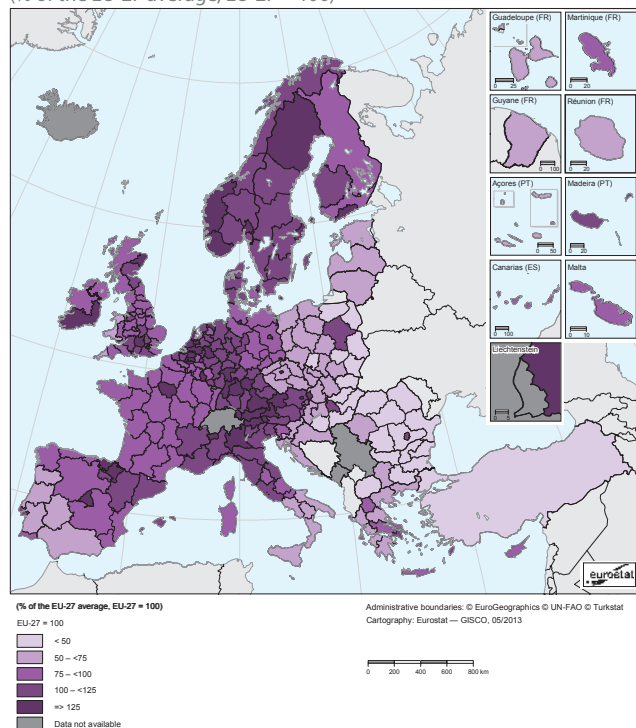




European statistics on regions and cities

Regional policy

Gross domestic product (GDP) per inhabitant, in purchasing power standard (PPS), by NUTS 2 regions, 2010 ⁽¹⁾
(% of the EU-27 average, EU-27 = 100)



⁽¹⁾ Turkey, national level.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [nama_r_e2gdp](#))

European regional policy is designed to further economic, social and territorial cohesion and to reduce the gap between the development levels of the various regions. The main instruments for regional development at a Community level include the cohesion fund, the regional development fund and the social fund. All of these are designed to help finance concrete projects for regions, cities and their inhabitants across Europe.

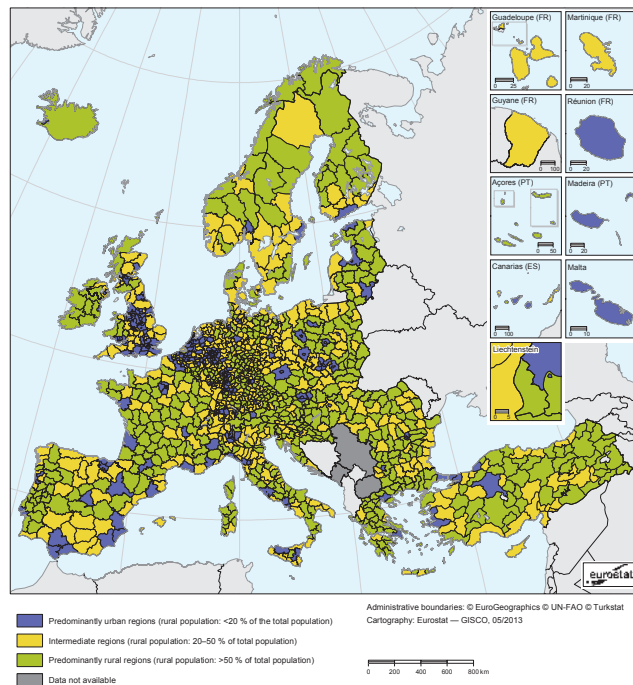
Regional statistics can be used to help decide which regions are eligible for aid to facilitate the implementation of regional and cohesion policy.

For more information on statistics covering regions and cities: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/region_cities/introduction

For more information on cohesion policy indicators: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/cohesion_policy_indicators/cohesion_indicators

Rural development

Urban–rural typology, by NUTS 3 regions ⁽¹⁾



⁽¹⁾ Based on population grid from 2006 and NUTS 2010.

