
# European comparative data on Europe 2020 and persons with disabilities

Labour market, education, poverty and health analysis and trends

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## Labour market, education, poverty and health analysis and trends

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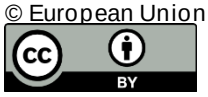



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**Table 1: Synopsis: main indicators for the EU[1] (EU 27: 2017 and afterwards) the data cover persons aged 16+, persons with disabilities (dis.) and total (tot.)%**

| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015[2] | 2016[3] | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dis 16+** | 25.1 | 25.7 | 25.0 | 25.9 | 26.1 | 26.9 | 27.1 | 25.3 | 24.1 | 24.4 | 24.7 | 23.9 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Europe 2020 objectives, achievements and other indicators** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | **2008** | **2009** | **2010** | **2011** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | **2016** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** |
| **Employment:** 75 % of the population, aged 20-64, should be employed | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 46.4 | 46.1 | 46.0 | 46.9 | 47.9 | 48.5 | 48.7 | 47.4 | 48.1 | 50.2 | 50.8 | 51.3 |
| Tot | 68.7 | 67.6 | 67.3 | 67.3 | 67.0 | 66.9 | 67.8 | 68.4 | 69.3 | 69.5 | 70.7 | 71.5 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Unemployment rate (20-64)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 15.9 | 17.3 | 18.0 | 17.4 | 18.1 | 19.0 | 19.6 | 20.2 | 19.6 | 18.4 | 18.6 | 17.3 |
| Tot | 8.4 | 10.2 | 10.9 | 11.2 | 12.2 | 12.9 | 12.6 | 12.1 | 11.4 | 11.1 | 10.1 | 9.5 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Activity rate (20-64)** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 55.1 | 55.8 | 56.1 | 56.7 | 58.5 | 59.8 | 60.6 | 59.5 | 59.7 | 61.5 | 62.4 | 62.0 |
| Tot | 75.0 | 75.2 | 75.5 | 75.8 | 76.3 | 76.8 | 77.5 | 77.8 | 78.2 | 78.1 | 78.7 | 79.0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Early school leavers:** The share of early school leavers should be <10% (Age 18-24). | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 25.1 | 23.0 | 21.6 | 18.9 | 21.8 | 21.5 | 22.5 | 22.0 | 23.6 | 21.5 | 20.3 | 21.8 |
| Tot | 13.2 | 13.1 | 12.7 | 11.6 | 11.2 | 10.7 | 12.2 | 12.5 | 12.0 | 10.5 | 10.6 | 10.6 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Tertiary education:** 40% of persons aged 30-34 ought to have completed a tertiary or equivalent education (Age: 30-34) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 20.4 | 21.6 | 22.8 | 27.1 | 27.8 | 28.0 | *29.7* | *29.4* | *30.3* | *31.7* | *29.4* | *32.5* |
| Tot | 31.6 | 33.9 | 35.5 | 36.0 | 38.1 | 39.3 | 41.2 | 41.6 | 42.2 | 40.8 | 42.3 | 42.5 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Very low work intensity:** Age 16-59. Work intensity (WI): <20. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 23.2 | 22.8 | 24.2 | 24.5 | 23.9 | 24.1 | 25.1 | 25.6 | 25.8 | 23.3 | 22.8 | 22.9 |
| Tot | 9.1[3] | 9.1[3] | 10.2 | 10.4 | 10.8 | 11.2 | 11. | 11.1 | 11.0 | 10.2 | 9.6 | 9.0 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **At risk of poverty after social transfers:** < 60% of the median national. Age 16+ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 20.1 | 19.6 | 18.9 | 19.3 | 19.1 | 18.7 | 19.7 | 20.0 | 20.2 | 20.1 | 20.9 | 21.1 |
| Tot | 15.8 | 15.7 | 15.6 | 16.1 | 16.1 | 15.9 | 16.5 | 16.6 | 16.7 | 16.5 | 16.5 | 16.2 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Severely materially deprived:** Inability to afford min 4 items out of 9. Age 16+ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 11.2 | 10.5 | 11.2 | 12.1 | 12.8 | 12.6 | 12.1 | 11.3 | 10.8 | 10.4 | 9.0 | 8.8 |
| Tot | 8.6 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 8.5 | 9.5 | 9. | 8.6 | 7.7 | 7.3 | 6.9 | 5.8 | 5.5 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **At risk of poverty or exclusion:** Persons at-risk-of-poverty after social transfers, severe material deprivation, or very low work intensity. Age 16+. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis. | 30.9 | 29.7 | 29.6 | 30.5 | 30.3 | 30.1 | 30.1 | 30.2 | 30.1 | 28.9 | 28.6 | 28.4 |
| Tot | 23.3[3] | 22.7[3] | 22.7 | 23.6 | 24.1 | 23.8 | 23.8 | 23.2 | 23.1 | 22.4 | 21.3 | 20.8 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **General health and Unmet medical needs:** Age: 16+ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **General health: Good or Very good** | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis | | | 18.2 | 17.7 | 19.7 | 20.2 | 20.2 | 19.3 | 18.9 | 21.0 | 20.5 | 20.5 |
| Tot | | | 66.8 | 66.7 | 67.3 | 66.5 | 67.2 | 66.8 | 67.5 | 68.9 | 68.6 | 68.5 |
| **Self-reported unmet needs for medical examination.** Age: 16+ | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dis | | | | | 8.2 | 8.4 | 8.2 | 7.5 | 6.0 | 3.9 | 4.0 | 4.0 |
| Tot | | | | | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 1.7 |

1: EU 27 till 2009, EU 28 till 2016. EU 27 for 2017 and latter. Health & Medical needs cover EU 27.

2: The data are not strictly comparable with those of 2014 due to a change of the definition of "activity limitations". Change in definitions concerning education in 2014.

*3: "Tot.": It includes only persons for which we do have information on disability status. However, if ([3]): It includes all persons. The difference between the two is marginal.*

*Source of data: Eurostat & EU-SILC UDB. See the report for more information.*

## INTRODUCTION

The European Union (EU) is strongly committed to ensuring equal opportunities and removing economic and social barriers for people with disabilities, as demonstrated among others by the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), the EU Disability Action Plan 2003-2010 and the multi-annual European Disability Strategy 2010-2020.

The European Commission furthermore aims, and is bound by Article 10 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, to mainstream disability issues into all policies and actions that might affect the lives of people with disabilities, such as the Europe 2020 Strategy and the European Pillar of Social Rights.

European Disability Expertise (EDE) provides independent scientific support to the Commission's policy Unit responsible for disability issues. It aims to mainstream disability equality in EU policy processes, including implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Task 2 aims to collect, analyse and provide independent data, information and analysis on the situation of persons with disabilities. It is important to note here the power of quantitative indicators in convincing people when personal perceptions and past attitudes resist to change. But this requires a high quality of statistical data and related estimates.

### 1. European and international policy context

The UNCRPD is an important guiding tool in the collection of quantitative data, the elaboration of indicators and the analysis of these data.

Article 31 UNCRPD provides that statistical and research data need to be collected to help policy makers to elaborate policies relevant to the Convention. Furthermore, it adds that the proposed quantitative indicators ought to help policy makers monitor and assess the different policies.

As a party to the UNCRPD, the EU has to periodically inform the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities about the measures taken to implement the UN Convention, but also provide statistical indicators on the extent to which the needs of persons with disabilities are met.

### The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The UN General Assembly has adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which includes 17 goals (SDGs) and 169 underlying indicators.[1]

In May 2017, the Commission published the 'EU SDG Indicators set: Indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in an EU context'. This set of indicators includes most of the indicators included in EU 2020 and the Pillar.

[1] http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/development-agenda/.

## Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030

The European Commission in its Communication concerning the: 'Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030' notes that "monitoring the progress in Member States will rely on improved statistical data collection on the situation of persons with disabilities, and information on national policies and practices complementing reporting by the Member States to the dedicated UN Committee. A new dashboard will present progress made in implementing the activities at EU level under this Strategy as well as those in which the Commission calls on Member States for action.[2]

The Strategy highlights the need to "develop a strategy for data collection, steer Member States accordingly and provide an analysis of existing data sources and indicators including administrative data".

## Europe 2020 and Joint Employment Report

In the framework of Europe 2020, the Commission was monitoring the situation in the Member States, each year. To this end, Eurostat, had created quantitative indicators to monitor progress towards the targets notably in the areas of employment, education, poverty and social exclusion.

EDE continues the assessment of the situation of persons with disabilities with respect to the Europe 2020 headline targets on employment, poverty and education, using EU comparative data. The quantitative indicators enable us to identify any gap between persons with and without disabilities and reveal any convergence or divergence in relation to the targets. An increasing gap or divergence ought then to signal the need for new initiatives.

These indicators cover the years from 2010 to 2019 and are not affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

After 2020, we may note the Joint Employment Report. This EU policy document analyses employment and social trends as well as presents the policy responses deployed by Member States to improve the employment and social performance. It also contains the scoreboard of key employment and social indicators.

The Joint Employment Report accompanies the Annual Growth Survey.

[2] European Commission: "Communication from the commission to the European Parliament, the council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions; Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030". European Union, 2021. Furthermore, the Commission notes that the resilience and recovery plans should identify relevant indicators to monitor the contribution of the Facility to the reduction of disparities. The indicators can be chosen among those regularly used to report on cohesion policy as a whole, such as: the unemployment and employment rate, including youth unemployment employment, the EU social scoreboard and indicators on performance of education and training system. (See: Commission Staff Working Document Guidance to Member States Recovery and Resilience Plans Brussels, 22.1.2021 SWD (2021) 12 final part 1/2).
Alert Mechanism Report 2021 (prepared in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1176/2011 on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances) {COM (2020) 745 final}).

## Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy

The European Commission has set out strategic guidance for the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility in its 2021 Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy (ASGS).[3] The Facility is the key recovery instrument at the heart of Next Generation EU which will help the EU emerge stronger and more resilient from the current crisis.

Commission recommendations provide notably that Member States should outline the most important national challenges in terms of gender equality and equal opportunities for all, regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. It notes that everyone has the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, education, and access to goods and services available to the public (principle 3 of the European Pillar of Social Rights).

It adds that Member States should explain how the reforms and investments supported by the plan will be instrumental in overcoming the equality challenges identified, by replying, notably, to the following question: How does the plan ensure respect for the rights of people with disabilities in conformity with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the rights of other disadvantaged and marginalised populations? In this regard, Member States are for example invited to explain how the plan ensures disability (and otherwise) inclusive reforms of education, labour market and health sectors, accessibility of buildings, services and websites as well as transition from institutional to community-based services.

In addition, Member States are invited to disaggregate the data they present by gender, age, disability and racial or ethnic origin wherever possible,[4] in line with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

We may note that in the framework of the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, the Alert Mechanism presents the Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure (MIP) scoreboard indicators.[5] The MIP Scoreboard includes indicators on employment, young people neither in employment nor in education and training, people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, people at risk of poverty after social transfers, severely materially deprived people and people living in households with very low work intensity.

In the framework of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion specified how it will contribute to the Commission priorities.[6] It defined a set

[3] The Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy 2021 (ASGS) was published in September 2020. This frames the context for strategic development in relation to Green transition, Digital transition and Fairness (as well as Macroeconomic stability).
European Commission (2020): Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy 2021, COM(2020) 575 final, https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/?qid=1600708827568&uri=CELEX:52020DC0575.

[4] European Commission: COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT: GUIDANCE TO MEMBER STATES RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLANS; Brussels, 22.1.2021. SWD(2021) 12 final PART 1/2; P. 11, https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/document_travail_service_part1_v2_en.pdf.

[5] European Commission: Commission Staff Working Document, Statistical annex accompanying the document: report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Central Bank and the European Economic and Social Committee, Alert Mechanism Report 2021 (prepared in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1176/2011 on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances); {COM(2020) 745 final}. Brussels, 18.11.2020, https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/16624/9862137/2021_statistical_annex_en.pdf.

[6] European Commission: Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. 12/01/2021, https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/strategic-plan-2020-2024-employment-social-affairs-and-inclusion_en.

of impact indicators which are relevant to the socio-economic field. We may retain the following indicators: digital skills, people at risk of poverty and social exclusion, in work at-risk-of-poverty rate, employment rate of persons aged 20 to 64, young people neither in employment nor in education and training, adult participation in learning and gender employment gap. It also aims to pursue economic and social inclusion for persons with disabilities, free them from discrimination and ensure full respect for their rights in EU.

The DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion notes that developing an action plan to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights is among the priorities.

**European Pillar of Social Rights**

In the light of the wider EU policy context, the EU Disability Policies should also support the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights,[7] notably in relation to equal treatment and inclusion in society of persons with disabilities.

In fact, the Pillar is supported by a scoreboard of key indicators to screen employment and social performances of participating Member States. The scoreboard serves as a reference framework to monitor 'societal progress'. Twelve areas had been selected and a corresponding set of quantitative indicators.

In March 2021, the Commission presented the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan.[8] The Action Plan presents three targets to be achieved by 2030: 1. At least 78 % of the population aged 20 to 64 should be in employment by 2030; 2. At least 60 % of all adults should participate in training every year; 3. The number of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion should be reduced by at least 15 million by 2030.

Together with a revised Social Scoreboard, they will allow the Commission to monitor Member States' progress under the European Semester.

The Porto Declaration (May 2021)[9] endorsed the EU-level 2030 headline targets and confirmed the European Semester as the main tool to monitor progress toward the targets. Also, it welcomed the proposal for a revised Social Scoreboard (taking into account different national circumstances).

Finally, the renewed list of headline indicators has been endorsed by the Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs of the European Union in June 2021.

[7] Commission Staff Working Document: "Social Scoreboard" accompanying the document Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions "Establishing a European Pillar of Social Rights" Brussels, 26.4.2017 SWD (2017) 200 final.

[8] European Commission: "*The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan*"; Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2021.
See: https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/economy-works-people/jobs-growth-and-investment/european-pillar-social-rights/european-pillar-social-rights-action-plan_en.

[9] https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/05/08/the-porto-declaration/.

## 2. Objectives of the study

As noted, in the framework of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion defined a set of impact indicators which are relevant to the socio-economic field.

Furthermore, the resilience and recovery plans[10] ought to identify relevant indicators to monitor the contribution of the Facility to the reduction of disparities. The indicators can be chosen among those regularly used to report on cohesion policy as a whole, such as: the unemployment and employment rate, including youth unemployment employment, the EU social scoreboard and indicators on performance of education and training system.

In addition, the Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure (MIP) scoreboard and auxiliary indicators include notably: employment, long term unemployment rate, unemployment rate, activity rate, youth unemployment rate, young people neither in employment nor in education or training, people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, people at risk of poverty after social transfers, severely materially deprived people and people living in households with very low work intensity. The next harmonised benchmark revisions are planned for 2024.

It is important to assess the situation of persons with disabilities in relation to these quantitative indicators. These quantitative indicators ought to identify any gap between persons with and without disabilities and reveal any convergence or divergence in relation to the targets. An increasing gap or divergence ought to signal the need for new initiatives. At this end, we present and analyse data to understand and illustrate the situation of people with disabilities in Europe.

This statistical analysis could be used as an instrument to monitor the effectiveness of national and European policies, assess the situation of persons with and without disabilities and identify areas where the gap between persons with and without disabilities is decreasing (or increasing).

This report complements previous annual ANED reports on Europe 2020.[11] A Statistical annex and a Methodological annex present respectively the statistical data and the metadata concerning the indicators discussed in this report.

Presentation of the results

The output format for each Europe 2020 and other related indicators includes:

1. Its relevance to EU policy/strategy
2. Methodological issues

[10] 1. Commission Staff Working Document guidance to Member States Recovery and Resilience Plans brussels, 22.1.2021 SWD(2021) 12 final, part 1/2.
2. Commission Staff Working Document, Statistical annex accompanying the document report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Central Bank and the European Economic and Social Committee.
Alert Mechanism Report 2021 (prepared in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1176/2011 on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances) {COM(2020) 745 final}

[11] Following the Commission call for tenders VT/2020/001, the new project European Disability Expertise (EDE) replaced the Academic Network of European Disability Experts (ANED), in 2020. See: https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=624&langId=en&callId=593&furtherCalls=yes.

3. Main findings by Member State
4. Analysis of the evolution since 2005 and
5. Comments on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic

This report presents the analysis of latest available EU-SILC micro-data. They cover 2019 and a detailed description of the EU-SILC survey can be found in the Methodological annex.

The historical data cover the years from 2010 (or earlier) to 2019 and are not affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Concerning labour characteristics, we have chosen the age group 20-64 in order to be close to the relevant Europe 2020 indicators.

In the annex, we present the statistical tables and the metadata.

# PART I: Population of persons with disabilities

## 1 Number of persons with disabilities

### 1.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

Article 31 of the UN Convention on "Statistics and data collection" provides that "1. States Parties undertake to collect appropriate information, including statistical and research data, to enable them to formulate and implement policies to give effect to the present Convention".

The Declaration on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" stipulates that people who are vulnerable must be empowered. Those whose needs are reflected in the Agenda include all children, youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, indigenous peoples, refugees and internally displaced persons and migrants.

The Council of the European Union stressed the commitment of the EU and its Member States to achieve the SDGs by 2030, in the Council conclusions of 20 June 2017. The Council called upon the Commission to carry out detailed regular monitoring of the SDGs at EU level, including where relevant in the context of the European Semester, and to develop a reference indicator framework for this purpose drawing on existing indicators and data provided by the Member States, institutions and international organisations, and accompanied by a qualitative assessment of the progress made.

The European Commission in its Communication concerning the Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 notes that "monitoring the progress in Member States will rely on improved statistical data collection on the situation of persons with disabilities.

The European Commission has set out strategic guidance for the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility in its 2021 Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy (ASGS). Commission recommendations provide notably that Member States should outline the most important national challenges in terms of gender equality and equal opportunities for all, regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

The social dimension of Europe is an important part of a broader debate on the Future of Europe. In this context, the European Pillar of Social Rights aims to build a more inclusive and fairer European Union. The Pillar builds upon 20 key principles. Principle 17 covers "Inclusion of people with disabilities".

The following statistic aims to give an estimation of the number of the target group and its main characteristics.

## 1.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 1.2.1 The definition of persons with disabilities

The EU-SILC survey[12] reports activity limitations. The concept is operationalized by using the Global Activity Limitation Indicator (GALI) for observing limitation in activities people usually do because of one or more health problems.[13]

The data on disability refer to self-evaluation by the respondents of the extent of which they are limited in activities people usually do, because of health problems, for at least the last 6 months. The answer distinguishes: strongly limited, limited and not limited. In the following, we use the general term disability in order to cover both "strongly limited" and "limited".

Eurostat notes[14] that GALI is only one of several ways of measuring disability. Alternative approaches to use the concept of functional limitations (difficulties in seeing, hearing, walking, cognition, self-care and communication) is difficult to implement in nonspecialised surveys. Furthermore, GALI is closer to the EU policy target (participation) and provides several other advantages (enables measuring disability with a single item instrument). Also, GALI has an acceptable reliability.

The EU-SILC survey covers all individuals aged 16 years old and over living in private households. Persons living in collective households and in institutions are generally excluded from the target population. Below, we give an estimation of persons with disabilities in institutions.

For comparison, we may note that the UN Convention states that "persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others".

The EU-SILC definition does not consider any "interactions with barriers" which is the base of modern approaches to disability. However, we may argue that the above definition lies between the two major conceptual models of disability: the medical model which views disability as a feature of the person, directly caused by disease (disability requires medical care) and the social model of disability, which sees disability as a socially created problem and not at all an attribute of an individual (disability demands a political response to correct an unaccommodating physical or social environment).[15]

In a simplified representation running from 'Body Functions' to 'Activity' and to 'Participation', we may advance that the GALI definition focusses on activity (the execution of a task or action by an individual).

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[12] Eurostat: "*Methodological Guidelines and description of EU-SILC Target Variables 2018 operation (Version July 2019)*"; DocSILC065 (2018 operation). Eurostat Directorate F: Social Statistics Unit F-4: Quality of life; European Commission.

[13] Health variables of EU-SILC in: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/en/hlth_silc_01_esms.htm.

[14] European Commission – Eurostat: "Item 4.3: Global Activity Limitation Indicator (GALI) as a core variable"; Directorate F: Social statistics, DSS/2015/Sept/04.3. Meeting of the European Directors of Social Statistics. Luxembourg, 15-17 September 2015.

[15] WHO (2002) "*Towards a Common Language for Functioning, Disability and Health: ICF*"; World Health Organization, Geneva.

A possible improvement of the GALI question might be its extension, in order to take into account, the interaction with barriers. The questionnaire could be adapted as follows: if a person says that he has been "limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do", a question might ask: "Do you consider that a 'reasonable accommodation' may eradicate/decrease: 1. All limitations; 2. Most limitations; 3. Certain limitations; 4. Some limitations; 5. None; 6. Don't know". In specific surveys, focussing notably on employment, education or accessibility, the reference to 'reasonable accommodation' might take more concrete forms.

However, Eurostat has run complementary European surveys where efforts have been developed to include this important dimension. Also, different Eurobarometer surveys[16] included a question on whether a person considers to be part of a minority in terms of disability. This definition is different from the one adopted from the majority of other surveys and does not enable us to make comparisons with these surveys. The results of these surveys were presented in previous ANED reports.

### 1.2.2 Prevalence of disability

In the EU 27, we count about 85 million people with disabilities, aged 16 and over living in private households. However, we ought to interpret this number with caution. First, it includes elderly people with moderate or severe disabilities. Secondly, it ought to be seen as a target for prevention purposes. In fact, this number might indicate potential needs and thus constitute a source of possible future demands for policy action. The distinction below between moderate and severe disability might be more relevant for immediate policy initiatives.

**Table 2: Persons with disabilities living in private households in the EU, aged 16+, 2019**

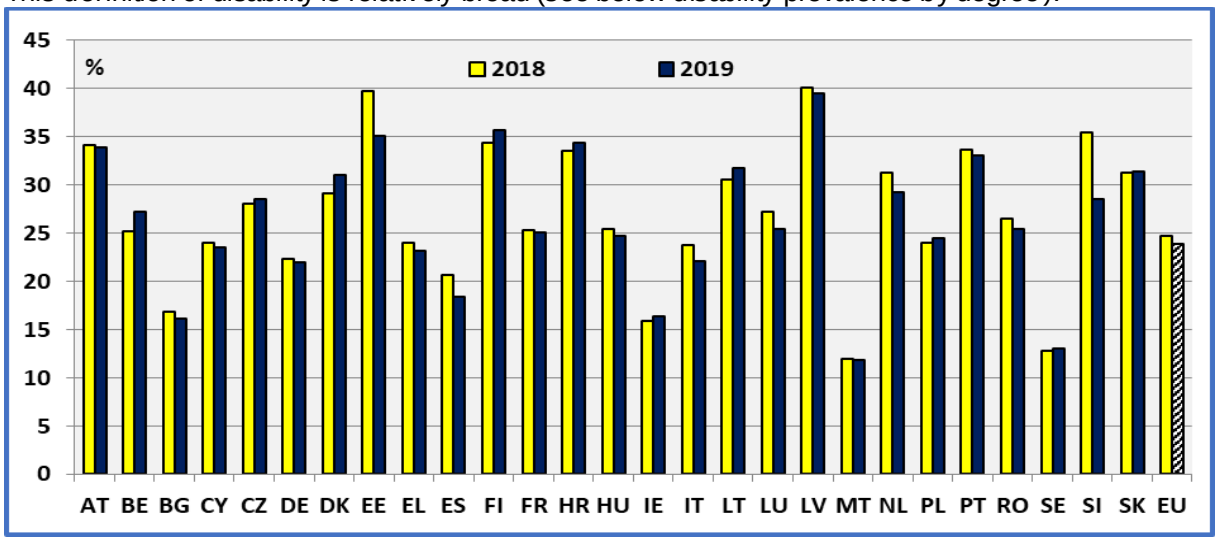
| | Persons without disabilities | Persons with disabilities | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Number in Millions (1 000 000) | | |
| **Total** | 269.6 | 84.6 | 354.2 |
| **Men** | 133.3 | 36.9 | 170.2 |
| **Women** | 136.3 | 47.6 | 184.0 |
| | | | |
| | Percent (%) | | |
| **Total** | 76.1 | 23.9 | 100 |
| **Men** | 78.3 | 21.7 | 100 |
| **Women** | 74.1 | 25.9 | 100 |

Note: This definition of disability is relatively broad (see below disability prevalence by degree). It excludes persons with disabilities in institutions. In previous reports, we analysed the implications of a disability duration of more than one year. This led to a significantly lower disability rate.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB release 1, 2021.*

[16] Eurobarometer 83.4: "*Special Eurobarometer on discrimination 436 & 437 - Basic Bilingual Questionnaire*"; TNS Opinion, May-June 2015 ZA 6595 / ICPSR.

