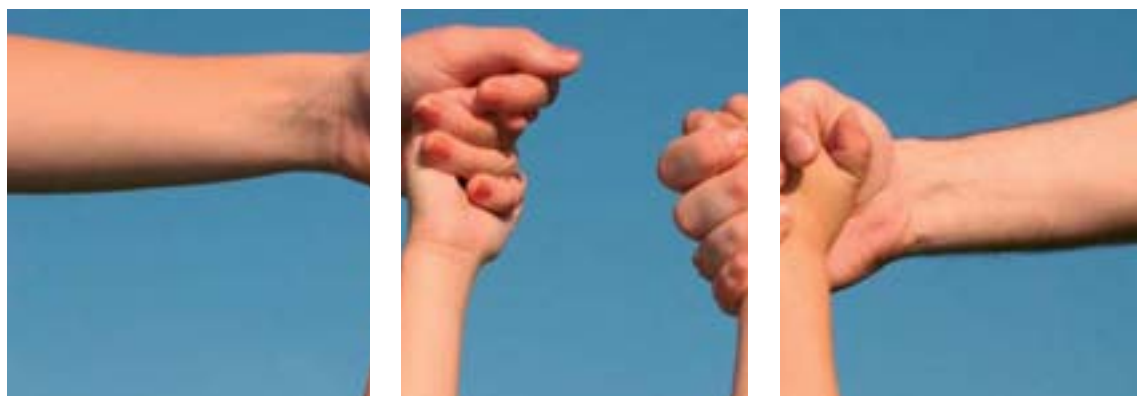


In the spotlight

**Demographic change:
challenge or opportunity?**





EU POPULATION COMPARED WITH OTHER REGIONS	16
EU-27 POPULATION	22
COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE	33
BIRTHS	39
LIFE EXPECTANCY AND DEATH	51
MIGRATION AND ASYLUM	62
AN AGEING POPULATION	78

This spotlight chapter focuses on the demographic challenges that Europe has to face in the coming decades. It starts with a presentation of the current demographic situation, comparing the population structure in the EU and the rest of the world (Subchapter 1), as well as providing a more detailed description of the picture within the EU (Subchapter 2). The analysis then moves on to look at the different components that contribute to population change (Subchapter 3), in particular, births (Subchapter 4), life expectancy and death (Subchapter 5), and migratory flows (Subchapter 6), before closing with an analysis of the effects that these different elements are likely to have on Europe's ageing population (Subchapter 7).

Three factors are at the heart of Europe's ageing society: low fertility rates, extended life expectancy, and a baby-boom generation that is reaching retirement age. Together with other factors, such as unemployment and changes in the span of the average working life, the age structure of society impacts on the numerical balance between persons not working compared with those in work.

Future demographic trends are likely to see a sustained increase in the proportion of the EU's population that is aged above the current retirement age of 65.

In order to address these challenges, the European Commission released a Green Paper in March 2005 (COM(2005) 94) entitled 'Confronting demographic change: a new solidarity between the generations' ⁽¹⁾. It raises questions such as: how can the decline in population be reversed? or how can society cope with the impact of an ageing population, while providing opportunities to the youngest members of society?

Eurostat's long-term demographic projections can be used to make 'what-if' scenarios through to the year 2050. They show possible demographic developments based on assumptions about fertility, mortality and migration that in turn are derived from observed trends and expert opinion. These projections can be used to highlight a number of policy concerns that may result from an ageing society, including the financial sustainability of social protection schemes. Higher old age dependency ratios are likely to affect the balance between government receipts and expenditure, with healthcare and long-term care (for example, of the frail and very old) being two expenditure categories which are likely to increase.

As a result, the EU will, in the coming decades, face a number of significant challenges, which will need to be taken into account within a variety of different policy areas.

(1) For more information:
http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/news/2005/mar/comm2005-94_en.pdf.

EUROSTAT DATA IN THIS DOMAIN:

Population and social conditions

- Population
 - Demography
 - International migration and asylum
 - Population projections
 - Census

EU POPULATION COMPARED WITH OTHER REGIONS

DEFINITIONS AND DATA AVAILABILITY

The majority of the data in this section is provided by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (UN) Secretariat – for more information: <http://esa.un.org/unpp>.

Since the 1970s, the UN has been involved in several multi-national survey programmes whose results provide key information about fertility, mortality, maternal and child health. The UN data reflects demographic information produced by other UN agencies or bodies, such as, Economic and Social Commissions, the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the World Health Organization (WHO). Data from other regional organisations, such as Eurostat, is also consulted and used when elaborating forecasts.

UN country groupings that are designated as 'more developed' and 'less developed' are exclusively intended for statistical convenience and do not express any judgment about the stage reached by a particular country or area in the development process. More developed regions include: all regions of Europe ⁽²⁾ plus Northern America, Australia, New Zealand and Japan. Less developed regions include: all regions of Africa, Asia (excluding Japan), Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia.

The preparation of population estimates and projections by the UN involves two distinct processes: the incorporation of new and relevant information regarding past demographic dynamics; and the formulation of assumptions about the future paths of fertility, mortality and international migration ⁽³⁾. Because future trends cannot be known with certainty, a number of projection variants are produced: low; medium; high; constant-fertility; instant-replacement-fertility; constant-mortality; no change (constant-fertility and constant-mortality); and zero-migration. For the purposes of this publication, the medium variant has been selected. Under this variant, total fertility in all countries is assumed to converge towards 1.85 children per woman, although not all countries reach this level during the projection period.

(2) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

(3) Note that methodological information concerning Eurostat population projections – EU-27 projections in this subchapter and the next – is presented under the heading of definitions and data availability in the next subchapter.

Mortality is projected on the basis of models concerning changes in life expectancy. These models produce smaller gains the higher the life expectancy that has already been reached. The selection of a model for each country is based on recent trends in life expectancy by gender. For countries highly affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, a model incorporating a slow pace of mortality decline has generally been used to project a certain slowdown in the reduction of general mortality risks not related to HIV/AIDS.

Under the normal migration assumption, the future path of international migration is set on the basis of past international migration estimates and consideration of the policy stance of each country with regard to future international migration flows. Projected levels of net migration are generally kept constant over most of the projection period.

MAIN FINDINGS

In comparison to other regions, the EU's population is growing at a relatively slow pace. Between 1960 and 2005 the world's population more than doubled, rising from 3 032 million inhabitants to 6 515 million, while the corresponding rate of change in the EU-27 was an overall increase of 21.9 % to reach 491 million inhabitants. The fastest expansion in world population during the last 45 years was reported in particular for countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

The relative weight of the EU-27's population fell from 13.3 % of the world total in 1960 to 7.5 % by 2005. This trend is projected to continue, such that by 2050, the EU-27 will account for around 5 % of the world's population. The proportion of the world's population that are Chinese is also expected to decline to around 15 % by 2050, almost 5 percentage points down on its share of 2005; although the total number of Chinese people is projected to increase by almost 100 million over the period considered. In contrast, population growth in India is more pronounced. The UN projects this pattern will continue, and India is likely to become the most populous nation on the planet before 2050, when its population is expected to be over 1 650 million persons.



The world's population growth peaked in the period 1985-1990, when the number of global inhabitants increased, on average, by 87.9 million persons per annum. By 2050 the rate of population growth is expected to have slowed considerably, such that each year will see an additional 33.1 million inhabitants on the planet. The world's population is projected, nevertheless, to grow by 41.1 % overall between 2005 and 2050. The fastest growing population is projected to be that of Africa, where by 2050 the UN foresees the number of inhabitants being more than twice as high as in 2005. For means of comparison, the UN projects that the populations of Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, and Oceania will rise by between 34 % and 46 % overall between 2005 and 2050.

This pattern is unlikely to be observed in the EU-27, Japan or the Russian Federation, where the population is projected to decline between 2005 and 2050.

SOURCES

Statistical books

The social situation in the European Union 2005-2006
 Population statistics (with CD-Rom)
 European social statistics – demography

Pocketbooks

Living conditions in Europe – statistical pocketbook – data 2002-2005

Methodologies and working papers

Demographic outlook – national reports on the demographic developments in 2005
 Methodology for the calculation of Eurostat's demographic indicators
 Basic methodology for the recalculation of intercensal population estimates
 Demographic statistics: definitions and methods of collection in 31 European countries

Website data

Demography

- Demography – national data
 - Main demographic indicators
 - Population change: absolute numbers and crude rates
 - Demographic cohort indicators
 - Population
 - Average population by sex and five-year age groups
 - Population by sex and age on 1 January of each year
 - Population structure indicators on 1 January

Population projections

- Trend scenario, national level – base year 2004
- Trend scenario, regional level – base year 2004

Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat; for more information: <http://esa.un.org/unpp/>

Table SP.1: World population

(million)

	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005
World	3 032	3 343	3 699	4 076	4 451	4 855	5 295	5 719	6 124	6 515
Europe (1)	605	635	657	676	693	707	721	729	729	731
Africa	282	320	364	416	480	554	637	726	821	922
Asia	1 704	1 899	2 139	2 394	2 636	2 896	3 181	3 452	3 705	3 938
Latin America and the Caribbean	220	253	288	325	364	404	444	484	523	558
Northern America	204	219	232	243	256	269	284	300	316	332
Oceania	16	18	20	21	23	25	27	29	31	33
EU-27	403	420	435	447	457	464	470	476	482	491
China	657	729	831	928	999	1 067	1 149	1 214	1 270	1 313
India	446	494	549	614	689	771	860	954	1 046	1 134
Japan	94	99	104	112	117	121	124	125	127	128
Russian Federation	120	127	130	134	139	143	149	149	147	144
United States	186	199	210	220	231	243	256	270	285	300

(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Table SP.2: World population

(% share of world regions and some countries in total world population)

	1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005
Europe (1)	20.0	19.0	17.8	16.6	15.6	14.6	13.6	12.7	11.9	11.2
Africa	9.3	9.6	9.8	10.2	10.8	11.4	12.0	12.7	13.4	14.2
Asia	56.2	56.8	57.8	58.7	59.2	59.7	60.1	60.4	60.5	60.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	7.3	7.6	7.8	8.0	8.2	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.6
Northern America	6.7	6.6	6.3	6.0	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.1
Oceania	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
EU-27	13.3	12.6	11.8	11.0	10.3	9.5	8.9	8.3	7.9	7.5
China	21.7	21.8	22.5	22.8	22.4	22.0	21.7	21.2	20.7	20.2
India	14.7	14.8	14.9	15.1	15.5	15.9	16.2	16.7	17.1	17.4
Japan	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.0
Russian Federation	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.6	2.4	2.2
United States	6.1	6.0	5.7	5.4	5.2	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.6

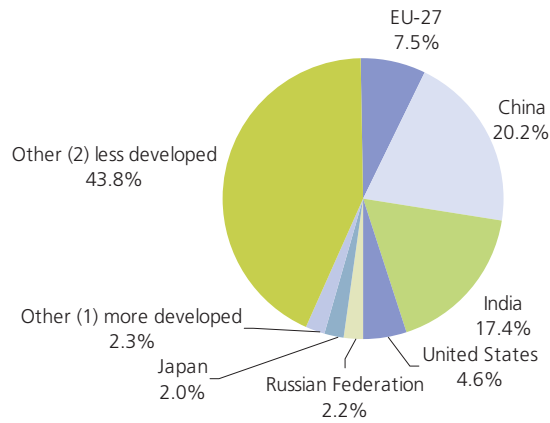
(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Figure SP.1: World population, 2005

(% of total)



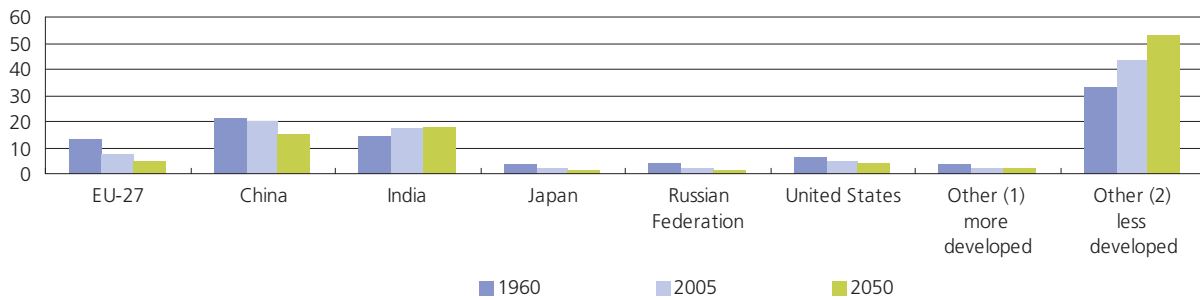
(1) Excluding EU-27, Japan, the Russian Federation and the United States.

(2) Excluding China and India.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.2: World population

(% of total)



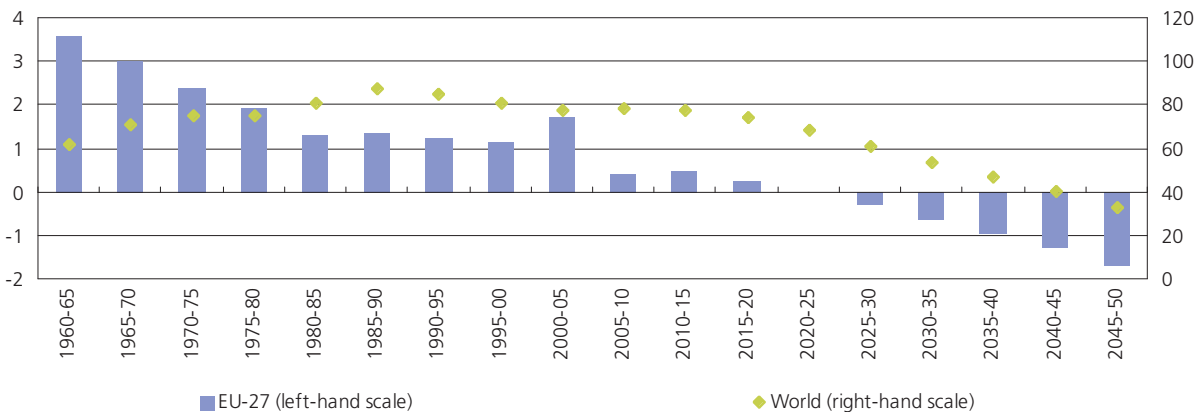
(1) Excluding EU-27, Japan, the Russian Federation and the United States.

(2) Excluding China and India.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.3: Population change

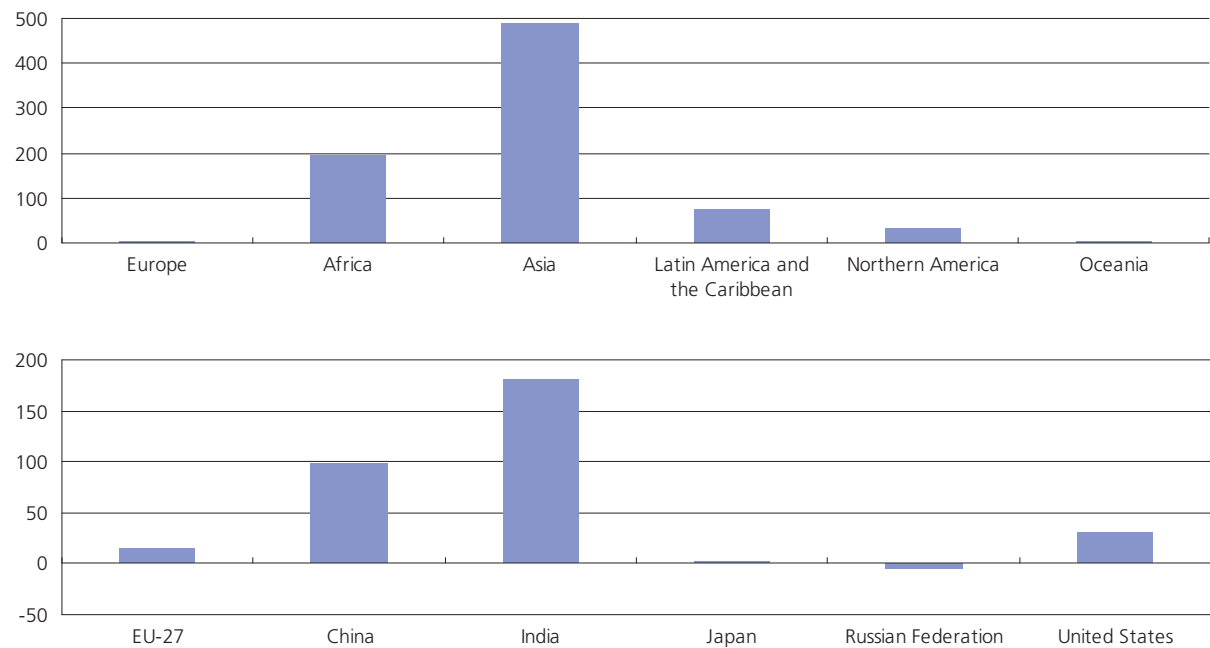
(average annual change, million)



Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP4: Increase in world population, 1995-2005

(overall change, million)



Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Table SP3: Population and population projections

(million)

	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
World	6 515	6 907	7 295	7 667	8 011	8 318	8 587	8 824	9 026	9 191
Europe (1)	731	730	727	722	715	707	698	687	676	664
Africa	922	1 032	1 149	1 271	1 394	1 518	1 643	1 765	1 884	1 998
Asia	3 938	4 166	4 389	4 596	4 779	4 931	5 052	5 148	5 220	5 266
Latin America and the Caribbean	558	594	628	660	688	713	733	750	762	769
Northern America	332	349	364	379	393	405	417	427	436	445
Oceania	33	35	37	39	41	43	45	46	48	49
EU-27	491	493	495	496	496	495	492	487	481	472
China	1 313	1 352	1 389	1 421	1 446	1 458	1 458	1 448	1 431	1 409
India	1 134	1 220	1 303	1 379	1 447	1 506	1 554	1 597	1 632	1 658
Japan	128	128	127	124	122	118	115	111	107	103
Russian Federation	144	140	136	132	128	124	120	116	112	108
United States	300	315	329	343	355	366	376	386	394	402

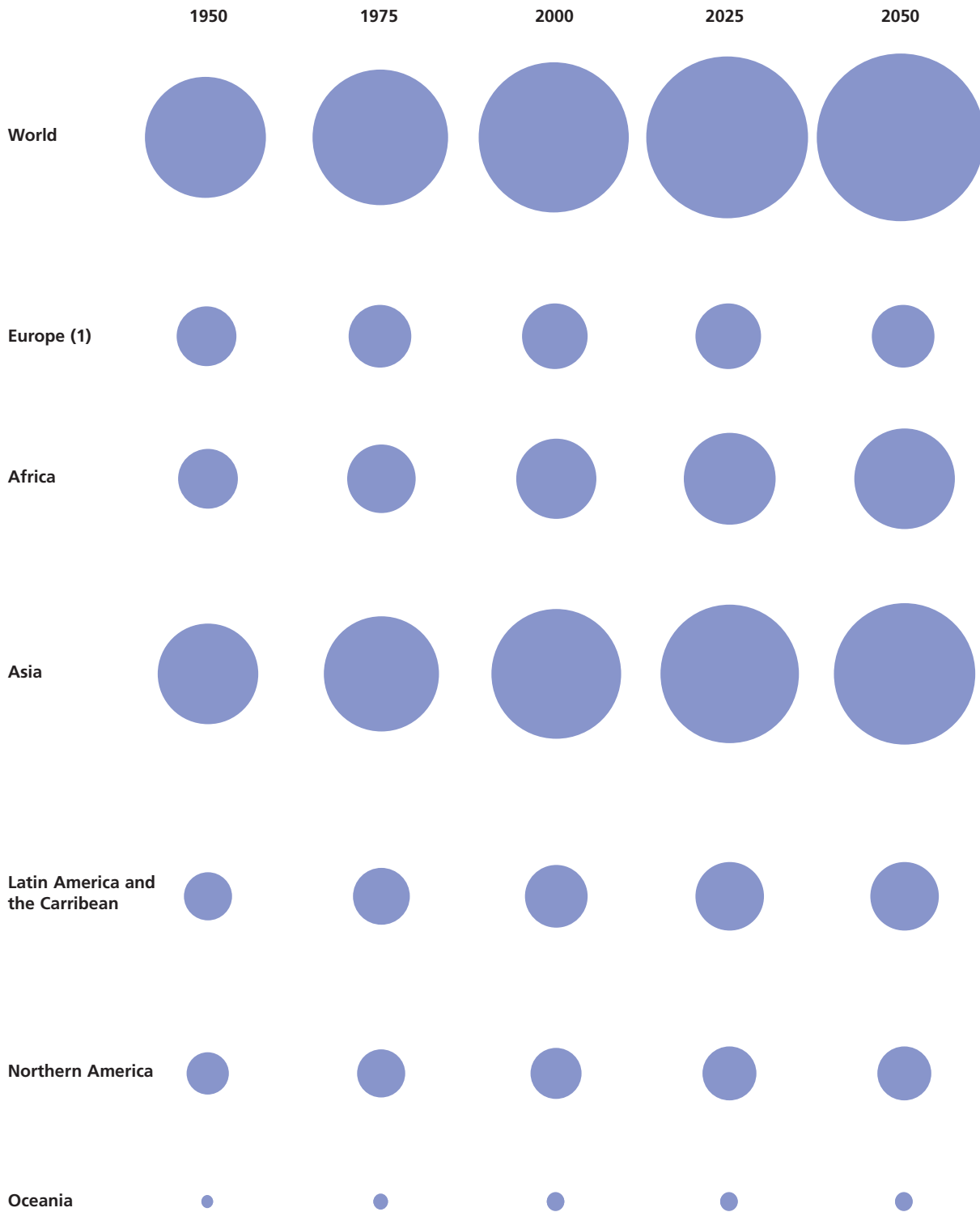
(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_pop), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Figure SP.5: Population and population projections

(million)



(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan and proj_tbp_pop), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

EU-27 POPULATION

INTRODUCTION

The current EU-27 population profile is the result of many years of high, followed by low birth rates, accompanied by a steady, gradual increase in life expectancy. Sudden changes in fertility or migratory patterns for one year, unless sustained, will only result in a one-off effect and do little to bring about a structural change in the make up of a population's profile.

The social and economic changes associated with population ageing are likely to have profound implications for the EU, stretching across a wide range of policy areas – among others, impacting on the school-age population, changes in family structures, labour force participation, healthcare, social protection and social security issues, government finances, and economic competitiveness.

Over the last 40 years much of the European labour force has been made-up of members of the baby-boom generations, who have formed a high proportion of the working age population. This demographic characteristic is projected to end during the coming decades, as the baby-boom generation take their retirement. Europe's fertility rates have been in decline since the 1970s, and the number of young people entering the labour market has become progressively smaller. The proportion of people of working age in the EU-27 is shrinking at the same time as those who are taking their retirement expands.

The challenges posed by this shift in demographics largely fall into the competence of the Member States, however the EU aims to support national policy efforts. It promotes employment through social and economic policies that reinforce each other to deliver growth, more and better jobs and social cohesion, and uses the instruments available to promote a better balance between the generations and between working and family life. The European Commission's Green Paper 'confronting demographic change and a new solidarity between the generations' highlights increased investment in the young, alongside encouraging older generations to remain active for longer as possible solutions to alleviate the challenges associated with an ageing population. Many Member States have recognised a need to raise employment rates and extend working lives, through initiatives that aim to create more flexible pathways to retirement and encourage individuals to prolong their economic activity.

DEFINITIONS AND DATA AVAILABILITY

Eurostat produces a large range of demographic data, including statistics on population, births and deaths, marriages and divorces. A number of important policies, notably in social and economic fields, use population data – such as, fertility rates and life expectancy when planning social policies for retirement schemes, or regional population data for calculating GDP per capita which is used as part of the decision making criteria for the allocation of structural funds to economically less advantaged regions.

There has, until recently, been no comprehensive legal base for the collection of statistics on migration and international protection, with Eurostat generally compiling statistics in this area under specific arrangements with the Member States.

However, the European Parliament and the Council recently adopted a Regulation on Community statistics on migration and international protection⁽⁴⁾. This new Regulation specifies the collection of statistics relating to international migration flows, foreign population stocks, acquisition of citizenship, asylum applications and decisions, measures taken against illegal entry and stay, returns of unauthorised migrants, and residence permits issued to third-country citizens. Its focus is to harmonise statistical outputs, based on a set of common definitions relating to immigration, border management, and asylum issues, and on established international standards (in particular, the UN recommendations for migration statistics). The Regulation provides a framework which needs to be completed through the adoption of implementing measures in the form of Commission regulations. The European Statistical System will be actively involved in the preparation and implementation of these measures.

Most European countries evaluate population data on the basis of gender and age breakdowns as of 1 January (although some countries adopt another date). Unless otherwise stipulated, the population data presented is based on 1 January. Population figures are generally based on data from the most recent census, adjusted by the components of population change produced since the last census, or alternatively population registers. Note that demographic statistics for France have a break in series in 1998, as prior to this date information was collected on the basis of metropolitan France (in other words excluding French overseas departments), while from 1998 onwards these departments are included. Besides the national French data, this break in series also concerns EU and euro area aggregates.

Every three to five years, Eurostat produces demographic projections. Those presented here relate to the baseline variant of the trend scenario, which is one of a set of 'what-if' scenarios. The projections are made using the latest available figures for the population on 1 January, with key assumptions made with respect to mortality, fertility and migration by sex and by age.

The regional breakdown of population projections is computed starting from the assumptions already formulated for the national level exercise that are then specified for the different regions. One issue that is peculiar to the regional dimension is that of inter-regional migration (in other words, population movements between different regions within the same country, for example, a drift from rural to urban areas). Note that appropriate data were not available for France or the United Kingdom, and so regional population projections were not made for these countries.

(4) Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 311/76 on the compilation of statistics on foreign workers (text with EEA relevance); for more information: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2007:199:0023:01:EN:HTML>.



MAIN FINDINGS

During the last 45 years, the population of the EU-27 has grown from about 403 million in 1960 to just over 495 million by 2007. Population growth in the EU-27 was strongest at the beginning of this period in the 1960s, when average annual increases were generally over 3 million persons per year, peaking at 4.2 million in 1963. The rate of population change slowed down significantly in the 1970s, such that by the 1980s the average increase in population was around one million persons each year. This level of population growth continued during much of the next 20 years, although there was a slight reversal in the trend observed during the period 2003 to 2006, as the number of EU-27 inhabitants rose by approximately 2 million a year.

Germany has the largest population among the Member States with almost 17 % of the EU-27 total in 2007, followed by France, the United Kingdom and Italy with 12 to 13 % each. These four countries together comprised almost 54 % of the total population of the EU-27. The 12 Member States that have joined the EU since 2004 represented almost 21 % of the EU-27's population in 2007, some 103.3 million persons.

The population is still growing in a majority of European countries, although the situation is varied across Member States. Most of the overall population growth in the EU-27 in the last decade may be attributed to an increased number of inhabitants in Ireland, Spain, France, Italy and the United Kingdom; in relative terms, Ireland, Spain and Cyprus recorded the highest population growth rates.

Some 16.0% of the EU-27's population were aged less than 15 years in 2006. Ireland (20.5 %) had the youngest population, followed by Denmark, France, Luxembourg and Cyprus – all reporting that those aged less than 15 accounted for between 18 % and 19 % of their total population. Persons of a working age (between 15 and 64 years old) accounted for 67.2 % of the EU-27's population; while the remaining 16.7 % of the population were aged 65 or more.

Eurostat projects that the EU-27's population will rise to a high of 496.5 million persons during the period 2021-2023 and fall thereafter down to about 472 million inhabitants by 2050; note these projections depend to some degree on variable factors, such as net migration, which are difficult to forecast. The changes in population levels will not be distributed equally across the Member States, as the populations of Cyprus, Ireland, Malta, Luxembourg and Sweden are all forecast to rise considerably (by more than 10 % overall) during the period considered. France, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and Austria are also likely to have larger populations by 2050.

On the other hand, the number of inhabitants in the Baltic States, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland might fall by more than 10 % overall between 2005 and 2050, while the largest declines in population are projected for Bulgaria (an overall reduction of 33.8 %) and Romania (21.2 %). In absolute terms, the biggest population losses are foreseen for Germany (-8.0 million persons) and Italy (-5.5 million persons), where the number of inhabitants is expected to fall by almost 10 %.

In recent decades Europe has had a relatively large proportion of its population in working age (15 to 64 years old). Cohorts (groups of people of about the same age) of the so-called baby-boom generation are reflected as bulges in European population pyramids, as shown in Figures 8 and 9. In 2005 the largest five-year age group of the population for both men and women was those persons aged 35 to 39, accounting for just fewer than 4 % of the total population. As this relatively large cohort becomes older and moves towards retirement, the proportion of older persons in the EU will increase – as shown by the pyramid for 2030 and 2050. The importance of the very old (80 years or more) will be considerable by 2050, when this age group is likely to account for 11.2 % of the EU-27's population. At the end of the ageing transition (see the population pyramid for 2050), the baby-boom generation will be standing on a relatively narrow working age population.

Maps 1 to 3 show changes in population over the period 2005 to 2030. Some of the most rapid population growth in the EU-27 over this period may be expected in the southern and eastern coastal regions of Iberia, the Spanish islands, as well as a number of urban regions, and the whole of Ireland. Aside from Stockholm (Sweden) and Wien (Austria), urban population growth is projected to be concentrated away from capital cities. For example, in Germany some of the highest population growth rates are expected in cities such as Köln, Karlsruhe, Bremen or Stuttgart, while Berlin and many other cities in eastern Germany are likely to experience population reduction.

SOURCES

Statistical books

The social situation in the European Union 2005-2006
 Population statistics (with CD-ROM)
 European social statistics – demography

Pocketbooks

Living conditions in Europe – statistical pocketbook – data 2002-2005

Methodologies and working papers

Demographic outlook – national reports on the demographic developments in 2005
 Methodology for the calculation of Eurostat's demographic indicators
 Basic methodology for the recalculation of intercensal population estimates
 Demographic statistics: definitions and methods of collection in 31 European countries

Website data

Demography

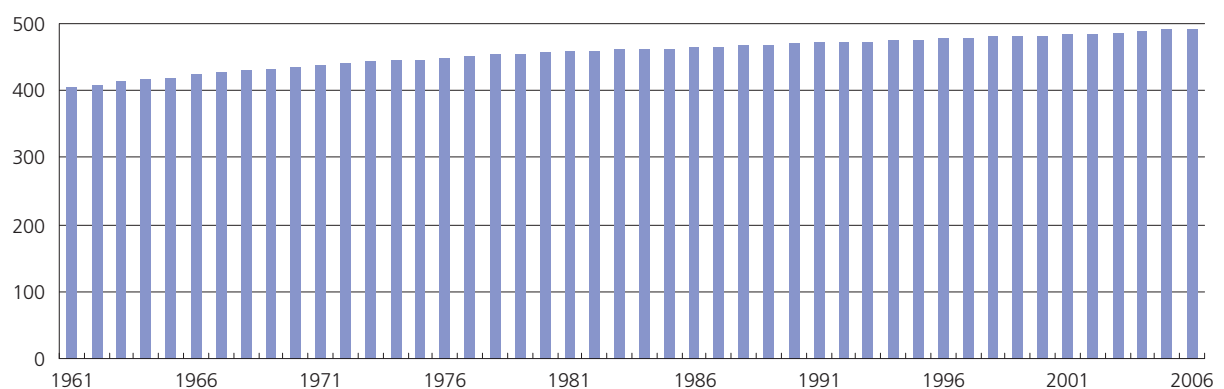
- Demography – national data
 - Main demographic indicators
 - Population change: absolute numbers and crude rates
 - Population
 - Average population by sex and five-year age groups
 - Population by sex and age on 1 January of each year
 - Population structure indicators on 1 January
- Demography – regional data
 - Population and area
 - Population at 1 January by sex and age from 1990 onwards
 - Annual average population by sex

Population projections

- Trend scenario, national level – base year 2004
- Trend scenario, regional level – base year 2004

Figure SP.6: Total population, EU-27 (1)

(at 1 January, million)



(1) Break in series, 1998.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan)

**Table SP.4: Total population**

(at 1 January, million)

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
EU-27 (1)	478.1	480.4	481.1	482.2	483.0	484.5	486.5	488.6	490.9	493.0	495.1
Euro area (1)	302.2	304.5	305.2	306.2	307.5	309.0	310.9	312.9	314.9	316.7	318.4
Belgium	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.4	10.4	10.5	10.6
Bulgaria	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.2	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.7
Czech Republic	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.3	10.3
Denmark	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4
Germany	82.0	82.1	82.0	82.2	82.3	82.4	82.5	82.5	82.5	82.4	82.3
Estonia	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
Ireland	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3
Greece	10.7	10.8	10.9	10.9	10.9	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.1	11.2
Spain	39.5	39.6	39.8	40.0	40.5	41.0	41.7	42.3	43.0	43.8	44.5
France (1)	59.7	59.9	60.2	60.5	60.9	61.3	61.7	62.1	62.5	63.0	63.4
Italy	56.9	56.9	56.9	56.9	57.0	57.0	57.3	57.9	58.5	58.8	59.1
Cyprus	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8
Latvia	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Lithuania	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
Luxembourg	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Hungary	10.3	10.3	10.3	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Malta	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Netherlands	15.6	15.7	15.8	15.9	16.0	16.1	16.2	16.3	16.3	16.3	16.4
Austria	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.2	8.3	8.3
Poland	38.6	38.7	38.7	38.7	38.3	38.2	38.2	38.2	38.2	38.2	38.1
Portugal	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.2	10.3	10.3	10.4	10.5	10.5	10.6	10.6
Romania	22.1	22.0	21.9	21.9	21.9	21.8	21.8	21.7	21.7	21.6	21.6
Slovenia	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Slovakia	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4
Finland	5.1	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3
Sweden	8.8	8.8	8.9	8.9	8.9	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.1
United Kingdom	58.2	58.4	58.6	58.8	59.0	59.2	59.4	59.7	60.1	60.4	60.8
Croatia	4.6	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
FYR of Macedonia	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Turkey	63.5	64.6	65.8	66.9	67.9	68.8	69.8	70.7	71.6	72.5	73.4
Iceland	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Liechtenstein	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Norway	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.7
Switzerland	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.4	7.4	7.5	7.5

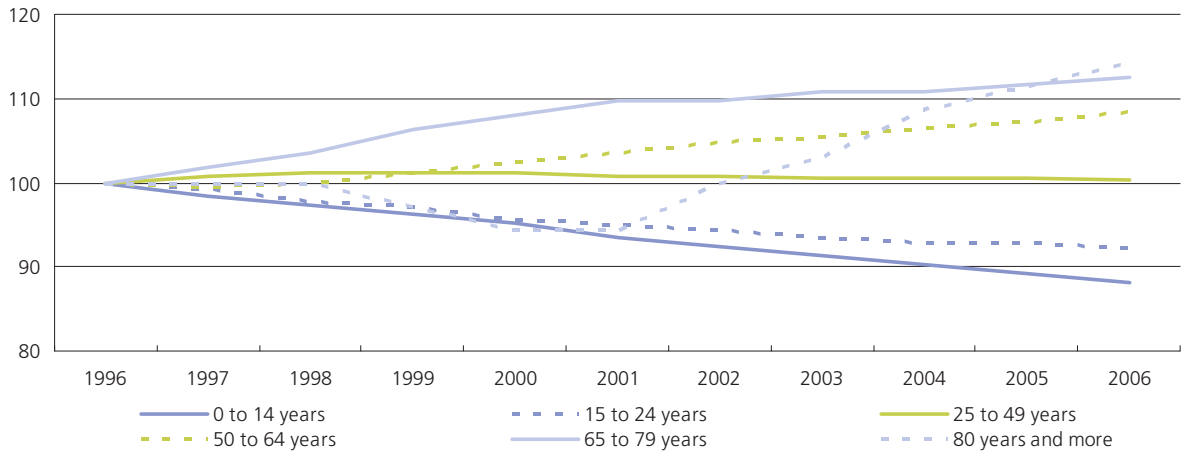
(1) Break in series, 1998.

