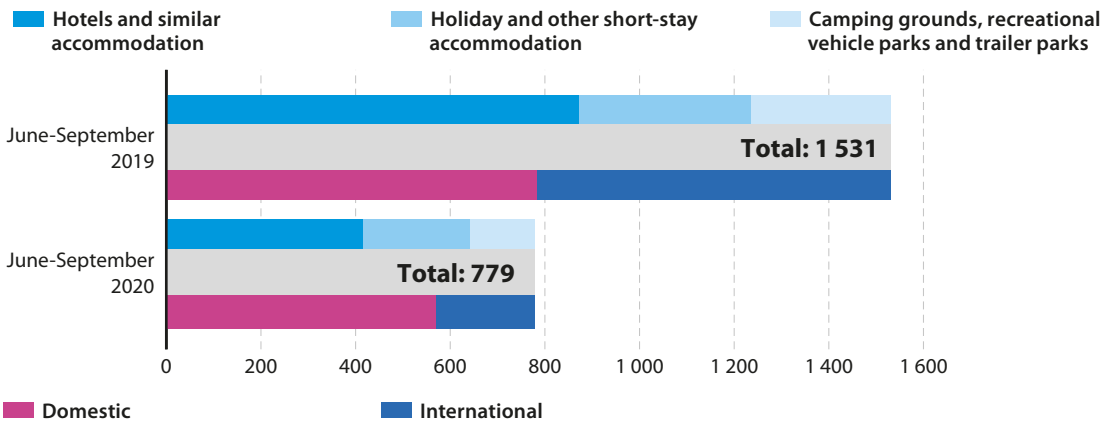
Tourism has been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 crisis as can be seen from the data presented here. Focusing on the main summer months of June to September, the number of nights spent in tourist accommodation in the EU was 779 million in 2020, compared with 1 531 million the previous year. In other words, demand for tourist accommodation in 2020 was around half (down 49.1 %) what it had been in 2019.



Note: these statistics cover both business and leisure travellers.
Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_occ_nim)

Summer nights in EU tourist accommodation

(million nights, EU, June-September 2019 and June-September 2020)

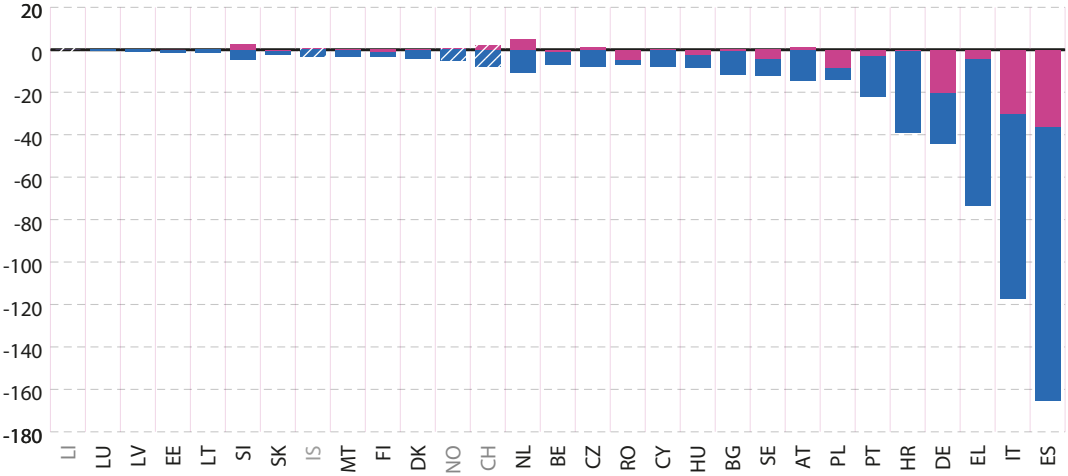


In summer 2019, domestic tourists (in other words, tourists resident in the same country where they were staying as tourists) accounted for 51.2 % of the total nights spent in tourist accommodation, with international tourists making up the remaining 48.8 %. In summer 2020, the share for domestic tourists rose to 73.0 %, while that for international tourists fell to 27.0 %.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_occ_nim)

Change in summer nights in tourist accommodation

(million nights, June-September 2019 compared with June-September 2020)



Domestic
International

Note: IE and FR, not available. Ranked on the overall change (domestic and international) in summer nights spent in tourist accommodation.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_occ_nim)

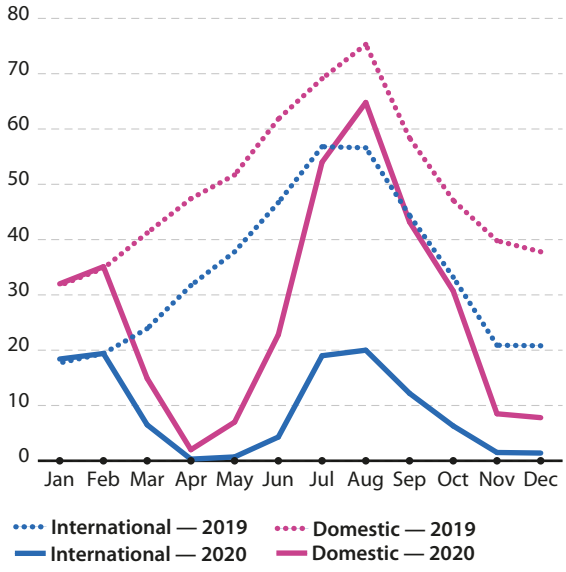
All EU Member States recorded a lower number of nights spent in tourist accommodation in summer 2020 than they had in 2019. For example, in Spain there were 165 million fewer nights spent in tourist accommodation in summer 2020 than in summer 2019. While all Member States recorded fewer nights spent by international tourists, nine reported an increase in the number of nights spent by domestic tourists. In percentage terms, the largest falls in domestic demand were in Spain, Greece and Romania (with reductions of close to 40 %), while for international tourists the largest falls were in Romania, Spain, Cyprus and Finland (reductions of 85-90 %).

Arrivals in EU tourist accommodation

(million, EU, 2019 and 2020)

The number of arrivals in EU tourist accommodation fell strongly in March 2020, as the COVID-19 crisis hit the EU. By April 2020, domestic arrivals were 4 % of the level they had been in 2019 and international arrivals were at 1 %. Later in the spring and summer months, the number of arrivals partially recovered: in August 2020, the number of domestic arrivals was 86 % of the 2019 level, while international arrivals were at 35 %. As the second wave of infections grew in autumn and winter 2020, the number of arrivals fell more strongly than in a typical year.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tour_occ_arm)



3 Environment and natural resources

Transport

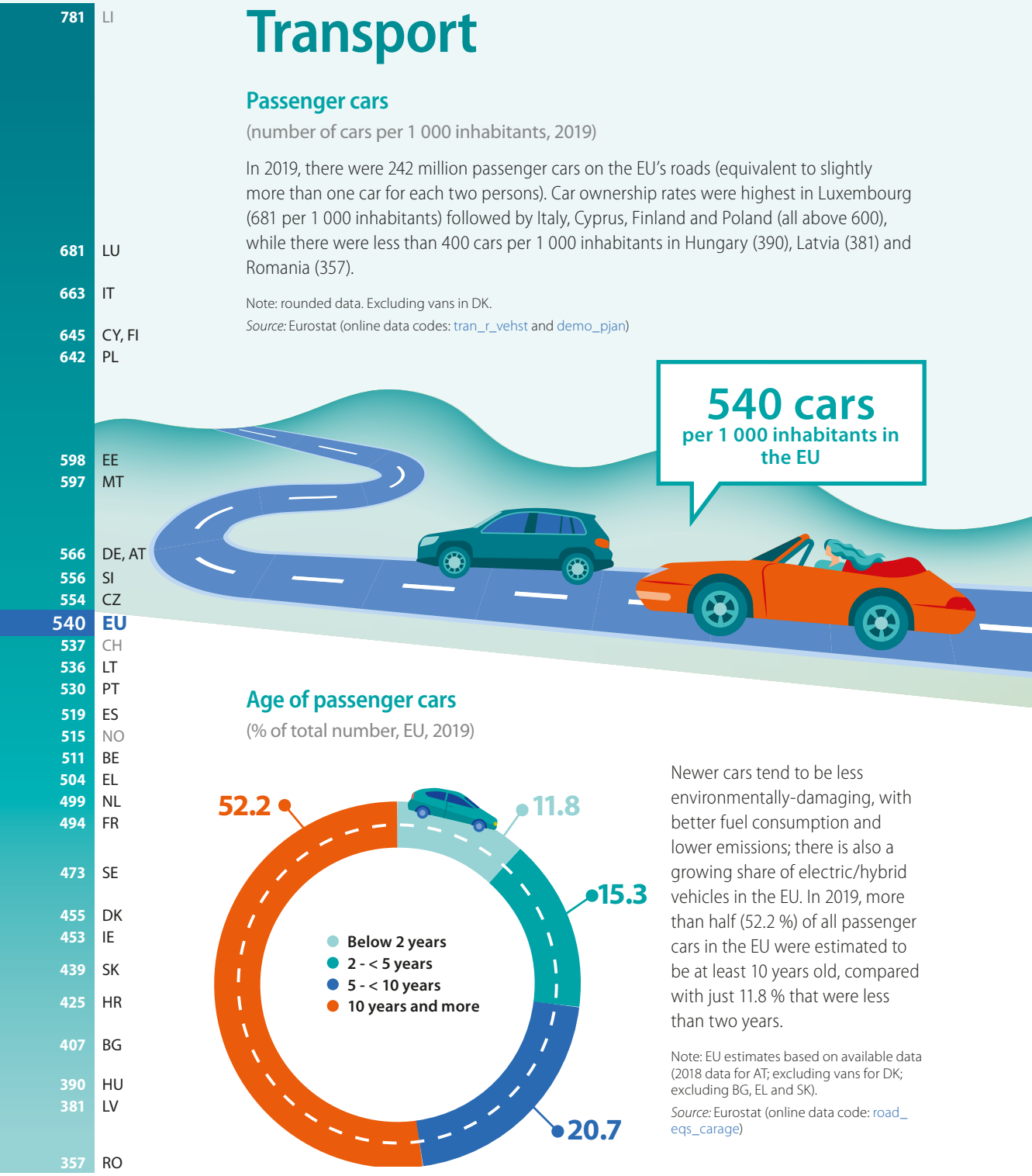
Passenger cars

(number of cars per 1 000 inhabitants, 2019)

In 2019, there were 242 million passenger cars on the EU's roads (equivalent to slightly more than one car for each two persons). Car ownership rates were highest in Luxembourg (681 per 1 000 inhabitants) followed by Italy, Cyprus, Finland and Poland (all above 600), while there were less than 400 cars per 1 000 inhabitants in Hungary (390), Latvia (381) and Romania (357).

