**Some Key Facts about the Human Geography and Economy of the European Union**

According to Wikipedia, the EU has a total surface area of 4.23 million km2, and a population of about 447 million. The latest Eurostat figures indicated that EU GDP in 2021 was €14.5 trillion, while the average GDP per capita was €32,490, with a maximum of €113,899 in Luxembourg, and a minimum of €10,276 in Bulgaria (figures in current prices (i.e. not in purchasing power parities). Germany is the EU's largest economy, then France.

| State | Accession | Population | Area in /km2 | Pop. density /km2 | MEPs | abort-ion weeks | | GDP euros billions 2021 | GDP per capita |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Austria | 1 January 1995 | 8,932,664 | 83,855 | 107,00 | 19 | 13 | Austria | 406 | 45 468 |
| Belgium | Founder | 11,566,041 | 30,528 | 379 | 21 | 12 | Belgium | 502 | 43 430 |
| Bulgaria | 1 January 2007 | 6,916,548 | 110,994 | 62 | 17 | 12 | Bulgaria | 71 | 10 276 |
| Croatia | 1 July 2013 | 4,036,355 | 56,594 | 71 | 12 | 10 | Croatia | 58 | 14 432 |
| Cyprus | 1 May 2004 | 896,005 | 9,251 | 97 | 6 | 12 | Cyprus | 24 | 26 807 |
| Czech Republic | 1 May 2004 | 10,701,777 | 78,866 | 136 | 21 | 12 | Czech Rep. | 238 | 22 262 |
| Denmark | 1 January 1973 | 5,840,045 | 43,075 | 136 | 14 | 12 | Denmark | 337 | 57 657 |
| Estonia | 1 May 2004 | 1,330,068 | 45,227 | 29 | 7 | 11 | Estonia | 31 | 23 642 |
| Finland | 1 January 1995 | 5,533,793 | 338,424 | 16 | 14 | 12 | Finland | 251 | 45 424 |
| France | Founder | 67,439,599 | 640,679 | 105 | 79 | 14 | France | 2 501 | 37 083 |
| Germany | Founder | 83,155,031 | 357,021 | 233 | 96 | 12 | Germany | 3 602 | 43 314 |
| Greece | 1 January 1981 | 10,682,547 | 131,990 | 81 | 21 | 12 | Greece | 182 | 17 007 |
| Hungary | 1 May 2004 | 9,730,772 | 93,030 | 105 | 21 | 12 | Hungary | 154 | 15 801 |
| Ireland | 1 January 1973 | 5,006,907 | 70,273 | 71 | 13 | 12 | Ireland | 426 | 85 139 |
| Italy | Founder | 59,257,566 | 301,338 | 197 | 76 | 12 | Italy | 1 782 | 30 073 |
| Latvia | 1 May 2004 | 1,893,223 | 64,589 | 29 | 8 | 12 | Latvia | 34 | 17 798 |
| Lithuania | 1 May 2004 | 2,795,680 | 65,200 | 43 | 11 | 12 | Lithuania | 56 | 20 095 |
| Luxembourg | Founder | 634,730 | 2,586 | 245 | 6 | 12 | Luxembourg | 72 | 113 899 |
| Malta | 1 May 2004 | 516,100 | 316 | 1,633 | 6 | no | Malta | 15 | 28 447 |
| Netherlands | Founder | 17,475,415 | 41,543 | 421 | 29 | 24 | Netherlands | 856 | 49 003 |
| Poland | 1 May 2004 | 37,840,001 | 312,685 | 121 | 52 | no | Poland | 575 | 15 190 |
| Portugal | 1 January 1986 | 10,298,252 | 92,390 | 111 | 21 | 10 | Portugal | 214 | 20 826 |
| Romania | 1 January 2007 | 19,186,201 | 238,391 | 80 | 33 | 14 | Romania | 240 | 12 517 |
| Slovakia | 1 May 2004 | 5,459,781 | 49,035 | 111 | 14 | 12 | Slovakia | 99 | 18 045 |
| Slovenia | 1 May 2004 | 2,108,977 | 20,273 | 104 | 8 | 10 | Slovenia | 52 | 24 755 |
| Spain | 1 January 1986 | 47,394,223 | 504,030 | 94 | 59 | 14 | Spain | 1 207 | 25 464 |
| Sweden | 1 January 1995 | 10,379,295 | 449,964 | 23 | 21 | 12 | Sweden | 537 | 51 767 |
| **27 total** | | **447,007,596** | **4,233,262** | **106** | **705** | (UK 24) | 27 total | 14 523 | 32 490 |

Sources: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Union and Eurostat for GDP.

Country sizes and populations vary greatly too, as the EU includes some micro-states like Luxembourg and Malta, but also fairly large, mediums sized nations like Spain, Sweden, Germany and Italy. France is the Union's largest country, by some margin. Representation in the European Parliament broadly mirrors these differences. Population density also varies substantially. Aside the extraordinary density of Malta, the Netherlands and Belgium are very populated for their size. By contrast, the EU's Scandinavia countries are lightly populated, as are the Baltic states.

In terms of economic structure, the primary sector (agriculture, fishing & forestry) has accounted for a fairly steady 1.6 to 1.7% of EU GDP since 2010. Countries with the largest primary sector include: Romania (4.3) Latvia (4.0), Greece (3.9) and Bulgaria (3.7). For France the level in 2021 was 1.6%. In the same year, manufacturing represented 15% of the Union's GDP. Although Germany has the largest sector in absolute terms, manufacturing was only 18% of GDP in 2021, while Ireland has the largest manufacturing in proportional terms (37%) (World Bank Data).

The EU has 24 official languages: Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish. The EU's three working languages are French, English and German. Since the UK left the EU, English is now the first language (L1) of only 1% of the EU population, although another 43% use it as a second language (L2). German is the L1 of 20% of the EU citizens, and the L2 of 16%. The figures for Frenc are 14% (L1) and 16% (L2). French is also spoken in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg.

France is the most irreligious country of the EU, as according to Eurobarometer figures for 2010, 40% of persons asked said "I do not believe there is any sort of spirit, God or life force". It was followed by the Czech Republic (37%), Sweden (34%) and the Netherlands (30%). The most believing countries tend to be more southern, with 94% of persons surveyed in Malta saying "I believe there is a God", followed by Romania (92%), Cyprus (88%), Poland and Greece (79%) and Italy (74%) (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_the_European_Union).