Source: Eurostat (tps00001)

The inhabitants of a given area on 1 January of the year in question (or, in some cases, on 31 December of the previous year). The population is based on data from the most recent census adjusted by the components of population change produced since the last census, or based on population registers.

Figure SP.7: Population by age class, EU-27

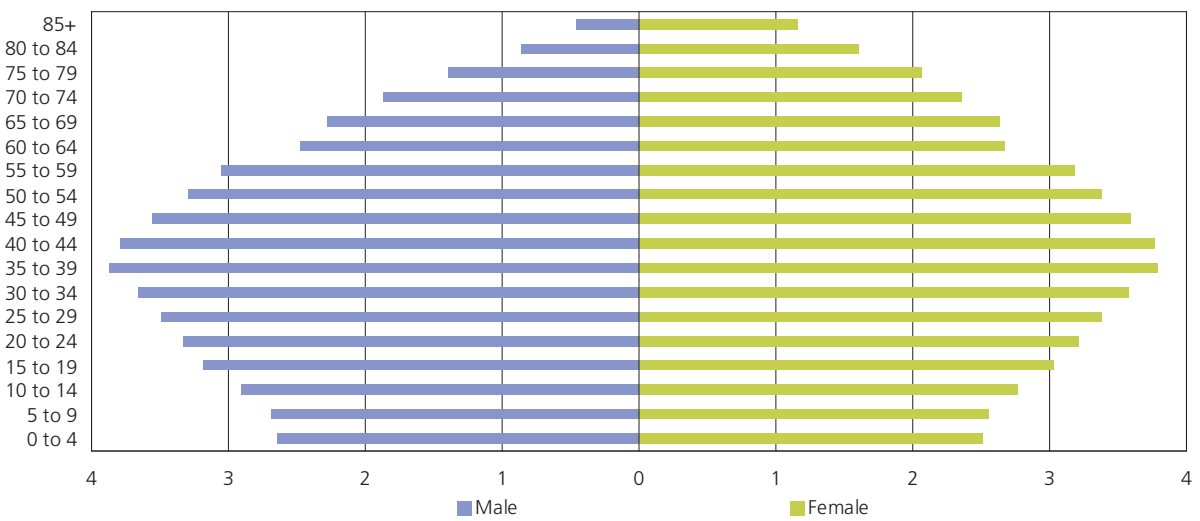
(1996=100)



Source: Eurostat (tps00010)

Figure SP.8: Age pyramid, EU-27, 2005

(% of total population)



Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan)



Table SP.5: Population by age class, 2006

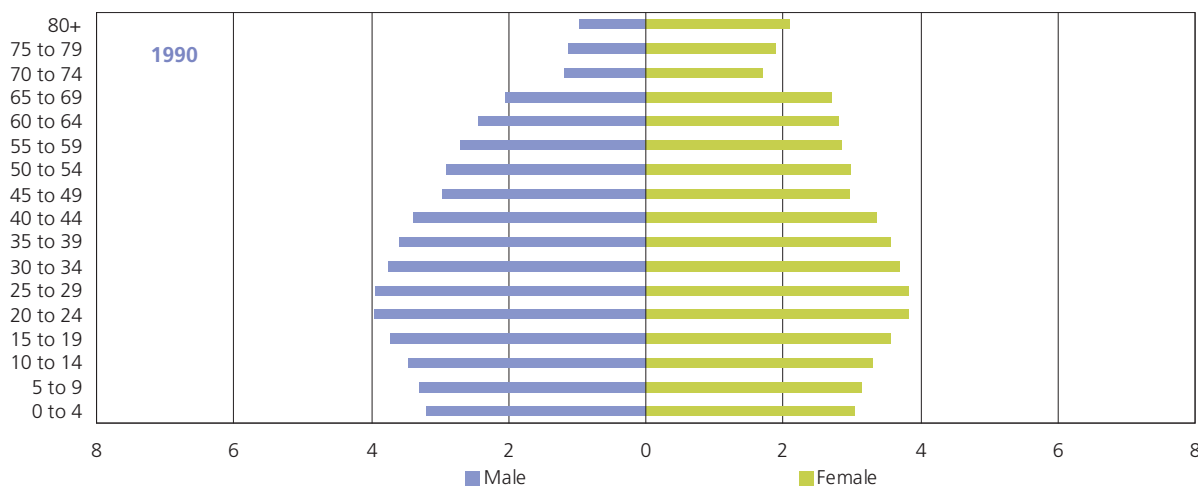
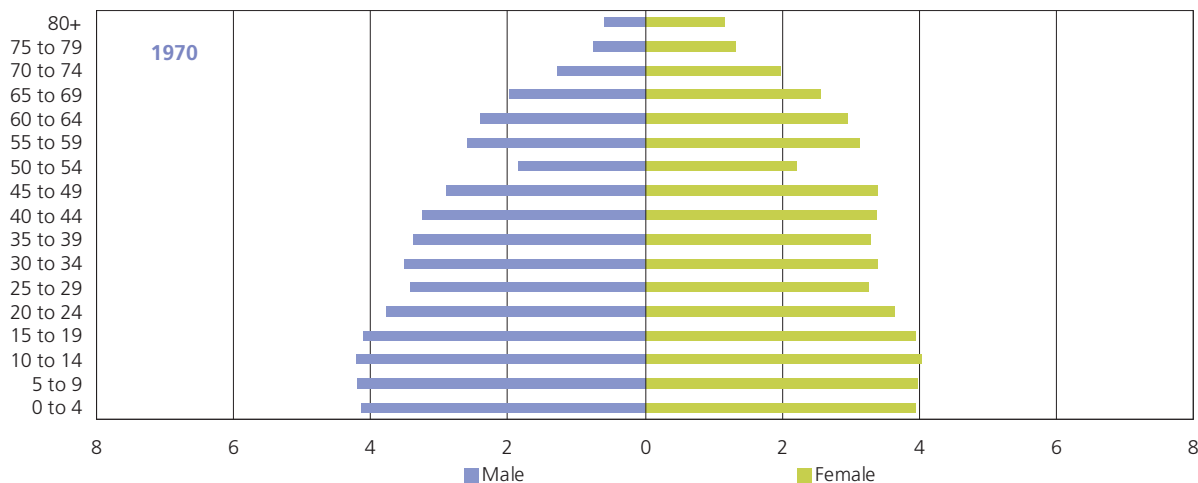
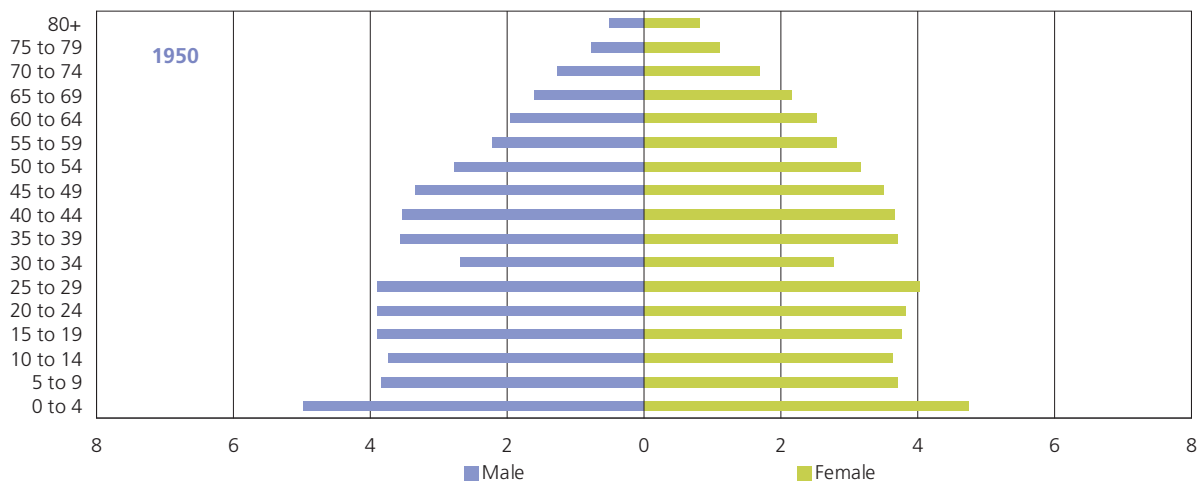
(% of total population)

	0 to 14 years	15 to 24 years	25 to 49 years	50 to 64 years	65 to 79 years	80 years and more
EU-27	16.0	12.7	36.4	18.1	12.6	4.1
Euro area	15.6	11.9	36.8	18.0	13.2	4.5
Belgium	17.1	12.1	35.6	18.1	12.8	4.4
Bulgaria	13.6	13.6	35.5	20.1	13.9	3.3
Czech Republic	14.6	13.2	36.9	21.0	11.1	3.1
Denmark	18.7	11.2	35.1	19.9	11.1	4.1
Germany	14.1	11.8	36.5	18.4	14.8	4.5
Estonia	15.1	15.6	34.7	17.9	13.5	3.3
Ireland	20.5	15.2	37.8	15.5	8.4	2.7
Greece	14.3	12.0	37.6	17.6	14.9	3.6
Spain	14.5	11.9	40.4	16.6	12.3	4.4
France	18.6	12.9	34.4	17.9	11.6	4.6
Italy	14.1	10.3	37.5	18.3	14.6	5.1
Cyprus	18.4	15.8	37.1	16.6	9.4	2.6
Latvia	14.3	15.7	35.5	17.6	13.6	3.2
Lithuania	16.5	15.6	36.1	16.5	12.4	2.9
Luxembourg	18.6	11.6	38.3	17.1	11.0	3.3
Hungary	15.4	12.9	35.8	20.1	12.3	3.5
Malta	17.1	14.4	34.9	20.0	10.5	3.0
Netherlands	18.3	12.0	36.5	19.0	10.7	3.6
Austria	15.9	12.3	37.7	17.6	12.1	4.4
Poland	16.2	16.2	36.0	18.2	10.6	2.7
Portugal	15.6	12.2	37.3	17.7	13.2	3.9
Romania	15.5	15.2	37.0	17.4	12.3	2.5
Slovenia	14.1	13.1	38.0	19.2	12.4	3.2
Slovakia	16.6	15.9	38.0	17.8	9.3	2.4
Finland	17.3	12.5	33.2	21.1	12.0	4.0
Sweden	17.3	12.4	33.3	19.7	11.9	5.4
United Kingdom	17.8	13.2	35.2	17.8	11.6	4.4
Croatia	15.8	13.1	35.3	18.9	14.0	3.0
FYR of Macedonia	19.4	16.1	36.8	16.6	9.6	1.5
Turkey	28.3	17.7	37.3	10.8	:	:
Iceland	21.8	14.6	36.0	15.9	8.6	3.1
Liechtenstein	17.4	12.3	39.4	19.4	8.7	2.9
Norway	19.5	12.4	35.2	18.2	10.1	4.7
Switzerland	16.0	11.8	37.4	18.8	11.5	4.5

Source: Eurostat (tps00010)

Figure SP.9: Moving age pyramids, EU-27 (1)

(% of total population)



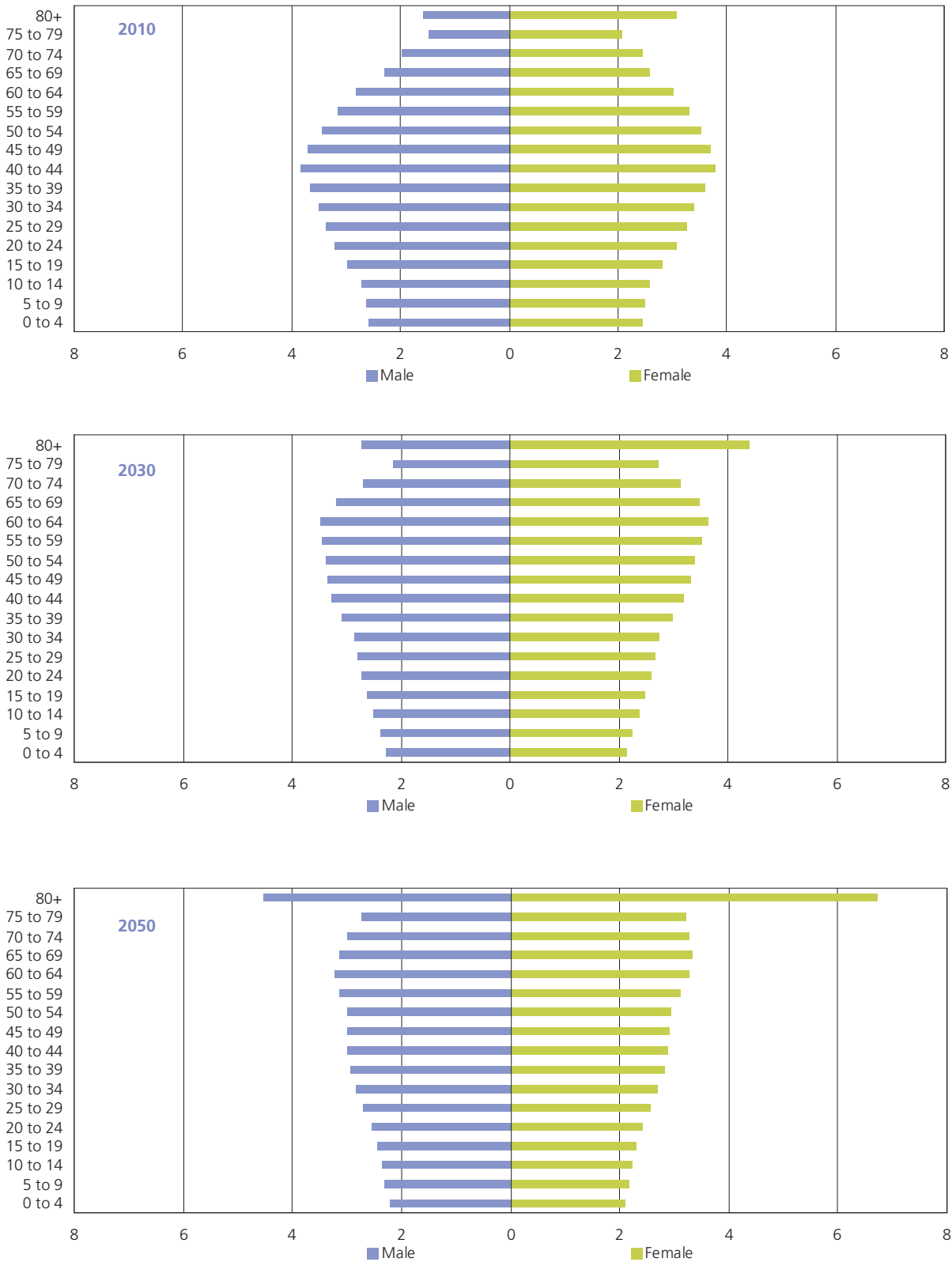
(1) Limited data availability for 1950 and 1970, based on those Member States for which data are available.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan and proj_tbp_pop)



Figure SP.9 (continues from previous page): Moving age pyramids, EU-27 (1)

(% of total population)

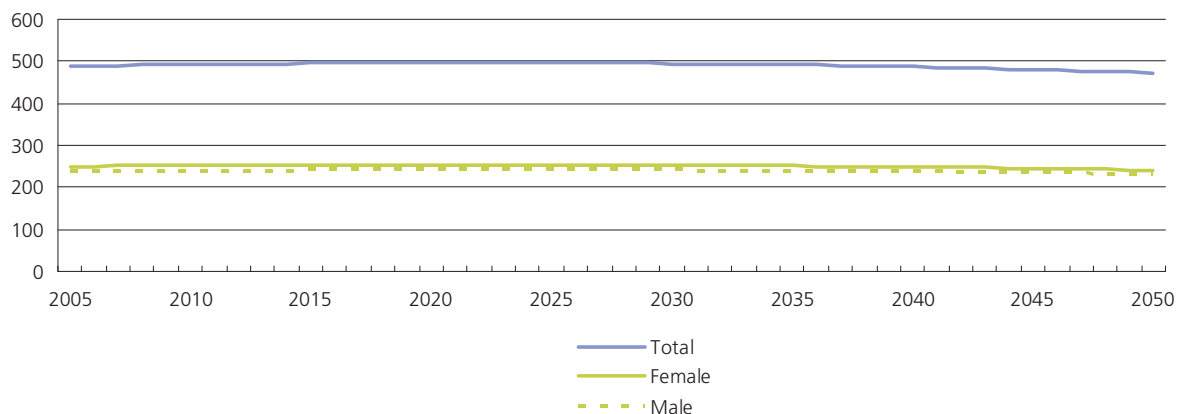


(1) Limited data availability for 1950 and 1970, based on those Member States for which data are available.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan and proj_tbp_pop)

Figure SP.10: Population projections, EU-27

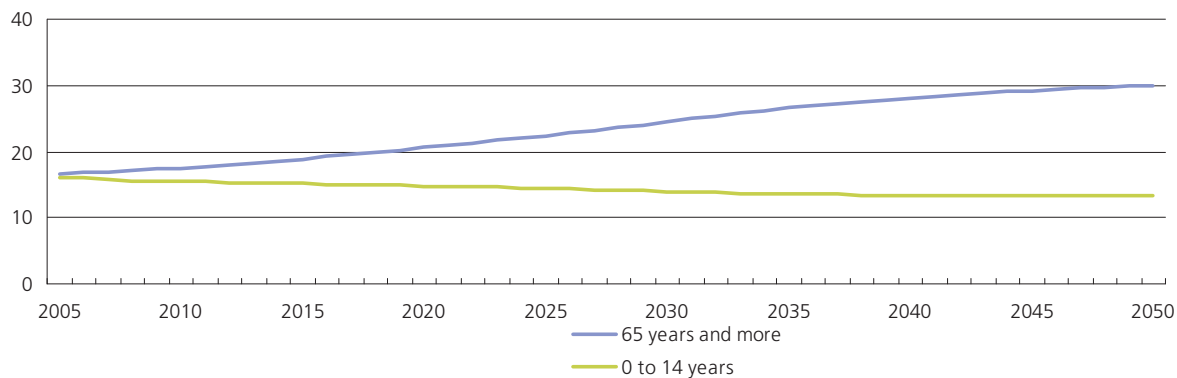
(at 1 January, million)



Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_pop)

Figure SP.11: Population projections, EU-27

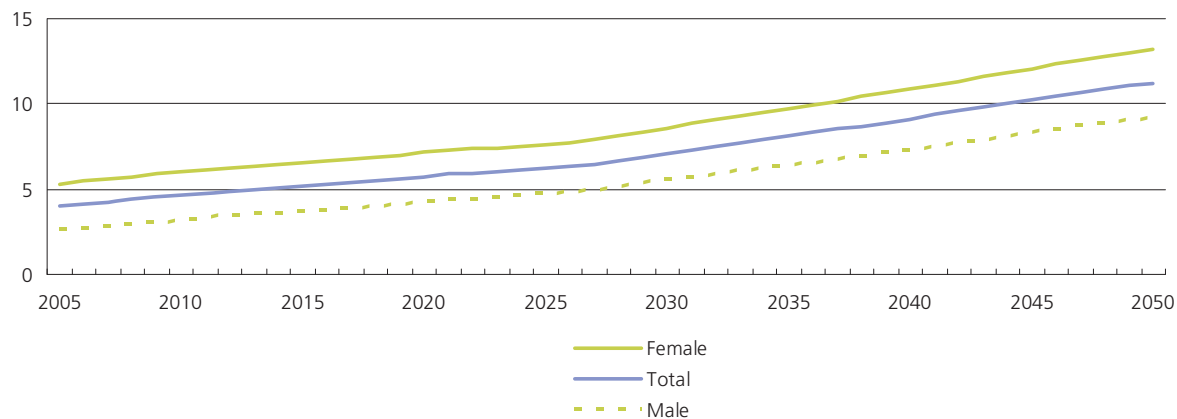
(% of total population)



Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_pop)

Figure SP.12: Population projections, persons aged 80 years and more, EU-27

(% of population)



Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_pop)

**Table SP.6: Population projections**

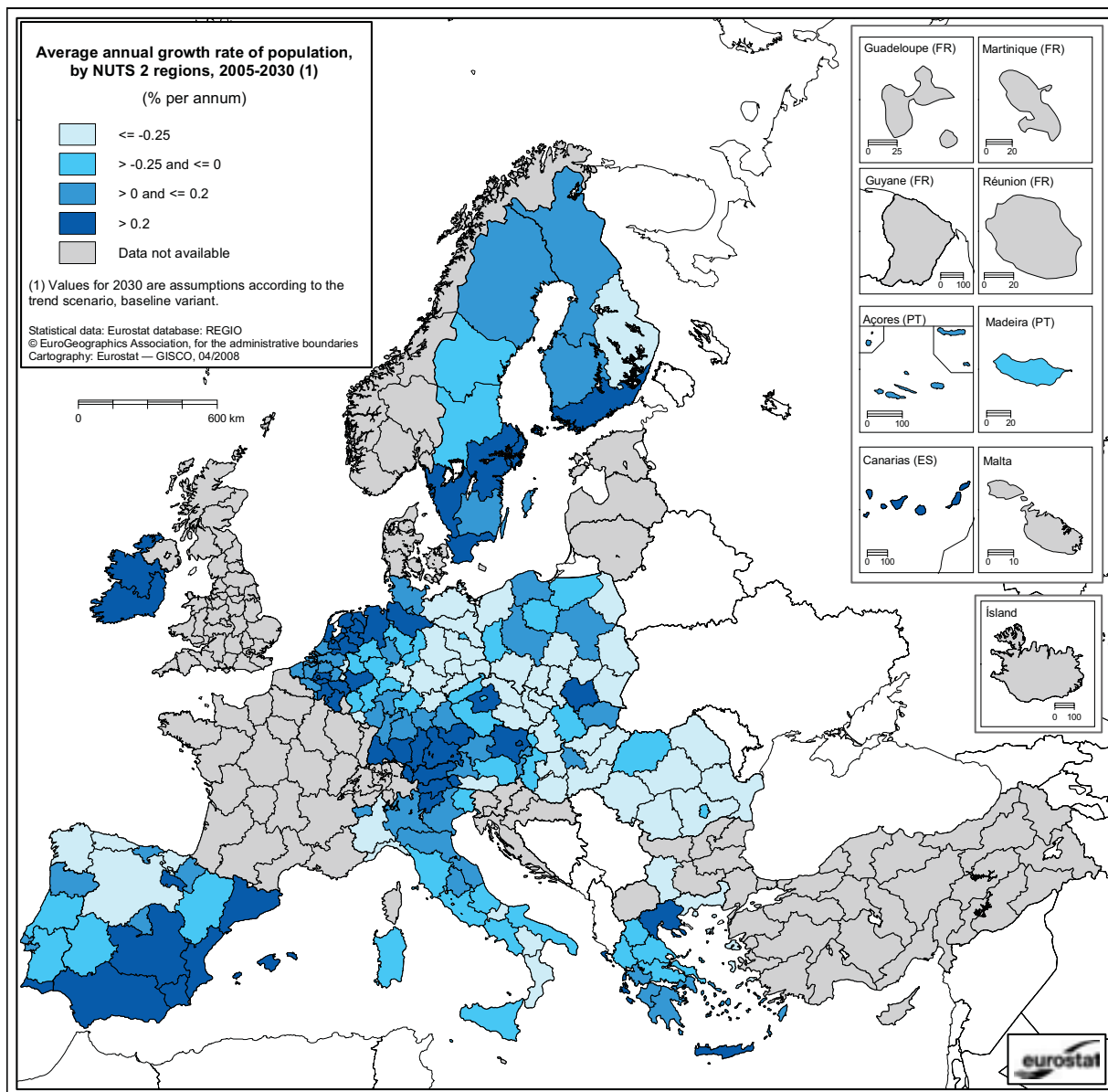
(at 1 January, million)

	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
EU-27	487.9	492.8	495.3	496.4	496.3	494.8	491.7	486.9	480.5	472.0
Euro area	310.2	315.1	317.9	319.4	319.7	318.9	317.1	314.3	310.0	304.4
Belgium	10.4	10.6	10.7	10.8	10.9	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	10.9
Bulgaria	7.7	7.4	7.1	6.8	6.5	6.2	5.9	5.6	5.4	5.1
Czech Republic	10.2	10.1	10.0	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.5	9.3	9.1	8.9
Denmark	5.4	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.4
Germany	82.6	82.8	82.9	82.7	82.1	81.1	79.9	78.4	76.7	74.6
Estonia	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1
Ireland	4.1	4.3	4.6	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5
Greece	11.1	11.3	11.4	11.4	11.4	11.3	11.2	11.1	10.9	10.6
Spain	42.9	44.6	45.3	45.6	45.6	45.4	45.1	44.6	43.9	42.8
France	60.2	61.5	62.6	63.6	64.4	65.1	65.7	66.0	65.9	65.7
Italy	58.2	58.6	58.6	58.3	57.8	57.1	56.3	55.3	54.2	52.7
Cyprus	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0
Latvia	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9
Lithuania	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	2.9
Luxembourg	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Hungary	10.1	10.0	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.5	9.4	9.2	9.1	8.9
Malta	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Netherlands	16.3	16.7	17.0	17.2	17.4	17.6	17.7	17.6	17.5	17.4
Austria	8.1	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.2
Poland	38.1	37.8	37.4	37.1	36.8	36.5	36.1	35.4	34.5	33.7
Portugal	10.5	10.7	10.8	10.8	10.7	10.7	10.6	10.4	10.2	10.0
Romania	21.7	21.3	20.9	20.3	19.7	19.2	18.8	18.3	17.8	17.1
Slovenia	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.9
Slovakia	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.0	4.9	4.7
Finland	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.4	5.3	5.2
Sweden	9.0	9.2	9.4	9.6	9.8	9.9	10.0	10.1	10.1	10.2
United Kingdom	59.9	60.9	61.9	62.9	63.8	64.4	64.7	64.7	64.6	64.3

Source: Eurostat (tps00002)

Population projections involve making population estimates or producing the most plausible figures for the years to come. Estimates are made using the latest available figures for the population on 1 January. In general, key assumptions are made with respect to mortality, fertility and migration by sex and by age, and ageing techniques are applied to the population pyramid from year to year.

Map SP.1: Average annual growth rate of population, by NUTS 2 regions, 2005-2030
 (% per annum)



Source: Eurostat (proj_rtbp_pop)



COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE

INTRODUCTION

This section focuses on population change, which is made up of two distinct aspects: namely, natural population change and net migration. Natural population change is the difference between live births and deaths, or put in general terms, fertility and mortality. Births are covered in more detail within the next subchapter, while life expectancy and deaths are treated in Subchapter 5, and migration in Subchapter 6.

There are many regions within the EU-27 that currently report a higher number of deaths than births. This trend is apparent in much of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, as well as the Baltic States, and the sparsely populated regions of northern Sweden and Finland.

Many areas that have a negative evolution of natural population change enjoy some compensation from positive, net migration; this is a pattern that exists in parts of western Germany, eastern Austria, northern Italy, Slovenia or southern Sweden. The opposite pattern is much rarer, as there are only a handful of regions in the EU where positive natural change (more births than deaths) has been compensated by negative net migration; one example is northern Poland.

When the two components of population change do not compensate, but rather add to each other, they can lead to more significant swings in the overall population. In recent years this has been the case in Ireland and Denmark, many regions in the Benelux and France, as well as limited number of areas in southern and eastern Spain, where natural population increases have been accompanied by positive net migration. In contrast, some regions in eastern Germany, north western Spain, southern Italy, the Baltic States, as well as the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia have witnessed both components of population change moving in a negative direction; it is in these areas of the EU where the largest declines in population have been recorded in the last decade. Often, their population is expected to continue falling in the coming years.

Family structures differ from one Member State to another, reflecting different historical developments, social attitudes and traditions. However, there are a number of common demographic characteristics that are apparent across the whole of the EU, including: a reduction in the number of marriages; an increase in the average age at which people marry; and an increase in the number of divorces. There are now more and smaller European households, with a higher proportion of people living alone, which may, at least in part, be attributed to changing family structures. However, the changes observed in the age structure of the EU-27's population may also explain, to some degree, the growing proportion of people living alone. Indeed, the highest proportion of people living alone is found among the elderly.

DEFINITIONS AND DATA AVAILABILITY

Population change is defined as the difference between the size of the population at the end and the beginning of a period. It is equal to the algebraic sum of natural increase and net migration including corrections (see below for more details). There is negative change when both of these components are negative or when one is negative and has a higher absolute value than the other.

Natural increase is defined as the difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during the year. The natural increase is negative (in other words, a natural decrease) when the number of deaths exceeds the number of live births.

Net migration is defined as the difference between immigration into and emigration from the area considered during the reference year (net migration is therefore negative when the number of emigrants exceeds the number of immigrants). Since most countries either do not have accurate figures on immigration and emigration, or have no figures at all, net migration is generally estimated on the basis of the difference between population change and natural increase between two dates (in Eurostat's database, this concept is generally referred to as corrected net migration).

MAIN FINDINGS

Europe's contribution to global population change is relatively small and has fallen in recent decades. In the first half of the 1960s, European population growth contributed almost a tenth of the increase observed in world population. This share was consistently reduced, such that during by 2005, population growth in Europe accounted for less than 1 % of the global increases in population.

The pattern of population change within the EU has changed considerably in recent decades. Until the end of the 1980s, the most important constituent of population growth was natural increase; although its importance started to decline from the mid-1960s. The contribution of net migration became more important from the middle of the 1980s and has become the main component of demographic growth. In 2005, the population of the EU-27 rose by 2.0 million persons, of which 1.7 million could be attributed to positive net migration and 0.3 million from natural population increase.

The patterns of population change vary considerably across the Member States. Germany has recorded a natural population decrease since 1972, while Italy did so between 1993 and 2003. Many of the Member States that have joined the EU since 2004 also reported natural population reductions in the past decade. In contrast, relatively high natural increases were observed in Ireland, Spain, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

Net emigration is rare among the Member States. Over the period 2000 to 2005, the largest net flows of migrants left Poland and Bulgaria; Lithuania, Romania, Latvia and Slovakia were the only other countries to report net emigration during this period. The highest inflows of migrants were recorded in Spain and Italy, while the United Kingdom, Germany and France also reported quite high levels of net migration.

As many European countries are currently at a point in the demographic cycle where natural population change is close to being balanced or negative, the relative importance of migration increases. However, as Europe's population ages, natural population change might become once again the principal component of population change – however, it will then be negative. According to Eurostat's projections, the total population in 16 of the 27 Member States is expected to decline during the period 2005 to 2050. Natural decreases are likely to be most noticeable in Germany and Italy, where natural change is expected to result in 17.2 million and 11.2 million fewer inhabitants. The overall decline in population in these two countries is likely to be compensated, to some degree, by migratory flows, although the net result will still be a loss of more than 8 million persons in Germany and almost 6 million in Italy. In absolute terms the other countries that are expected to see considerable declines in their overall populations between 2005 and

2050 include Hungary (1.2 million persons), the Czech Republic (1.3 million), Bulgaria (2.7 million), Poland and Romania (both 4.7 million) – in each of these countries the decline as a result of natural change is expected to far outweigh that which may be attributed to emigration.

At the other end of the scale, the largest population increases are likely to be recorded in France and the United Kingdom, where the population is expected to grow by 5.5 million and 4.4 million between 2005 and 2050. While migration is expected to be the sole motor of population growth in the United Kingdom, the gains predicted in France are likely to come from roughly equal contributions from immigrants and natural population increases. The only other Member States where population levels are expected to increase by upwards of a million persons between 2005 and 2050 are Ireland, Sweden and the Netherlands. The main component of population growth in Sweden and the Netherlands will be immigration, whereas in Ireland the pattern is likely to be similar to that in France, with roughly equal contributions from immigration and natural population increases.

