

8 March 2008: International Women's Day

## **A third of managers are women**

More women go to the theatre and more men to sports events

What is the average age of women at the birth of their first child? At what age do women and men get married? What are the employment and unemployment rates for women? What is the proportion of female teachers? What proportion of managers or Members of national Parliaments are women? What are the differences in cultural activities of women and men? Answers to these questions and to other can be found in this News Release published on the occasion of the International Women's Day on 8 March 2008.

On the same occasion, **Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities**, also releases the publication "The life of women and men in Europe"<sup>1</sup>.

### **Life expectancy for women varies between 76 in Romania, Bulgaria and Latvia, and 84 in France and Spain**

In 2006, life expectancy in the **EU27** was 80.9 years for women and 74.6 years for men, which is a difference of 6.3 years. In all Member States life expectancy was higher for women than for men. The highest life expectancies for women were observed in **Spain** and **France** (both 84.4 years) and **Italy** (83.8 in 2004), and the lowest in **Romania** (76.2), **Bulgaria** and **Latvia** (both 76.3). The Member States with the largest differences in life expectancy between women and men were **Lithuania** (11.7 years), **Estonia** (11.2) and **Latvia** (10.9), and the smallest were **Cyprus** (3.6), **United Kingdom** (4.0 in 2005), the **Netherlands** and **Sweden** (both 4.3).

### **Women's age at first marriage varies between 25 in Lithuania and 31 in Sweden**

The age of first marriage was higher for both women and men in 2006 than in 2000 in all Member States, with an average of 28.1 years for women and 30.6 years for men in the **EU27** in 2006, compared with 26.8 and 29.4 respectively in 2000. In 2006, the youngest women getting married for the first time were found in **Lithuania** (25.0 years), **Romania** (25.2), **Poland** (25.4), **Bulgaria** (25.7) and **Latvia** (25.9), and the oldest in **Sweden** (31.3), **Denmark** (30.7), **France** (29.5) and **Finland** (29.3).

In 2005 in the **EU27**, women were aged on average 28.1 when they had their first child, compared with 27.4 in 2000. This age increased between 2000 and 2005 in all Member States. In 2005, **Bulgaria** (24.7 years) had the youngest first time mothers, followed by **Romania** (24.8), **Lithuania** (24.9) and **Latvia** (25.0 in 2006), while the **United Kingdom** (30.0 in 2006), **Spain** (29.3 in 2006), **Germany** (29.1) and **Luxembourg** (29.0) had the oldest.

## Demography

	Life expectancy at birth, 2006*		Women's age at first child**		Mean age at first marriage, 2000		Mean age at first marriage, 2006***	
	Women	Men	2000	2005	Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>EU27</b>	<b>80.9e</b>	<b>74.6e</b>	<b>27.4e</b>	<b>28.1e</b>	<b>26.8e</b>	<b>29.4e</b>	<b>28.1e</b>	<b>30.6e</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	82.3	76.6	27.6	:	26.4	28.5	27.3	29.5
<b>Bulgaria</b>	76.3	69.2	23.5	24.7	24.3	27.8	25.7	29.1
<b>Czech Republic</b>	79.9	73.5	24.9	26.6	24.5	27.3	26.7	29.6
<b>Denmark</b>	80.7	76.1	27.3	28.4	29.7	32.2	30.7	32.9
<b>Germany</b>	82.4	77.2	28.2	29.1	27.5	30.2	28.9	31.5
<b>Estonia</b>	78.6	67.4	24.0	25.2	25.0	27.6	26.5	29.1
<b>Ireland</b>	82.1	77.3	27.7	:	:	:	:	:
<b>Greece</b>	81.9	77.2	28.0	28.5	27.0	30.8	28.3	31.9
<b>Spain</b>	84.4	77.7	29.1	29.3	27.9	29.9	29.2	31.2
<b>France</b>	84.4	77.3	27.8	28.6	28.2	30.4	29.5	31.7
<b>Italy</b>	83.8	77.9	28.7	:	27.6	30.6	28.6	31.5
<b>Cyprus</b>	82.4	78.8	25.3	27.5	26.1	28.9	26.7	29.5
<b>Latvia</b>	76.3	65.4	24.0	25.0	24.2	26.2	25.9	28.0
<b>Lithuania</b>	77.0	65.3	23.9	24.9	23.6	25.8	25.0	27.3
<b>Luxembourg</b>	81.9	76.8	28.3	29.0	27.3	29.9	29.2	31.5
<b>Hungary</b>	77.8	69.2	25.1	26.7	24.7	27.4	26.9	29.7
<b>Malta</b>	81.9	77.0	:	:	:	:	26.5	29.0
<b>Netherlands</b>	82.0	77.7	28.6	28.9	27.9	30.5	29.2	31.7
<b>Austria</b>	82.8	77.2	26.4	27.2	27.3	29.8	28.9	31.4
<b>Poland</b>	79.7	70.9	24.5	25.8	23.9	26.3	25.4	27.7
<b>Portugal</b>	82.3	75.5	26.5	27.4	25.4	27.4	26.9	28.7
<b>Romania</b>	76.2	69.2	23.7	24.8	23.4	26.9	25.2	28.5
<b>Slovenia</b>	82.0	74.5	26.5	27.7	26.8	29.6	28.3	30.9
<b>Slovakia</b>	78.4	70.4	24.2	25.7	24.0	26.7	26.2	29.0
<b>Finland</b>	83.1	75.9	27.4	27.9	28.2	30.2	29.3	31.5
<b>Sweden</b>	83.1	78.8	27.9	28.7	30.4	32.8	31.3	33.9
<b>United Kingdom</b>	81.1	77.1	29.1	30.0	27.2	29.3	:	:

Source: Eurostat

e estimated. For the indicators on age at childbirth and age at marriage for EU27, the data are preliminary estimates that are based on incomplete data subject to later revision and which should be treated with caution.

: Data not available

\* Italy: 2004, United Kingdom: 2005

\*\* 2000 data (Belgium and Italy: 1997, Cyprus: 1999); 2005 data (Spain, France, Latvia and United Kingdom: 2006)

\*\*\* 2006 data (Belgium and Malta: 2003, Italy and Cyprus: 2004, Spain: 2005)

### **Around 70% of teachers in primary/secondary education are women, around 60% of teachers in tertiary education are men**

In the **EU27** in the third quarter of 2007, the employment rate<sup>2</sup> for women aged 15-64 was 58.8%, compared with 73.2% for men. **Denmark** and **Sweden** (both 73.3%) and the **Netherlands** (70.1%) recorded the highest female rates, and **Malta** (37.5%), **Italy** (46.9%) and **Greece** (48.2%) the lowest.

The unemployment rate<sup>3</sup> in January 2008 was 7.4% for women in the **EU27**, compared with 6.3% for men. Female unemployment rates ranged from 3.2% in the **Netherlands** and 3.5% in **Denmark** (in December 2007) to 12.6% in **Greece** (in third quarter 2007) and 12.4% in **Slovakia**.

In the **EU27** in 2005, female teachers were in the majority at primary and secondary level (69%), while at tertiary level there were fewer female teachers (38%) than male. There were more female teachers than male at primary/secondary level in all Member States for which data are available. Over 80% of primary/secondary teachers in **Latvia** (86%), **Lithuania** (84%) and **Bulgaria** (81%) were women. For teachers at tertiary level, the pattern was the opposite: there was a higher share of male teachers in all Member States, except for **Latvia** (58% female teachers) and **Lithuania** (53%).

## A quarter of national MPs are women

In the **EU27** in 2006 a third of managers<sup>4</sup> were women. There were fewer female managers than male managers in all Member States, with the highest shares of female managers recorded in **Latvia** and **Lithuania** (both 41%), **France** (39%) and **Hungary** (37%).

In 2007, on average across the **EU27**, a quarter of Members of national Parliaments and a quarter of senior government ministers were women. Almost half of the Members of Parliament in **Sweden** (47%) were women, followed by **Finland** (42%), the **Netherlands** (39%) and **Denmark** (37%). The share was lowest in **Malta** (9%), **Hungary** and **Romania** (both 11%). More than half of senior government ministers in **Finland** (60%) were women, followed by **Sweden** (45%) and **Spain** (41%), while there were no female senior government ministers in **Romania** and 6% in **Greece** and **Slovakia**.