In the EU 27, in 2019, about 23.9 %[17] (24.7 % in 2018) of persons aged 16 and over declared a disability (activity limitation). For comparison, 26 % of adults in the United States have some type of disability.[18]

**Figure 1: Percent of persons with disabilities by Member State; 2018 and 2019**
As a % of the same age group; age: 16+.
This definition of disability is relatively broad (see below disability prevalence by degree).




Note: Changes in Estonia and Slovenia ought to be treated with care due to a relatively small sample. EU refers to 27 Member States. Disability is proxied by limitation in activities people usually do because of health problems. The supporting data are presented in the Annex (Statistical Tables).
*Data source: Year 2018: Eurostat and Year 2019: EU-SILC UDB release 1, 2021.*

The EU-SILC ad hoc module 2017 indicates that the disability prevalence among persons aged less than 16 years, in the EU 27, was 4.0 %. This can be decomposed as follows: 0.8 % with a severe disability (limitations) and 3.2 % with a moderate disability (limited but not severely).[19]

In a recent report,[20] we estimated that more than one million persons with disabilities aged less than 65, live in institutions, in the EU 27. Concerning the age group 65 and over, more than two million persons with disabilities live in institutions (including retirement homes).

Persons with disabilities living in institutions (in a wide sense) represent about 0.8 % of the total population of the EU 27.

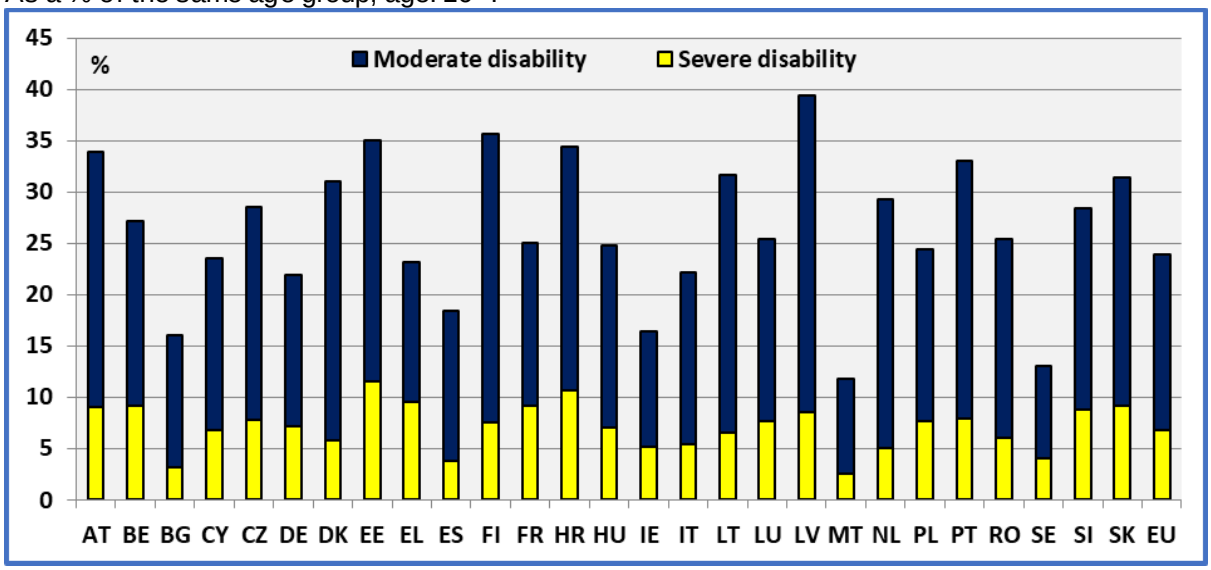
### 1.2.3 Degree of disability

In the EU 27, about 6.8 % of persons aged 16 and over declare a severe disability (strongly limited). About 17.1 % declare a moderate disability. This amounts to 60.4 million persons with a moderate disability aged 16 and over living in private households and 24.1 million with a severe disability.

[17] The confidence interval at 95 % is 23.7 % – 24.1 %.
[18] CDC: Disability Impacts; https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/documents/disabilities_impacts_all_of_us.pdf. urostat: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Health_statistics_-_children&oldid=508000.
[20] S. Grammenos (2021), "COVID-19 and persons with disabilities: Statistics on Health, Care, Isolation and Networking", European Disability Expertise, forthcoming.

**Figure 2: Percent of people with disabilities by Member State and degree of disability; 2019**

As a % of the same age group; age: 16+.




Note: EU covers 27 Member States.

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

Concerning the degree of disability, we may note that the variation of the percentages covering severe disability, across Member States in a given year, is smaller compared to the variation of moderate disability prevalence.[21]

### 1.2.4 Population of persons with disabilities by degree and age group

The EU SILC survey covers 353.5 million people, aged 16 and over, living in private households, in the EU 27.

In the age group 16-64, there are about 32.6 million persons with moderate disabilities and 11.3 million with severe disabilities.

In the age group 65 and over, there are about 27.8 million people with moderate disabilities and 12.8 million with severe disabilities.

**Table 3: Persons with disabilities by degree of disability and age group in the EU, 2019**

| | Persons without disabilities | Persons with moderate disabilities | Persons with Severe disabilities | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Number in Millions (1 000 000) | | | |
| **Total 16+** | 269.0 | 60.4 | 24.1 | 353.5 |
| **Age: 16-64** | 221.9 | 32.6 | 11.3 | 265.8 |
| **Age: 65+** | 47.1 | 27.8 | 12.8 | 87.7 |
| | Percent (%) | | | |
| **Total 16+** | 76.1 | 17.1 | 6.8 | 100 |
| **Age: 16-64** | 83.5 | 12.3 | 4.3 | 100 |
| **Age: 65+** | 53.7 | 31.7 | 14.6 | 100 |

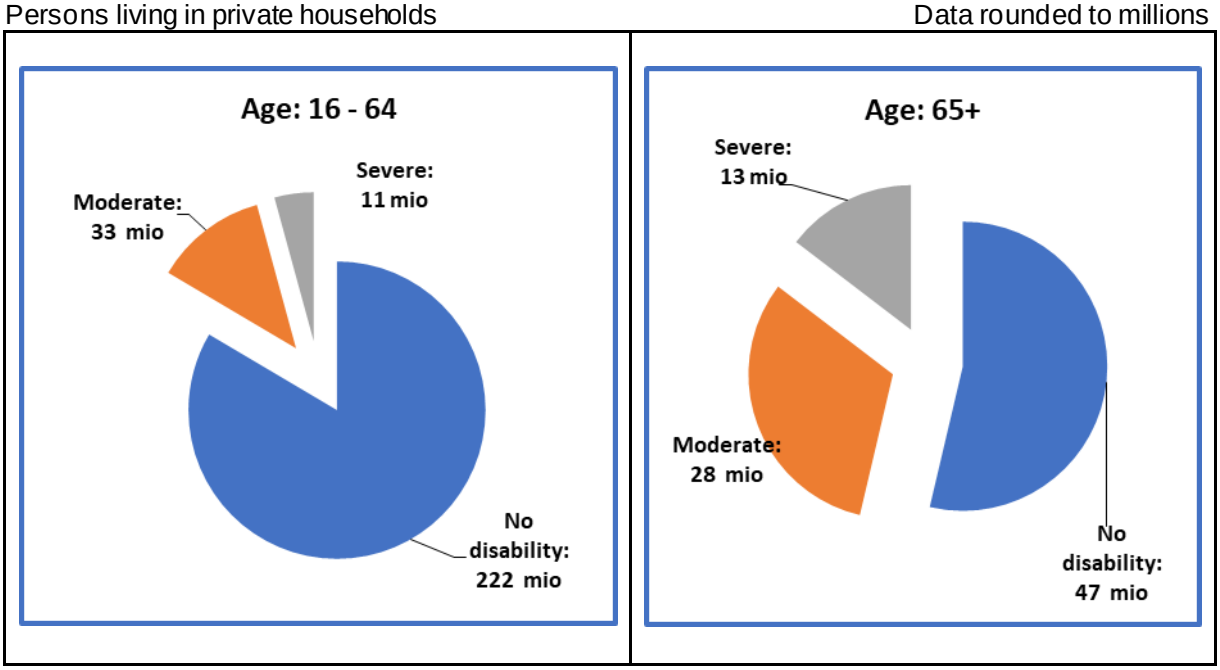
[21] The standard error of national severe disability rates is 2.3 compared to 5.7 of national moderate disability rates.

Note: Persons living in private households. The data have not been adjusted for missing values.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

The following graph presents the distribution by degree and age group of the number of persons with disabilities aged 16 and over living in private households.

**Figure 3: Population of persons with disabilities by degree of disability and age group, EU 2019**

Persons living in private households Data rounded to millions




Note: EU covers 27 Member States.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

Among people with disabilities, elderly disabled people represent 48.1% of all people with disabilities (aged 16 and over living in private households).

### 1.2.5 Evolution of disability prevalence

Disability prevalence varies sharply across Member States but at the EU level, the variation across time is relatively small. We may observe a small increasing trend since 2005 and an acceleration following the financial crisis of 2008-2009. The decrease in 2015 and 2016 is mainly the result of changes concerning the definition of disability in a certain number of Member States, notably in Germany and latter in Italy.

From 2016 to 2019, we may note a variation in the total rate which is mainly the result of changes in the rate of people with moderate disabilities. This later rate is more volatile compared to severe disability.

Generally, one could expect a decreasing trend due to technical progress in the medium and long term. However, the rates reported here are crude rates and are not standardised by a reference age-structure of the population. Consequently, an increasing trend reflects at least partly an ageing population. This latter factor dominates any technological and medical innovation. This issue was discussed in previous ANED reports.

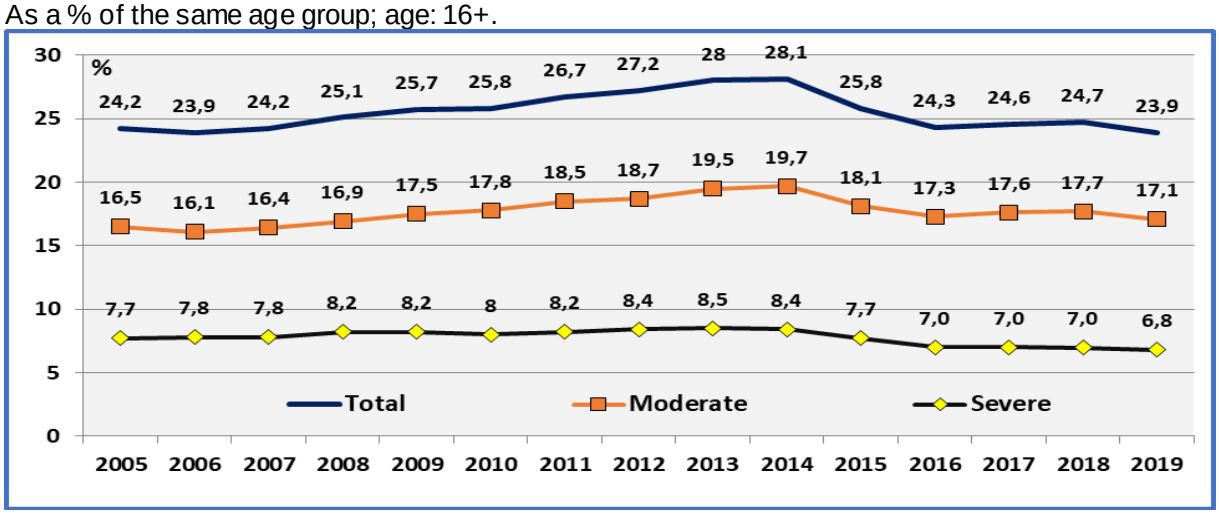
Another factor which might have affected disability prevalence might be the socio-economic deterioration following a financial crisis, notably in 2008/2009. The economic deterioration might have affected adversely living conditions and health. In fact, the economic crisis may affect morbidity and chronic illness notably through direct effects (it might increase stress), income effects (malnutrition and unmet medical needs), education and lifestyle effects (risky behaviours) and social capital (isolation and reduction of external resources).

The duration of an economic crisis might be a significant factor, turning temporary health problems into a permanent disadvantage. In the medium term and with an average lag of two years this might lead to an increased disability rate. This might be notably true for older workers and elderly people who are more vulnerable compared to younger people. This issue was discussed in previous reports.

COVID-19 might affect disability prevalence through different channels (see below). We might expect an increasing disability prevalence in the coming years.

**Figure 4: Evolution of disability prevalence. Percent of people with disabilities by degree. EU 27**

As a % of the same age group; age: 16+.




Note: The decrease in 2015 and 2016 is mainly the result of changes concerning the definition of disability in a certain number of Member States, notably in Germany and Italy. Data for 2005-2009 cover EU 28.

*Data source: Eurostat & EU SILC UDB 2019 release 1, 2021.*

### 1.2.6 COVID-19 and persons with disabilities

COVID-19 might affect persons with disabilities through different channels. One expected effect is to increase the number of persons with disabilities.

COVID-19 may become a chronic illness and generate long lasting health effects. Persistent health problems were reported following acute COVID-19 disease including respiratory symptoms and conditions, cardiovascular symptoms & disease, mental

health, fatigue, liver & kidney dysfunction, etc.[22] [23] These chronic illnesses might lead to activity limitations and disabilities.[24]

Furthermore, an economic deterioration following the lock down might affect adversely living conditions and health. Poverty and unemployment might affect morbidity and chronic illness notably through direct effects (it might increase stress), income effects (malnutrition and unmet medical needs), education (lifestyles: risky behaviours) and social capital (isolation and reduction of external resources). These indirect channels might increase disability prevalence with a lag of about two years.

Indirect effects might stem from saturation of hospitals and the health care system. The most recent studies show that there is a disruption in healthcare services (including non-communicable diseases diagnosis and treatments).[25] A saturation of hospitals and the postponement of cases non-related to COVID-19 may have an indirect detrimental impact on the health of persons with disabilities. In fact, the rate of persons with disabilities who use health care services is higher compared to persons without disabilities. This is partly due to a higher comorbidity by persons with disabilities. This means that a postponement of medical care might have serious negative impact on the health of persons with disabilities. WHO notes that it is critical to maintain preventive and curative services, especially for the most vulnerable populations, e.g. people living with disabilities.

Elderly people face a higher risk of experiencing severe hospitalisations or dying from COVID-19. The risk of hospitalisation and death increases sharply with age.[26] [27] [28]

Analysis of disability prevalence by age indicates that disability prevalence is increasing with age and that persons with disabilities represent a high share among elderly people.

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22 Public Health England: "*Guidance COVID-19: long-term health effects*"; Published 7 September 2020. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-long-term-health-effects/covid-19-long-term-health-effects.

23 Tae Chung, Megan Hosey Mastalerz, Amanda Kole Morrow, Arun Venkatesan, Emily Pfeil Brigham: "COVID 'Long Haulers': Long-Term Effects of COVID-19"; Johns Hopkins Medicine; Published April 1, 2021. https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/covid-long-haulers-long-term-effects-of-covid19.

24 Lisa Du: "*Prognosis, Virus Survivors Could Suffer Severe Health Effects for Years*"; 12 May 2020 https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-05-12/covid-19-s-health-effects-can-last-long-after-virus-is-gone.

25 UN News: "COVID-19 impact on treatment for chronic illness revealed", 4 September 2020; Health. In https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/09/1071732.
ECDC: "*COVID-19 surveillance report"*, Week 51, 2020; This report provides an overview of the COVID-19 epidemiology in the EU/EEA and the UK using the available data compiled from multiple sources. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC): https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/surveillance/weekly-surveillance-report.

27 Sciensano: https://covid-19.sciensano.be/sites/default/files/Covid19/COVID-19_fact_sheet_ENG.pdf.

28 1. Santé publique France ; COVID-19 : Point épidémiologique hebdomadaire du 17 septembre 2020;
https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/content/download/281989/document_file/COVID19_PE_20200917.pdf;
2. Anaïs Thiébaux, 18/09/20:
https://sante.journaldesfemmes.fr/fiches-maladies/2622115-victimes-coronavirus-covid-france-age-deces-hospitalisation-reanimation-mortalite-departement-homme-femme-chiffres-jeunes/#coronavirus-maladie-comorbidite-facteur-risque.

In summary, severity of COVID-19 is associated, notably, with increased age and pre-existing medical conditions. Underlying health conditions reported among adult patients with severe COVID-19 disease include diabetes, obesity, hypertension, history of heart failure, ischaemic heart disease, solid organ tumours, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), chronic respiratory disease, etc.[29] Studies in Belgium,[30] France[31] and the USA[32] deliver similar conclusions.

According to European Health Interview Survey 2013-2015 (EHIS wave 2), in the EU 27, about 31.3 % of persons with disabilities report high blood pressure (hypertension), 31.6 % report a neck disorder and 43.4 % report a low back disorder. The corresponding rates for persons without disabilities are 20.2 % (blood pressure), 14.0 % (neck) and 18.3 % (back). Persons with disabilities face a higher risk of comorbidities and that for important health conditions, they are overrepresented in these diseases/conditions. This means that persons with disabilities face a higher risk in relation to COVID-19 compared to persons without disabilities.

Mental health is another important dimension. The Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) organised between June and August 2020, covering persons aged 50 and more, indicates that, in the EU 25 countries covered, about 28.7 % of those who were depressed, declared a deterioration since the outbreak of the pandemic.[33] Similar results are reported in France, for the period end September and end November 2020.[34]

The list of underlying conditions is meant to inform health professionals to target groups at high risk and provide them with the best care possible, and to inform health policy makers in order to elaborate actions about illness prevention.

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) notes that residents of long-term care facilities face an elevated risk of severe disease and death due to COVID-19.[35] In fact, they often belong to older age groups and may be frail, with chronic comorbidities.[36] It adds that residents of long-term care facilities are more liable

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[29] ECDC: Risk factors and risk groups; Latest update 26 April 2021, https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/latest-evidence/risk-factors-risk-groups.

[30] Sciensano: FACT SHEET: COVID-19 disease (SARS-CoV-2 virus); 21 SEPTEMBER 2020, VERSION 6,

[31] Santé publique France ; COVID-19 : Point épidémiologique hebdomadaire du 17 septembre 2020; https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/content/download/281989/document_file/COVID19_PE_20200917.pdf.

[32] LINDSEY TANNER: "*Coronavirus Death Rate is Higher for Those with Chronic Illnesses*", https://www.jems.com/2020/06/16/coronavirus-death-rate-is-higher-for-those-with-chronic-illnesses/.

[33] Börsch-Supan, A. (2020). Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) Wave 8. COVID-19 Survey 1. Release version: 0.0.1. Data collected between June and August 2020. The EU countries covered are Germany, Sweden, Netherlands, Spain, Italy, France, Denmark, Greece, Belgium, Czechia, Poland, Luxembourg, Hungary, Portugal, Slovenia, Estonia, Croatia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, Latvia, Malta, Romania and Slovakia.

[34] Santé publique France. COVID-19 : Point épidémiologique hebdomadaire du 17 décembre 2020, https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/maladies-et-traumatismes/maladies-et-infections-respiratoires/infection-a-coronavirus/documents/bulletin-national/covid-19-point-epidemiologique-du-17-decembre-2020.

ECDC: Residents of long-term care facilities and nursing homes; last update 14 Nov 2020, https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/latest-evidence/risk-factors-risk-groups.

ECDC Public Health Emergency Team, Danis Kostas, Fonteneau Laure, Georges Scarlett, Daniau Côme, Bernard-Stoecklin Sibylle, Domegan Lisa, O'Donnell Joan, Hauge Siri Helene, Dequeker Sara, Vandael Eline, Van der Heyden Johan, Renard Françoise, Sierra Natalia Bustos, Ricchizzi Enrico, Schweickert Birgitta, Schmidt Nicole, Abu Sin Muna, Eckmanns Tim, Paiva José-Artur,

to suffer from the consequences of the measures imposed (feelings of loneliness), while being less able to comply with them due to their living conditions. Taking into account several EU countries, deaths among residents accounted for about 47 % of all COVID-19-related deaths, in May 2020.

We may note that more than one million persons with disabilities aged less than 65, live in institutions, in the EU 27.[37] Concerning the age group 65 and over, more than two million persons with disabilities live in institutions (including retirement homes). Persons with disabilities living in institutions (in a wide sense) represent about 0.8 % of the total population of the EU 27. This rate varies with age.

Concerning elderly residents of long-term care facilities and nursing homes, the ECDC indicated that a high proportion of long-term care facilities and nursing homes across Europe and the world had been severely affected by COVID-19. They reported a high morbidity and mortality in residents due to SARS-CoV-2 infections.[38] [39]

Persons in institutions include an important number of persons with disabilities. This means that persons with disabilities in institutions constitute a group which needs special attention concerning prevention measures.

We may note that people reported experiencing long COVID following infection. In most cases, these long COVID symptoms were adversely affecting the day-to-day activities. The prevalence rates of self-reported long COVID were greatest, notably, in people living in the most deprived areas, those working in health or social care, and those with a pre-existing, activity-limiting health condition.[40]

Schneider Elke. High impact of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities, suggestion for monitoring in the EU/EEA, May 2020. Euro Surveill. 2020;25(22):pii=2000956, https://doi.org/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2020.25.22.2000956.

37 S. Grammenos (2021) “COVID-19 and persons with disabilities: Statistics on Health, Care, Isolation and Networking”, European Disability Expertise (EDE), forthcoming.

38 ECDC, Epidemiology of COVID-19; update 15 July 2020, https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/latest-evidence/epidemiology.

39 Santé publique France ; COVID-19 : Point épidémiologique hebdomadaire du 17 septembre 2020; https://www.santepubliquefrance.fr/content/download/281989/document_file/COVID19_PE_20200917.pdf.

40 Long COVID are symptoms persisting more than four weeks after the first suspected coronavirus (COVID-19) episode that are not explained by something else. This analysis was based on data from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey (CIS), run by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). See: “Prevalence of ongoing symptoms following coronavirus (COVID-19) infection in the UK; Estimates of the prevalence of self-reported "long COVID", and the duration of ongoing symptoms following confirmed coronavirus infection, using UK Coronavirus (COVID-19) Infection Survey data to 6 March 2021”. Statistical bulletin, 1 April 2021, https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/conditionsanddiseases/bulletins/prevalenceofongoingsymptomsfollowingcoronaviruscovid19infectionintheuk/1april2021.

# PART II: Labour Market Indicators

## 2 Employment rate

### 2.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

Article 27 of the UN Convention treats "Work and employment". It provides notably that "States Parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to work, on an equal basis with others; this includes the right to the opportunity to gain a living by work freely chosen or accepted in a labour market and work environment that is open, inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities".

On 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted a Resolution on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". Goal 8 recognises the importance of sustained economic growth and high levels of economic productivity for the creation of well-paid quality jobs and more efficient production. It calls for providing opportunities for full employment and decent work for all. Decent employment for all, including women, people with disabilities, youth, the elderly and migrants, is crucial for improving the wellbeing of society as a whole.

The European Pillar of Social Rights under "Equal opportunities" provides that regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, everyone has the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, etc.

The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan[41] proposes a renewed list of headline indicators. It includes the disability employment gap (in percentage points) as a headline indicator measuring progress in social protection and inclusion. As noted, the renewed list of headline indicators was endorsed by the Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs of the European Union in June 2021.

The Europe 2020 Strategy had adopted several headline targets, including an employment target (that 75 % of the population aged 20 to 64 years are in employment by 2020). The Employment Committee (EMCO) and Social Protection Committee (SPC) notes that setting targets serve as an effective tool for monitoring the progress achieved against the employment and social objectives of Europe 2020. The Committees consider that the future EU employment rate target could be adapted in order to take into account the quality of jobs as well as their availability.[42]

The European Commission in its Communication concerning the Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 notes that participation in employment is the best way to ensure economic autonomy and social inclusion. It adds that monitoring the progress in Member States will rely on improved statistical data collection on the situation of persons with disabilities.

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See European Commission - Eurostat: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/european-pillar-of-social-rights/indicators/social-scoreboard-indicators.
Detailed annual data can be extracted from Eurostat's website: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tepsr_sp200/default/table?lang=en.
European Commission: "*Assessment of the Europe 2020 Strategy: Joint report of the Employment Committee (EMCO) and Social Protection Committee (SPC)*"; European Commission Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Union 2019.

