

More information

For general information regarding European statistics, please go to the Eurostat web site:
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

For information on statistical classifications, please go to the Eurostat classification server RAMON:
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For more information on European policies in the areas of enlargement and EU 2020 strategy please go to the following web sites:

<http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement>

<http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020>

For more specific questions on statistics in relation to candidate and potential candidate countries, please contact:
Eurostat Unit D1 - Statistical cooperation with European and Mediterranean countries

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Symbols, abbreviations and important notes

In the graphs, names are abbreviated as follows:

HR Croatia

IS Iceland

ME Montenegro

MK⁽¹⁾ The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

TR Turkey

AL Albania

BA Bosnia and Herzegovina

RS Serbia

XK Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99

: No data available

% Percentage

Italic Value is either an estimate or provisional.

⁽¹⁾ Provisional code which does not prejudice in any way the definitive nomenclature for this country, which will be agreed following the conclusion of negotiations currently taking place on this subject at the United Nations.

The data for Serbia exclude Kosovo, which is under international administration in line with the UNSCR 1244/99.

Candidate and potential candidate countries

Economic developments

2011 edition

INTRODUCTION

The process of enlargement

The European Union is currently made up of 27 Member States (EU-27), while there is an ongoing process for its future enlargement. At the moment several countries have the candidate status and are on their way to joining the EU, while others are potential candidates for the future.

There are five candidate countries: Croatia (HR), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (MK)⁽¹⁾, Iceland (IS), Montenegro (ME) and Turkey (TR). The European Union started accession negotiations with Croatia and Turkey in October 2005 and with Iceland in June 2010. There are the following potential candidates: Albania (AL), Bosnia and Herzegovina (BA), Kosovo⁽²⁾ (XK) and Serbia (RS).

The role of Eurostat

The role of Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, is to follow the progress of candidate countries and potential candidates in complying with the *acquis* (the body of EU law) in the field of statistics as well as to collect data from these countries. Eurostat provides technical assistance and support to the national statistical institutes of candidate countries and potential candidates, to enable them to produce and disseminate harmonised and good quality data according to European and international statistical standards.³

EU 2020 strategy and economic developments

The unprecedented economic crisis which gathered pace in autumn 2008 has affected the EU and all enlargement countries. In 2009, the gross domestic product (GDP) decreased by 4.2% in the EU-27⁽³⁾. The impact of crisis on the enlargement countries varied depending on each country's economic structure. In 2009, the enlargement countries, except Albania, recorded a decline in GDP between 0.8% and 6.8%. Albania stood out with a growth rate of 3.3% in 2009. Before the economic crisis, the enlargement countries recorded high economic growth rates. GDP in most candidate countries and potential candidates grew faster than in the EU-27 between 2000 and 2007.

In 2009, the EU-27's GDP was around twenty times larger than the combined GDP of all candidate countries and potential candidates, while the EU-27 population was only five times larger than the combined population of all candidate countries and potential candidates. In 2009, GDP per inhabitant in Iceland, expressed in purchasing power standards (PPS), was above the EU-27 average. In contrast, GDP per capita in the other candidate countries and potential candidates was lower than that of the EU-27 in 2009 but had risen steadily over recent years.

The EU is actively supporting the enlargement countries' endeavours towards economic recovery, macroeconomic stabilisation and fiscal consolidation. Substantial EU assistance is being targeted at improving public finance management, increasing the quality of statistics and strengthening banking sector supervision.

(1) Provisional code which does not prejudge in any way the definitively nomenclature for this country, which will be agreed following the conclusion of negotiations currently taking place on this subject at the United Nations.

(2) under United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1244/99.

(3) All data were processed in September / October 2010.

The new Europe 2020 strategy puts forward three mutually reinforcing priorities of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. If the strategy is to succeed, employment policies will have a pivotal role to play in achieving all three of these priorities. In this respect, the EU headline employment rate target of 75% for the population aged 20-64 is the most visible demonstration of the EU's ambitions in the field of employment. The enlargement countries will be associated with initiatives taken at the EU level to meet the goals of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, delivering high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion.