Note: rounded data. Excluding vans in DK.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: tran_r_vehst and demo_pjan)



Age of passenger cars

(% of total number, EU, 2019)

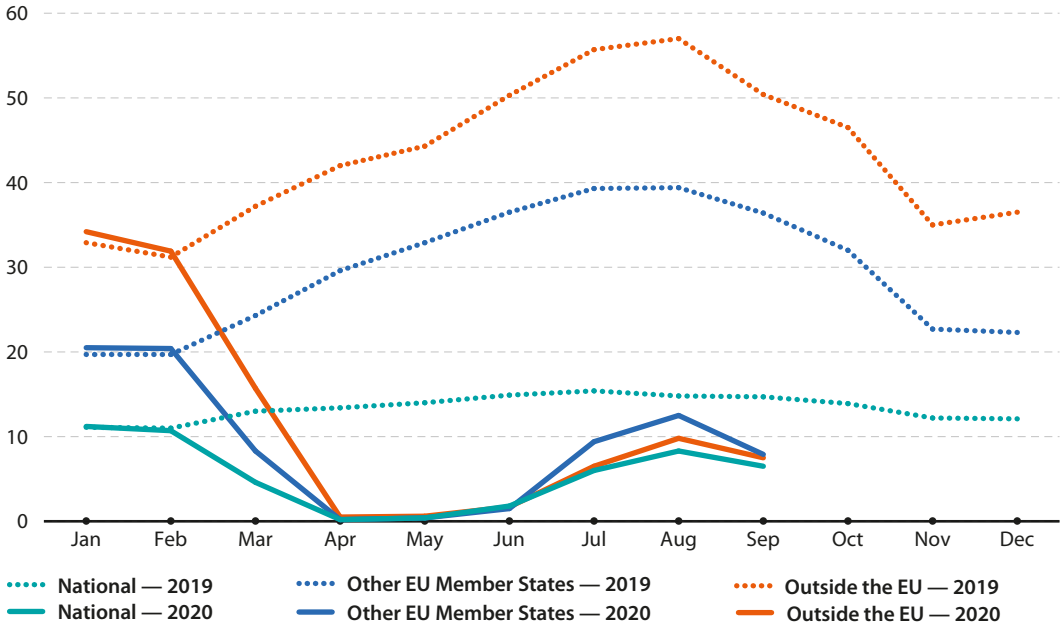
Newer cars tend to be less environmentally-damaging, with better fuel consumption and lower emissions; there is also a growing share of electric/hybrid vehicles in the EU. In 2019, more than half (52.2 %) of all passenger cars in the EU were estimated to be at least 10 years old, compared with just 11.8 % that were less than two years.

Note: EU estimates based on available data (2018 data for AT; excluding vans for DK; excluding BG, EL and SK).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: road_eqs_carage)

Air passenger transport

(million passengers carried — arrivals and departures, by partner, EU, 2019 and 2020)



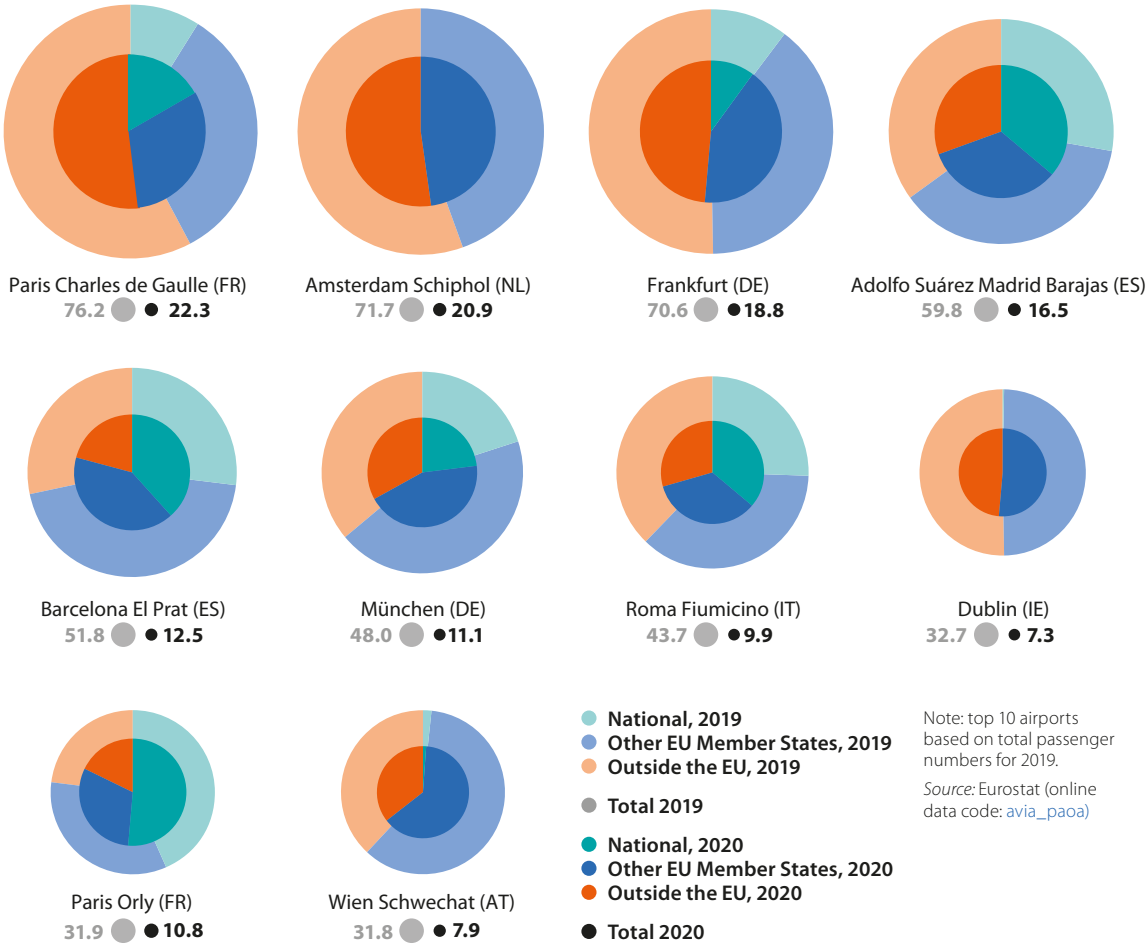
Source: Eurostat (online data code: avia_paoc)

In 2019, the total number of passengers carried by air to or from airports in the EU was around one billion (1 034 million). The COVID-19 crisis had a massive impact on air passenger transport. While the number of passengers carried in January and February 2020 were broadly in line with the equivalent numbers for the same months of 2019, figures were much lower for all subsequent months of 2020 for which data are available (up to September 2020 at the time of writing). In the seven months from March to September 2020, 110 million passengers were carried by air to or from airports in the EU, compared with 675 million in the same period of 2019. In other words, the number of passengers fell by 84 %.

By April 2020, air passenger transport had also most stopped in the EU, at just 893 thousand compared with 85.0 million in April 2019. Air passenger transport remained at a very low level in May 2020, but increased slowly in June and more strongly in July. At the peak of the summer tourist season, in August 2020, passenger numbers on national (domestic) flights within EU Member States were back up to 55.7 % of their 2019 level and passenger numbers on flights between EU Member States were at 31.7 % of their 2019 level. Passenger numbers on flights outside of the EU remained the most subdued in August 2020, at 17.2 % of their 2019 level. The number of air passengers fell in September 2020 (as a second wave of the pandemic became apparent in several Member States).

Top 10 EU airports

(million passengers on board, 2019 and 2020)



Note: top 10 airports based on total passenger numbers for 2019.

