

EU Agricultural Economic Briefs

RURAL AREAS AND THE EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY EMPLOYMENT

Brief N° 5 – November 2011



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Agriculture and
Rural Development

1. INTRODUCTION: HIGH EMPLOYMENT: A HEADLINE TARGET FOR THE EU

Employment is a key element of the EU's Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Increasing the rate of employment can help to reduce poverty and thereby improve economic, social and territorial cohesion. Reaching an employment rate of 75% of the population aged 20-64 is one of the five headline targets to be achieved over the coming decade, including through the greater involvement of women, older, low skilled workers and the better integration of migrants in the work force.

Reaching this target will not be an easy task. Only two-thirds of the working age population is currently employed, compared to over 70% in the US and Japan. The employment rates of women and older workers are particularly low. Young people have been severely hit by the crisis, with an unemployment rate over 21%. Re-integration into the labour market will become more difficult the longer a person has been unemployed.

Rural areas are crucial for the attainment of the Europe 2020 headline target. Predominantly rural regions¹ generate 22% of the total employment in the EU (17% in the EU-15 and 37% in the EU-12), but the employment rate in predominantly rural areas is lower than in other types of regions, especially among women, older and low-skilled workers.

This economic brief examines the latest statistics on employment in the EU, focussing on predominantly rural areas and the degree to which they achieve the target of the Europe 2020 strategy. It also analyses the rural employment rate by gender, age and the highest level of educational attainment.

2. EMPLOYMENT RATES DOWN IN THE POST-CRISIS YEARS

After a period of steady growth over the period 2005-2008 (from 68.4% to 70.4%), the EU employment rate decreased in the years following the financial crisis and reached

68.6% in 2010. This fall was especially drastic in the Baltic countries (-10 percentage points in Estonia and Latvia, -7.6 percentage points for Lithuania), Ireland and Spain (-7.4 and -5.8

¹ See Annex 1 for the typology of rural areas applied to this Economic Brief.

percentage points respectively). Only Malta increased its employment rate over this same period (albeit from a very low level), whereas in Austria, Belgium and Poland the employment rate decreased only slightly (-0.2 percentage points in Austria, -0.4 for Belgium and Poland).

Generally, employment rates are lower in the EU-12 (65.6%) than in the EU-15 (70.1%). Among all EU-27 Member States, only Sweden (78.7%), the Netherlands (76.8%), Denmark (76.1%) and Cyprus (75.7%) currently present employment rates above the Europe 2020 target of 75%. The remaining countries had lower levels of employment, especially Malta (60%), Hungary (60.4%), Italy (61.1%) and Spain (62.5%). It should be noted that in some countries, e.g. the Netherlands, part-time work is more common, especially among women.

It should be noted, however, that Europe 2020 targets have been translated into national targets which reflect the different situations and circumstances of each country. Based on these national targets, it is clear that efforts will have to be made throughout the EU-27 in order to reach an overall employment rate of 75%.

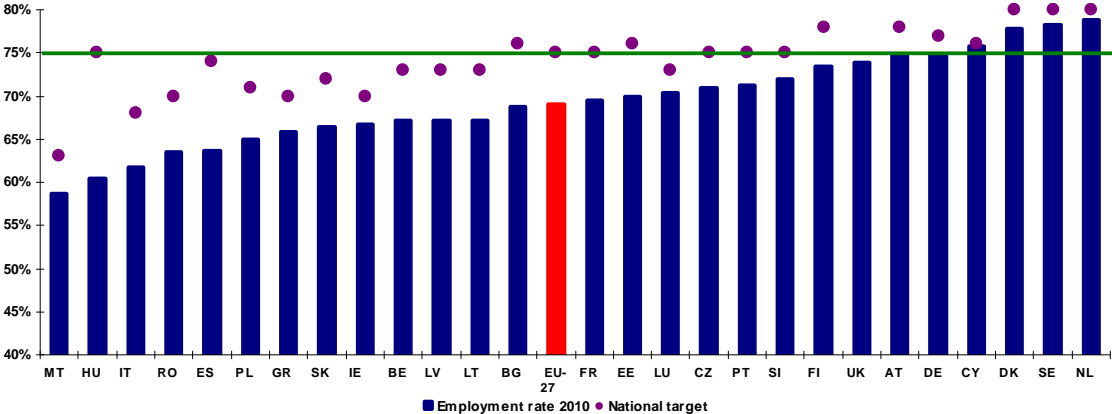
Box 1: Employment rate + unemployment rate ≠ 100

While the employment rate is commonly defined as the employment-to-population ratio (i.e., the proportion of the country's working-age population that is employed), the unemployment rate is the ratio of unemployed people to the active population, i.e., those who are either working or are actively looking for a job. Due to this difference in definition, the two rates do not usually add up to 100% (except in cases where everybody of working age is either working or looking for a job). Comparing employment rates across countries will be based on the assumption that there are no differences in the willingness or ability to work in the working age population.

3. SMALL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TYPES OF REGIONS

Across the EU-27, employment rates in 2009 were lowest in predominantly rural areas (67.8%), compared to 68.9% in intermediate and 70.1% in predominantly urban areas.

Graph 1: Employment rates (20-64 years) at national level in 2010



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey .

This pattern also holds true when looking at subgroups of EU Member States, i.e. EU-12 and EU-15. In the EU-12, where the employment rate is lower than in the EU-15 for all types of regions, rural employment only reached 64.7% in 2009. Intermediate and predominantly urban areas regions presented slightly higher rates (65.2% and 67.9% respectively).

Differences between types of regions are marginal in the EU-15. Here, the employment rate in predominantly rural areas reached 69.6% in 2009, just below those of intermediate and predominantly urban regions (70% and 70.4% respectively).

The employment rates in the predominantly rural regions of Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, and Sweden were above the Europe 2020 target of 75%, though lower than the respective national target. Hungary (58.5%), Italy (61%), Spain (61.9%) and Romania (62.9%) presented the lowest employment rates among predominantly rural regions in the EU.

