

140/2020 - 18 September 2020

Eurostat regional yearbook 2020

Regional diversity in the EU – how does your region fare?

What is the share of young and old people in the regions of the **European Union** (EU)? Is the risk of poverty in my region higher or lower than elsewhere in the EU? Which region has the largest economy? Which region invests most in research and innovation? How do people in my region use the internet?

National figures alone are not sufficient to give the full picture of the territorial and socio-economic developments taking place at a detailed level within the EU. Comparing data at a regional or subnational level is therefore often more meaningful and helps to increase the understanding of the diversity that exists within Member States and across the EU as a whole. In particular, the COVID-19 outbreak has led to an increased demand for subnational data to support statistical analysis at regional and local level.

Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, issues today the 2020 edition of the publication **Eurostat regional yearbook**, which provides a statistical overview of the regions of the EU across a broad range of subjects: population, health, education, the labour market, living conditions, the economy, business, research and innovation, digital society, tourism, transport, the environment and agriculture. This year's edition includes new additional chapters: one on statistics related to living conditions, which can be used to analyse progress with respect to the European Pillar of Social Rights, and the other on the environment and natural resources, which helps to assess developments in relation to the European Green Deal.

The publication includes statistics for the 240 regions in the EU at level 2 of NUTS (classification of territorial units for statistics) and, for some indicators, the 1 169 regions at the more detailed level 3. Data are available for all 27 Member States of the EU, the United Kingdom, and, where possible, for statistical regions of the EFTA and candidate countries.

This news release presents a small selection of the wide range of indicators included in the publication.

Eurostat also offers three interactive applications to help visualise and analyse regional and local data:

- a Statistical atlas: a data visualisation tool containing an updated set of maps from the Eurostat regional yearbook;
- Regions and cities illustrated: a data visualisation tool with maps, graphs and an animated timeline;
- My region: a web application focused on the performance of one region at a time, which also exists as a mobile application.

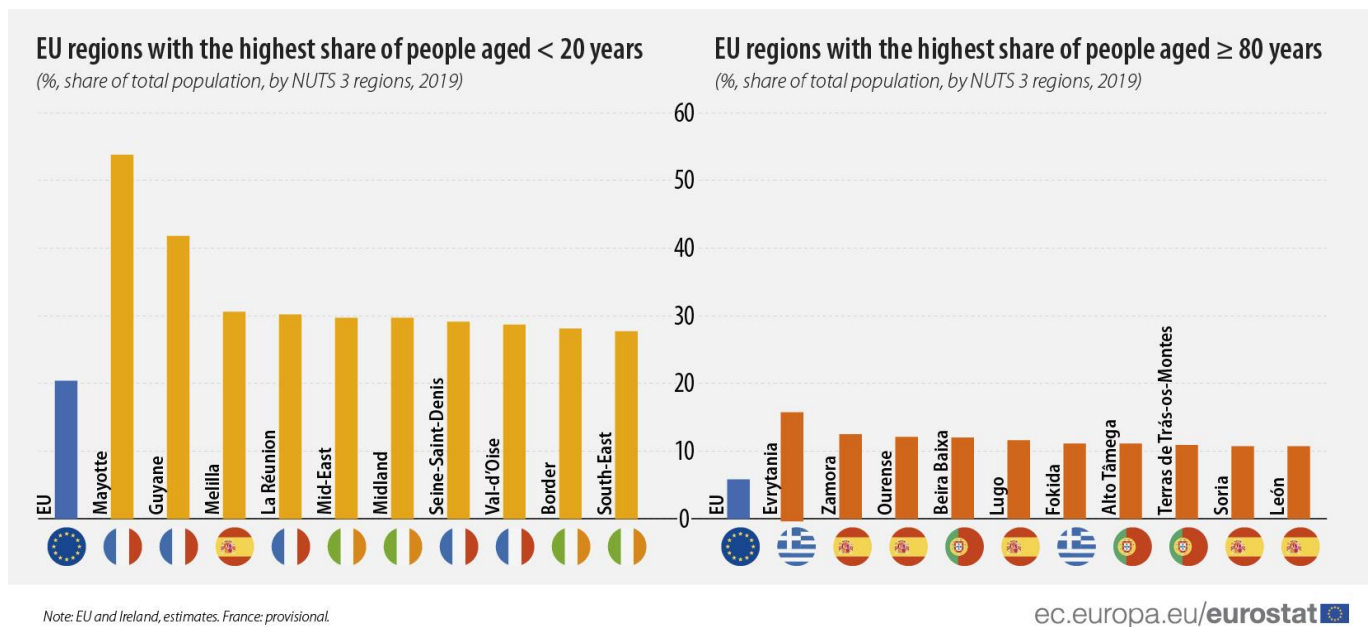
In addition, Eurostat will release in October a new interactive digital publication, "Regions in Europe — statistics visualised", which will present a range of interactive visualisations to help users get a deeper understanding of the situation across the EU or in their own specific region.