GDP and population, 2009

	GDP (million EUR)	Population on 1 st January (1 000)	GDP per capita (EUR)	GDP growth rate (%)
EU-27	11 785 475	499 700	23 795	-4.2
HR	45 329	4 435	10 246	-5.8
IS	8 692	319	27 276	6.8
ME	2 981	630	4 720	5.7
MK	6 676	2 049	3 300	0.8
TR ⁽¹⁾	441 600	71 897	6 142	4.7
AL	8 500	3 185	2 661	3.3
BA	12 268	1 844	1 192	-2.9
RS	29 552	7 345	4 020	-3.0
XK	1 802	2 181	1 790	-

(1) Mid-year population estimates.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: nama_gdp_c; nama_aux_gph; nama_gdp_x; cpc_ecn-agdo and cpc_siegb).

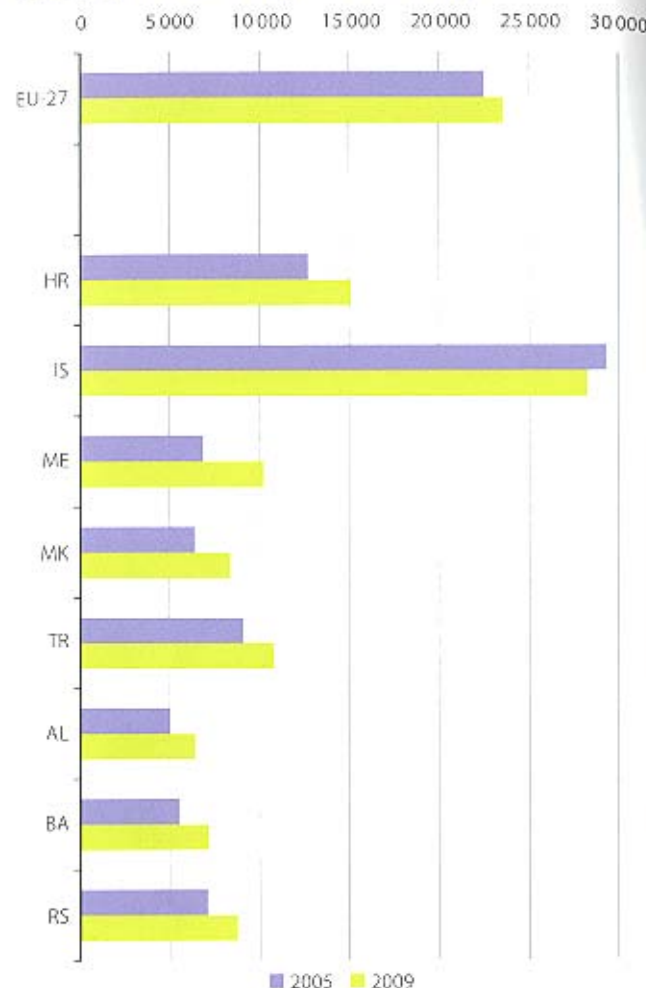
Gross domestic product (GDP) is a basic measure of a country's overall economic health. As an aggregate measure of production, GDP is equal to the sum of the gross value-added of all resident institutional units (i.e. industries) engaged in production, plus any taxes, and minus any subsidies, on products not included in the value of their outputs. Gross value added is the difference between output and intermediate consumption and is measured at market prices.

Population: the inhabitants of a given area on 1 January of the year in question (or, in some cases, on 31 December of the previous year). The population is based on data from the most recent census adjusted by the components of population change produced since the last census, or based on population registers.

GDP per capita is an indicator that is derived through the division of GDP by the total population.

GDP growth rate is calculated as the increase in GDP relative to the previous year, in percentage. GDP is measured at constant prices in national currency, in order to calculate a growth measure that is not influenced by price inflation and by variations in the exchange rates.

GDP per capita in Purchasing Power Standards⁽¹⁾



(1) XK not available.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: nama_aux_gph and cpc_ecnagcpi).

Purchasing power standard (PPS) shall mean the artificial common reference currency unit used in the European Union to express the volume of economic aggregates for the purpose of spatial comparisons in such a way that price level differences between countries are eliminated. Economic volume aggregates in PPS are obtained by dividing their original value in national currency units by the respective PPP. 1 PPS thus buys the same given volume of goods and services in all countries, whereas different amounts of national currency units are needed to buy this same volume of goods and services in individual countries, depending on the price level.