SOURCES

Statistical books

The social situation in the European Union 2005-2006
Population statistics (with CD-Rom)
European social statistics – demography

Pocketbooks

Living conditions in Europe – statistical pocketbook – data 2002-2005

Methodologies and working papers

Demographic outlook – national reports on the demographic developments in 2005
Methodology for the calculation of Eurostat's demographic indicators
Demographic statistics: definitions and methods of collection in 31 European countries

Website data

Demography

- Demography – national data
 - Main demographic indicators
 - Population change: absolute numbers and crude rates
- Demography – regional data
 - Population change
 - Births and deaths
- International migration and asylum
 - International migration flows
 - Immigration
 - Emigration

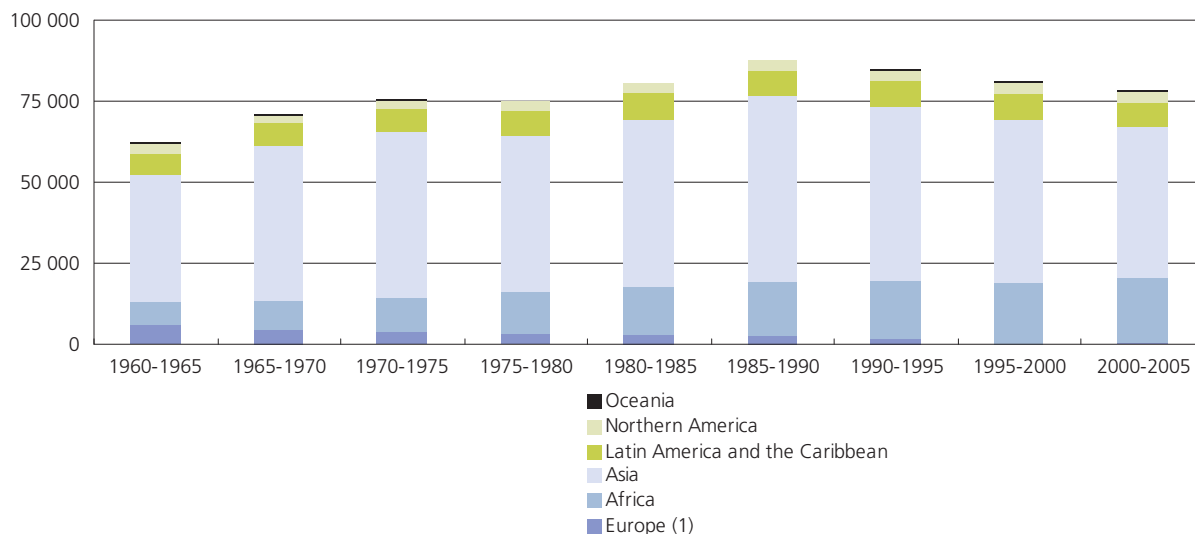
Population projections

- Trend scenario, national level – base year 2004
- Trend scenario, regional level – base year 2004



Figure SP.13: Average annual population change

(1 000)

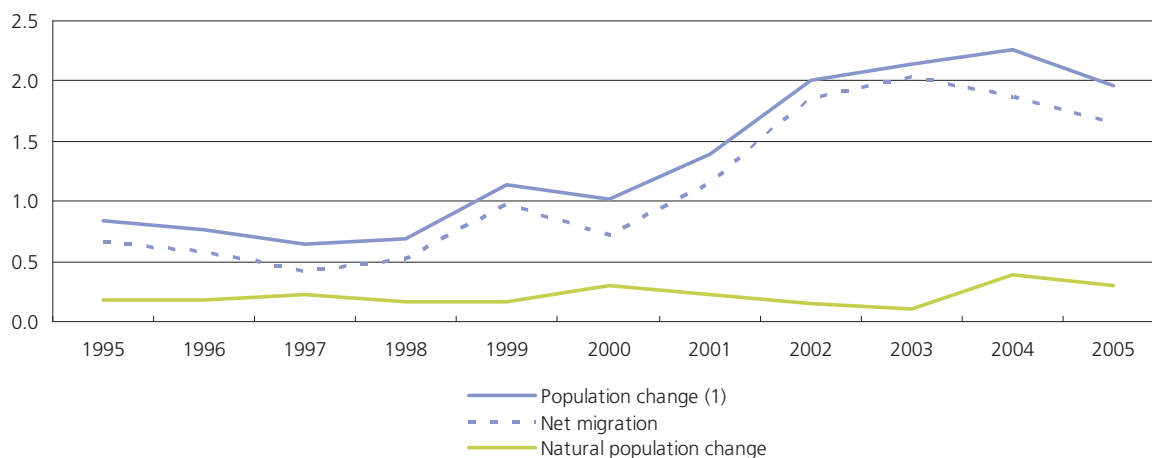


(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjan), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.14: Population change, net migration and natural population change, EU-27

(million)



(1) Break in series, 1998.

Source: Eurostat (tps000006, tps000007 and tps000008)

Population change: the difference between the size of the population at the end and the beginning of a period. It is equal to the algebraic sum of natural increase and net migration (including corrections). There is negative change when both of these components are negative or when one is negative and has a higher absolute value than the other.

Net migration: the difference between immigration into and emigration from the area during the year (net migration is therefore negative when the number of emigrants exceeds the number of immigrants). Since most countries either do not have accurate figures on immigration and emigration or have no figures at all, net migration is estimated on the basis of the difference between population change and natural increase between two dates. The statistics on net migration are therefore affected by all the statistical inaccuracies in the two components of this equation, especially population change.

Natural population change: the difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during the year. The natural increase (or natural decrease) is negative when the number of deaths exceeds the number of births.

Table SP.7: Natural population change

(1 000)

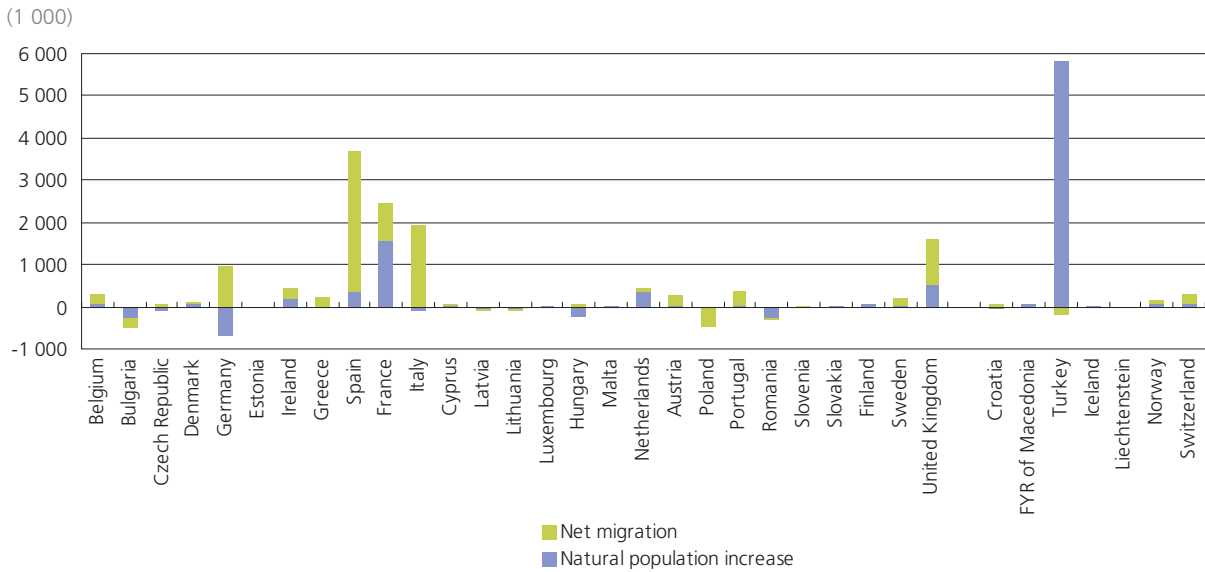
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
EU-27 (1)	185.9	223.7	169.1	161.6	297.8	231.7	152.0	103.9	391.9	297.3	:
Euro area (1)	206.7	261.8	222.1	246.1	344.6	315.1	271.5	201.5	397.3	292.7	:
Belgium	12.2	12.4	9.9	8.6	11.4	10.6	5.5	5.1	13.7	14.5	:
Bulgaria	-44.9	-57.7	-52.8	-39.5	-41.4	-44.2	-46.1	-44.6	-40.2	-42.3	-39.5
Czech Republic	-22.3	-22.1	-19.0	-20.3	-18.1	-17.0	-15.5	-17.6	-9.5	-5.7	1.4
Denmark	6.6	7.8	7.7	7.1	9.1	7.1	5.5	7.1	8.8	9.3	9.5
Germany	-86.8	-48.2	-67.3	-75.6	-71.8	-94.1	-122.4	-147.2	-112.6	-144.4	-148.9
Estonia	-5.8	-6.0	-7.3	-6.0	-5.3	-5.9	-5.4	-5.1	-3.7	-3.0	-2.4
Ireland	18.9	21.2	22.4	21.3	23.4	27.6	31.1	32.7	33.8	33.6	36.8
Greece	0.0	2.3	-1.8	-2.7	-2.0	-0.3	-0.3	-1.1	0.7	2.5	6.6
Spain	11.2	19.5	4.7	9.0	37.2	46.2	50.2	57.1	82.7	79.0	109.8
France	:	:	225.1	229.2	267.5	262.9	248.3	231.3	280.7	275.1	302.5
Italy	-24.2	-22.4	-51.0	-20.5	-12.4	-16.8	-17.5	-44.8	17.5	-34.9	2.1
Cyprus	4.7	4.1	3.4	3.4	3.1	3.3	2.7	2.9	3.1	2.8	3.6
Latvia	-14.5	-14.7	-15.8	-13.4	-12.0	-13.3	-12.5	-11.4	-11.7	-11.3	-10.8
Lithuania	-3.8	-3.3	-3.7	-3.6	-4.8	-8.9	-11.1	-10.4	-10.9	-13.3	-13.5
Luxembourg	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.9	1.8	1.7
Hungary	-37.9	-39.1	-43.6	-48.6	-38.0	-35.1	-36.0	-41.2	-37.4	-38.2	-31.7
Malta	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7
Netherlands	52.0	56.7	61.9	60.0	66.1	62.2	59.7	58.4	57.5	51.5	49.7
Austria	8.0	4.6	2.9	-0.1	1.5	0.7	2.3	-0.3	4.7	3.0	3.6
Poland	42.7	32.4	20.3	0.6	10.3	5.0	-5.7	-14.2	-7.4	-3.9	4.6
Portugal	3.5	8.3	7.3	8.1	14.6	7.7	8.1	3.7	7.3	1.9	3.4
Romania	-54.8	-42.4	-31.9	-30.6	-21.3	-39.2	-59.1	-54.1	-42.6	-41.1	-38.6
Slovenia	0.2	-0.8	-1.2	-1.4	-0.4	-1.0	-1.2	-2.1	-0.6	-0.7	0.8
Slovakia	8.9	7.0	4.4	3.8	2.4	-0.8	-0.7	-0.5	1.9	1.0	0.6
Finland	11.6	10.2	7.8	8.2	7.4	7.6	6.1	7.6	10.2	9.8	10.8
Sweden	1.2	-2.8	-4.2	-6.6	-3.0	-2.3	0.8	6.2	10.4	9.6	14.7
United Kingdom	96.9	96.9	87.7	67.9	70.7	66.9	62.6	84.4	132.9	139.9	246.0
Croatia	3.2	3.5	-5.2	-6.8	-6.5	-8.6	-10.5	-12.9	-9.4	-9.3	-8.9
FYR of Macedonia	15.3	12.9	12.4	10.5	12.1	10.1	9.8	9.0	5.4	4.1	4.0
Turkey	1 054.0	1 056.0	1 046.0	1 024.0	948.0	940.0	933.0	925.0	917.0	911.0	906.0
Iceland	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.2	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5
Liechtenstein	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
Norway	17.1	15.2	14.2	14.1	15.2	12.7	11.0	14.0	15.8	15.5	17.3
Switzerland	20.4	17.7	16.4	15.9	15.9	11.1	10.6	8.8	12.9	11.8	13.1

(1) Break in series, 1998.

Source: Eurostat (tps00007)



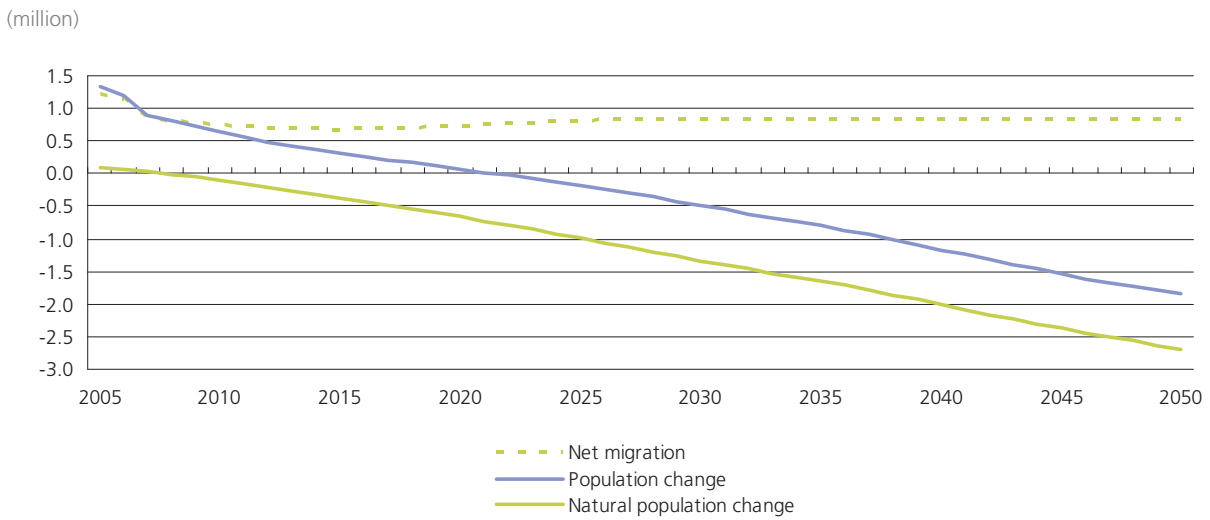
Figure SP.15: Net migration and natural population change, 2000-2005 (1)



(1) Absolute figures for the whole period.

Source: Eurostat (tps00007 and tps00008)

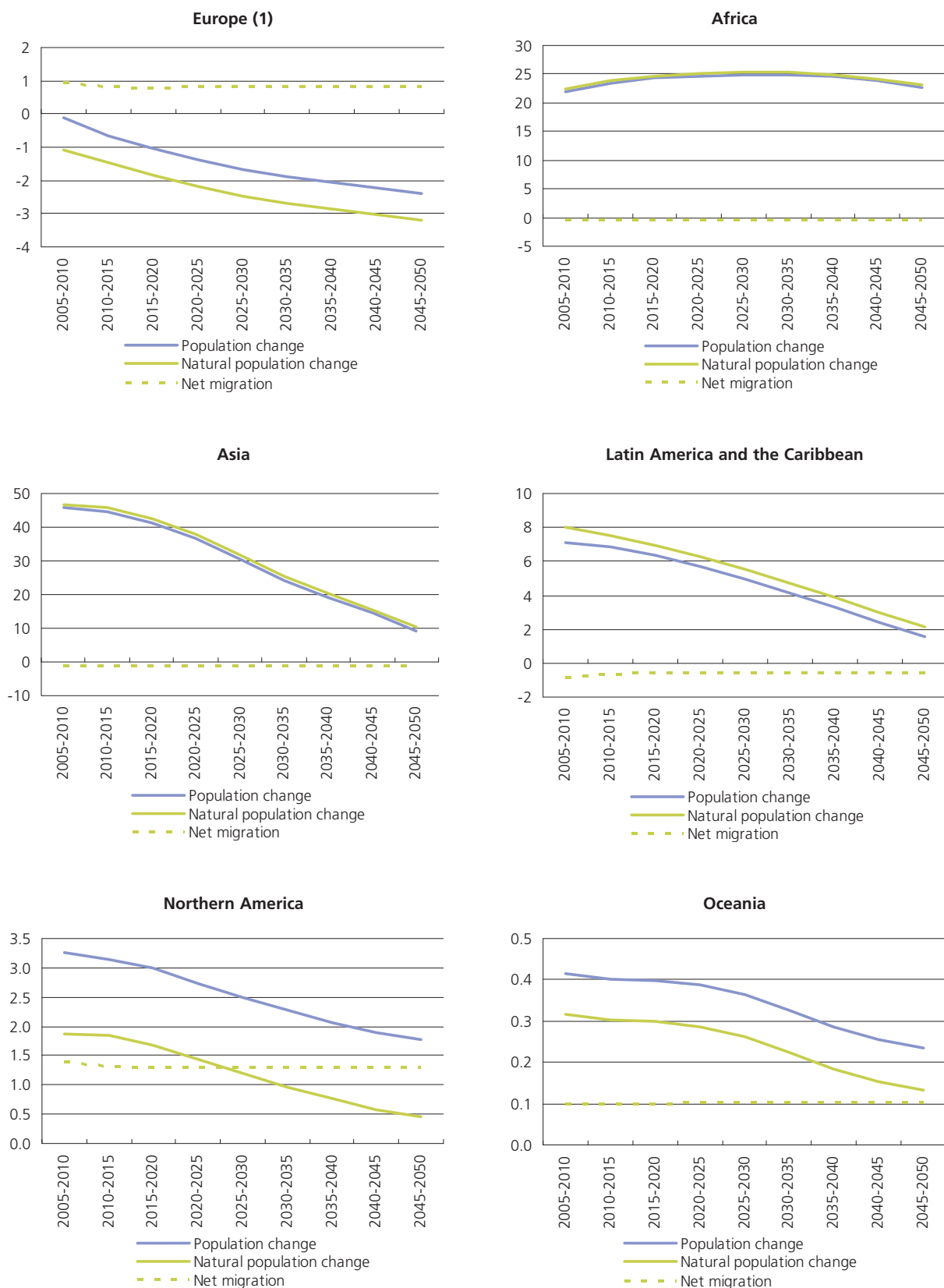
Figure SP.16: Projections of population change, net migration and natural population change, EU-27



Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_eve and proj_tbp_asm)

Figure SP.17: UN projections of average annual population change, net migration and natural population change

(million)



(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs



BIRTHS

INTRODUCTION

The slowdown in the EU-27's population growth can be partly attributed to the fact that people are generally having fewer children. Fertility rates have fallen in the EU in recent decades. A total fertility rate of around 2.1 children per woman is considered to be the replacement level – in other words, the average number of children per woman required to keep the natural population stable in the long-run, under the theoretical assumption of no migration. The total fertility rate of the EU-27 declined from almost 2.6 in the first half of the 1960s to about 1.4 during the period 1995 to 2005.

While fertility rates of women aged less than 30 have declined since the 1970s, fertility rates of those aged 30 or more have risen since the 1980s. As such, part of the decline in fertility within the EU is likely to be a result of postponement of childbearing.

Relatively high fertility rates tend to be recorded in those Member States which have implemented a range of family-friendly policies, such as the introduction of accessible and affordable childcare and/or more flexible working patterns (France, the Nordic countries, or the Netherlands). Most commentators agree that fertility will increase if there are stimuli, such as higher economic growth and security, more childcare facilities, fiscal measures that support families, family benefit income, a stock of suitable housing, or a range of policies designed to reconcile work and family life, such as more flexible working arrangements (part-time or telework). While a conventional analysis of declining fertility rates might suggest that the decline in fertility rates could be related to increased female participation in the labour market, there is clear evidence of a positive relationship in many countries, for example, in the Nordic countries or Spain, where tertiary-educated women in employment tend to have more children than less educated women.

DEFINITIONS AND DATA AVAILABILITY

Live births are defined as the birth of children that showed any sign of life; they refer to the number of births excluding stillbirths (total births include live births and stillbirths).

Live births outside marriage are defined as births where the mother's marital status at the time of birth is other than married.

The crude birth rate is the ratio of the number of births during the year to the average population in that year; the value is expressed per 1 000 inhabitants.

Total fertility rates are defined as the mean number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the fertility rates by age of a given year. The total fertility rate is therefore the completed fertility of a hypothetical generation, computed by adding the fertility rates by age for women in a given year (the number of women at each age is assumed to be the same).

Fertility rates according to the age of the mother (also known as age specific fertility rates) are defined as the ratio of the number of births to mothers of age x to the average female population of age x . Eurostat converts the rates established using the age at last birthday into rates based on the age reached during the year in order to produce comparable data between countries.

The mean age of women at childbearing is defined as the mean age of women when their children are born. For a given calendar year, the mean age of women at childbearing can be calculated using fertility rates by age (in general, the reproductive period is between 15 and 49 years of age). Completed fertility is defined as the mean number of children born to women of a given generation at the end of their childbearing years. This is calculated by adding the fertility rates by age of the mother observed for successive years, when the cohort has reached the age in question (in general, only ages between 15 and 49 years are considered). In practice, the fertility rates for older women can be estimated using the rates observed for previous generations, without waiting for the cohort to reach the end of the reproductive period.

MAIN FINDINGS

Fertility rates vary considerably across the world, with Europe (1.41) and North America (1.99) the only continents to report fertility rates below the natural replacement level of 2.1 during the period 2000 to 2005; fertility rates in China (1.70), Russia (1.30) and Japan (1.29) were also well below the natural replacement level. Africa had the highest fertility rate (4.98), while Latin America and the Caribbean (2.52), Asia (2.47) and Oceania (2.37) all reported rates slightly below the world average of 2.65.

Crude birth rates express the number of births in relation to the whole population: the European crude birth rate (10.2 births per 1 000 inhabitants) was the lowest among the continents and approximately half the world average of 21.1 for the period 2000 to 2005. The EU-27 rate fluctuated during this five-year period between 10.3 and 10.6, which was slightly above the latest crude birth rates registered for Russia (9.9) or Japan (9.0), but lower than those recorded for China (13.6), the United States (14.1) or India (25.1).

The EU-27's fertility rate fell at a relatively fast pace between 1960 and 1999, from an average of 2.59 children per woman to 1.42. The fertility rate subsequently recovered somewhat to 1.5 by 2004, with just over 5 million live births being recorded each year in the EU-27 during most of the last decade. These aggregated figures hide considerable differences across the Member States, as fertility rates initially declined at the most rapid pace in northern European countries, followed in the 1980s by southern Europe, and in the 1990s by many of the 12 Member States that have recently joined the EU. In 2005, some of the lowest fertility rates in the EU-27 were registered in southern and eastern Europe.

The mean age for women giving birth rose to over 30 in five of the Member States (Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden and Denmark) by 2005, and was between 29 and 30 in a further ten of the Member States. The trend for postponing birth was, in the last decade, most prevalent in the Czech Republic, the Baltic States, Hungary and Slovenia, where the average age of women giving birth rose by at least two years in the period 1995 to 2005.

Births outside marriage accounted for an increasing share of total births, partly reflecting the growing popularity of cohabitation, rising to almost 33 % of all births in the EU-27 by 2005. A majority of the children born in Sweden and Estonia were born to unmarried parents, and around 40 % of those born in Denmark, France, Latvia, Slovenia, Finland and the United Kingdom were also born outside of marriage in 2005.

The biggest gains in the absolute number of births at a regional level between 2005 and 2030 are projected for several areas in the Netherlands – Flevoland, Utrecht, Groningen and Noord-Holland, as well as Åland (Finland), Sydsverige and Västsverige (Sweden), and the provinces of Luxembourg and Namur (Belgium)⁽⁵⁾. In contrast, the number of births in the Voreio Aigaio (Greece), Castilla y León, Galicia and the Principado de Asturias (all Spain), Severozapaden (Bulgaria) and Chemnitz (Germany) is projected to fall by as much as 40 to 45 %, while an overall reduction of just over 50 % is foreseen for Dessau (also Germany).

(5) France and the United Kingdom, not available.

SOURCES

Statistical books

The social situation in the European Union 2005-2006
Population statistics (with CD-Rom)
European social statistics – demography

Pocketbooks

Living conditions in Europe – statistical pocketbook – data 2002-2005

Methodologies and working papers

Demographic outlook – national reports on the demographic developments in 2005
Methodology for the calculation of Eurostat's demographic indicators
Study of low fertility in the regions of the European Union: places, periods and causes

Website data

Demography

- Demography – national data
 - Main demographic indicators
 - Population change: absolute numbers and crude rates
 - Fertility
 - Fertility indicators
 - Live births by month
 - Live births by marital status and mother's age at last birthday
 - Live births by marital status and mother's age reached during the year
 - Fertility rates by age
 - Live births by birth order and mother's age at last birthday
 - Live births by birth order and mother's age reached during the year
 - Fertility rates by true birth order and age, by generation

Demography – regional data

- Population change
 - Births and deaths
 - Births by age of the mother

Population projections

- Trend scenario, national level – base year 2004
- Trend scenario, regional level – base year 2004


Table SP.8: Average number of live births per year

(1 000)

	1960-65	1965-70	1970-75	1975-80	1980-85	1985-90	1990-95	1995-00	2000-05
World	111 829	117 740	119 550	120 479	128 653	136 825	135 888	133 632	133 493
Europe (1)	11 873	10 838	10 453	10 128	10 080	9 806	8 366	7 431	7 419
Africa	14 449	16 066	18 151	20 550	23 311	25 728	27 850	30 062	32 816
Asia	70 704	76 143	75 917	74 190	78 945	84 627	82 844	79 547	76 623
Latin America and the Caribbean	9 691	10 233	10 804	11 389	11 769	11 790	11 757	11 683	11 601
Northern America	4 663	4 002	3 735	3 760	4 064	4 356	4 518	4 341	4 461
Oceania	449	459	491	463	484	518	554	567	573
EU-27	7 595	7 501	6 944	6 473	6 166	5 919	5 554	5 106	5 059
China	26 313	28 798	25 131	20 745	21 627	24 721	21 555	19 848	17 569
India	19 108	20 241	21 699	23 452	25 048	26 524	27 890	27 728	27 408
Japan	1 662	1 793	2 147	1 759	1 533	1 281	1 213	1 213	1 141
Russian Federation	2 585	1 854	2 027	2 163	2 371	2 363	1 620	1 326	1 441
United States	4 197	3 618	3 383	3 396	3 689	3 973	4 123	3 992	4 124

(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (tps00111), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Live births are the births of children that showed any sign of life (total births minus stillbirths).

Table SP.9: Number of live births

(1 000)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
EU-27 (1)	5 132.9	5 117.9	5 075.0	5 072.5	5 123.1	5 021.9	4 993.2	5 040.7	5 116.8	5 134.4	:
Euro area (1)	3 162.8	3 186.0	3 178.1	3 207.7	3 275.9	3 224.3	3 218.4	3 233.6	3 269.5	3 257.1	:
Belgium	116.4	116.2	114.5	113.5	116.3	114.0	111.1	112.1	115.6	117.8	:
Bulgaria	72.2	64.1	65.4	72.3	73.7	68.2	66.5	67.4	69.9	71.1	74.0
Czech Republic	90.4	90.7	90.5	89.5	90.9	90.7	92.8	93.7	97.7	102.2	105.8
Denmark	67.6	67.6	66.2	66.2	67.1	65.5	64.1	64.7	64.6	64.3	65.0
Germany	796.0	812.2	785.0	770.7	767.0	734.5	719.3	706.7	705.6	685.8	675.0
Estonia	13.2	12.6	12.2	12.4	13.1	12.6	13.0	13.0	14.0	14.4	14.9
Ireland	50.7	52.8	54.0	53.9	54.8	57.9	60.5	61.5	62.0	61.0	:
Greece	100.7	102.0	100.9	100.6	103.3	102.3	103.6	104.4	105.7	107.5	111.0
Spain	362.6	369.0	365.2	380.1	397.6	406.4	418.8	441.9	454.6	466.4	475.0
France	764.7	758.1	768.6	776.5	808.2	804.1	793.6	793.9	800.2	807.8	830.9
Italy	528.1	534.5	515.4	537.2	543.1	535.3	538.2	544.1	562.6	554.0	560.0
Cyprus	9.6	9.3	8.9	8.5	8.4	8.2	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.2	8.8
Latvia	19.8	18.8	18.4	19.4	20.2	19.7	20.0	21.0	20.3	21.5	22.3
Lithuania	39.1	37.8	37.0	36.4	34.1	31.5	30.0	30.6	30.4	30.5	31.3
Luxembourg	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.5
Hungary	105.3	100.4	97.3	94.6	97.6	97.0	96.8	94.6	95.1	97.5	99.9
Malta	5.0	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.0	3.9	4.1	3.9	3.9	3.9
Netherlands	189.5	192.4	199.4	200.4	206.6	202.6	202.1	200.3	194.0	187.9	185.1
Austria	88.8	84.0	81.2	78.1	78.3	75.5	78.4	76.9	79.0	78.2	77.9
Poland	428.2	412.6	395.6	382.0	378.3	368.2	353.8	351.1	356.1	364.4	374.2
Portugal	110.4	113.0	113.5	116.0	120.0	112.8	114.4	112.5	109.3	109.4	105.4
Romania	231.3	236.9	237.3	234.6	234.5	220.4	210.5	212.5	216.3	221.0	219.5
Slovenia	18.8	18.2	17.9	17.5	18.2	17.5	17.5	17.3	18.0	18.2	18.9
Slovakia	60.1	59.1	57.6	56.2	55.2	51.1	50.8	51.7	53.7	54.4	53.9
Finland	60.7	59.3	57.1	57.6	56.7	56.2	55.6	56.6	57.8	57.7	58.8
Sweden	95.3	90.5	89.0	88.2	90.4	91.5	95.8	99.2	100.9	101.3	105.9
United Kingdom	732.9	726.6	716.9	700.0	679.0	669.1	668.8	695.5	716.0	722.5	748.5
Croatia	53.8	55.5	47.1	45.2	43.7	41.0	40.1	39.7	40.3	42.5	41.4
FYR of Macedonia	31.4	29.5	29.2	27.3	29.3	27.0	27.8	27.0	23.4	22.5	22.6
Turkey	1 486.0	1 500.0	1 505.0	1 501.0	1 494.0	1 486.0	1 482.0	1 479.0	1 360.0	1 361.0	1 362.0
Iceland	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4
Liechtenstein	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4
Norway	60.9	59.8	58.4	59.3	59.2	56.7	55.4	56.5	57.0	56.8	58.5
Switzerland	83.0	80.6	78.9	78.4	78.5	72.3	72.4	71.8	73.1	72.9	73.6

(1) Break in series, 1998.

Source: Eurostat (tps00111)


Table SP.10: Crude birth rate

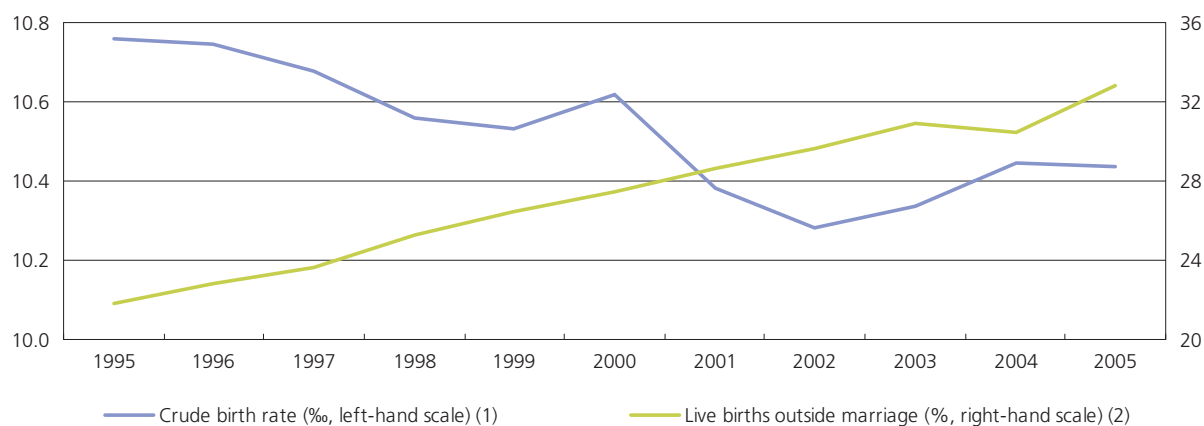
(%)

	1960-65	1965-70	1970-75	1975-80	1980-85	1985-90	1990-95	1995-00	2000-05
World	35.1	33.4	30.8	28.3	27.6	27.0	24.7	22.6	21.1
Europe (1)	19.2	16.8	15.7	14.8	14.4	13.7	11.5	10.2	10.2
Africa	48.0	47.0	46.5	45.9	45.1	43.2	40.8	38.9	37.7
Asia	39.2	37.7	33.5	29.5	28.5	27.9	25.0	22.2	20.1
Latin America and the Caribbean	41.0	37.9	35.3	33.0	30.6	27.8	25.3	23.2	21.5
Northern America	22.0	17.7	15.7	15.1	15.5	15.8	15.5	14.1	13.8
Oceania	26.7	24.5	24.0	21.0	20.4	20.1	19.9	18.9	17.8
EU-27	18.4	17.6	15.8	14.3	13.4	12.7	11.7	10.7	10.4
China	38.0	36.9	28.6	21.5	20.9	22.3	18.2	16.0	13.6
India	40.7	38.8	37.3	36.0	34.3	32.5	30.7	27.7	25.1
Japan	17.2	17.6	19.9	15.4	12.9	10.5	9.7	9.6	9.0
Russian Federation	21.0	14.4	15.3	15.9	16.8	16.2	10.9	8.9	9.9
United States	21.8	17.7	15.7	15.1	15.6	15.9	15.7	14.4	14.1

(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (tps00112), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

The crude birth rate relates the number of births during the year to the average population in that year. The value is expressed per 1 000 inhabitants.

Figure SP.18: Live births outside marriage and crude birth rate, EU-27


(1) Break in series, 1998.

