



news release

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Eurostat Yearbook 2006/07

A goldmine of statistical information

What percentage of the population is overweight or obese? How many foreign languages are learnt by pupils in the EU? In which Member State are gasoline and diesel most expensive? How much waste is generated per inhabitant? The answers to these questions, and to many more, can be found in the 11th edition of the statistical Yearbook¹, published by **Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities**.

The Eurostat Yearbook 2006/07 includes almost 400 statistical tables, graphs and maps, which are accompanied by information relating to European policies, explanations of statistical concepts and other useful information. It shows how key indicators have developed during the last eleven years in the **EU25**, the **euro area**, the **Member States** and the **Candidate countries**. Data for the **EFTA** countries, the **US** and **Japan** are included when available. The yearbook provides users of official statistics with an overview of the wealth of information that is available on the Eurostat web site².

The 2006/07 Yearbook has fourteen main chapters on different statistical areas. After an overview of Eurostat's services, the first chapter puts the energy domain in the spotlight. The other chapters cover all major statistical domains: population, education, health, living conditions and welfare, labour market, economy, international trade, industry and services, science and technology, environment, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, and Europe's regions and finally there is a chapter devoted to linking statistics to European policies. An annex contains a useful glossary and details of the nomenclatures used. The paper version of the Eurostat Yearbook is accompanied by a CD-ROM which contains the yearbook in pdf format, as well as the tables and graphs in Excel format.

The tables presented in this News Release give an idea of the diversity of the data presented in the Yearbook.

Obesity varies from around a quarter of the population to less than 10% in the Member States

Based on the Body Mass Index³ (BMI), around half of men in **Greece** and **Austria** (both 50.8%) and **Germany** (48.0%) were overweight³ and around a third of women in **Greece** (36.5%), the **United Kingdom** (33.6%) and **Portugal** (32.4%). The lowest percentages for overweight men were found in **Latvia** (32.5%), **Estonia** (33.4%) and **France** (35.1%) and for women in **Austria** (20.3%), **France** (21.2%) and **Slovakia** (22.4%). In all Member States a higher proportion of men were overweight than women.

Around a quarter of men in **Malta** (25.1%) were obese³, followed by the **United Kingdom** (22.3%). For women, the highest shares of obesity were found in the **United Kingdom** (23.0%) and **Germany** (21.7%). The lowest shares of obesity for men were observed in **Romania** (7.7%) and the **Netherlands** (7.9%) and for women in **Italy** (7.9%) and **Austria** (8.6%). In half of the Member States, a higher proportion of women than men were obese.

Overweight and obese persons, % of the population aged 15 and over*

	Overweight (BMI 25-29.9)		Obese (BMI 30 or more)	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Belgium	37.4	24.4	10.3	11.8
Bulgaria	38.8	28.8	11.3	13.5
Czech Republic	42.8	30.4	13.5	15.3
Denmark	39.8	24.8	9.8	9.1
Germany	48.0	31.3	18.8	21.7
Estonia	33.4	28.7	9.3	16.7
Ireland	42.2	26.7	15.1	11.8
Greece	50.8	36.5	10.6	10.8
Spain	44.1	27.8	13.0	13.5
France	35.1	21.2	9.4	9.2
Italy	40.6	23.5	8.3	7.9
Cyprus	41.0	26.9	12.9	11.8
Latvia	32.5	27.3	11.5	19.0
Lithuania	41.1	26.4	16.3	15.8
Luxembourg	:	:	:	:
Hungary	38.7	29.6	19.7	18.1
Malta	40.5	29.1	25.1	21.2
Netherlands	39.4	27.3	7.9	9.9
Austria	50.8	20.3	8.6	8.6
Poland	37.6	26.5	10.3	12.4
Portugal	41.8	32.4	13.4	15.9
Romania	38.1	28.6	7.7	9.5
Slovenia	43.3	29.7	12.6	12.0
Slovakia	44.3	22.4	13.5	15.0
Finland	42.8	31.3	14.7	14.5
Sweden	40.2	27.3	10.5	9.6
United Kingdom**	43.9	33.6	22.3	23.0

* Source: National Health Interview Surveys (HIS) covering 2000-2003 data depending on Member State, except for Estonia and Poland: 1996, Germany: 1998 and Portugal: 1999. Austria has the European Household Panel as a source (2001 data). The methodology might differ slightly between Member States.

