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# Fact sheets

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Living conditions and society

## Note

This work is the translation of « La France dans l'Union européenne » published in the *INSEE Références* collection in April 2014.

Unless otherwise stated, the data used are taken from the website of Eurostat, the European Union's statistical office. These data are continually updated. The date of acquisition of the figures is therefore generally indicated below the tables and charts. The data mainly concern the countries of the European Union of 28 (EU of 28), as currently defined. However, for some countries (particularly those that have recently joined the EU), certain figures are not yet available. In such cases the perimeter of the EU is indicated.

On 15 May 2014, the INSEE published the national accounts in the 2010 base: these data are compiled in accordance with the new European System of Accounts (ESA 2010). France is one of the first countries to integrate this change, as most other States are not publishing national accounts data in line with ESA 2010 until September 2014. Prior to that date, only data from the 2005 base can be used to make reliable comparisons. It is this base that is therefore used here. It is likely that the change of base will have little effect on the majority of national accounting aggregates (particularly those presented here) and that it will not alter the hierarchies observed between countries.

## Symbols used

...	Result unavailable
///	No results due to the nature of things
e	Estimate
p	Provisional result
n.s.	Non-significant result
€	Euro
M	Million
Bn	Billion
Ref.	Reference

## 3.1 Consumption and living conditions

**H**ousing is the largest single item in household **consumption expenditure** in all of the 27 EU member States (pre-Croatia), with the exception of Lithuania and Romania. In 2012, housing accounted for 29.8% of consumption expenditure in EU member States (27.6% in 1995). The proportion of **expenditure related to housing** is close to 32% in Finland, Sweden, Slovakia and the Czech Republic, and is over 34% in Denmark. This expenditure is considerably lower in Malta, Portugal and Lithuania, where rents (real and imputed) are less significant as a proportion of household consumption expenditure (below 11%, while the EU average is 17%).

Spending on transportation, which includes the purchase and use of personal vehicles as well as other transport services, represented 13.0% of household consumption expenditure across the EU as a whole in 2012. It was the second largest expenditure item in Germany, France and the United Kingdom, and also in Luxembourg, Slovenia, Ireland and Austria. The low taxes levied on vehicles and fuel in Luxembourg attract a number of consumers from across the borders, boosting the Grand Duchy's spending on transport to 19.1% of total consumption expenditure.

The proportion of household expenditure devoted to food has fallen since 1995, dropping from 14.4% in that year to reach 13.0% in 2012. Expenditure on food as a proportion of total household expenditure varies significantly from one country to the next, with the disparities largely representative of the differences in standards of living in different countries. In 11 member States (particularly among relative newcomers to the EU) food is still the second largest expenditure item, while it remains the largest single expense in Lithuania and Romania. In the richer EU nations

the proportion of household expenditure allocated to food has been below 15% for the past 15 years.

Expenditure on culture, leisure and communications accounted for 11.3% of consumption expenditure in the EU in 2012. In the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands, this was the second largest item in consumption expenditure. In spite of significant reductions in the price of such goods, this expenditure has been bolstered in recent years by the dynamic performance of new technologies.

The proportion of household expenditure which goes to hotels, cafés and restaurants – including spending by foreign households visiting a country – is significantly higher in Southern Europe as a result of tourism. As such, this spending represents the second largest item in consumption expenditure in Malta (17.3%), Spain (16.8%) and Cyprus (16.0%), well above the European average of 8.5% in 2012.

In 2012 in the EU, around six in ten residents lived in a house, more often than not a detached house. The proportion of people living in houses is particularly high (over 75%) in the Netherlands, Belgium and the United Kingdom. These countries have a majority of terraced or semi-detached houses. Conversely, in Estonia, Latvia and Spain only a third of people live in houses. Similarly, but to a lesser extent, in Lithuania, Germany, the Czech Republic and Italy, the apartment is the dominant form of dwelling. In the Baltic nations and in Spain, those living in apartments are more likely to be in buildings with more than 10 apartments. In France, the proportion of people living in apartments is below the European average (33%, compared to an EU average of 42% in 2012), but those in apartments are more likely to be in buildings of more than 10 apartments (66% compared with an EU average of 59%). ■

### Definitions

**Consumption expenditure** corresponds to the actual expenditure of households in the country, whether resident or otherwise. It includes the share of healthcare, education and housing costs borne by households, but excludes the share borne by local authorities.

**Expenditure related to housing**, in its broad definition, includes all expenditures related to housing and its equipment (rents, heating, water, electricity, gas, everyday maintenance, furnishings, cleaning items, etc.), including "imputed" rents.

### Further Reading

- "Europe in figures – Eurostat Annual 2013", *Online statistical publications*, Eurostat.
- "European social statistics", *Pocketbooks*, Eurostat, 2013 edition.
- "Analysis of EU-27 household final consumption expenditure - Baltic countries and Greece still suffering most from the economic and financial crisis", *Statistics in focus*, Eurostat, march 2013.

