

Eurostat regional yearbook 2011

Regional diversity of the EU illustrated through maps and figures

Which EU regions are the most built up and which are the least? Which region has the highest proportion of the population who have completed tertiary education? In which cities is poverty considered as a problem by the citizens? And which cities are considered to have the worst air quality?

The answers to these questions and many more are found in the 2011 **regional yearbook**¹ from **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**. The publication gives an overview of the most recent economic, social and demographic developments in the 271 NUTS level 2 regions² of the 27 Member States of the **European Union** as well as, when available, the regions in the four EFTA countries (**Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland**) and the four candidate countries (**Montenegro, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey**).

The **Eurostat regional yearbook 2011** not only covers NUTS level 2 regions and cities, but also for the first time, the much more detailed NUTS level 3 regions for a selection of indicators. The Eurostat regional yearbook contains many thematic maps, which is the most user friendly way to present such a large amount of detailed statistics.

The **Eurostat regional yearbook 2011** includes a new chapter on land cover and land use as well as on densely and thinly populated areas. It also contains chapters on population, labour market, labour cost, education, health, cities, gross domestic product, household accounts, structural business statistics, information society, tourism, coastal regions, transport and science, technology & innovation.

To illustrate the diversity of the regional data found in the **Eurostat regional yearbook**, this News Release presents some indicators from different statistical fields.

Share of land used for residential, economic and infrastructure-related purposes varies from 2% to 90% in the EU regions

In order to get a picture of the diversity of the EU regions in terms of land use and land cover, Eurostat launched the Land Use/Cover Area frame Survey (LUCAS)³ in 2009. One of the indicators measured in this survey is the share of land used for residential, economic and infrastructure-related purposes (built up areas), which averages 9% across the EU. This indicator differs widely across the regions, with the largest shares in **Inner-London** (89% of the total area) and **Outer-London** (72%) in the United Kingdom, **Bruxelles/Brussels** (67%) in Belgium, **Bremen** (65%) in Germany, **Wien** (57%) in Austria, **West Midlands** (56%) in the United Kingdom, **Hamburg** (53%) and **Berlin** (51%) in Germany.

The regions with the lowest proportions of their area used for residential, economic and infrastructure-related purposes were **Övre Norrland** in Sweden and **Pohjois-Suomi** in Finland (both 2%), **Highlands and Islands** in the United Kingdom, **Mellersta Norrland** in Sweden and **Thessalia** in Greece (all 2.5%), **Itä-Suomi** in Finland (2.8%), **Ipeiros** (2.9%) in Greece and **Alentejo** (3.1%) in Portugal.

Land used for residential, economic and infrastructure-related purposes*, 2009
(% of the total area of the region)

Highest rate			Lowest rate		Highest rate			Lowest rate	
BE	Bruxelles/Brussels	67.3	Prov. Luxembourg	6.0	LU		8.6		
BG	:	:	:	:	HU	Közép-Magyarország	16.1	Nyugat-Dunántúl	4.9
CZ	Praha	40.2	Jihozápad	4.9	MT	:	:	:	:
DK	Hovedstaden	26.5	Midtjylland	8.5	NL	Zuid-Holland	31.4	Flevoland	9.4
DE	Bremen	64.9	Oberfranken	6.0	AT	Wien	57.1	Tirol	5.6
EE		4.2			PL	Slaskie	16.1	Warminsko-Mazurskie and Opolskie	4.2
IE	Border, Midland & Western	9.9	Southern & Eastern	8.0	PT**	Lisboa	19.7	Alentejo	3.1
EL**	Attiki	22.9	Thessalia	2.5	RO	:	:	:	:
ES**	Comunidad de Madrid	15.9	Castilla-La Mancha	3.2	SI	Vzhodna Slovenija	5.8	Zahodna Slovenija	4.5
FR**	Île de France	23.3	Bourgogne	5.5	SK	Bratislavský kraj	23.5	Stredné Slovensko	3.6
IT	Lombardia	22.4	Molise	3.4	FI**	Etelä-Suomi	7.3	Pohjois-Suomi	1.8
CY	:	:	:	:	SE	Stockholm	11.2	Övre Norrland	1.6
LV		3.6			UK	Inner London	89.4	Highlands & Islands	2.5
LT		4.5							

Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), the Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE) and the United Kingdom (UK).