The European Commission has set out strategic guidance for the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility in its 2021 Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy (ASGS). Commission recommendations[43] provide notably that Member States should outline the most important national challenges in terms of gender equality and equal opportunities for all, regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. It notes that everyone has the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, education, and access to goods and services available to the public (principle 3 of the European Pillar of Social Rights)

## 2.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 2.2.1 Interpreting the EU-SILC data

Eurostat is using the Labour Force Survey in order to assess the employment rate in the Member States. But the LFS survey does not provide information on disability status (although a small number of national LFS questionnaires do collect this data). Consequently, we have to use the EU-SILC survey.

However, the Commission adopted a new Regulation[44] concerning the Labour Force Survey in which GALI is included. This Regulation shall apply from 1 January 2021. The Regulation provides that the LFS questionnaire will include the Minimum European Health Module (MEHM). The MEHM is a set of three general questions characterizing three different concepts of health: a) Self-perceived health, b) Chronic morbidity and c) Activity limitations (GALI).

Consequently, for 2019, we will use the only available data of EU-SILC. In order to facilitate comparisons among the two surveys, we have to note that the EU-SILC uses an employment rate which is based on self-defined status while the LFS survey uses the ILO definition.

As noted in previous reports, the LFS presents always a higher employment rate compared to the EU-SILC, but the evolution is strongly correlated. Also, in these reports, we have analysed and explained this difference between the two surveys. This difference amounts to about 1.5 percentage points, for EU 28, since 2009.

An important difference between the two surveys originates from the definition of an employed person. The LFS uses the ILO definition according to which employed persons are persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week performed work, even for just one hour a week. In the EU-SILC, certain persons having worked just one hour, in the reference week, might probably declare unemployed.

It is important to note that the LFS survey includes, also, a question on main economic status similar to the one used in the EU-SILC survey. The two surveys deliver identical

[43] European Commission: Commission staff working document "Guidance to Member States - Recovery and Resilience Plans", SWD(2021) 12 final part 1/2. Brussels, 22.1.2021, https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/document_travail_service_part1_v2_en.pdf.

[44] Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2240 of 16 December 2019 *specifying the technical items of the data set, establishing the technical formats for transmission of information and specifying the detailed arrangements and content of the quality reports on the organisation of a sample survey in the labour force domain in accordance with Regulation* (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council; Official Journal of the European Union 30.12.2019 L 336/59.

results for the same question. But, as noted, Eurostat uses the ILO definition for the elaboration and monitoring of Europe 2020 headline indicator for employment and this information is not provided by the EU-SILC survey.

The above comments do not raise questions concerning the statistical robustness of the estimations as the two surveys provide coherent and consistent estimates across countries and through time for a given definition of the employment rate.

In the EU 27, in 2019, the EU-SILC provides an employment rate for all persons aged 20-64 of 71.5 %. The LFS survey gives an estimate of 71.4 % based on the same definition.[45] However, the ILO definition provides 73.1 %.

As noted in previous reports, we can use the national LFS estimates to measure the gap between the EU 2020 target and current achievement. On the other hand, we can use the EU-SILC data, in order to assess the gap between persons with and without disabilities.

### 2.2.2 General comments

In the following, we discuss the EU-SILC estimations for persons with and without disabilities.

At the European level, about 51.3 % of persons with disabilities are employed compared to 75.6 % of persons without disabilities. The employment rate for all persons aged 20-64 is 71.4 %.[46]

At the EU 27 level. about 22.0 million persons with disabilities (aged 20-64) are employed out of 42.8 million disabled persons in the same age group.

**Table 4: Employment by disability status (age 20-64), EU, 2019**

| | Not Employed | Employed | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1 000 000** | | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 50.7 | 157.1 | 207.7 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 20.9 | 22.0 | 42.8 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | 71.5 | 179.0 | 250.6 |
| | | | |
| **%** | | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 24.4 | 75.6 | 100 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 48.7 | 51.3 | 100 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | 28.5 | 71.4 | 100 |

Note: For comparison, the LFS gives 191.5 million people, aged 20-64, employed in the EU 27. This compares with 179.0 million, aged 20-64, in the table. As noted in the text, the LFS presents always a higher employment rate compared to EU-SILC. Data extracted on 18/05/2021 from [ESTAT] https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/
The data have not been adjusted for missing values.
*Data source: EU-SILC 2019.*

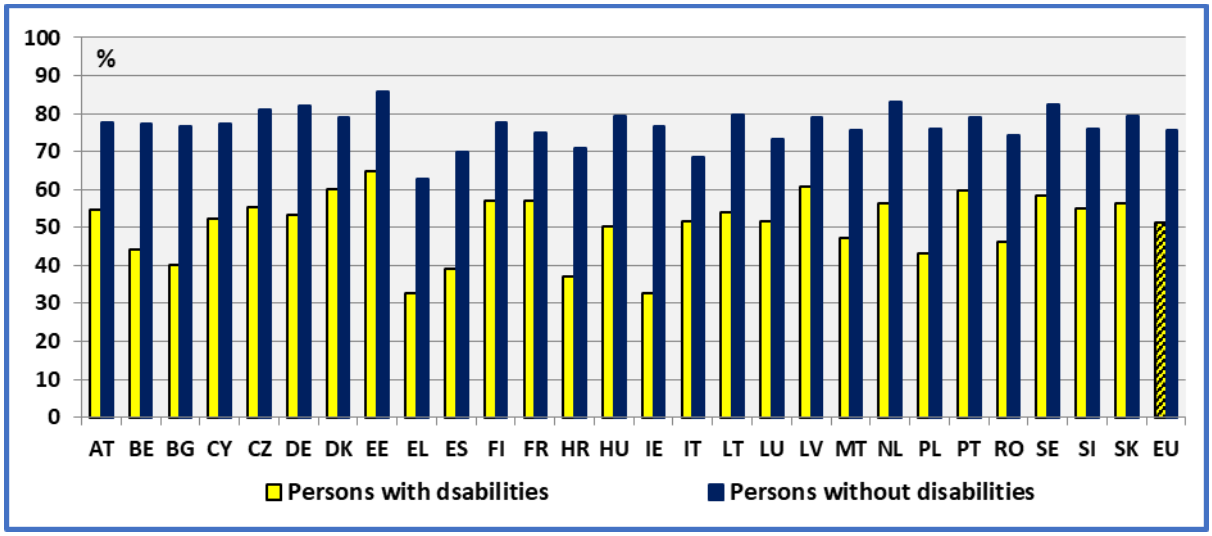
[45] Labour Force Survey (LFS) 2019, version 1, release 2020.
[46] There is a difference due to missing values concerning the disability status and rounding errors.

According to EU-SILC estimations, the employment rate of people with disabilities is very low in Ireland, Greece and Croatia.

On the contrary, this same rate is relatively high in Denmark, Latvia and Estonia. A similar ranking was found in previous year.

We may note that countries with similar employment rates for non-disabled people present big and persistent differences for people with disabilities. This means that there is a potential for increasing the employment rate of people with disabilities.

**Figure 5: Employment rate by disability status and Member State (age 20-64), 2019**



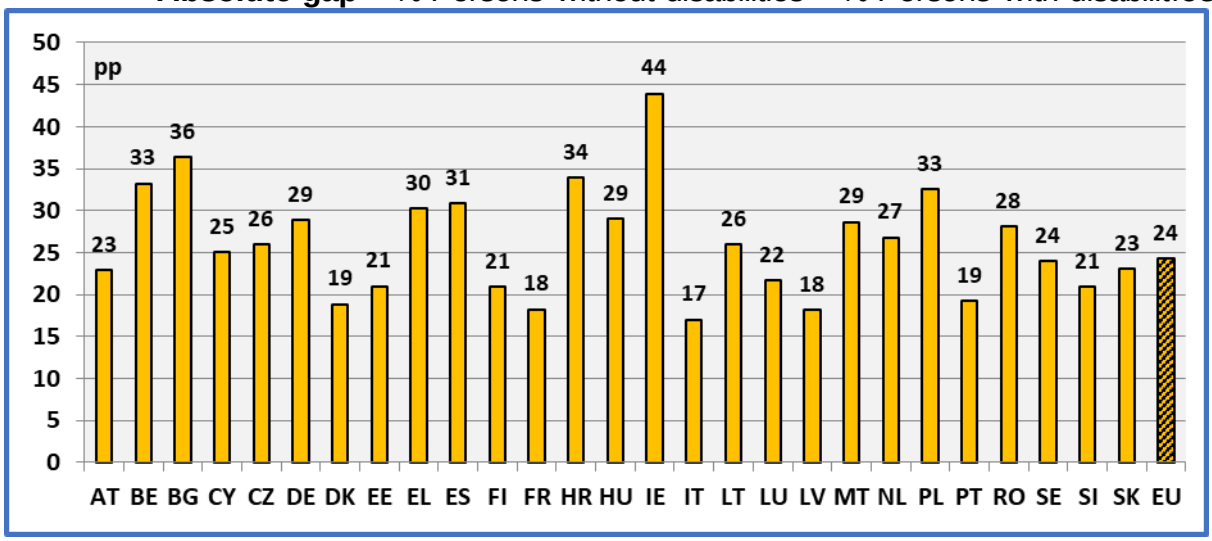

Note: The gaps between targets and achievements are indicative. As explained in the text, the data here do not use the ILO definition of employment rate.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

In the EU 27, in 2019, the employment rate of people with disabilities is about 24.3 percentage points lower compared to people without disabilities. The relative difference is 32.2 %.[47]

As noted, the revised social scoreboard includes the disability employment gap as a headline indicator. It ought to help monitor the situation of persons with disabilities in the EU. We observe an employment gap in all Member States (see Figure below). The highest employment gap can be found in Croatia (34 pp), Bulgaria (37 pp) and Ireland (44 pp). On the other side, the lowest employment gaps can be found in Italy (17 pp), Latvia (18 pp) and France (18 pp).

[47] Relative difference = 100*(% Persons without disabilities – % Persons with disabilities) / (% Persons without disabilities).

**Figure 6: The employment gap between persons with and without disabilities (age 20-64), 2019, expressed in percentage points (pp)**
**Absolute gap** = % Persons without disabilities - % Persons with disabilities




Note: The data are rounded for the clarity of comparison.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

In the EU 27, about 49.0 % of women with disabilities, aged 20-64, are employed compared to 53.9 % of men with disabilities of the same age group. We may observe a cumulation of disadvantages: gender (gap between men with disabilities and women with disabilities: 4.9 pp) and disability (gap between women with and without disabilities: 20.3 pp).

For information, a cumulation of disadvantage arises also in the case of migrants with disabilities. In the EU 27, the employment rate of persons with disabilities born in the country of interview is 51.7 %, compared to 47.0 % of persons with disabilities born in a non-EU country.[48] The relatively small sample of persons with disabilities born outside the EU does not permit further analysis.

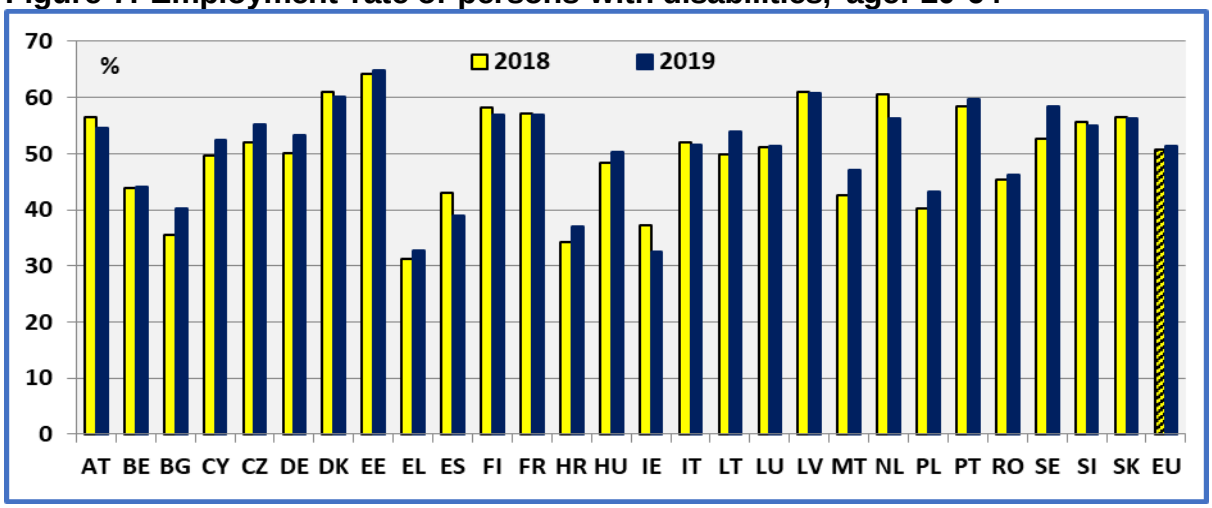
Concerning the degree of disability, the employment rates of persons aged 20-64, in the EU, are 29.8 % for persons with severe disabilities, 58.8 % for persons with moderate disabilities and 75.6 % for persons without disabilities.

### 2.2.3 Evolution of employment in the Member States

The big majority of Member States experienced an increase of the employment rate of persons with disabilities between 2018 and 2019.

[48] The data distinguish persons born in the country where the interview takes place, persons born in another EU Member State and persons born outside the EU.

**Figure 7: Employment rate of persons with disabilities, age: 20-64**




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

### 2.2.4 Distribution of employment by occupation

The EU-SILC survey presents information on occupation held by persons with and without disabilities.[49] In the following table, this variable refers to the main job, namely the current main job for people at work. Latest available data by disability status refer to 2019. On the other hand, the LFS survey presents information on the employment change between 2019 Q4 and 2020 Q4 by occupation.

In accordance with previous estimations, the following table indicates a decrease of employment between 2019 (fourth quarter) and 2020 (fourth quarter).

We may note that persons with disabilities are underrepresented in the occupation 'professionals' which has experienced the highest expansion in employment.

On the other hand, persons with disabilities are overrepresented in the occupation 'services and sales workers' which experienced the highest decrease in employment. Furthermore, they are overrepresented in elementary occupations which experienced an important decrease too.

Globally, one might expect a relative deterioration of the employment of persons with disabilities in comparison to persons without disabilities. However, this might be counterbalanced by active labour policies.

**Table 5: Distribution of employment by occupation and disability status, age: 20-64, EU**

| | | Disability | | Total | Change 2019Q4-2020Q4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | No | Yes | | |
| | Occupation | EU-SILC 2019 | | | LFS |
| | | % | | | |
| 1 | Managers | 5.0 | 3.7 | 4.8 | -3.4 |
| 2 | Professionals | 21.0 | 17.2 | 20.5 | 7.0 |

[49] The EU-SILC Regulation refers to the classification ISCO-88. ISCO stands for International Standard Classification of Occupations.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Technicians and Associate Professionals | 17.7 | 16.1 | 17.5 | -4.4 |
| 4 | Clerical Support Workers | 10.0 | 10.1 | 10.1 | 0.0 |
| 5 | Services and Sales Workers | 15.7 | 17.2 | 15.9 | -8.3 |
| 6 | Skilled Agricultural, Forestry and Fishery Workers | 3.3 | 3.9 | 3.3 | -2.4 |
| 7 | Craft and Related Trades Workers | 11.3 | 11.6 | 11.3 | -4.8 |
| 8 | Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers | 8.3 | 9.2 | 8.4 | -4.8 |
| 9 | Elementary Occupations | 7.7 | 11.2 | 8.1 | -6.6 |
| | | | | | |
| | Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | -1.5 |

Note: The distribution by occupation and disability is based on EU-SILC 2019. The change refers to the fourth quarter of 2019 and the fourth quarter of 2020 and is based on quarterly LFS data. Armed forces have been deleted.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 and ESTAT (LFS).*

### 2.2.5 Distribution of employment by economic sector

The EU-SILC survey presents information on the economic activity of the local unit of the main job for respondents who are currently at work (this variable refers to the main job).[50] Latest available data by disability status refer to 2019. On the other hand, the LFS survey presents information on the employment change between 2019 Q4 and 2020 Q4 by economic sector.

The following table provides mixed results.

Concerning sectors which experienced an increase in employment, persons with disabilities are overrepresented in the 'public sector' and in 'education' but they are underrepresented in 'Information and Communication'. This might mean a relative improvement.

Furthermore, persons with disabilities are underrepresented in the economic sector 'Accommodation and Food Service' which experienced the bigger decrease in employment. But there are significant differences across Member States.

On the other hand, persons with disabilities are overrepresented in 'Human Health and Social work' which experienced a decrease in employment. This sector employs an important share of persons with disabilities.

[50] The EU-SILC uses the NACE Rev.2 classification. NACE is the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities. NACE stands for "nomenclature statistique des activités économiques dans la Communauté européenne".

**Table 6: Distribution of employment by economic activity and disability status, age: 20-64, EU**

| | | Disability | | Total | Change 2019Q4-2020Q4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | No | Yes | | |
| | Activity | EU-SILC 2019 | | | LFS |
| Code | | % | | | |
| a | Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 4.2 | 4.7 | 4.3 | -2.4 |
| b-e | Manufacturing, mining, electricity & water | 18.6 | 17.9 | 18.5 | -0.9 |
| f | Construction | 6.7 | 6.5 | 6.6 | -3.4 |
| g | Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles | 13.7 | 11.9 | 13.5 | -3.8 |
| h | Transportation and Storage | 5.6 | 5.2 | 5.5 | -5.0 |
| i | Accommodation and Food Service | 4.2 | 3.4 | 4.1 | -18.4 |
| j | Information and Communication | 3.4 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 10.4 |
| k | Financial and Insurance | 3.2 | 2.2 | 3.0 | 2.7 |
| l-n | Professional, Scientific, real estate, administrative | 9.7 | 9.5 | 9.7 | -3.3 |
| o | Public Administration and Defence; Social Security | 7.8 | 8.8 | 7.9 | 5.3 |
| p | Education | 7.5 | 7.7 | 7.6 | 3.3 |
| q | Human Health and Social work | 10.8 | 14.5 | 11.3 | -1.2 |
| r-u | Arts, Entertainment, other service activities, etc. | 4.6 | 5.0 | 4.7 | -3.4 |
| | | | | | |
| | Total | 100 | 100 | 100 | -1.5 |

Note: The distribution by economic activity and disability is based on EU-SILC 2019. The change refers to the fourth quarter of 2019 and the fourth quarter of 2020 and is based on LFS data.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 and ESTAT (LFS)*

### 2.2.6 Evolution of employment rates in the EU

Since 2010, we observe a continuous small increase of the employment rate of persons with disabilities at the EU level. The decline between 2014-2015 is the result of changes in the German questionnaire concerning disability and the ensuing breakdown of statistical series. This correction ought to give a flat or slightly increasing employment rate for persons with disabilities between 2014-2016. In the period 2018-2019, we observe a continuing improvement for all groups.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the employment rate has decreased between 2019 and 2020. Due to the reduction of hours worked and active policies to preserve jobs, the decrease was relatively small.[51] However, there are important differences across economic sectors.

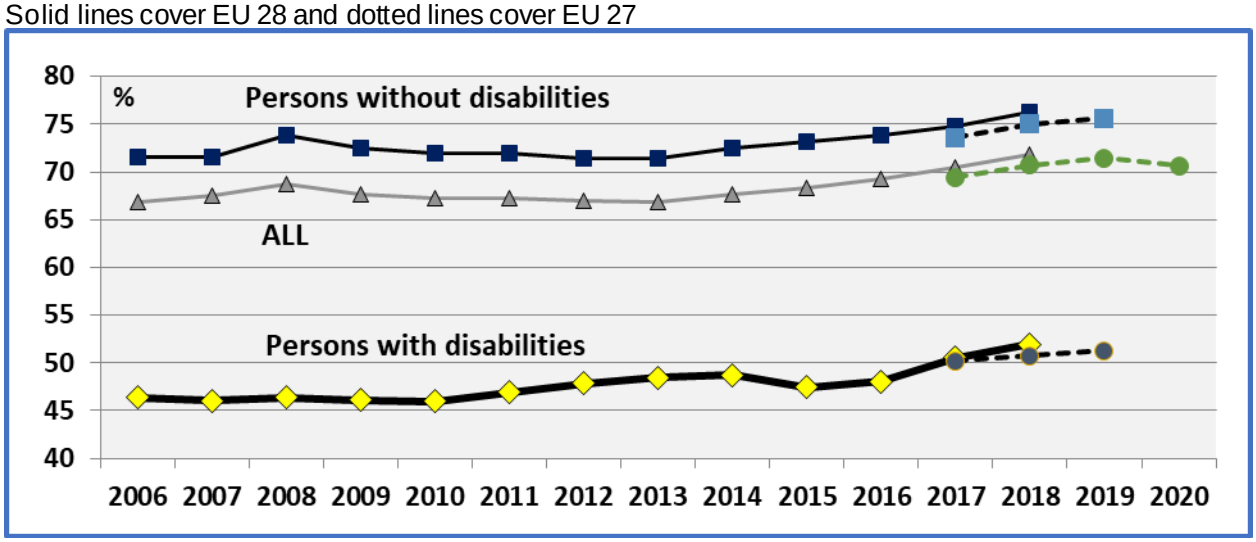
[51] Robert Anderton, Vasco Botelho, Agostino Consolo, António Dias da Silva, Claudia Foroni, Matthias Mohr and Lara Vivian: "The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the euro area labour market"; ECB Economic Bulletin, Issue 8/2020 https://www.ecb.europa.eu/pub/economic-bulletin/articles/2021/html/ecb.ebart202008_02~bc749d90e7.en.html.

A Commission report finds that SURE (Support to mitigate Unemployment Risks in an Emergency) has been successful in cushioning the severe socio-economic impact resulting from the COVID-19 crisis.[52] It has helped to ensure that the increase in unemployment in the beneficiary Member States during the crisis has been significantly smaller than during the global financial crisis, despite them experiencing a larger decrease in GDP.

A comparison with the period 2008-2009 might provide some elements enabling us to predict future developments. But the recent policy reaction has been more active in comparison to the 2008-2009 slowdown and the cause is different.

**Figure 8: Evolution of the employment rate of people with and without disabilities, age: 20-64**

Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27




Note: The ILO definition of employment provides a global employment rate of 73.1 % for 2019 and 72.3 % for 2020 (Data extracted on 18/05/2021 from [ESTAT]). Our estimation for 2020 is an extrapolation based on these data. See above in the text for the difference between the definition of employment used here and the ILO definition of employment.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

Concerning the employment gap, it follows a cyclical evolution. From 2006 to 2008, this gap is increasing but decreasing between 2008-2013. Probably, during this period of employment recession, older workers with strong acquired rights are maintained in employment and this might explain the decreasing employment gap.

Between 2013 and 2016, the gap is increasing again. During this period, persons without disabilities benefit relatively more from an expanding labour market compared to persons with disabilities.

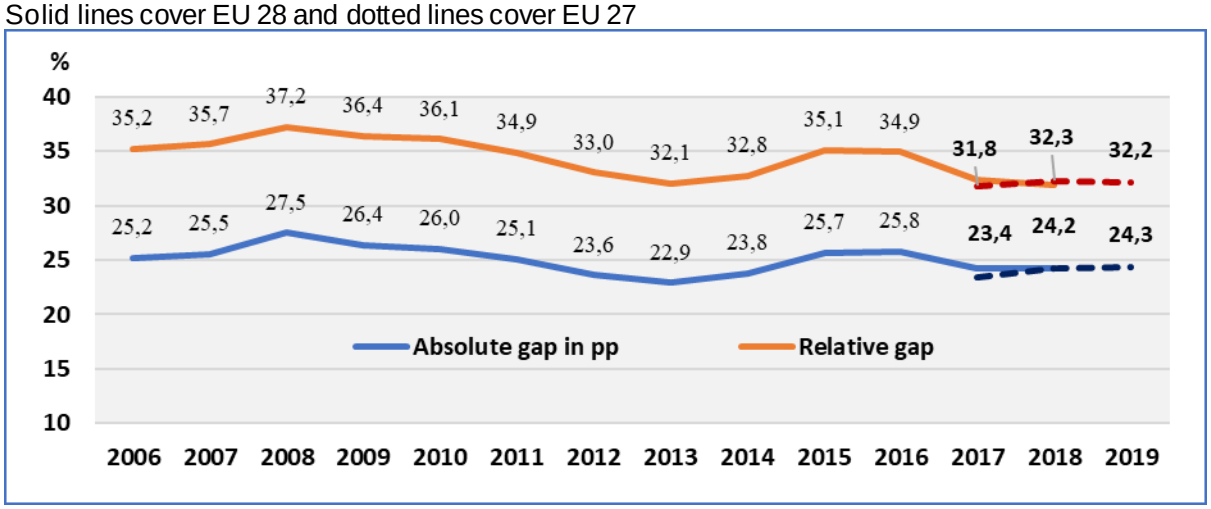
During the last three years, the absolute gap has been stabilised at around 24 percentage points. The relative gap has been stabilised at around 32 % of the employment rate of persons without disabilities.