# Consumption and living conditions 3.1

## 1. Breakdown of household consumption expenditure across the European Union in 2012, in value

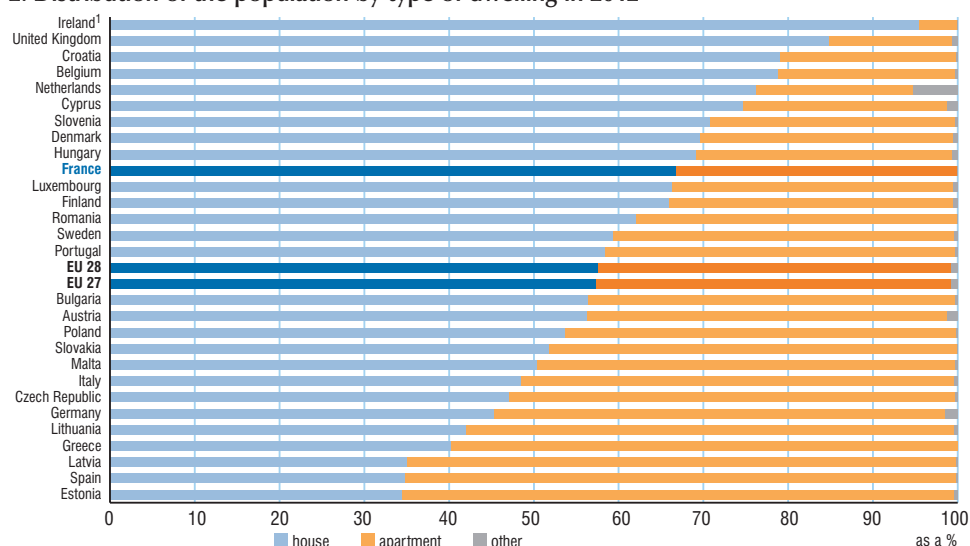
as a %

	Housing <sup>1</sup>	Transport	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	Culture, leisure, communication	Hotels, cafés and restaurants	Other
Austria	28.1	13.3	10.0	12.4	12.1	24.1
Belgium	29.9	12.0	13.6	11.1	6.0	27.4
Bulgaria <sup>2</sup>	23.9	16.3	19.7	13.5	6.4	20.2
Cyprus	23.9	10.5	13.4	10.8	16.0	25.4
Czech Republic	31.7	9.4	15.5	12.0	7.7	23.7
Denmark	34.3	12.5	11.3	12.6	5.3	24.0
Estonia	23.7	13.3	19.0	10.5	7.8	25.7
Finland	32.3	11.1	12.5	13.1	6.4	24.6
<b>France</b>	<b>31.3</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>13.7</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>23.4</b>
Germany	30.5	13.7	11.7	11.7	5.9	26.5
Greece <sup>2</sup>	27.8	11.8	16.2	8.5	11.7	24.0
Hungary	25.8	12.7	17.6	11.0	6.8	26.1
Ireland	27.6	13.1	10.2	9.8	12.9	26.4
Italy	30.3	12.5	14.4	9.4	10.1	23.3
Latvia	27.3	14.9	19.2	10.8	5.2	22.6
Lithuania <sup>2</sup>	21.6	14.6	25.4	9.1	2.8	26.5
Luxembourg	31.0	19.1	8.3	8.3	6.8	26.5
Malta	18.6	12.4	14.7	14.4	17.3	22.6
Netherlands	30.2	12.1	12.0	13.9	5.0	26.8
Poland	27.6	10.2	18.5	10.6	2.9	30.2
Portugal	22.1	11.5	18.2	10.2	11.2	26.8
Romania <sup>2</sup>	27.2	11.0	27.5	10.7	3.3	20.3
Slovakia	31.5	7.7	17.5	13.0	5.4	24.9
Slovenia	24.8	16.1	14.9	11.8	7.0	25.4
Spain	25.8	11.4	14.2	10.7	16.8	21.1
Sweden	32.0	12.9	12.1	14.2	5.8	23.0
United Kingdom	30.9	14.2	9.2	12.7	9.8	23.2
<b>EU27</b>	<b>29.8</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>24.4</b>

1. cf. Definitions. 2. Bulgaria and Greece, 2011 data; Romania, 2010 data; Lithuania, 2009 data.

Source: Eurostat, national accounts (data retrieved January 2014).

## 2. Distribution of the population by type of dwelling in 2012



1. Ireland: 2011 data.

How to read the chart: in France, 67% of the population lived in houses in 2012.

N.B.: "other" includes buildings which are not primarily intended to be used for accommodation purposes (schools, churches) as well as unusual dwellings such as caves, cellars, cabins etc.

Source: Eurostat, EU-SILC (data retrieved January 2014).

## 3.2 Income

International comparisons of equivalised incomes usually focus on **gross domestic product** (GDP) or actual household consumption. This latter measure covers household consumption expenditure, but also includes collective forms of expenditure (by general government and non-profit institutions serving households) which benefit individual households. GDP, which measures economic output within national boundaries as the total sum of value added generated by all resident units of production, differs slightly from the income actually received by resident economic entities (because primary incomes, earned income and income from capital, may be received overseas by economic agents residing in France, and conversely such income may be paid by resident agents to non-resident agents).

In order to compare standards of living, it is thus useful to construct our comparisons using **gross national income** (GNI). In order to allow for pertinent comparisons between levels of GDP, GNI or per capita consumption, we need to take into account the differences in prices observed for the same goods in different countries: the figures are deflated by price levels in order to give an idea of income volumes using the **purchasing power standard** (PPS).

In 2012, based solely on GDP per capita, France was the 10<sup>th</sup> wealthiest nation in the European Union, with a per capita GDP 9% above the EU average, just above the United Kingdom and behind Finland. Luxembourg is the clear leader in this respect, with a per capita GDP which is 2.6 times greater than the EU average. The ranking in terms of GNI per capita is not the same as that for GDP per capita, particularly for Luxembourg (not so far ahead of other member States) and Ireland (which finds itself lower down the table). In Luxembourg, almost half of all

workers reside in neighbouring countries. In Ireland, a strong concentration of foreign-owned companies means that a substantial volume of capital income leaves Irish shores.

Although broadly comparable to the two aforementioned rankings, the table for consumption volume per inhabitant does present some clear differences, particularly as the proportion of GDP devoted to actual household consumption varies from country to country (ranging from 38% in Luxembourg to 81% in Greece; in France the figure is 76%). Disparities between countries thus become smaller when we apply this measurement, although they remain significant: in 2012, the level of per capita consumption in Luxembourg was 2.8 times that seen in Bulgaria. France sits in 8<sup>th</sup> place, with actual household consumption 14% above the European average. In terms of food consumption France is joint top among European nations, alongside Luxembourg and Lithuania, at 16% above the EU average.