* Recreational, leisure and sport-related areas are excluded.

** Greece: Data not available for Ionia Nisia, Voreio Aigaio and Notio Aigaio, Spain: Data not available for Illes Balears, Canarias, Ceuta and Melilla, France: Data not available for French overseas departments, Portugal: Data not available for Açores and Madeira, Finland: Data not available for Åland.

: Data not available

Highest proportions of tertiary graduates in the population recorded in Inner London and Brabant Wallon

In 2009, the share of the population aged 25-64 having completed tertiary education was 25% in the **EU27**. The highest proportions were found in **Inner London** in the United Kingdom (51%), **Brabant Wallon** in Belgium (49%), **Vlaams-Brabant** in Belgium, **Hovedstaden** in Denmark and **País Vasco** in Spain (all 44%) and **Utrecht** in the Netherlands (43%). Among the 25 **EU27** regions, where the proportion of those having completed tertiary education was highest, eight were capital city regions.

The lowest proportions were recorded in **Açores** in Portugal and **Severozápad** in the Czech Republic (both 8%), **Sud-Muntenia** (9%) and **Sud-Est** (10%) in Romania.

Educational attainment level, 2009

% of the population aged 25-64 having completed tertiary education

Highest rate			Lowest rate		Highest rate			Lowest rate	
BE	Brabant Wallon	48.6	Hainaut	24.0	NL	Utrecht	42.9	Drenthe	25.2
BG	Yugozapaden	33.7	Yugoiztochen	16.9	AT	Wien	26.3	Burgenland	15.1
CZ	Praha	30.3	Severozápad	8.4	PL	Mazowieckie	29.3	Kujawsko-Pomorskie and Opolski	16.2
DK	Hovedstaden	43.6	Syddanmark	27.7	PT	Lisboa	21.7	Açores	8.2
DE	Berlin	35.4	Koblenz	19.6	RO	București - Ilfov	27.7	Sud - Muntenia	9.1
EE		36.0			SI	Zahodna Slovenija	28.3	Vzhodna Slovenija	19.1
IE	Southern & Eastern	37.5	Border, Midland & Western	31.3	SK	Bratislavský kraj	31.9	Východné Slovensko	12.7
EL	Attiki	28.1	Notio Aigaio	11.5	FI	Etelä-Suomi	40.6	Åland	29.9
ES	País Vasco	43.6	Illes Balears	21.9	SE	Stockholm	41.9	Norra Mellansverige	25.3
FR*	Île de France	39.9	Corse	(14.7)	UK	Inner London	51.5	Essex	24.9
IT	Lazio	19.0	Valle d'Aosta/Vallée d'Aoste	10.8	IS		32.8		
CY		34.1			NO	Oslo og Akershus	47.4	Hedmark og Oppland	27.0
LV		26.1			CH	Zürich	40.8	Ticino	30.1
LT		31.0			HR	Sjeverozapadna Hrvatska	21.7	Središnja i Istočna (Panonska) Hrvatska	10.9
LU		34.8			MK		14.8		
HU	Közép-Magyarország	29.3	Észak-Alföld	15.0	TR	Ankara	23.7	Mardin	4.5
MT		13.2							

Iceland (IS), Norway (NO), Switzerland (CH), Croatia (HR), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (MK) and Turkey (TR).

* Data not available for French overseas departments
 () Data with reduced reliability due to small sample size
 Provisional data for Luxembourg, Malta and Sweden

The lowest proportions of citizens considering poverty as a problem in their city found in Aalborg in Denmark and Oulu in Finland...

The image of a city is not only determined by facts, but also by the perception that residents have of their city. In order to measure these feelings, the Urban Audit perception survey⁴ was undertaken in 75 cities in the **EU27**, **Croatia** and **Turkey** in 2009. All capital cities were included together with up to six further cities in each country based on its population.