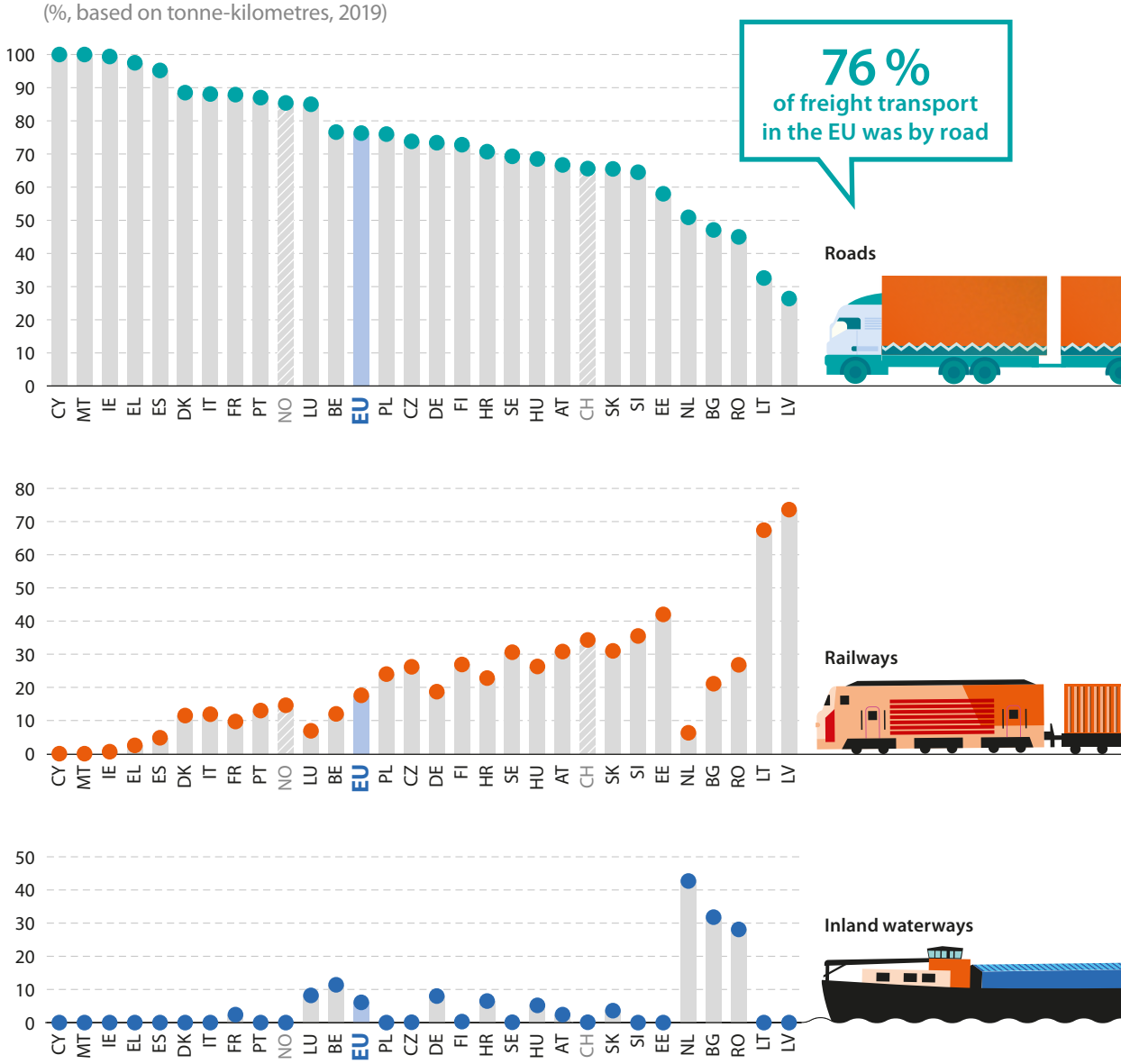
Source: Eurostat (online data code: avia_paoa)

In 2020, all of the 10 busiest airports in the EU recorded a fall of between 66 % and 78 % in passenger numbers. The smallest decline was recorded in Paris Orly, which traditionally has a large share of passengers on national (domestic) flights, and the largest fall was in Dublin, which traditionally has almost no passengers on national flights.

Looking at the distribution of passenger numbers in 2019 and 2020 according to origin/destination, the largest changes were in Barcelona El Prat and Roma Fiumicino. Both of these airports experienced an increase in the share of passengers that were on national flights, small falls in the share of passengers on flights to or from other EU Member States, and larger falls in the share of passengers on flights to or from non-member countries. This pattern of development between 2019 and 2020 was observed in half of the 10 busiest airports. Frankfurt was the only one of the 10 busiest airports to report a smaller share of passengers on national flights in 2020 than in 2019. Amsterdam Schiphol, München, Dublin and Wien Schwechat reported an increased share of passengers on flights to or from other EU Member States.

Inland freight transport by type of transport

(%, based on tonne-kilometres, 2019)



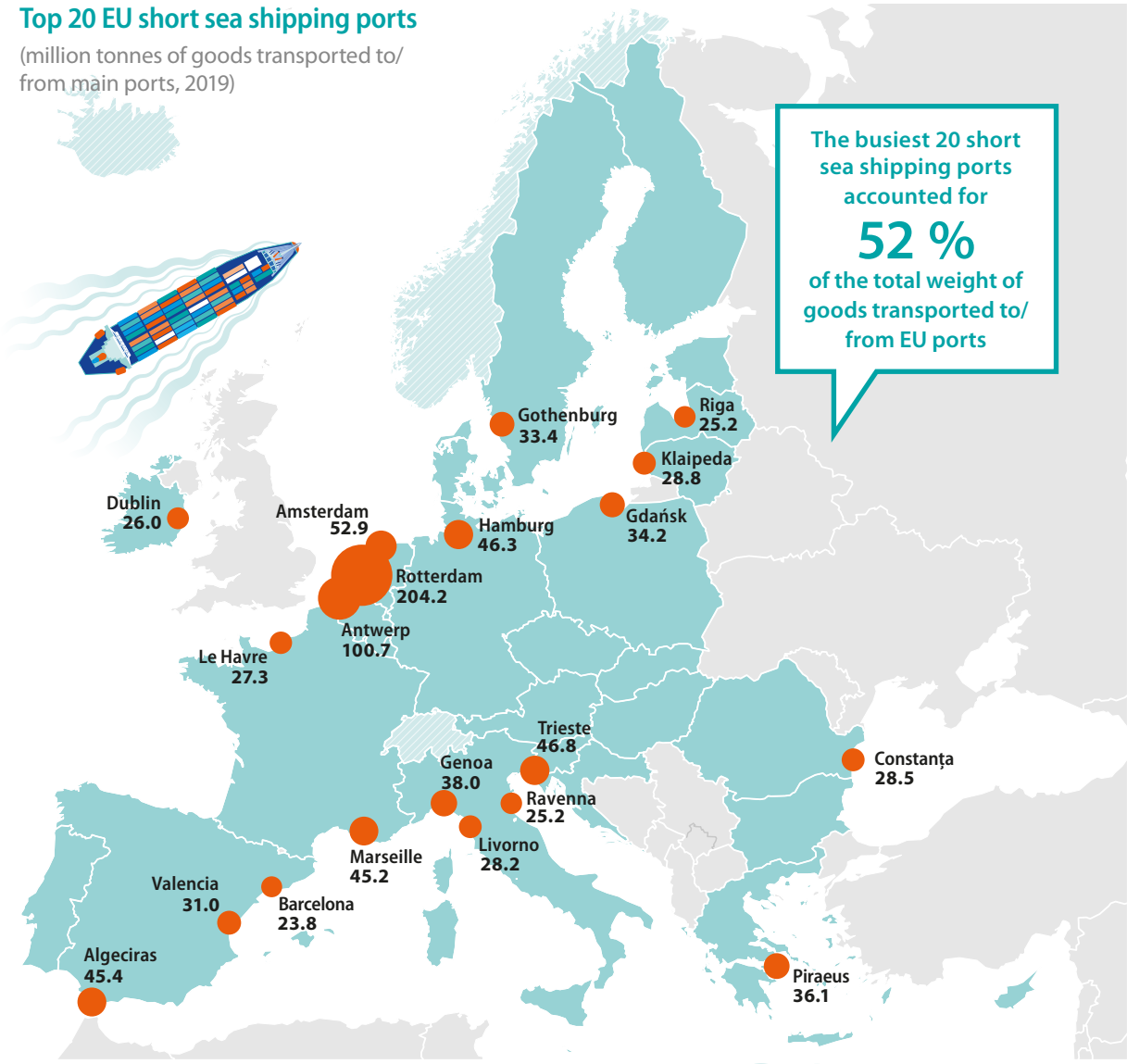
EU inland freight transport (excluding pipelines) in 2019 was estimated at around 2 300 billion tonne-kilometres. The vast majority of this total (76.3 %) was carried by road; the remainder was split between rail (17.6 %) and inland waterways (6.1 %). Rail accounted for a majority of the inland freight transported in Latvia and Lithuania (73.6 % and 67.4 % respectively), while inland waterways accounted for 42.7 % of the freight transported within the Netherlands.

Note: there are no railways in CY or MT. There are no navigable inland waterways in DK, EE, IE, EL, ES, CY, LV, MT, PT, SI or NO.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: tran_hv_frmod)

Top 20 EU short sea shipping ports

(million tonnes of goods transported to/from main ports, 2019)



In 2019, the total weight of goods transported to/from main ports in the EU by short sea shipping was 1.8 billion tonnes. Rotterdam was by far the busiest port in terms of goods transported (204 million tonnes; 11.4 % of the EU total). The weight of goods handled in Rotterdam was approximately twice as high as in the second busiest port, Antwerp (101 million tonnes), which in turn was around twice as high as in the third busiest port, Amsterdam (53 million tonnes).