The purchasing power of **adjusted gross disposable income** (AGDI) per inhabitant has suffered from the effects of the 2008-2009 financial crisis, though the impact of the recession has differed greatly from country to country. In Germany, while AGDI was growing only moderately before the crisis it has since registered a more sustained rate of growth. In France and the United Kingdom the rapid collapse of the tentative 2009 rebound, coupled with the effects of fiscal consolidation measures, caused purchasing power to stagnate or even decline in 2011 and 2012. Finally, in Italy, purchasing power of AGDI stagnated between 2002 and 2007, and deteriorated continuously from 2008 onwards, with 2012 alone seeing a drop-off of over 4%. In the USA and Japan the sudden decline triggered by the crisis soon gave way to a rapid rebound, with this strong rate of recovery remaining virtually steady in 2011 and 2012. ■

### Definitions

**Adjusted gross disposable income:** disposable income plus social transfers in kind (reimbursement of healthcare expenditure by the social services, housing allocations etc.), the counterpart to the individualised consumption figures counted as part of expenditure by general government and non-profit institutions serving households.

**Purchasing power standard, gross domestic product, gross national income:** see the *Glossary*.

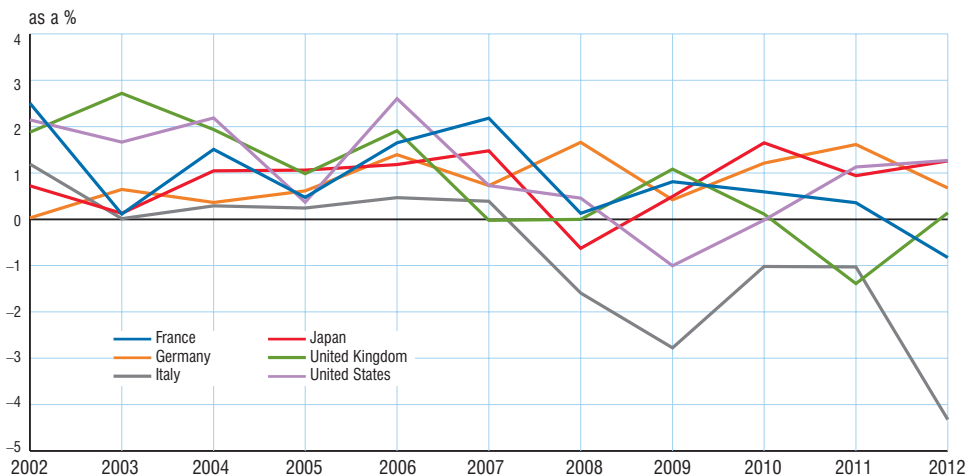
## 1. Price and volume of GDP, GNI, total actual household consumption, and consumption of food and non-alcoholic beverages indices in 2012

Base index 100 for EU28

	Per capita volumes in purchasing power standard format				Price Indices		
	Gross Domestic Product	Gross National Income	Actual individual consumption	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	Gross Domestic Product	Actual individual consumption	Food and non-alcoholic beverages
Luxembourg	263	179	138	116	120	136	116
Austria	130	129	120	89	110	110	120
Ireland	129	105	98	74	109	120	118
Netherlands	128	129	111	105	110	111	96
Sweden	126	129	117	105	133	136	124
Denmark	126	130	114	87	137	145	143
Germany	123	126	123	103	103	101	106
Belgium	120	120	113	113	111	113	110
Finland	115	115	116	107	121	123	119
<b>France</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>109</b>
United Kingdom	106	106	114	90	113	117	104
Italy	101	100	100	107	100	102	112
Spain	96	95	92	111	91	94	93
Cyprus	92	89	97	98	88	89	109
Malta	86	81	85	90	75	75	98
Slovenia	84	83	79	84	80	82	97
Czech Republic	81	75	72	74	70	68	84
Slovakia	76	74	73	82	68	65	87
Portugal	76	74	77	111	81	83	90
Greece	75	75	85	107	89	89	104
Lithuania	72	70	75	116	60	59	77
Estonia	71	68	62	79	71	71	87
Hungary	67	63	63	63	58	55	81
Poland	67	64	73	95	58	53	62
Latvia	64	64	63	78	67	66	87
Croatia	62	60	60	81	65	66	92
Romania	50	50	50	81	48	49	67
Bulgaria	47	46	49	56	45	43	68

Source: Eurostat.

## 2. Year-on-year variation in purchasing power of adjusted gross disposable income per capita



Scope: households, sole proprietorships and non-profit institutions serving households (NPISH).  
Sources: INSEE, Eurostat, OECD.

### 3.3 Income poverty and inequality

In 2011 **income poverty** affected 17.0% of citizens in the 28-member EU, i.e. 85 million people. This calculation is based on a poverty line set at 60% of the national median equivalised income, the benchmark figure recommended by Eurostat. The expansion of the EU from 15 to 25 member States in 2004, then to 27 in 2007 and 28 in 2012, has not had a significant impact on the European poverty rate. Nonetheless, significant disparities persist between individual member States: national poverty rates range from 9.6% to 23.1%.

The rate of poverty is at its lowest in the Czech Republic (9.6%) and the Netherlands (10.1%). It ranges from 13.0% to 14.2% in Northern Europe, with the exception of the Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania) where the rate is higher. Southern European nations have some of the highest levels of poverty: 17.9% in Portugal, 19.4% in Italy, 22.2% in Spain and 23.1% in Greece. The three most recent additions to the European Union - Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia - also have high poverty rates, with 21.2%, 22.6% and 20.5% of their respective citizens living below the national poverty line. France has a poverty rate of 14.1%, 2.8% below the European average, with Germany (16.1%) and the United Kingdom (16.2%) closer to that European average.