Gross value added by main sectors, 2009 (% share of total gross value added)

	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Industry	Construction	Services
EU-27	2	18	6	74
HR	7	19	8	66
IS (*)	5	18	9	67
ME	10	14	7	70
MK (*)	12	24	5	59
TR	9	21	4	66
AL (*)	19	10	15	57
BA	9	20	6	65
RS (*)	11	22	6	62
XK	1	1	1	1

(*) 2008 instead of 2009 data.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: name_nace05_c and cpc_ecnabrk).

Gross value added (ESA95) is measured at market prices. It can be defined as final output minus intermediate consumption. This indicator is provided in the table as a breakdown of value added by main sectors according to NACE (Statistical classification of economic activities).

Employment by economic activity, 2009 (%)

	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	Industry and construction	Services
EU-27 (*)	5.6	27.6	66.9
HR	14.1	28.6	57.3
IS (*)	4.9	22.2	72.9
ME	6.5	20.7	72.8
MK	18.5	29.7	51.7
TR	24.7	25.3	50.0
AL	44.1	19.9	36.0
BA	21.2	31.5	47.3
RS	23.9	25.3	50.8
XK (*)	14.6	20.7	64.8

(*) 2007 instead of 2009.

(*) 2008 instead of 2009.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: lfsa_egana and cpc_ecnabrk).

Employed persons are defined in the Labour Force Survey (LFS) as persons aged 15 and over who during the reference week did any work for pay, profit or family gain or were not at work but had a job or business from which they were temporarily absent because of, e.g., illness, holidays, industrial dispute and education or training. Economic activities are defined according to NACE.

Employment rates (%)



(*) For 2005, administrative data (information only for the male population aged 15-59 and for the female population aged 15-54).

(*) 2005 instead of 2005.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: lfsa_urban and cpc_pslm).

Employment rate: the proportion of population aged 15 to 64 that is in employment.

Unemployment rates (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data codes: lfsa_urban and cpc_pslm).

Unemployment rate: persons aged 15 to 74 who were not employed, had actively sought work during the past four weeks and were ready to begin working within two weeks, as a proportion of the total number of active persons of the same age.

General government deficit/ surplus and general government debt
relative to GDP (%)

	General government deficit (-) / surplus (+)		General government debt	
	2005	2009	2005	2009
EU-27	-2.5	-6.8	62.8	74.0
HR	-4.5	-4.1	48.3	45.1
IS	-4.9	-9.1	36.0	87.8
ME	-2.0	3.5	-	-
MK	0.2	2.7	39.5	24.1
TR	-0.6	6.7	52.3	45.4
AL (1)	-1.5	5.5	56.8	-
BA	2.4	-4.4	25.3	21.8
RS	1.0	-4.1	50.5	31.3
XK (1)	2.7	-	-	-

(1) General government deficit/ surplus: 2008 instead of 2009.

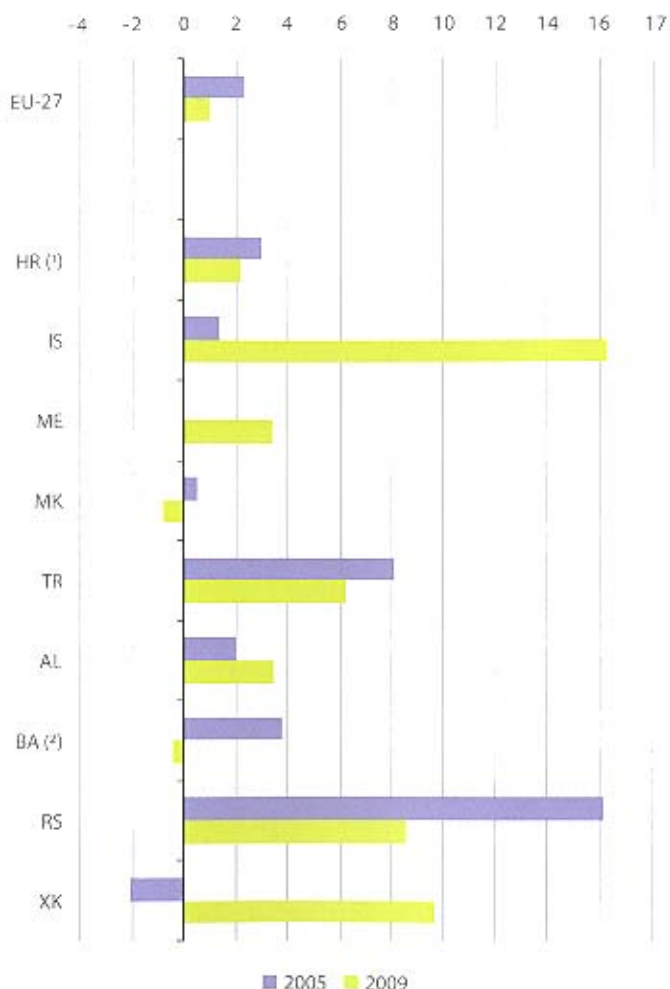
(1) General government deficit/ surplus: 2004 instead of 2005.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: gov_dd_edpt1 and cpc_ecgov).