Map 1 shows that differences in the employment rates are greater when comparing regions rather than countries. Southern Spain, southern Italy, the eastern

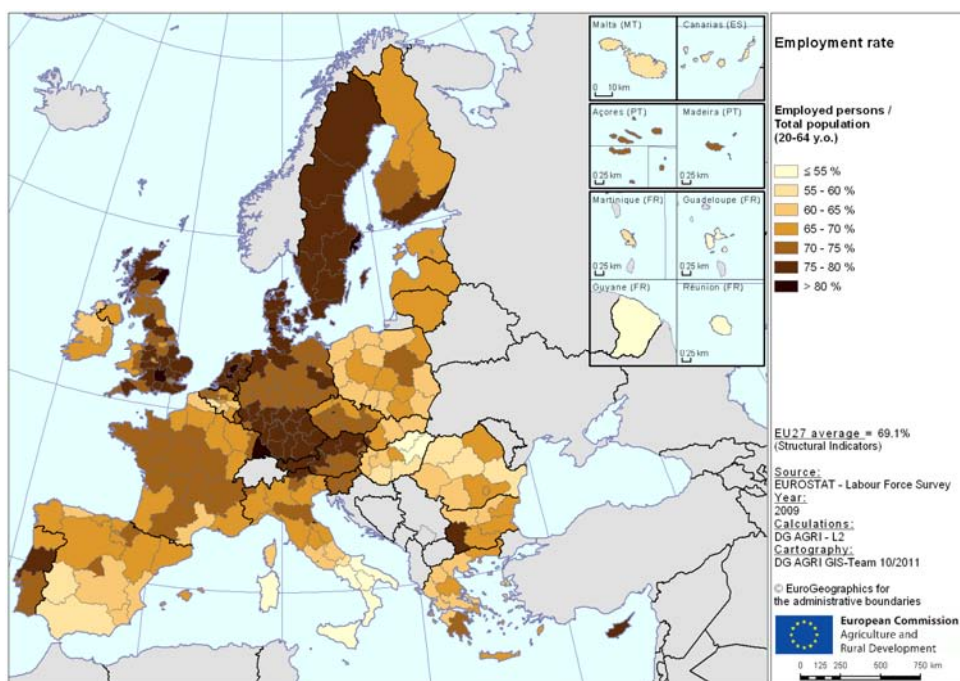
Table 1: Employment rates (20-64 years old) in 2009 (*)

	Predominantly rural	Intermediate regions	Predominantly urban	Total
BE	68.0	67.8	66.8	67.1
BG	66.5	68.2	77.1	68.8
CZ	70.9	68.6	75.0	70.9
DK	77.0	77.8	79.2	77.8
DE	76.7	75.6	73.3	74.8
EE	69.1	70.9		69.9
IE	66.5		67.5	66.7
EL	66.1	64.9	65.7	65.8
ES	61.9	62.5	65.2	63.7
FR	69.9	68.9	69.8	69.5
IT	61.0	61.6	62.3	61.7
CY		75.7		75.7
LV	66.8	66.9	67.5	67.1
LT	66.0	68.3	68.6	67.2
LU		70.4		70.4
HU	58.5	59.7	67.3	60.5
MT			58.8	58.7
NL	78.2	78.2	79.1	78.8
AT	76.3	74.6	72.9	74.7
PL	65.1	64.6	65.0	64.9
PT	73.1	70.7	70.0	71.2
RO	62.9	62.9	68.1	63.5
SI	71.3	72.3		71.9
SK	65.2	64.7	76.9	66.4
FI	70.2	74.9	77.1	73.5
SE	77.1	77.3	82.3	78.3
UK	73.3	76.6	72.8	73.9
EU-27	67.8	68.9	70.1	69.1
EU-15	69.6	70.0	70.4	70.1
EU-12	64.7	65.2	67.9	65.6

(*) See Annex 1 for the definition of rural areas and Annex 2 for more information about the estimation method.

part of Hungary and some regions of Romania present employment rates below 60%. The highest employment rates are found in Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, southern

Map 1: Employment rates (20-64 years old) in 2009 at NUTS-2 level



Germany and some parts of the United Kingdom. Only 70 regions in the EU, or 25% of the total, had employment rates above 75% in 2009.

4. LOWEST EMPLOYMENT RATES ARE FOUND AMONG WOMEN ...

The employment rate is generally higher for men than for women. At EU-27 level, 76% of men and 62% of women were employed in 2009, showing a difference of 14 percentage points. This gap is approximately the same within each type of region (predominantly rural, intermediate and predominantly urban) and for both the EU-15 and the EU-12.

In the predominantly rural areas of the EU-27, only 61% of the women of 20 to 64 years old were employed in 2009. This situation is worse in the EU-12 (58%) than in the EU-15 (63%).

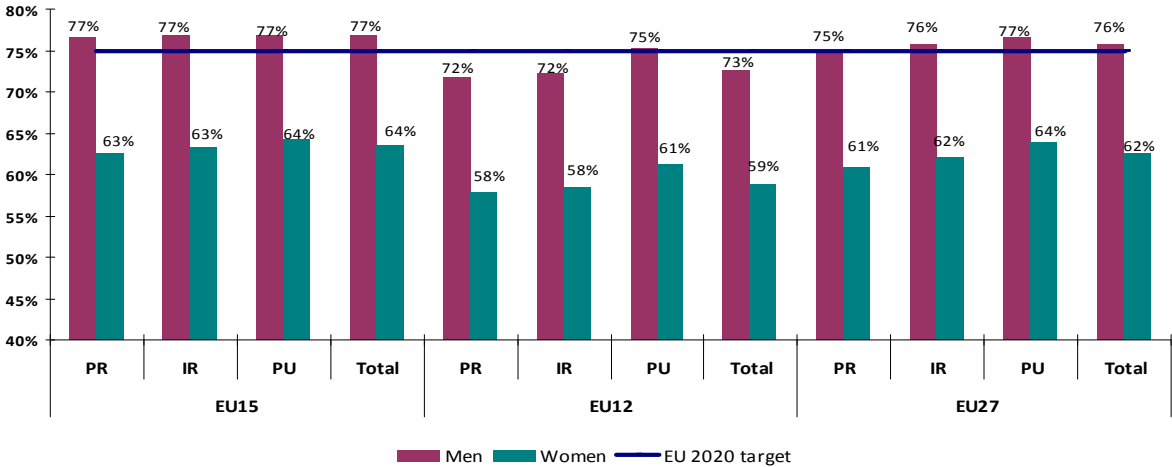
The lowest employment rates among women in predominantly rural areas were found in Italy (48.6%), Greece (50.9%), Spain (51.6%) and Hungary (52.2%). By contrast, Austria (70.4%), Germany (71.5%), Denmark (73.6%) and Sweden (74.6%) presented the highest

employment rates among women in predominantly rural areas.