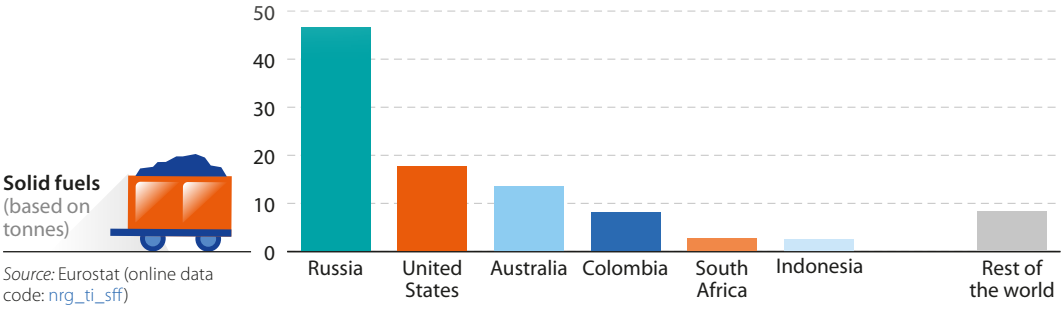
Note: excludes the movement of cargo across oceans (deep sea shipping).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: mar_sg_am_pw)

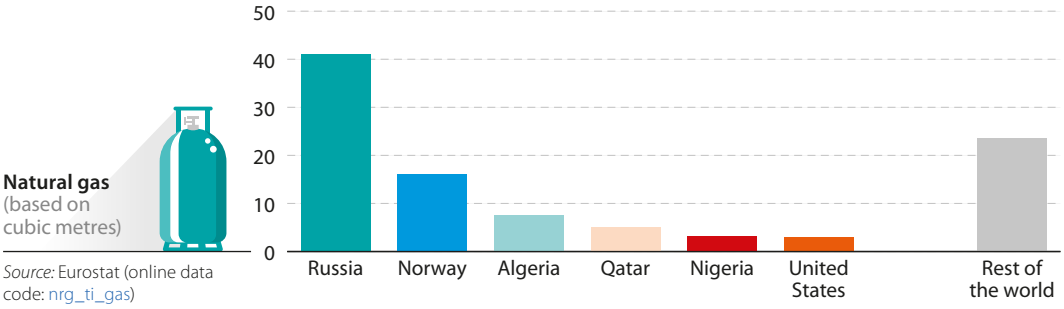
Energy

Origin of energy imports

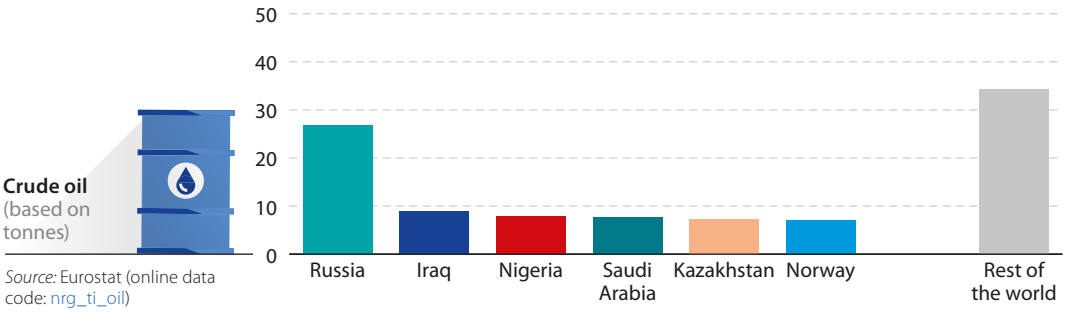
(% share of extra-EU imports, EU, 2019)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_ti_sff)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_ti_gas)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_ti_oil)

The EU imports around three fifths of all the energy that it consumes each year, with a particularly high level of dependency for crude oil and natural gas. In 2019, Russia (135.8 million tonnes) accounted for more than one quarter (26.9 %) of the EU's crude oil imports, followed by Iraq (9.0 %). For EU natural gas imports, Russia (166.0 billion cubic metres) again accounted for the highest share (41.0 %), followed by Norway (16.2 %) and Algeria (7.6 %). The EU imported 56.1 million tonnes of solid fuels from Russia (46.7 % of all solid fuel imports), with the United States (17.7 %) and Australia (13.7 %) also recording double-digit shares.

Energy dependency rate

(%, net imports as a share of gross inland consumption and international marine bunkers, 2019)

97.2 MT
95.1 LU
92.8 CY
77.5 IT
76.7 BE
75.2 LT
75.0 ES
74.1 EL
73.8 PT
71.7 AT
69.8 SK
69.7 HU
68.4 IE
67.6 DE
64.7 NL
60.7 EU
56.2 HR
52.1 SI
47.6 FR
46.8 PL
44.0 LV
42.1 FI
40.9 CZ
38.8 DK
38.1 BG
30.4 RO
30.2 SE
16.1 IS
4.8 EE

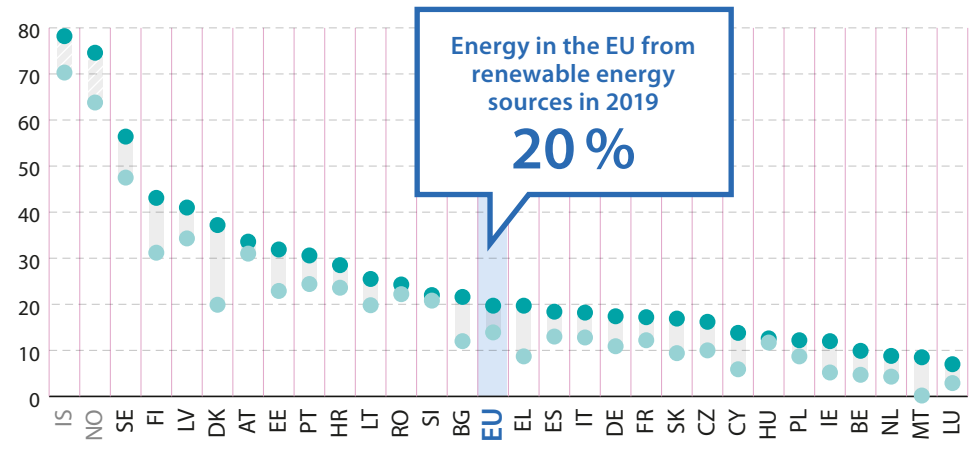
The energy dependency rate indicates the extent to which an economy relies upon imports to meet its energy needs. In 2019, the EU's dependency rate was 60.7 %: in other words, net imports accounted for three fifths of gross inland energy consumption. None of the EU Member States were self-sufficient in relation to their energy needs, with some of the smaller ones — Malta, Luxembourg and Cyprus — almost completely reliant on external supplies. At the other end of the range, Estonia (4.8 %), Sweden (30.2 %) and Romania (30.4 %) were much less reliant on imports for meeting their energy needs.

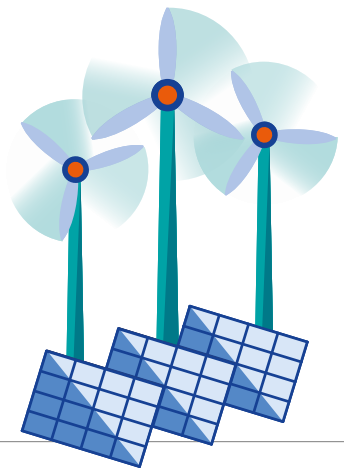
Note: the value for Norway (not shown) is -575 %. A negative value indicates that a country exports more energy than it imports.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_ind_id)

Energy from renewable energy sources

(% share of total gross final energy consumption, 2009 and 2019)



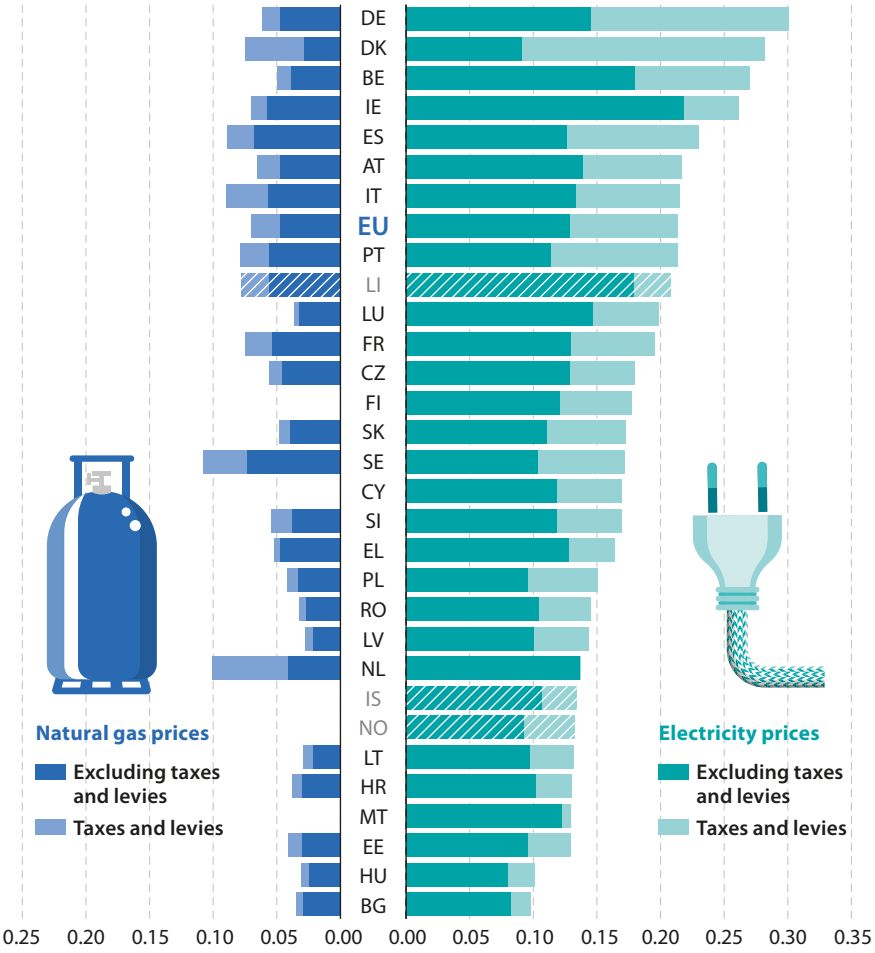


In 2019, some 19.7 % of the EU's gross final energy consumption was from renewable energy sources, compared with 13.9 % a decade earlier. In 2019, more than half (56.4 %) of the final energy consumption in Sweden was from renewable sources, while shares of more than one third were also recorded in Finland, Latvia, Denmark and Austria. By contrast, single-digit shares of renewable energy sources in final energy consumption were recorded in Belgium, the Netherlands and Malta, with a low of 7.0 % in Luxembourg.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_ind_ren)