[52] The SURE programme provides financial support in the form of loans granted on favourable terms from the EU to Member States to finance national short-time work schemes, and other similar measures to preserve employment and support incomes, notably for the self-employed, and some health-related measures. The Commission's report has found that the instrument supported between 25 and 30 million people in 2020.
See: European Commission - Press release: “Report confirms SURE's success in protecting jobs and incomes”; Brussels, 22 March 2021. See: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_1209.

As in 2008-2009, we expect a reduction of the employment gap. As noted, the COVID-19 pandemic has reduced hours worked in 2020 while active labour policies favour job retention. Both tend to favour older workers with established rights where the disability prevalence is relatively high.

**Figure 9: Evolution of the employment gap of people with disabilities, age: 20-64**

Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

### 2.2.7 Evolution of youth employment rates

As noted above, when we compare the employment rate of all persons aged 20-64, we miss the specific characteristics of certain smaller age groups. In this section, we will focus on the employment rate of young persons with disabilities.

It is common to define youth as persons aged 16-24. However, the measure covering persons aged 16-24 presents some statistical problems. In this age group, the number of observations of persons with disabilities is relatively small due to a low disability prevalence, in this age group. Also, the educational systems in the Member States are different. In fact, the age of compulsory education varies across Member States and in a certain number of cases, a given education curriculum is organised across a longer period for persons with disabilities compared to persons without disabilities. This adds additional "noise" to the data.

For these reasons, we propose to study both the age group 16-24 and 20-29.

In the following table, we can see that the employment rate of persons aged 16-24, in the EU 27, is 26.2 % for persons with disabilities and 29.4 % for persons without disabilities. The corresponding rates for persons aged 20-29 are 47.4 % and 57.8 %.

Available data from the LFS survey indicate that the decline in employment, in 2020, was stronger among young people aged 16-24 than for people aged 20-64. The first decreased by 6 %[53] while the relative decrease in total employment was 1.1 %.

Young persons are more vulnerable to economic slowdowns due to the nature of their contracts. In fact, about 51.6 % of employed persons aged 16-24 (34.7 % in the age

[53] This represents a decrease of 2 percentage points. The data refer to the ILO definition of employment. Data extracted on 19/05/2021 from [ESTAT].

group 20-29) have a temporary contract compared to 14.9 % of employed aged 16-64 (EU-SILC 2019). The estimations do not include unemployed or inactive with temporary contracts. Employed, unemployed and inactive refer to the self-declared main economic status.

Young persons with disabilities face an additional disadvantage in comparison to young persons without disabilities. In fact, in the age group 16-24, about 54.4 % of employed persons with disabilities have a temporary contract compared to 51.4 % of employed persons without disabilities. The respective rates for persons aged 20-29 are 37.2 % and 34.6 % (EU-SILC 2019).

**Table 7: Employment by disability status and age group, EU, 2019**

| | Age 16-24 | Age 20-29 | Age 20-64 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| Persons without disabilities (%) | 29.4 | 57.8 | 75.6 |
| Persons with disabilities (%) | 26.2 | 47.4 | 51.3 |
| Employment gap (pps) | 3.2 | 10.5 | 24.3 |
| | | | |
| Total (%) | 29.2 | 57.0 | 71.5 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

We may observe an increasing employment gap with age (similarly for the relative employment gap). However, due to relatively small samples by age groups, this information ought to be treated with care.

The employment rate of both young people with and without disabilities was deteriorating between 2008 and 2013. From 2015 to 2019, the employment rate of young persons with and without disabilities was increasing.

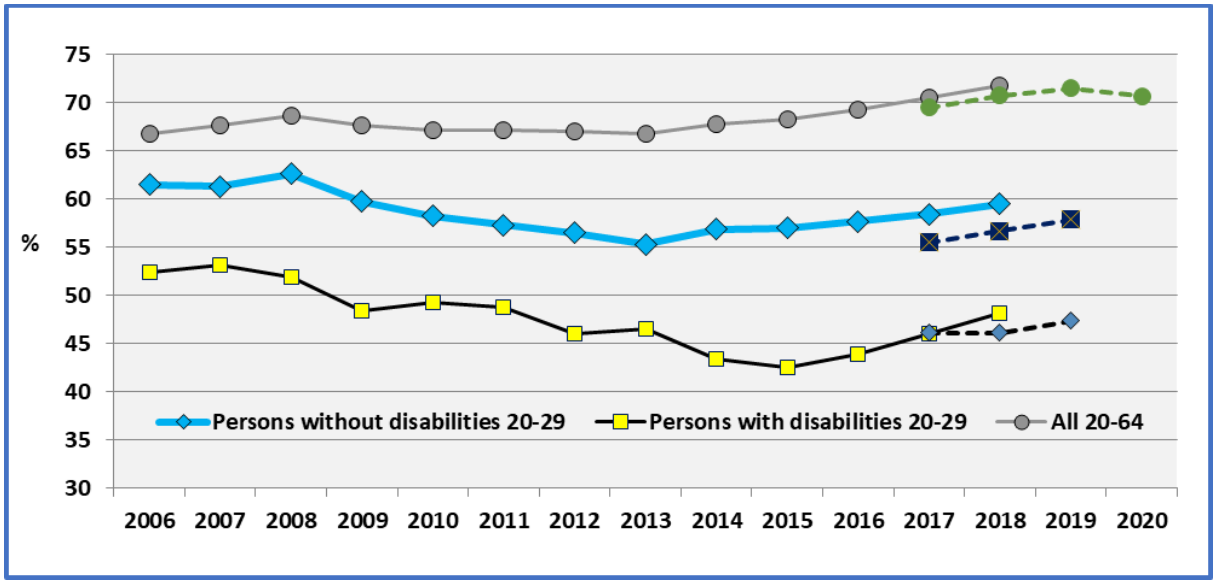
The decline in employment, in 2020, was strongest for temporary employees, the young and workers with low levels of education.[54]

Young persons with disabilities have lower educational levels and more temporary contracts compared to persons without disabilities. Consequently, we expect a stronger deterioration of the employment of young persons with disabilities compared to persons without disabilities. But active labour market policy might determine the final outcome.

[54] Robert Anderton, Vasco Botelho, Agostino Consolo, António Dias da Silva, Claudia Foroni, Matthias Mohr and Lara Vivian: "The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the euro area labour market"; ECB Economic Bulletin, Issue 8/2020, https://www.ecb.europa.eu/pub/economic-bulletin/articles/2021/html/ecb.ebart202008_02~bc749d90e7.en.html.

**Figure 10: Employment rate of young people with and without disabilities, EU, age: 20-29**

Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27.




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB. Estimation for 2020 (simple extrapolation applying the LFS annual change).*

### 2.2.8 Employment, disability and COVID-19 pandemic

Age and comorbidity might have a negative impact on the employment (including hiring) of persons with disabilities. For those in employment, health problems might push older workers to take early retirement. However, older workers with disabilities might benefit from labour policies aiming to preserve jobs.

The sectorial and occupational distribution has an ambiguous impact on their employment prospects. The accommodation and food sectors (hotels, bars, restaurants, cafeterias, etc.) are expected to be affected negatively. Persons with disabilities are under-represented in these sectors. On the other hand, scientific activities and computer services have better prospects. But persons with disabilities might not benefit from any positive prospect, since they are under-represented in these sectors (EU-SILC 2018).

A European Central Bank (ECB) survey of leading euro area companies looked at the long-term effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the economy.[55] It finds that more remote working and an acceleration of digitalisation are the most frequently cited long-term supply-side effects of the pandemic.

In 2019, teleworkable jobs accounted for 33 % of employees in the euro area.[56] But, persons with disabilities are overrepresented in skills, where the rate of potential work from home is very low.[57]

[55] Eduardo Maqui and Richard Morris: 'The long-term effects of the pandemic: insights from a survey of leading companies'. ECB Economic Bulletin, Issue 8/2020, https://www.ecb.europa.eu/pub/economic-bulletin/html/eb202008.en.html.

[56] Robert Anderton, Vasco Botelho, Agostino Consolo, António Dias da Silva, Claudia Foroni, Matthias Mohr and Lara Vivian: 'The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the euro area labour market'. ECB Economic Bulletin, Issue 8/2020, https://www.ecb.europa.eu/pub/economic-bulletin/articles/2021/html/ecb.ebart202008_02~bc749d90e7.en.html.

[57] Grammenos S. – EDE: 'European comparative data on Europe 2020 & Persons with disabilities; Labour market, Education, Poverty & Health, Analysis and Trends'. EDE 2021.

However, for persons with mobility restrictions, work from home might open a range of jobs which were inaccessible due to barriers. This could be possible if we reorganise measures in favour of technical aids and work adaptations for persons with disabilities. In the past, policies were focussing on work adaptations inside the company. Here, we observe the need to shift towards working from home. National schemes ought to take into account the new needs of persons with disabilities. Work from home might be an opportunity but it raises new questions notably for families with young children.

Furthermore, work from home raises a specific issue for persons with disabilities: accessibility. This might concern software as well as hardware. Relevant EU instruments (e.g. the Accessibility Directive) could be used to promote accessibility for products and services enabling people with disabilities to participate in telework and distance learning.

# 3 Unemployment rate

## 3.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

Unemployment may lead to poverty and social exclusion. Consequently. the reduction of unemployment is considered to be a privileged way to social inclusion and participation.

The UN Convention in Article 27 treating “Work and employment” stress the promotion of “employment opportunities and career advancement for persons with disabilities in the labour market. as well as assistance in finding. obtaining. maintaining and returning to employment”.

The European Commission in its Communication concerning the Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 notes that participation in employment is the best way to ensure economic autonomy and social inclusion. It adds that monitoring the progress in Member States will rely on improved statistical data collection on the situation of persons with disabilities.

On 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted a Resolution on “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. Goal 8 recognises the importance of sustained economic growth and high levels of economic productivity for the creation of well-paid quality jobs and more efficient production. It calls for providing opportunities for full employment and decent work for all. Decent employment for all, including women, people with disabilities, youth, the elderly and migrants, is crucial for improving the wellbeing of society as a whole.

The European Pillar of Social Rights under “Equal opportunities” provides that regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, everyone has the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, etc.

## 3.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 3.2.1 Comparison between LFS and EU-SILC survey

Eurostat is using the results of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) in order to monitor unemployment rate in the EU. In this approach. unemployed persons are persons who were without work during the reference week. were currently available for work and were either actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months. The EU-SILC reports the self-declared current ‘main activity status’.

Both series are quasi-perfectly correlated for the estimators at the EU-level between 2006 and 2018 ($R^2$=0.89). However. there is a significant systematic difference between the two surveys. In previous ANED reports. we analysed the difference between the LFS and the EU SILC estimations.

In the EU 27, in 2019. the LFS survey reported an unemployment rate of 6.6 % for persons aged 20-64. This rate uses the ILO definition. The unemployment rate delivered by the EU-SILC survey, based on self-declared main economic status, is 9.5 %. If we exclude, from persons declaring unemployed, those who are not available for work and/or are not actively searching for a job, we obtain significantly lower

unemployment rates. For comparison, using the self-declared main economic status, the LFS 2019 survey provides an unemployment rate of 10.2 %.

We may note that the ILO definition reduces drastically the unemployment rate. In fact. this definition considers that unemployed persons who are not actively searching for a job do not participate on the labour market. Consequently. they are treated as voluntarily economically inactive persons.

The ILO definition excludes from the analysis an important number of long-term unemployed persons. In previous reports, we have noted that these are notably persons with disabilities. In fact, a long period of unemployment might generate a discouragement effect and push people to stop actively searching for a job. Consequently, they are not considered as unemployed. These persons might have the biggest need for work adaptations and new skills in order to increase their employment prospects and hence encourage an active search for a job. There is a need to analyse the needs of those who are excluded from the official unemployment rates and see whether they need work adaptations, new skills, assistance and guidance, etc.

### 3.2.2 General comments

In the following, we analyse the results of EU-SILC based on self-declarations concerning the economic status. The LFS is expected to include the GALI question in the 2021 collection round.

In the EU 27, the unemployment rate of people with disabilities aged 20-64 is 17.3 % compared to 8.3 % of people without disabilities of the same age group. The total unemployment rate is 9.5.

In the EU 27, about 4.6 million persons with disabilities (aged 20-64) are unemployed out of 26.6 million economically active disabled persons.

**Table 8: Unemployment rate by disability status (age 20-64). 2019**

| | **Employed** | **Unemployed** | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1 000 000** | | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 157.1 | 14.3 | 171.3 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 22.0 | 4.6 | 26.6 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | **179.0** | **18.9** | **197.9** |
| | | | |
| **%** | | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 91.7 | 8.3 | 100 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 82.7 | 17.3 | 100 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | **90.4** | **9.5** | **100** |

Note: The data have not been adjusted for missing values.
*Data source: EU-SILC 2019. EU covers 27 Member States.*

In the EU 27, about 17.0 % of women with disabilities, aged 20-64, were unemployed compared to 17.6 % of men with disabilities. The respective rates for persons without disabilities were 9.1 % (women) and 7.6 % (men). We might argue that unemployed women with disabilities experience a lower unemployment rate compared to men with

disabilities due to a stronger disincentive effect. In fact, long term unemployed might consider that they have few chances to find a job and quit the labour market.

Unemployment increases with disability degree. The unemployment rate of persons with moderate disabilities, aged 20-64, is about 14.8 % compared to 29.3 % of persons with severe disabilities.

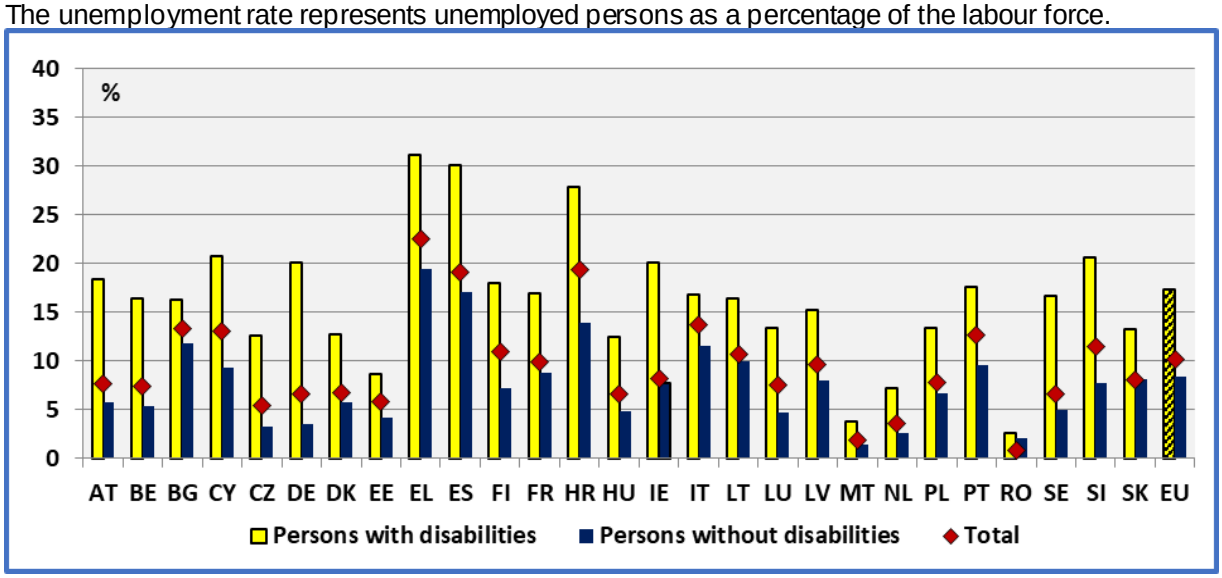
The unemployment rate of persons with disabilities is significantly higher compared to persons without disabilities in all Member States. However, the national unemployment rates of persons with disabilities are correlated with the national unemployment rates of persons without disabilities ($R^2$=0.70).

National characteristics of the labour market affect both persons with and without disabilities. But there are still important differences across member States.

At the EU 27 level, there is an unemployment gap of 9 percentage points. But this gap varies sharply across Member States.

**Figure 11: Unemployment rate by disability status and Member State (age 20-64). 2019**

The unemployment rate represents unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force.

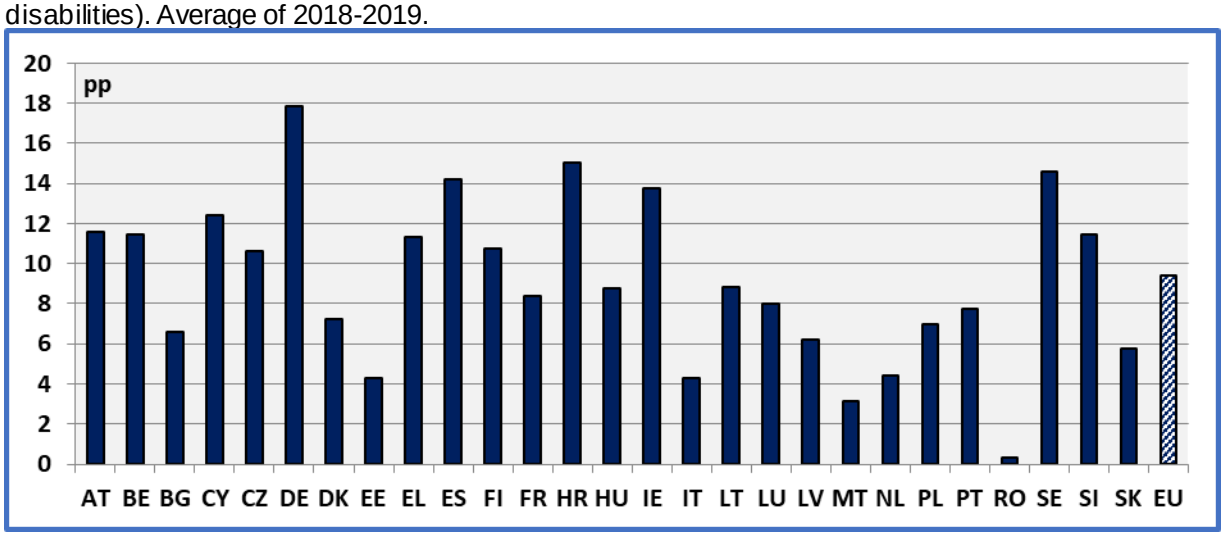



*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

Given the relatively small number of observations for persons with disabilities and in order to increase the reliability of the estimations, we take the average gap of the last two years (2018-2019). We may note that the gap is relatively high in Croatia, Germany and Sweden. On the other hand. it is relatively low in Italy, Malta and Romania. Similar results were found in previous years.

**Figure 12: Disadvantage of people with disabilities concerning unemployment. Age: 20-64, Average 2018-2019, expressed in percentage points (pp)**

Disadvantage = (Unemployment rate of people with disabilities) – (unemployment rate of people without disabilities). Average of 2018-2019.




*Data source: EU-SILC. EU covers 27 Member States.*

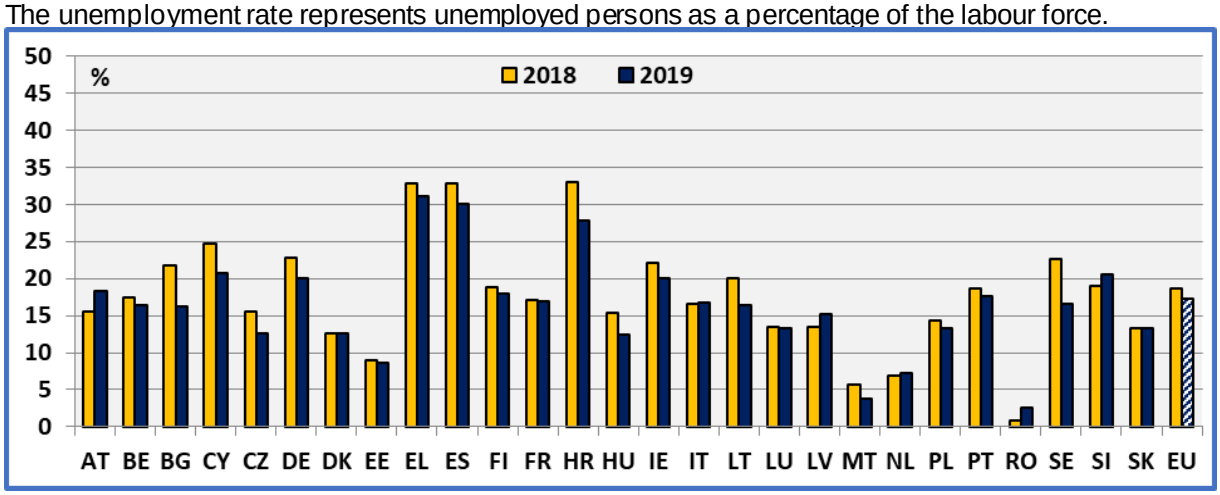
### 3.2.3 Evolution at national level

During the period 2018-2019, we observe a decrease of the unemployment rate of persons with disabilities in the big majority of Member States but in several Member States, this decrease is relatively small.

During the period 2019-2020, the LFS survey indicates an increase of the global unemployment rate in the big majority of Member States.

**Figure 13: Persons with disabilities; Evolution of the unemployment rate by Member State. Age 20-64**

The unemployment rate represents unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force.




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 & 2019. EU covers 27 Member States.*

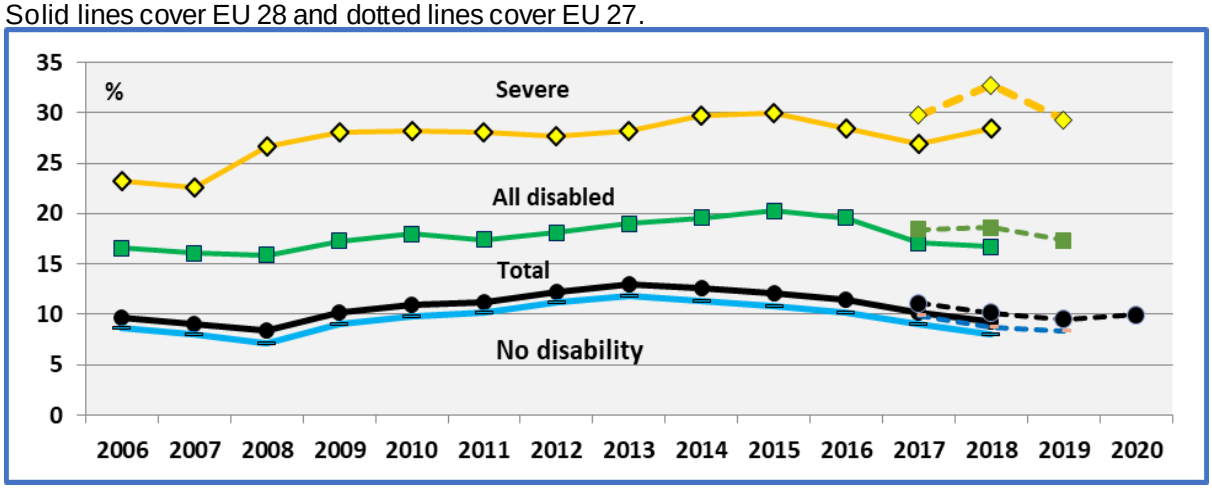
### 3.2.4 Evolution at the EU level

At the EU 27 level, we note a constant decrease of total unemployment rate since 2013. Persons with disabilities experienced a decrease since 2015. However, persons with severe disabilities experienced a more fluctuating rate.

The COVID-19 pandemic has reversed this trend. According to the LFS estimations based on the ILO definition of unemployment rate, between 2019 and 2020, we observe an increase of 0.3 pp, representing an increase of 4.5 %, for the age group 20-64.

The increase of total unemployment is relatively small due, notably, to active policies to preserve jobs (e.g., SURE) and a reduction of hours worked. For example, the volume of work done (hours worked) in industry and construction decreased from 105 (base 2015=100), in the last quarter of 2019, to 90 in the second quarter of 2020, in the EU 27.[58] This reduction was even bigger in sectors like hotels and restaurants.

**Figure 14: Evolution of the unemployment rate of people aged 20-64**
Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27.




Note: The 2020 unemployment rate is an extrapolation based on LFS estimations of the total unemployment rate (20-64).
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

### 3.2.5 Youth unemployment

In the EU 27, in 2019, about 25.4 % of persons with disabilities aged 16-24 were unemployed compared to 19.7 % of persons without disabilities. The gap was 5.7 percentage points.