The employment rates among men in predominantly rural areas, though substantially higher than for women, were in many cases below the target of the Europe 2020 strategy. More specifically, Hungary (65.1%), Lithuania (66%), Latvia (67%) and Estonia (70.2%) had the lowest rates, all of them below their respective national target. Denmark (80.4%), Germany (81.8%), Austria (82.1%) and the Netherlands (86.9%) presented the highest employment rates for men in predominantly rural areas, all of them above their respective national target.

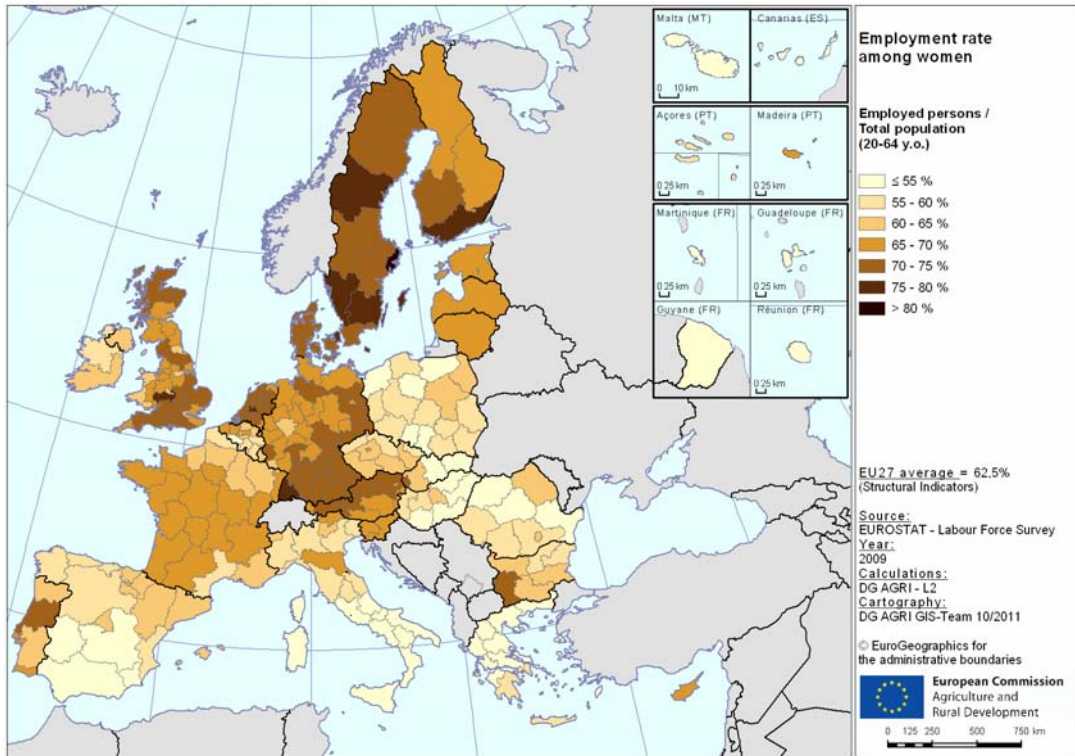
Nordic countries, Germany and the UK presented the highest employment rates for women, in many cases above 70%. By contrast, the employment rates for women in many regions in Greece, Poland, Hungary, Romania as well as the southern part of Spain and Italy were below 60%. The highest employment rates for men were found in Germany, the Nordic countries, the United Kingdom, northern Italy and some regions of Greece. The employment rates for men in 166 regions, or 60% of the total, were above 75%.

Graph 2: Employment rates for men and women of 20-64 years old by type of region in 2009 (*)

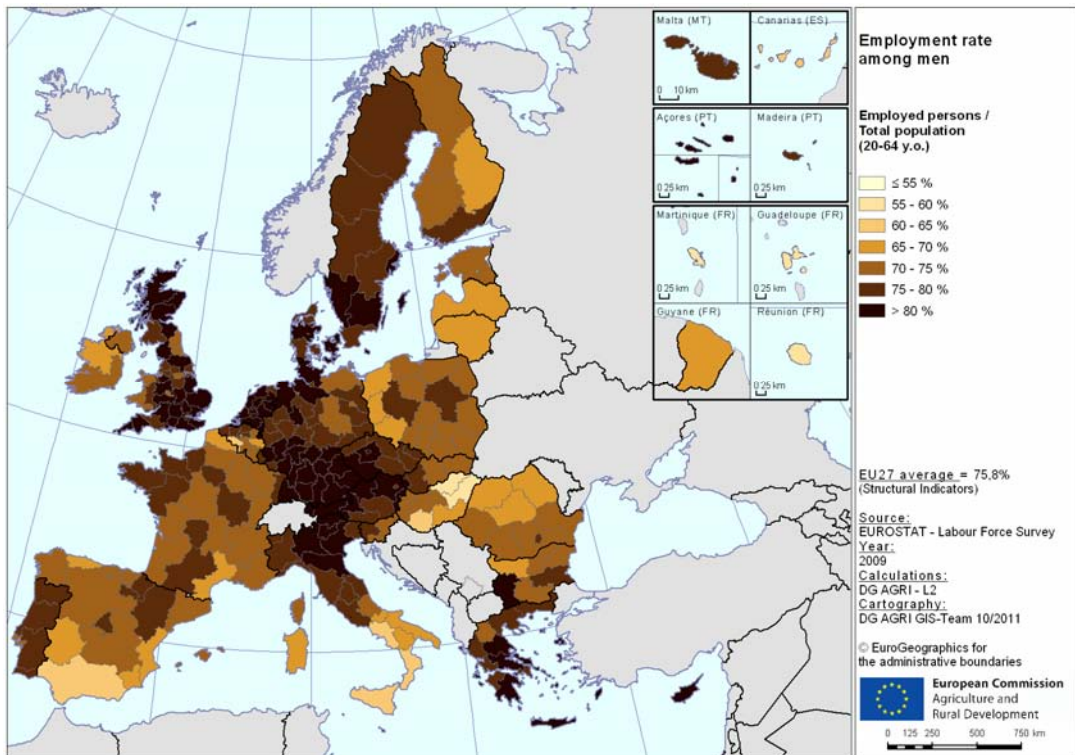


(*) See Annex 1 for the definition of rural areas and Annex 2 for more information about the estimation method