** UK: only England

: Data not available

English is learnt as a foreign language by 85% of pupils in secondary education in the EU27

In the **EU27** in 2004, pupils in lower and upper secondary education learned on average 1.4 foreign languages. This ranged from 0.6 languages per pupil in the **United Kingdom** to 2.6 in **Luxembourg** and the **Netherlands**.

In 2004, 85% of pupils in lower and upper secondary education in the **EU27** were learning English. Among the Member States for which data are available, English was the foreign language mostly commonly learned by pupils in lower and upper secondary education in all Member States, except for **Luxembourg**, where French and German were more common. The share of pupils learning English ranged from 100% in **Sweden**, and 99% in both **Denmark** and **Finland** to 61% in **Hungary**, 63% in **Luxembourg** and 69% in **Slovakia** and **Bulgaria**.

In the **EU27**, 23% of pupils were learning French as a foreign language and 17% German. The share of pupils learning French as a foreign language was highest in **Luxembourg** (99%), **Romania** (86%) and **Ireland** (68%), while the share of pupils learning German was highest in **Luxembourg** (99%), **Denmark** (85%) and **Hungary** (47%).

Foreign languages in lower and upper secondary education

	Average number of foreign languages learnt per pupil		% of pupils in 2004 learning:		
	2000	2004	English	French	German
EU27	1.2	1.4	85.0	22.6	16.7
EU25	1.2	1.3	84.9	19.2	16.8
Belgium*	1.7	1.7	69.5	52.0	14.8
Bulgaria	1.3	1.4	69.3	13.0	23.4
Czech Republic	1.2	1.2	75.8	4.8	38.2
Denmark	1.9	2.1	99.1	14.9	84.5
Germany	1.2	1.2	94.2	23.3	-
Estonia	2.1	2.1	92.3	3.7	30.2
Ireland	1.0	1.0	-	67.6	21.0
Greece	:	1.6	96.9	39.1	20.2
Spain	1.4	1.4	97.3	36.6	2.0
France	1.6	1.2	96.5	-	18.4
Italy	1.2	1.3	88.4	30.5	5.4
Cyprus	2.0	1.7	88.4	63.7	2.6
Latvia	1.6	1.7	95.2	1.5	24.6
Lithuania	1.7	1.7	85.3	5.0	27.8
Luxembourg**	2.6	2.6	63.2	99.1	99.1
Hungary	0.9	1.1	60.8	3.2	47.0
Malta	2.0	1.9	88.8	36.9	7.0
Netherlands	:	2.6	:	:	:
Austria	1.2	:	:	:	-
Poland	1.6	1.4	79.6	5.8	46.0
Portugal	:	:	:	:	:
Romania	1.9	1.9	91.7	86.0	11.3
Slovenia	1.3	1.3	84.7	3.6	37.6
Slovakia	1.2	1.3	68.9	4.2	46.7
Finland	2.5	2.4	99.1	12.8	26.3
Sweden	1.8	1.8	100.0	19.1	29.7
United Kingdom***	:	0.6	-	34.4	13.9

* Excluding the German speaking community

** All other languages than Luxembourgish are considered a foreign language

*** UK: figures based on examination data and may therefore be underestimated

: Data not available

Strong variations in gasoline prices within the EU

Even if gasoline prices have fluctuated since the second half of 2005, the comparison of price levels gives an idea of the strong variations in gasoline prices within the EU. In the second half of 2005, the price (consumer prices at the pump) of premium unleaded gasoline Euro-super 95 including taxes ranged from 0.83 euro per litre in **Latvia** to 1.40 euro in the **Netherlands**, while prices for diesel oil varied between 0.83 euro per litre in **Estonia** and 1.35 euro in the **United Kingdom**.

In the price of premium unleaded gasoline, the share of taxes was lowest in **Cyprus** (47.4%) and **Lithuania** (48.0%) and highest in the **United Kingdom** (68.1%) and **Finland** (66.9%). For diesel oil, the share of taxes was lowest in **Cyprus** (41.7%) and **Greece** (43.2%) and highest in the **United Kingdom** (65.7%) and **Germany** (56.2%).