General government deficit/surplus refers to the national accounts' concept of consolidated general government net borrowing/net lending. It refers to net borrowing or lending over the course of a single reference year. The general government sector comprises central government, state government, local government and social security funds.

General government debt is the consolidated stock of gross debt at nominal value at the end of the year. In other words, it is the accumulated total debt (over the years) of a territory.

Annual average inflation rates (HICP or CPI, % change on previous year)(1)



(1) HICP: EU-27, HR, IS, TR; CPI: MK, AL, BA, ME, RS, XK. HICP not strictly comparable with national CPIs.

(2) Until 2005, the growth rate of retail prices is presented; from 2006 onwards growth rate of the consumer price index (CPI) is used.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: prc_hicp_aand and cpc_esprice).

Consumer price index (CPI) measures the change over time in the prices of consumer goods and services acquired, used or paid for by households.

The Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), as it is calculated in the EU, is computed according to a harmonized approach and a single set of definitions. It is mainly used to measure inflation.

International trade in goods with the EU-27, 2009 (% share in total country exports and imports)



(1) 2008 data.

(2) 2005 data.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: ext_it_interrd and cpc_rtfllw).

Exports are transactions in goods and services (sales, barter, gifts or grants) from residents to non-residents.

Imports are transactions in goods and services (purchases, barter, gifts or grants) from non-residents to residents.

International trade in goods, 2009 (million EUR)

	Exports	Imports	Trade balance
EU-27	1 094 411	1 199 196	-104 785
HR	7 458	15 144	-7 686
IS	2 908	2 583	324
ME	277	1 654	-1 377
MK	1 925	3 616	-1 691
TR	73 305	100 658	-27 353
AL ⁽¹⁾	784	3 699	-2 915
BA ⁽²⁾	1 920	5 670	-3 750
RS	5 630	6 691	-1 061
XK	165	1 934	-1 768

(¹) 2008 data

(²) 2005 data

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: ext_lt_intertd, ext_lt_mainu, cpc_etmain and cpc_etflow).

Trade balance is the difference between the monetary value of exports and imports in an economy over a certain period of time. A positive balance of trade is known as a trade surplus; a negative balance of trade is known as a trade deficit.

Foreign direct investments inflows

	FDI inflows (million EUR)		FDI inflows relative to GDP (%)	
	2005	2009	2005	2009
EU-27	129 167	221 734	1.2	1.9
HR	1 458	1 875	4.1	4.1
IS	2 480	64	18.9	0.7
ME	384	944	21.2	31.7
MK	77	181	1.7	2.7
TR	8 061	5 473	2.1	1.2
AL	209	680	3.2	8.0
BA	493	461	5.6	2.9
RS	1 268	1 410	6.2	4.7
XK	108	288	3.5	7.4

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: tes00053, tes00049 and cpc_extbop).

Foreign direct investment (FDI) is international investment made by an entity resident in one economy (the direct investor) to acquire a lasting interest in an enterprise operating in another economy. FDI inflow (or FDI in the reporting economy) is investment by foreigners in enterprises resident in the reporting economy.

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