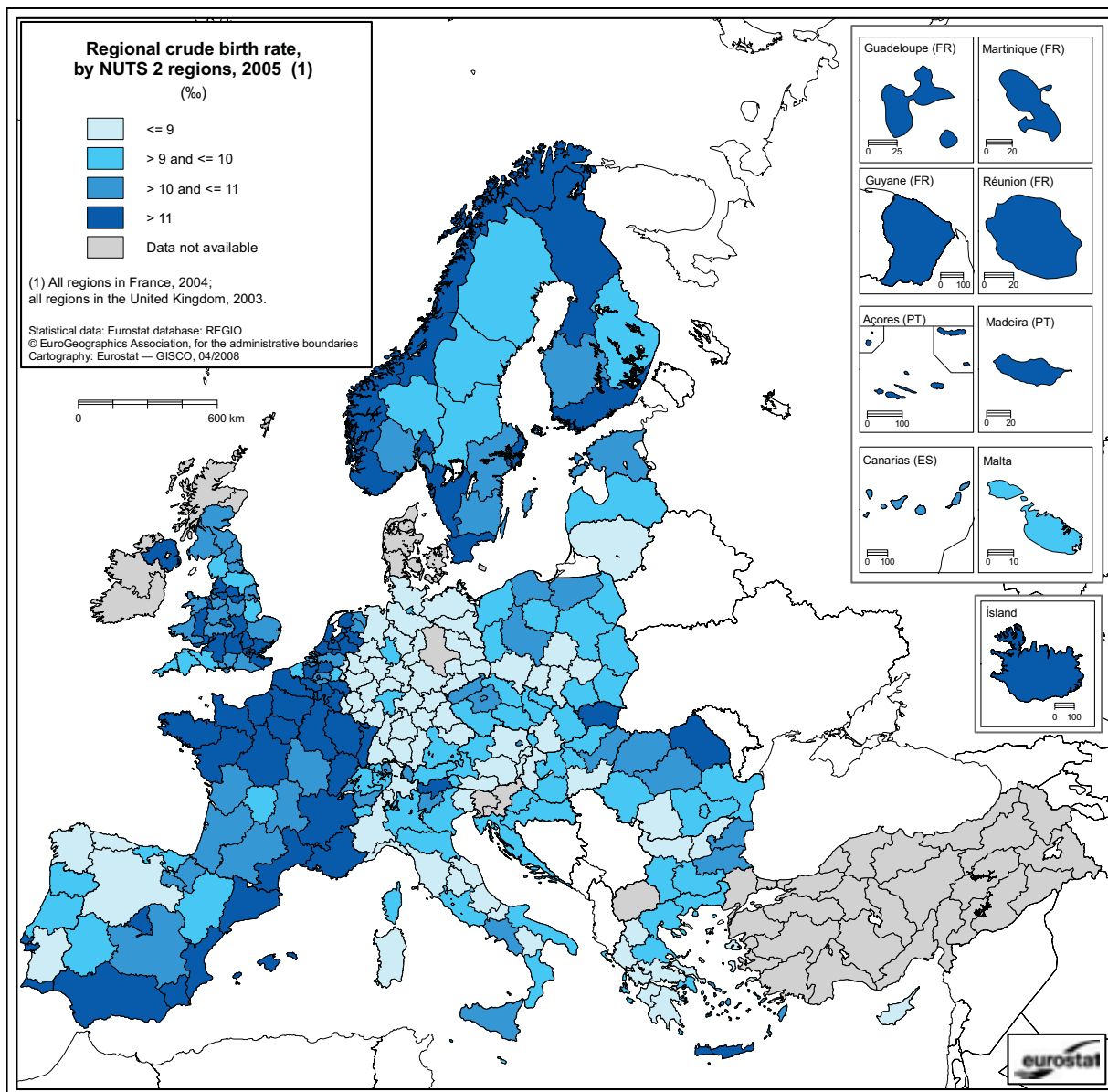
(2) Excluding Belgium from 1998 onwards.

Source: Eurostat (tps00018 and tps00112)

Live births where the mother's marital status at the time of birth is other than married.

Map SP.2: Regional crude birth rate, by NUTS 2 regions, 2005

(‰)



Source: Eurostat (d3natmo)


Table SP.11: Average fertility rates

(mean number of children per woman)

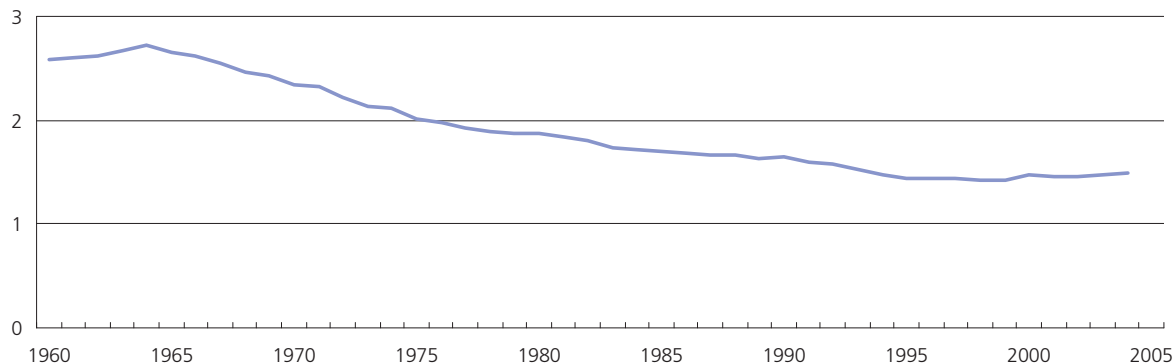
	1960-65	1965-70	1970-75	1975-80	1980-85	1985-90	1990-95	1995-00	2000-05
World	4.98	4.90	4.47	3.92	3.58	3.38	3.05	2.80	2.65
Europe (1)	2.58	2.36	2.16	1.97	1.89	1.83	1.57	1.40	1.41
Africa	6.87	6.80	6.72	6.61	6.45	6.13	5.68	5.28	4.98
Asia	5.65	5.67	5.04	4.19	3.67	3.40	2.97	2.67	2.47
Latin America and the Caribbean	5.97	5.54	5.04	4.48	3.92	3.41	3.03	2.73	2.52
Northern America	3.35	2.55	2.01	1.78	1.81	1.89	1.99	1.95	1.99
Oceania	3.98	3.57	3.23	2.73	2.59	2.51	2.48	2.42	2.37
EU-25	2.64	2.54	2.23	1.94	1.79	1.67	1.56	1.43	1.48
China	5.72	6.06	4.86	3.32	2.55	2.46	1.92	1.78	1.70
India	5.82	5.61	5.26	4.89	4.50	4.15	3.86	3.46	3.11
Japan	2.02	2.00	2.07	1.81	1.76	1.66	1.49	1.39	1.29
Russian Federation	2.55	2.02	2.03	1.94	2.04	2.12	1.55	1.25	1.30
United States	3.31	2.55	2.02	1.79	1.83	1.92	2.03	1.99	2.04

(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (demo_find), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.19: Fertility rate, EU-25

(mean number of children per woman)



Source: Eurostat (demo_find)

Table SP.12: Fertility rate

(mean number of children per woman)

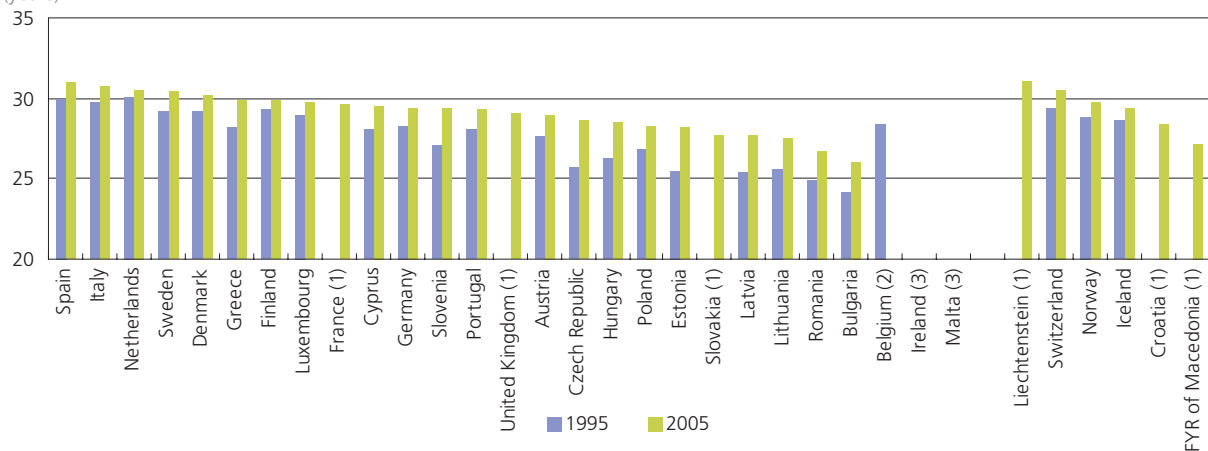
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Belgium	1.56	1.59	1.60	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	1.23	1.23	1.09	1.11	1.23	1.30	1.24	1.21	1.23	1.29	1.31
Czech Republic	1.28	1.18	1.17	1.16	1.13	1.14	1.14	1.17	1.18	1.23	1.28
Denmark	1.80	1.75	1.76	1.73	1.74	1.78	1.76	1.72	1.76	1.78	1.80
Germany	:	:	:	:	:	1.38	1.35	1.34	1.34	1.36	1.34
Estonia	1.38	1.37	1.32	1.28	1.32	1.38	1.34	1.37	1.37	1.47	1.50
Ireland	1.84	1.88	1.93	1.93	1.89	1.88	1.93	1.96	1.95	1.93	1.86
Greece	1.31	1.28	1.28	1.26	1.24	1.26	1.25	1.27	1.28	1.30	1.33
Spain	1.17	1.16	1.17	1.16	1.19	1.23	1.24	1.26	1.31	1.33	1.35
France	:	:	:	1.78	1.81	1.89	1.90	1.88	1.89	1.92	1.94
Italy	1.19	1.20	1.21	:	1.23	1.26	1.18	1.22	1.24	:	1.31
Cyprus	2.02	1.95	1.86	1.76	1.67	1.60	1.37	1.27	1.25	1.47	1.40
Latvia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1.23	1.29	1.24	1.31
Lithuania	1.55	1.49	1.47	1.46	1.46	1.39	1.30	1.24	1.26	1.26	1.27
Luxembourg	1.69	1.77	1.71	1.68	1.74	1.76	1.65	1.63	1.63	1.70	1.70
Hungary	1.57	1.46	1.37	1.32	1.28	1.32	1.31	1.30	1.27	1.28	1.31
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Netherlands	1.53	1.53	1.56	1.63	1.65	1.72	1.71	1.73	1.75	1.72	1.71
Austria	1.42	1.45	1.39	1.37	1.34	1.36	1.33	1.39	1.38	1.42	1.40
Poland	:	:	1.51	1.44	1.37	1.35	1.31	1.25	1.22	1.23	1.24
Portugal	1.41	1.44	1.47	1.47	1.50	1.55	1.45	1.47	1.44	1.40	1.40
Romania	1.41	1.37	1.40	1.40	1.39	1.39	1.31	1.25	1.27	1.29	1.32
Slovenia	1.29	1.28	1.25	1.23	1.21	1.26	1.21	1.21	1.20	1.25	1.26
Slovakia	1.52	1.47	1.43	1.37	1.33	1.30	1.20	1.18	1.20	1.24	1.25
Finland	1.81	1.76	1.75	1.70	1.73	1.73	1.73	1.72	1.77	1.80	1.80
Sweden	1.73	1.60	1.52	1.50	1.50	1.54	1.57	1.65	1.71	1.75	1.77
United Kingdom	1.71	1.73	1.72	1.71	1.68	1.64	1.63	1.64	1.71	1.76	1.78
Croatia	:	:	:	:	:	1.46	1.37	:	1.32	1.34	1.41
FYR of Macedonia	2.12	2.07	1.93	1.90	1.76	1.88	1.73	1.80	1.77	1.52	1.46
Iceland	2.08	2.12	2.04	2.05	1.99	2.08	1.95	1.93	1.99	2.04	2.05
Liechtenstein	:	:	:	:	:	1.57	1.52	1.47	1.36	1.44	1.49
Norway	1.87	1.89	1.86	1.81	1.85	1.85	1.78	1.75	1.80	1.83	1.84
Switzerland	1.48	1.50	1.48	1.47	1.48	1.50	1.38	1.39	1.38	1.42	1.42

Source: Eurostat (tps00015)

The mean number of children that would be born alive to a woman during her lifetime if she were to pass through her childbearing years conforming to the fertility rates by age of a given year. It is therefore the completed fertility of a hypothetical generation, computed by adding the fertility rates by age for women in a given year (the number of women at each age is assumed to be the same). The total fertility rate is also used to indicate the replacement level fertility; in more developed countries, a rate of 2.1 is considered to be replacement level.

Figure SP.20: Mean age of women at childbearing

(years)



(1) Not available, 1995.

(2) Not available, 2005.

(3) Not available.

Source: Eurostat (tps00017 and demo_find)

The mean age of women when their children are born. For a given calendar year, the mean age of women at childbearing is calculated using the fertility rates by age as weights (in general, the reproductive period is between 15 and 49 years of age). When calculated in this way, the mean age is not influenced by a specific population structure (number of mothers in each age group) and is therefore better for geographical and temporal comparisons.

**Table SP.13: Mean age of women at childbearing**

(years)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Belgium	28.4	28.5	28.6	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	24.2	24.4	24.5	24.5	24.7	25.0	25.1	25.3	25.5	25.7	26.0
Czech Republic	25.8	26.1	26.4	26.6	26.9	27.2	27.5	27.8	28.0	28.3	28.7
Denmark	29.2	29.3	28.9	29.0	29.1	29.2	29.2	29.9	30.0	30.1	30.2
Germany	28.3	28.4	28.5	28.6	28.7	28.7	28.8	29.0	29.1	29.3	29.4
Estonia	25.5	25.8	26.1	26.3	26.5	27.0	27.2	27.5	27.7	27.9	28.2
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Greece	28.2	28.4	28.6	28.7	28.9	29.6	29.2	29.3	29.5	29.6	29.9
Spain	30.0	30.2	30.4	30.5	30.6	30.7	30.7	30.8	30.8	30.9	30.9
France	:	:	:	29.3	29.3	29.3	29.3	29.4	29.5	29.6	29.6
Italy	29.7	29.9	30.4	:	30.3	30.3	30.4	30.6	30.7	:	30.7
Cyprus	28.1	28.1	28.3	28.4	28.6	28.7	28.9	29.1	29.2	29.2	29.5
Latvia	25.4	25.5	25.9	26.2	26.3	26.7	26.9	27.1	27.2	27.4	27.7
Lithuania	25.6	25.7	26.0	26.3	26.4	26.6	26.8	26.9	27.1	27.4	27.5
Luxembourg	28.9	29.2	29.2	29.2	29.4	29.3	29.3	29.5	29.6	29.7	29.7
Hungary	26.3	26.5	26.6	26.8	27.0	27.3	27.6	27.8	28.0	28.2	28.5
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Netherlands	30.0	30.1	30.2	30.2	30.3	30.3	30.3	30.3	30.4	30.5	30.5
Austria	27.7	27.8	27.9	28.0	28.1	28.2	28.4	28.6	28.8	28.8	29.0
Poland	26.9	27.0	27.1	27.2	27.3	27.4	27.6	27.8	27.9	28.1	28.2
Portugal	28.0	28.1	28.3	28.4	28.5	28.6	28.8	28.9	29.0	29.2	29.3
Romania	24.9	25.1	25.1	25.3	25.5	25.7	25.8	26.1	26.2	26.4	26.7
Slovenia	27.0	27.3	27.5	27.8	28.0	28.2	28.5	28.8	28.9	29.2	29.4
Slovakia	:	:	26.0	26.2	26.4	25.8	26.8	27.0	27.3	27.4	27.7
Finland	29.3	29.3	29.4	29.5	29.6	29.6	29.7	29.7	28.9	29.9	29.9
Sweden	29.2	29.4	29.5	29.7	29.8	29.9	30.0	30.1	30.3	30.4	30.5
United Kingdom	:	:	28.3	28.4	28.4	28.5	28.6	28.7	28.8	29.0	29.0
Croatia	:	:	:	:	:	27.8	27.9	:	28.0	28.2	28.4
FYR of Macedonia	:	:	:	26.2	26.2	26.4	26.6	26.7	26.8	27.0	27.2
Iceland	28.7	28.8	28.6	28.8	28.7	28.9	29.1	29.3	29.3	29.5	29.4
Liechtenstein	:	:	:	:	:	30.1	29.8	30.8	29.6	31.0	31.1
Norway	28.8	28.9	29.1	29.2	29.3	29.3	29.4	29.5	29.7	29.7	29.8
Switzerland	29.4	29.5	29.6	29.7	29.7	29.8	30.0	30.1	30.2	30.4	30.5

Source: Eurostat (tps00017)

Table SP.14: Completed fertility by generation of the mother

(mean number of children per woman)

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Belgium	1.87	1.84	1.84	1.81	1.80	1.78	1.76	:	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	:	:	1.87	1.86	1.87	1.81	1.81	1.77	1.73	1.67	1.64	1.61
Czech Republic	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Denmark	1.87	1.89	1.88	1.88	1.89	1.89	1.89	1.92	1.95	1.95	1.95	1.92
Germany	1.66	1.63	1.61	1.59	1.56	1.55	1.52	1.49	1.48	1.47	1.47	1.47
Estonia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Greece	1.97	1.86	1.84	1.78	1.79	1.77	1.75	1.78	1.71	1.63	1.57	1.52
Spain	1.79	1.70	1.67	1.66	1.69	1.61	1.58	1.58	1.52	1.48	1.45	:
France	2.12	2.09	2.08	2.07	2.04	2.03	2.02	2.01	2.01	1.99	1.99	1.97
Italy	1.68	1.63	1.62	1.59	1.56	1.54	1.51	1.50	:	:	:	:
Cyprus	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Latvia	1.92	1.91	1.91	1.88	1.86	1.84	1.80	1.82	1.79	1.77	1.69	1.64
Lithuania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Luxembourg	1.74	1.77	1.81	1.80	1.84	1.83	1.86	1.87	1.81	1.82	1.83	1.84
Hungary	2.01	2.03	2.03	1.99	1.98	1.97	1.96	1.94	1.91	1.88	1.83	1.81
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Netherlands	1.86	1.83	1.83	1.81	1.79	1.78	1.78	1.77	1.76	1.75	1.74	:
Austria	1.58	1.57	1.58	1.58	1.59	1.62	1.62	1.61	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Poland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Portugal	1.88	1.86	1.87	1.82	1.82	1.82	1.81	1.79	1.74	1.70	1.66	1.64
Romania	2.16	2.11	2.04	2.02	1.97	1.91	1.85	1.65	1.68	1.68	1.66	1.67
Slovenia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	1.72	1.67	1.62	:	:
Slovakia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Finland	1.96	1.95	1.93	1.93	1.91	1.91	1.89	1.87	1.90	1.89	1.86	:
Sweden	2.05	2.03	2.03	2.02	2.01	2.00	1.99	1.98	1.98	1.97	1.96	:
United Kingdom	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Iceland	2.47	2.50	2.38	2.43	2.40	2.39	2.34	2.41	2.38	2.28	2.35	2.29
Norway	2.09	2.10	2.10	2.08	2.08	2.08	2.07	2.06	2.07	2.05	2.04	2.02
Switzerland	1.71	1.82	1.74	1.69	1.67	1.66	1.66	1.65	1.63	1.63	1.60	:

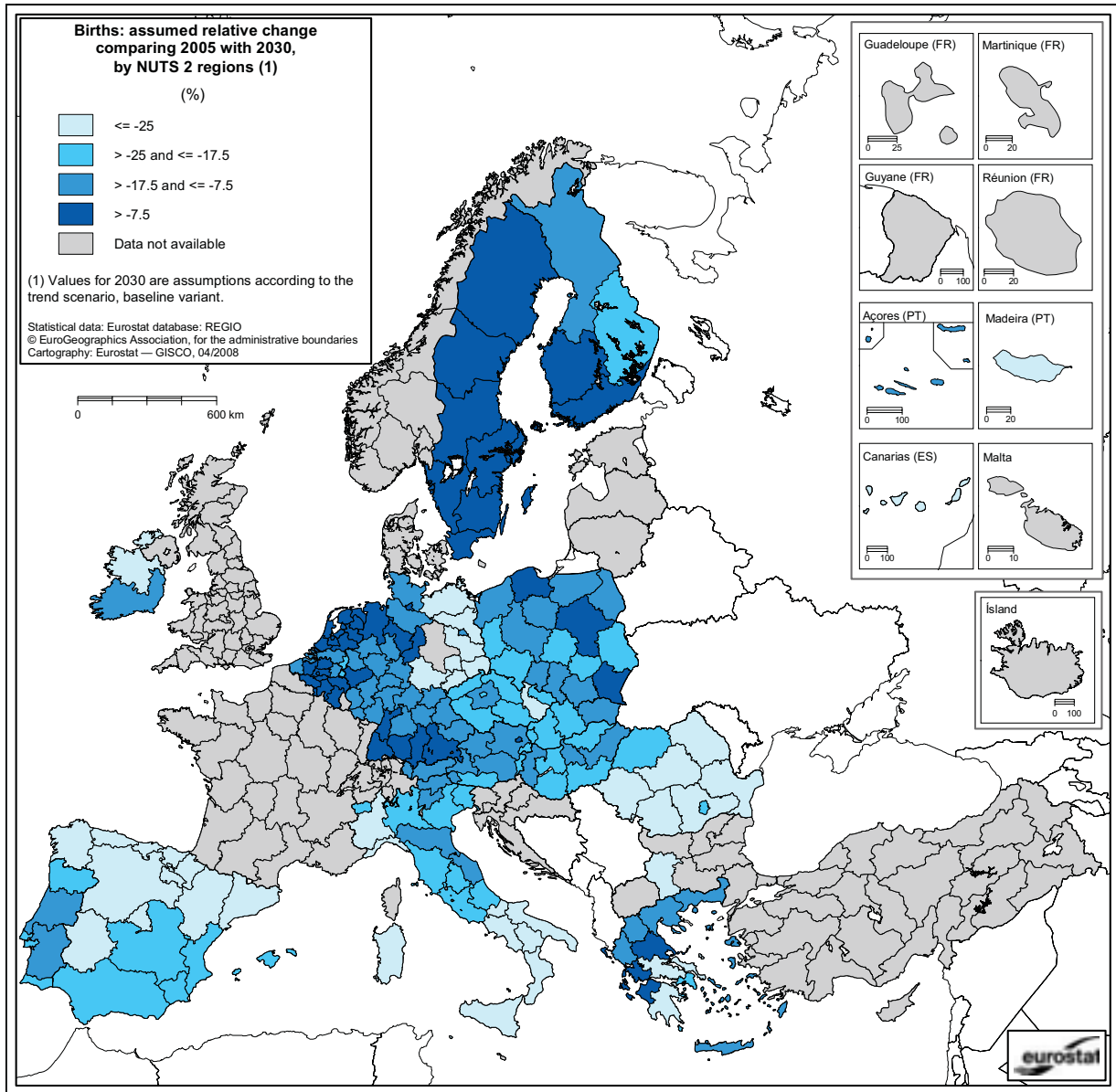
Source: Eurostat (tps00016)

The mean number of children born to women of a given generation at the end of their childbearing years. This is calculated by adding the fertility rates by age of the mother observed for successive years, when the cohort has reached the age in question (in general, only ages between 15 and 49 years are considered). In practice, the fertility rates for older women can be estimated using the rates observed for previous generations, without waiting for the cohort to reach the end of the reproductive period.



Map SP.3: Births: assumed relative change comparing 2005 with 2030, by NUTS 2 regions

(%)



Source: Eurostat (proj_rtbp_dem_eve)

Table SP.15: Assumed future fertility rate – baseline variant

(mean number of children per woman)

	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Belgium	1.63	1.66	1.68	1.69	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.70
Bulgaria	1.21	1.25	1.29	1.34	1.39	1.44	1.47	1.49	1.50	1.50
Czech Republic	1.15	1.24	1.37	1.44	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Denmark	1.77	1.78	1.78	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
Germany	1.37	1.41	1.43	1.44	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45
Estonia	1.40	1.45	1.49	1.54	1.58	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Ireland	1.95	1.89	1.84	1.81	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
Greece	1.32	1.41	1.47	1.49	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Spain	1.31	1.36	1.39	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40
France	1.88	1.87	1.86	1.86	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.85
Italy	1.32	1.38	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40	1.40
Cyprus	1.45	1.43	1.46	1.49	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Latvia	1.32	1.42	1.48	1.53	1.57	1.59	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Lithuania	1.29	1.30	1.35	1.41	1.49	1.55	1.59	1.60	1.60	1.60
Luxembourg	1.66	1.73	1.77	1.78	1.79	1.79	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
Hungary	1.30	1.33	1.41	1.51	1.57	1.59	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Malta	1.62	1.49	1.49	1.54	1.58	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Netherlands	1.75	1.76	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
Austria	1.40	1.42	1.44	1.44	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45
Poland	1.19	1.19	1.29	1.42	1.53	1.58	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Portugal	1.47	1.52	1.56	1.59	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
Romania	1.30	1.34	1.37	1.40	1.44	1.47	1.49	1.50	1.50	1.50
Slovenia	1.18	1.27	1.38	1.46	1.49	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
Slovakia	1.18	1.18	1.23	1.33	1.43	1.52	1.57	1.59	1.60	1.60
Finland	1.77	1.78	1.79	1.79	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
Sweden	1.77	1.84	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.85	1.85
United Kingdom	1.72	1.74	1.74	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_asm)



LIFE EXPECTANCY AND DEATH

INTRODUCTION

Another contributing factor to the ageing of the EU's population is a gradual increase in life expectancies. This may, at least in part, be attributed to higher standards of living, better healthcare, as well as more awareness of health issues. The first half of the 20th century was characterised by increased life expectancy resulting from declining mortality from communicable diseases (for more information on infant mortality, please refer to Chapter 3). In the latter part of the 20th century life expectancy increased due to improved living conditions and medical progress in relation to older generations; one important determinant has been the decrease in mortality from cardiovascular diseases (for more information on causes of death, please refer to Chapter 3).

A set of health expectancy indicators have been developed to extend the concept of life expectancy to cover morbidity and disability, so as to assess the quality of life; these indicators are included in the list of structural indicators on the basis of which the Commission draws up its annual synthesis report, thereby integrating public health into the Lisbon strategy.

The EC Treaty (Title XIII Public Health, Article 152) states that 'Community action, which shall complement national policies, shall be directed towards improving public health, preventing human illness and diseases, and obviating sources of danger to human health.' The on-going programme of Community action in the field of public health (2003-2008) targets the following objectives:

- to improve information and knowledge for the development of public health;
- to enhance the capability of responding rapidly and in a co-ordinated fashion to threats in health;
- promote health and prevent disease through addressing health determinants across all policies and activities.

A strategy for healthcare systems is proposed in two Commission communications entitled, 'modernising social protection for the development of high-quality, accessible and sustainable healthcare and long-term care: support for the national strategies using the open method of coordination' ⁽⁶⁾ and a 'follow-up to the high level reflection process on patient mobility and healthcare developments in the European Union' ⁽⁷⁾.

(6) COM(2004) 304; for more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2004/com2004_0304en01.pdf.

(7) COM(2004) 301; for more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2004/com2004_0301en01.pdf.

DEFINITIONS AND DATA AVAILABILITY

According to the United Nations (UN) definition, a death is the permanent disappearance of all evidence of life at any time after live birth has taken place (postnatal cessation of vital functions without capacity of resuscitation); this definition therefore excludes foetal deaths.

Life expectancy rates can be given for any age. They relate to the mean number of years still to be lived by a person who has reached a certain age, if subjected throughout the rest of his or her life to the current mortality conditions (age-specific probabilities of dying). The most common life expectancy figures relate to life expectancy at birth, measured as the mean number of years that a newborn child can expect to live. Otherwise, life expectancy figures can be given for specific ages; in this publication they are also presented at age 65.

Health expectancies extend the concept of life expectancy to morbidity and disability, in order to assess the quality of life. These are composite indicators that combine mortality data with data referring to health. The Healthy Life Years (HLY) indicator measures the number of remaining years that a person of a specific age is still expected to live in a healthy condition. A healthy condition is defined by the absence of limitations in functioning/disability. Therefore, the indicator is also called disability-free life expectancy (DFLE). HLY indicators are calculated by gender, at birth, and at the age of 65.

Most countries measure mortality both by age completed (age at last birthday) and age reached during the year. Mortality rates by age have been recalculated by Eurostat to the same definition, the age reached during the year of the event; this permits rates to be recombined by generation.

MAIN FINDINGS

Increasing life expectancy is one of the many factors that contribute towards Europe's ageing population profile. This indicator has gradually risen for males and females in Europe, as in other world regions, and this trend is expected to continue. EU-27 life expectancy of a boy at birth was 74.6 years in 2003, while the life expectancy of a newborn girl was just over six years higher at 80.8 years. There remain quite large variations in life expectancies across the EU-27. For males, the lowest life expectancy in 2005 was recorded in Lithuania (65.3 years) and the highest in Sweden (78.5); for women, the range was from a low of 75.7 years in Romania to a high of 83.8 in France (2004).

Gender differences in life expectancy were, in the 1960s, associated with unfavourable male mortality. This pattern was reversed in the 1980s as the gender gap closed in north western Europe, followed by southern Europe in the 1990s. The difference in life expectancies was further narrowed in recent years, as the growth in female life expectancy slowed somewhat. The convergence of life expectancy figures may be a consequence of more similar circumstances in terms of the lifestyles led by men and women in the EU – for example, fewer men are working in areas of the economy where high degrees of physical effort are required throughout the working day (agriculture, mining, or the manufacture of iron and steel). Nevertheless, persistently higher male mortality is recorded throughout the entire life cycle and with respect to all of the main causes of death.

The debate on the possible future course of life expectancy is wide-ranging, although Eurostat population projections suggest that the largest increases will be for the life expectancy of males in those Member States that have joined the EU since 2004, while the difference between male and female life expectancies is likely to continue to close.

Health expectancies can be used to measure the potential of the population to participate in society. There are many Member States that are in the process of implementing or considering changes to their statutory age for retirement, as well as the promotion of policies that actively encourage older persons to remain in work longer. In the EU-15 in 2003, women at birth could expect to have 66.0 healthy life years, while for men the value was 64.5 years. Healthy life years at birth ranged from less than 60 years in Hungary, the Netherlands (women only), Portugal (men only) and Finland, to over 70 years of healthy life for both men and women in Italy.

As people are living longer there has been a growing interest in the older generations – both as potential actors in the workforce, or as a specific market of consumers. This is borne out when looking at the life expectancy of those persons who are aged 65, as in 2005 the average man of this age could be expected to live an additional 12.5 years in Latvia, rising to 17.4 additional years in Sweden. The life expectancy of women at the age of 65 was higher, ranging from 16.1 years in Bulgaria to 21.3 years in Spain.

A ranking of the Member States according to healthy life years at age 65 differs considerably from that for total life expectancy. This indicator is of particular interest in relation to the possible future demand for healthcare and social services, or the potential for older persons to remain within the workforce. For both men and women Italy ranked as the country where people could expect to spend the longest period after the age of 65 in good health, with an average of 14.4 years of healthy life for men and 11.9 years for women.

Projected changes in life expectancy suggest that in the future there will be an increasing number of old persons. As such, the EU's population pyramid is likely to increasingly be characterised by a higher proportion of old and very old persons resting on an increasingly reduced proportion of young persons. Life expectancy in 2050 for men is projected to increase to between 74.3 years in Latvia and 83.6 years in Italy, while for women it is projected to range between 82.0 years in Romania and 89.1 years in Spain.



SOURCES

Statistical books

The social situation in the European Union 2005-2006
 Population statistics (with CD-Rom)
 European social statistics – demography

Pocketbooks

Living conditions in Europe – statistical pocketbook – data 2002-2005

Methodologies and working papers

Demographic outlook – national reports on the demographic developments in 2005
 Methodology for the calculation of Eurostat’s demographic indicators

Website data

Demography

- Demography – national data
 - Main demographic indicators
 - Population change: absolute numbers and crude rates
 - Mortality
 - Deaths by month
 - Deaths by sex and age at last birthday
 - Deaths by sex and age reached during the year
 - Probability of dying by sex and age
 - Life expectancy by sex and age

Demography – regional data

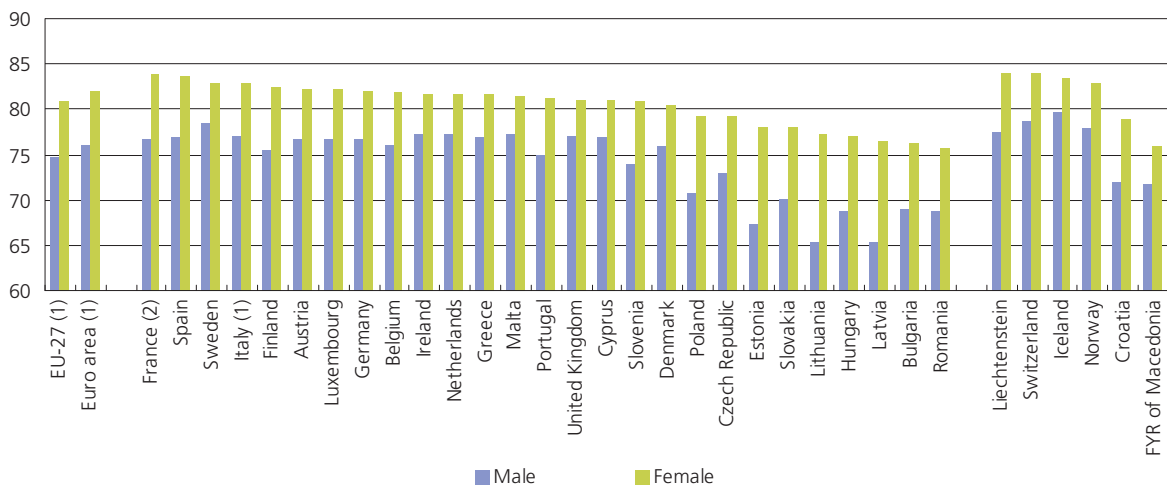
- Population change
 - Births and deaths
 - Deaths by sex and age

Population projections

- Trend scenario, national level – base year 2004
- Trend scenario, regional level – base year 2004

Figure SP.21: Life expectancy at birth, 2005

(years)



(1) 2003.
 (2) 2004.