**Price of premium unleaded gasoline Euro-super 95 and diesel oil
second half of 2005, in euro per litre, all taxes included**

	Premium unleaded gasoline Euro-super 95		Diesel oil	
	Price	% taxes	Price	% taxes
Belgium	1.29	63.2	1.05	52.2
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic	0.98	55.9	0.98	49.7
Denmark	1.25	63.3	1.05	54.8
Germany	1.26	65.7	1.11	56.2
Estonia	0.84	49.3	0.83	44.8
Ireland	1.05	59.4	1.05	52.3
Greece	0.94	48.2	0.93	43.2
Spain	1.00	54.1	0.93	45.9
France	1.20	65.5	1.07	55.5
Italy	1.25	61.9	1.13	53.1
Cyprus	0.89	47.4	0.87	41.7
Latvia	0.83	48.3	0.84	43.4
Lithuania	0.88	48.0	0.87	53.2
Luxembourg	1.08	54.2	0.88	43.4
Hungary	1.10	59.1	1.07	53.4
Malta	0.89	50.1	0.85	44.0
Netherlands	1.40	63.6	1.05	52.2
Austria	1.07	56.4	0.99	48.1
Poland	1.02	57.3	0.93	49.1
Portugal	1.20	61.9	0.98	49.3
Romania	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	0.94	55.1	0.93	49.4
Slovakia	0.98	56.7	0.99	53.6
Finland	1.20	66.9	0.97	51.0
Sweden	1.23	62.9	1.10	55.1
United Kingdom	1.29	68.1	1.35	65.7

Source: Eurostat and Directorate-General for Energy and Transport
: Data not available

More than 500 kg municipal waste per inhabitant in the EU27 in 2004

The municipal waste generated consists of waste collected by or on behalf of municipal authorities and disposed through the waste management system. It also includes estimates of similar waste generated in areas not covered by the municipal waste collection system. There was 518 kg per inhabitant of municipal waste in the **EU27** in 2004, with highest values in **Ireland** (753 kg), **Cyprus** (739 kg), **Denmark** and **Luxembourg** (both 696 kg).

Deposit on land is still the most common way to treat waste: in 2004, 243 kg per inhabitant of municipal waste was landfilled in the **EU27**. The most municipal waste per inhabitant was landfilled in **Cyprus** (659 kg), **Malta** (569 kg), **Ireland** (451 kg) and the **United Kingdom** (419 kg). The least waste per inhabitant was landfilled in the **Netherlands** (11 kg), **Denmark** (31 kg), **Sweden** (42 kg) and **Belgium** (47 kg).

In the **EU27**, 88 kg of municipal waste per inhabitant was incinerated in 2004. Many Member States have no incineration plants. **Denmark** (379 kg), **Luxembourg** (260 kg) and **Sweden** (217 kg) had the highest amount of waste incinerated per inhabitant.

Municipal waste, kg per capita, 2004

	Municipal waste generated	Municipal waste treated*:	
		landfilled	incinerated
EU27	518	243	88
EU25	525	238	94
Belgium	465	47	154
Bulgaria	471	396	0
Czech Republic	278	222	39
Denmark	696	31	379
Germany	587	104	144
Estonia	449	283	0
Ireland	753	451	0
Greece	433	397	0
Spain	608	309	32
France	544	203	183
Italy	538	306	61
Cyprus	739	659	0
Latvia	311	259	12
Lithuania	366	334	0
Luxembourg	696e	127e	260e
Hungary	454	294	14
Malta	624	569	0
Netherlands	625	11	202
Austria	627	126	136
Poland**	256	241	1
Portugal	436	291	95
Romania	378	305	0
Slovenia	417	313	8
Slovakia	274	222	34
Finland	455	273	45
Sweden	464	42	217
United Kingdom	605	419	49

* Recycling is not included.

** Poland: The figures give only the amount of municipal waste collected.

e estimated

In order to take into account revisions made since the preparation of the Yearbook, data in this table have been updated.

1. **“Europe in figures - Eurostat Yearbook 2006/07”**, EUR 30 (excluding VAT). The German and the French versions of the Yearbook will become available shortly. This edition of the yearbook does not take into account either the accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union or the accession of Slovenia to the euro area at the start of 2007, as data was extracted and analysed in June and July 2006.
2. <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>
3. The Body Mass Index (BMI) is calculated as the ratio between the weight measured in kilograms and the square of the height measured in meters. Overweight person: a person with a BMI of between 25 and 29.9. Obese person: a person with a BMI equal to or over 30.

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