Share of young people highest in Mayotte in France, share of very old people highest in Evrytania in Greece

In 2019, one fifth (20.4%) of the EU population was aged less than 20 years, 59.4% was of working age (20-64 years) and the remaining 20.3% was aged 65 years or more. Very old people (aged 80 years or more) accounted for 5.8% of the total EU population.

Among the 10 NUTS level 3 regions in the EU with the highest shares of young people (aged less than 20 years), five regions were located in France, four in Ireland and one in Spain. The two outermost French regions **Mayotte** (53.8% of the total population) and **Guyane** (41.8%) recorded the highest shares.

On the other hand, five of the 10 regions with the highest proportions of very old people (aged 80 years or more), were located in Spain, three in Portugal and two in Greece. The highest share was observed in the mountainous, central Greek region of **Evrytania** (16.1% of the total population), followed by the two north-western Spanish regions **Zamora** (12.5%) and **Ourense** (12.1%).



Source datasets: [demo_r_pjangrp3](#) (NUTS 3 level)

Tertiary educational attainment — highest in Sostinės regionas in Lithuania, lowest in Nord-Est in Romania

40.3% of people aged 30-34 years in the EU had completed tertiary education in 2019, thus achieving the Europe 2020 target of 40%.

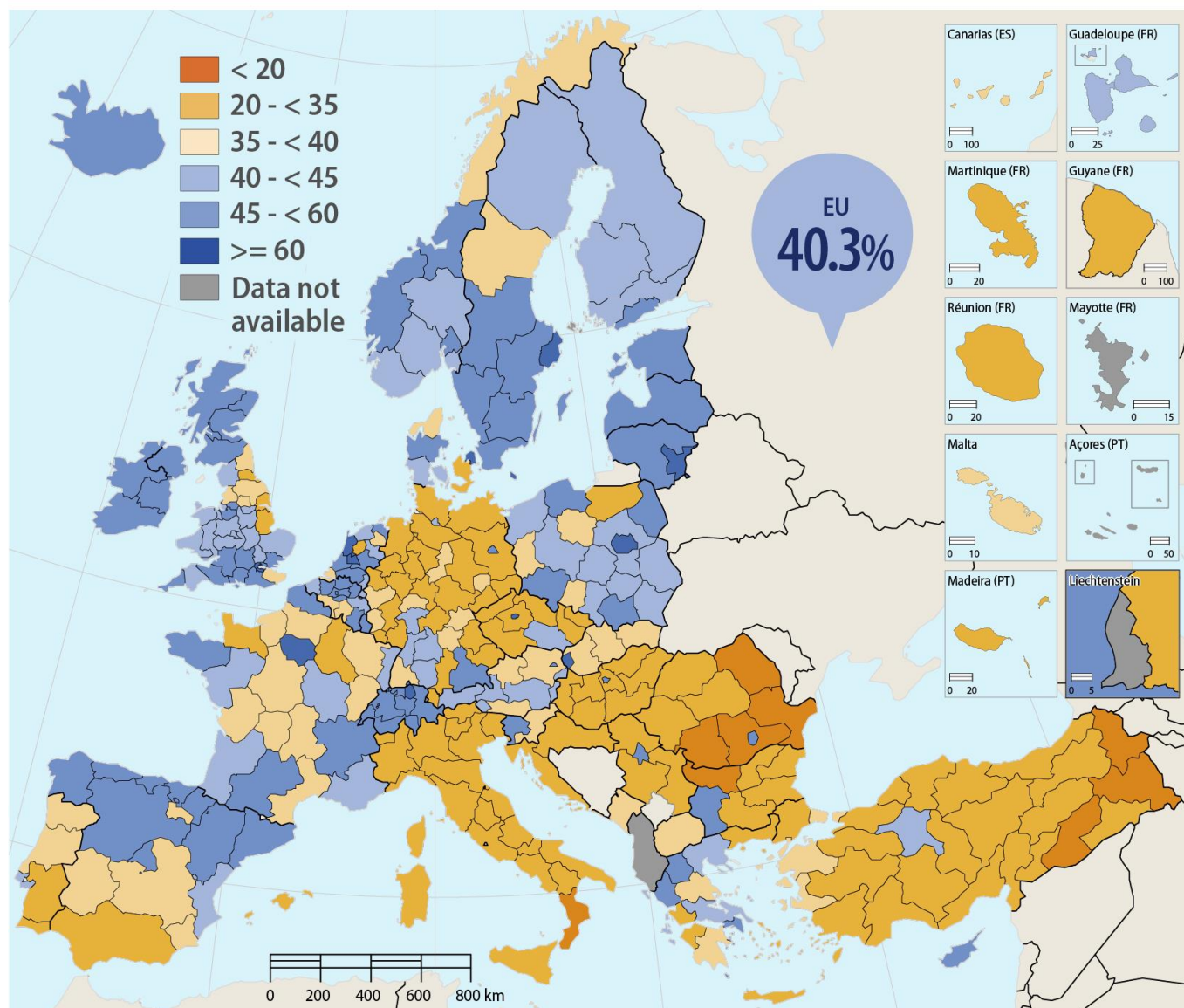
In a majority of Member States, the capital region recorded the highest share of tertiary educational attainment, except in Belgium (where the highest share was observed in the region Prov. Vlaams-Brabant), Spain (País Vasco), Croatia (Jadranska Hrvatska), Italy (Emilia-Romagna) and the Netherlands (Utrecht).

In 2019, the share of tertiary educational attainment was equal or above the 40% target in 101 of the 237 NUTS level 2 regions for which data are available. Among these, there were nine regions where the share exceeded 60%: the capital regions of **Sostinės regionas** in Lithuania (70.4%), **Warszawski stołeczny** in Poland (69.2%) and **Hovedstaden** in Denmark (64.2%), followed by **Utrecht** in the Netherlands (64.1%) and the capital regions of **Stockholm** in Sweden (63.4%), **Île-de-France** in France (63.2%), **Noord-Holland** in the Netherlands, **Bratislavský kraj** in Slovakia (62.1% each) and **Praha** in Czechia (60.9%).

At the other end of the range, four of the six regions in the EU where the share of tertiary educational attainment was less than 20% were located in Romania — **Nord-Est** (15.5%), **Sud-Muntenia** (16.3%), **Sud-Est** (17.8%) and **Sud-Vest Oltenia** (18.6%) — one in Bulgaria, **Severozapaden** (17.1%) and one in Italy, **Calabria** (19.9%).