In 2011, the average equivalised income in EU member States was 17,500 Euros per annum. National averages range from 2,410

in Romania to 36,930 in Luxembourg, the latter being 15 times greater than the former. By converting the figures into **purchasing power standard** form (PPS), this ratio is halved (1x to 7.5x). France is among the countries with the highest average equivalised income.

As an EU average, the minimum equivalised income for the wealthiest 10% (D9) is 3.7 higher than the maximum equivalised income for the bottom 10% (D1). France is close to this EU average, with an interdecile range (D9/D1) of 3.5. In 2011, the mass of disposable income per consumption unit held by the richest 20% of the EU population was 5.1 times greater than that held by the poorest 20%. This **ratio** ranges from 3.4-3.5 in Slovenia and the Czech Republic to 7.2 in Spain. In France the ratio is 4.5, similar to that seen in Germany (4.3). The ratio is particularly high in Latvia (6.5) and the two most recent EU members, Bulgaria and Romania (6.1 and 6.3).

Across the EU as a whole, the **poverty gap** is 23.5%. In Finland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden and France, the level of this indicator is well below this average (not exceeding 19.0%), indicating that the equivalised income of those in poverty is closer to the national median. At the other end of the scale, the gap is widest in Bulgaria, Spain and Romania (in excess of 30%), countries afflicted by particularly high rates of poverty and inequality. ■

#### Definitions

**Income poverty:** defined in relation to the distribution of the equivalised incomes in the whole population, setting the poverty line as a proportion (60%) of the median equivalised income.

**100-S80/S20 ratio:** shows the differential between the mass of disposable income per consumption unit held by 20% of the richest persons and that held by 20% of the poorest persons.

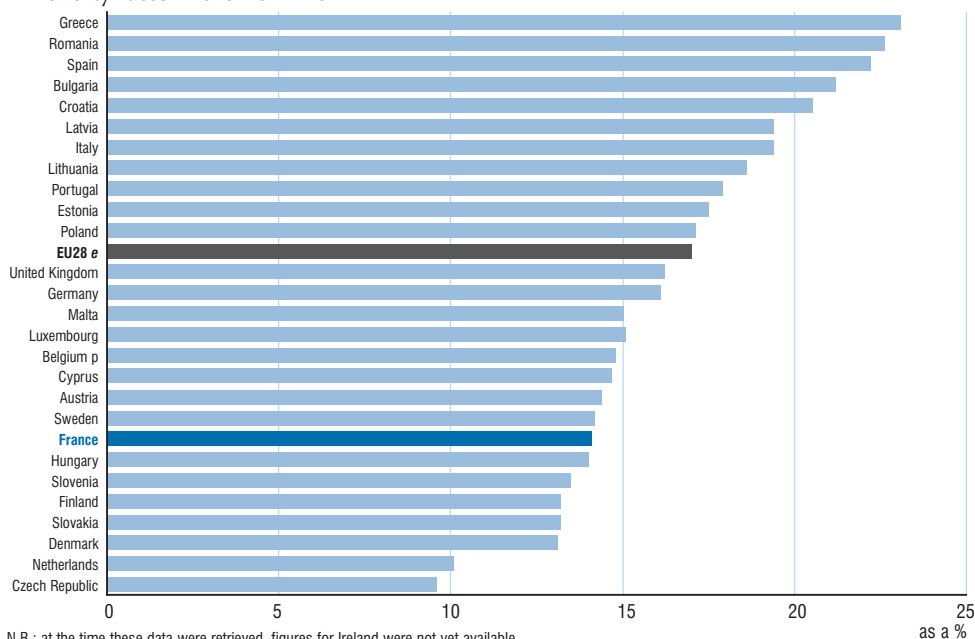
**GINI index, poverty gap, purchasing power standard** (PPS): see the *Glossary*.

#### Further Reading

- "23% of EU citizens were at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2010", *Statistics in focus*, Eurostat, February 2012.
- « Les approches de la pauvreté à l'épreuve des comparaisons internationales », *Économie et Statistique* issue 383-384-385, INSEE, December 2005.

# Income poverty and inequality 3.3

## 1. Poverty rates in the EU in 2011



N.B.: at the time these data were retrieved, figures for Ireland were not yet available  
Source: Eurostat, data retrieved January 2014.

## 2. EU poverty and inequality indicators in 2011

	Average equivalised income		D9/D1 ratio	Ratio "(100-S80)/S20"	GINI index	Poverty gap, as a %
	in Euros	PPS				
Austria	24,420	22,960	3.4	4.2	0.276	20.1
Belgium	21,810	19,650	3.2	3.9	0.265	18.1
Bulgaria	3,280	6,640	4.9	6.1	0.336	31.4
Croatia	6,005	8,194	4.6	5.4	0.31	28.8
Cyprus	20,220	22,750	3.7	4.7	0.31	19.0
Czech Republic	8,770	11,460	2.9	3.5	0.249	19.1
Denmark	28,860	20,120	3.0	4.5	0.281	22.8
Estonia	7,120	9,140	4.4	5.4	0.325	23.8
Finland	25,150	20,170	3.1	3.7	0.259	15.0
<b>France</b>	<b>24,500</b>	<b>22,230</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>0.305</b>	<b>19.0</b>
Germany	22,020	21,350	3.6	4.3	0.283	21.1
Greece	10,680	11,170	4.9	6.6	0.343	29.9
Hungary	5,310	8,250	3.3	4.0	0.269	21.0
Italy	18,200	17,430	4.2	5.5	0.319	25.4
Latvia	5,460	7,400	5.1	6.5	0.359	28.4
Lithuania	5,120	7,790	4.4	5.3	0.32	22.6
Luxembourg	36,930	30,030	3.4	4.1	0.28	15.0
Malta	12,680	16,280	3.3	3.9	0.272	16.0
Netherlands	22,950	21,220	2.9	3.6	0.254	17.3
Poland	5,900	9,950	4.0	4.9	0.309	22.2
Portugal	10,250	11,780	4.6	5.8	0.345	24.7
Romania	2,410	4,000	5.3	6.3	0.332	30.9
Slovakia	7,560	10,440	3.2	3.7	0.253	20.5
Slovenia	12,970	15,120	3.0	3.4	0.237	19.1
Spain	13,890	14,290	5.4	7.2	0.35	31.4
Sweden	26,260	20,770	3.0	3.7	0.249	18.6
United Kingdom	22,690	21,050	3.9	5.4	0.328	21.0
<b>EU28 e</b>	<b>17,457</b>	<b>///</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>0.306</b>	<b>23.5</b>

N.B.: at the time these data were retrieved, figures for Ireland were not yet available  
Source: Eurostat, data retrieved January 2014.