The situation of all youth is expected to deteriorate in comparison to older workers. From 2019 to 2020, we observe an increase of 1.8 percentage points of youth unemployment (age: 15-24), representing an increase of 12 %.[59] In comparison, as noted above, for the age group 20-64, the respective rates were 0.3 pp and 4.5 %.

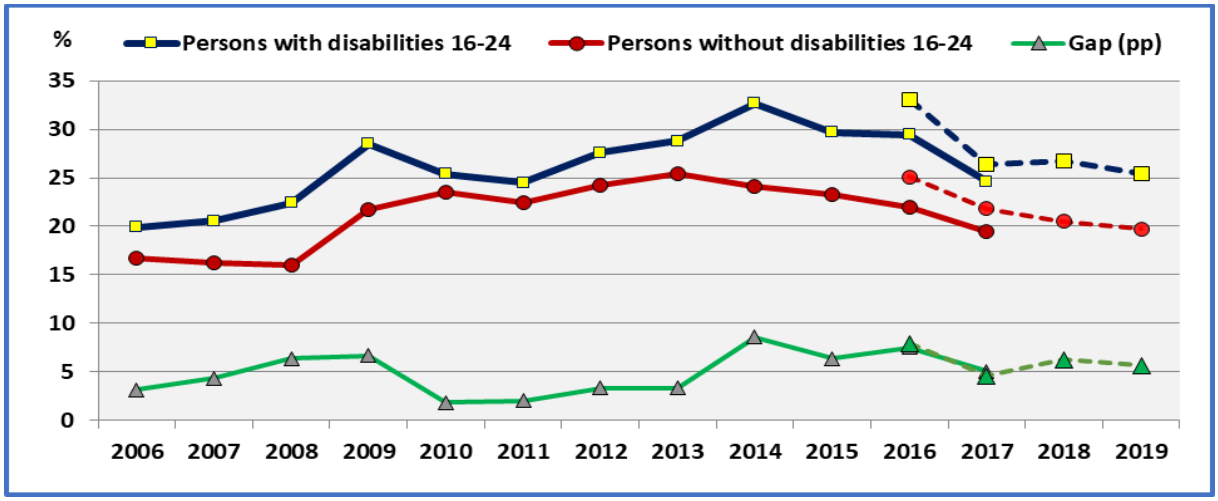
Furthermore, young people with disabilities might face a bigger disadvantage in comparison to young persons without disabilities. In fact, among young employed, aged 16-24, temporary contracts represent 54.4 %, compared to 51.4 % of young persons without disabilities (EU-SILC 2019). In case of firings, the first to be affected are those with temporary contracts.

The relatively small sample, concerning persons with disabilities in this age group, does not enable us to implement a further analysis.

[58] Data extracted on 24/05/2021from [ESTAT].
[59] Results from the LFS survey. Published results adopt the ILO definition of unemployment. Data extracted on 24/05/2021 from [ESTAT].

**Figure 15: Evolution of the unemployment rate of people with disabilities aged 16-24**

Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27.




*Data source: EU-SILC.*

### 3.2.6 Unemployment, disability and COVID-19

As discussed above, in the case of employment, age and comorbidity might have a negative impact on the employment (including hiring) of persons with disabilities. This ought to exert an upward pressure on the unemployment rate of persons with disabilities.

However, job retention schemes might benefit, notably, to older workers where disability prevalence is high. This ought to work on the opposite direction.

Furthermore, unemployed older workers with disabilities might quit the labour market if they consider that they have few chances to find a job. This also, ought to dampen any upward pressure to the official unemployment rate.

# 4 Activity rate

## 4.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

Participating in the labour market is a prerequisite for a job that ensures economic independence. foster personal achievement. and offers the best protection against poverty.

Europe 2020 had among other goals to turn the EU into a smart. sustainable and inclusive economy delivering high levels of employment. productivity and social cohesion. Employment rate is one of the headline indicators in this new strategy.

In their assessment of the Europe 2020 strategy, the Employment Committee and the Social Protection Committee (SPC) note that unemployment and economic inactivity remain very high in some countries, notably amongst a number of groups who, despite recent progress, continue to be under-represented on the labour market: women, people from a migrant background, the low-skilled, youth, older workers and people with disabilities.[60]

The European Equality Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 notes that the European Pillar of Social Rights[61] serves as compass for employment and social policies. Principle 17 of the Pillar underlines that persons with disabilities have the right to income support that ensures their living in dignity, services that enable them to participate in the labour market and in society and a work environment adapted to their needs.

The resilience and recovery plans[62] ought to use relevant indicators to monitor the contribution of the Facility to the reduction of disparities. Furthermore, the Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure (MIP) scoreboard and auxiliary indicators include notably the activity rate among different indicators.

## 4.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 4.2.1 General comments

In the EU 27, about 62.0 % of persons with disabilities participate on the labour market (employed or unemployed) compared to 82.5 % of persons without disabilities. The total rate is 79.0 %. For comparison. the LFS report an activity rate of 79.5 % for the

[60] European Commission: “Assessment of the Europe 2020 Strategy”; Joint report of the Employment Committee (EMCO) and Social Protection Committee (SPC), European Commission Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, 2019. (2017/C 428/09) 13.12.2017.

[61] Interinstitutional Proclamation on the European Pillar of Social Rights; 2017/C 428/09 of 13.12.2017. https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32017C1213(01)&from=EN.

[62] 1. Commission Staff Working Document guidance to Member States Recovery and Resilience Plans Brussels, 22.1.2021 SWD(2021) 12 final, part 1/2.
2. Commission Staff Working Document, Statistical annex accompanying the document report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Central Bank and the European Economic and Social Committee.
Alert Mechanism Report 2021 (prepared in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1176/2011 on the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances) {COM(2020) 745 final}.

same age group and the same definition of activity. However, the indicator used by Eurostat relies on the ILO definition. It provides a rate of 78.3 %.[63]

In the EU 27, about 26.6 million persons with disabilities (aged 20-64) are economically active out of 42.8 million disabled persons of the same age group.

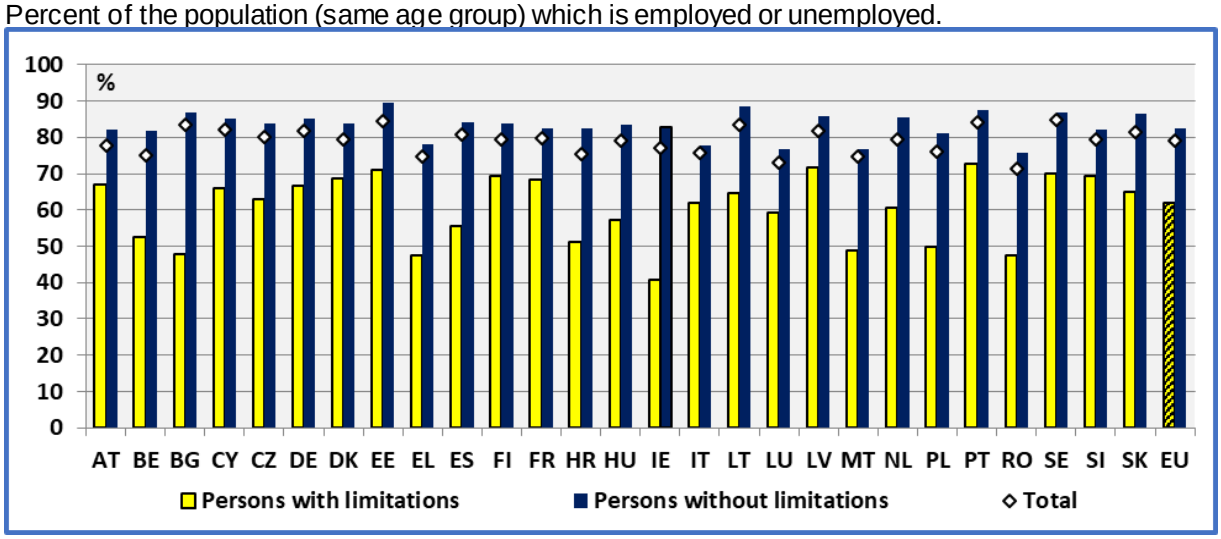
**Table 9: Activity rate by disability status (age 20-64). 2018**

| | **Economically inactive** (not in the labour force) | **Economically active** (employed or unemployed) | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1 000 000** | | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 36,4 | 171,3 | 207,7 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 16,3 | 26,6 | 42,8 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | 52,7 | 197,9 | 250,6 |
| | | | |
| **%** | | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 17,5 | 82,5 | 100 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 38,0 | 62,0 | 100 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | 21,0 | 79,0 | 100 |

Note: The data have not been adjusted for missing values.
*Data source: EU-SILC 2017-2018. EU covers 27 Member States.*

The activity rate of persons with disabilities is particularly low in Ireland, Greece and Romania. On the contrary, it is relatively high in Estonia, Latvia and Portugal.

**Figure 16: Activity rate by disability status and Member State (age 20-64). 2019**
Percent of the population (same age group) which is employed or unemployed.




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

[63] Eurostat http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/data/database. Data extracted on 26/05/2021 from [ESTAT].

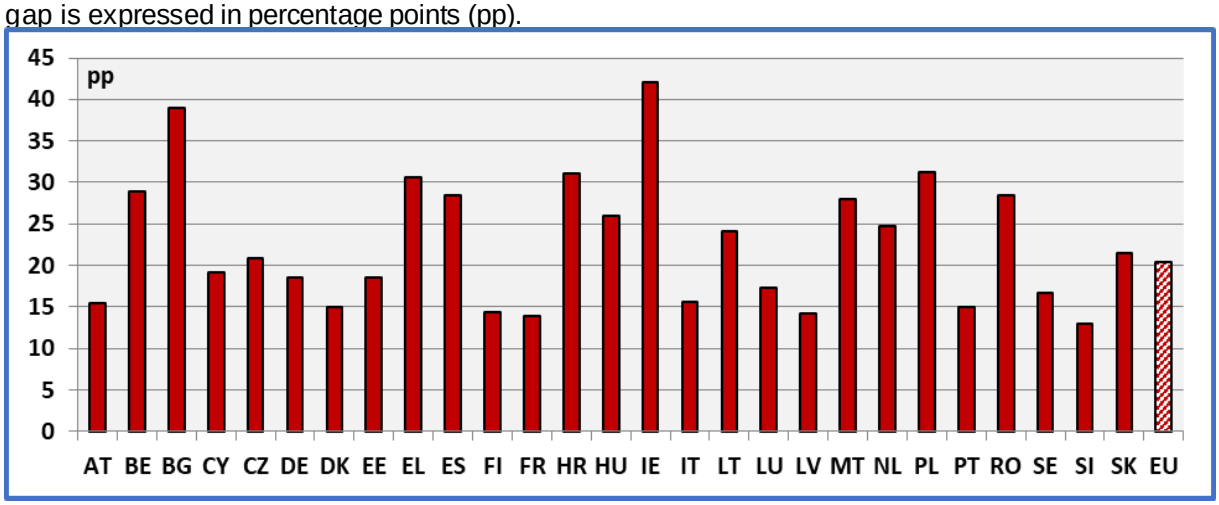
Women with disabilities face a double disadvantage. The activity rate of persons with disabilities is lower compared to persons without disabilities. Furthermore, the activity rate of women with disabilities (59.1 %) is lower compared to men with disabilities (65.4 %).

The degree of disability is inversely related to the activity rate. The activity rate of persons without disabilities, moderate disabilities and severe disabilities is respectively 82.5 %, 69.0 % and 42.1 %.

At the EU 27 level, there is a big difference between persons with and without disabilities. The absolute activity gap amounts to 20.5 percentage points. This activity gap is high notably in Poland, Bulgaria and Ireland. On the contrary it is relatively low in Slovenia, France and Latvia. Similar results were found in previous years.

**Figure 17: Activity gap. Age: 20-64. 2019**

Gap = (Activity rate of people without disabilities %) – (Activity rate of people with disabilities %). The gap is expressed in percentage points (pp).




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019*

### 4.2.2 Relation between the activity rates of persons with and without disabilities

The data indicates that countries with similar activity rates for non-disabled people present big differences in the activity rate of people with disabilities. This means that there is a potential for increasing the activity rate of people with disabilities by the transfer of experience from one country to another, notably concerning the provision of technical aids and work adaptations.

In the following figure we present the relations between national activity rates of different groups. First, the relation between persons with moderate and no disability and then, persons with severe and no disability.

The activity rate of persons with moderate disabilities is correlated with the activity rate of persons without disabilities ($R^2$=0.29). We might argue that general conditions affect the activity rate of persons with moderate disabilities.

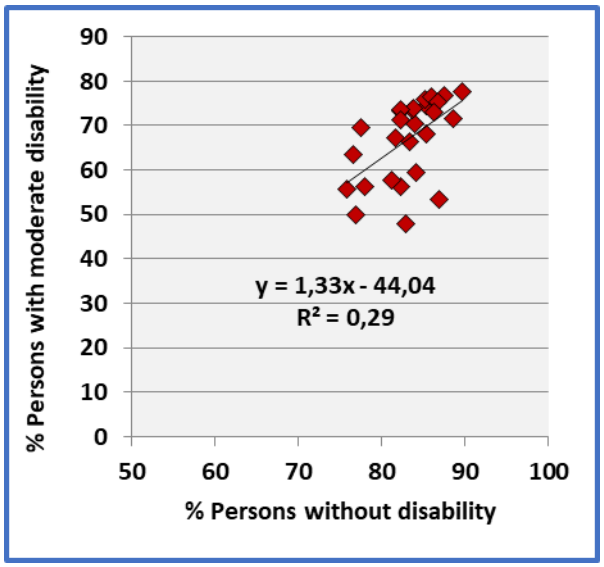
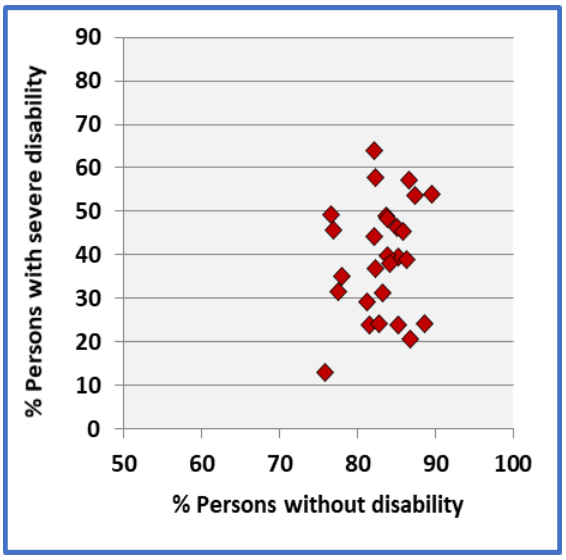
On the contrary, the activity rate of persons with severe disabilities is not correlated with the activity rate of persons without disabilities ($R^2$=0.04). We might advance that the general national context does not have an impact on the activity rate of persons with severe disabilities. This might be an indication that the activity rate of persons with severe disabilities depend on specific factors related to disability e.g., mobility barriers,

availability of work adaptations, technical aids, etc. National policies in these domains might determine the activity rate of persons with severe disabilities.

Similar results were found in the past and presented in previous annual reports.

This might indicate that persons with disabilities, notably persons with severe disabilities, might not benefit from a general improvement on the labour market if they do not have the necessary support for work adaptations and technical aids.

**Figure 18: Relation between the activity rates of persons with and without disabilities, 2019**

| Persons with moderate and no disability | Persons with severe and no disability |
|---|---|
|  |  |
| $R^2$=0.29 | $R^2$=0.04 |



Note: The different points represent the activity rates in the EU 27 Member States (age: 20-64).

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

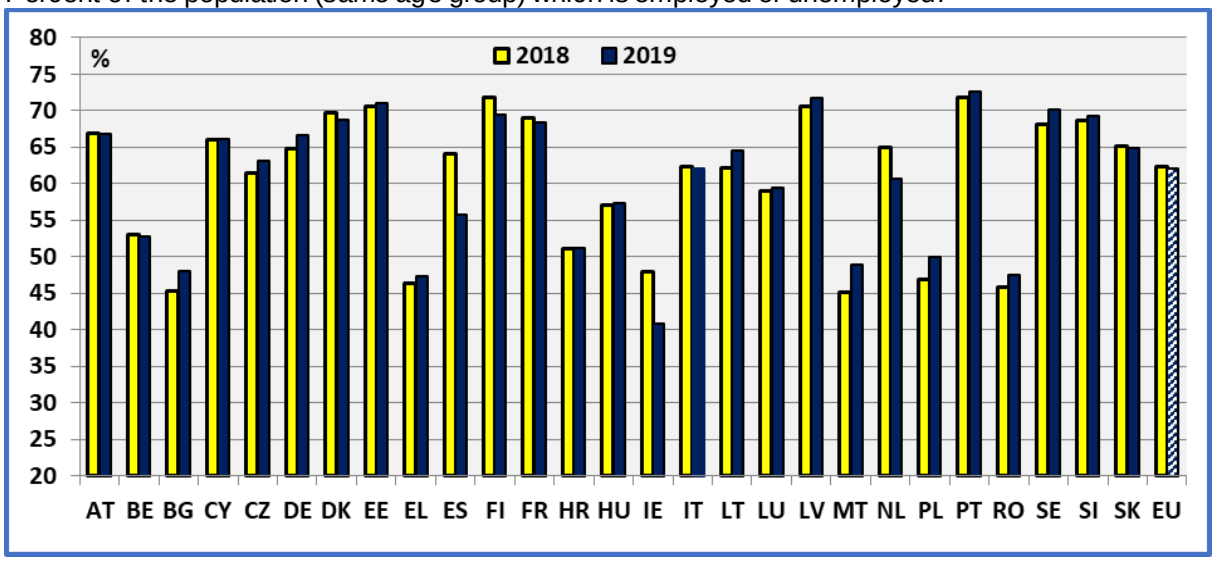
### 4.2.3 Evolution at national level

We may note that between 2018 and 2019, the activity rate of persons with disabilities, aged 20-64, stayed relatively stable from 62.4 % to 62.0 %, in the EU 27.

National evolutions are very different across the 27 Member States. We observe an increase of the activity rate of persons with disabilities in seventeen (17) Member States and a decrease in ten (10) Member States.

**Figure 19: Persons with disabilities; Evolution of the activity rate by Member State. Age 20-64**

Percent of the population (same age group) which is employed or unemployed.

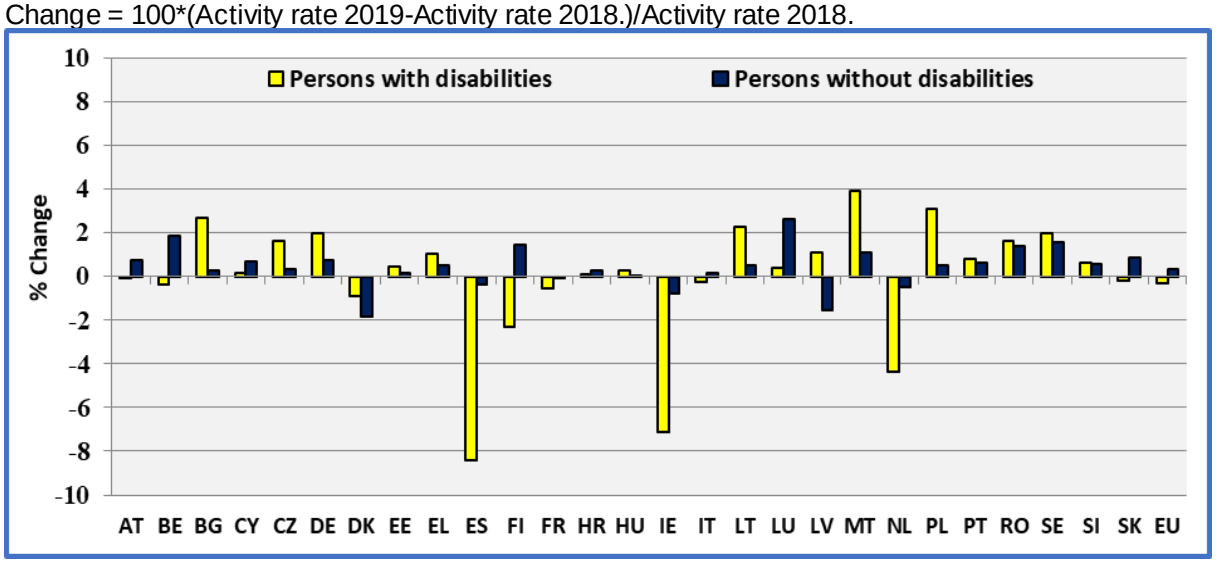



*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 & 2019.*

As noted above, the annual variations in the national activity rates between persons with and without disabilities are not correlated (or marginally correlated). The following graph help us to visualise this.

**Figure 20: Relative change of the activity rate between 2018 and 2019 age: 20-64**

Change = 100*(Activity rate 2019-Activity rate 2018.)/Activity rate 2018.




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 & 2019.*

### 4.2.4 Evolution at the EU level

At the EU 27 level. we note a continuous increase of the activity rates of the different groups since 2010. The apparent decrease of the activity rate between 2014 and 2015 is due to the change in the definition of activity limitations in Germany and Italy.

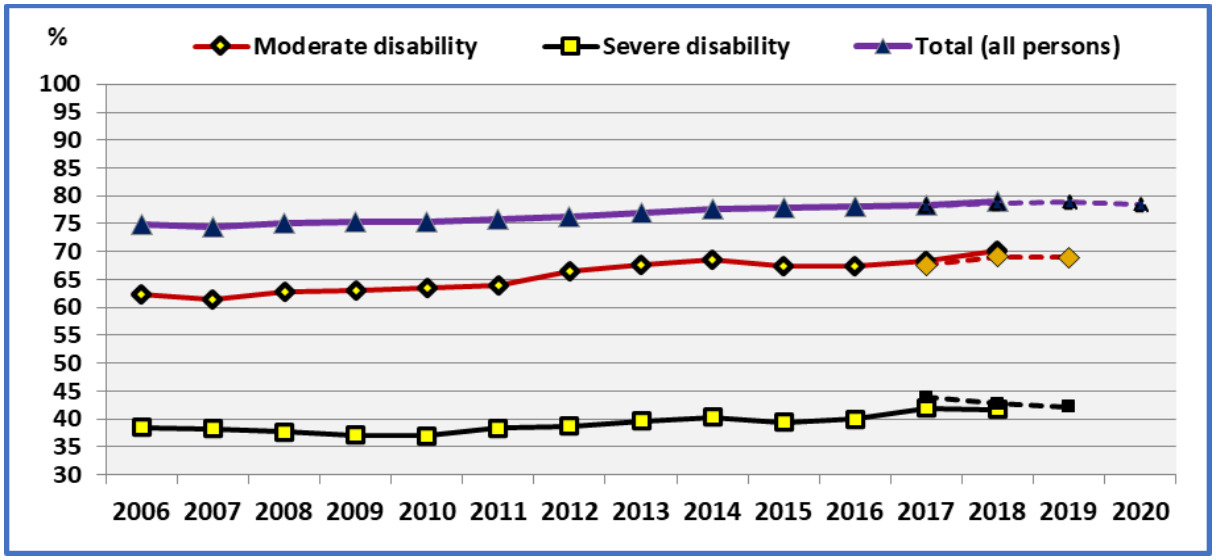
It appears that national activation policies and improved prospects for employment increase the activity rates of all groups.

Persons with disabilities is not a homogenous group. Persons with a severe disability experienced a slight decrease while persons with moderate disabilities experienced no significant change.

Concerning the activity gap between persons with and without disabilities. we may observe the long-term activity gap remains high.

Different factors ought to exert a negative impact on the activity rate of persons with disabilities. In fact, comorbidities increase the risk of severe COVID-19 infection. This might push older workers to take early retirement or quit the labour force. Also, low expectations concerning employment might discourage persons with disabilities to enter the labour force, notably, women with disabilities. We may add that COVID-19 could exert a negative impact by increasing the proportion of persons with disabilities.

**Figure 21: Evolution of the activity rate of people with disabilities EU. Age: 20 64**
Dotted lines cover EU 27.




Note: The 2020 value is a simple extrapolation based on available LFS data.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

# PART III: Education Indicators

## 5 Early leavers from education and training

### 5.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

Article 24 of the UN Convention treats "Education". It notes that. "States Parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to education. With a view to realizing this right without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunity. States Parties shall ensure an inclusive education system at all levels and lifelong learning".

On 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted a Resolution on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". The Declaration stipulates that people who are vulnerable must be empowered. Those whose needs are reflected in the Agenda include notably persons with disabilities. Goal 4 aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

On 30 September 2020, the Commission adopted two initiatives that will strengthen the contribution of education and training to the EU's recovery from the coronavirus crisis. They aim at achieving a European Education Area (EEA) by 2025 and resetting education and training for the digital age.[64]

The EEA clearly states that "Education systems at all levels should comply with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities"

It includes two initiatives: 1) The Communication on the European Education Area outlines how cooperation can further enrich the quality, inclusiveness and digital and green dimension of Member State education systems; and 2) The Digital Education Action Plan (2021-2027) proposes a set of initiatives for high-quality, inclusive and accessible digital education in Europe.