Source: Eurostat, JRC, EFGS, REGIO-GIS

Statistics on urban and rural areas measure economic, social and environmental issues and provide information for a range of different analyses, for example, to study which areas have: the highest risk of unemployment; the highest proportion of their respective populations aged 65 and above; or the highest concentration of employment within a particular activity. These statistics form the basis for the EU's rural development policy.

Areas and regions can be categorised according to: the degree of urbanisation or the urban-rural typology. Based on population size and density, they indicate if an area or region is a:

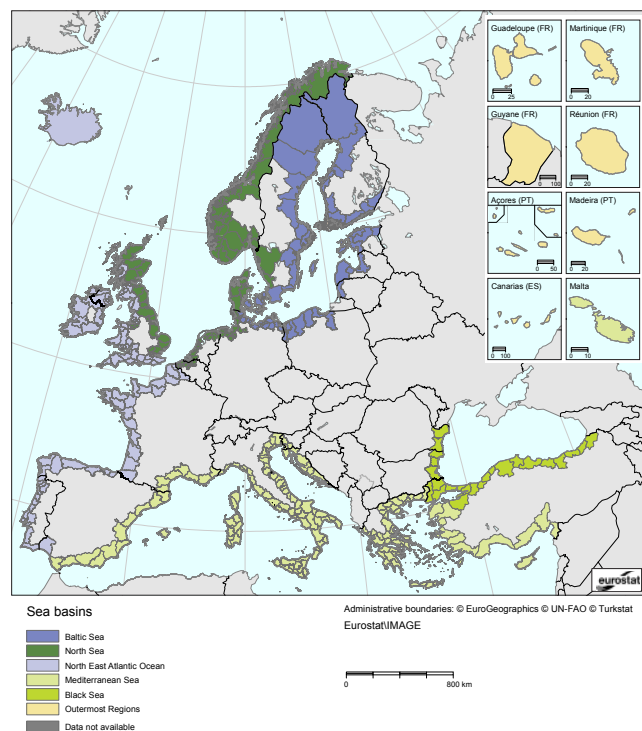
- rural area or region (thinly populated);
- town or suburb / intermediate region (intermediate density);
- city or urban region (densely populated).

For more information on statistics covering the degree of urbanisation: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/degree_urbanisation/introduction

For more information on statistics covering rural development: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/rural_development/introduction

Maritime policy

Coastal regions, by sea basins and NUTS 3 regions (1)



(1) Based on NUTS 2010 and population grid 2006

Source: Eurostat

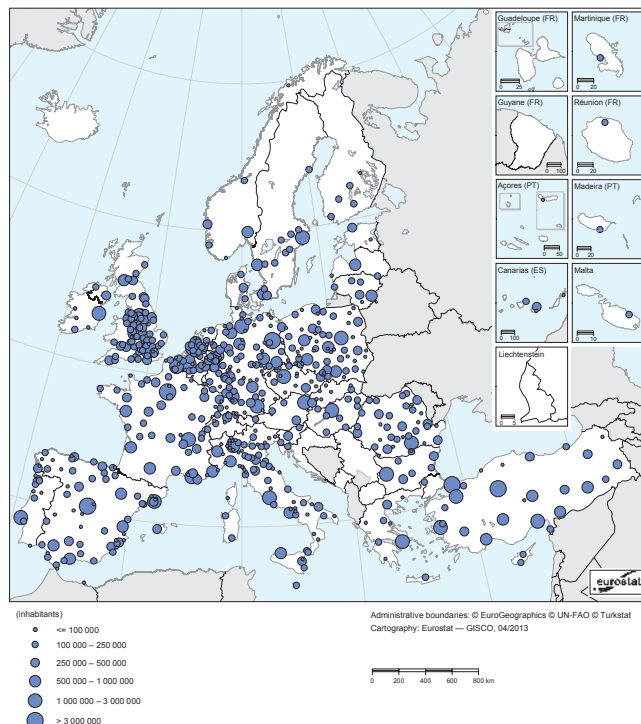
The EU's integrated maritime policy stresses the importance of coastal regions: it seeks to maximise the sustainable use of the oceans and seas; enhance Europe's knowledge and innovation potential in maritime affairs; ensure development and sustainable growth in coastal regions; strengthen Europe's maritime leadership and raise the profile of maritime issues across Europe.