Source: Eurostat (tps00025)

The mean number of years that a newborn child can expect to live if subjected throughout his life to the current mortality conditions (age specific probabilities of dying).

Table SP.16: Life expectancy at birth

(years)

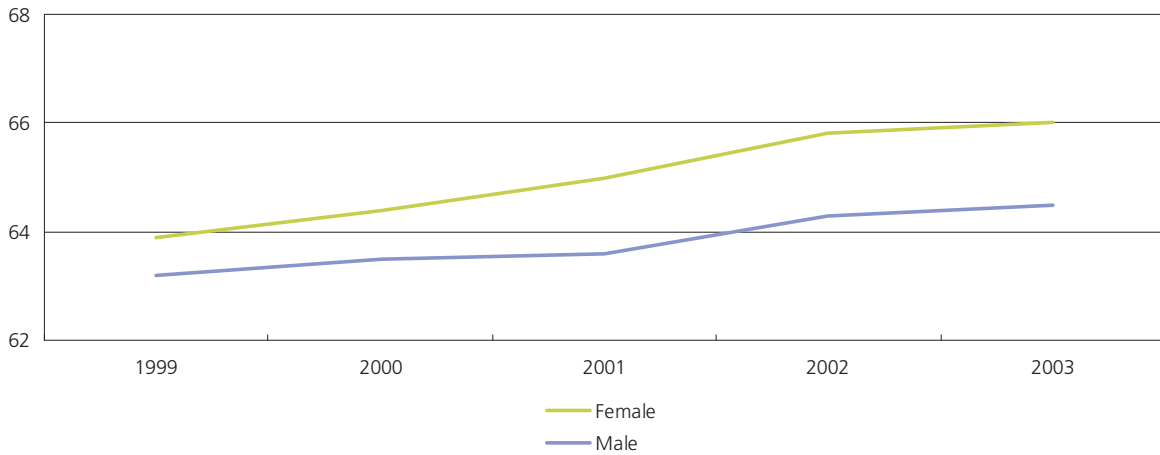
	Male						Female					
	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
EU-27	:	:	:	:	74.6	:	:	:	:	:	80.8	:
Euro area	74.0	74.7	75.2	75.5	76.0	:	80.9	81.4	81.7	82.2	82.0	:
Belgium	73.5	74.2	74.4	75.0	75.3	76.2	80.4	80.7	81.0	81.2	81.1	81.9
Bulgaria	67.4	67.0	68.3	68.5	68.9	69.0	74.9	73.8	75.0	75.4	75.9	76.2
Czech Republic	69.7	70.5	71.5	72.1	72.0	72.9	76.8	77.6	78.3	78.6	78.6	79.3
Denmark	72.7	73.6	74.2	74.7	75.0	76.0	77.9	78.6	79.0	79.3	79.8	80.5
Germany	73.3	74.1	74.8	75.6	75.8	76.7	79.9	80.5	81.0	81.5	81.3	82.0
Estonia	61.5	64.3	64.9	64.9	66.1	67.3	74.3	75.9	76.0	76.4	77.1	78.2
Ireland	72.8	73.4	73.4	74.5	75.9	77.3	78.3	78.7	78.9	79.9	80.8	81.7
Greece	75.0	75.4	75.5	76.0	76.5	76.8	80.1	80.4	80.5	81.0	81.2	81.6
Spain	74.4	75.2	75.3	76.2	76.3	77.0	81.8	82.3	82.4	83.2	83.0	83.7
France	:	:	75.0	75.5	75.8	:	:	:	82.7	83.0	82.7	:
Italy	75.1	75.9	76.6	77.2	77.1	:	81.6	82.1	82.7	83.2	82.8	:
Cyprus	:	:	:	:	77.4	76.8	:	:	:	:	81.6	81.1
Latvia	:	:	:	:	65.6	65.4	:	:	:	:	75.9	76.5
Lithuania	63.3	65.5	66.3	65.9	66.4	65.3	75.1	76.6	77.0	77.6	77.8	77.3
Luxembourg	73.0	74.0	74.4	75.1	74.8	76.6	80.6	80.0	81.4	80.7	80.8	82.2
Hungary	65.5	66.7	66.7	68.2	68.4	68.7	74.8	75.5	75.6	76.7	76.7	77.2
Malta	74.8	75.2	75.3	76.6	76.4	77.3	79.6	80.0	79.4	81.2	80.8	81.4
Netherlands	74.6	75.2	75.4	75.8	76.3	77.3	80.5	80.7	80.5	80.8	81.0	81.7
Austria	73.4	74.1	74.9	75.7	75.9	76.7	80.1	80.7	81.0	81.7	81.5	82.3
Poland	:	68.5	:	70.0	70.5	70.8	:	77.0	:	78.4	78.8	79.3
Portugal	71.7	72.2	72.6	73.5	74.2	74.9	79.0	79.3	79.7	80.5	80.6	81.3
Romania	65.3	65.0	66.9	67.4	67.7	68.7	73.3	73.1	74.1	74.8	75.0	75.7
Slovenia	70.8	71.1	71.8	72.3	72.5	73.9	78.5	79.1	79.5	80.4	80.3	80.9
Slovakia	68.4	68.9	69.0	69.5	69.8	70.2	76.5	76.9	77.4	77.7	77.7	78.1
Finland	72.9	73.5	73.8	74.6	75.2	75.6	80.4	80.7	81.2	81.7	81.9	82.5
Sweden	76.2	76.8	77.1	77.6	78.0	78.5	81.7	82.0	82.0	82.2	82.5	82.9
United Kingdom	74.0	74.7	75.0	75.8	76.2	77.1	79.3	79.7	79.9	80.5	80.5	81.1
Croatia	:	:	:	71.0	71.2	71.8	:	:	:	78.0	78.2	78.8
FYR of Macedonia	69.8	70.3	:	70.9	70.9	71.6	74.0	74.7	:	76.1	75.7	75.9
Iceland	76.0	76.4	77.4	78.3	79.5	79.6	80.1	81.6	81.4	83.2	82.5	83.5
Liechtenstein	75.0	71.9	75.5	76.3	78.4	77.5	79.9	80.4	82.9	82.5	81.6	84.1
Norway	74.8	75.5	75.6	76.2	77.1	77.8	80.9	81.1	81.2	81.7	82.1	82.8
Switzerland	75.4	76.3	76.9	77.5	78.0	78.7	81.9	82.2	82.7	83.2	83.2	84.0

Source: Eurostat (tps00025)



Figure SP.22: Healthy life years at birth, EU-15 (1)

(years)



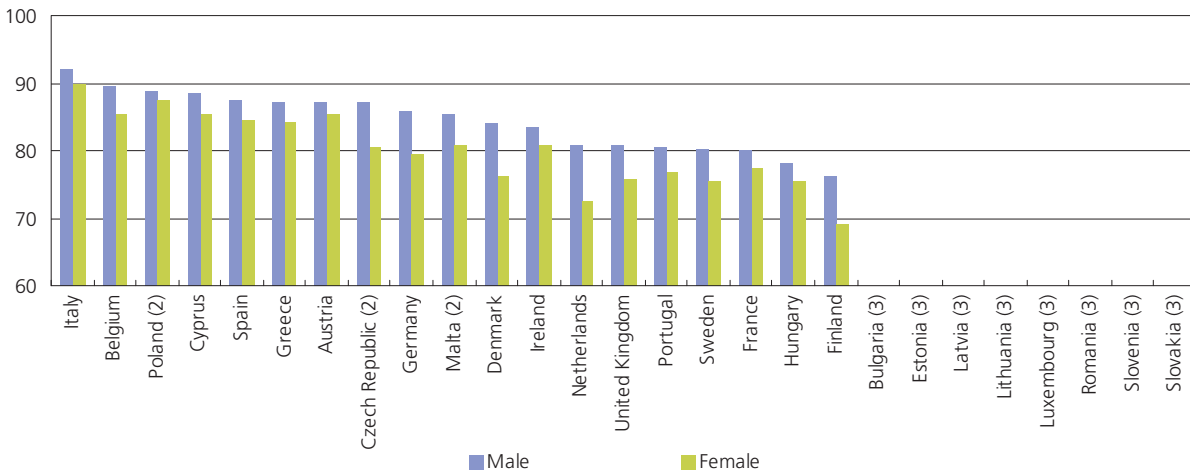
(1) Estimates.

Source: Eurostat (tsdph100)

The indicator healthy life years (HLY) measures the number of years that a person at birth is still expected to live in a healthy condition. HLY is a health expectancy indicator which combines information on mortality and morbidity. The data required are the age-specific prevalence (proportions) of the population in healthy and unhealthy conditions and age-specific mortality information. A healthy condition is defined by the absence of limitations in functioning/disability. The indicator is calculated separately for males and females. The indicator is also called disability-free life expectancy (DFLE).

Figure SP.23: Healthy life years at birth, 2003 (1)

(% of total life expectancy)



(1) Estimates, except Cyprus.

(2) 2002.

(3) Not available.

Source: Eurostat (tsdph100 and tps00025)

Table SP.17: Healthy life years at birth

(years)

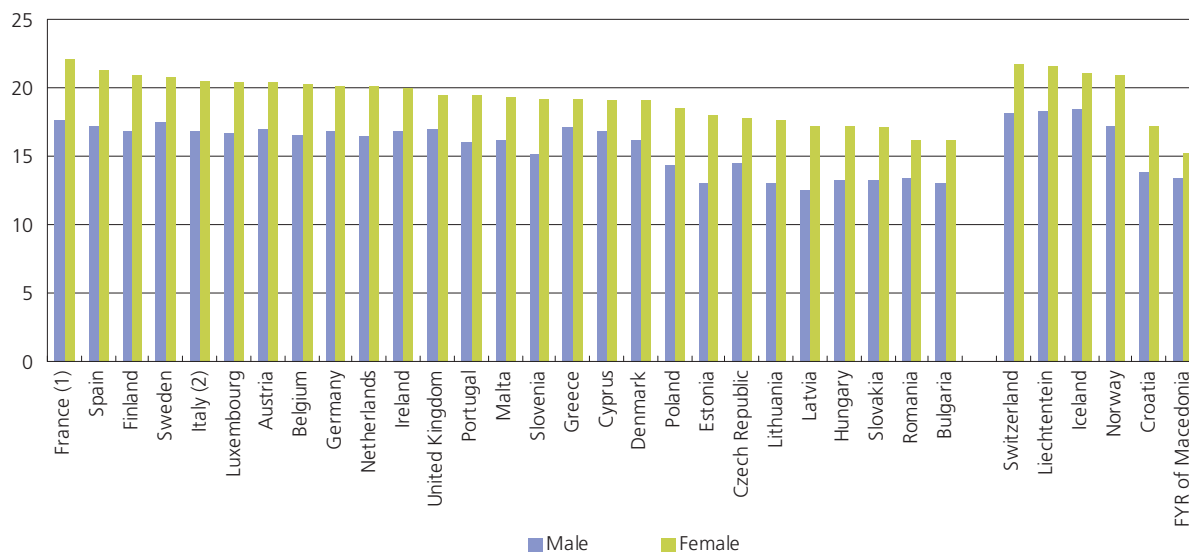
	Male					Female				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
EU-15	63.2	63.5	63.6	64.3	64.5	63.9	64.4	65.0	65.8	66.0
Belgium	66.0	65.7	66.6	66.9	67.4	68.4	69.1	68.8	69.0	69.2
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic	:	:	:	62.8	:	:	:	:	63.3	:
Denmark	62.5	62.9	62.2	62.8	63.0	60.8	61.9	60.4	61.0	60.9
Germany	62.3	63.2	64.1	64.4	65.0	64.3	64.6	64.5	64.5	64.7
Estonia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	63.9	63.3	63.3	63.5	63.4	67.6	66.9	66.5	65.9	65.4
Greece	66.7	66.3	66.7	66.7	66.7	69.4	68.2	68.8	68.5	68.4
Spain	65.6	66.5	66.0	66.6	66.8	69.5	69.3	69.2	69.9	70.2
France	60.1	60.1	60.5	60.4	60.6	63.3	63.2	63.3	63.7	63.9
Italy	68.7	69.7	69.8	70.4	70.9	72.1	72.9	73.0	73.9	74.4
Cyprus	:	:	:	:	68.4	:	:	:	:	69.6
Latvia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Lithuania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Luxembourg	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Hungary	:	:	:	:	53.5	:	:	:	:	57.8
Malta	:	:	:	65.1	:	:	:	:	65.7	:
Netherlands	61.6	61.4	61.9	61.7	61.7	61.4	60.2	59.4	59.3	58.8
Austria	63.6	64.6	64.2	65.6	66.2	:	68.0	68.5	69.0	69.6
Poland	:	:	:	62.5	:	:	:	:	68.9	:
Portugal	58.8	60.2	59.5	59.7	59.8	60.7	62.2	62.7	61.8	61.8
Romania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovakia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Finland	55.8	56.3	56.7	57.0	57.3	57.4	56.8	56.9	56.8	56.5
Sweden	62.0	63.1	61.9	62.4	62.5	61.8	61.9	61.0	61.9	62.2
United Kingdom	61.2	61.3	61.1	61.4	61.5	61.3	61.2	60.8	60.9	60.9
Norway	:	:	:	:	66.3	:	:	:	:	64.2

Source: Eurostat (tsdph100)



Figure SP.24: Life expectancy at 65, 2005

(years)



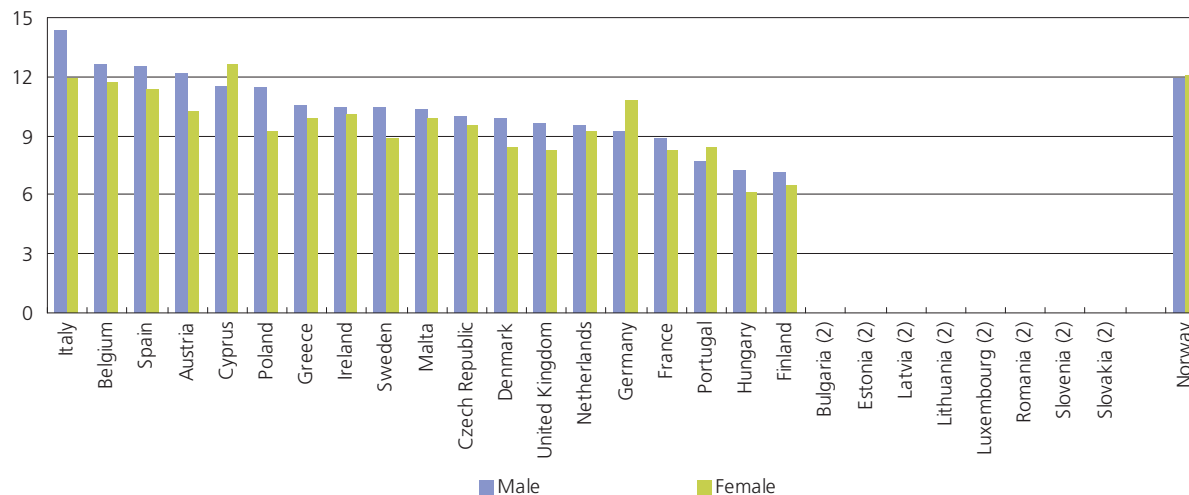
(1) 2004.
(2) 2003.

Source: Eurostat (tsdph230)

The mean number of years still to be lived by a man or a woman who has reached the age 65, if subjected throughout the rest of his or her life to the current mortality conditions (age-specific probabilities of dying).

Figure SP.25: Healthy life years at age 65, 2003 (1)

(years)



(1) Hungary and Norway, provisional; the Czech Republic and Malta, provisional data for 2002; Poland, 2002; all remaining information, except for Cyprus, estimates.

(2) Not available.

Source: Eurostat (tsdph220)

The indicator healthy life years (HLY) at age 65 measures the number of years that a person at age 65 is still expected to live in a healthy condition. HLY is a health expectancy indicator which combines information on mortality and morbidity. The data required are the age-specific prevalence (proportions) of the population in healthy and unhealthy conditions and age-specific mortality information. A healthy condition is defined by the absence of limitations in functioning/disability. The indicator is calculated separately for males and females. The indicator is also called disability-free life expectancy (DFLE).

Table SP.18: Life expectancy at 65

(years)

	Male						Female					
	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	1995	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005
EU-27	:	:	:	:	15.9	:	:	:	:	:	19.4	:
Belgium	14.8	15.2	15.5	15.9	16.0	16.6	19.3	19.5	19.7	19.9	19.6	20.2
Bulgaria	12.7	12.3	12.9	13.0	13.0	13.1	15.3	14.7	15.4	15.7	15.9	16.1
Czech Republic	12.7	13.2	13.7	14.0	13.8	14.4	16.2	16.7	17.1	17.3	17.2	17.7
Denmark	14.1	14.6	15.0	15.2	15.6	16.1	17.6	18.0	18.1	18.3	18.5	19.1
Germany	14.8	15.2	15.6	16.1	16.2	16.9	18.7	19.1	19.4	19.8	19.6	20.1
Estonia	12.0	12.5	12.6	12.7	12.7	13.1	16.1	16.8	17.0	17.3	17.4	18.1
Ireland	13.5	14.0	14.1	15.0	15.9	16.8	17.2	17.6	17.6	18.5	19.2	20.0
Greece	15.9	16.2	16.2	16.5	16.7	17.1	18.2	18.4	18.4	18.7	18.7	19.2
Spain	16.2	16.4	16.2	16.9	16.8	17.3	20.2	20.5	20.3	21.0	20.8	21.3
France	:	:	16.6	17.0	17.0	:	:	:	21.2	21.5	21.0	:
Italy	15.8	16.1	16.4	16.9	16.8	:	19.9	20.2	20.5	21.0	20.6	:
Cyprus	:	:	:	:	16.8	16.8	:	:	:	:	19.3	19.1
Latvia	:	:	:	:	12.6	12.5	:	:	:	:	16.8	17.2
Lithuania	12.9	13.2	13.4	13.5	13.3	13.0	16.9	17.3	17.6	17.9	18.1	17.6
Luxembourg	14.8	14.8	15.3	16.0	15.3	16.7	19.7	19.2	19.9	19.7	18.9	20.4
Hungary	12.2	12.5	12.5	13.2	13.0	13.3	16.0	16.3	16.2	17.0	16.9	17.2
Malta	15.5	14.6	15.0	15.7	15.6	16.2	17.6	18.4	17.8	18.7	18.7	19.4
Netherlands	14.7	15.1	15.2	15.6	15.8	16.4	19.2	19.3	19.2	19.4	19.5	20.1
Austria	15.0	15.2	15.7	16.4	16.4	17.0	18.8	19.1	19.4	20.0	19.8	20.4
Poland	:	13.1	:	13.7	13.9	14.3	:	16.8	:	17.7	18.0	18.5
Portugal	14.7	14.9	15.0	15.7	15.7	16.1	18.1	18.4	18.5	19.1	19.0	19.4
Romania	12.7	12.6	12.9	13.2	13.1	13.4	15.3	15.2	15.5	16.0	15.8	16.2
Slovenia	13.7	14.0	14.1	14.5	14.3	15.2	17.7	18.0	18.3	19.0	18.8	19.3
Slovakia	12.7	12.9	13.0	13.0	13.2	13.3	16.2	16.5	16.8	16.8	16.9	17.1
Finland	14.6	15.0	15.2	15.7	16.2	16.8	18.8	19.1	19.5	19.8	20.0	21.0
Sweden	16.0	16.3	16.5	16.9	17.1	17.4	19.9	20.1	20.1	20.2	20.4	20.7
United Kingdom	14.6	15.1	15.4	16.1	16.3	17.0	18.2	18.5	18.6	19.2	19.1	19.5
Croatia	:	:	:	13.5	13.4	13.8	:	:	:	16.9	16.8	17.3
FYR of Macedonia	13.0	13.0	:	13.5	13.2	13.4	14.8	15.0	:	15.6	15.2	15.2
Iceland	16.2	16.4	16.9	17.5	18.1	18.4	19.1	20.1	19.4	21.3	20.2	21.0
Liechtenstein	16.9	14.5	14.8	17.3	17.0	18.3	19.2	19.8	19.8	19.9	20.6	21.6
Norway	15.1	15.6	15.7	16.2	16.8	17.3	19.3	19.5	19.6	19.9	20.3	20.9
Switzerland	16.2	16.6	16.9	17.3	17.6	18.1	20.4	20.5	20.8	21.3	21.1	21.8

Source: Eurostat (tsdph230)


Table SP.19: Projected births and deaths, annual averages (1)

(1 000)

	Births					Deaths				
	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
World	136 327	137 420	131 678	127 827	124 106	57 965	63 029	70 239	80 527	91 045
Europe (2)	7 520	7 008	6 459	6 452	6 349	8 593	8 833	8 929	9 312	9 541
Africa	35 324	38 301	39 622	40 226	39 563	12 934	13 645	14 341	15 295	16 473
Asia	76 831	75 847	69 921	65 969	63 438	29 964	33 178	38 301	45 538	52 993
Latin America and Caribbean	11 438	10 900	10 334	9 675	9 132	3 445	3 994	4 777	5 822	7 012
North America	4 641	4 769	4 733	4 909	5 025	2 774	3 082	3 543	4 150	4 560
Oceania	574	595	610	596	598	256	297	349	411	466
EU-27	4 916	4 618	4 303	4 184	3 988	5 021	5 285	5 634	6 192	6 671
China	17 459	17 973	16 278	14 640	14 510	9 403	11 096	13 430	16 307	18 710
India	27 077	25 598	22 852	21 382	20 234	9 671	10 025	10 962	12 635	14 724
Japan	1 062	881	835	801	736	1 144	1 359	1 561	1 639	1 606
Russian Federation	1 518	1 316	1 087	1 120	1 048	2 295	2 181	1 993	1 969	1 893
United States	4 298	4 401	4 348	4 506	4 583	2 528	2 794	3 197	3 731	4 085

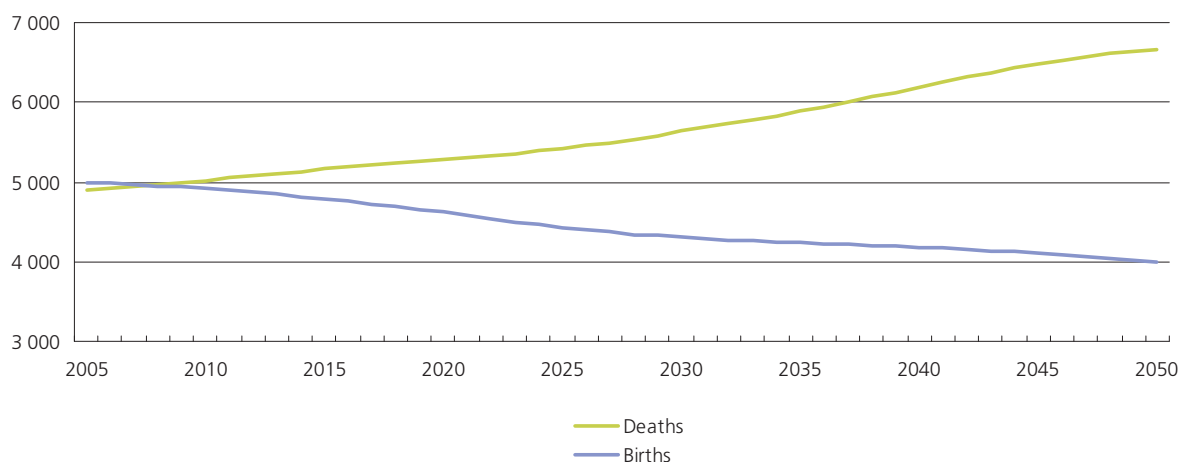
(1) All data except for EU-27, averages based on the five years through to the reference period shown (e.g. the annual average for 2010 covers the period 2005-2010).

(2) EU-27, Belarus, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Norway, Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_eve), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.26: Projected births and deaths, EU-27

(1 000)



Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_eve)

Table SP.20: Projected births and deaths (based on fertility and mortality assumptions)

(1 000)

	Births					Deaths				
	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
EU-27	4 916	4 618	4 303	4 184	3 988	5 021	5 285	5 634	6 192	6 671
Euro area	3 116	2 868	2 730	2 648	2 493	3 103	3 368	3 616	3 992	4 367
Belgium	109	111	106	103	103	104	107	112	128	139
Bulgaria	62	49	41	41	34	110	101	97	97	94
Czech Republic	92	86	73	74	70	112	114	125	137	135
Denmark	58	59	61	56	55	57	60	66	72	72
Germany	697	683	617	578	555	880	960	1 034	1 080	1 175
Estonia	14	13	10	11	10	19	18	16	16	16
Ireland	63	56	55	58	55	31	34	41	49	58
Greece	108	94	87	86	80	118	135	141	155	169
Spain	451	350	326	332	286	404	442	479	556	649
France	724	702	701	688	667	546	589	627	732	787
Italy	514	435	414	395	352	603	650	678	724	788
Cyprus	9	9	8	8	9	6	7	9	10	12
Latvia	24	22	17	18	18	33	31	29	28	29
Lithuania	32	32	26	26	26	43	42	40	41	43
Luxembourg	5	6	7	7	7	4	4	5	6	7
Hungary	95	90	82	81	79	132	128	127	131	130
Malta	4	5	5	5	5	3	4	5	6	6
Netherlands	181	184	189	180	177	152	170	199	226	235
Austria	75	75	69	64	63	77	82	90	100	112
Poland	358	358	303	290	286	388	402	421	481	498
Portugal	113	96	91	89	80	111	117	123	136	147
Romania	214	178	150	148	127	270	256	248	260	272
Slovenia	18	17	15	16	16	21	23	25	28	30
Slovakia	51	48	42	41	39	55	56	61	69	73
Finland	57	57	54	52	52	51	55	63	72	70
Sweden	104	111	104	107	111	93	93	105	116	118
United Kingdom	683	690	649	632	626	598	605	669	735	807

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_eve)



Table SP.21: Life expectancy projections (based on mortality assumptions)

(years)

	Males						Females					
	2005	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050	2005	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
Belgium	75.8	76.9	78.9	80.4	81.5	82.3	81.9	82.9	85.0	86.5	87.5	88.3
Bulgaria	69.4	70.7	73.2	75.5	77.1	78.2	76.1	77.2	79.1	80.7	81.8	82.6
Czech Republic	72.6	73.7	75.9	77.8	78.8	79.7	79.0	79.8	81.3	82.7	83.5	84.1
Denmark	75.4	76.3	78.0	79.3	80.2	80.9	79.7	80.4	81.6	82.5	83.2	83.7
Germany	76.3	77.2	78.9	80.2	81.2	82.0	81.9	82.7	84.2	85.4	86.2	86.9
Estonia	65.7	66.5	68.9	71.6	73.5	74.9	77.0	77.8	79.5	81.2	82.3	83.1
Ireland	76.5	77.1	78.1	78.9	79.6	80.3	81.5	82.1	83.2	84.0	84.6	85.1
Greece	76.8	77.6	79.1	80.2	80.9	81.4	83.6	84.4	85.9	86.9	87.5	87.9
Spain	76.4	77.5	79.4	80.8	81.9	82.7	83.6	84.5	86.2	87.5	88.4	89.1
France	75.7	76.8	78.7	80.2	81.4	82.4	80.9	81.8	83.5	84.9	86.0	87.0
Italy	77.5	78.4	80.1	81.5	82.6	83.6	83.3	84.1	85.6	86.8	87.9	88.8
Cyprus	76.5	77.5	79.0	80.2	81.1	81.9	80.9	81.6	82.8	83.7	84.5	85.1
Latvia	65.0	65.8	68.1	70.9	72.9	74.3	76.3	77.0	78.6	80.4	81.6	82.5
Lithuania	66.7	67.4	69.6	72.3	74.3	75.5	77.7	78.5	80.1	81.8	82.9	83.7
Luxembourg	75.2	76.3	78.4	79.9	80.9	81.6	81.6	82.4	83.9	85.1	85.9	86.7
Hungary	68.8	70.1	72.8	75.2	77.0	78.1	77.0	78.0	79.8	81.5	82.6	83.4
Malta	76.5	77.4	79.0	80.1	81.0	81.8	80.9	81.7	82.9	83.7	84.5	85.0
Netherlands	76.4	77.0	78.2	79.0	79.7	80.2	80.9	81.4	82.2	82.8	83.2	83.6
Austria	76.4	77.5	79.4	81.0	82.4	83.6	82.3	83.2	84.9	86.1	87.0	87.7
Poland	70.7	72.0	74.6	76.8	78.2	79.1	78.7	79.6	81.3	82.8	83.8	84.4
Portugal	74.4	75.4	77.1	78.5	79.5	80.4	81.2	82.2	83.9	85.1	86.0	86.6
Romania	68.5	69.8	72.4	74.8	76.5	77.6	75.5	76.5	78.3	80.0	81.2	82.0
Slovenia	72.8	73.9	76.1	77.9	79.0	79.8	80.3	81.2	82.8	83.8	84.6	85.2
Slovakia	69.9	70.9	73.1	75.3	76.7	77.7	77.9	78.7	80.3	81.8	82.7	83.4
Finland	75.5	76.7	78.7	80.2	81.2	81.9	82.0	82.8	84.2	85.3	86.0	86.5
Sweden	78.3	79.1	80.7	81.9	82.7	83.3	82.5	83.2	84.5	85.4	86.0	86.5
United Kingdom	76.6	77.6	79.5	81.0	82.0	82.9	81.1	82.0	83.7	85.0	85.9	86.6

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_asm)

MIGRATION AND ASYLUM

INTRODUCTION

Migration is influenced by a combination of economic, political and social factors. These factors may act in a migrant's country of origin (push factors) or in the country of destination (pull factors). The relative economic prosperity and political stability of the EU are thought to exert a considerable pull effect on immigrants.

In the second half of the 20th century most of the Member States experienced a change in their international migratory patterns, as there was a shift from net emigration to immigration. More recently, international migration has become the main driver of population growth in a number of countries. Indeed, the working age population of several Member States would already have begun to shrink in the absence of immigration. It is, however, very unlikely that current levels of migration into the EU will be enough to compensate for the declining natural change in population that is expected in the coming decades. While international migration may be used as a tool to solve specific labour market shortages, it alone will almost certainly not be enough to reverse the on-going trend of population ageing.

Migration policies are increasingly concerned with attracting a particular migrant profile, often in an attempt to alleviate specific skills shortages. Selection can be carried out on the basis of language proficiency, work experience, education and/or age, or alternatively by employers so that migrants already have a job upon their arrival. Besides policies to encourage labour recruitment, immigration policy is often focused on two areas: preventing unauthorised migration and the illegal employment of migrants who are not permitted to work, and promoting the integration of immigrants into society. This latter point is of particular importance within the context of the Lisbon goals concerning employment and social cohesion. Significant resources have been mobilised to fight people smuggling and trafficking networks in the EU.

The Treaty of Amsterdam introduced a new Title IV ('Visas, asylum, immigration and other policies related to free movement of persons') into the EC Treaty. It covers the following fields: free movement of persons; controls on external borders; asylum, immigration and safeguarding of the rights of third-country nationals; judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters, and administrative cooperation. Note that the EU's common immigration policy does not apply to Denmark which has decided to opt out of Title IV of the EC Treaty, while Ireland and the United Kingdom decide on their involvement on a case-by-case basis.

All Member States experience flows of international migration. They have agreed to develop more harmonised immigration policies. Following European Commission proposals, a number of pieces of EU legislation have been adopted. The main objective of EU immigration policy is to better manage migration flows by a coordinated approach which takes into account the economic and demographic situation of the EU. The leaders of the EU first set out an approach to managing migration in October 1999 at the European Council in Tampere (Finland), where they agreed that EU immigration policies should:

- be based on a comprehensive approach to the management of migratory flows so as to find a balance between humanitarian and economic admission;
- include fair treatment for third-country nationals aiming as far as possible to give them comparable rights and obligations to those of nationals of the Member State in which they live;
- develop partnerships with countries of origin including policies of co-development.

This general policy approach was confirmed in 2004 with the adoption of the Hague programme, which set objectives for strengthening freedom, security and justice in the EU during the period 2005-2010.

Some of the most important legal texts adopted in the area of immigration include:

- Council Directive 2003/86/EC on the right to family reunification ⁽⁸⁾;
- Council Directive 2003/109/EC on a long-term resident status for third country nationals ⁽⁹⁾;
- Council Directive 2004/114/EC on the admission of students ⁽¹⁰⁾, and;
- Council Directive 2005/71/EC for the facilitation of the admission of researchers into the EU ⁽¹¹⁾.

(8) For more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2003/l_251/l_25120031003en00120018.pdf.

(9) For more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2004/l_016/l_01620040123en00440053.pdf.

(10) For more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2004/l_375/l_37520041223en00120018.pdf.

(11) For more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2005/l_289/l_28920051103en00150022.pdf.



The Commission re-launched in 2005 the debate on the need for a common set of rules for the admission of economic migrants with a Green Paper on an EU approach to managing economic migration⁽¹²⁾, which led to the adoption of a 'policy plan on legal migration' at the end of 2005⁽¹³⁾. In July 2006 the Commission adopted a communication on policy priorities in the fight against illegal immigration of third-country nationals⁽¹⁴⁾ which aims to strike a balance between security and basic rights of individuals during all stages of the illegal immigration process. In June 2007, Council conclusions on the strengthening of integration policies in the EU by promoting unity in diversity were adopted, while in September 2007, the Commission presented its third annual report on migration and integration⁽¹⁵⁾.