Maps 2: Employment rates for women of 20 to 64 years at NUTS-2 level in 2009



Maps 3: Employment rates for men of 20 to 64 years at NUTS-2 level in 2009



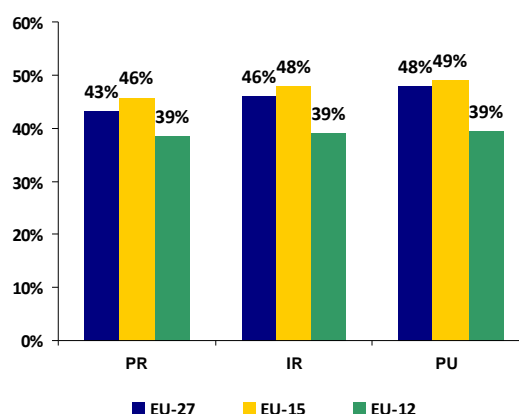
5. ... OLDER PEOPLE ...

Older people from 55 to 64 years old are affected by very low employment rates. In 2009, employment for this age group only reached 46% (43.2% in predominantly rural regions, 45.9% in intermediate and 48% in predominantly urban regions).

The lowest employment rate among older people was found in predominantly rural areas of the EU-12 (38.6%). 45.7% of the older people in predominantly rural regions of the EU-15 had an employment in 2009, whereas intermediate and urban areas presented slightly higher rates (47.9% and 49.1% respectively). At national level, the lowest employment rates among older people in predominantly rural regions are found in Hungary (29.8%), Poland (32.3%), Slovenia (32.7%) and in Italy (35%). Sweden and Estonia, by contrast, presented the highest rates (68.5% and 59.6%), though lower than for the other age groups (see Annex 5 for a table of employment by age group at country level).

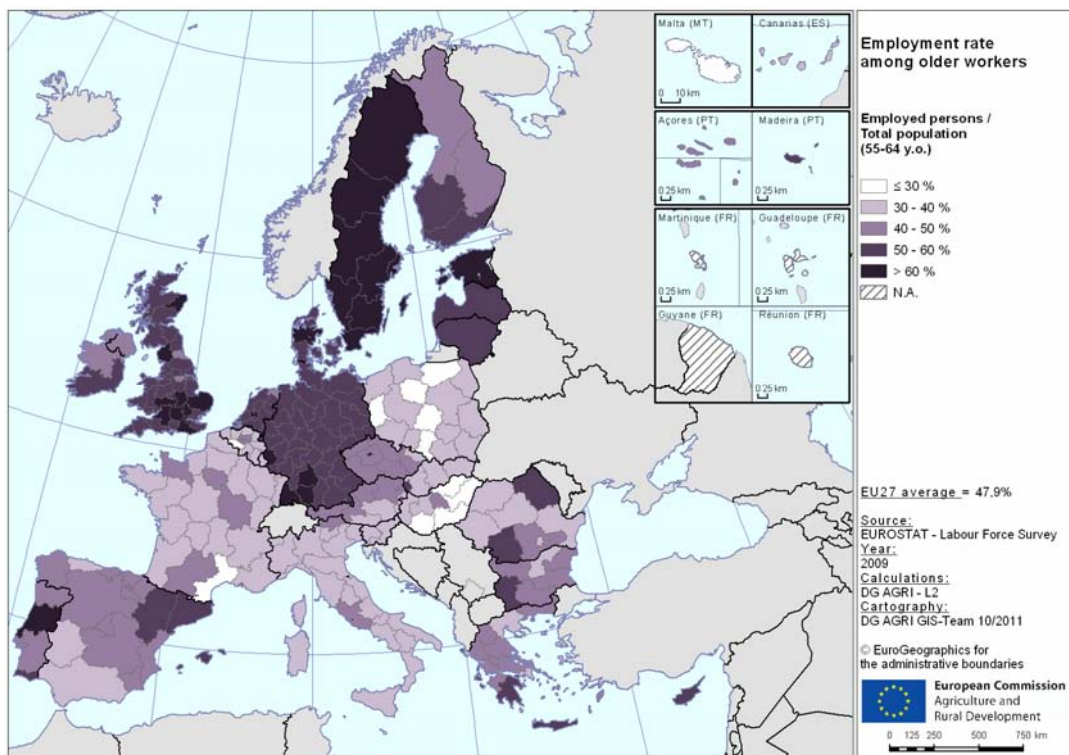
The lowest employment rates among older people (less than 30%) are found in some regions of Hungary and Poland. France and Italy also presented low employment rates for old people (less than 50% in both cases). In many regions of Sweden, the United Kingdom and the Baltic countries the employment rates for old people were above 60%.

Graph 3: Employment rates for people of 55-64 years old in 2009 (*)



(*) See Annex 1 for the definition of rural areas and Annex 2 for more information about the estimation method

Map 4: Employment rates for people of 55-64 years in 2009



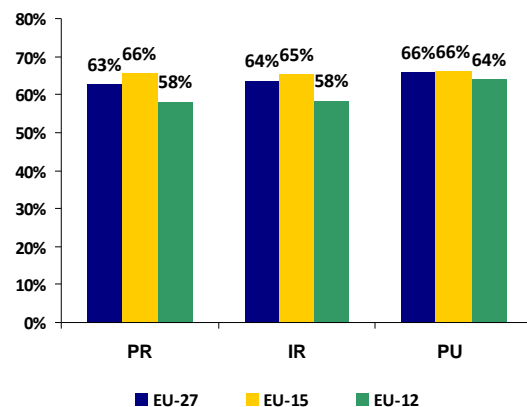
6. ... YOUNG PEOPLE...