## 3.4 Social protection

The social protection systems in place vary greatly from one EU member State to the next. The products of very different historical and demographic circumstances, these systems continue to operate and evolve in very different socio-economic and institutional contexts. Some are based on a health insurance model funded by contributions, while others are more defined by the principle of solidarity and funding via tax revenue.

With social protection systems which are less advanced, the most recent EU members are in different circumstances from those in the 'historic' member States. The twelve countries which joined the EU between 2004 and 2007 spend less on social protection per capita than the original EU of 15, both in **GDP** terms and in terms of **purchasing power standard** (PPS). For example, in 2010 Poland spent 19.2% of GDP on social protection, an average of €3,198 per capita in PPS terms, compared to an average of 30.1% (€8,050) in the 15 historic member States. France and Denmark were the biggest spenders on social protection in 2010, with approximately one third of GDP (33.8% and 34.3% respectively). However, if we consider social protection expenditure in PPS terms, France and Germany spend virtually the same amount (slightly more than €9,000 per capita PPS), behind Sweden, Ireland, Austria, Denmark, the Netherlands and Luxembourg (the latter three spending over €10,000 PPS per capita).

Member States differ not only in the extent of their spending on social protection, but also in terms of the allocation of this expenditure to different **risks**. In 2010, the "old age-surviving dependents" and "sickness-healthcare-disability"

risks represented the largest items of expenditure in all European countries: an average of 12.8% of GDP was spent on the former and 10.4% on the latter. These two risks account for over 80% of total social protection expenditure. Ireland is the country which spends the lowest proportion of its GDP on "old age-surviving dependents" (6.6%), mainly as a result of the relatively youthful population. Italy, on the other hand, is the country which spends the most on this risk (17.4%), closely followed by France, Greece and Austria (all over 14% of GDP). This disparity can be partly attributed to the proportion of citizens aged 65 and over in each country, but also to the relative generosity of each country's pension system. Spending allocated to the "family-children" risk averages at 2.3% of GDP, highest in Denmark (4.0%) and lowest in Poland (0.8%). France is above the EU average, devoting 2.7% of GDP to expenditure on families, in gross terms (without deducting taxes or charges which may apply to social services, or adding the effects of fiscal measures which fulfil the same social objective, such as the family credit or tax reductions for childcare).

"Housing" and "social exclusion" receive 0.6% and 0.4% of European GDP respectively (EU of 27). The United Kingdom devotes the largest share of GDP to expenditure on housing (1.5%), followed by Cyprus (1.1%), France (0.8%), Denmark (0.8%) and Germany (0.6%). Expenditure on the "social exclusion" risk is lowest in Italy, at 0.1% of GDP; nor is there any national minimum wage in Italy. France is above the European average in this respect, spending 0.8% of GDP on tackling social exclusion in 2010. ■