The 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (as amended by the 1967 New York Protocol) has for more than 50 years defined who is a refugee, and laid down a common approach towards refugees that has been one of the cornerstones for the development of a common asylum system within the EU. Asylum is a form of protection given by a state on its territory. It is granted to a person who is unable to seek protection in his/her country of citizenship and/or residence, in particular for fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.

Since the beginning of 1990s, the flow of persons seeking international protection in the EU has been such that the Member States have decided to find common solutions to this challenge. The major aims and principles of a common asylum policy were agreed in October 1999 at the European Council in Tampere. In the longer term, the goal was to create a common asylum procedure and a uniform status for those granted asylum that was valid throughout the EU. The European Commission adopted on 17 February 2006 a communication on strengthened practical cooperation in the area of asylum presenting a vision of how Member States should further cooperate on asylum with a view to the establishment of a fully harmonised EU system. The main goal was to improve the quality of individual decisions, in order to reduce the proportion of challenges to negative decisions, while providing greater consistency, which would hopefully deter secondary movement or multiple demands (as cases would be judged on the same basis across the whole of the EU).

(12) COM(2004) 811; for more information: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/doc_centre/immigration/work/doc/com_2004_811_en.pdf.

(13) COM(2005) 669; for more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2005/com2005_0669en01.pdf.

(14) COM(2006) 402; for more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2006/com2006_0402en01.pdf.

(15) COM(2007) 512; for more information: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/fsj/immigration/docs/com_2007_512_en.pdf.

The EU is also focusing on the need for better coordination in partnership with third countries to deal more effectively with root causes and to provide for durable solutions to resolve refugee situations. In this context, the Council has invited the Commission to develop Regional Protection Programmes (RPP) to enhance protection capacity and develop resettlement programmes. A new financial instrument was adopted in March 2004 to establish a programme for financial and technical assistance to third countries in the area of migration and asylum (AENEAS); it is a multi-annual programme for the period 2004-2008.

There has been further movement towards a common European asylum system through the harmonisation of asylum policies, notably through the adoption of a number of directives in this area. The four main legal instruments on asylum include:

- the Reception Conditions Directive⁽¹⁶⁾;
- the Asylum Procedures Directive⁽¹⁷⁾;
- the Qualification Directive⁽¹⁸⁾, and;
- the Dublin Regulation⁽¹⁹⁾.

These all share the same objective, namely to create an equitable system that forms the foundations of a common European asylum system, on which could be built further structures to safeguard the EU as a single asylum space, while ensuring that protection is given to those who require it. Together these legal instruments provide clear rules about how to assess an application for asylum, how to prevent multiple demands, how to guarantee minimum standards for the reception of asylum-seekers, including housing, education and health, as well as providing a set of criteria for qualifying either as a refugee or subsidiary protection status (covering persons who fall outside the scope of the Geneva Convention but who nevertheless still need international protection, such as victims of generalised violence or civil war).

(16) Council Directive 2003/9/EC of 27 January 2003; for more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2003/l_031/l_03120030206en00180025.pdf.

(17) Council Directive 2005/85/EC of 1 December 2005; for more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2005/l_326/l_32620051213en00130034.pdf.

(18) Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third country nationals or stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection and the content of the protection granted; for more information: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32004L0083:EN:HTML>.

(19) Council Regulation (EC) No 343/2003 of 18 February 2003 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national; for more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2003/l_050/l_05020030225en00010010.pdf.

In addition to this legislative work, solidarity has been enhanced through the creation of the European Refugee Fund (ERF) which fosters solidarity between Member States and promotes balance in the efforts they make in receiving asylum-seekers, refugees and displaced persons, while promoting the social and economic integration of refugees and their return to their countries of origin (if they so wish).

DEFINITIONS AND DATA AVAILABILITY

Eurostat produces statistics on a range of issues related to international migration and asylum. Data are supplied on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis by national statistical institutes and by ministries of justice and the interior. Whereas some Member States base their migration flow and migrant population stock statistics on population registers, others may use sample surveys or data extracted from administrative procedures such as the issuing of residence permits. Many statistics are currently sent to Eurostat as part of a joint migration data collection organised by Eurostat in cooperation with the United Nations Statistical Division, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the Council of Europe and the International Labour Office.

Most important areas of Community statistics have a clear basis in European law, defining the responsibilities of Member States and of Eurostat in terms of the collection, transmission and publication of data. The migration statistics domain had been unusual in not having a legal base, being instead governed by a series of voluntary agreements between Eurostat and the data suppliers in Member States. While this may have been appropriate in the past, it became clear that the growing policy importance of this subject at both national and European level meant that a more formal approach was necessary. In the autumn of 2005 the Commission adopted a proposal for a regulation on statistics on migration and international protection, which was adopted by the European Parliament and the Council by the summer of 2007⁽²⁰⁾. The adoption of the Regulation 862/2007 is designed as a step towards the provision of reliable and harmonised statistics on migration and asylum.

The focus of the Regulation is to provide harmonised statistical definitions based on existing international standards and on European legislation and policy on immigration, asylum and border control issues. Although these definitions must be applied, Member States remain free to use any appropriate data sources, according to national availability and practice. The Regulation allows for the use of scientifically sound estimates in cases where directly observed

data are not available. To allow Member States time to make necessary amendments to their data collection systems, the proposed Regulation also allows for data to be supplied according to national definitions in the first year following its coming into force (2008), which will then be reported in the following year. The Regulation provides a framework which needs to be completed through the adoption of implementing measures in the form of Commission Regulations.

The Regulation covers most of Eurostat's existing statistics on migration related issues. Statistics on immigration and emigration flows, together with statistics on the citizenship and country of birth composition of the resident population, provide information on the impact of migration on the size and structure of the population. Statistics on asylum applications and the subsequent decisions to grant or refuse refugee status or other types of international protection will be adapted somewhat under the Regulation. For example, asylum applications statistics will be collected on a monthly basis as these are needed to allow a continuous monitoring of short-term variations in the origin and numbers of asylum seekers. In comparison, data on appeals against asylum decisions are relatively complex to collect and are not needed so frequently – and so will only be collected annually.

The only new area of statistics covered by the Regulation is that of residence permits issued to non-EU citizens. These statistics offer a useful insight into the reasons for immigration – as a distinction can be made between permits issued under different immigration rules regarding the reunification of families, economic migrants, and persons admitted as students. A further aspect of the Regulation is that most of the statistics to be collected will include a disaggregation by age and sex. This is of particular interest when trying to monitor policies aimed at preventing the trafficking of women and children.

Acquisition of citizenship includes all those who acquire citizenship of the reporting country, having previously been citizens of another country, or stateless.

Non-nationals of a given country are persons who do not have the nationality of that country on the date in question.

An asylum applicant or an asylum-seeker is defined as a person who has requested protection under: either Article 1 of the 1951 Geneva (amended by the 1967 New York Protocol), or, within the remit of the United Nations Convention Against Torture and other forms of cruel or inhuman treatment (UNCAT) or the European Convention on Human Rights or other relevant instruments of protection. This definition is intended to refer to all who apply for protection on an individual basis, irrespective of whether they lodge their application on arrival at an airport or land border, or from inside the country, and irrespective of whether they entered the territory legally (for example, as a tourist) or illegally.

(20) Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007; for more information: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/L_199/L_19920070731en00230029.pdf.



For many countries, the number of asylum applications represents the number of individuals who have applied for refugee status. In some other countries, the numbers represent the number of cases. One case may include family members in addition to the principal applicant. Asylum applications are here defined as new applications; they generally include only those claims which were lodged on the territory or at the border of the Member State.

MAIN FINDINGS

While net migration flows into the EU have been positive and generally rising since the end of the 1980s, there is a volatile nature to the evolution of migration. That said, there has been a significant increase in the number of migrants coming into the EU-27 in recent years: net migration ranged between 1.15 and 2.03 million per annum between 2001 and 2005, while net migration was never over the threshold of a million before 2001. When expressed as a ratio in relation to the total population, immigration accounted for 0.34 % of the total number of inhabitants in the EU-27 in 2005.

The vast majority of the Member States reported positive net migration (including corrections): the only exceptions with negative net migration (including corrections) in 2005 were the Netherlands (-22 800), Poland (-12 900), Lithuania (-8 800), Romania (-7 200) and Latvia (-600). These figures were relatively insignificant in relation to the immigrants outnumbering emigrants in countries such as Spain (641 200), Italy (324 200) or the United Kingdom (193 300). In relative terms, positive net migration accounted for 2.67 % of the population in Luxembourg in 2005, while Cyprus (1.92 %) Ireland (1.59 %) and Spain (1.48 %) were the only other countries to record net migration above the threshold of 1 % of the total population. At the other end of the scale, the loss of population through net migration was equivalent to 0.14 % of the total population in the Netherlands, rising to 0.26 % in Lithuania.

Migration has been the main component of demographic growth in the majority of the EU in recent years. This is particularly true in the Mediterranean countries and some of those Member States which have joined the EU since 2004. In parts of the Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Italy, Hungary and Slovenia, where natural population change is in decline, net migration plays an important role in preventing widespread population decline.

The large variations in migration flows in terms of size and origin reflect, to some degree, traditional patterns of migration, cultural and geographical ties. There are a number of different types of migration that may be identified: among them, economic migration (the search for work), family reunification, retirement, study, or asylum. These differences may explain to some degree the breakdown in age and gender patterns for migration into the different Member States.

Most of the Member States report that the highest share of immigrants are nationals of countries outside of the EU-25 Member States. In some cases a large proportion of the immigrant population are nationals returning to their country of origin – this was particularly the case in 2004 in Denmark, Ireland (2002), Lithuania and Finland. However, Lithuania was the only country where the number of nationals was bigger than number of foreigners in terms of immigration flows.

There are two different categories of person which should be taken into account when studying asylum statistics. The first includes persons who have lodged an asylum claim and whose claim is under consideration by a relevant authority. The second is composed of persons who have been recognised, after consideration, as refugees or have been granted another kind of international protection. Asylum-seekers generally remain within the territory of the Member State concerned during consideration of their claims.

The number of asylum-seekers has decreased over the past few years in the EU, having peaked in 1992 (670 000 applications in the EU-15) and again in 2001 (424 000 applications in the EU-27). By 2006 there were 192 800 asylum applications received in the EU-27. As such, the demographic impact of asylum-seekers within the EU is rather limited, and with a relatively high proportion of applications being rejected, their impact is also often of a temporary nature. Only a minority of asylum applicants are recognised as refugees or are granted subsidiary protection. Over half (57.8 %) of all EU-27 asylum decisions in 2006 resulted in a rejection, while some 55 140 persons were granted refugee status or subsidiary protection the same year.

The acquisition of citizenship is sometimes viewed as an indicator of the formal integration of migrants into their destination country, often requiring a period of legal residence, together with other factors such as language proficiency. Over 650 000 persons acquired the citizenship of an EU country in 2004 among those Member States for which data are available (notably excluding Italy); more than 100 000 persons became citizens of Germany, of France, or of the United Kingdom.

Some countries may well face significant labour shortages by 2050, as their baby boom generation become old age pensioners and the relatively low numbers of babies being born today reach working age. Although not a long-term solution to the problems of population ageing, migration policy is one means of redressing such imbalances in the shorter-term. Eurostat population projections show that almost all Member States will be confronted with population decline in the coming decades, as Cyprus, Ireland, Luxembourg, Malta and Sweden are likely to be the only countries that will not see their population decline before 2050. The latest projections assume annual net migration into the EU of around 800 000 persons through to 2050. These projections and their contribution to overall population change may result in some regions being characterised by a higher migrant than indigenous population by 2050 – which may bring both benefits and challenges for society.

Demographic projections exist at a regional level for the movement of people within countries (inter-regional migration) and between countries (international migration). The regions (at NUTS 2 level) which are most likely to see significant patterns of emigration include the northern regions of Finland and Sweden, northern France, southern Italy, Northern Ireland and remote parts of Scotland, as well as a large number of regions in eastern Europe spread across the Czech Republic, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.

The ten regions that are projected to receive the highest net inflow of inter-regional migrants between 2005 and 2030 include Emilia-Romagna (Italy), Comunidad Valenciana, Castilla-la Mancha and Andalucia (Spain), Köln, Oberbayern, Schleswig-Holstein and Stuttgart (Germany), Mazowieckie (Poland) and Attiki (Greece): note there are no statistics available for France or the United Kingdom. Each of these regions is expected to see its population increase by upwards of 250 000 persons over the period considered as a result of inter-regional migration. Aside from Mazowieckie, each of the ten regions above is also projected to receive an inflow of international migrants, often a considerable number, with a net addition of 566 000 international migrants in the Comunidad Valenciana, 466 000 in Andalucia, 293 000 in Attiki, or 267 000 in Emilia-Romagna. There are a number of other regions which are likely to be more attractive as potential destinations for international migrants, including Cataluña and the Comunidad de Madrid (Spain), or Lombardia and Veneto (Italy). Note that the high figures for international migration into Braunschweig (Germany) and for inter-regional migration flows out of the same region may be explained by the presence of the only admission office in the whole of Germany for ethnic Germans. As such, all national migrants returning to their country of origin are obliged to first register in this region, before moving to their final destination.

SOURCES

Statistical books

The social situation in the European Union 2005-2006

Methodologies and working papers

Demographic outlook – national reports on the demographic developments in 2005

Methodology for the calculation of Eurostat's demographic indicators

Website data

Demography

Demography – national data

Main demographic indicators

Population change: absolute numbers and crude rates

International migration and asylum

Asylum

Asylum applications by citizenship

Decisions on asylum applications by citizenship – annual data

International migration flows

Immigration

Emigration

Population projections

Trend scenario, national level – base year 2004

Trend scenario, regional level – base year 2004



Table SP.22: Net migration (including corrections)

(1 000)

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
EU-27 (1)	661	584	421	524	976	717	1 154	1 852	2 032	1 872	1 661
Euro area (1)	616	560	381	430	831	969	1 230	1 651	1 790	1 587	1 390
Belgium	2	15	10	12	17	13	36	41	36	36	51
Bulgaria	0	1	0	0	0	0	-214	1	0	0	0
Czech Republic	10	10	12	9	9	7	-43	12	26	19	36
Denmark	29	17	12	11	9	10	12	10	7	5	7
Germany	398	281	93	47	202	168	275	219	142	82	82
Estonia	-16	-13	-7	-7	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ireland	6	16	17	16	24	32	39	33	31	48	66
Greece	77	71	61	55	45	29	38	38	35	41	40
Spain	71	83	94	159	238	390	441	649	625	610	641
France (1)	-15	-19	-14	-1	150	158	173	184	189	105	86
Italy	29	56	50	56	35	50	50	345	612	557	324
Cyprus	6	5	5	4	4	4	5	7	12	16	14
Latvia	-14	-10	-9	-6	-4	-6	-5	-2	-1	-1	-1
Lithuania	-24	-23	-22	-22	-21	-20	-3	-2	-6	-10	-9
Luxembourg	4	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	12
Hungary	18	18	18	17	17	17	10	4	16	18	17
Malta	0	0	1	0	0	10	2	2	2	2	2
Netherlands	15	21	30	44	44	57	56	28	7	-10	-23
Austria	2	4	2	8	20	17	44	35	38	62	56
Poland	-18	-13	-12	-13	-14	-410	-17	-18	-14	-9	-13
Portugal	22	26	29	32	38	47	65	70	64	47	38
Romania	-26	-25	-22	-11	-8	-10	-4	-2	-7	-10	-7
Slovenia	1	-3	-1	-5	11	3	5	2	4	2	6
Slovakia	3	2	2	1	1	-22	1	1	1	3	3
Finland	4	4	5	4	3	2	6	5	6	7	9
Sweden	12	6	6	11	14	24	29	31	29	25	27
United Kingdom	65	48	58	97	138	144	151	158	178	227	193
Croatia	-175	36	0	-4	-30	-46	15	9	13	12	8
FYR of Macedonia	-1	4	-2	-2	-2	-3	-3	-25	-3	0	-1
Turkey	102	93	101	99	79	58	2	-1	-3	1	-1
Iceland	-1	-1	0	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	4
Liechtenstein	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Norway	6	6	10	13	19	10	8	17	11	13	18
Switzerland	25	-1	-3	11	25	24	41	48	42	38	32

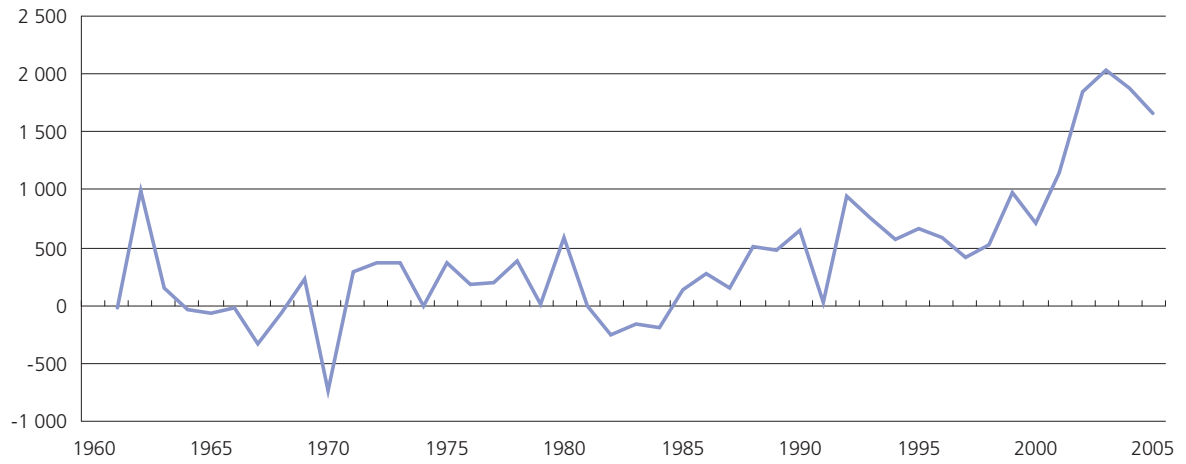
(1) Break in series: until 1998 France includes metropolitan regions only; 2000-2001: corrections due to census.

Source: Eurostat (tps00008)

The difference between immigration into and emigration from the area during the year (net migration is therefore negative when the number of emigrants exceeds the number of immigrants). Since most countries either do not have accurate figures on immigration and emigration or have no figures at all, net migration is estimated on the basis of the difference between population change and natural increase between two dates. The statistics on net migration are therefore affected by all the statistical inaccuracies in the two components of this equation, especially population change.

Figure SP.27: Net migration (including corrections), EU-27

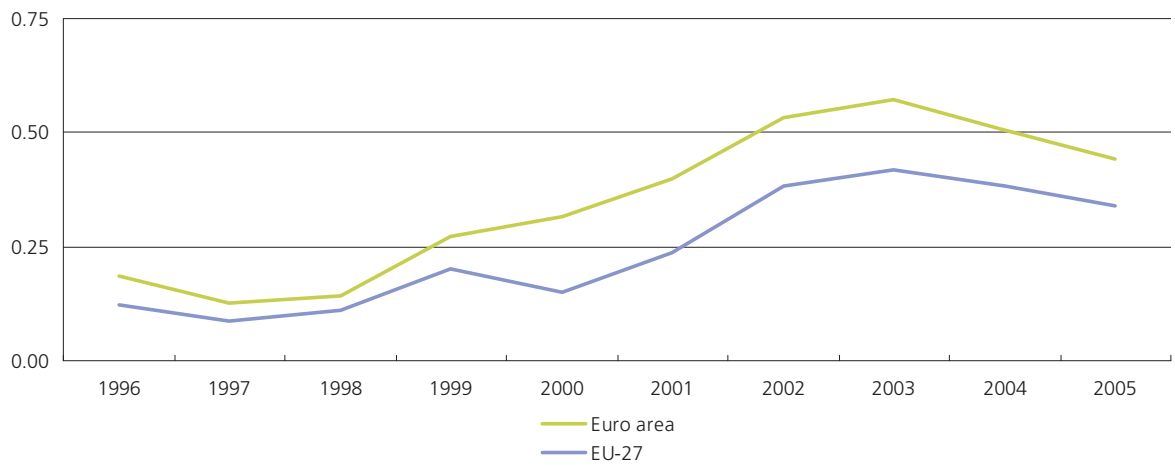
(1 000)



Source: Eurostat (tps00008)

Figure SP.28: Net migration rate (including corrections) (1)

(% of the total population)



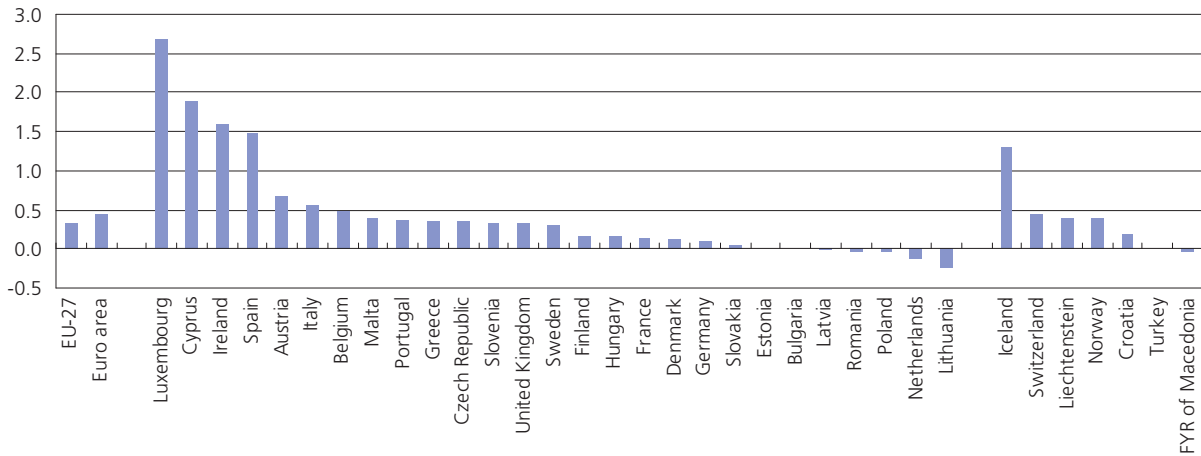
(1) Break in series: until 1998 France includes metropolitan regions only; 2000-2001: corrections due to census.

Source: Eurostat (tps00008 and tps00001)



Figure SP.29: Net migration (including corrections), 2005

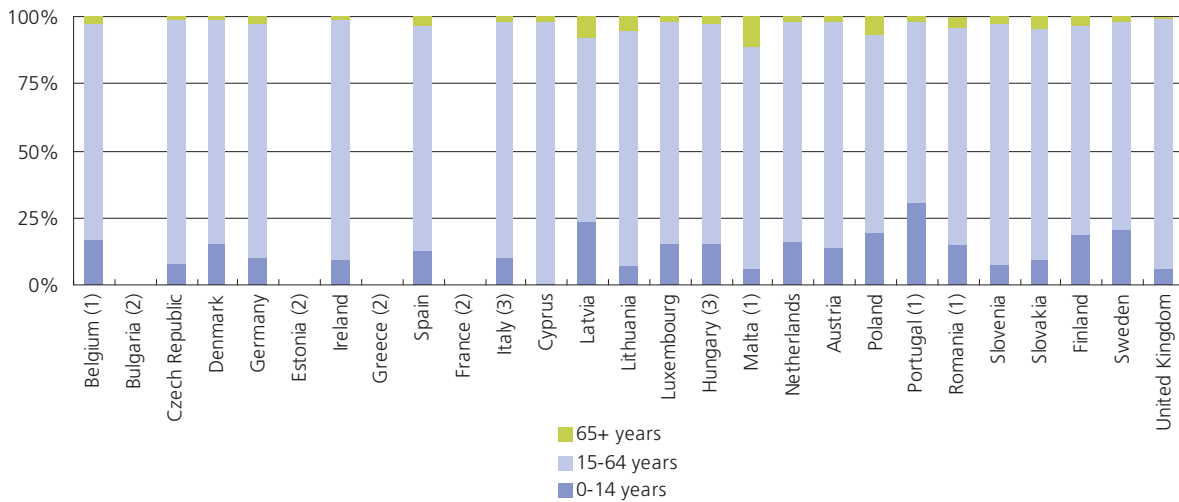
(% of the population)



Source: Eurostat (tps00008 and tps00001)

Figure SP.30: Immigration by age group, 2004

(%)



(1) 2001.
 (2) Not available.
 (3) 2003.

Source: Eurostat (migr_immige)

Table SP.23: Immigration by age, 2004

	Total immigrants (persons)	Immigration by age (% of total immigration)										
		<15	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Belgium	85 378	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic	53 453	7.9	23.4	17.8	13.1	10.6	9.9	7.5	4.8	2.5	1.1	1.3
Denmark	49 860	15.7	35.7	17.5	10.2	7.2	4.4	2.9	2.1	1.7	1.3	1.3
Germany	780 175	9.8	26.1	17.3	12.5	9.7	7.9	6.2	4.2	2.3	1.5	2.5
Estonia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	70 000	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Greece	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Spain	684 561	12.7	22.3	18.0	13.4	9.6	6.7	4.9	3.5	3.0	2.5	3.3
France (1)	140 123	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Italy (2)	440 301	10.0	19.1	20.5	16.2	11.2	8.3	6.0	3.7	1.8	1.3	2.0
Cyprus	22 003	0.5	23.5	20.1	14.6	11.4	9.2	6.5	5.5	3.4	2.4	2.7
Latvia	1 665	23.2	10.0	9.1	11.7	8.8	10.1	6.1	4.3	4.5	4.0	8.2
Lithuania	5 553	7.7	26.0	19.0	11.8	8.1	7.0	5.8	4.0	3.0	1.9	5.6
Luxembourg	12 495	15.7	20.1	18.8	14.5	10.1	7.2	4.9	3.1	2.7	1.2	1.8
Hungary (2)	21 327	15.6	23.6	17.7	12.0	9.0	6.3	5.3	3.7	2.2	1.6	3.0
Malta	1 052	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Netherlands	94 019	16.1	25.5	18.1	13.4	9.2	6.3	3.9	2.6	1.9	1.1	1.7
Austria	127 399	14.1	27.5	16.9	12.1	8.7	6.4	4.7	3.2	2.2	1.7	2.3
Poland	9 495	19.2	10.5	11.2	11.4	8.2	8.0	8.8	7.3	5.1	3.6	6.8
Portugal (3)	16 761	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Romania (3)	2 987	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	10 171	7.5	23.6	16.4	13.0	11.3	9.9	6.8	4.4	2.2	2.2	2.7
Slovakia	10 390	9.5	13.8	13.2	12.8	11.2	10.0	7.8	7.5	5.4	3.7	4.9
Finland	20 333	19.0	19.7	17.7	12.7	9.0	6.2	4.5	3.5	2.6	1.7	3.2
Sweden	62 028	20.8	20.5	18.0	13.0	9.0	6.2	3.8	2.8	2.2	1.6	2.1
United Kingdom	518 097	6.3	37.3	22.7	12.3	8.5	4.9	1.7	2.2	1.7	1.7	0.8

(1) Excluding EU-15 citizens.

(2) 2003.

(3) Excluding nationals.

Source: Eurostat (migr_immige)



Table SP.24: Immigration by gender and by age group, 2004

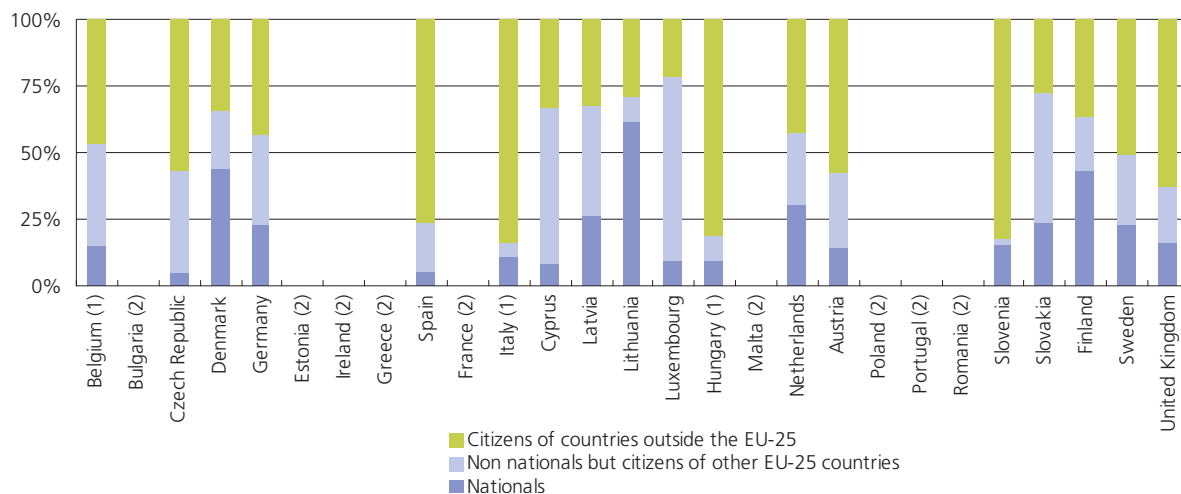
	Total immigrants (persons)		Immigration profile by age (% share of men in each age group)										
	Male	Female	<15	15-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Belgium	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic	34 385	19 068	51.6	56.9	63.4	68.4	70.6	71.8	70.9	72.4	71.6	69.4	52.8
Denmark	25 105	24 755	50.5	44.4	51.9	53.1	56.3	58.6	58.6	56.9	59.7	61.1	55.7
Germany	455 601	324 574	51.5	48.3	58.9	64.2	67.9	69.3	70.2	66.2	60.1	55.7	44.7
Estonia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Ireland	39 100	30 900	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Greece	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Spain	374 321	310 240	51.1	52.9	58.0	59.6	57.9	56.1	52.7	48.2	47.0	49.6	50.7
France	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Italy (1)	216 015	224 286	53.1	53.3	54.2	53.0	48.4	39.6	32.7	27.5	34.6	44.3	51.8
Cyprus	10 502	11 501	23.4	45.1	48.8	55.0	46.5	47.9	44.3	44.8	38.2	47.5	60.6
Latvia	994	671	51.0	53.0	57.2	64.6	69.4	70.8	75.2	69.4	62.7	65.7	42.6
Lithuania	2 968	2 585	50.5	49.0	50.7	61.6	65.8	61.6	53.9	66.2	60.6	46.3	31.4
Luxembourg	6 910	5 585	49.9	53.0	52.4	55.0	60.3	62.5	66.7	64.9	64.6	56.6	41.7
Hungary (1)	12 289	9 038	50.9	50.3	59.8	63.2	65.6	68.5	65.5	67.1	57.0	49.4	46.8
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Netherlands	46 200	47 819	49.6	42.0	48.2	52.0	53.4	55.5	56.9	55.3	56.8	57.5	51.3
Austria	69 789	57 610	52.4	49.5	55.5	60.1	63.5	61.4	59.3	54.4	53.1	51.8	42.9
Poland	4 800	4 695	50.1	55.2	51.3	52.3	49.2	48.9	50.7	47.6	48.3	52.4	47.8
Portugal	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Romania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	7 485	2 686	52.2	71.8	73.5	79.9	80.9	81.5	82.3	76.5	63.5	60.3	51.6
Slovakia	6 329	4 061	51.3	52.2	58.8	64.5	67.0	69.0	70.1	62.6	63.4	61.8	49.8
Finland	10 130	10 203	48.3	45.7	50.9	53.4	54.4	50.0	51.1	47.6	53.6	51.0	47.7
Sweden	30 786	31 242	49.4	44.1	50.8	49.6	51.2	52.6	54.5	53.7	56.4	58.1	53.1
United Kingdom	260 621	257 477	67.2	46.7	46.1	50.3	62.4	65.2	62.6	36.0	42.2	26.3	63.7

(1) 2003.

Source: Eurostat (migr_immige)

Figure SP.31: Immigration by broad group of citizenship, 2004

(% of total immigrants)

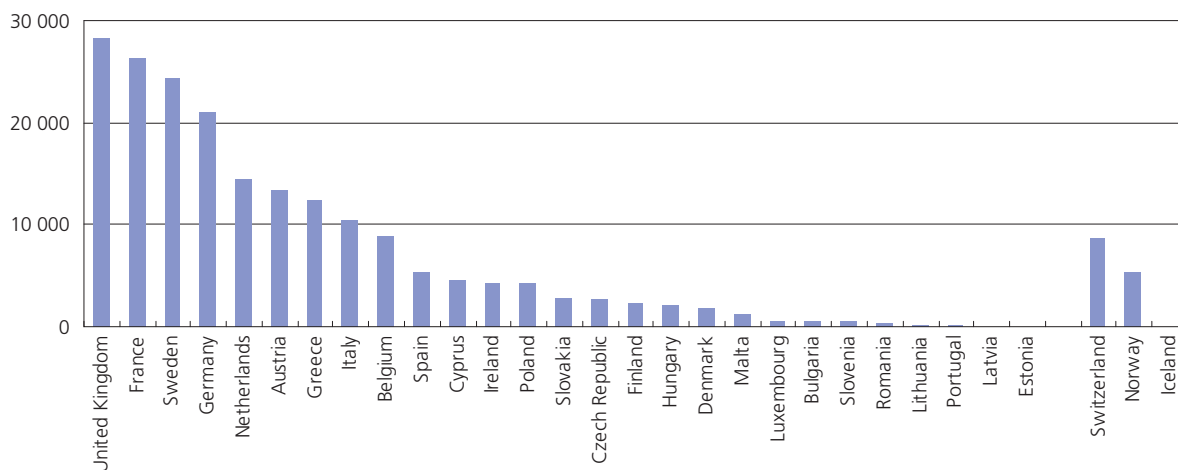


(1) 2003.
(2) Not available.

Source: Eurostat (migr_immige)

Figure SP.32: Asylum applications, 2006 (1)

(persons)



(1) EU-27, 192 765 asylum applications in 2006; euro area, 119 565 asylum applications in 2006.