The employment rate for younger people, or those between 20 to 30 years old, reached 64.3% in the EU-27 for 2009, below the overall average of 68%. Predominantly rural areas presented the lowest rates, 62.6% in the EU-27 (65.8% in the EU-15 and 58.1% in the EU-12). Intermediate regions and predominantly urban areas had higher employment rates among young people, though below the Europe 2020 benchmark of 75%. In all types of regions, the employment rate of younger people is lower in the EU-12 than in the EU-15.

Among predominantly rural regions, the lowest employment rates for people of 20-30 years old are found in Italy (51.5%), Romania (52.8%) and Hungary (53%). The Netherlands (89.2%), Austria (80.1%) and Denmark (76.9%) presented the highest employment rates among young people in 2009 (see Annex 5 for the table of employment by age group at country level).

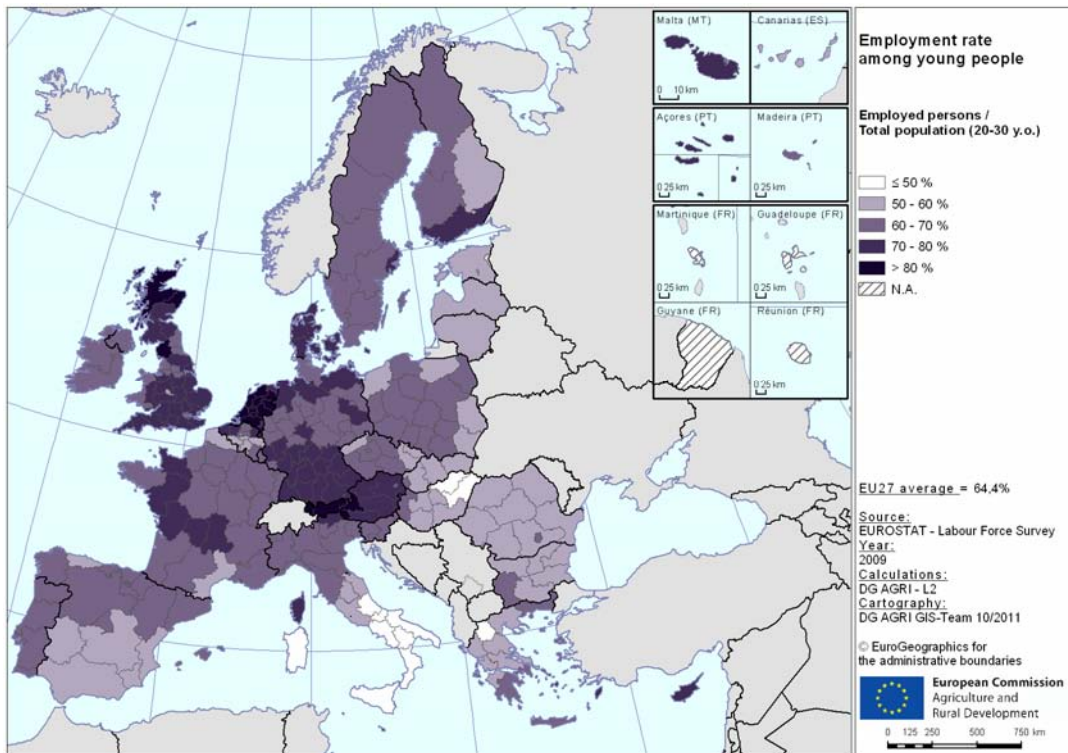
At regional level, southern Italy and eastern Hungary presented the lowest rates of employment among young people (less than 50%). Most of the regions range between 50% and 70%. The highest employment rates for young people are found in several regions of the Netherlands, some regions of the United Kingdom and western Austria.

Graph 4: Employment rates for people of 20-30 years in 2009 (*)



(*) See Annex 1 for the definition of rural areas and Annex 2 for more information about the estimation method

Map 5: Employment rates for people of 20-30 years in 2009



7. ... AND LOWER-SKILLED PEOPLE

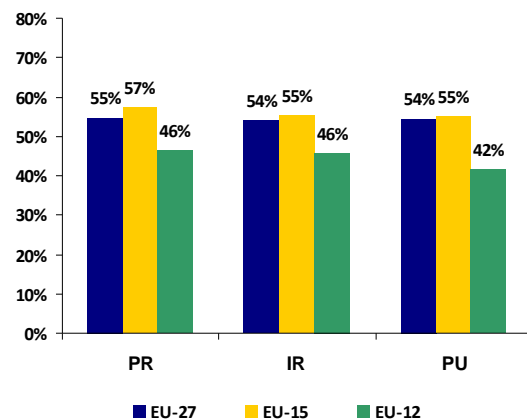
People who had completed only lower secondary education also present lower-than-average employment rates. At EU level, this rate was approximately 54% in the three types of regions in 2009.

As for all other categories, the employment rate for lower-skilled people was higher in the EU-15 than in the EU-12 (55.6% and 45.5% respectively). Predominantly rural, intermediate and predominantly urban regions of the EU-15 and the EU-12 presented rates close to their respective average in 2009.

Slovakia, Hungary and Lithuania had the lowest employment rates among lower skilled people in predominantly rural areas (28.1%, 35.4% and 36.1% respectively), whereas the highest rates were found in Portugal, the Netherlands and Denmark (72.5%, 66.2% and 65%). (See Annex 6 for the table of employment by level of educational attainment at country level).

