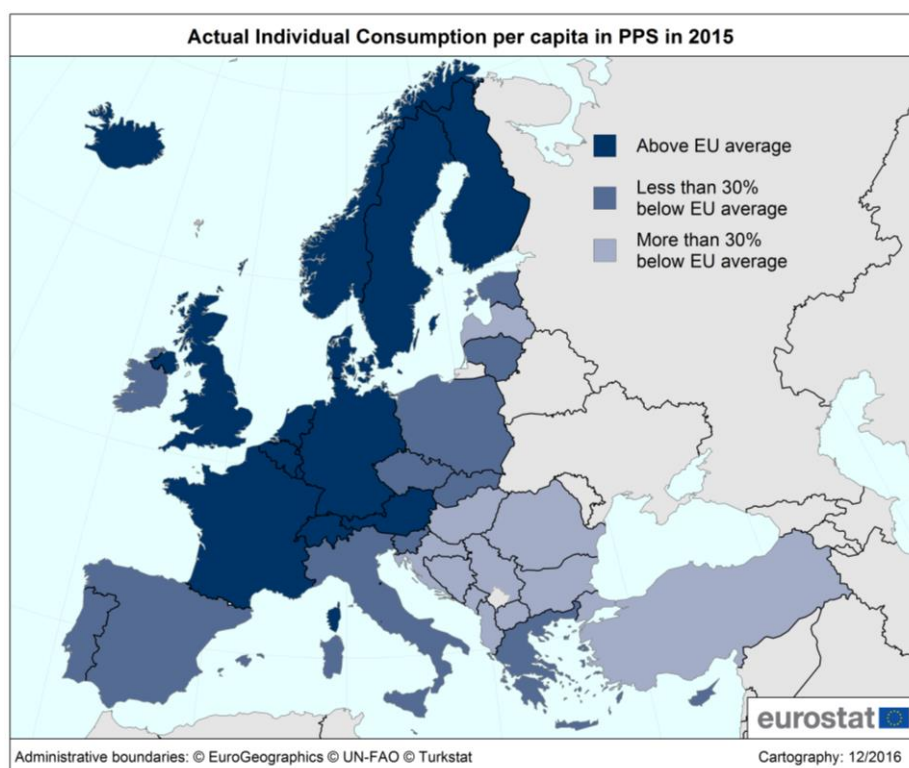


250/2016 - 13 December 2016

Consumption per capita in purchasing power standards in 2015

Consumption per capita varied between 53% and 137% of the EU average

Actual Individual Consumption (AIC) is a measure of material welfare of households. Across the Member States in 2015, AIC per capita expressed in Purchasing Power Standards (PPS) varied from 53% of the **European Union (EU)** average in **Bulgaria** to 137% in **Luxembourg**.



These data, published by **Eurostat**, the statistical office of the European Union, are based on revised purchasing power parities, and the latest GDP and population figures.

Ten Member States above the EU average

Ten Member States recorded AIC per capita above the EU average in 2015. The highest level in the EU was recorded in **Luxembourg**, 37% above the EU average, ahead of **Germany** (more than 20% above). They were followed by **Austria**, **Denmark**, **Belgium**, **Finland**, the **United Kingdom**, **France**, the **Netherlands** and **Sweden** which all recorded levels between 10% and 20% above the EU average.

AIC per capita for thirteen Member States lay between the EU average and 30% below. In **Italy**, **Ireland** and **Cyprus**, the levels were 10% or less below the EU average, while **Spain**, **Lithuania**, **Portugal** and **Malta** were between 10% and 20% below. The **Czech Republic**, **Greece**, **Slovakia**, **Slovenia**, **Poland** and **Estonia** were between 20% and 30% below the average.

Five Member States recorded AIC per capita more than 30% below the EU average. **Latvia** and **Hungary** were between 30% and 40% below, while **Romania**, **Croatia** and **Bulgaria** had AIC per capita more than 40% below the EU average.

Over the last three years, AIC per capita relative to the EU average remained relatively stable in a majority of Member States. However, clear increases have been registered in **Romania** (59% of the EU average in 2015 compared with 54% in 2013), **Bulgaria** (53% vs. 49%) and **Lithuania** (83% vs. 79%), as well as **Estonia** (71% vs. 68%). In contrast, the most noticeable decrease was recorded in **Luxembourg** (137% in 2015 vs. 145% in 2013), followed by the **Netherlands** (111% vs. 115%), **Austria** (119% vs. 123%) and **Greece** (77% vs. 80%).