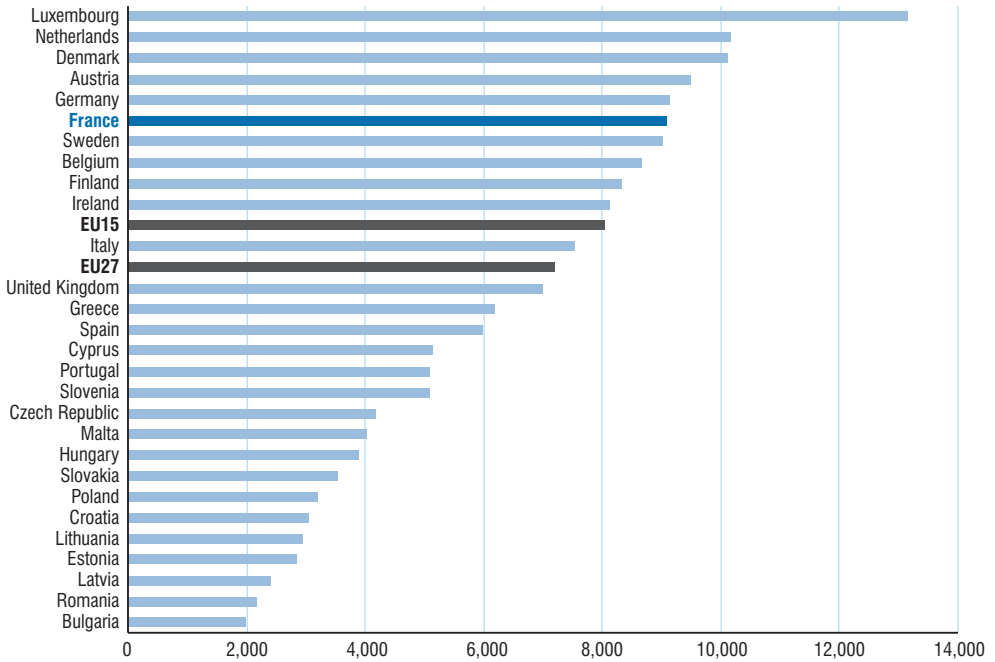
### Definitions

**GDP, purchasing power standard, risk:** see the *Glossary*.

### Further Reading

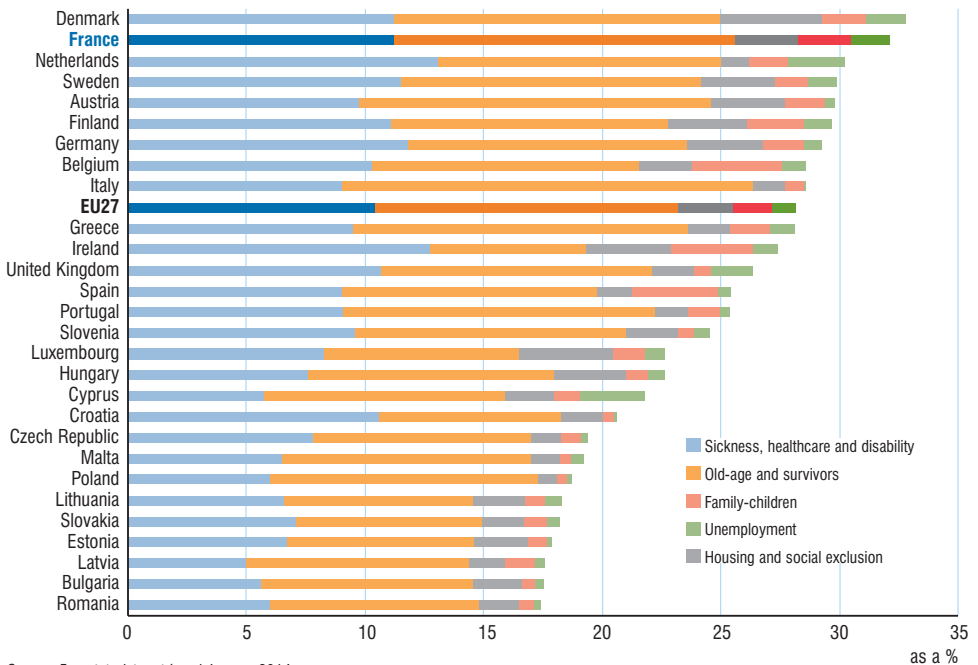
- « La protection sociale en France et en Europe en 2011 », *Études et statistiques* coll., DREES, 2013 edition.
- *ESSPROS Manual and user guidelines*, Eurostat, 2012 edition.
- « Quelles évolutions des dépenses sociales dans la crise en Europe ? », in *La protection sociale en France et en Europe*, « Études et statistiques » coll., DREES, 2013 edition.

## 1. Social protection expenditure per capita in PPS terms, 2010



Source: Eurostat, data retrieved January 2014.

## 2. Expenditure on individual social risks as a proportion of GDP in 2010



Source: Eurostat, data retrieved January 2014.

## 3.5 Health

In 2011, **healthcare expenditure** in the EU member States varied from just below 6% of GDP (Estonia) to almost 12% (the Netherlands). Countries in Eastern Europe spend less than the EU average, with healthcare expenditure as a proportion of GDP topping 10% in Portugal, Belgium, Austria, Denmark, Germany, France and the Netherlands. Public expenditure accounts for between 65% and 86% of total healthcare expenditure. There is no obvious correlation between the public contribution to total expenditure and the importance of this total expenditure as a proportion of GDP. In the Netherlands and Luxembourg, public spending on healthcare accounts for a large majority of total expenditure, but total healthcare expenditure represents just 11.9% of GDP in the Netherlands and 6.6% in Luxembourg; Portugal and Hungary are the member States where public healthcare expenditure is lowest (only two-thirds of total healthcare expenditure), but the total healthcare spending of these two countries is very different. In terms of healthcare expenditure the situation in Japan is broadly comparable to that seen in Western Europe (9.6% of GDP goes on healthcare, with just over 80% coming from the government). The situation in the United States, meanwhile, is very different indeed: total expenditure on healthcare is much higher (17.7% of GDP), but less than half of this (47.8%) is public spending.

Levels of the principal healthcare resources (doctors, nurses, hospital beds) vary greatly from one European country to the next. The number of doctors per 1000 people is 2.2 in Poland, 4.8 in Austria and 6.1 in Greece, with France somewhere in the middle (3.3). The number of nurses per 1000 people ranges from 3.3 in Greece to 15 in Belgium and Denmark (8.7 in France). Nevertheless, drawing comparisons is difficult as the responsibilities of nurses can vary quite widely from one country to the next. The number of hospital beds per 1000 people varies from just below 3 (Sweden,

United Kingdom, Ireland) to over 8 in Germany (where outpatient surgery was brought in later than in other countries). Japan and the United States both have low numbers of doctors (2.2 and 2.5 per 1000 people respectively) and relatively high numbers of nurses (10.0 and 11.1). The number of hospital beds is very low in the USA and very high in Japan (over 13 per 1000 people, with many being used for long-term treatment of elderly patients).

**Healthy life years** is a measurement of the number of years a person born in 2012 can expect to live in good health, defined as the absence of restrictions on everyday activities and major disabilities resulting from health problems. This indicator is assessed on the basis of the respondents' perception of the extent of their health difficulties. As an EU average, men born in 2012 can expect to live 61.3 years in good health, while women can expect 61.9 years. Men and women both have a healthy life expectancy of over 70 in Malta and Sweden, and over 65 in Ireland and Luxembourg. This life expectancy is at its lowest in the majority of Eastern European nations (particularly Estonia, Slovakia, Latvia, Slovenia, Lithuania and Romania) as well as Portugal, Finland and Germany. France is slightly above the EU average in this respect (62.6 years for men, 63.9 for women). In most countries, healthy life expectancy for women exceeds that for men (by an average of 0.6 years across the EU). This disparity is particularly sharp in Eastern Europe (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Croatia and Bulgaria). Meanwhile, the gender roles are reversed in the Netherlands. Furthermore, perception of the state of one's health can vary from country to country, as can respondents' understanding of the questions asked as a result of differences in terminology. This may affect the comparability of national data, and go some way to explaining the fact that Germany's figures are below average. ■