One of the indicators measured was on the perception of poverty in the city. In **Miskolc** in **Hungary**, 93% of respondents considered⁵ poverty to be a problem in their city, followed by **Lisboa** in **Portugal**, **Budapest** in **Hungary**, **Riga** in **Latvia** (all 88%). The lowest proportions of citizens who considered poverty to be a problem in their city were recorded in **Aalborg** (20%) in **Denmark**, **Oulu** (33%) in **Finland**, **Praha** (36%) in the **Czech Republic** and **Oviedo** (37%) in **Spain**.

...while the lowest proportions considering air pollution as a problem found in Rostock in Germany and Groningen in the Netherlands

Opinions on air quality are also markedly diverse across these cities. The largest shares of respondents agreeing that air pollution is a problem in their city were observed in **Athina** (96%) in **Greece**, **Budapest** in **Hungary**, **Sofia** in **Bulgaria** and **București** in **Romania** (all 92%). On the other hand, the cities with the smallest shares of respondents perceiving air pollution as a problem were **Rostock** (17%) in **Germany**, **Groningen** (21%) in the **Netherlands**, **Bialystok** (23%) in **Poland** and **Newcastle upon Tyne** (26%) in the **United Kingdom**.

Perception of poverty in selected cities, 2009

% of respondents who strongly or somewhat agreed with the statement that in this city poverty is a problem

City	%	City	%	City	%
Miskolc (HU)	93.0	Vilnius (LT)	71.5	Ljubljana (SI)	56.9
Lisboa (PT)	88.4	London (UK)	71.4	Malmö (SE)	56.3
Budapest (HU)	87.8	Braga (PT)	71.3	Verona (IT)	55.4
Riga (LV)	87.6	Sofia (BG)	69.5	Antalya (TR)	55.4
Diyarbakir (TR)	87.5	Antwerpen (BE)	68.3	Helsinki (FI)	55.4
Athina (EL)	85.2	Madrid (ES)	68.0	Bologna (IT)	55.1
Liège (BE)	84.8	Málaga (ES)	66.8	Newcastle upon Tyne (UK)	53.3
Bruxelles / Brussel (BE)	82.6	Piatra Neamt (RO)	66.3	Cluj-Napoca (RO)	53.1
Istanbul (TR)	82.4	Hamburg (DE)	66.0	Gdansk (PL)	51.6
Paris (FR)	82.0	Leipzig (DE)	65.7	Krakow (PL)	51.1
Marseille (FR)	81.6	Essen (DE)	64.7	Warszawa (PL)	49.9
Palermo (IT)	81.5	Strasbourg (FR)	64.6	Lefkosia (CY)	49.6
Berlin (DE)	81.3	Bordeaux (FR)	64.0	Cardiff (UK)	49.3
Lille (FR)	79.1	Rotterdam (NL)	62.6	München (DE)	47.8
Dortmund (DE)	78.9	Rostock (DE)	62.5	Stockholm (SE)	47.1
Torino (IT)	77.7	Kosice (SK)	62.3	Rennes (FR)	47.1
Napoli (IT)	77.3	Belfast (UK)	61.8	Luxembourg (city) (LU)	46.2
Glasgow (UK)	76.4	Bialystok (PL)	61.2	Bratislava (SK)	44.3
Dublin (IE)	75.5	Graz (AT)	61.1	København (DK)	44.2
Zagreb (HR)	74.7	Manchester (UK)	60.8	Groningen (NL)	41.3
București (RO)	74.6	Irakleio (EL)	60.7	Valletta (MT)	37.6
Ankara (TR)	74.4	Burgas (BG)	59.5	Oviedo (ES)	37.0
Tallinn (EE)	74.1	Wien (AT)	59.3	Praha (CZ)	35.9
Barcelona (ES)	74.0	Amsterdam (NL)	57.8	Oulu (FI)	33.2
Roma (IT)	72.1	Ostrava (CZ)	57.0	Aalborg (DK)	20.1

Perception of air pollution in selected cities, 2009

% of respondents who strongly or somewhat agreed with the statement that in this city air pollution is a problem