Source: Eurostat (tps00021)

These figures refer to all persons who apply on an individual basis for asylum or similar protection, irrespective of whether they lodge their application on arrival at the border, or from inside the country, and irrespective of whether they entered the country legally or illegally. Due to different methods of collecting the information, data from different countries may not be entirely comparable.



Table SP.25: Asylum applications

(persons)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
EU-27	:	:	313 645	380 450	406 585	424 180	421 470	337 235	268 575	227 520	192 765
Euro area	186 525	195 570	231 290	264 060	272 585	269 585	244 035	203 055	163 050	152 680	119 565
Belgium	12 435	11 790	21 965	35 780	42 690	24 505	18 800	13 585	12 400	12 575	8 870
Bulgaria	:	370	835	1 350	1 755	2 430	2 890	1 320	985	700	500
Czech Republic	:	2 110	4 085	7 355	8 790	18 095	8 485	11 400	5 300	3 590	2 730
Denmark	5 895	5 100	5 700	6 530	10 345	12 510	5 945	4 390	3 235	2 280	1 795
Germany	117 335	104 355	98 645	94 775	78 565	88 285	71 125	50 565	35 605	28 915	21 030
Estonia	:	0	25	25	5	10	10	15	10	10	5
Ireland	1 180	3 880	4 625	7 725	10 940	10 325	11 635	7 485	4 265	4 305	4 240
Greece	1 640	4 375	2 950	1 530	3 085	5 500	5 665	8 180	4 470	9 050	12 265
Spain	4 730	4 975	4 935	8 405	7 925	9 490	6 310	5 765	5 365	5 050	5 295
France	17 405	21 415	22 375	30 905	38 745	47 290	51 085	52 205	50 545	42 580	26 270
Italy	680	1 890	13 100	18 450	15 195	17 400	16 015	13 705	9 630	9 345	10 350
Cyprus	:	:	225	790	650	1 620	950	4 405	9 675	7 715	4 540
Latvia	:	:	35	20	5	15	25	5	5	20	10
Lithuania	:	240	160	145	305	425	365	395	165	100	145
Luxembourg	265	435	1 710	2 930	625	685	1 040	1 550	1 575	800	525
Hungary	1 260	:	7 120	11 500	7 800	9 555	6 410	2 400	1 600	1 610	2 115
Malta	:	70	160	255	160	155	350	455	995	1 165	1 270
Netherlands	22 855	34 445	45 215	39 275	43 895	32 580	18 665	13 400	9 780	12 345	14 465
Austria	6 990	6 720	13 805	20 130	18 285	30 125	39 355	32 360	24 635	22 460	13 350
Poland	600	3 580	3 425	3 060	4 660	4 480	5 170	6 810	7 925	5 240	4 225
Portugal	270	250	355	305	225	235	245	115	115	115	130
Romania	585	1 425	1 235	1 665	1 365	2 280	1 000	885	545	485	380
Slovenia	35	70	335	745	9 245	1 510	650	1 050	1 090	1 550	500
Slovakia	415	645	505	1 320	1 555	8 150	9 745	10 300	11 395	3 550	2 850
Finland	710	970	1 270	3 105	3 170	1 650	3 445	3 090	3 575	3 595	2 275
Sweden	5 775	9 680	12 840	11 220	16 285	23 500	33 015	31 355	23 160	17 530	24 320
United Kingdom	29 640	32 500	46 015	71 160	80 315	71 365	103 080	60 045	40 625	30 840	28 320
Iceland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	85	40
Norway	1 780	2 270	8 375	10 160	10 845	14 770	17 480	16 020	7 950	5 400	5 320
Switzerland	18 060	23 185	39 735	43 935	15 780	18 720	24 255	18 920	12 730	8 650	8 580

Source: Eurostat (tps00021)

Table SP.26: Acquisition of citizenship and asylum applications

(persons)

	Acquisition of citizenship		Asylum applications		Asylum decisions					
					Number of decisions		of which, rejections (%)		Number of positive decisions	
	2004	2005	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
EU-27	:	:	227 520	192 765	292 285	237 985	61.4	57.8	46 730	55 140
Euro area	:	:	152 680	119 565	202 955	139 655	60.9	68.4	31 855	22 845
Belgium	:	:	12 575	8 870	17 585	8 345	58.8	70.8	3 700	2 440
Bulgaria	:	:	700	500	945	695	40.3	31.0	85	95
Czech Republic	5 020	2 626	3 590	2 730	4 375	3 020	60.2	72.6	330	365
Denmark	14 976	10 197	2 280	1 795	1 325	985	82.7	80.5	230	190
Germany	127 153	117 241	28 915	21 030	48 100	30 760	57.1	57.8	3 120	1 950
Estonia	6 543	7 072	10	5	15	5	69.2	71.4	5	0
Ireland	3 784	4 073	4 305	4 240	5 240	4 245	91.3	90.6	455	395
Greece	:	:	9 050	12 265	10 420	11 180	44.0	85.9	125	195
Spain	38 220	42 860	5 050	5 295	5 140	4 065	93.3	95.0	345	205
France	168 826	154 827	42 580	26 270	51 270	37 715	91.8	92.2	4 185	2 930
Italy	:	:	9 345	10 350	20 055	9 260	36.3	39.8	5 295	5 215
Cyprus	:	3 952	7 715	4 540	5 795	5 585	53.9	31.8	160	170
Latvia	17 178	20 106	20	10	10	15	41.7	7.1	0	10
Lithuania	610	435	100	145	385	445	7.8	6.5	345	395
Luxembourg	841	954	800	525	1 480	890	37.4	55.6	670	370
Hungary	5 432	:	1 610	2 115	1 655	2 020	51.6	60.3	190	200
Malta	:	:	1 165	1 270	1 160	1 185	50.1	53.7	520	550
Netherlands	26 171	28 488	12 345	14 465	19 750	14 180	40.9	53.0	8 820	4 345
Austria	41 645	34 876	22 460	13 350	18 585	15 490	29.2	37.9	4 530	4 065
Poland	1 937	2 866	5 240	4 225	8 840	7 280	25.8	12.9	2 145	2 465
Portugal	1 346	:	115	130	90	105	82.0	71.2	15	30
Romania	:	767	485	380	470	365	88.5	74.9	55	55
Slovenia	3 333	2 684	1 550	500	1 785	900	37.3	63.1	25	10
Slovakia	4 016	1 393	3 550	2 850	3 785	2 815	21.8	30.6	25	10
Finland	6 880	5 683	3 595	2 275	3 455	2 520	72.8	61.1	570	695
Sweden	28 893	39 573	17 530	24 320	23 920	46 395	66.6	27.3	5 360	22 745
United Kingdom	140 740	161 755	30 840	28 320	36 650	27 520	75.8	74.2	5 425	5 045
Croatia	8 940	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
FYR of Macedonia	2 625	2 660	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Turkey	8 238	6 901	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Iceland	:	:	85	40	85	30	66.3	58.1	0	0
Norway	8 154	12 655	5 400	5 320	7 445	4 215	57.4	48.0	2 480	1 685
Switzerland	35 685	38 437	8 650	8 580	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source: Eurostat (tps00021, tps00024, tps00163 and tps00022)

These figures refer to grants of citizenship of the reporting country to persons who have previously been citizens of another country or who have been stateless.

Data on decisions refer to the date on which a decision was made, not to the date of the asylum application. Data is collected on decisions at 1st instance. Total decisions equals positive decisions + negative decisions + other non-status decisions.

The figures here refer only to grants of refugee status as defined by Article 1 of the Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 relating to the status of refugees, as amended by the New York Protocol of 31 January 1967. Excluded from these figures are grants of other types of protection status such as humanitarian protection.



Table SP.27: Net migration projections (including corrections) (1)

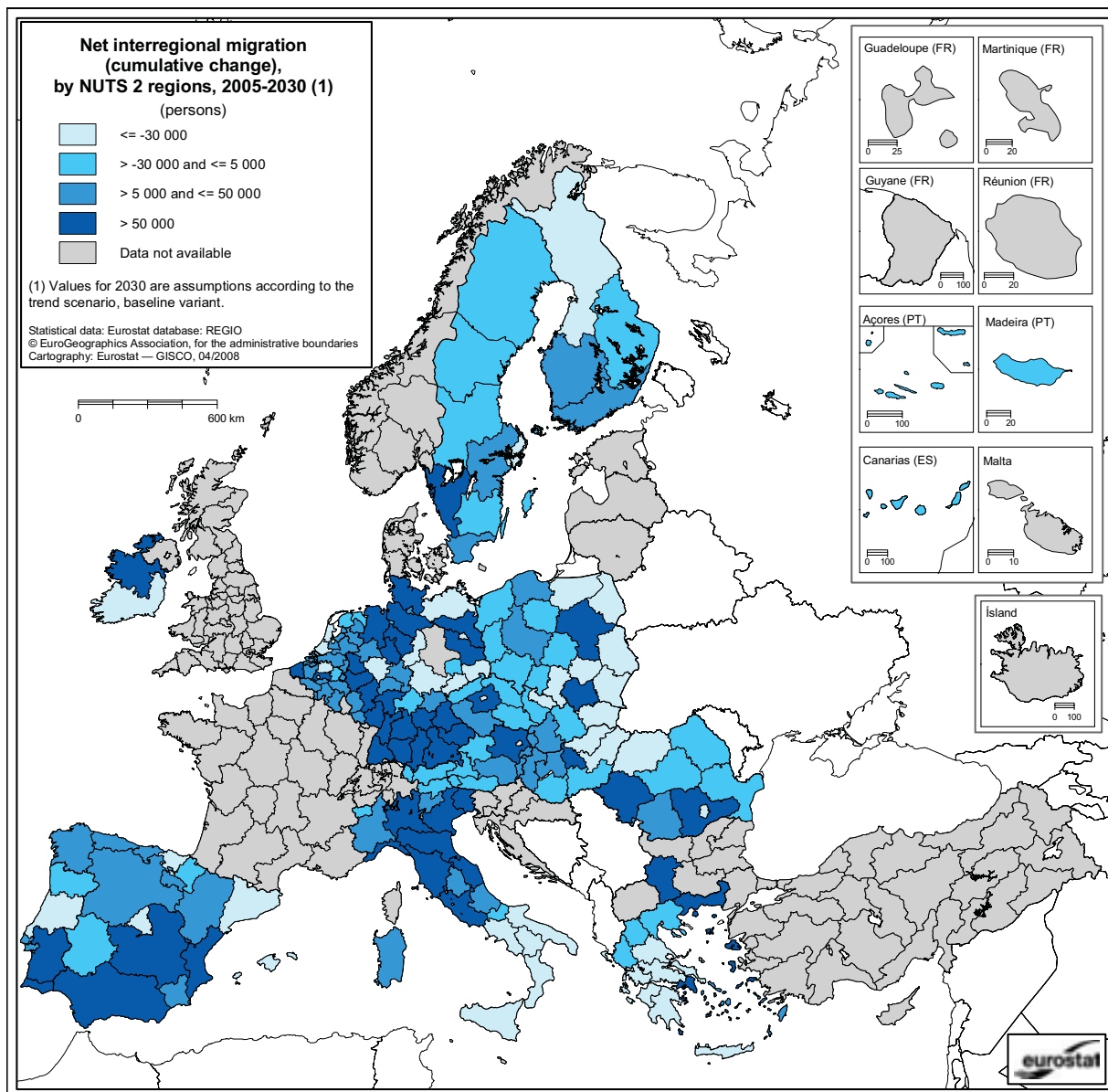
(1 000)

	2006-10	2011-15	2016-20	2021-25	2026-30	2031-35	2036-40	2041-45	2046-50
Belgium	101.7	97.1	95.4	93.7	92.7	92.6	92.6	92.6	92.6
Bulgaria	-58.3	-77.1	-83.1	-54.0	-3.7	13.0	14.2	13.7	13.0
Czech Republic	16.9	-10.2	22.0	85.1	106.8	107.7	105.8	103.4	101.0
Denmark	36.9	36.2	35.5	33.7	33.2	33.2	33.2	33.1	32.9
Germany	1 029.9	1 045.6	1 017.0	947.8	921.1	905.0	903.2	896.3	896.0
Estonia	-9.9	-13.5	-7.2	4.5	8.6	8.9	8.8	8.6	8.5
Ireland	78.1	75.8	72.2	68.1	65.5	64.4	63.4	62.7	62.1
Greece	201.1	201.2	196.4	187.3	175.7	174.2	174.2	174.2	174.5
Spain	999.5	560.1	555.8	543.5	528.6	526.7	525.3	517.2	510.3
France	310.4	311.2	305.7	297.6	294.7	294.3	294.2	293.9	293.6
Italy	631.4	597.0	594.5	583.5	570.5	569.1	569.3	569.1	569.0
Cyprus	31.5	29.9	24.2	22.5	22.8	23.3	23.7	24.0	24.3
Latvia	-12.6	-22.1	-11.7	7.8	14.5	14.9	14.7	14.4	14.2
Lithuania	-29.5	-35.1	-18.7	11.5	22.0	22.9	22.6	22.2	21.8
Luxembourg	14.0	14.2	14.1	14.0	13.9	13.9	13.9	13.9	13.9
Hungary	69.3	33.1	52.2	91.9	105.4	105.7	104.4	102.8	101.0
Malta	12.6	11.5	11.3	11.6	11.9	12.1	12.3	12.5	12.6
Netherlands	157.0	165.3	164.4	160.8	158.6	158.0	157.7	157.0	155.9
Austria	120.2	117.2	107.2	99.7	96.1	96.4	97.8	99.3	101.0
Poland	-158.7	-277.3	-153.7	87.4	172.8	180.4	178.2	174.4	170.1
Portugal	115.3	85.7	79.5	76.2	75.1	74.7	74.6	74.5	74.5
Romania	-68.4	-168.6	-226.5	-148.8	-7.3	41.4	45.8	44.9	43.5
Slovenia	30.1	18.7	22.8	31.7	34.8	34.9	34.6	34.1	33.5
Slovakia	-11.9	-13.7	-2.8	17.9	25.1	25.6	25.2	24.6	24.0
Finland	31.1	31.4	31.0	30.3	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2	30.2
Sweden	125.2	120.8	116.3	111.0	109.4	108.6	108.0	107.4	106.9
United Kingdom	612.9	552.4	523.0	505.6	497.7	494.7	493.7	492.9	492.6

(1) Absolute figure for the whole period.

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_asm)

Map SP.4: Net interregional migration (cumulative change), by NUTS 2 regions, 2005-2030 (persons)

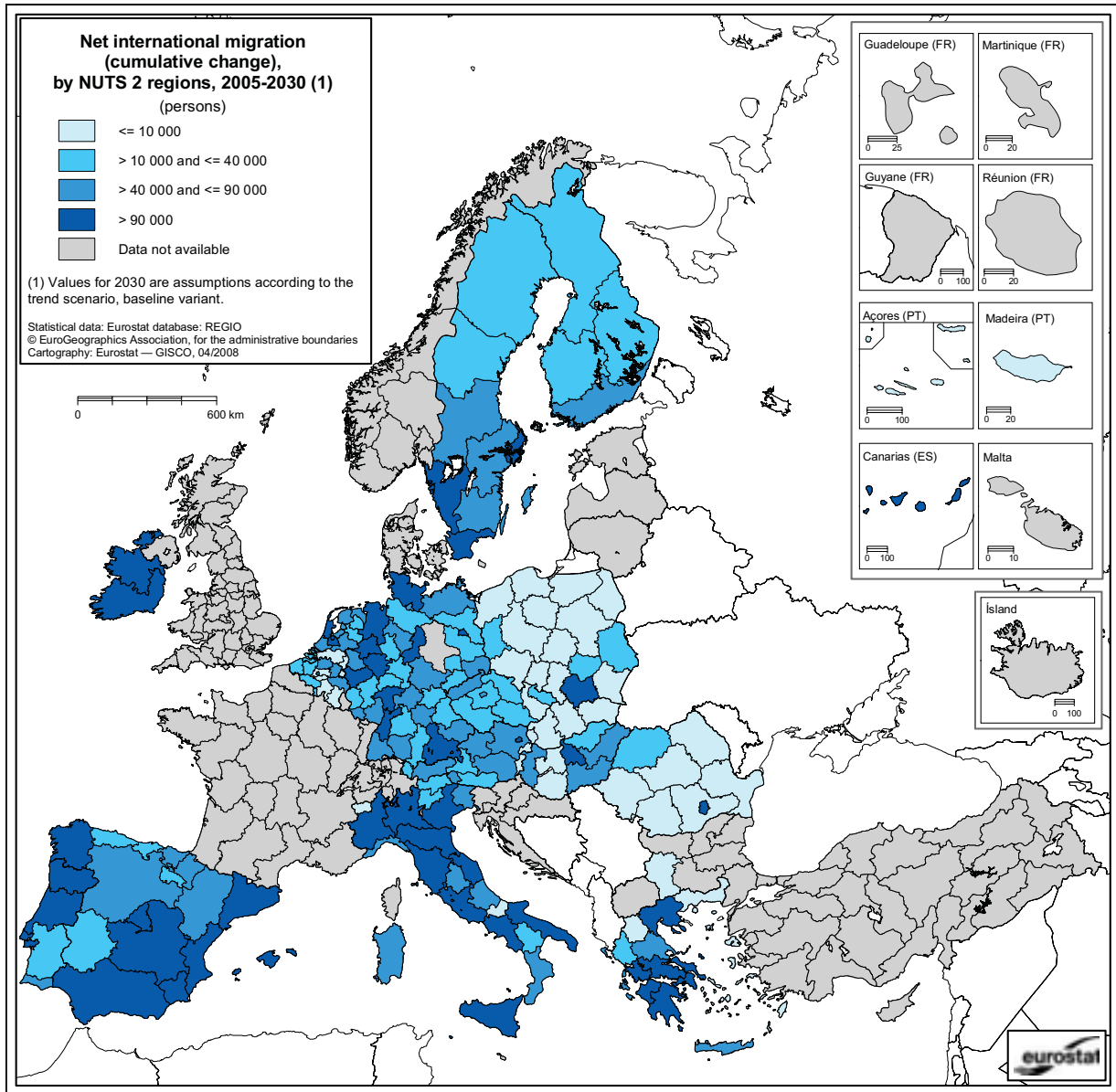


Source: Eurostat (proj_rtbp_dem_eve)



Map SP.5: Net international migration (cumulative change), by NUTS 2 regions, 2005-2030

(persons)



Source: Eurostat (proj_rtbp_dem_eve)

AN AGEING POPULATION

INTRODUCTION

As has been shown in the previous subchapters, it is likely that the EU will face major challenges in relation to population and workforce ageing brought about by low fertility levels, longer life expectancy, and the baby-boom cohorts entering the age of retirement. While labour supply within the EU is expected to continue rising within the short-term, this trend will almost certainly be reversed in the long-run. The working population as a share of the total population will diminish and there will be an increase in the number of persons not working in relation to the number of people in work.

Old age dependency is likely to result in increased burdens for the working population to provide for the social expenditure that is related to population ageing, in the form of pensions, healthcare and institutional or private care. Increasing labour force participation is one factor that can be used to try to reconcile demographic developments and the social expenditure burden. Pension reforms have already been started in several Member States. In addition, policy makers have also considered ways of creating more flexible working opportunities that may be of interest to the elderly, or delaying the average age when they exit the labour market.

There is growing concern about these trends and in particular about their impact on social security and welfare systems. The ability of the EU as a whole to increase productivity and to make full use of its human resources will play an important role in determining its ability to cope with the socio-economic transformations that are linked to demographic ageing. Much of the care required by the elderly is currently provided by their descendants. However, with an increasing share of older people likely to live apart from their families, the need for professional care can be expected to increase. Moreover, the fastest growing age group in Europe will be those aged over 80. As a result, providing social and healthcare, as well as adapted housing, transport/mobility facilities and other public infrastructures for this population group will be a major challenge. The demand for services of this type will not only depend on the absolute number of elderly persons, but also on their future health.

Employment guidelines, adopted by the European Council in July 2005, reflect the overall EU goal of achieving full employment. The Council confirmed four priorities:

- attracting more people to enter and remain in the labour market;
- improving adaptability of workers and enterprises;
- increasing investments in human capital through better education and skills, and;
- ensuring effective implementation of reforms through better governance.

There has been some progress in employment rates over recent years, although the overall, female and older people's employment rates remain below the Lisbon and Stockholm targets for 2010. Only five of the Member States met the 70 % target for overall employment rates in 2006 (Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Austria); for more information on these aspects, please refer to Chapter 5.

There are many measures, such as assisting effective job search, creating attractive working arrangements, ensuring that work pays, and promoting lifelong learning that are considered important when trying to increase labour force participation. Of the numerous initiatives in this field some examples include:

- promoting flexibility combined with security in the labour market;
- promoting childcare and other care services to increase female participation;
- strengthening active labour market policies;
- developing active ageing strategies;
- improving the level, effectiveness and sharing of investments in human capital;
- tackling undeclared work.



In order to address the demographic challenge of an ageing population, the Stockholm European Council of 2001 agreed that half of the EU population in the 55-64 age group should be in employment by 2010. Employment guidelines and a report by the employment taskforce chaired by Wim Kok urged the adoption of a comprehensive active ageing policy centred on appropriate financial incentives to encourage longer working lives, lifelong learning strategies, and improved quality of work. A Commission Green Paper 'faced with demographic change, a new solidarity between the generations' (21) concluded that Europe should pursue three priorities:

- modernisation of social protection systems, increasing the rate of female employment and the employment of older workers, innovative measures to support the birth rate and appropriate management of immigration;
- ensuring a balance between the generations, in the sharing of time throughout life, in the distribution of the benefits of growth, and in that of funding needs stemming from pensions and health-related expenditure;
- finding new bridges between the stages of life as young people find it difficult to get into employment. An increasing number of 'young retirees' want to participate in social and economic life. Study time is getting longer and young working people want to spend time with their children. These changes alter the frontiers and the bridges between activity and inactivity.

DEFINITIONS AND DATA AVAILABILITY

Age dependency ratios are important demographic indicators that relate the young and old age population to the population of working age. In this publication the following terminology is used:

Young age dependency ratio: the population aged up to 14 years related to the population aged between 15 and 64 years; old age dependency ratio: the population aged 65 years or older related to the population aged between 15 and 64 years; total dependency ratio: the population aged up to 14 years and aged 65 years or older related to the population aged between 15 and 64 years.

(21) COM(2005) 94 final; for more information: http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/news/2005/mar/comm2005-94_en.pdf.

MAIN FINDINGS

Between 1960 and 2005, the proportion of young people (aged 0 to 14 years) in the European population fell from 26.7 % to 15.9 %. In contrast, the proportion of older persons (aged 65 or more) rose from 8.8 % to 15.9 % during the same period. These trends are projected to continue as a result of continuing low fertility rates and increased life expectancies.

Europe reported the lowest share of young persons and the highest share of old persons across any of the continents in 2005. For means of comparison, the overall share of young persons in the world population was 28.3 % in 2005, while older generations accounted for 7.3 % of the global population.

Young age dependency ratios in Europe declined over the period 1960 to 2005 from 41.4 % to 23.3 %. Europe recorded the largest increase across the continents in relation to the old age dependency ratio during the period 1960 to 2005. The European old age dependency ratio rose from 13.6 % to 23.3 %, which was almost three times the pace of the next highest increase which was recorded in Oceania, where old age dependency increased from 12.3 % to 15.9 %. In 1960, North America had a population profile where older generations accounted for a higher proportion of the population than in Europe. However, the ageing process is considerably slower on the North American continent, as old age dependency rose from 15.0 % in 1960 to 18.3 % by 2005.

Combining these two sets of indicators, the total dependency ratio in 2005 ranged from 46.6 % in Europe to a high of 81.2 % in Africa, where the vast majority of dependents are children. In Europe the fall in young age dependency has been counter-balanced by an increase in old age dependency, as a result the net change in total dependency has been relatively small in comparison to the most other continents, necessitating a switch in social expenditure to more healthcare and pensions for the elderly. The shift in total dependency ratios between 1960 and 2005 shows that the most significant reductions in dependency were registered in Latin America and the Caribbean, where total dependency fell from 85.9 % in 1960 to 56.5 % by 2005. A similar pattern, although not quite as pronounced, was seen in Asia, where the total dependency ratio fell from 77.6 % to 52.4 %. These significant changes may be largely associated with reductions in fertility rates, coupled with more modest gains in life expectancy. Africa was the only continent to record a smaller reduction in its total dependency ratio than Europe between 1960 and 2005; although there were signs that the young age dependency ratio in Africa had started to fall at a rapid pace during the last decade (between 1995 and 2005).

Age related dependency ratios within the Member States have followed the broad developments outlined above for the whole of the European continent. The young age dependency ratio ranged from 20.0 % in Belgium to 30.4 % in Estonia in 2005, while old age dependency ratios were lowest in Slovakia (16.3 %) and highest in Italy (29.3 %). The total dependency of the EU-27 was 48.8 % in 2006, ranging from 39.5 % in Slovakia to 53.4 % in France. There were an additional six Member States (apart from France) that reported that the young and elderly together were in a majority when compared with those of working age; Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Belgium and Sweden. Of these, Germany and Italy stood out as having particularly low young age dependency ratios and consequently very high old age dependency ratios, whereas all of the remaining countries reported young age dependency ratios above the EU average; in other words, they are characterised by having relatively high (for Europe) fertility rates.

It is important to consider that these dependency ratios are based on measures that compare the number of children and elderly persons with those of working age, and that no correction is made for those who do (for whatever reason) not work. For example, there has been a decline in activity rates of young adults in recent years, which has been largely driven by increased educational enrolment after compulsory education (see Chapter 2.1), as well as relatively high youth unemployment rates in certain Member States (see Chapter 5.2).

At the other end of the age ladder, there are considerable institutional and social differences in relation to activity rates among the elderly. The highest employment rates among older workers aged 60 or more tend to be recorded in the Nordic countries, in contrast to countries such as France and Austria, where relatively low levels of employment exist among those aged over 60.

A set of maps (8 to 11) are presented showing the evolution of the ratio of persons of working age to those aged 65 or more. These maps show the magnitude of the challenge being faced by Europe in the coming decades. In 1995 there was not a single region within the EU (at the NUTS 2 level) that reported an average of less than 2.5 persons of working age for each person aged 65 or more. By 2005, the situation had barely changed, as Liguria (Italy) was the only region that had surpassed this threshold. Eurostat population projections suggest that an additional five regions would join Liguria by 2015, including three more Italian regions (Toscana, Piemonte and Friuli-Venezia Giulia), and two regions in Germany (Chemnitz and Dessau). By 2025, the number of regions reporting less than 2.5 persons of working age per person aged 65 or more is projected to rise almost 50, approximately a quarter of the regions for which data are available (note that regional projections are not available for France or the United Kingdom). Those regions that are likely to be particularly affected by an ageing population in 2025 are spread across the EU: with 17 of them in Germany, 10 in Italy, 6 in Spain, 4 in Finland and in Sweden, 2 in each of Bulgaria, the Netherlands and Austria, and 1 in Belgium and in Greece.

Eurostat's population projections suggests that by 2050 the EU-27 will have 15 million fewer children (aged up to and including 14) compared with 2005; the share of children in the total population is expected to fall from 16.1 % in 2005 to 13.4 % by 2050. The projections foresee an increase of close to 5 million in the number of persons who will be aged 55 to 64, however, the biggest change will be seen for those aged 65 or more. They accounted for 16.6 % of the total population in 2005, a share that is projected to rise to 29.9 % by 2050. These trends are also reflected in the old age dependency ratio, which is expected to rise above 50 % for the EU-27; as such, for every pensioner there will be less than two persons of working age before 2050.

Germany and Italy will experience the most significant changes in relation to the ageing of their populations in the short-term, with persons aged 65 or more already accounting for upwards of 20 % of their respective populations by 2010. The highest shares of elderly people by 2050 are expected in Spain (35.7 % of the Spanish population), Italy (35.3 %), Bulgaria (33.5 %) and Greece (32.5 %). In contrast, the ageing phenomenon is projected to be least apparent in Luxembourg (where elderly people aged 65 or more will account for 22.1 % of the total population), the Netherlands (23.5 %) and Denmark (24.1 %).

While old age dependency ratios are expected to increase considerably, young age dependency ratios are projected to remain almost unchanged, rising only slightly as a result of modest increases in fertility in a number of Member States. The total dependency ratio of the EU-27 is projected to increase from 48.8 % in 2006 to 77 % by 2050. This means that whereas in 2004 there was one inactive person (young or elderly) for every two persons of working age, in 2050 there would be three inactive persons for every four of working age.

The growth of the population aged 80 or more will be even more pronounced as more people are expected to survive to higher ages. The proportion of very old people (aged 80 and more) is projected to almost triple in the EU-27, such that this cohort will account for a double-digit share of the total population by 2050, with more than 50 million people.



SOURCES

Statistical books

The social situation in the European Union 2005-2006
Population statistics (with CD-Rom)
European social statistics – demography

Pocketbooks

Living conditions in Europe – statistical pocketbook – data 2002-2005

Methodologies and working papers

Demographic outlook – national reports on the demographic developments in 2005
Methodology for the calculation of Eurostat's demographic indicators
Demographic statistics: definitions and methods of collection in 31 European countries

Website data

Demography

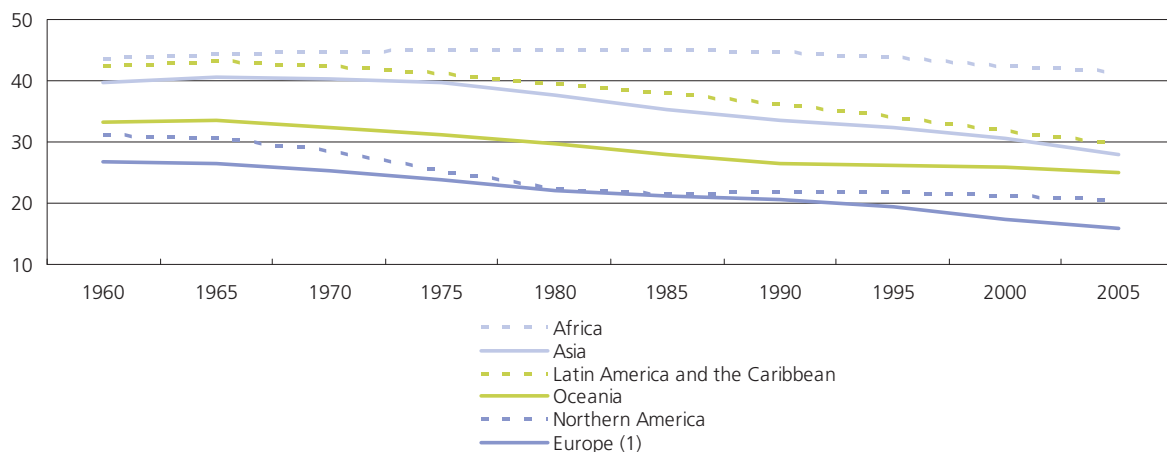
- Demography – national data
 - Main demographic indicators
 - First demographic estimates
 - Population change: absolute numbers and crude rates
 - Population
 - Average population by sex and five-year age groups
 - Population by sex and age on 1 January of each year
 - Population structure indicators on 1 January
- Demography – regional data
 - Population and area
 - Population at 1 January by sex and age from 1990 onwards
 - Annual average population by sex

Population projections

- Trend scenario, national level – base year 2004
- Trend scenario, regional level – base year 2004

Figure SP.33: Proportion of the population aged under 15

(% of total population)

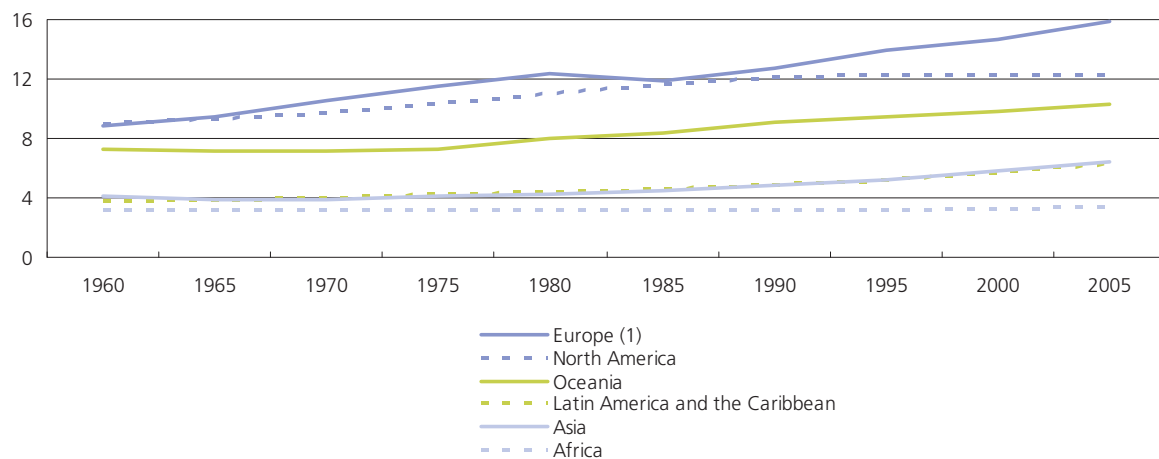


(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (tsieb040)

Figure SP.34: Proportion of the population aged 65 and over

(% of total population)



(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (prc_hicp_auid and tsieb040)



Table SP.28: Proportion of the population

(% of total population)