Natural gas and electricity prices

(€ per kWh, household consumers, average prices for second half 2020)



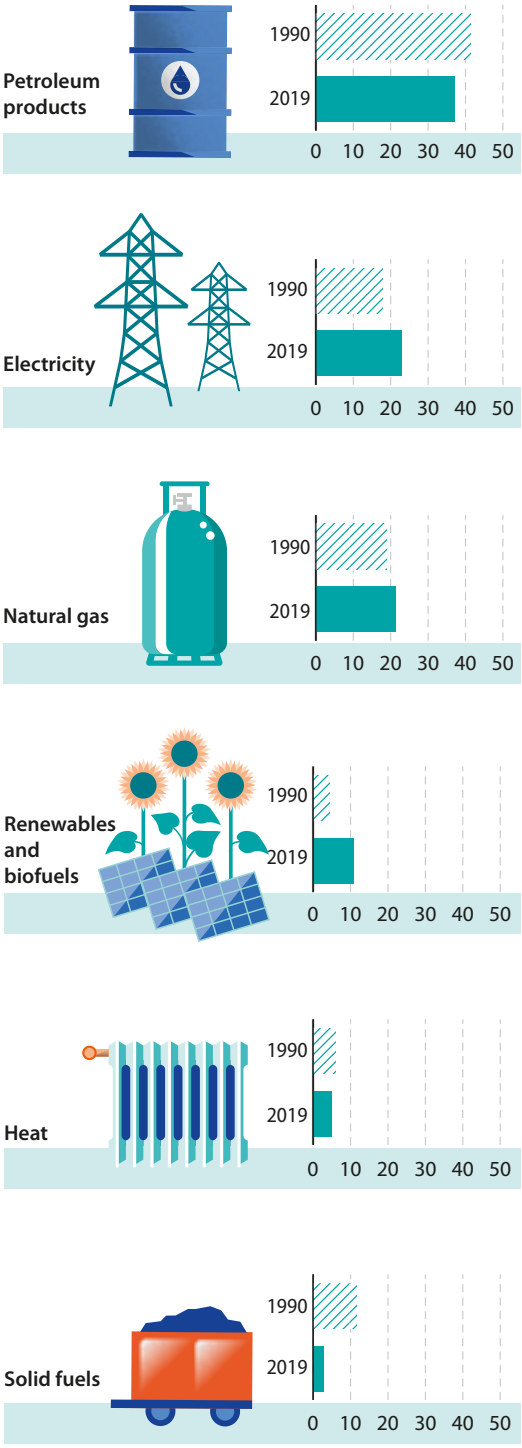
Note: ranked on total electricity prices. Negative taxes for NL are caused by refunds (allowances). Electricity prices for first half 2020 for IS. Natural gas prices not available for CY, MT, FI, IS and NO.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: nrg_pc_202 and nrg_pc_204)

Electricity and gas prices are typically composed of three components: the basic price of energy, network charges, and taxes and/or levies. The proportion of taxes and levies in the overall retail price varies a lot between EU Member States.

In the second half of 2020, household prices for electricity — measured here for a standard household with annual consumption within the range of 2 500-5 000 kWh — averaged EUR 0.213 per kWh across the EU. Consumers in Germany paid 3.1 times as much for their electricity as those in Bulgaria, while the share of taxes and/or levies in the total price of electricity peaked in Denmark (67.8 %) and was lowest in the Netherlands where in fact subsidies (in the form of refunds/allowances) were greater than taxes and levies (-0.3 %).

The price of natural gas — measured here for a standard household with annual consumption within the range of 20-200 GJ — averaged EUR 0.070 per kWh across the EU in the second half of 2020. Consumers in Sweden paid 3.8 times as much as consumers in Latvia for their natural gas, while taxes and/or levies accounted for more than half of the total price that was paid by consumers in Denmark (62.0 %) and the Netherlands (59.0 %); this share was lowest in Greece (8.1 %).



Structure of final energy consumption

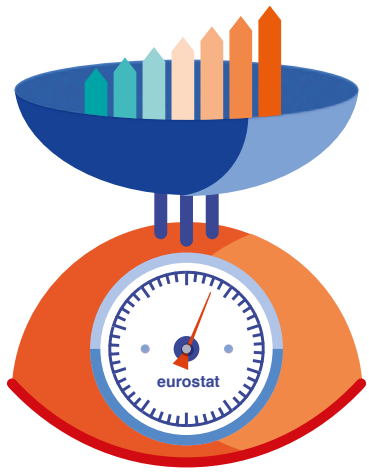
(%, based on tonnes of oil equivalent (toe), EU, 1990 and 2019)

In 2019, the EU's final energy consumption was 935 million toe. Petroleum products accounted for more than one third (37.0 %) of the EU's final energy consumption, with electricity (22.8 %) and natural gas (21.3 %) also recording relatively high shares.

When compared with 1990, the EU's consumption of energy remained more or less stable, with an average increase of 0.1 % per year. This overall development hid a considerable shift in the structure of the EU's final energy consumption, moving away from solid fuels and petroleum products towards electricity as well as renewables and biofuels. For example, the share of solid fuels fell from 11.6 % to 2.7 % between 1990 and 2019, while that of renewables and biofuels rose from 4.3 % to 10.9 % during the same period.

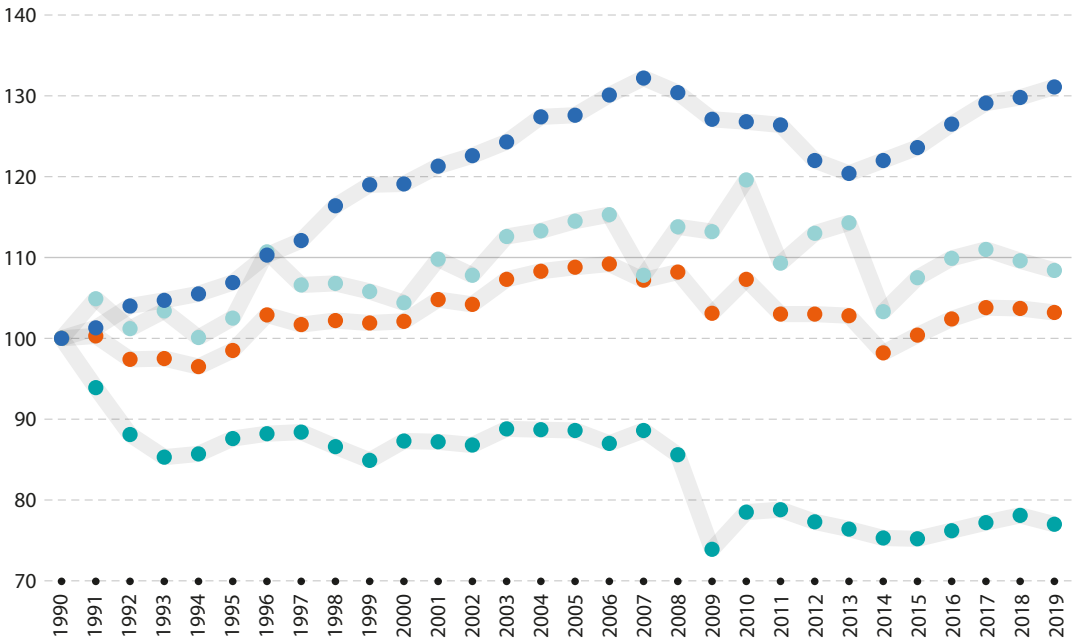
Note: solid fuels includes coal, manufactured gases, peat, oil shale and oil sands. The residual category of waste (non-renewable) — not presented here — accounted for 0.1 % and 0.5 % of EU final energy consumption in 1990 and 2019.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_bal_s)



Final energy consumption by end use

(1990 = 100, based on tonnes of oil equivalent (toe), EU, 1990-2019)



- **Transport**
- **Other sectors**
- **Total**
- **Industry**

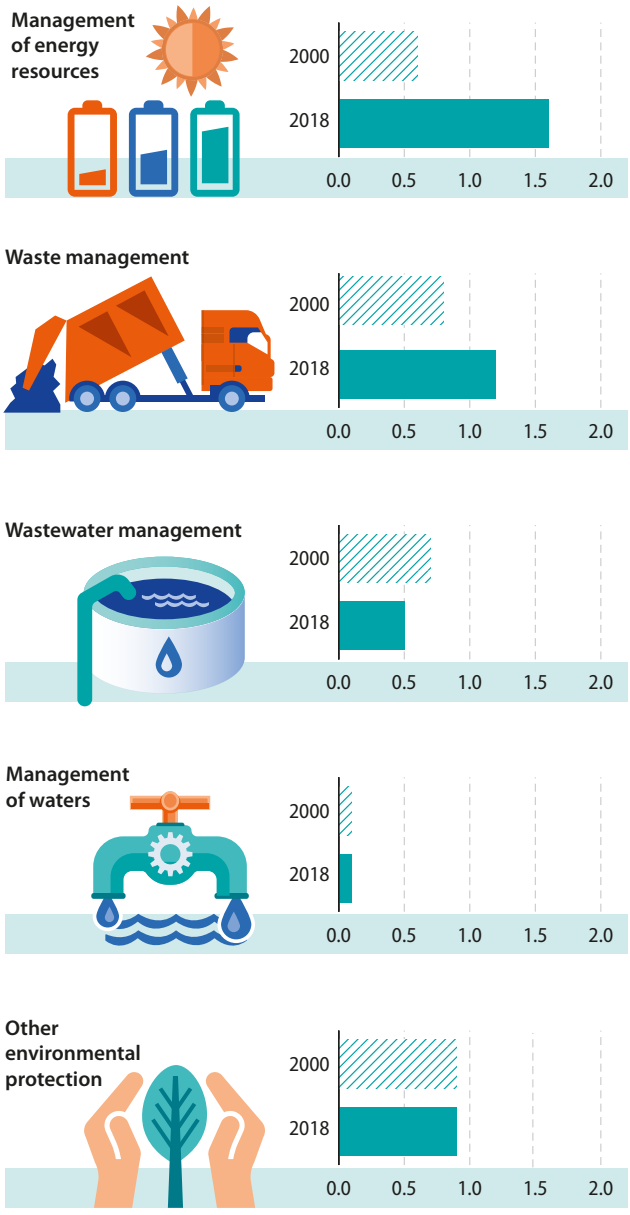
Note: the residual category of other sectors includes residential use, agriculture, forestry and fishing, and services other than transport.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nrg_bal_s)

In 2019, industry accounted for slightly more than one quarter (25.6 %) of the energy consumed within the EU, while the share for transport was 30.9 %, leaving 43.5 % for other sectors — these mainly concern residential use and services.