The EU Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030, in treating inclusive and accessible education, notes that more young persons with disabilities leave school early and fewer learners with disabilities complete a university degree.[65] Furthermore, it adds that "monitoring the progress in Member States will rely on improved statistical data collection on the situation of persons with disabilities.

Also, the Commission, in its guidance to Member States recovery and resilience plans, notes that these plans should identify relevant indicators to monitor the reduction of disparities. The indicators could include, notably, education and training.[66]

According to the Europe 2020 objectives, the share of early school leavers should be under 10 %. This indicator covers population aged 18-24 with at most a lower secondary education level and not in further education or training.

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64 https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1743.

65 European Commission: "Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions; Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030". European Union, 2021.

66 Commission Staff Working Document guidance to Member States Recovery and Resilience Plans Brussels, 22.1.2021 SWD(2021) 12 final, part 1/2.

## 5.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 5.2.1 Comparison between EU-SILC and LFS estimations

The indicator presents the percentage of the population aged 18-24 with at most 'lower secondary education and not in further education or training'. Eurostat[67] and the Member States use the LFS survey in order to monitor the percentage of early school leavers. But the LFS survey (except in certain Member States) does not provide information on disability status. However, the LFS survey is expected to include the GALI indicator in the 2021 run.

Eurostat notes that from 2014. the educational attainment level is to be coded according to the ISCED 2011 in the LFS survey. Early school leavers refer to ISCED 2011 levels: 'Less than primary education' (0), 'Primary education' (1) and 'Lower secondary education' (2). Similarly, for the EU-SILC survey, the classification to be used for the highest ISCED level attained is ISCED 2011.

Following this harmonisation, both surveys use the same ISCED 2011 classification, since 2014. In 2019, the LFS survey provides an estimation of 10.2 % and the EU-SILC of 10.6 %, for EU 27. However, national estimates may differ due to sampling differences. Despite these differences, there is a good correlation of national estimates between the two surveys ($R^2$=0.80).

As available LFS data do not provide information on persons with and without disabilities, we use the EU-SILC data in the following.

### 5.2.2 General comments

According to human capital theory, high educational achievements increase knowledge and skills. This in turn improves the chances to find a job. Also, higher educational levels favour higher productivity and thus higher earnings.

Early school leavers might lack the minimum prerequisites enabling them to meet market needs and changing technological skills. Consequently, the share of early school leavers is a good indicator of expected success on the labour market by young job seekers.

In 2019, at the EU 27 level, about 21.8 % of young disabled aged 18-24 are early school leavers compared to 9.7 % for non-disabled young persons. The EU total average rate is 10.6 % compared to a target of 10 %.

Concerning early school leavers by disability and gender, in the EU, the rates are 16.7 % for young women with disabilities and 27.0 % for young boys with disabilities.

Concerning early school leavers by disability and country of birth (migrants), in the EU, the rates are 19.8 % for young migrants without disabilities and 34.6 % for young migrants with disabilities.[68] The total rate for young migrants (born in a foreign country)

[67] Eurostat http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/EN/t2020_40_esmsip.htm.

[68] These rates are indicative due to the small number of observations. If we take into account the age group 18-29, we obtain 22.7 % for young migrants without disabilities and 30.8 % for young migrants with disabilities.

is 20.7 %. For comparison, the LFS survey provides a rate of 22.2 % for the same group of persons.[69]

In 2019, early school leavers with disabilities, aged 18-24, living in private households, represent about 0.5 million persons out of approximately 2.2 million young disabled aged 18-24 living in private households.

**Table 10: Early school leavers aged 18-24, EU, 2019**

| | Not Early School Leavers | Early School Leavers | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **1 000 000** | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 25.6 | 2.8 | 28.4 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 1.7 | 0.5 | 2.2 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | **27.3** | **3.2** | **30.5** |
| | | | |
| | | | **%** |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 90.3 | 9.7 | 100.0 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 78.2 | 21.8 | 100.0 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | **89.4** | **10.6** | **100** |

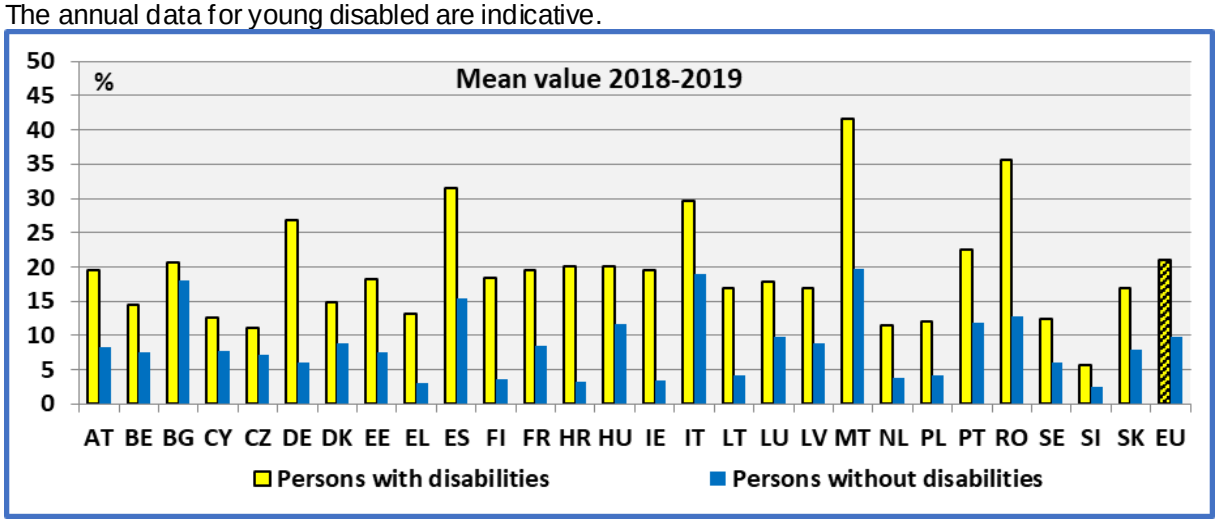
Note: The data have not been adjusted for missing values.
*Data source: EU-SILC 2017-2018. EU covers 27 Member States.*

The number of observations concerning persons with disabilities (activity limitations) aged 18 to 24 in the sample and for which we have the relevant information is less than 50 in several countries. As shown in previous annual reports, the confidence intervals are large and any conclusion based on annual averages, for persons with disabilities aged 18-24, might lead to erroneous conclusions. For this reason, in the following graph, we present the average value of the last two years.

We may note that several Member States have reached or are close to their national target. This is notably true for persons without disabilities. On the contrary, young persons with disabilities appears extremely disadvantaged.

[69] Data extracted on 28/05/2021 from [ESTAT].

**Figure 22: Share of early school leavers by disability status. Age 18-24**
The EU target is 10 % but national targets vary depending on national specificities.
The annual data for young disabled are indicative.



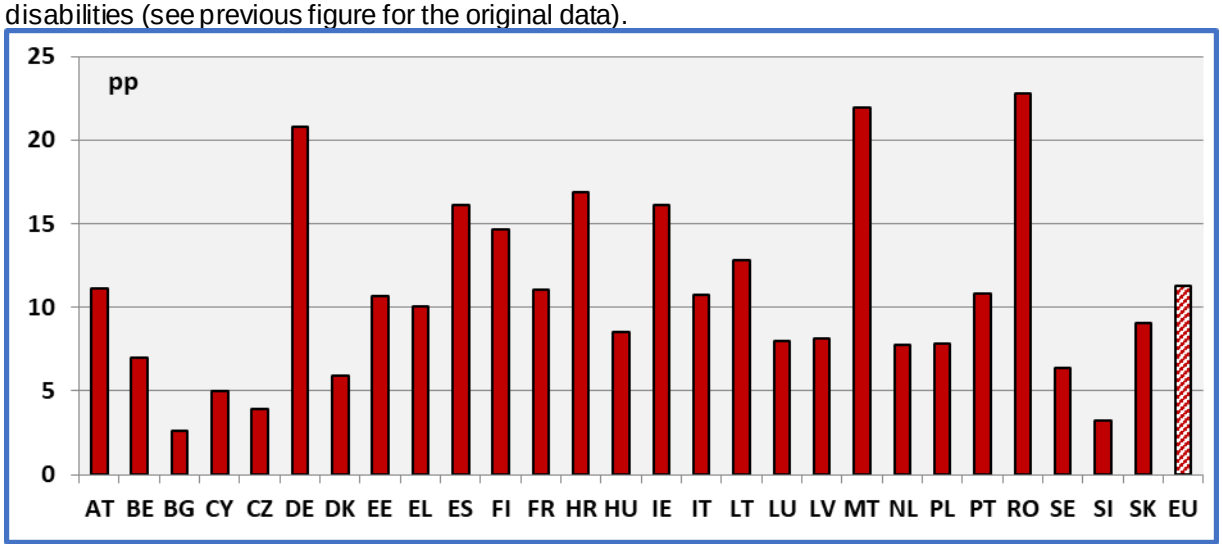

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018-2019.*

The disadvantage of young persons with disabilities compared to young persons without disabilities can be measured by the difference of the respective shares of early school leavers among persons with and without disabilities. As noted, the estimations for the age group 18-24 are sensible due to a relatively small sample size in several Member States. In order to minimise these problems, we present the average gap for the years 2018-2019.

At the EU 27 level, in 2018-2019, the gap between persons with and without disabilities was about 11.3 percentage points. We can say that this gap between young persons with and without disabilities is small in Bulgaria, Slovenia and Czechia. On the other hand, this gap is relatively high in Germany, Malta and Romania.

From a policy perspective, this gap measures the efforts Member States ought to develop in order to achieve equality of opportunities among young persons with and without disabilities.

**Figure 23: The disadvantage of young persons with disabilities, age 18-24, average 2018-2019** Disability gap = Percent of persons with disabilities – Percent of persons without disabilities (see previous figure for the original data).




*Data source: EU-SILC 2017-2018.*

The high rates of early school leavers among young disabled might indicate problems related to accessibility and absence of adapted programmes. Physical and architectural barriers might be important obstacles but also methods and instruments which do not meet the abilities of young disabled.

### 5.2.3 Evolution at the EU level

A persistent high level of early school leavers means that these persons enter the labour market without a skill. This constitutes an important barrier for their integration into the labour market and their adaptability to technological change. This disadvantage is notably high for young disabled persons.

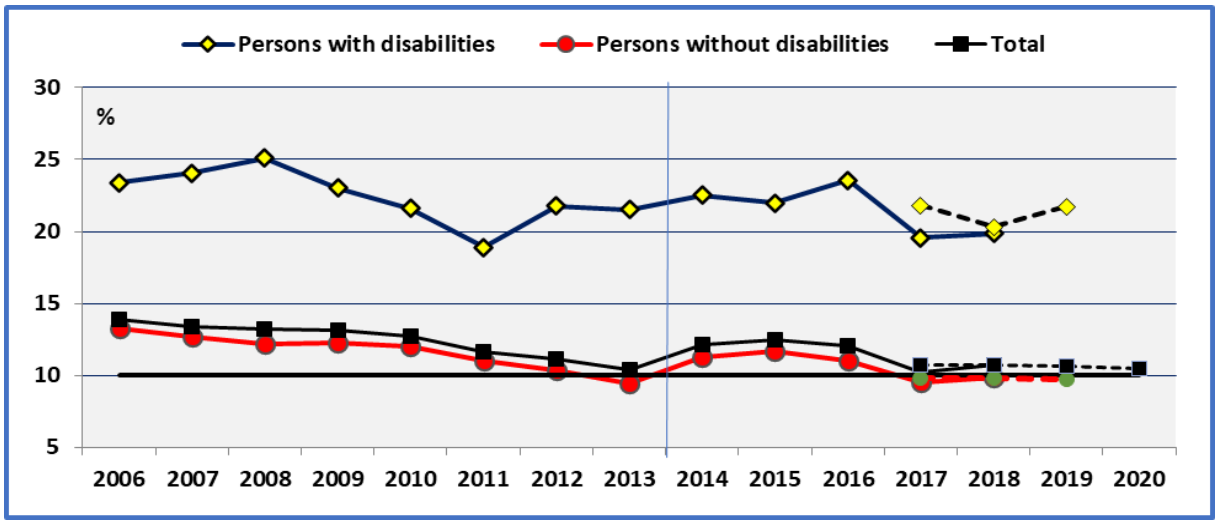
For young persons without disabilities, we may observe a decreasing trend since 2006 (keeping in mind that the years 2013-2014 are not comparable due to a change of definitions used for education levels).

The evolution for persons with disabilities is more erratic. However, we may observe a declining trend with some fluctuations around it. This may be due to sampling errors and changing definitions. In fact, in 2015, we had a discontinuity of series in Germany, in 2016 in Italy and in 2017 in the UK. These countries have an important weight in the EU aggregate. Since 2017, we observe a relative stability around 9.8 % of the rate of young persons without disabilities. This rate was more erratic for persons with disabilities. Still, the gap between young persons with and without disabilities remain high.

The new EU initiatives (European Education Area - EEA by 2025) stress the need to enrich the quality, inclusiveness and digital dimension of Member State education systems. However, young persons from disadvantaged backgrounds may face barriers (accessibility of programmes, lack of technical equipment, low preparatory digital skills, etc.) avoiding them from participating in these new educational programmes. This means that these new programmes ought to provide the necessary adaptations and technical aids to persons with disabilities in order to make them accessible to this group of young people.

**Figure 24: Evolution of the shares of early school leavers, EU, Age: 18-24**

Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27.




Note: Break in time series due to a new classification since 2014. Change in the definition of disability in Germany and Italy in 2015 and 2016. Data for 2020 are simple extrapolations based on LFS results.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

### 5.2.4 Unemployment of young early school leavers

As noted above. early school leavers enter the labour market without the necessary human capital required by labour market needs. Furthermore, they might miss the necessary minimal human capital enabling them to acquire on the job training. Consequently, a low initial human capital may push early school leavers into low qualified, without promotion prospects and unstable jobs.

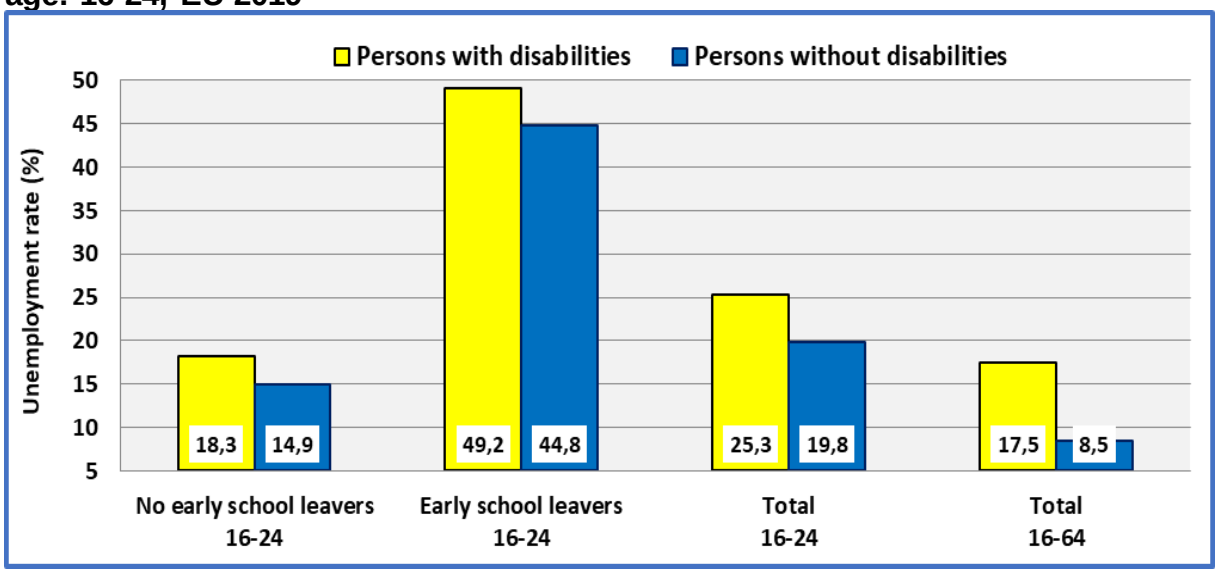
We retain the age group 16-24 which is compatible with related indicators of the Social Pillar.

The following graph indicates that there is an important difference between early school leavers and non-early school leavers in the EU 27. The unemployment rate among early school leavers is much higher compared to non-early school leavers. This holds both for persons with and without disabilities.

As we noted in previous reports, there is a qualitative difference between the unemployment rate of early school leavers and non-early school leavers. The unemployment duration of early school leavers is higher compared to non-early school leavers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the process of digitalisation of the economy. Also, an increasing number of employers favour telework. In order to make these new job opportunities accessible to young persons and notably young persons with disabilities, additional efforts ought to be developed. They ought to reduce the number of young persons leaving the education system without the necessary educational tools to afford these innovations.

**Figure 25: Unemployment rate of young early school leavers by disability status, age: 16-24, EU 2019**




*Data source: EU-SILC 2019.*

## 5.3 Persons who have completed a tertiary or Equivalent education

### 5.3.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

Article 24 of the UN Convention treats "Education". It notes that. "States Parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to education. With a view to realizing this right without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunity. States Parties shall ensure an inclusive education system at all levels and lifelong learning".

On 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted a Resolution on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". The Declaration stipulates that people who are vulnerable must be empowered. Those whose needs are reflected in the Agenda include notably persons with disabilities. Goal 4 aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

On 30 September 2020, the Commission adopted two initiatives that will strengthen the contribution of education and training to the EU's recovery from the coronavirus crisis. They aim at achieving a European Education Area (EEA) by 2025 and resetting education and training for the digital age.[70]

The EEA clearly states that "Education systems at all levels should comply with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities".

It includes two initiatives: 1) The Communication on the European Education Area outlines how cooperation can further enrich the quality, inclusiveness and digital and green dimension of Member State education systems; and 2). The Digital Education Action Plan (2021-2027) proposes a set of initiatives for high-quality, inclusive and accessible digital education in Europe.

The EU Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030, in treating inclusive and accessible education, notes that more young persons with disabilities leave school early and fewer learners with disabilities complete a university degree.[71] Furthermore, it adds that "monitoring the progress in Member States will rely on improved statistical data collection on the situation of persons with disabilities.

Also, the Commission, in its guidance to Member States recovery and resilience plans, notes that these plans should identify relevant indicators to monitor the reduction of disparities. The indicators could include, notably, education and training.[72]

The Europe 2020 strategy for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth aims at helping Europe to recover from the crisis by boosting competitiveness, productivity, growth potential, social cohesion and economic convergence. Europe 2020 target aims to increase the share of the population aged 30-34 having completed tertiary education to at least 40 %. Consequently, this chapter presents the share of the population aged 30-34 years who have successfully completed university or university-like (tertiary-level) education.

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[70] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1743.

[71] European Commission: "Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions; Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030". European Union, 2021.

[72] Commission Staff Working Document guidance to Member States Recovery and Resilience Plans Brussels, 22.1.2021 SWD(2021) 12 final, part 1/2.

## 5.4 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 5.4.1 Comparison between EU-SILC and LFS estimations

Eurostat and the Member States use the LFS survey in order to monitor the percentage of persons who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education. Currently, the LFS survey does not distinguish between disabled and non-disabled people (except in a limited number of Member States). However, this survey is expected to include the GALI indicator in the 2021 run.

In the following, we use the EU-SILC survey. In order to assess the strength of this indicator, we compare the results, for all persons, of both surveys below.

The two estimates might be different due to sampling characteristics, the structure of the relevant questions (nomenclatures of educational levels) and implementation practices (even if classifications are similar).

First, when we compare the results of the two surveys, for all persons aged 30-34 at the EU level, we find that both surveys present similar results through time, but the EU-SILC tends to provide an estimator higher compared to LFS. In 2019, this difference was about 2 percentage points, despite efforts to harmonise classifications. Also, the EU-SILC estimate presents a higher variability.

Secondly, when we compare the national estimations, we find that the two surveys provide similar national estimates. In fact, there is a high correlation ($R^2$=0.86, n=27) between EU-SILC and LFS national estimates. But we observe big differences for certain Member States. Generally, this high difference concerns countries have a relatively small sample (e.g., Lithuania, Malta, Sweden) but this does not explain all cases (e.g., Germany, Netherlands). This requires further analysis and comparison of the methodologies used by the two surveys.

Thirdly, the LFS estimators are annual averages while the EU-SILC are based on a specific period, generally, the first two quarters of the year.

As indicated below (see Methodology) the two surveys were using different classifications of educational curricula before 2014. Furthermore. the LFS was using a much more detailed one compared to EU-SILC.

From 2014 on, the two surveys use the same methodology. In fact, from this date, the educational attainment level is to be coded according to the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011). However, differences might appear in the implementation process. At this end, Eurostat notes that all questions about implementation of ISCED in the LFS survey may be addressed to the national ISCED coordinator who is nominated in each country to ensure coherence of the variable "Educational attainment" in different sources (in particular with EU-SILC).[73] This ought to improve comparability and reduce any differences between the LFS and the EU-SILC in the future.

[73] European Commission, Eurostat: "EU Labour Force Survey: Explanatory notes (to be applied from 2014q1 onwards)"; Eurostat Directorate F: Social Statistics and Information Society Unit F-3: Labour market Statistics; Luxembourg September 2013.

For the EU 27 Member States, the LFS survey indicates that, in 2019, 40.3 % of the population aged 30-34 years have successfully completed university or university-like (tertiary-level) education. The equivalent rate for the EU-SILC is 42.3 %.

In the following, we will use the EU-SILC data as this survey enables us to distinguish between persons with and without disabilities.

### 5.4.2 General comments

The EU considers that education has a central role in this important strategy in terms of fostering both societal and economic progress across the EU. It notes that education is crucial for young people's transitions from education into the labour market and for their successful integration in the society. Higher educational attainment levels increase employability and reduce poverty in the context of a knowledge-based economy.

This indicator presents a specific problem for persons with disabilities. The number of observations in the EU-SILC survey, concerning persons with activity limitations aged 30-34, is relatively small in several Member States. In order to solve this problem, we present also the average of the last two years. The EU estimate is still robust.

Concerning EU27, in 2019, the rate of persons with disabilities who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education is 32.5 %. This rate is 43.6 % for persons without disabilities. The rate for all persons aged 30-34 is 42.5 %.[74] The target for Europe 2020 is 40 %.

At the EU 27 level, about 0.8 million persons with disabilities (aged 30-34 living in private households) have acquired a tertiary or equivalent education, out of 2.5 million disabled persons with the same age and housing conditions.

**Table 11: Persons who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education, age 30-34, EU, 2019**

| | Less than tertiary | Tertiary or equivalent | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **1 000 000** | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 13.3 | 10.3 | 23.5 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 1.7 | 0.8 | 2.5 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | 15.0 | 11.1 | 26.1 |
| | | | |
| | | | **%** |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 56.4 | 43.6 | 100 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 67.5 | 32.5 | 100 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | 57.5 | 42.5 | 100 |

Note: The data have not been adjusted for missing values.
*Data source: EU-SILC 2019.*

Concerning gender, about 37.1 % of women with disabilities, aged 30-34, have completed a tertiary or equivalent education, compared to 26.5 % of men with disabilities of the same age group, in the EU.

[74] This rate covers only persons for which we have information on disability status.