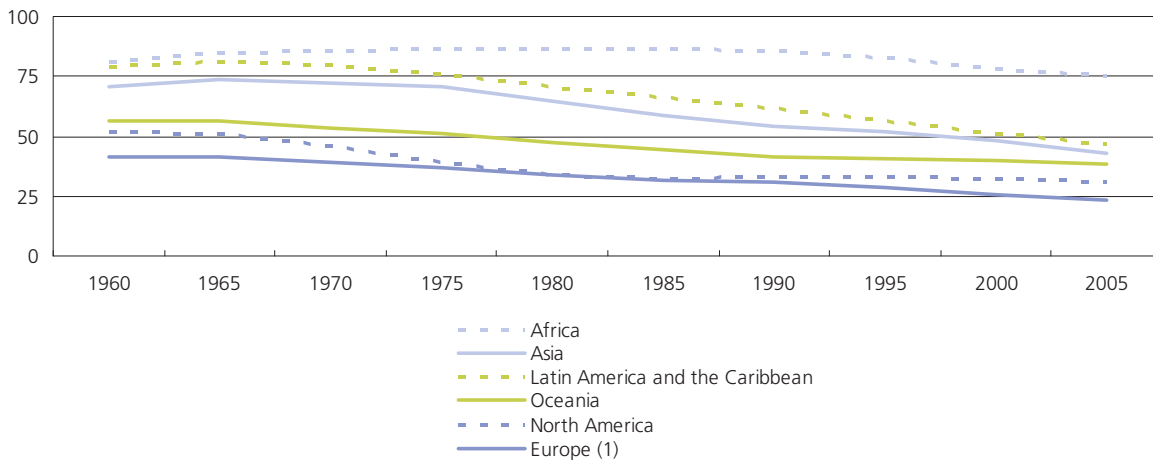
	Under 15 years old						Over 65 years old					
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005
World	37.0	37.4	35.3	32.6	30.2	28.3	5.3	5.4	5.9	6.1	6.9	7.3
Europe (1)	26.7	25.3	22.2	20.5	17.5	15.9	8.8	10.5	12.4	12.7	14.7	15.9
Africa	43.5	44.7	44.9	44.7	42.5	41.4	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.4
Asia	39.6	40.3	37.6	33.5	30.5	28.0	4.1	3.9	4.3	4.8	5.8	6.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	42.5	42.5	39.5	36.2	31.8	29.8	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.8	5.7	6.3
North America	31.1	28.5	22.5	21.7	21.3	20.5	9.0	9.7	11.0	12.1	12.3	12.3
Oceania	33.3	32.4	29.6	26.6	25.8	24.9	7.3	7.1	8.0	9.1	9.8	10.3

(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjanind), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.35: Young age dependency ratio

(%)

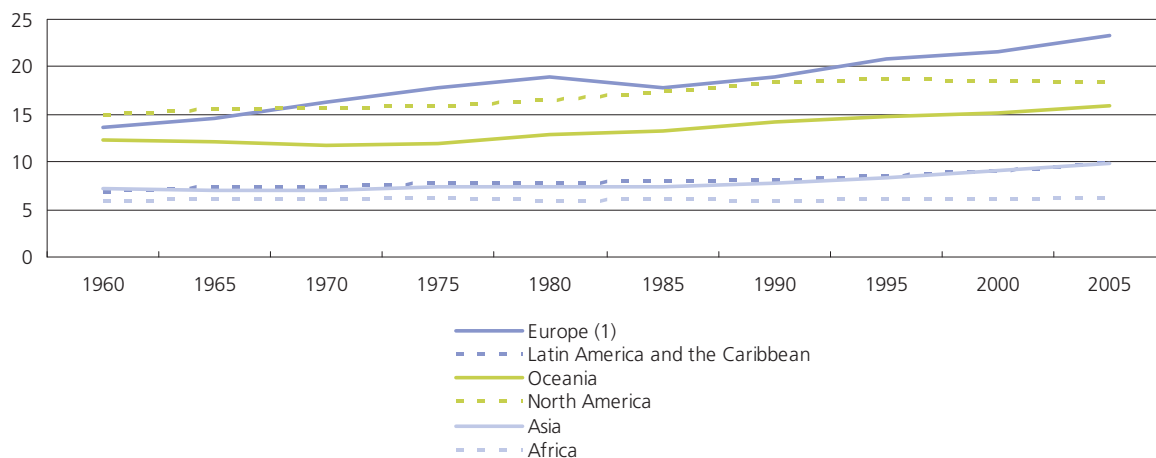


(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjanind), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.36: Old age dependency ratio

(%)

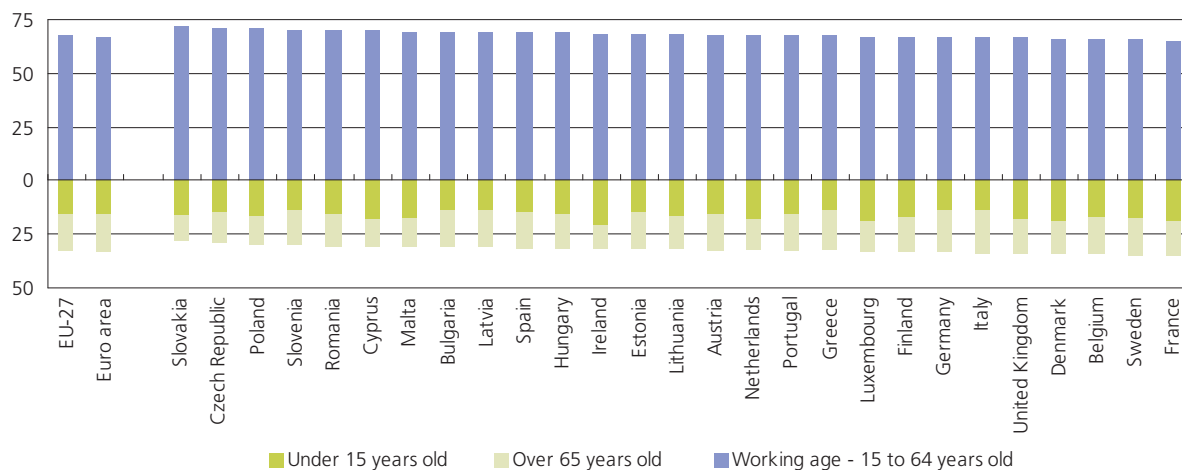


(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjanind), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.37: Breakdown of the population by age, 2006

(%)



Source: Eurostat (demo_pjanind)



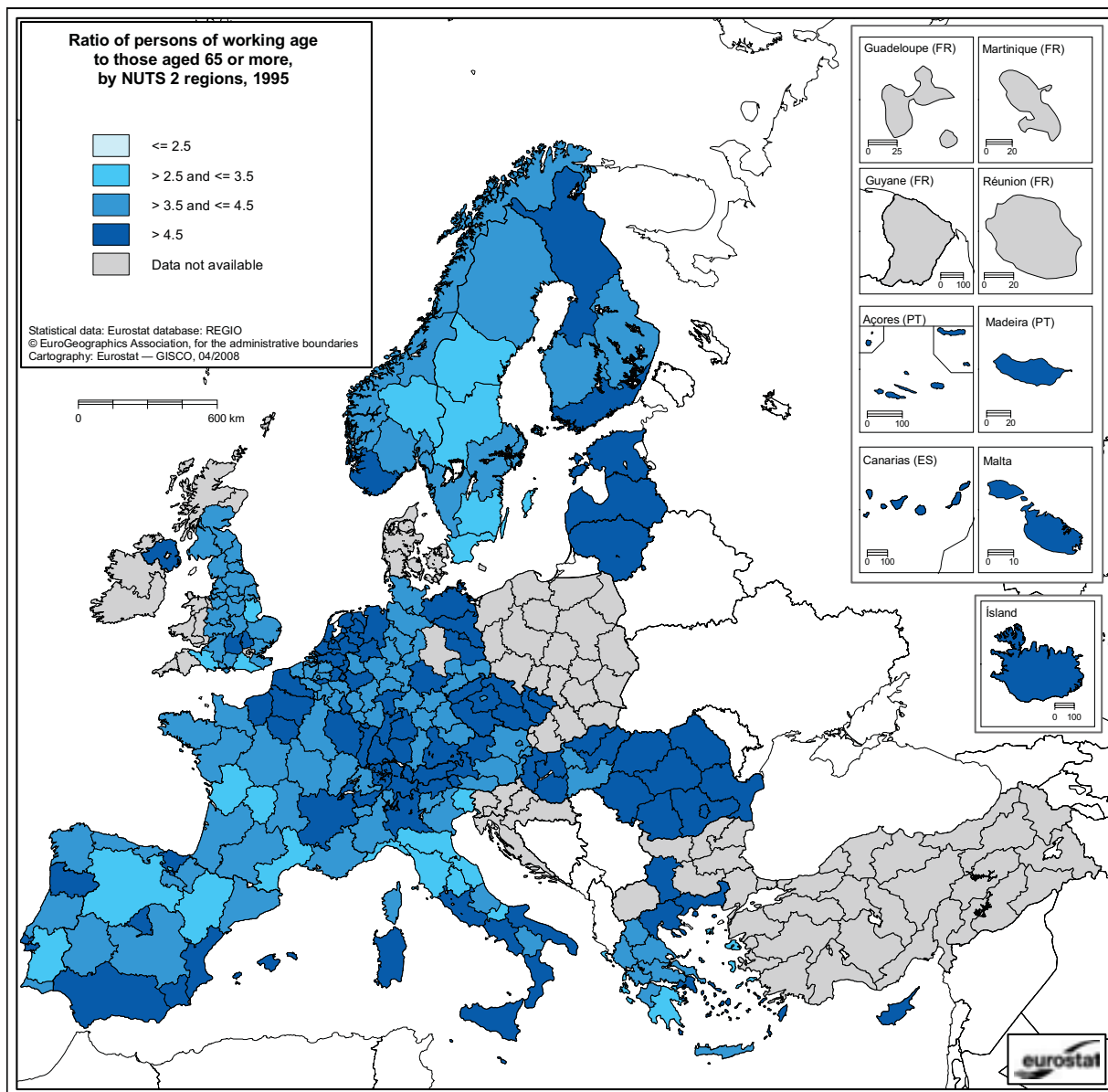
Table SP.29: Age related dependency ratios

(%)

	Young age dependency ratio						Old age dependency ratio					
	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2005
EU-27	:	:	:	29.2	25.7	24.0	:	:	:	20.6	23.2	24.6
Euro area	:	:	:	27.0	24.4	23.6	:	:	:	21.0	24.3	26.1
Belgium	39.4	33.9	33.5	30.9	23.4	20.0	11.2	14.0	17.8	19.5	23.8	24.8
Bulgaria	39.5	32.0	37.0	33.0	23.9	21.0	14.6	17.9	21.6	19.0	19.8	19.8
Czech Republic	39.8	36.4	32.7	25.5	27.6	28.4	16.4	18.9	22.2	23.2	22.2	22.7
Denmark	31.1	36.8	28.6	23.1	23.1	21.6	17.0	21.4	23.9	21.6	23.9	27.8
Germany	:	33.3	32.8	33.7	27.3	22.7	:	17.7	19.0	17.5	22.4	24.3
Estonia	53.2	54.2	51.8	44.7	32.8	30.4	19.2	19.3	18.2	18.6	16.8	16.4
Ireland	37.6	37.5	36.2	29.3	22.9	21.4	14.2	17.2	20.6	20.4	24.2	26.8
Greece	42.6	44.2	41.2	30.5	21.8	21.1	12.7	15.2	17.1	20.2	24.5	24.4
Spain	:	:	:	:	29.3	28.7	:	:	:	:	24.3	24.9
France	42.2	40.0	35.4	30.5	29.0	28.3	18.7	20.6	22.1	21.1	24.6	25.2
Italy	37.4	38.1	35.1	24.5	21.2	21.3	14.0	16.7	20.3	21.5	26.8	29.3
Cyprus	:	:	:	41.2	34.5	27.9	:	:	:	17.2	17.0	17.3
Latvia	:	32.8	30.7	32.1	26.7	21.6	:	18.0	19.6	17.7	22.1	24.1
Lithuania	:	43.2	36.2	33.9	30.6	25.2	:	15.9	17.4	16.2	20.8	22.3
Luxembourg	31.5	33.8	28.1	24.9	28.3	27.9	15.9	19.1	20.3	19.3	21.4	21.3
Hungary	38.7	31.3	33.8	31.0	24.8	22.8	13.6	17.0	20.9	20.0	22.0	22.7
Malta	:	:	36.1	35.8	30.2	25.6	:	:	12.5	15.7	17.9	19.3
Netherlands	49.1	43.8	34.3	26.4	27.4	27.3	14.6	16.2	17.4	18.6	20.0	20.8
Austria	33.0	39.5	32.4	26.0	25.4	23.7	18.4	22.7	24.3	22.1	22.9	23.5
Poland	54.5	42.0	36.8	39.0	28.6	23.8	9.5	12.6	15.5	15.4	17.6	18.7
Portugal	46.8	46.8	41.6	31.6	24.0	23.2	12.4	14.9	17.8	20.0	23.7	25.2
Romania	:	39.8	42.1	36.0	27.7	22.8	:	13.0	16.3	15.6	19.7	21.1
Slovenia	:	37.7	34.6	30.6	23.0	20.4	:	14.8	16.4	15.5	19.8	21.8
Slovakia	51.1	43.4	41.2	39.6	28.8	23.9	11.1	14.4	16.7	16.0	16.6	16.3
Finland	49.4	37.7	30.2	28.7	27.2	26.2	11.6	13.6	17.6	19.8	22.2	23.8
Sweden	34.5	31.8	30.9	27.7	28.8	27.0	17.8	20.7	25.3	27.7	26.9	26.5
United Kingdom	35.9	38.2	33.2	29.0	29.4	27.4	18.0	20.5	23.3	24.1	24.3	24.3
Croatia	:	:	:	29.0	24.4	23.8	:	:	:	17.0	24.4	24.9
FYR of Macedonia	:	:	:	:	33.3	28.9	:	:	:	:	14.6	15.8
Turkey	74.7	77.7	69.7	57.6	46.6	43.7	6.4	8.2	8.4	7.1	8.3	8.9
Iceland	60.9	56.4	44.3	38.8	35.8	33.9	:	15.0	15.7	16.4	17.8	17.9
Liechtenstein	44.7	43.5	33.1	27.4	26.3	24.7	16.2	12.3	12.9	14.2	14.8	15.6
Norway	41.3	39.1	35.5	29.2	30.8	30.1	14.0	20.4	23.3	25.2	23.5	22.4
Switzerland	36.8	36.5	30.2	24.9	25.9	23.9	12.3	17.3	20.9	21.3	22.7	23.3

Source: Eurostat (demo_pjanind)

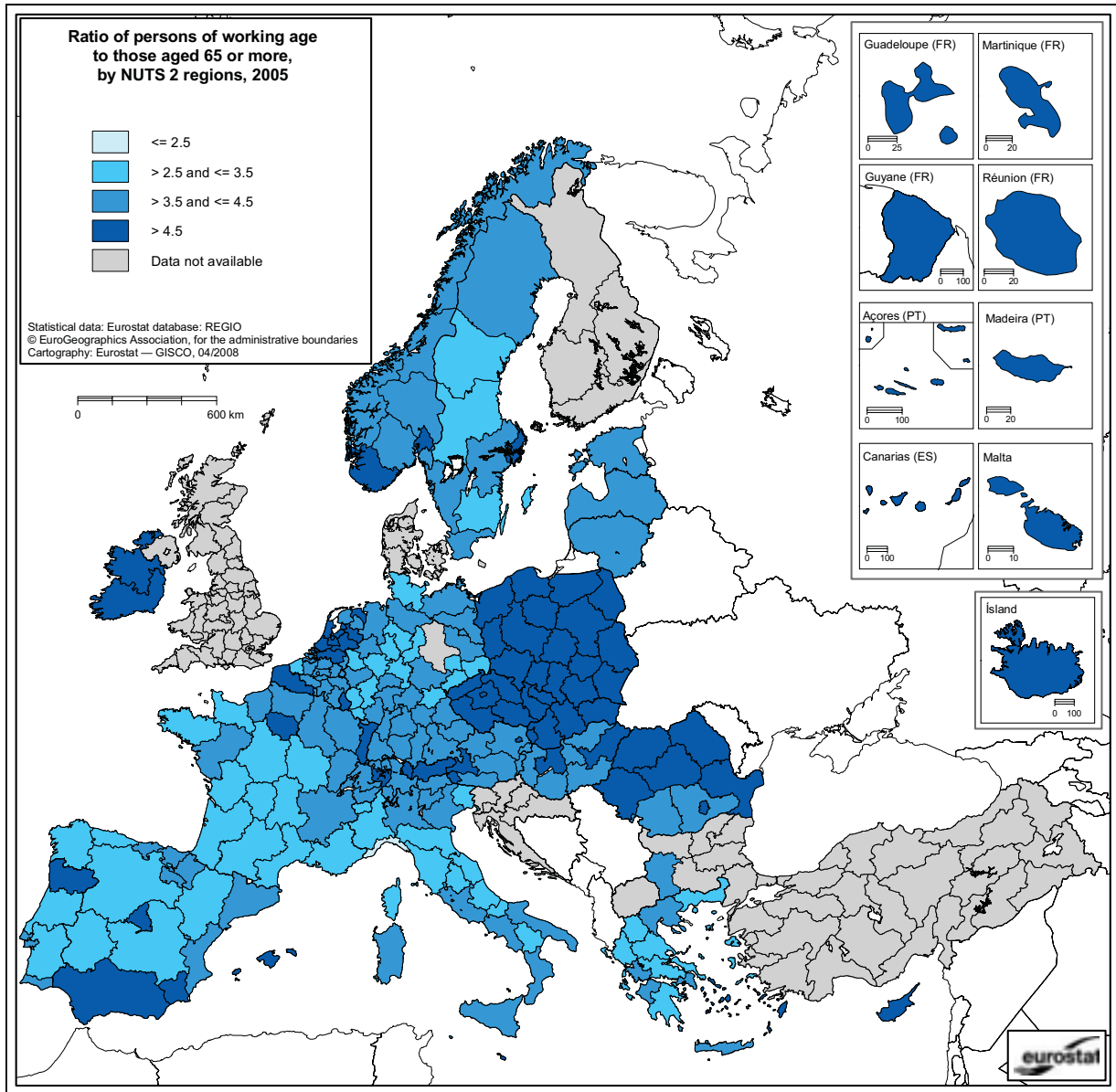
Map SP.6: Ratio of persons of working age to those aged 65 or more, by NUTS 2 regions, 1995



Source: Eurostat (d2jan and proj_rtbp_pop)

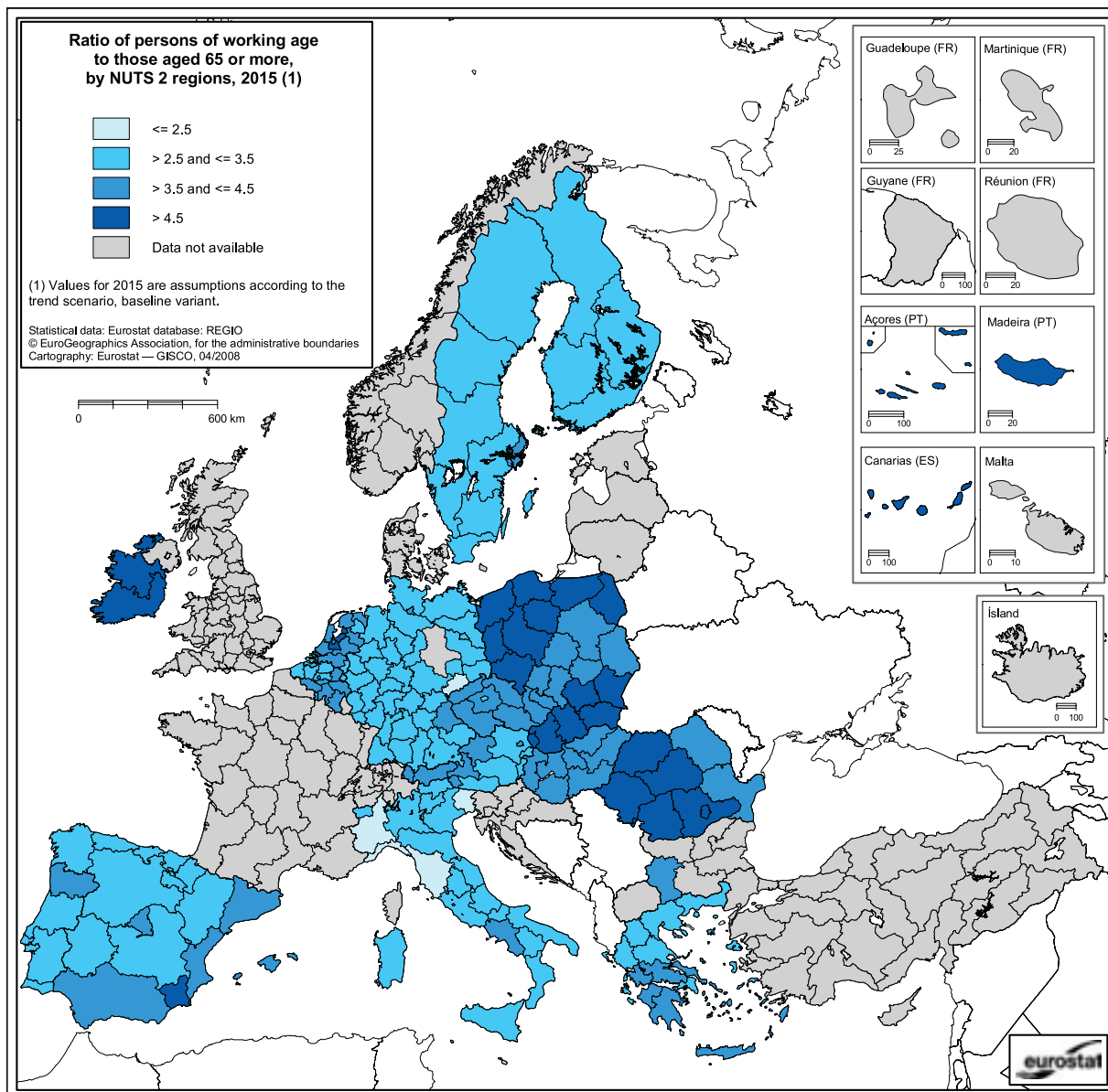


Map SP.7: Ratio of persons of working age to those aged 65 or more, by NUTS 2 regions, 2005



Source: Eurostat (d2jan and proj_rtbp_pop)

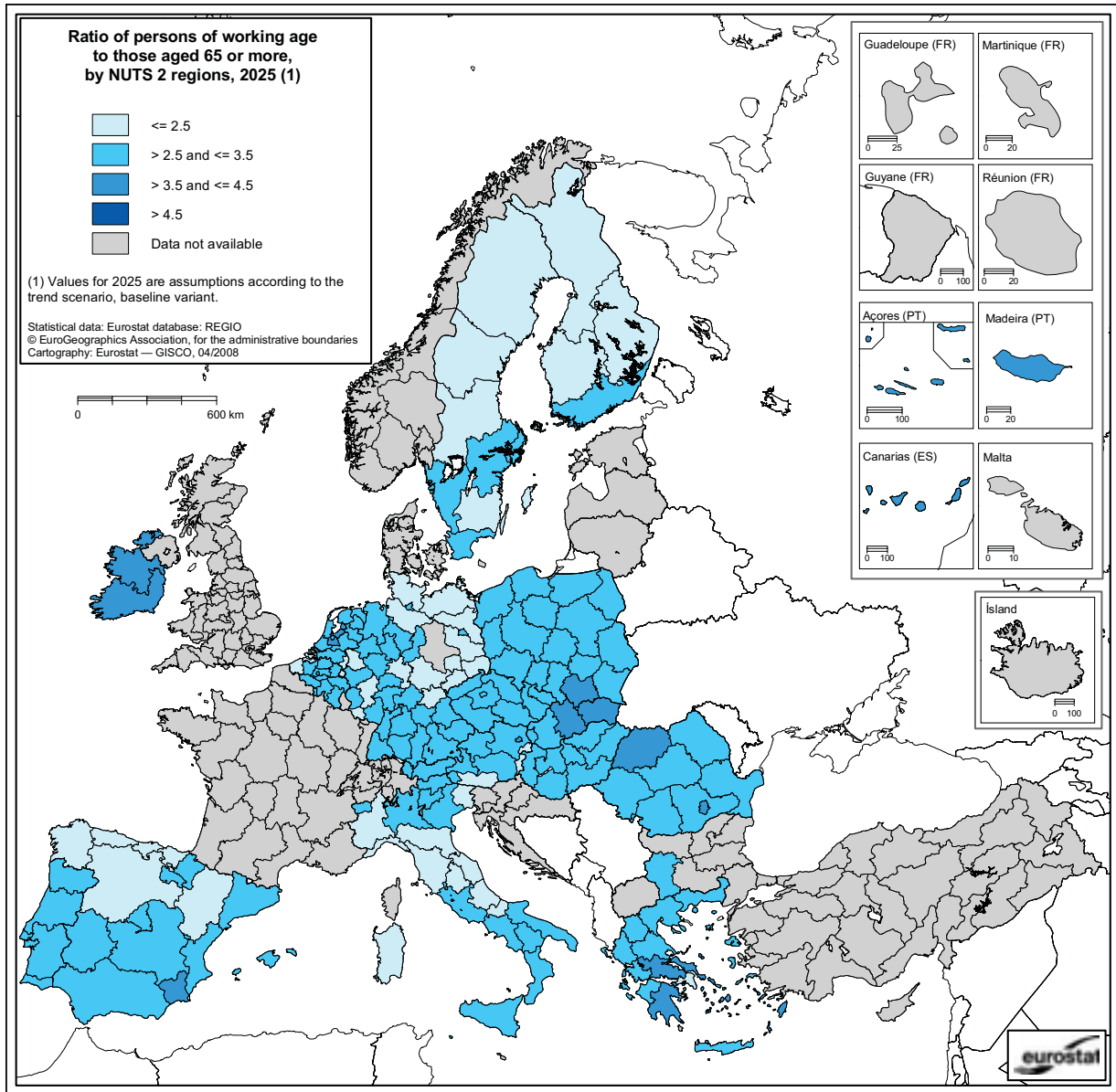
Map SP8: Ratio of persons of working age to those aged 65 or more, by NUTS 2 regions, 2015



Source: Eurostat (d2jan and proj_rtbp_pop)



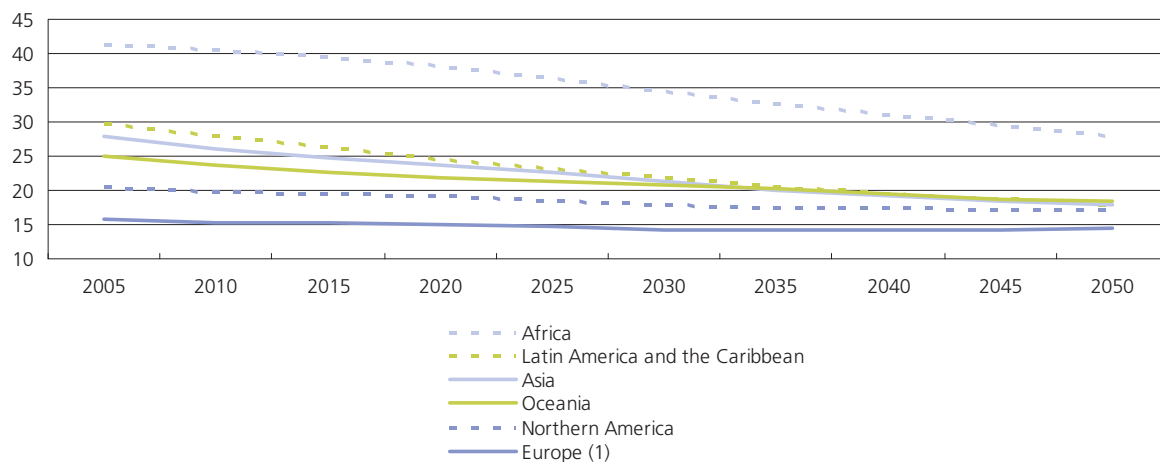
Map SP.9: Ratio of persons of working age to those aged 65 or more, by NUTS 2 regions, 2025



Source: Eurostat (d2jan and proj_rtbp_pop)

Figure SP.38: Proportion of the population aged under 15

(%)

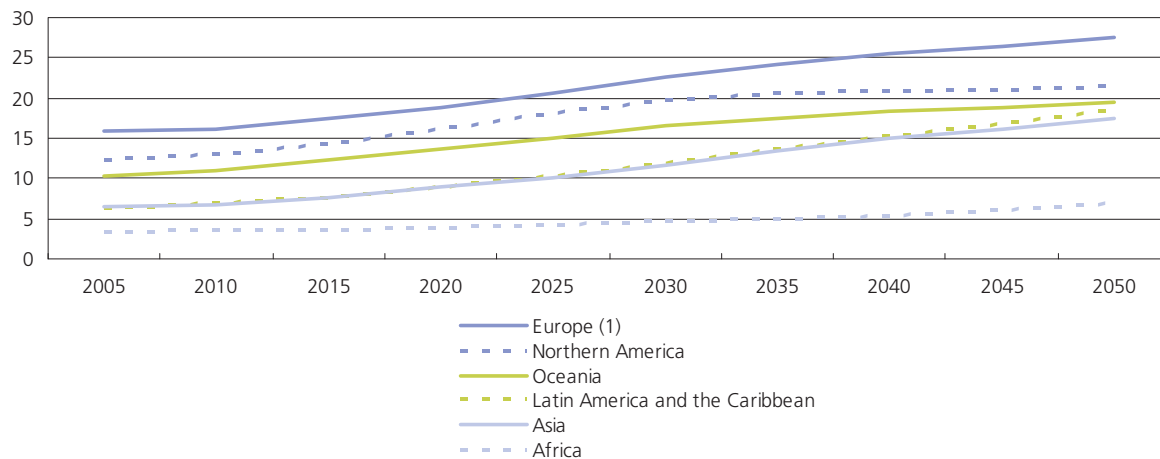


(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_pop), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Figure SP.39: Proportion of the population aged 65 and over

(%)



(1) EU-27, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Faeroe Islands, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Switzerland and the Ukraine.

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_pop), United Nations, Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs



Table SP.30: Proportion of the population aged under 15

(%)

	2005	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
EU-27	16.1	15.4	14.8	14.0	13.4	13.4
Euro area	15.7	15.4	14.6	13.6	13.2	13.1
Belgium	17.1	16.4	15.7	15.4	14.8	14.7
Bulgaria	13.8	12.8	12.4	11.0	11.0	11.5
Czech Republic	14.9	13.6	13.8	12.9	12.1	12.6
Denmark	18.8	18.0	16.0	16.3	16.5	15.7
Germany	14.5	13.7	13.0	12.7	12.0	11.9
Estonia	15.4	14.7	16.4	15.1	13.8	14.8
Ireland	20.8	21.0	19.8	16.9	16.1	16.0
Greece	14.4	14.2	14.0	12.6	12.1	12.3
Spain	14.6	14.8	14.2	11.7	11.3	11.5
France	18.5	18.2	17.2	16.3	16.0	15.8
Italy	14.2	14.0	12.9	11.6	11.4	11.2
Cyprus	19.4	16.6	15.4	15.3	13.4	13.3
Latvia	14.8	13.7	16.2	15.1	13.4	14.8
Lithuania	17.1	14.9	15.0	14.7	13.4	13.7
Luxembourg	18.7	17.9	17.0	17.3	17.0	16.6
Hungary	15.7	14.6	14.4	14.1	13.6	13.8
Malta	17.8	16.2	15.7	15.4	14.6	14.5
Netherlands	18.5	17.8	16.3	16.2	16.3	15.8
Austria	16.1	14.9	14.0	13.5	12.6	12.3
Poland	16.7	14.7	14.5	14.2	12.9	13.0
Portugal	15.7	15.7	15.1	13.4	13.1	13.1
Romania	15.9	15.1	14.9	13.1	12.3	12.5
Slovenia	14.3	13.5	13.5	12.9	12.1	12.8
Slovakia	17.0	15.0	14.2	13.5	12.6	12.8
Finland	17.5	16.5	16.1	15.8	15.2	15.3
Sweden	17.6	16.5	17.1	16.9	16.2	16.3
United Kingdom	18.0	17.0	16.3	15.8	14.9	14.7

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_pop)

Table SP.31: Proportion of the population aged 65 and over

(%)

	2005	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
EU-27	16.6	17.5	20.6	24.5	28.1	29.9
Euro area	17.5	18.5	21.4	25.6	29.6	31.1
Belgium	17.2	17.5	20.5	24.7	27.3	27.7
Bulgaria	17.2	17.8	21.7	25.6	29.2	33.5
Czech Republic	14.0	15.5	20.8	23.6	26.8	31.0
Denmark	15.0	16.3	20.0	22.6	24.7	24.1
Germany	18.6	20.4	22.6	27.5	31.1	31.5
Estonia	16.4	16.9	18.7	21.2	23.1	25.7
Ireland	11.2	11.8	14.7	18.3	22.2	26.2
Greece	18.1	18.8	21.1	24.6	29.2	32.5
Spain	16.8	17.2	19.8	24.7	31.2	35.7
France	16.5	16.8	20.7	24.2	26.8	27.3
Italy	19.5	20.5	23.3	27.5	33.1	35.3
Cyprus	12.1	13.4	17.2	21.0	22.9	26.1
Latvia	16.5	17.4	18.4	21.3	23.5	26.1
Lithuania	15.2	16.1	17.5	21.4	24.4	26.7
Luxembourg	14.2	14.6	16.5	19.8	22.3	22.1
Hungary	15.6	16.7	20.3	22.3	24.8	28.1
Malta	13.2	14.2	19.4	22.4	22.5	24.7
Netherlands	14.0	14.9	18.8	22.5	24.6	23.5
Austria	16.0	17.7	20.0	25.1	29.3	30.4
Poland	13.1	13.5	18.2	22.6	24.8	29.4
Portugal	17.0	17.7	20.3	24.3	28.5	31.9
Romania	14.7	14.8	17.1	19.8	24.9	29.6
Slovenia	15.3	16.5	20.4	25.1	28.4	31.1
Slovakia	11.6	12.3	16.3	20.8	24.1	29.3
Finland	15.8	16.9	22.6	26.1	26.7	27.0
Sweden	17.2	18.3	21.2	23.1	24.6	24.3
United Kingdom	16.1	16.6	19.5	22.9	25.9	26.6

Source: Eurostat (proj_tbp_pop)