Although there was almost no change in the overall level of EU final energy consumption between 1990 and 2019, there were considerable differences between the various end uses. Energy consumption for transport rose at a relatively rapid and uninterrupted pace (other than during the global financial and economic crisis and its aftermath), as consumption increased overall by 31.1 % during the period under consideration. By contrast, final energy consumption within industry fell by close to one quarter (down 23.0 %), with a particularly large decline in consumption during 2009 (down 13.6 %), as the crisis brought about a marked reduction in industrial activity.

Environment



Employment in the environmental economy

(million full-time equivalents, EU, 2000 and 2018)

The environmental economy includes activities that relate to environmental protection and the management of natural resources. Overall, there were 4.4 million people working in the EU's environmental economy in 2018, which marked an increase of 40.2 % when compared with the situation in 2000.

In 2018, the management of energy resources had the largest workforce within the EU's environmental economy (1.6 million), followed by waste management (1.2 million) and other environmental protection (0.9 million). The size of the EU workforce for the management of energy resources was 2.8 times as large in 2018 as it had been in 2000 (by far the most rapid expansion among the different subsectors of the environmental economy). By contrast, there was a reduction in the number of persons employed for wastewater management.

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

Source: Eurostat (online data code: env_ac_egss1)

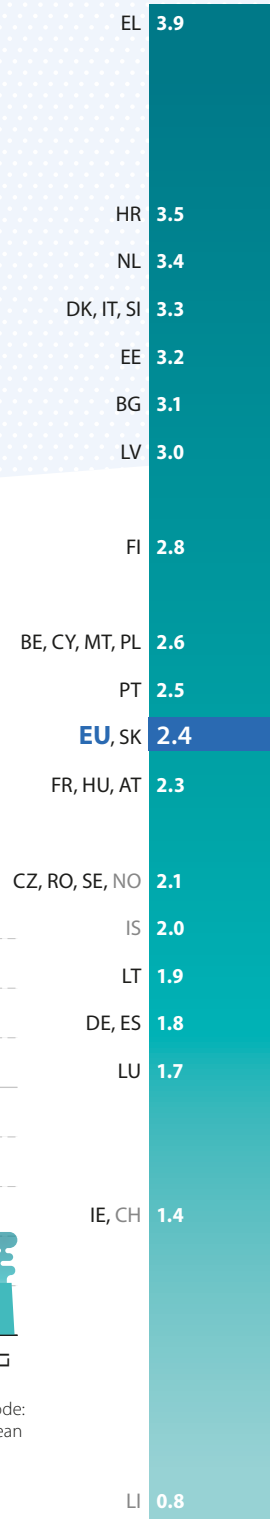
Environmental tax revenue

(% of GDP, 2019)

Environmental taxes can be used to try to influence the behaviour of economic operators, both producers and consumers. In 2019, EU environmental tax revenues were valued at EUR 330.6 billion, equivalent to 2.4 % of GDP. This ratio peaked at 3.9 % in Greece, while ratios of 3.5 % and 3.4 % were recorded in Croatia and the Netherlands. By contrast, environmental tax revenues accounted for less than 2.0 % of GDP in Lithuania, Germany, Spain, Luxembourg and Ireland.

Note: 2018 data for LI.

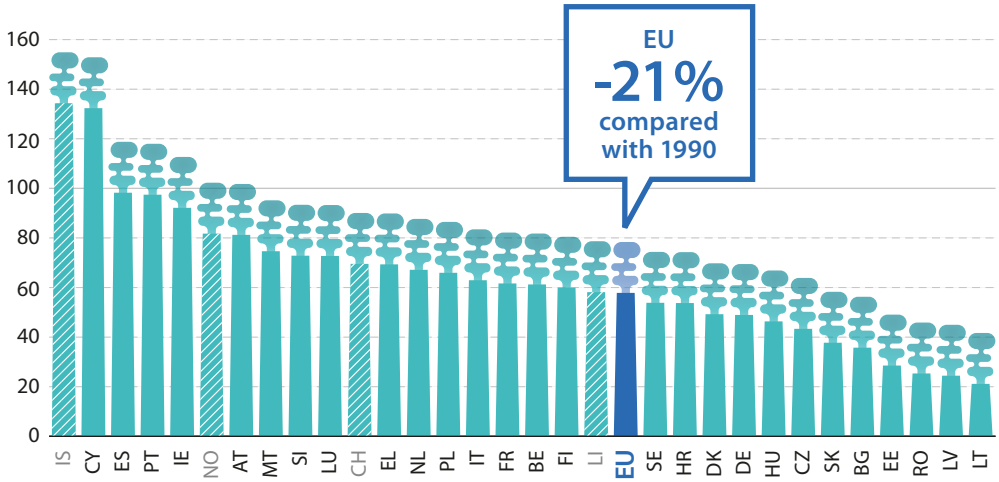
Source: Eurostat (online data code: env_ac_tax)



Greenhouse gas emissions

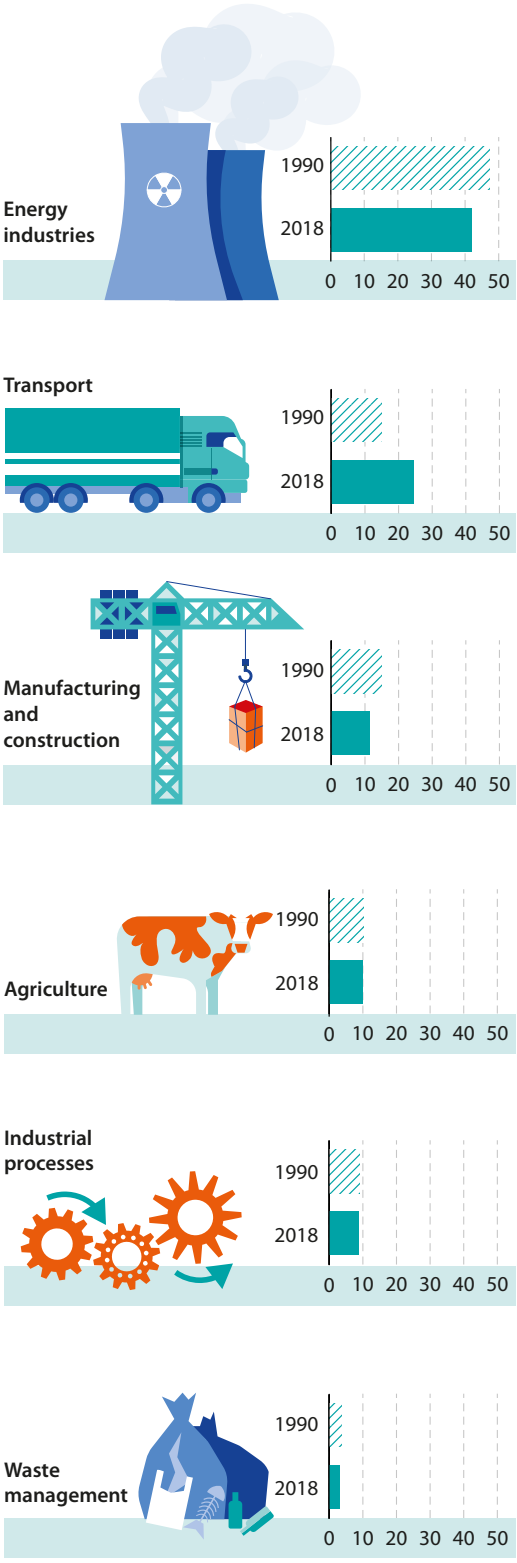
(1990 = 100, based on tonnes of CO_2 equivalents, 2018)

The indicator for greenhouse gas emissions traces developments of man-made emissions for the Kyoto basket of greenhouse gases. The EU has pledged to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases it emits: by 2018, greenhouse gas emissions in the EU had been cut by 20.7 % compared with their 1990 levels. During this period, the quantity of greenhouse gas emissions fell in the vast majority (22) of EU Member States, and more than halved in Romania, Latvia and Lithuania. By contrast, the level of emissions rose in five EU Member States, including Cyprus which had by far the highest increase (up 53.8 %).