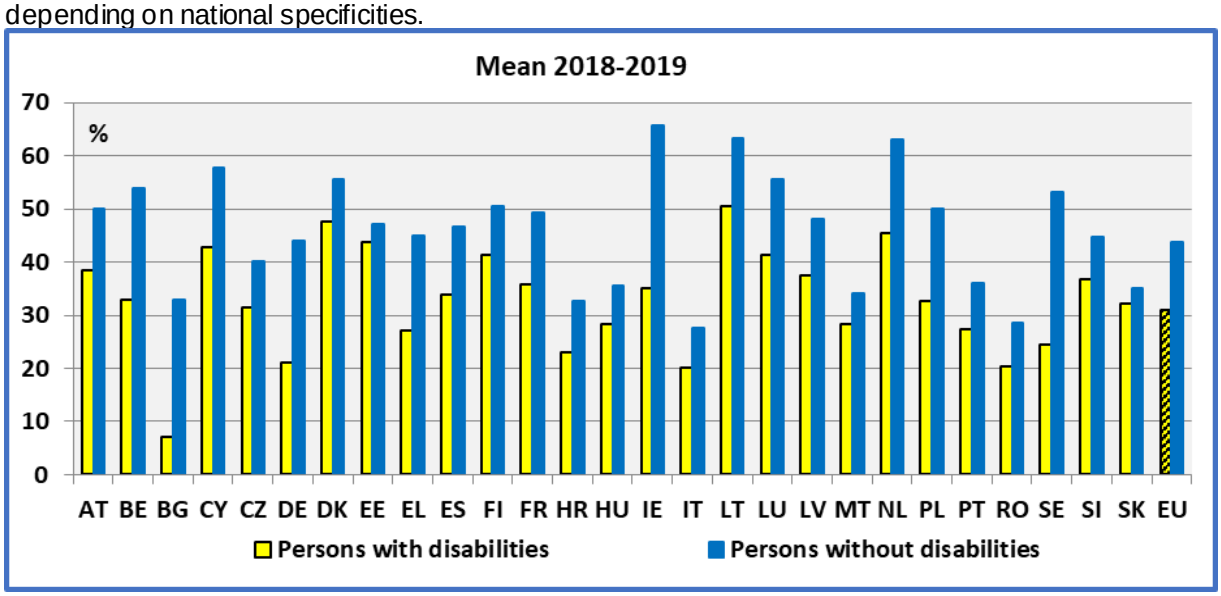
Given the low number of observations in the sample of persons with disabilities in the age group 30-34, we present below the mean value for the last two years. This does not change significantly the picture provided by the annual data.

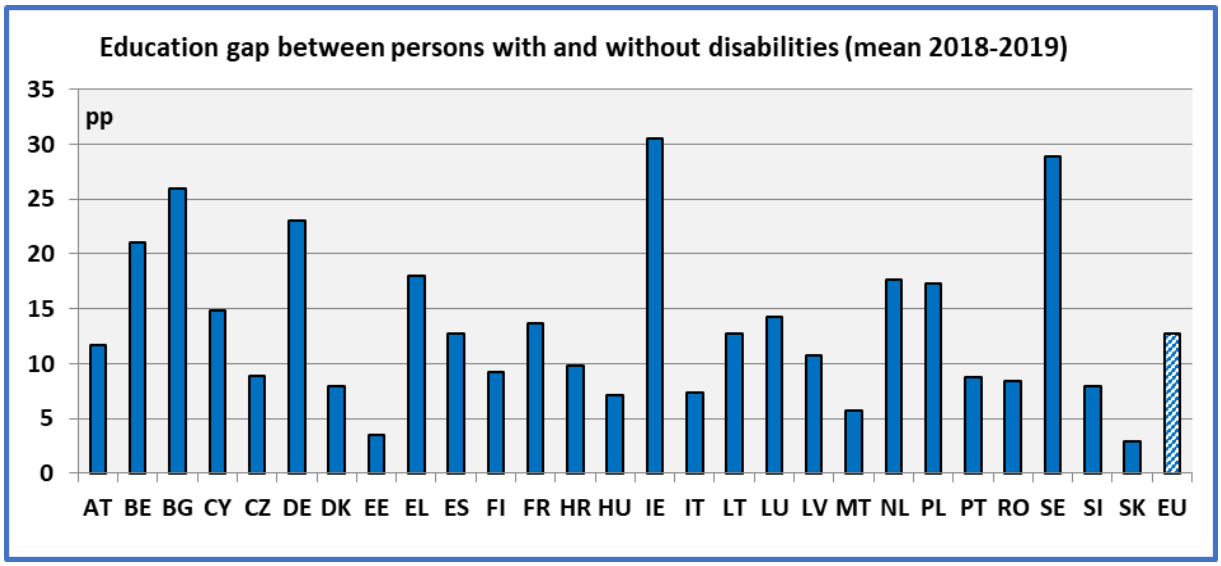
The disadvantage of people with disabilities may be measured in different ways. One way consists in measuring the difference between the percentage of people with and without disabilities that have completed a tertiary education. During the period 2018-2019, at the EU 27 level, the tertiary education gap between persons with and without disabilities, aged 30-34, is 12.8 percentage points.

The average education gap, in the period 2018-2019, is high in the big majority of Member States. We may observe that certain countries with good achievements for persons without disabilities present very low performances for persons with disabilities.

**Figure 26: Percent of persons who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education by Member State and disability status (age: 30-34)**

Share of the population of the same age group. The EU target is 40 % but national targets vary depending on national specificities.




FR: The target covers the age group 27-33. For this rate, the rates are 32.9 % (disabled), 43.2 % (non-disabled) and 42.2 % (total).

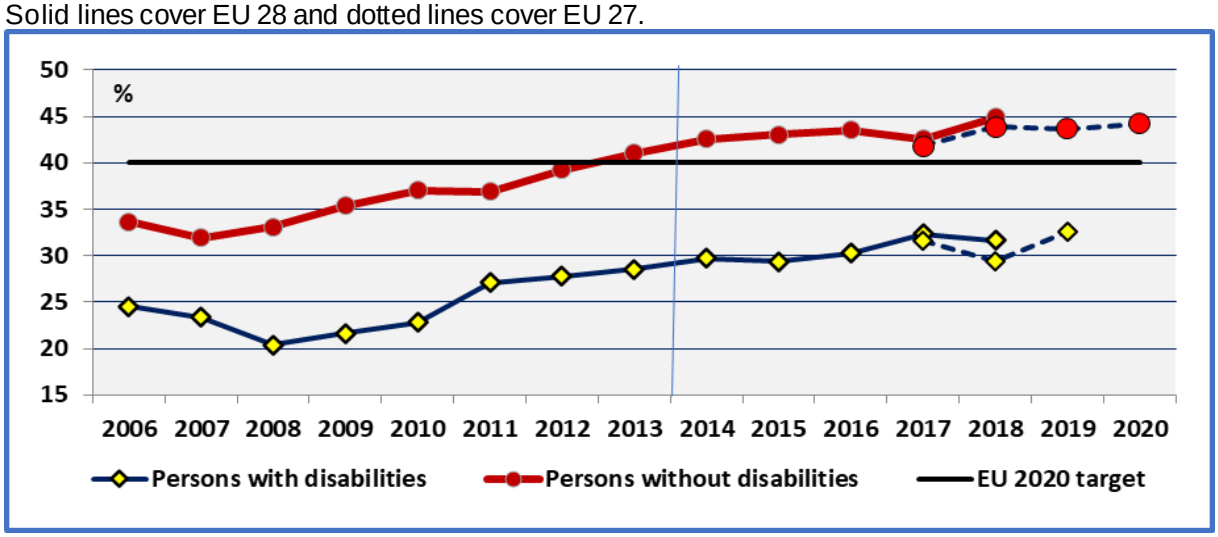
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018-2019.*

### 5.4.3 Evolution

We may observe a continuous improvement of the situation of persons with disabilities between 2008 and 2019. The small downward change in 2015 was the result of the change of disability definition in Germany.

At first sight, the situation has been reversed between 2017 and 2018. However, the number of observations in the sample, notably persons with disabilities aged 30-34, is relatively small. The change between 2017 and 2018 is not significant at the 95 % level.

**Figure 27: Evolution of the share of persons who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education by disability status. EU, Age: 30-34**
Share of the population of the same age group and disability status.
Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27.




Note: Change of classification in 2014. In 2015. there was a change of definitions in Germany leading to a nominal downward movement. The 2020 value is a simple extrapolation based on LFS results.
*Source of data: EU-SILC UDB.*

In the EU 27, since 2008, the tertiary education gap between persons with and without disabilities remains high. It is about 11.1 percentage points (mean relative gap: 34.2 %), in 2019.

### 5.4.4 Education and employment

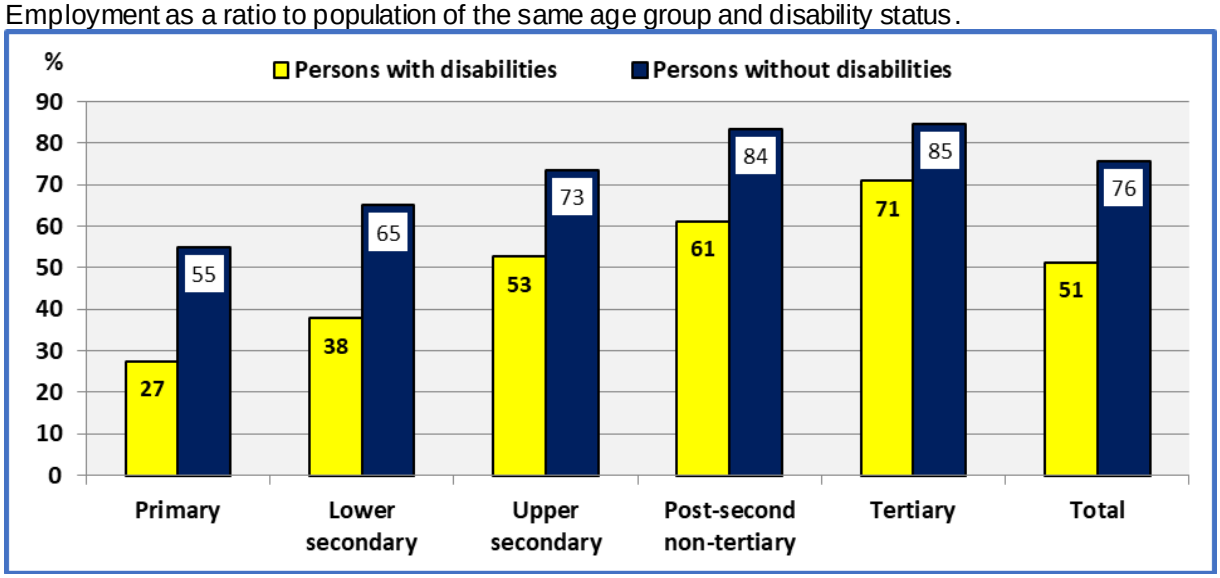
According to human capital theory, employment prospects and wages depend on educational attainment. An investment in human capital increases employability (the probability of being in employment over the course of lifetime) and the wages individuals earn in employment. Concerning employment prospects, additional years of education increase employment and career opportunities.

In the following graph, we compare the employment rate of individuals with different educational levels. The employment rate is positively correlated with the educational level. In a causative interpretation, education increases the probability to enter the labour force and also the employment prospects.

The employment rate (as a percentage of the same age group) of all persons increases with the educational level. Additional years of education increase the employment rate of each group.

The employment rate for persons with disabilities increases from 27 % (persons with at most a primary education), to 53 % (upper secondary), and finally to 71 % (tertiary education). The respective rates for persons without disabilities are 55 % (primary), 73 % (upper secondary) and 85 % (tertiary). A similar order of magnitude was reported in previous years.

**Figure 28: Relation between employment and education. EU 2019, age 20-64**
Employment as a ratio to population of the same age group and disability status.




Note: The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons aged 20 to 64 in employment by the total population of the same disability status and age group. The education level refers to persons who have completed the specified education or equivalent education level. The classification follows the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011). See: http://uis.unesco.org/en/topic/international-standard-classification-education-isced.
*Source of data: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

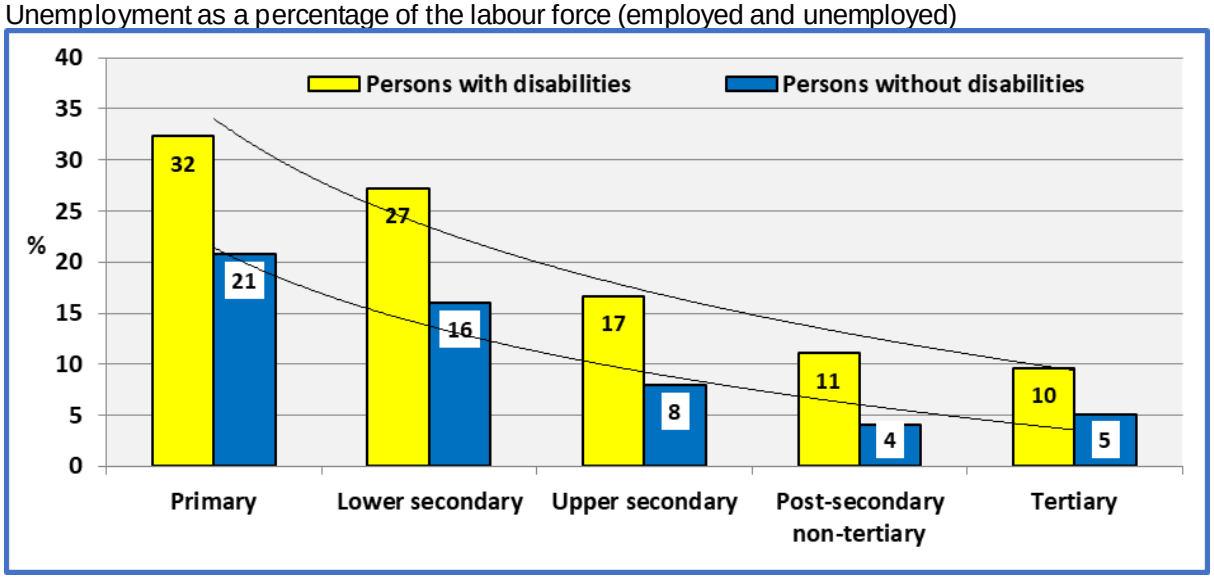
The graph indicates that more education provides generally a bigger increase in the employment rate of persons with disabilities compared to persons without disabilities. In fact, we may observe that the employment increase between persons with primary education and tertiary education is 158 % [=100x(71-27)/27; data are rounded) for persons with disabilities and 54 % ( =100x(85-55)/55; the data are rounded)] for persons without disabilities.

Also, both the absolute and the relative gap[75] of persons with disabilities compared to persons without disabilities decreases as the education level increases. The absolute gap decreases from 28 pp (55 %-27 %) in primary education to 14 pp in tertiary education. The respective relative gaps are 50.2 % and 16.3 %. This means that investing in education for persons with disabilities yields a higher profit compared to persons without disabilities and decreases their relative disadvantage.

A more popular view focus on the unemployment rate. Better education is associated with lower unemployment rates. Consequently, education appears again to be a strong policy instrument.

[75] 1. Absolute gap = (% persons without disabilities - % persons with disabilities). 2. Relative gap = (% persons without disabilities - % persons with disabilities) / (% persons without disabilities), for each educational level.

**Figure 29: Relation between unemployment and education. EU 2019, age 20-64**
Unemployment as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed)




Note: The classification follows the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011). See: http://uis.unesco.org/en/topic/international-standard-classification-education-isced.
*Source of data: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

However, these observations ought not to hide the fact that education may not eradicate discrimination. In fact, we may still observe that persons with similar educational levels present different employment/unemployment rates. Consequently, education alone may not eradicate the disadvantage of persons with disabilities. Factors related to disability ought to be taken into consideration. This disadvantage might be, at least partly, the result of the lack of technical aids and work adaptations.

### 5.4.5 Education and the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is associated with social distancing, stay at home measures and telework. All these factors ought to favour working from home and further digitalisation of the economy.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic crisis favours investment in digital skills and requires new technology infrastructures. Persons with disabilities might face a double obstacle. First, a lack of digital equipment due to economic constraints and secondly, a lack of accessibility to new products and services.

Economic constraints due to poverty, coupled with barriers (accessibility of programmes, lack of technical equipment, etc.) might be serious obstacles in participating in distance learning and new work arrangements.

Educational programmes on digital skills might be developed both by public authorities and private companies. An important obstacle for persons with disabilities might be a relatively low educational level. As shown in the following table, persons with disabilities are overrepresented among persons with a primary education. In the age group 16-24, they represent 10.1 % of all persons with disabilities, aged 16-24, compared to 4.7 % of persons without disabilities. We observe a similar disadvantage among persons aged 65 and over. A low educational level might be an obstacle to their participation in programmes for the upgrading of their digital skills. Also, a low educational level might discourage self-learning. In this case, preparatory courses

ought to give them the necessary tools enabling them to participate in such programmes.

Computer skills increase steadily with education level both for persons with and without disabilities. In the following table, we may note that a relatively high proportion of elderly people has a primary education or less. This might a serious barrier for the acquisition of digital skills. And low digital skills are a serious threat to elderly people, notably, in periods of social distancing where internet constitutes an important channel for social contacts, economic life and collection of information on health. Educational programmes on basic digital skills ought to be developed in favour of this group.

**Table 12: Distribution of persons by highest educational level and disability, age 16-64, EU, 2019**

| | Primary | Lower secondary | Upper secondary | Post-secondary non-tertiary | Tertiary | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **%** | | | | | |
| | **Age: 16-64** | | | | | |
| Persons without disabilities | 4.7 | 17.3 | 42.4 | 4.7 | 30.8 | 100 |
| Persons with disabilities | 10.1 | 20.7 | 44.6 | 4.6 | 20.0 | 100 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Total** | **5.6** | **17.9** | **42.8** | **4.7** | **29.1** | **100** |
| | **Age : 65+** | | | | | |
| Persons without disabilities | 22.9 | 18.3 | 36.1 | 2.7 | 20.1 | 100 |
| Persons with disabilities | 36.1 | 19.5 | 30.4 | 2.1 | 11.9 | 100 |
| | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 29.0 | 18.9 | 33.5 | 2.4 | 16.3 | 100 |

*Source of data: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

# PART IV: Poverty Indicators

## 6 People living in households with very low work intensity

### 6.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

The UN Convention in Article 27 treating "Work and employment" stress the promotion of "employment opportunities and career advancement for persons with disabilities in the labour market. as well as assistance in finding. obtaining. maintaining and returning to employment".

On 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted a Resolution on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". Goal 8 recognises the importance of sustained economic growth and high levels of economic productivity. It calls for providing decent employment for all, including women, people with disabilities, youth, the elderly and migrants.

The European Pillar of Social Rights under "Equal opportunities" provides that regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, everyone has the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, etc.

In the framework of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion specified how it will contribute to the Commission priorities.[76] It defined a set of impact indicators including, notably people at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

We may note that in the framework of the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, the Alert Mechanism includes indicators on people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, people at risk of poverty after social transfers, severely materially deprived people and people living in households with very low work intensity.

The EU strategy for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, known as the Europe 2020 strategy, includes an indicator referring to very low work intensity. It states that people living in households with very low work intensity are people living in households where the adults work less than 20 % of their total work potential during the past year.

The work intensity of the household is defined as the ratio between on the one hand, the number of months that all working age household members have been working during the income reference year and on the other hand, the total number of months that could theoretically have been worked by the same household members in the same period.[77]

People living in households with very low work intensity are more likely exposed to social exclusion and risk of poverty. due to their dependency on social transfers and their difficulty to access to common goods and services.

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[76] European Commission: Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. 12/01/2021, https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/strategic-plan-2020-2024-employment-social-affairs-and-inclusion_en.

[77] Eurostat: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/sdi/files/QP%20People%20living%20in%20households%20with%20very%20work%20intensity.pdf.

## 6.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

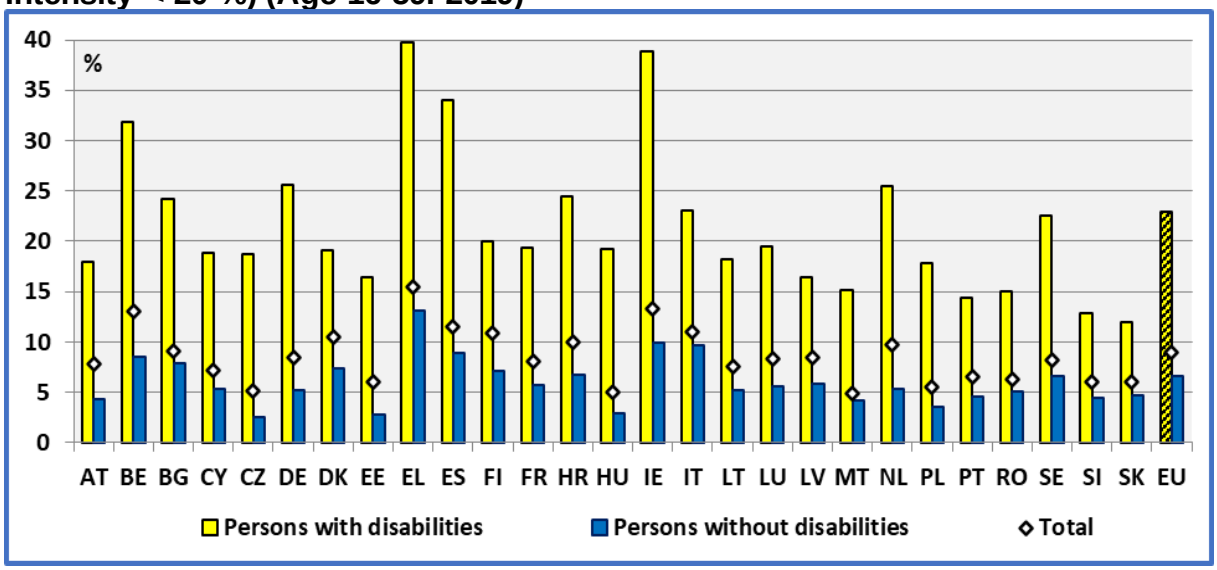
### 6.2.1 General comments

People living in households with very low work intensity are people living in households where the adults work less than 20 % of their total work potential during the past year. Consequently. work intensity measures the employment rate of the household, but it does not take into account the distribution of employment inside a household (including several adults).

In the EU 27, in 2019 about 22.9 % of persons with disabilities live in households with a low work intensity (<20 %) compared to 6.6 % of persons without disabilities. This represents a difference of about 16.3 percentage points. Similar differences were observed in previous years. The total rate is 9.0 %. The data cover persons aged 16-59.

The percentage of persons with disabilities living in households with a low work intensity (<20 %) varies from 12.0 % (Slovakia) to 39.7 % (Greece) in the Member States.

**Figure 30: Percent of persons living in households with low work intensity (Work Intensity < 20 %) (Age 16-59. 2019)**




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

This indicator has to be treated with care. In fact, work intensity is estimated at the household level. The same value is then attributed to all household members.

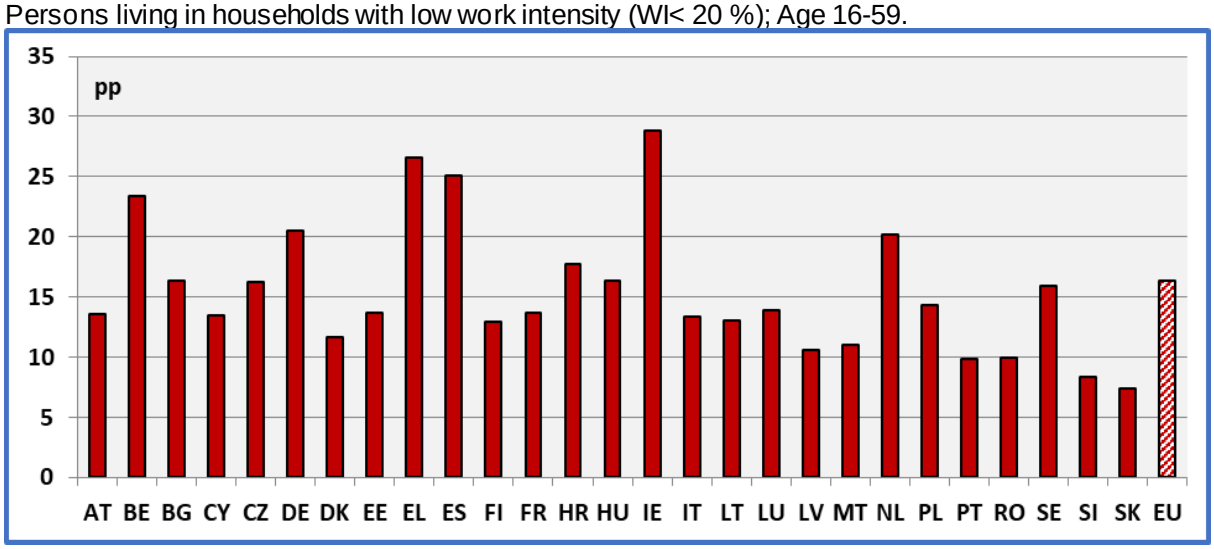
Concerning gender in the EU 27, about 22.1 % of women with disabilities, aged 16-59, live in households with low work intensity compared to 23.9 % for men with disabilities of the same age group. In the discussion of unemployment rates, we had noted that women with disabilities might experience a discouragement effect, pushing them to quit the labour market, relatively more strongly than men with disabilities.