City	%	City	%	City	%
Athina (GR)	96.2	Cluj-Napoca (RO)	74.0	Manchester (UK)	49.6
Budapest (HU)	92.3	Praha (CZ)	73.7	Berlin (DE)	49.2
Sofia (BG)	92.1	Rotterdam (NL)	72.9	Antalya (TR)	48.2
București (RO)	92.0	Graz (AT)	72.3	München (DE)	47.7
Roma (IT)	89.6	Antwerpen (BE)	72.2	Málaga (ES)	46.7
Burgas (BG)	88.7	Liège (BE)	72.0	Essen (DE)	46.4
Napoli (IT)	86.5	Istanbul (TR)	71.9	Dublin (IE)	44.4
Lisboa (PT)	84.8	Stockholm (SE)	70.3	Bordeaux (FR)	43.6
Madrid (ES)	84.8	Irakleio (GR)	68.8	Helsinki (FI)	42.3
Bologna (IT)	83.2	Ljubljana (SI)	68.4	Belfast (UK)	41.2
Palermo (IT)	82.6	København (DK)	68.0	Wien (AT)	40.7
Verona (IT)	82.3	Zagreb (HR)	66.7	Dortmund (DE)	38.0
Torino (IT)	82.3	Riga (LV)	66.3	Oulu (FI)	37.8
Lefkosia (CY)	78.6	Lille (FR)	62.7	Luxembourg (city) (LU)	34.8
Strasbourg (FR)	78.4	Amsterdam (NL)	62.5	Cardiff (UK)	33.8
Krakow (PL)	77.8	Miskolc (HU)	60.8	Hamburg (DE)	33.3
Paris (FR)	77.6	Tallinn (EE)	60.5	Piatra Neamt (RO)	32.0
London (UK)	77.0	Gdansk (PL)	60.0	Leipzig (DE)	30.1
Warszawa (PL)	76.9	Malmö (SE)	58.7	Oviedo (ES)	29.6
Ostrava (CZ)	76.5	Bratislava (SK)	58.0	Aalborg (DK)	28.9
Bruxelles / Brussel (BE)	76.0	Glasgow (UK)	56.3	Rennes (FR)	28.3
Barcelona (ES)	76.0	Diyarbakir (TR)	54.8	Newcastle upon Tyne (UK)	26.1
Valletta (MT)	74.7	Ankara (TR)	53.7	Bialystok (PL)	22.5
Marseille (FR2)	74.7	Braga (PT)	51.1	Groningen (NL)	20.9
Vilnius (LT)	74.2	Kosice (SK)	50.3	Rostock (DE)	16.7

1. **Eurostat regional yearbook 2011.** Paper version - EUR 20 excluding VAT, PDF-version and underlying data - available free of charge on the Eurostat website <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=KS-HA-11-001>. Also available as a Statistics Explained article: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Eurostat_regional_yearbook.
2. The yearbook uses the Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS 2006/EU-27), that entered into force on 1 January 2008.
The EU27 has 271 regions at NUTS level 2: Belgium (11 regions), Bulgaria (6), the Czech Republic (8), Denmark (5), Germany (39), Ireland (2), Greece (13), Spain (19), France (26), Italy (21), Hungary (7), the Netherlands (12), Austria (9), Poland (16), Portugal (7), Romania (8), Slovenia (2), Slovakia (4), Finland (5), Sweden (8) and the United Kingdom (37). Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Malta are all considered as single NUTS 2 regions.
EFTA countries: Norway (7 regions) and Switzerland (7). Iceland and Lichtenstein are considered as single level 2 regions.
Candidate countries: Croatia (3 regions) and Turkey (26). Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are considered as a single level 2 region.
For a complete list of the European statistical regions see:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/nuts_nomenclature/introduction
3. Eurostat collects land cover and land use data through the Land Use/Cover Area frame Survey (LUCAS), which was launched in spring/ autumn 2009 simultaneously in 23 EU countries. Bulgaria, Cyprus, Malta and Romania were not covered by the 2009 survey. Field surveyors visited identified points and collected information on the physical cover of the land and its visible socio-economic use for 234 700 points. Each visit was documented by numerous photographs, which form an important part of the LUCAS dataset, especially in terms of landscape description.
4. The most recent Urban Audit perception survey was carried out in 2009. Survey data were collected through telephone interviews of samples of 500 persons in 75 major cities in the EU27, Croatia and Turkey. All capital cities were included together with up to six further cities in each country based on its population.
5. Respondents who strongly or somewhat agreed with the statement as a percentage of all those who expressed an opinion.

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