### Definitions

**Healthcare expenditure, healthy life years:** see the *Glossary*.

### Further Reading

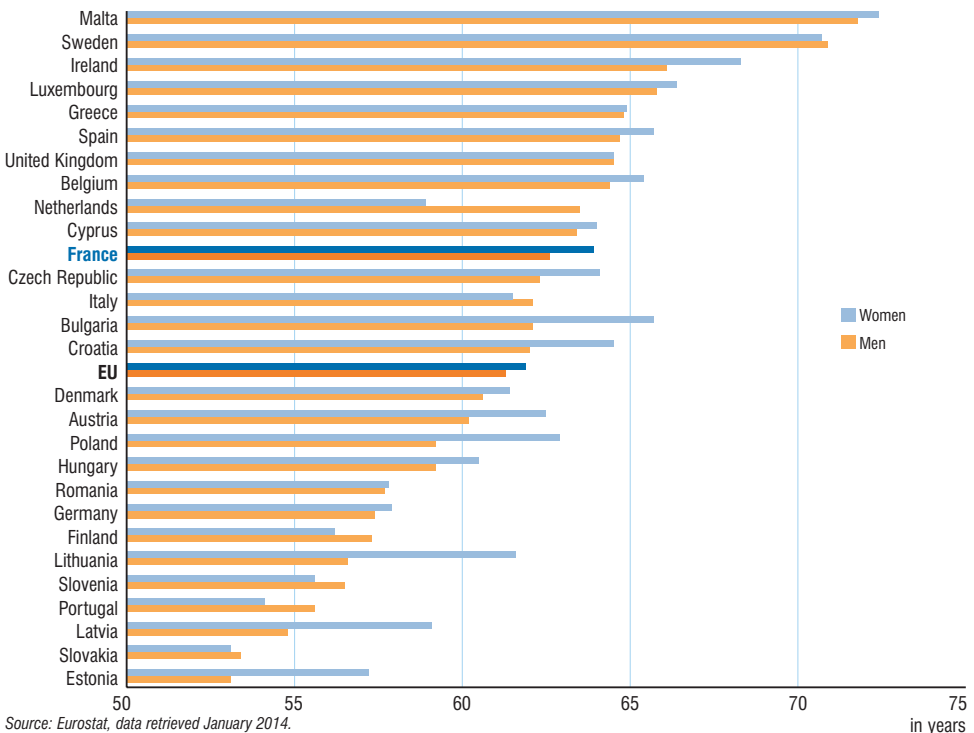
- Les comptes nationaux de la santé en 2012, Document de travail - Série Statistiques n° 185, DREES, September 2013.
- « État de santé de la population en France », *Études et Statistiques coll.*, DREES, 2011.

## 1. Healthcare in the EU, Japan and the USA in 2011

	Healthcare expenditure (proportion of GDP)	Public healthcare expenditure (proportion of total health spending)	Number of:		
			doctors	nurses	hospital beds
Estonia	5.9	79.3	3.3	6.2	5.3
Luxembourg	6.6	84.0	2.8	11.3	5.4
Poland	6.9	70.3	2.2	5.2	6.6
Czech Republic	7.5	84.2	3.6	8.0	6.8
Hungary	7.9	65.0	3.0	6.2	7.2
Slovakia	7.9	70.9	3.3	5.9	6.1
Slovenia	8.9	73.7	2.5	8.3	4.6
Ireland	8.9	67.0	2.7	12.2	3.0
Finland	9.0	75.4	3.3	10.3	5.5
Greece	9.2	65.1	6.1	3.3	4.9
Italy	9.2	77.8	4.1	6.3	3.4
Spain	9.3	73.0	4.1	5.5	3.2
United Kingdom	9.4	82.8	2.8	8.6	3.0
Sweden	9.5	81.6	3.9	11.1	2.7
Japan	9.6	82.1	2.2	10.0	13.4
Portugal	10.2	65.0	3.98	6.1	3.4
Belgium	10.5	75.9	2.9	15.4	6.4
Austria	10.8	76.2	4.8	7.8	7.7
Denmark	10.9	85.3	3.5	15.4	3.5
Germany	11.3	76.5	3.8	11.4	8.3
<b>France</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>6.4</b>
Netherlands	11.9	85.6	3.0	11.8	4.7
United States	17.7	47.8	2.5	11.1	3.1

Note: information is available in the OECD's "Health" database for 21 EU members. They cover the year 2011, or the closest available alternative.  
Sources: OECD, data retrieved January 2014.

## 2. Life expectancy in good health at birth, 2012



## 3.6 Environment

In 2011 **renewable energies** supplied 13% of gross final energy consumption in the 28-member EU, but the national figures showed substantial variation. In five countries (Malta, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom, Belgium and the Netherlands), the contribution of renewable energies was below 5%. On the other hand, renewables provided over 30% of energy in Austria, Finland and Latvia, and exceeded 46% in Sweden. In France, the share of renewable energy sources was slightly below the European average (12% in 2011, 13% in 2012). However, the biofuels used in France in 2011 did not receive sustainable certification (on account of a delay in applying EU directive 2009/28/EC) and were therefore not counted as renewables by Eurostat. Taking these fuels into account would have boosted the contribution of renewable energy sources to France's gross final energy consumption up to the European average level of 13%.

The **productivity of resources** is a measurement of the quantity of materials physically used to satisfy the demand from a country's population. The EU of 27 average for 2011 was 1.6 Euros per kilogram. The majority of countries in Eastern Europe have weaker productivity figures (below €1/kg), while generally speaking those in Western Europe tend to be above average. France is among the five most efficient member States in this respect (just behind the United Kingdom, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Malta).