### Employment

	Employment rates, women aged 15-64, Q3 2007	Unemployment rates, women, January 2008*	Proportion of female teachers, 2005**		Proportion of female managers, 2006	Women as a share of:	
			Primary/secondary	Tertiary		MPs, 2007***	Senior ministers, 2007***
<b>EU27</b>	<b>58.8</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	55.3	7.9	65.3	40.7	31.3	35	20
<b>Bulgaria</b>	58.6	6.7	81.0	45.0	30.5	22	22
<b>Czech Republic</b>	57.3	5.8	71.3	40.1	29.2	15	17
<b>Denmark</b>	73.3	3.5	:	:	24.3	37	37
<b>Germany</b>	64.3	7.5	63.8	34.4	27.4	32	38
<b>Estonia</b>	66.7	4.6	:	:	33.4	21	21
<b>Ireland</b>	61.5	4.0	71.6	39.4	30.2	13	20
<b>Greece</b>	48.2	12.6	58.7	36.0	26.8	16	6
<b>Spain</b>	55.0	10.9	61.5	38.8	31.8	36	41
<b>France</b>	60.6	8.0	64.9	38.0	38.5	18	33
<b>Italy</b>	46.9	7.7	77.5	33.5	32.9	17	22
<b>Cyprus</b>	62.4	4.2	69.0	41.6	16.1u	14	17
<b>Latvia</b>	64.7	4.5	86.2	57.9	40.6	19	22
<b>Lithuania</b>	62.9	4.3	84.3	52.7	40.7	24	21
<b>Luxembourg</b>	55.0	5.8	57.3	:	25.9	25	20
<b>Hungary</b>	51.0	7.5	78.6	38.8	37.1	11	20
<b>Malta</b>	37.5	7.3	68.5	26.7	18.6u	9	15
<b>Netherlands</b>	70.1	3.2	65.5	35.2	27.0	39	28
<b>Austria</b>	65.3	4.8	69.5	:	28.7	32	36
<b>Poland</b>	51.5	9.3	75.9	41.0	35.2	20	22
<b>Portugal</b>	62.3	9.3	74.2	42.0	33.1	27	12
<b>Romania</b>	54.5	5.6	71.6	42.9	31.1	11	0
<b>Slovenia</b>	63.6	5.0	78.4	33.5	33.4	12	11
<b>Slovakia</b>	52.7	12.4	76.6	41.9	27.7	19	6
<b>Finland</b>	69.2	7.0	68.7	46.1	29.5	42	60
<b>Sweden</b>	73.3	5.9	68.6	42.5	31.8	47	45
<b>United Kingdom</b>	65.5	4.8	67.9	39.9	34.8	20	25

Source: Eurostat

: Data not available

u Data lack reliability due to small sample size

\* Denmark: December 2007, Greece, Italy, Romania: Q3/2007, United Kingdom: November 2007

\*\* EU27 calculated on available Member State data

\*\*\* Source: European Commission, DG EMPL, database on women and men in decision-making

## Leisure activities differ between women and men

In the **EU27** in 2007, a slightly larger proportion of men than women (53% and 50% respectively) had gone to the cinema in the last 12 months, while a much higher proportion of men than women (53% and 29%) had attended a sports event. On the other hand, a larger share of women than men had gone to the theatre (34% and 29%) or had read a book (74% and 67%).

### Leisure activities, 2007, %

	Have you in the last twelve months:							
	Gone to the cinema		Gone to the theatre		Attended a sports event		Read a book	
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men
<b>EU27</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	54	55	32	35	31	57	66	64
<b>Bulgaria</b>	23	21	25	17	12	36	65	49
<b>Czech Republic</b>	48	58	51	37	33	68	89	74
<b>Denmark</b>	70	67	43	37	43	55	88	77
<b>Germany</b>	51	55	41	32	33	59	86	75
<b>Estonia</b>	33	37	57	39	34	50	83	75
<b>Ireland</b>	66	65	38	29	48	77	81	68
<b>Greece</b>	45	49	30	29	18	47	61	56
<b>Spain</b>	52	60	24	26	25	51	60	58
<b>France</b>	65	62	24	22	27	46	76	65
<b>Italy</b>	50	58	29	23	29	54	61	65
<b>Cyprus</b>	35	41	25	24	18	53	61	51
<b>Latvia</b>	35	38	51	30	40	58	81	67
<b>Lithuania</b>	32	34	31	22	20	40	71	55
<b>Luxembourg</b>	63	61	46	35	40	53	80	62
<b>Hungary</b>	33	40	33	29	29	55	82	74
<b>Malta</b>	45	54	24	26	25	54	45	46
<b>Netherlands</b>	63	62	65	51	44	55	88	79
<b>Austria</b>	53	59	46	36	39	77	84	73
<b>Poland</b>	38	43	20	14	21	47	69	58
<b>Portugal</b>	34	44	17	20	22	54	51	48
<b>Romania</b>	21	24	22	20	19	42	59	57
<b>Slovenia</b>	44	51	42	30	39	62	78	66
<b>Slovakia</b>	46	54	40	34	47	77	84	76
<b>Finland</b>	52	51	54	40	40	61	84	74
<b>Sweden</b>	72	70	50	44	45	63	92	81
<b>United Kingdom</b>	54	51	46	36	29	51	85	78

Source: Eurobarometer 67.1 (European Cultural values), European Commission, 2007

1. "The life of women and men in Europe", EUR 30 (excluding VAT). The German and the French versions will become available shortly. PDF version - free download from Eurostat website.
2. The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons aged 15 to 64 in employment by the total population of the same age group.
3. Unemployment rate represents unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force, which is the total number of employed and unemployed persons.
4. Includes corporate managers and managers of small enterprises.

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