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 (online data code: env_air_gge), based on European environment agency (EEA)

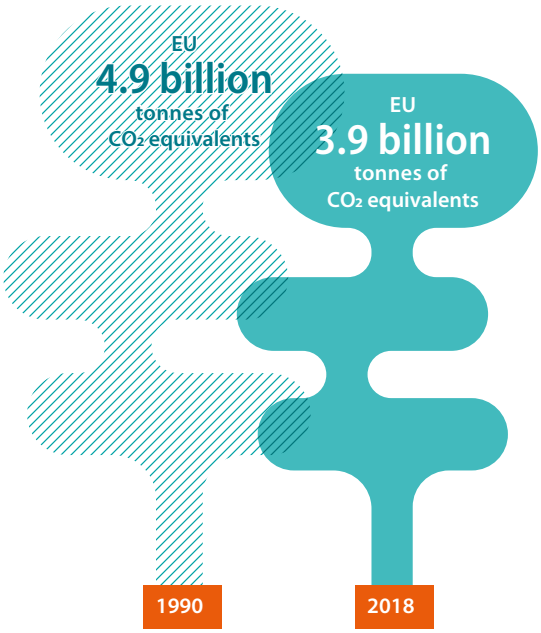


Greenhouse gas emissions by source sector

(% share of total, based on tonnes of CO_2 equivalents, EU, 1990 and 2018)

In 2018, the total volume of EU greenhouse gas emissions was 3.9 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents. The principal sources of greenhouse gas emissions in the EU were energy industries (41.9 % of the total; comprising fuel combustion in energy industries and other energy sectors) and transport (24.6 %; this includes international aviation), while smaller contributions came from fuel combustion in manufacturing and construction (11.5 %), agriculture (10.1 %), industrial processes and product use (8.8 %) and waste management (3.0 %). The only source of greenhouse gas emissions to increase between 1990 and 2018 was transport (up 31.8 %); otherwise, overall emissions fell for each of the remaining sources, with a reduction of almost 40 % for manufacturing and construction.

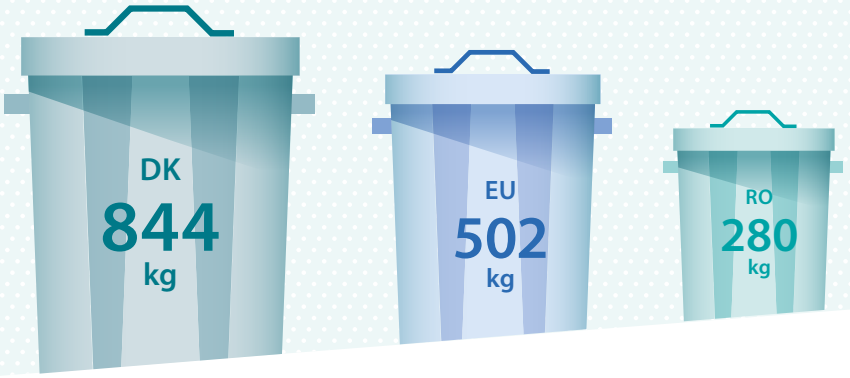
Source: Eurostat (online data code: env_air_gge), based on European environment agency (EEA)



Municipal waste generation

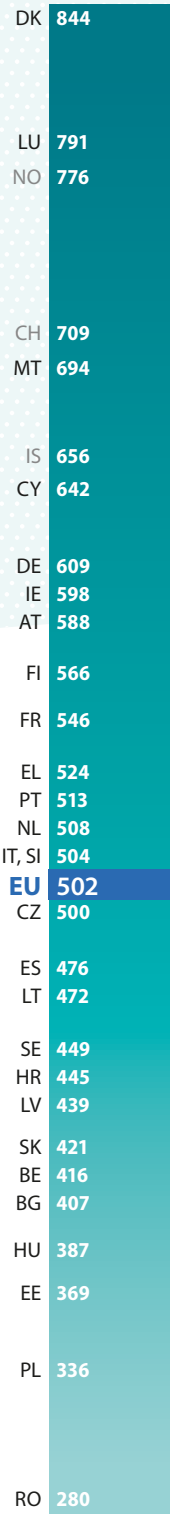
(kg per inhabitant, 2019)

Across the EU, an average of 502 kg of municipal waste was generated per inhabitant in 2019. Among the EU Member States, municipal waste generation peaked at 844 kg per inhabitant in Denmark, while Luxembourg, Malta, Cyprus and Germany all had rates within the range of 600-800 kg per inhabitant. By contrast, municipal waste generation was less than 400 kg per inhabitant in Hungary, Estonia and Poland, and was less than 300 kg per inhabitant in Romania (280 kg). Municipal waste only constitutes around one tenth of the total waste that is generated each year in the EU.



Note: 2018 data for BG and IE. 2017 data for IS.

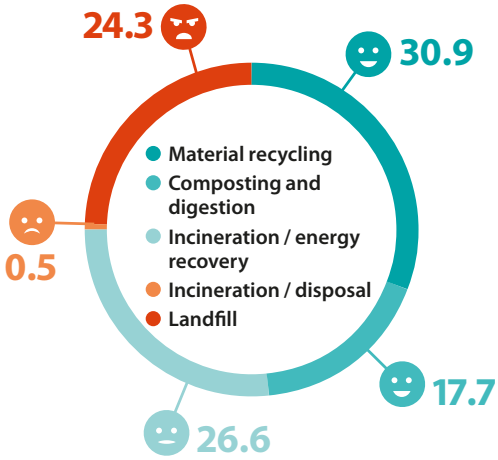
Source: Eurostat (online data code: env_wasmun)



Municipal waste treatment methods

(% share of total, EU, 2019)

In 2019, there were 220.1 million tonnes of municipal waste treated in the EU, representing 98 % of the municipal waste generated. Material recycling accounted for 30.9 % of the municipal waste treated across the EU in 2019, while the share for composting and digestion was 17.7 %: these are generally considered to be the most environmentally sustainable treatment methods. By contrast, more than one quarter (26.6 %) of the municipal waste treated in the EU was sent for incineration with energy recovery and a small part (0.5 %) for incineration without energy recovery, while almost one quarter (24.3 %) was landfilled.



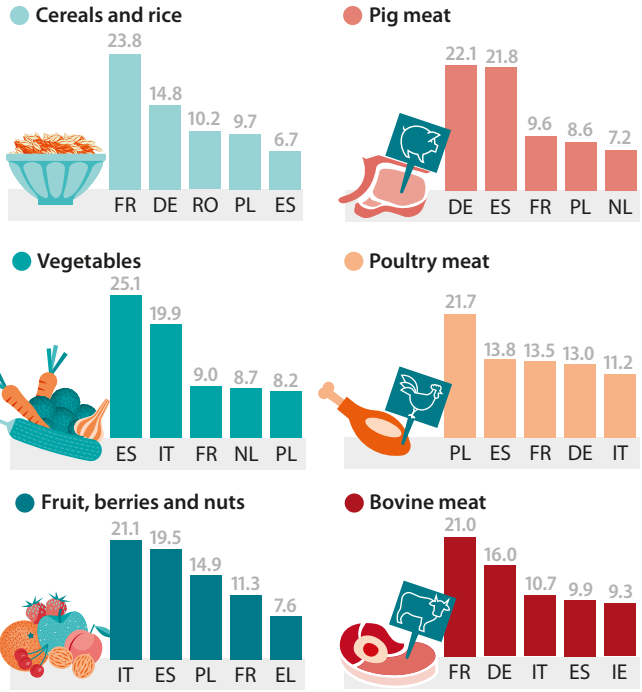
Source: Eurostat (online data code: env_wasmun)

25.3 AT
22.3 EE
20.4 SE
16.3 CH
15.2 CZ, IT
14.8 LV
13.5 FI
10.9 DK
10.4 SI
10.3 EL, SK
9.7 ES
8.5 EU
8.2 PT
8.1 LT
7.8 DE
7.7 FR
7.2 HR
6.9 BE
5.7 HU
5.0 CY
4.6 NO
4.4 LU
3.8 NL
3.5 PL
2.9 RO
2.3 BG
1.6 IE
0.5 MT
0.4 IS

Agriculture

Top 5 EU Member States for selected agricultural products

(% share of EU production, 2020)



Note: 2019 data for milk, cereals and rice, vegetables, fruits, berries and nuts. EU estimates for poultry meat based on available data (excluding EE, NL and AT).

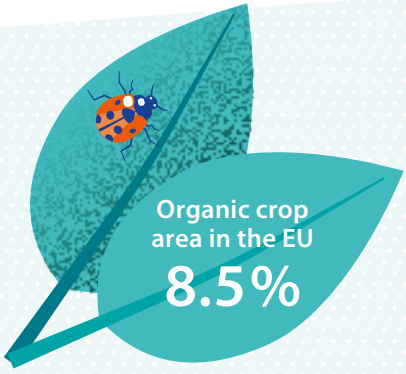
Source: Eurostat (online data codes: apro_mk_farm, apro_cpnh1 and apro_mt_pann)

Agricultural products are a major part of the EU's regional and cultural identity. In 2019, there were 299.3 million tonnes of cereals and rice harvested in the EU, France accounting for the largest share (23.8 %). In a similar vein, some 158.2 million tonnes of raw milk were available on EU farms, with Germany recording the highest share (20.9 %). A total of 61.5 million tonnes of vegetables were harvested in the EU, with Spain accounting for the highest share (25.1 %). There were 25.2 million tonnes of fruit, berries and nuts harvested in the EU, with Italy recording the highest share (21.1 %).

Organic crop area

(% share of utilised agricultural area, 2019)

In 2019, the total area available for organic crops across the EU was estimated to be 13.8 million hectares (excluding kitchen gardens); this figure includes areas that were fully converted as well as areas under conversion. Organic crop farming accounted for 8.5 % of the EU's total utilised agricultural area in 2019, this share ranging from highs of 25.3 % in Austria, 22.3 % in Estonia and 20.4 % in Sweden, down to less than 3.0 % in Romania, Bulgaria and Ireland, with a low of 0.5 % in Malta.



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).