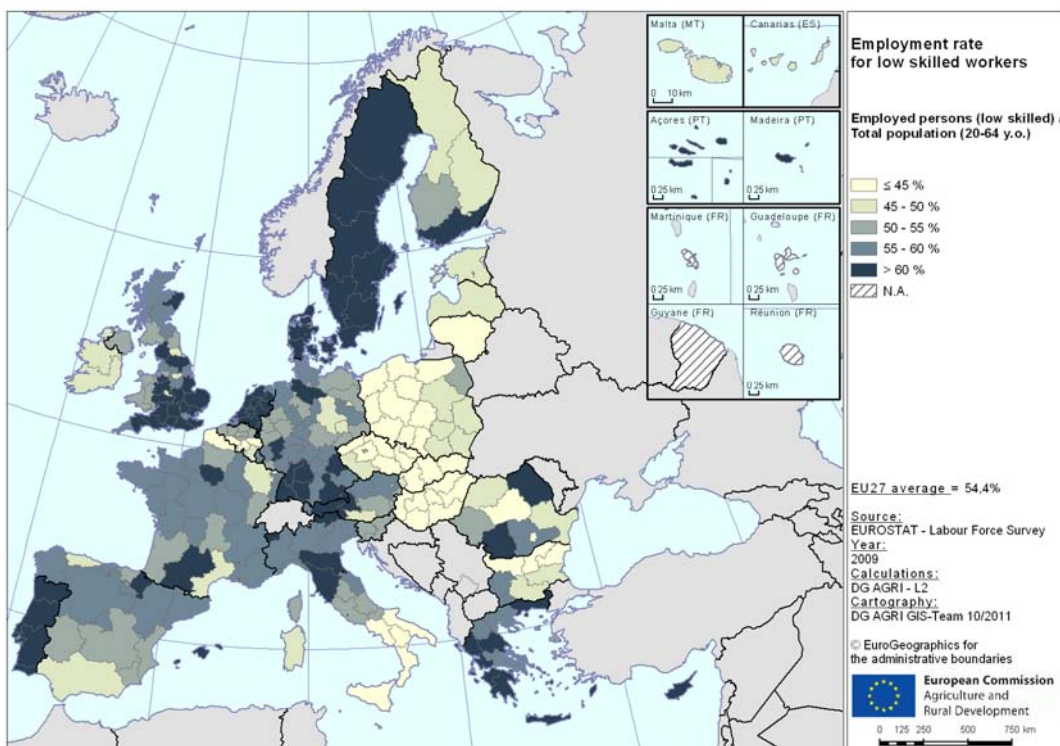
The employment rates for lower-skilled people in the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic, Hungary, Lithuania and in many regions of Poland were below 45%. In the case of Sweden, Denmark and the Netherlands, as well as in several regions of the United Kingdom and Germany, the employment rates among lower-skilled people were above 60%.

Graph 5: Employment rates for lower skilled people of 20-64 years in 2009 (*)



(*) See Annex 1 for the definition of rural areas and Annex 2 for more information about the estimation method

Map 6: Employment rates for lower-skilled people in 2009



8. CONCLUSIONS

Ambitious employment targets have been set in the Europe 2020 strategy, both at the level of the EU as a whole and at national level. While there are some countries (the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Germany and Austria) which have achieved or are close to achieving both the overall EU goal and their respective national targets, others are far from reaching either of the two. In particular, employment rates in the EU-12 are on average 3.5 percentage points lower than in the EU-15, pointing to the need for additional efforts in these countries.

The employment rate in predominantly rural areas of the EU-27 is only slightly lower than in the other two types of region. It is particularly low in the predominantly rural regions of the EU-12 (64.7%), where more than 40% of the total population of these countries live. Improvements in these regions could thus have a relatively strong impact on the overall situation.

While the variation in employment rates is marginal between the different types of regions, employment rates seem to be affected more strongly by gender, age and level of educational attainment.

Women present lower employment rates (on average 14 percentage points) than men, regardless of what type of region they live in. Only 61% of the women in predominantly rural regions of the EU were employed in 2009. In the EU-12 this rate was even lower (58%). Since the activity rate among women is substantially lower than among men (68% and 83% respectively in the EU-27), great progress in overall employment rate could be made by bringing more women into the labour market.

The employment rate for older people (from 55 to 64 years old) in predominantly rural areas was 43.2% in 2009, this rate being especially low in the EU-12 (38.6%). In the light of ageing populations and a higher retirement age across the EU, employment rates among this group of people are likely to increase in the future.

On the other hand, 62.6% of the young people (20-30 years old) in the predominantly rural regions of the EU were employed in 2009. If we assume that the willingness to work is particularly high in this age group, this finding highlights a potential future problem since young unemployed people are likely to leave the rural areas to find work elsewhere.

The employment rate for lower skilled people in predominantly rural areas was 54.4%, approximately the same as in the other types of region. The employment opportunities are even lower in the EU-12 (45.5% for predominantly rural regions). The higher the level of education, the higher the employment rate for all the types of regions. Improving the level of skills and education of the labour force is one of the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy and will help increase the employment rate throughout the EU.

9. METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

Data are taken from Eurostat's Labour Force Survey, which provides information at NUTS-2 level. However, the typology of rural areas is only defined at NUTS-3 level. In order to calculate employment rates for different types of regions, NUTS-3 level data have been estimated and aggregated by type of region (predominantly rural, intermediate, and predominantly urban) according to the typology of rural areas defined in Annex 1 (see Annex 2 for more information about the method for estimating data at NUTS-3 level).

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: DEFINITION OF RURAL AREAS

The European Union (EU) typology of 'predominantly rural', 'intermediate' or 'predominantly urban' regions is based on a variation of the OECD methodology.

This typology uses a population grid of one square kilometre resolution. The method builds on a simple approach to create clusters of urban grid cells with a minimum population density of 300 inhabitants per km² and a minimum population of 5 000. All the cells outside these urban clusters are considered as rural.

To determine the urban clusters, the grid cells are grouped based on contiguity (including the diagonals). If the central cell is above the density threshold, it will be grouped with each of the other surrounding eight cells that exceed the density threshold.

The population living in rural areas is the population living outside the urban areas identified through the method described above.

Local administrative units level 2 (LAU2) are classified based on the share of population in rural cells following the majority principle (a LAU2 is rural if at least 50% of the residents lives in rural areas), resulting in 28% of the EU-27 population living in rural LAU2s.

This new typology is applied to the NUTS 3 level into two main steps:

- It groups NUTS 3 regions of less than 500 km² with one or more of its neighbours solely for classification purposes, i.e. all the NUTS 3 regions in a group are classified in the same way.
- It classifies NUTS 3 regions based on the share of population in rural grid cells. More than 50% of the total population in rural grid cells = predominantly rural, between 20% and 50% in rural grid cells = intermediate and less than 20% = predominantly urban.

Nevertheless this new typology considers the presence of large urban centres in the same way of the OECD methodology:

- a "predominantly rural" region (or group of regions) is re-classified as "intermediate" if there is an urban centre > 200.000 inhabitants representing no less than 25% of the regional population
- an "intermediate" region (or group of regions) is re-classified as "predominantly urban" if there is an urban centre > 500.000 inhabitants (in EU) representing no less than 25% of the regional population

At the EU-27 level, it results in 24% of the population living in NUTS 3 regions classified as "predominantly rural", which is 4% more compared to the results obtained with the OECD methodology.