Maritime regions in the EU are defined in relation to statistical regions at NUTS level 3 — they are based on regions having a coastline or more than half of their population living less than 50 km from the sea.

For more information on statistics covering maritime regions: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/maritime_coastal_regions/introduction

Cities and metropolises

Total resident population in the Urban Audit core cities, 2011 (1)
(inhabitants)



(1) For some cities an alternative reference period has been used, the exceptions are too lengthy to document; the information presented in the map relates to the most recent data available for each city.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [urb_icity](#))

Cities are dynamic centres of activity, innovation and employment, as well as hubs for transport. Some urban neighbourhoods face considerable challenges: crime, poverty, social exclusion, congestion, or the loss of greenfield areas.

Metropolitan regions are individual NUTS 3 regions or aggregates of NUTS 3 regions covering agglomerations (built-up areas) of at least 250 000 inhabitants. As metropolitan regions are based on agglomerations, which include the commuter belt around a city, this approach corrects for distortions created by commuting. This way Gross Domestic Product per inhabitant becomes more meaningful than if measured for NUTS 3 regions, where results may be more difficult to interpret.

For more information on statistics covering cities:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/region_cities/city_urban

For more information on statistics covering metropolitan regions: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/region_cities/metropolitan_regions

Publications

Key publication — Eurostat regional yearbook

Format: Paper, PDF, online

Languages: DE / EN / FR

Digital object identifier (DOI): 10.2785/44451

On Eurostat's website:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/publications/regional_yearbook

Paper edition:

<http://bookshop.europa.eu/en/eurostat-regional-yearbook-2013-pbKSHA13001/>

On Statistics Explained:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Eurostat_regional_yearbook



Statistics in focus

Statistics in focus is a series of Eurostat online publications providing analyses based on recent statistical data. From 2013 onwards these publications are available on Statistics Explained.

Online access to Statistics in focus:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Statistics_in_focus



Online resources

There are three main entry points to access material on sub-national statistics on Eurostat's website:

- Analyses are made available on **Statistics Explained**;
- Data may be viewed, manipulated or extracted from **Eurobase**;
- Background information is provided through a series of **Dedicated Sections**.

Analyses — Statistics Explained

Articles on regions and cities:

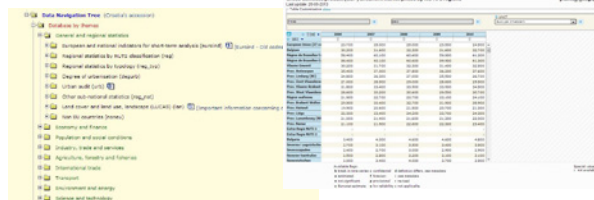
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Category:Regions_and_cities



Data — Eurobase

Look under general and regional statistics:

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search_database



Information — Dedicated sections

Look under general and regional statistics:

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/themes>



An overview of the availability of regional statistics on Eurostat's website is presented on this page:

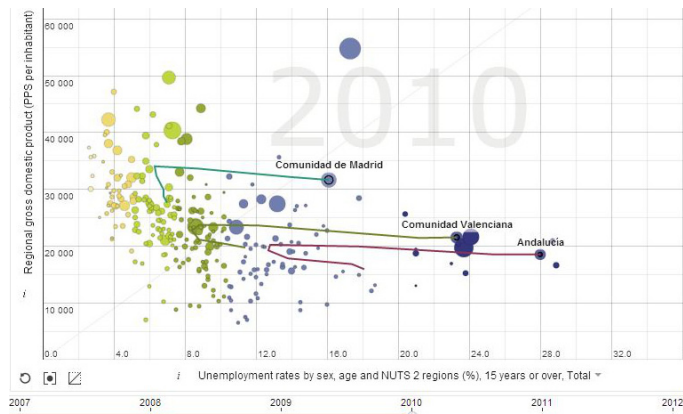
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/region_cities/introduction

Visualisation tools for exploring regional statistics

Eurostat provides two interactive applications allowing analysis and visualisation of sub-national data and statistics: Regional Statistics Illustrated and the Statistical Atlas.