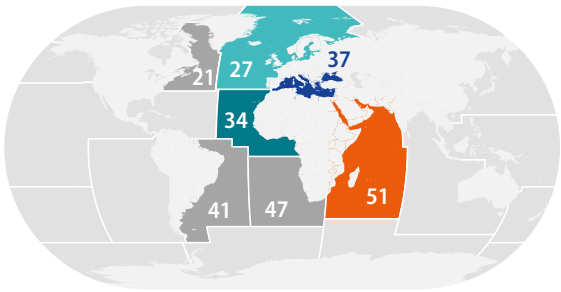
Source: Eurostat (online data code: org_cropar)

Fisheries

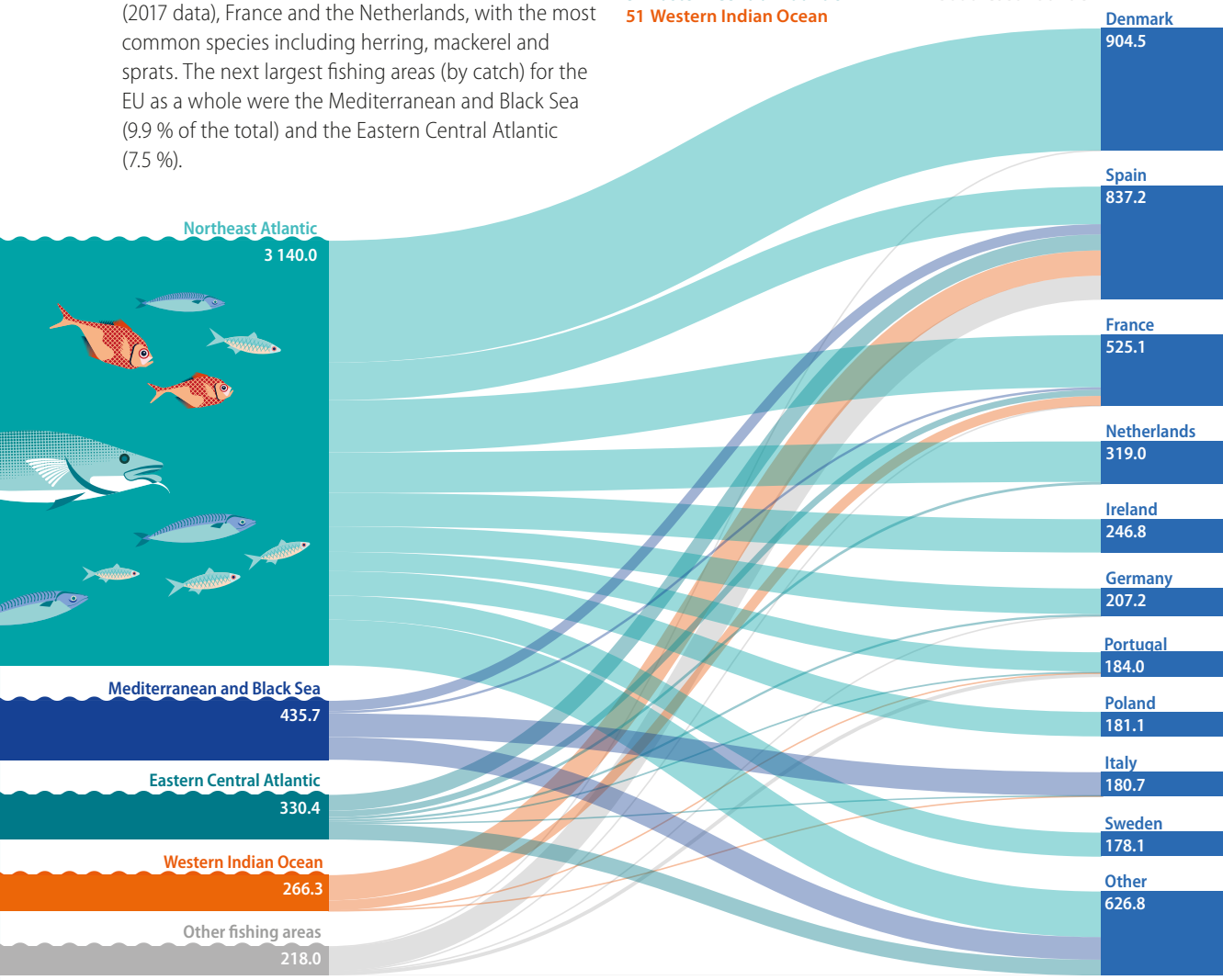
EU Member States with the largest fish catches

(thousand tonnes live weight, by main fishing area, 2019)

Although the EU fishing fleet operates worldwide, almost three quarters (71.5 %) of its catch in 2019 was taken from the Northeast Atlantic. The largest fish catches in this area were recorded for Denmark (2017 data), France and the Netherlands, with the most common species including herring, mackerel and sprats. The next largest fishing areas (by catch) for the EU as a whole were the Mediterranean and Black Sea (9.9 % of the total) and the Eastern Central Atlantic (7.5 %).



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



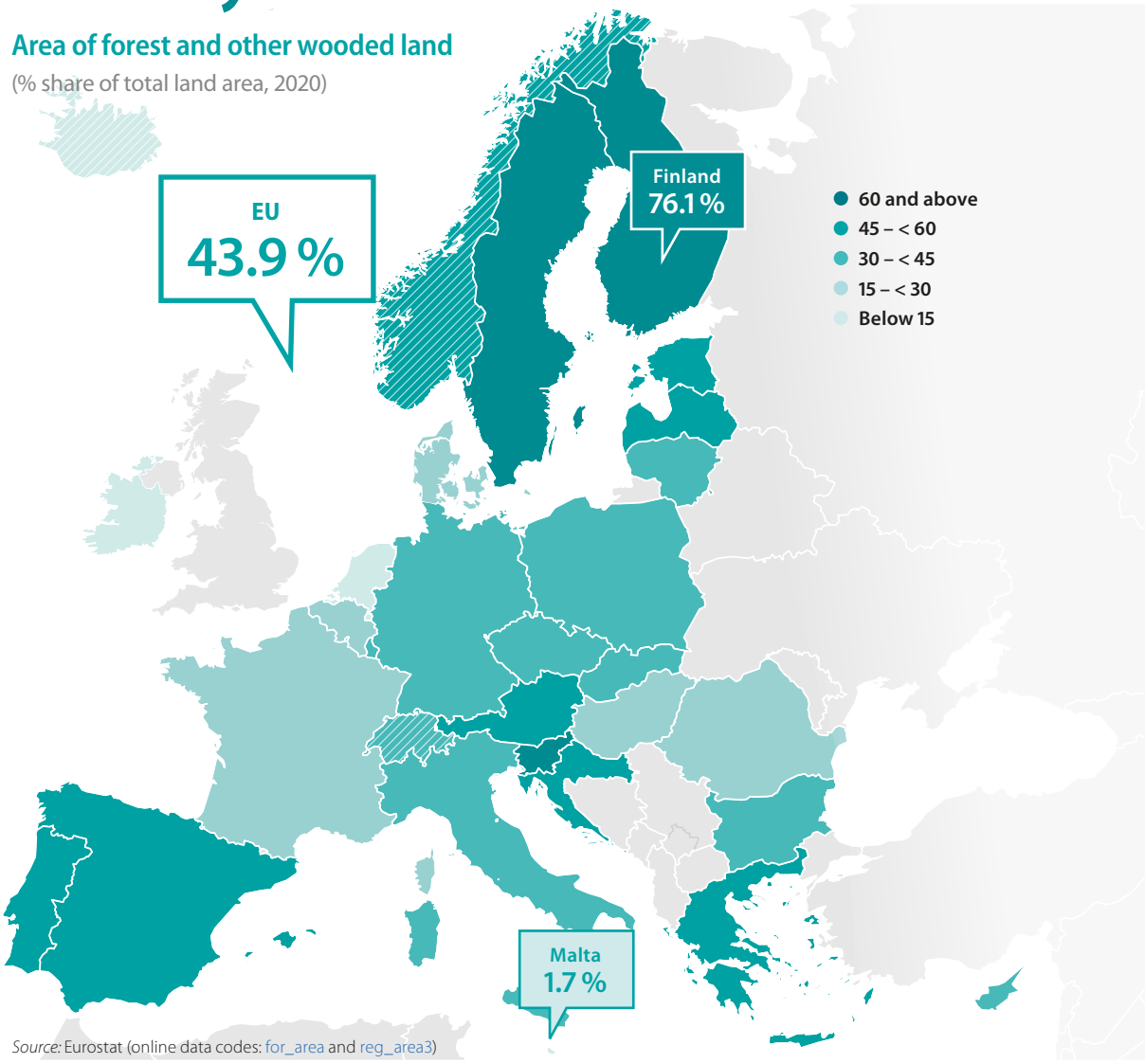
Note: CZ, LU, HU, AT and SK are landlocked. 2017 data for DK and IE. 2016 data for LV.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: fish_ca_main)

Forestry

Area of forest and other wooded land

(% share of total land area, 2020)



Source: Eurostat (online data codes: for_area 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: 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 2020, there were 180 million hectares of forests and other wooded land covering 43.9 % of the EU's total land area. In absolute terms, Sweden (30.3 million hectares) and Spain (28.0 million hectares) had the largest areas of forest and other wooded land, while in relative terms, the forests and other wooded land of Finland (76.1 %) and Sweden (74.5 %) covered the highest shares of land area; Malta was the only EU Member State to record a single-digit share (1.7 %) and also had the lowest absolute area of forest and other wooded land (530 hectares).

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Key figures on Europe

Key figures on Europe presents a selection of statistical data on the European Union (EU). Most data cover the EU and its Member States as well as the countries of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). This publication may be viewed as an introduction to EU statistics and provides a starting point for those who wish to explore the wide range of data that are freely available on Eurostat's website at https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat together with a range of online articles in *Statistics Explained*.

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