GDP per capita varied by almost one to six across the Member States

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a measure of economic activity. In 2015, GDP per capita expressed in PPS ranged between 47% of the EU average in **Bulgaria** and 264% in **Luxembourg**.

AIC and GDP per capita in PPS, EU = 100

	AIC per capita			GDP per capita		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
EU	100	100	100	100	100	100
Euro area	106	106	105	107	107	106
Luxembourg*	145	143	137	261	267	264
Germany	123	124	123	124	125	124
Austria	123	122	119	131	130	128
Denmark	116	115	115	128	127	127
Belgium	115	115	114	120	120	119
Finland	114	114	114	113	111	109
United Kingdom	114	115	114	107	109	108
France	114	112	112	109	107	106
Netherlands	115	113	111	134	131	128
Sweden	113	112	111	125	124	124
Italy	100	98	99	99	97	96
Ireland*	95	94	96	133	137	177
Cyprus	89	89	90	84	81	82
Spain	86	87	88	90	90	90
Lithuania	79	81	83	73	75	75
Portugal	81	81	82	77	77	77
Malta	79	79	80	86	86	88
Czech Republic	76	78	78	84	86	87
Greece	80	79	77	72	70	68
Slovakia	75	76	77	77	77	77
Slovenia	75	76	75	81	83	83
Poland	74	74	74	67	68	69
Estonia	68	69	71	75	76	75
Latvia	64	65	66	62	64	64
Hungary	62	62	63	67	68	68
Romania	54	56	59	55	55	57
Croatia	59	59	58	59	59	58
Bulgaria	49	51	53	46	46	47
Norway	135	134	133	184	175	160
Switzerland	133	131	128	164	163	162
Iceland	112	113	113	117	118	123
Turkey**	60	58	59	53	53	52
Montenegro	52	52	53	41	41	42
Serbia	47	46	46	38	37	36
Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia	39	40	41	35	36	36
Albania	36	38	37	29	30	30
Bosnia & Herzegovina**	37	37	37	28	28	28

Countries with the same value of AIC per capita are ranked by protocol order

* See country notes

** Based on ESA 95 ; Turkey: see country note.

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

Geographical information

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

The **euro area** consists of Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

Methods and definitions

Data presented in this News Release are produced by the Eurostat-OECD purchasing power parities program. The full methodology used is described in the [Eurostat-OECD Methodological manual on purchasing power parities](#).

Actual Individual Consumption consists of goods and services actually consumed by individuals, irrespective of whether these goods and services are purchased and paid for by households, by government, or by non-profit organisations. In international volume comparisons of consumption, AIC is often seen as the preferable measure, since it is not influenced by the fact that the organisation of certain important services consumed by households, like health and education services, differs a lot across countries.

The **Purchasing Power Standard** (PPS) is an artificial currency unit that eliminates price level differences between countries. Thus one PPS buys the same volume of goods and services in all countries. This unit allows meaningful volume comparisons of economic indicators across countries. Aggregates expressed in PPS are derived by dividing aggregates in current prices and national currency by the respective Purchasing Power Parity (PPP). The level of uncertainty associated with the basic price and national accounts data, and the methods used for compiling PPPs imply that differences between countries that have indices within a close range should not be over-interpreted.

Country notes:

Ireland: The Irish Gross Domestic Product for 2015 was substantially affected by the relocation from outside the EU to Ireland of balance sheets of large multi-national enterprises. More information can be found on the [Eurostat website](#).

Luxembourg: The high GDP per capita in Luxembourg is partly due to the country's large share of cross-border workers in total employment. While contributing to GDP, these workers are not taken into consideration as part of the resident population which is used to calculate GDP per capita.

Turkey: The Turkish Statistical Office has released ESA2010 based national accounts data on 12 December. These data were not available when the estimates presented in this release were produced.

Revisions and timetable

The regular publication schedule of PPPs includes four estimates for a particular year. The first estimate for 2015 was published in [News Release 117/2016](#) of 15 June 2016. The present News Release corresponds to the second estimate. The 2015 figures will be revised again in December 2017 and finalised in 2018.

For more information

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on GDP per capita, consumption per capita and price level indices.


Eurostat [website section](#) dedicated to purchasing power parities.

Eurostat [database](#) on purchasing power parities.

Eurostat [metadata](#) on purchasing power parities.

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