Regional Statistics Illustrated

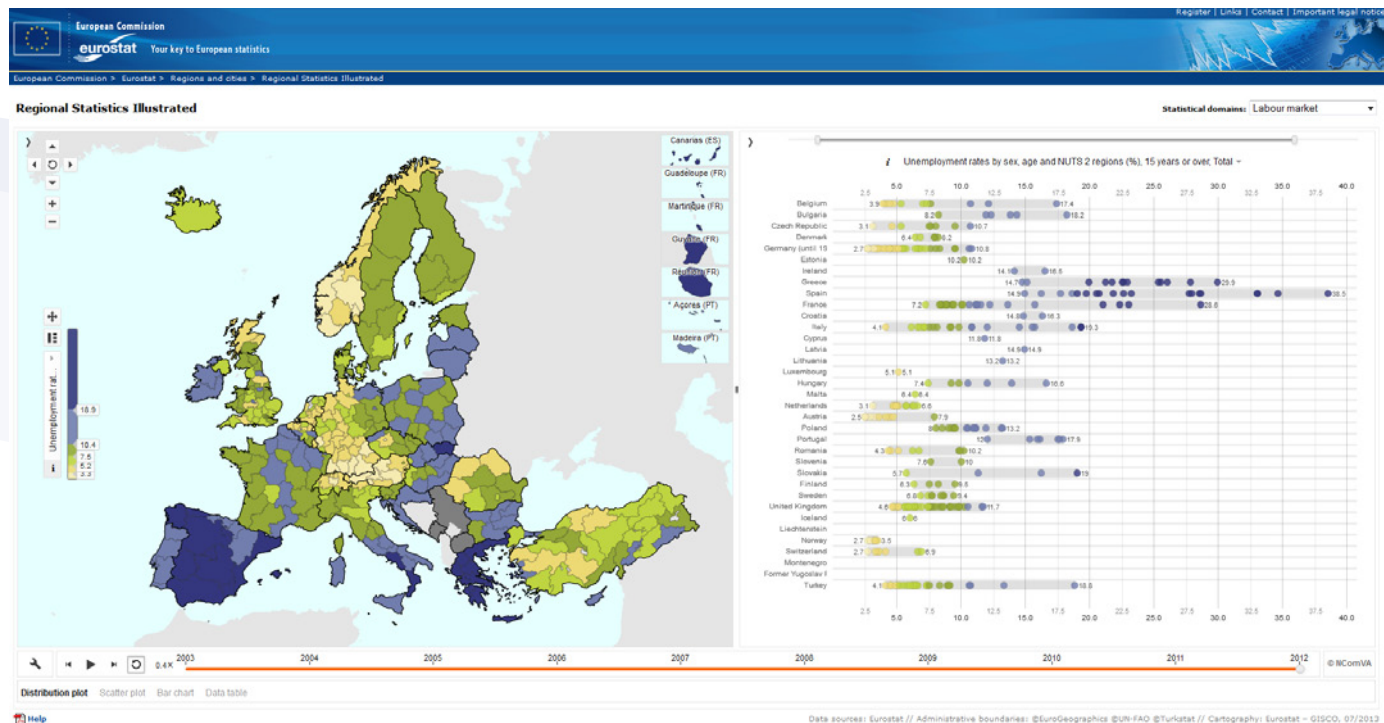
This application contains data on European regions, presented in the form of interactive visualisations for a wide range of statistical domains and indicators. An animated timeline can be used to explore how regions have developed over time.



The various visualisations contained in Regional Statistics Illustrated (distribution plot, scatter plot, bar chart and data table) provide the opportunity to make deeper analyses of regional data as well as comparisons and rankings of different regions.

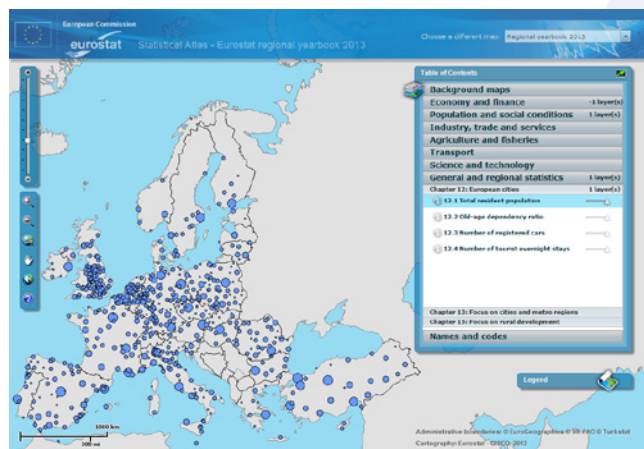
To access Regional Statistics Illustrated:

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/RSI/>

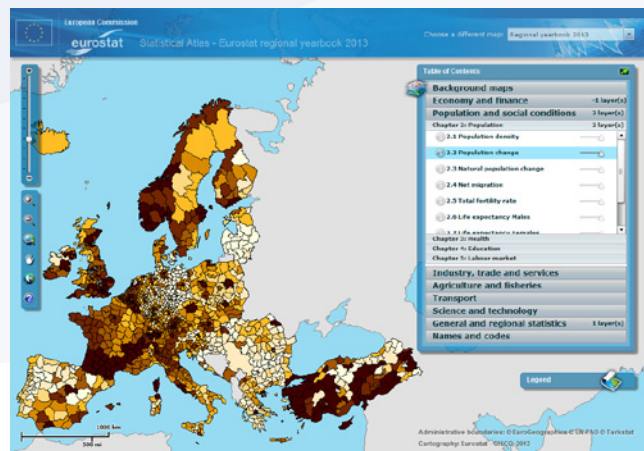


Statistical Atlas

This application is an interactive viewer that allows users to study layers of statistical data in combination with different layers of geographical information.



The Statistical Atlas can be used for viewing the maps of the Regional Yearbook publication and provides users with the opportunity to request specific information for a single administrative region or city in Europe. The software also provides a facility to download maps as high-resolution PDFs.



To access the Statistical Atlas:
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistical-atlas/gis/viewer>

Classifications

Classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS)

Regional statistics are produced and disseminated according to the classification of territorial units for statistics — the NUTS classification.

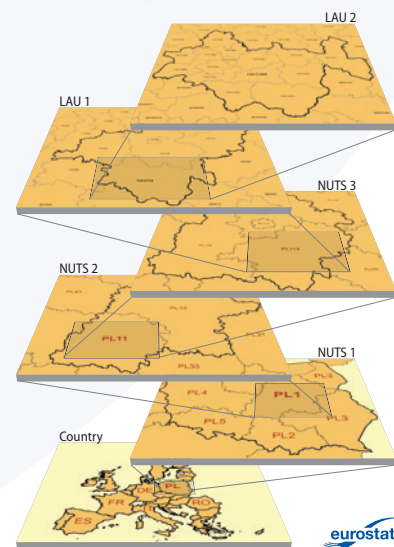
NUTS is a hierarchical classification with three levels:

- NUTS 1: major socioeconomic regions;
- NUTS 2: basic regions for the application of regional policies;
- NUTS 3: small regions for specific analyses.

Classification of local administrative units (LAU)

Additionally, Eurostat has defined two levels of local administrative units (LAUs) — compatible with NUTS:

- LAU 1: defined for most, but not all, countries;
- LAU 2: consists of municipalities/communes.



For more information on NUTS and LAU:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/nuts_nomenclature/introduction

Population grids

Administrative units are useful for accounting and reporting purposes. However, sub-national statistics can also be compiled based on a set of geographically referenced grid cells. This type of data is particularly useful for analysing socioeconomic and environmental phenomena which are independent of administrative boundaries, such as flooding, commuting or urban sprawl.

For more information on population grids:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Population_grids

Did you know?

The main instrument across the EU for regional development is the cohesion fund: it accounts for approximately one third (or EUR 325 billion) of the EU's budget for 2014–20.

Cohesion policy focuses on actions to stimulate Europe's economy and create jobs — for example, tackling youth unemployment, support for SMEs, encouraging innovation, promoting a low-carbon economy.

Four capital cities in the EU have more than three million inhabitants: London, Paris, Berlin and Madrid.

From 2007–13, some EUR 21.1 billion of the EU's budget was earmarked for urban development projects aimed at improving the quality of life in Europe's cities.

For some regional indicators the disparities between regions within the same country are sometimes larger than the disparities observed across countries.