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Urban-rural_typology

ANNEX 2: METHOD FOR ESTIMATING DATA AT NUTS-3 LEVEL

Data presented in this note come from the Labour Force Survey, the lowest level of availability being NUTS-2.

The database resulting from this survey includes a variable which indicates the level of urbanisation of the local administrative unit (LAU2) of the respondent, measured by the population density:

- 1) Thinly populated or less than 100 inhabitants/km²
- 2) Intermediate or from 100 to 500 inhabitants/km².
- 3) Densely populated or more than 500 inhabitants/km²

The proportion of population by level of urbanisation within a concrete NUTS 3 region is available in the data from the Census, in this case the closest is 2001. By weighing the indicator per level of urbanisation according to the share of population within the NUTS 3 region in each level of urbanisation, one can create a NUTS 3 estimate.

The estimated data at NUTS-3 level is aggregated by type of region according to the definition of rural areas (see Annex 1). Therefore, the estimations prepared are always aggregated and we never present the data individually (i.e.: the maps are presented with the official data at NUTS-2 level).

ANNEX 3: DEFINITION OF THE EMPLOYMENT RATE

The employment rate of this economic brief is defined as the employed persons aged 20-64 as a percentage of the population of the same age group.

In the Labour Force Survey Employed persons are all persons aged 15 and over who, during the reference week, worked at least one hour for pay or profit or were temporarily absent from

such work. Employed persons comprise employees, self-employed and family workers.

Population covers persons aged 15 and over, living in private households (population living in public households are not included). This comprises all persons living in the households surveyed during the reference week. This definition also includes persons absent from the households for short periods (but having retained a link with the private household) owing to studies, holidays, illness, business trips, etc... Persons on compulsory military service are not included.

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/employment_unemployment_lfs/methodology/definitions

ANNEX 4: EMPLOYMENT RATE BY GENDER AND TYPE OF REGION

	Predominantly rural		Intermediate regions		Predominantly urban		Total	
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women
BE	74.5	61.3	74.2	61.3	72.7	60.8	73.2	61.0
BG	70.9	62.1	74.1	62.5	81.0	73.3	73.8	64.0
CZ	80.2	61.3	78.0	59.0	83.9	65.9	80.2	61.4
DK	80.4	73.6	80.6	75.0	81.9	76.5	80.8	74.8
DE	81.8	71.5	80.3	70.8	78.3	68.3	79.7	69.8
EE	70.2	68.1	72.1	69.8			71.0	68.8
IE	71.7	61.2			71.9	63.3	71.8	61.7
EL	80.5	50.9	77.2	52.1	77.4	54.5	78.8	52.7
ES	71.6	51.6	69.9	54.9	71.7	58.7	71.0	56.3
FR	74.5	65.4	73.6	64.4	74.5	65.4	74.2	65.0
IT	73.2	48.6	74.1	49.2	73.8	51.1	73.8	49.7
CY			83.5	68.1			83.5	68.1
LV	67.0	66.5	67.2	66.5	67.9	67.2	67.4	66.8
LT	66.0	66.1	67.8	68.7	68.1	69.1	66.9	67.5
LU			79.0	61.5			79.0	61.5
HU	65.1	52.2	66.1	53.7	74.1	61.2	67.0	54.4
MT					76.9	39.8	76.9	39.8
NL	86.9	69.2	84.1	72.1	85.1	73.0	84.9	72.7
AT	82.1	70.4	80.1	69.1	77.5	68.4	80.1	69.4
PL	73.1	57.3	71.9	57.6	72.8	57.8	72.6	57.6
PT	78.4	67.8	77.8	63.8	74.5	65.6	76.5	66.1
RO	70.3	55.4	69.8	56.1	76.3	60.8	70.7	56.3
SI	75.4	67.0	75.8	68.7			75.6	67.9
SK	73.8	56.5	73.5	55.8	81.9	72.2	74.6	58.2
FI	71.1	69.2	76.2	73.7	78.8	75.6	74.7	72.4
SE	79.5	74.6	80.1	74.3	84.3	80.2	80.9	75.7
UK	78.3	68.6	82.1	71.2	78.7	67.0	79.6	68.2
EU-27	74.8	60.8	75.7	62.1	76.6	63.9	75.8	62.5
EU-15	76.6	62.5	76.7	63.2	76.7	64.2	76.7	63.5
EU-12	71.7	57.9	72.1	58.4	75.2	61.2	72.5	58.8