Municipal **waste** products amount to a total of approximately 500kg per resident of the 28-member EU. Per capita waste varies from 300kg per annum in Estonia to 700kg in Denmark. In France, waste collected by municipal authorities stands at 527kg per person.

In 2012, five countries had **environmental taxes** in place which amounted to less than 2% of GDP (Spain, Lithuania, Slovakia, France and Romania). Conversely, three countries have environmental tax rates which exceed 3.5% (Denmark, Slovenia and the Netherlands). In the EU of 27 as a whole, environmental taxes amounted to 2.4% of GDP in 2011.

Between 2001 and 2011, in the 27-member EU, **environmental taxes** fell by 0.2 points as a proportion of GDP. There was relatively large growth in the tax burden in many countries, but no common trend emerges. The proportion of environmental taxes grew in six countries, with the greatest increase being the 0.67 points seen in Estonia. The proportion remained practically stable (variation of between -0.1 and + 0.1 GDP points) in seven countries, including France. It shrank in 14 countries, with the greatest decline recorded in Lithuania (-0.86 points) and Denmark, the country with the highest environmental taxes (-0.68 points). Between 2001 and 2011 the relative standing of member States in this regard changed very little. ■

### Definitions

**Renewable energies:** see the *Glossary*.

**Productivity of resources:** the ratio between GDP in volume and domestic consumption of materials, measured in Euros per kilogram. Apparent domestic consumption of materials includes fossil fuels, minerals and agricultural products, produced nationally or imported in the form of raw materials or finished products; exports are deducted. This indicator measures the total quantity of materials physically used by the national economy in order to satisfy demand from the population.

**Waste:** is defined as any residue from a process of production, transformation or use, or any substance, material or product that has been abandoned or destined for abandonment by its owner. Municipalities must manage the waste produced by households, the waste that they produce themselves, and that originating from the crafts or retail trades, which is collected in the same way as household waste.

**Environmental taxes:** taxes whose tax base is a physical unit (or a proxy of it) that has a proven specific negative impact on the environment, and which are considered as a tax by ESA 95. All environmental taxes include taxes on transportation, energy, pollution and resources.

### Further Reading

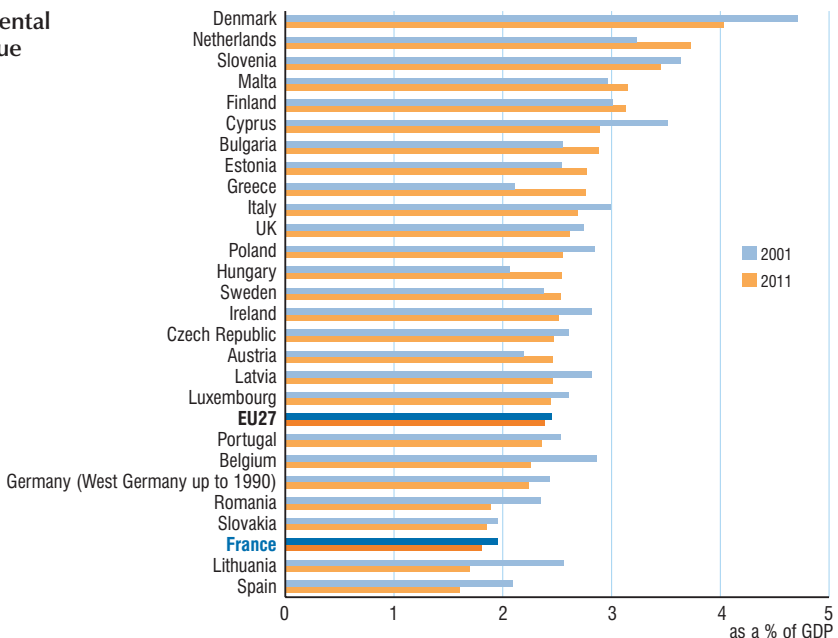
- *Repères, chiffres clé de l'environnement*, Commissariat Général au Développement Durable, October 2013.

## 1. Principal environmental indicators in the EU in 2011

	Renewable energy sources as a proportion of final gross energy consumption	Productivity of resources		Municipal waste
	(%)	(Euros/kg)	(Base 100 in 2001)	(kg/resident)
Austria	30.9	1.43	117.9	552
Belgium	4.1	1.79	118.1	464
Bulgaria	13.8	0.20	117.5	375
Croatia <sup>2</sup>	15.7	0.81	...	373
Cyprus	5.4	0.83	108.8	658
Czech Republic	9.4	0.69	146.8	320
Denmark	23.1	1.66	115.5	719
Estonia	25.9	0.42	100.8	298
Finland	31.8	0.93	117.6	505
<b>France</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>2.25</b>	<b>125.1</b>	<b>527</b>
Germany	12.3	1.82	121.1	597
Greece	11.6	1.37	132.4	496
Hungary	9.1	0.90	153.1	382
Ireland	6.7	1.71	224.0	623
Italy	11.5	2.02	134.6	535
Latvia	33.1	0.32	126.2	350
Lithuania	20.3	0.56	106.4	442
Luxembourg	2.9	3.21	130.0	687
Malta	0.4	2.52	76.6	583
Netherlands	4.3	2.89	119.1	596
Poland	10.4	0.40	103.6	315
Portugal	24.9	0.96	123.5	487
Romania	21.4	0.21	59.7	365
Slovakia	9.7	0.67	120.3	327
Slovenia	18.8	1.07	152.1	411
Spain	15.1	1.81	161.2	498
Sweden	46.8	1.60	110.4	460
United Kingdom	3.8	3.22	147.5	518
<b>EU27</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>119.7</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>EU28</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>499</b>

Source: Eurostat, data retrieved December 2013.

## 2. Environmental tax revenue



Source: Eurostat.