Tertiary educational attainment of people aged 30-34 years

(%, by NUTS 2 regions, 2019)



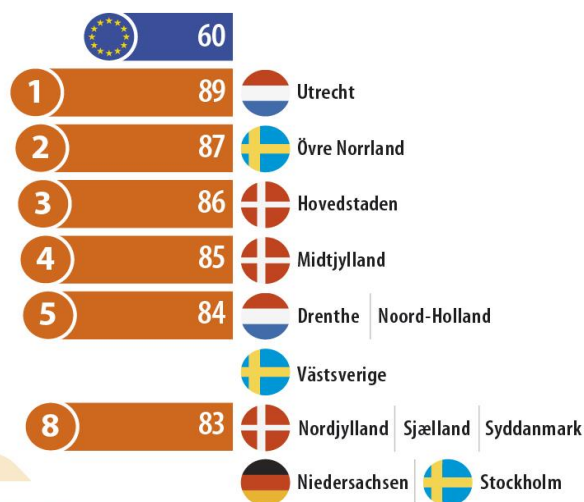
Source dataset: [edat_lfse_12](#)

The EU regions with the highest use of e-commerce were concentrated in Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden

More than half (60%) of all adults aged 16 to 74 years in the EU used the internet to order goods or services during the year prior to the 2019 survey. Among the NUTS level 2 regions of the EU, the highest shares of people shopping online were found across the regions of Denmark, the Netherlands and Sweden, in each of which at least three-quarters of adults made use of e-commerce. This share exceeded 85% in **Utrecht** in the Netherlands (89%), **Övre Norrland** in Sweden (87%) and **Hoedstaden** (86%) in Denmark.

By contrast, the lowest proportions of people ordering goods or services online were principally located in Bulgaria, Romania and Southern Italy, with the lowest shares being recorded in **Severen tsentralen** (14%) in Bulgaria, the Romanian regions of **Nord-Est** (18%) and **Sud-Est**, and **Yuzhen tsentralen** in Bulgaria (also 19%).

Which EU regions have the highest share of people ordering goods or services over the internet?



(% of people aged 16-74 years ordering goods or services for private use during the 12 months preceding the survey, 2019 data)
Niedersachsen: NUTS 1 region.

ec.europa.eu/eurostat

Source dataset: [isoc_r_blt12_i](#)

Geographical information

These data are based on the **classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) 2016** as set out in the amending [Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2016/2066 of 21 November 2016](#). NUTS 2016 (valid from 1 January 2018) provides a uniform, consistent breakdown of territorial units for the production of regional statistics for the EU.

Level 2 of the classification has 240 regions: Belgium (11), Bulgaria (6), Czechia (8), Denmark (5), Germany (38), Ireland (3), Greece (13), Spain (19), France (27), Croatia (2), Italy (21), Lithuania (2), Hungary (8), the Netherlands (12), Austria (9), Poland (17), Portugal (7), Romania (8), Slovenia (2), Slovakia (4), Finland (5) and Sweden (8). Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Luxembourg and Malta are all considered as single regions at NUTS level 2.

The **European Union (EU27)** includes Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.

The United Kingdom left the European Union on 31 January 2020. Information on dissemination of European statistics from 1 February 2020 can be found on the [Eurostat website](#).

Methods and definitions

The "Eurostat Regional Yearbook" is based on data that were extracted in March and April 2020. Therefore, more recent data might be available in Eurostat's online database.

For more information

[Eurostat regional yearbook - 2020 edition](#), also available as a set of [Statistics Explained articles](#), containing the underlying data.

[Regions and cities](#), overview page on the Eurostat website.

Eurostat [Statistical atlas](#)

Eurostat [Regions and cities illustrated](#)

Eurostat application "My Region" ([web](#) and [mobile app](#))

European Pillar of Social Rights [indicators](#) presented by region (NUTS level 2)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

Eurostat Press Office
Romina BRONDINO
Tel: +352 4301 33 408
eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

Production of the publication
Åsa ÖNNERFORS
Tel: +352 4301 37 705
asa.onnerfors@ec.europa.eu

Media requests: eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu / Tel: +352 4301 33 408

[@EU Eurostat](#)

[@EurostatStatistics](#)

[@EU Eurostat](#)

ec.europa.eu/eurostat/