ANNEX 5: EMPLOYMENT RATE BY AGE GROUP AND BY TYPE OF REGION

	Predominantly rural			Intermediate regions			Predominantly urban			Total		
	20-30 y.o.	31-54 y.o.	55-64 y.o.	20-30 y.o.	31-54 y.o.	55-64 y.o.	20-30 y.o.	31-54 y.o.	55-64 y.o.	20-30 y.o.	31-54 y.o.	55-64 y.o.
BE	63.3	80.7	36.9	65.2	81.0	34.4	63.1	79.3	35.4	63.6	79.9	35.3
BG	58.5	78.4	43.4	57.2	80.0	46.4	67.8	88.7	54.2	59.6	80.6	46.1
CZ	61.4	85.5	45.3	59.5	83.0	43.0	65.9	86.7	55.9	61.7	84.7	46.8
DK	76.9	85.7	55.7	74.6	86.6	58.2	77.2	86.1	60.7	76.2	86.1	57.5
DE	74.4	84.2	57.3	71.1	83.5	57.1	68.8	81.2	54.8	70.6	82.7	56.2
EE	58.7	77.3	59.6	61.4	79.5	61.6				59.9	78.2	60.4
IE	65.3	71.6	51.1				67.0	72.7	50.7	65.7	71.9	51.0
EL	61.9	74.7	45.8	56.5	75.3	44.8	59.1	77.4	38.2	60.0	76.0	42.2
ES	57.5	69.1	42.4	58.1	69.8	43.3	59.6	73.2	45.3	58.7	71.3	44.1
FR	68.4	84.4	36.3	64.9	82.8	37.2	64.1	81.9	43.1	65.5	83.0	38.8
IT	51.5	72.8	35.0	52.7	73.3	35.5	51.5	74.7	36.4	52.1	73.7	35.7
CY				73.4	83.2	56.0				73.4	83.2	56.0
LV	58.1	75.8	52.2	58.4	75.7	52.9	59.9	75.7	54.4	58.9	75.8	53.2
LT	55.9	75.6	50.0	58.8	77.5	53.0	59.2	77.8	53.5	57.4	76.6	51.6
LU				65.2	81.2	38.2				65.2	81.2	38.2
HU	53.0	71.8	29.8	52.9	73.4	31.3	58.1	80.6	43.3	53.8	73.9	32.8
MT							73.5	65.2	27.9	73.5	65.2	27.9
NL	89.2	85.8	53.2	82.8	86.2	53.7	82.8	86.1	55.7	82.8	86.1	55.1
AT	80.1	85.8	41.1	76.5	84.8	39.5	71.4	82.9	42.2	76.2	84.6	41.1
PL	62.4	78.5	32.3	62.7	77.7	32.9	64.6	78.3	31.6	63.1	78.2	32.3
PT	67.9	80.9	56.9	69.0	78.3	48.9	66.5	80.0	44.6	67.4	80.0	49.7
RO	52.8	73.7	45.0	52.6	74.7	42.4	62.8	82.2	33.2	53.8	75.1	42.6
SI	67.8	85.2	32.7	66.1	87.2	37.9				66.9	86.3	35.6
SK	56.4	79.0	36.6	55.5	78.5	36.5	69.8	86.8	59.3	57.6	79.7	39.5
FI	64.0	81.8	51.5	69.9	85.3	56.7	71.9	86.1	61.2	68.1	84.0	55.5
SE	66.4	85.5	68.5	66.8	85.1	69.6	75.5	88.1	73.0	68.6	85.9	70.0
UK	72.8	81.1	55.6	75.8	83.6	59.9	70.0	79.6	56.6	71.5	80.7	57.5
EU-27	62.6	78.8	43.2	63.6	79.1	45.9	65.9	79.4	48.0	64.3	79.1	46.0
EU-15	65.8	79.6	45.7	65.4	79.4	47.9	66.2	79.3	49.1	65.8	79.4	47.9
EU-12	58.1	77.2	38.6	58.4	77.8	39.0	64.2	80.5	39.4	59.4	78.1	38.9

ANNEX 6: EMPLOYMENT RATE BY LEVEL OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND BY TYPE OF REGION

	Predominantly rural			Intermediate regions			Predominantly urban			Total		
	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High
BE	48.8	70.5	82.8	48.4	69.8	82.5	47.3	68.3	81.6	47.7	68.8	81.9
BG	42.6	71.0	84.9	46.1	71.7	84.8	52.0	72.8	87.4	44.8	71.6	85.5
CZ	43.9	72.0	81.0	40.1	70.4	81.2	47.0	74.8	83.7	42.5	72.0	82.0
DK	65.0	79.0	87.5	65.9	78.4	87.3	65.7	78.3	87.1	65.4	78.6	87.3
DE	59.4	76.7	87.6	58.5	75.1	87.2	53.2	73.6	86.6	56.1	74.8	87.0
EE	46.2	67.5	82.4	48.2	67.5	81.7				46.9	67.5	82.1
IE	49.9	66.6	80.5				47.3	66.1	81.2	49.4	66.5	80.7
EL	61.7	65.0	80.2	61.7	60.0	80.3	56.1	61.6	82.5	59.7	62.8	81.5
ES	54.4	64.9	77.5	53.4	64.4	77.5	53.6	66.3	80.4	53.7	65.4	79.0
FR	56.0	72.8	81.0	54.0	71.6	80.6	56.2	69.8	80.7	55.3	71.4	80.7
IT	52.0	67.0	74.4	51.0	68.3	76.3	50.2	67.7	79.0	51.0	67.8	77.0
CY				65.2	74.9	84.8				65.2	74.9	84.8
LV	47.6	66.1	83.1	47.0	65.9	82.4	45.0	65.5	81.6	46.6	65.8	82.3
LT	36.1	62.9	85.5	37.3	63.4	86.2	37.6	63.4	86.3	36.7	63.2	85.9
LU				58.9	66.6	83.8				58.9	66.6	83.8
HU	35.4	62.3	77.4	35.2	61.9	78.7	44.9	65.4	78.4	36.3	62.7	78.1
MT							49.6	76.0	83.5	49.6	76.0	83.5
NL	66.2	81.2	86.3	64.1	81.1	87.2	64.1	81.5	87.9	64.1	81.4	87.7
AT	57.1	78.8	87.9	53.6	76.5	86.2	54.3	74.3	84.3	55.3	76.9	86.0
PL	43.5	65.0	83.3	39.0	63.2	83.3	35.6	61.8	84.2	40.5	63.5	83.6
PT	72.5	69.1	83.0	69.3	68.6	83.9	65.4	71.2	85.1	68.8	70.1	84.3
RO	54.8	63.6	82.6	53.7	62.4	83.5	41.9	65.3	87.6	53.7	63.3	84.1
SI	54.0	71.8	87.7	52.7	70.6	88.3				53.4	71.2	88.1
SK	28.1	67.3	79.4	26.7	66.6	78.8	44.7	76.2	84.1	28.7	67.9	80.3
FI	51.2	69.6	82.7	58.2	74.1	85.0	61.2	75.0	85.7	55.8	72.3	84.4
SE	63.7	78.0	86.9	62.1	78.4	86.3	66.5	82.7	88.4	63.3	79.2	87.0
UK	56.7	75.4	84.4	62.1	78.9	84.5	55.5	74.3	84.2	57.3	75.6	84.3
EU-27	54.7	69.5	82.3	54.1	70.7	82.7	54.5	71.1	83.5	54.4	70.5	83.0
EU-15	57.4	72.7	82.3	55.4	73.2	82.6	55.0	72.1	83.5	55.6	72.6	83.0
EU-12	46.2	65.8	82.6	45.8	65.1	83.0	41.7	65.5	84.2	45.5	65.5	83.2