The percentage of persons living in households with low work intensity increases sharply with the degree of disability. It is 6.6 % for persons without disabilities, 17.3 % for persons with moderate disabilities and 39.3 % for persons with severe disabilities, in the EU 27.

In certain countries, the difference between persons with and without disabilities is relatively small (e.g., Slovakia, Slovenia and Portugal). Similar results were reported in previous years too. However, in other Member States the difference is relatively important (Spain, Greece and Ireland).

**Figure 31: The work intensity gap between persons with and without disabilities, 2019**

Gap = % of persons with disabilities - % of persons without disabilities.
Persons living in households with low work intensity (WI< 20 %); Age 16-59.




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

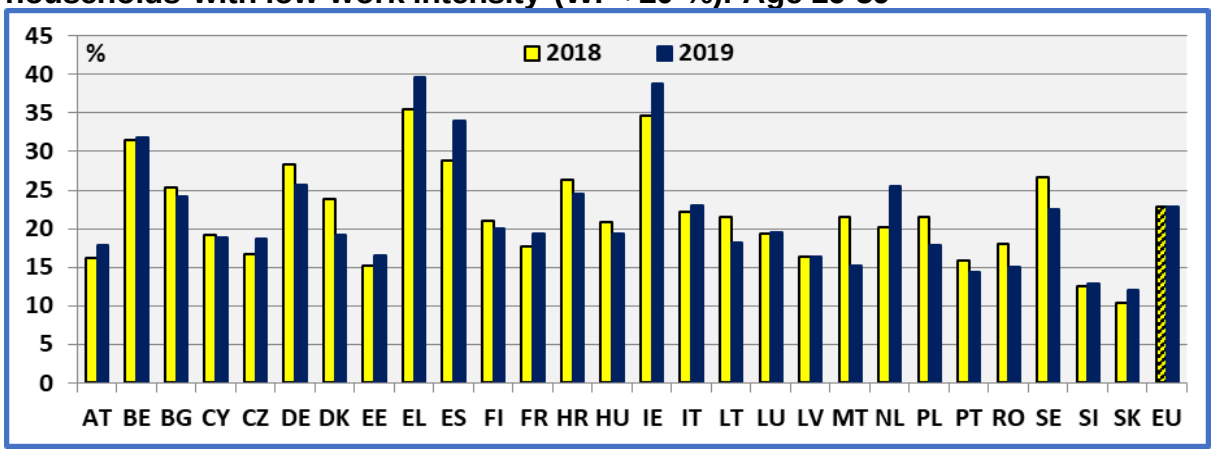
### 6.2.2 Evolution at national level

Between 2018 and 2019, the change was small at the EU level (0.4 %). However, we observe significant differences across Member States.

In fourteen (14) Member States, we observe an improvement of the situation of persons with disabilities (decrease of the percentage living in households with low work intensity). The opposite was true in thirteen (13) Member States.

However, due to sampling limitations, these annual changes ought to be treated with care.

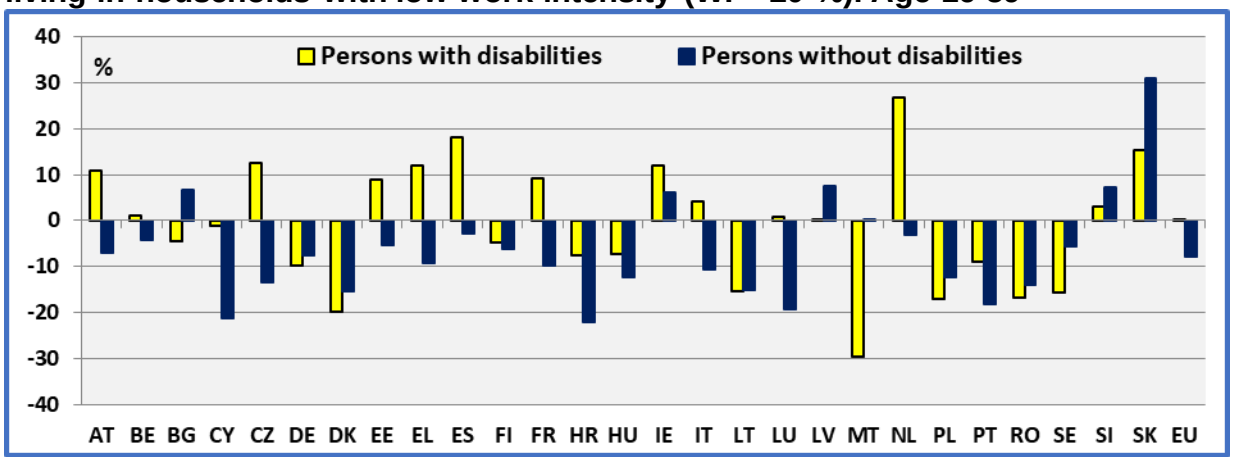
**Figure 32: Evolution of the percentage of persons with disabilities living in households with low work intensity (WI < 20 %). Age 16-59**




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 & 2019.*

Comparing the national evolutions of persons with and without disabilities, between 2018-2019, we find an extremely low correlation ($R^2$=0.11, n=27). No correlation or extremely low correlation was found in previous years too.

**Figure 33: Percentage change between 2018-2019 of the number of persons living in households with low work intensity (WI < 20 %). Age 16-59**




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 & 2019.*

### 6.2.3 Evolution at the EU level

The following graph presents the evolution of low work intensity for persons with and without disabilities. At the EU level, we may observe the impact of the financial crisis in 2008-2009.

During the last years, we observe an improvement of the situation of persons without disabilities but a slight deterioration of persons with severe disabilities.

The evolution in 2014 and in a lesser extent in 2015 has been partly affected by a change of disability definitions. A narrower definition of disability was applied (e.g., in Germany and Italy) increasing artificially the rate of persons with disabilities living in private households.

An interesting question is whether the gap between persons with and without disabilities has decreased. In fact, national and European policies aim to reduce discrimination and thus the disadvantage of persons with disabilities in comparison to persons without disabilities.

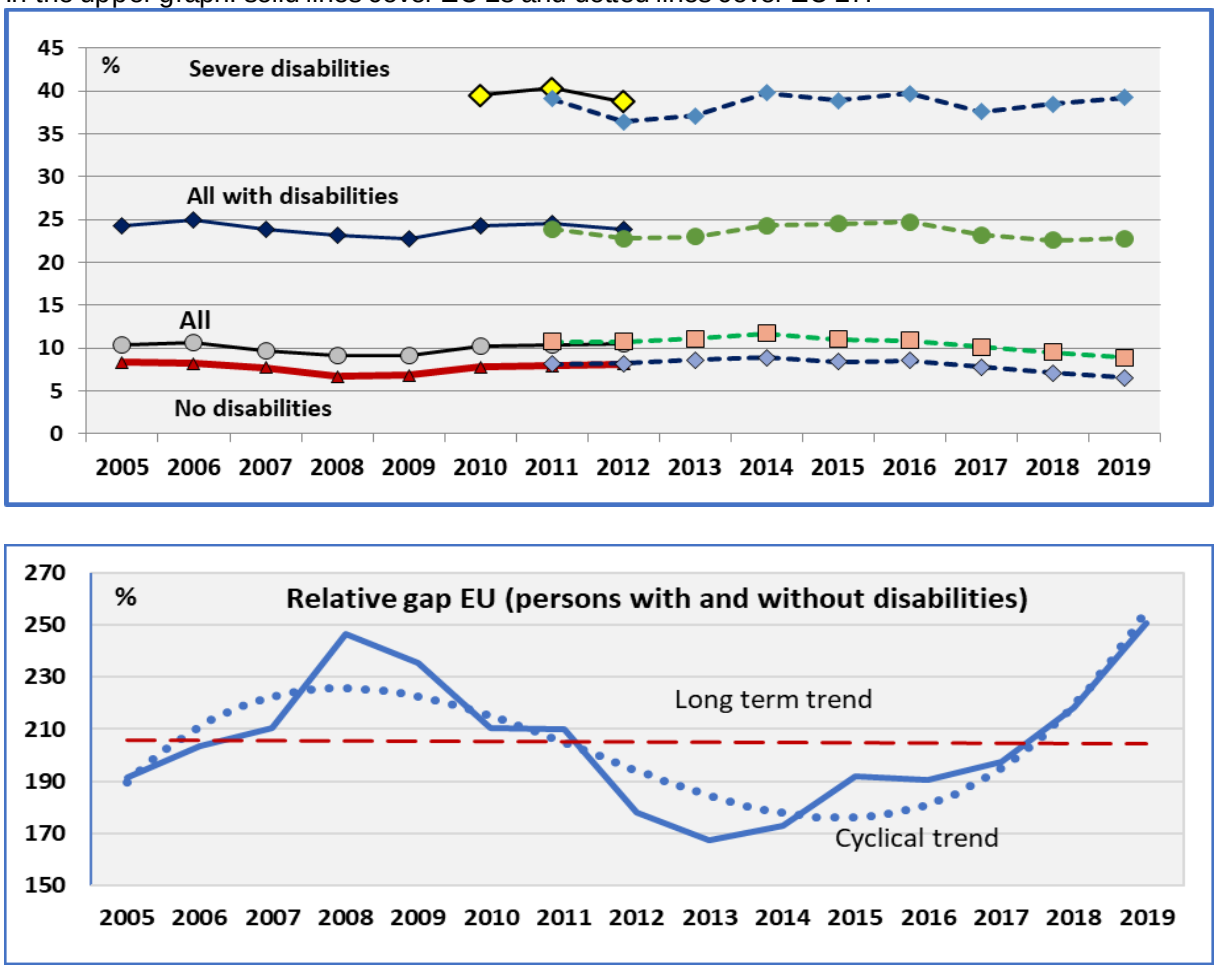
The graph below presents the evolution of the relative gap[78] at the EU level. We may observe a clear cyclical movement. During growth periods (before 2008 and after 2013) the relative gap is increasing and during recessions (2009-2013), it decreases.

One possible explanation is the following: during recession periods, older workers with established work rights are protected from firings. Since, older workers are over-represented among persons with disabilities, this implies that firings affect less the group of persons with disabilities. After the recession and at the beginning of the recovery, the existence of a high number of job seekers might lead employers to favour persons without disabilities and thus discriminating, at least partly, persons with disabilities.

[78] Relative gap =100* (% persons with limitations - % persons without limitations) / (% persons without limitations).

**Figure 34: Evolution of the percentage of persons living in households with low work intensity (WI < 20 %). EU, Age 16-59**

In the upper graph: solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27.




Note: Relative gap = 100*(% persons with disabilities - % persons without disabilities) / (% persons without disabilities). In the graph describing the relative gap, continuous lines represent observed data and dotted lines represent estimated fitted values.

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB and Eurostat.*

# 7 People at-risk-of-poverty after social transfers

## 7.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

Article 28 of the UN Convention treats "Adequate standard of living and social protection". It provides notably for measures "To ensure access by persons with disabilities. in particular women and girls with disabilities and older persons with disabilities. to social protection programmes and poverty reduction programmes".

On 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted a Resolution on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". This Agenda is a plan of action. It seeks notably, to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions and considers that this is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

The European Pillar of Social Rights aims to build a more inclusive and fairer European Union. It covers, notably, three broad dimensions of societal progress: labour market, fair working conditions and public support / social protection & inclusion.

In the framework of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion[79] defined a set of impact indicators which are relevant to the socio-economic field. They include, notably people at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

In the framework of Europe 2020 strategy, one of the indicators proposed is the number of People at-risk-of-poverty after social transfers. Persons at risk-of-poverty are persons with an equivalised disposable income below the risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60 % of the national median equivalised household disposable income (after social transfers).

We may note that in the framework of the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, the Alert Mechanism includes indicators on people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, people at risk of poverty after social transfers, severely materially deprived people and people living in households with very low work intensity.

## 7.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 7.2.1 General comments

The data reveal that people with a disability face a higher risk of poverty after social transfers compared to people without disabilities. At the EU level, in 2019, about 21.1 % of persons with disabilities aged 16 and over face a risk of poverty compared to 14.6 % of persons without disabilities of the same age group. The percentage for all persons aged 16 and over is 16.2 %.

[79] European Commission: Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. 12/01/2021, https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/strategic-plan-2020-2024-employment-social-affairs-and-inclusion_en.

**Table 13: Persons at risk of poverty after social transfers. Age: 16+, 2019**
Percent of people with an equivalised household disposable income less than 60 % of the median national equivalised household disposable income (after social transfers).

| | No risk of poverty | At risk of poverty | Population |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **1,000,000** | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 230,5 | 39,5 | 270,0 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 66,8 | 17,8 | 84,6 |
| **Moderate disabilities** | 48,5 | 11,9 | 60,4 |
| **Severe disabilities** | 18,3 | 5,9 | 24,2 |
| | | | |
| **Total** (weights covering health items) | 297,3 | 57,3 | 354,6 |
| Total (weights covering sample) | 307,7 | 59,1 | 366,8 |
| | | | |
| | **%** | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 85,4 | 14,6 | 100 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 78,9 | 21,1 | 100 |
| **Moderate disabilities** | 80,2 | 19,8 | 100 |
| **Severe disabilities** | 75,6 | 24,4 | 100 |
| | | | |
| **Total** (weights covering health items) | 83,8 | 16,2 | **100** |
| Total (weights covering sample) | 83,9 | 16,1 | 100 |

*: The totals differ because there is missing information concerning disability status for some persons and the weights are not re-adjusted. In the total, the majority of missing cases concern the Czechia and Poland.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

In the EU 27, there are about 57.3 million persons aged 16 and over living in private households at risk of financial poverty. This number includes about 17.8 million with disabilities and 39.5 million without disabilities.[80]

We observe a gender poverty gap in the EU. About 21.9 % of women with disabilities, aged 16 and over, face a risk of financial poverty compared to 20.0 % of men with disabilities of the same age group.

The percentage of persons at risk of financial poverty varies with age. Focussing on persons with disabilities, we find 22.9 % in the age group 16-64 and 19.1 % in the age group 65 and over.

The risk of financial poverty increases with the degree of disability. It is 19.8 % for persons with moderate disabilities aged 16 and over, in the EU, compared to 24.4 % of persons with severe disabilities.

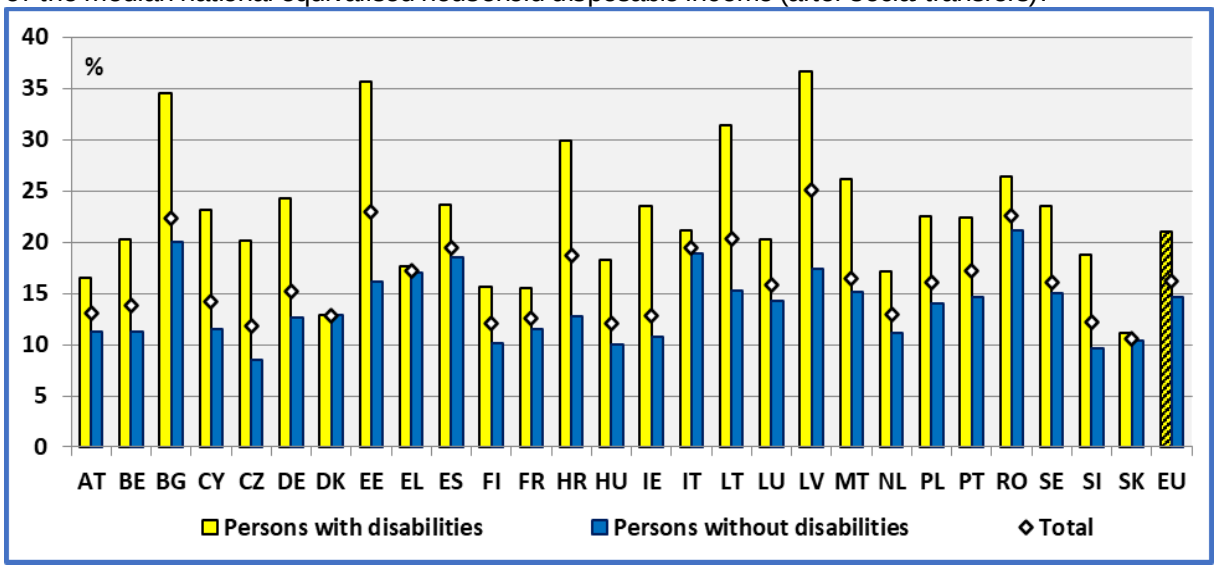
The percentage of persons with disabilities living in households at risk of poverty is high in Bulgaria, Estonia and Latvia. On the other hand. this rate is relatively low in Slovakia, Denmark and France. Similar orderings were found in previous years.

[80] The estimations are not corrected for missing values.

We may note that countries with high poverty rates among persons with disabilities present often high rates for persons without disabilities ($R^2$=0.33, n=27). Similar correlations were found in previous years.

**Figure 35: People at risk of poverty after social transfers. Age: 16+, 2019**

Percent of people living in households with an equivalised household disposable income less than 60 % of the median national equivalised household disposable income (after social transfers).

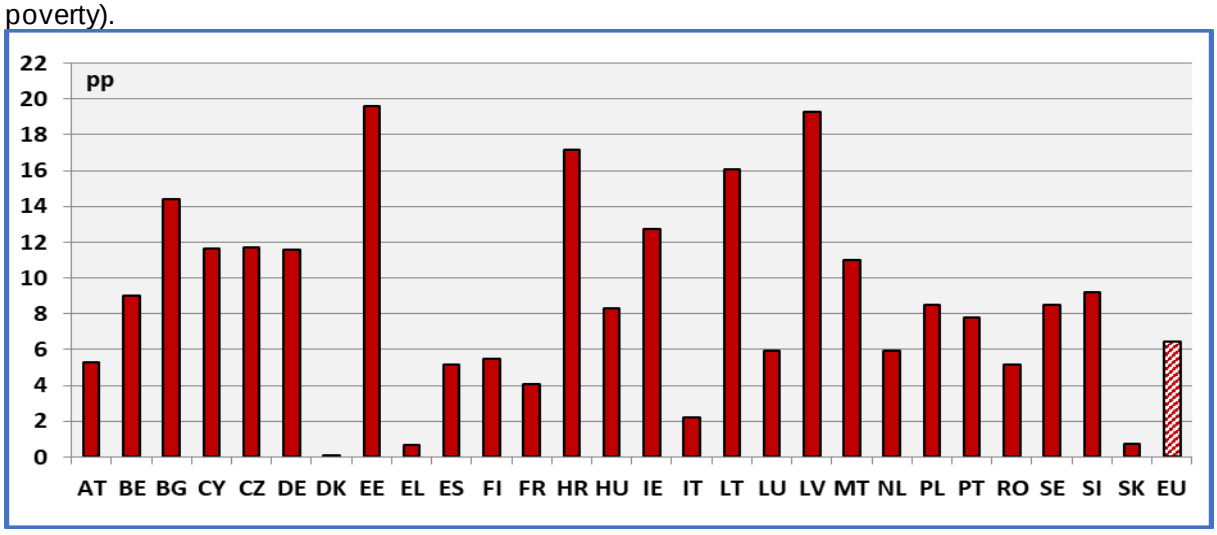



*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

In the following, in order to measure any comparative disadvantage, we measure the difference between the two groups, inside each country. Another possibility is to measure the relative difference between the two groups. For the facility of understanding, we present below the absolute disadvantage. But the relative difference (disadvantage) is strongly correlated ($R^2$=0.81) with the absolute disadvantage presented here. The conclusions are the same.

**Figure 36: Disadvantage of people with disabilities in comparison to people without disabilities. Age 16+, 2019**

Absolute disadvantage = (% of disabled people at risk of poverty) – (% of non-disabled people at risk of poverty).




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

At the EU 27 level, there is an absolute poverty gap, at the disadvantage of persons with disabilities, of 6.5 percentage points (44.1 % in relative terms). In certain countries, the difference between people with and without disabilities is relatively low

(Denmark, Greece and Slovakia). On the other hand, in Croatia, Latvia and Estonia the absolute difference is relatively high.

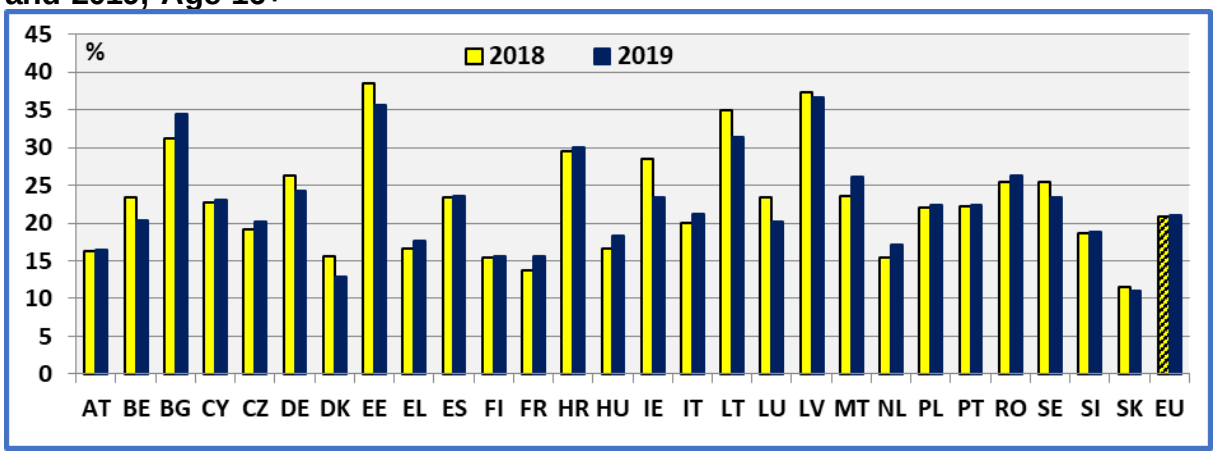
The data indicate that the difference between people with and without disabilities is significantly lower compared to work related measures. We can conclude that the welfare state is correcting the labour market inequalities.

### 7.2.2 Evolution at national level

In the EU, between 2018 and 2019, we observe a marginal deterioration of the situation of persons with disabilities and a small improvement of the situation of persons without disabilities (see below).

The evolution of financial poverty risk of persons with disabilities varies across Member States. A deterioration of the situation of persons with disabilities has taken place in 17 Member States. Ten Member States experienced an improvement of the situation of persons with disabilities. However, due to sampling limitations, small changes ought to be treated with care.

**Figure 37: People with disabilities at risk of poverty after social transfers in 2018 and 2019; Age 16+**



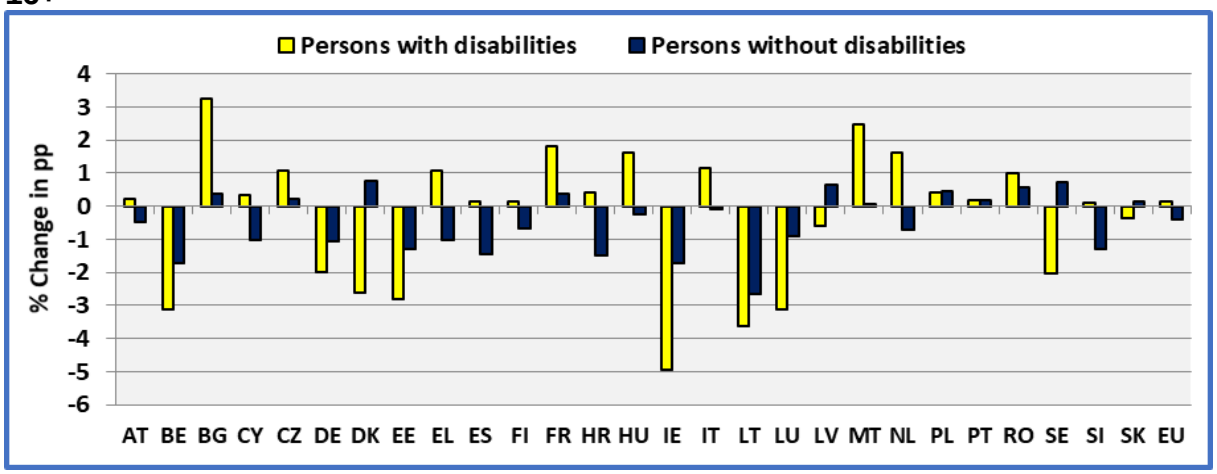

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 & 2019.*

The following figure presents the annual change of the risk of poverty in percentage points for persons with and without disabilities between 2018 and 2019. We can observe that the evolution of the two groups is different.

The analysis of the relative changes indicates that the evolution of the situation of persons with disabilities is not (or in a small extent) correlated with the evolution of persons without disabilities, at this stage of the economic cycle.[81]

[81] The coefficient of correlation $R^2$=0.11 for the 27 Member States.

**Figure 38: Change in the risk of poverty after social transfers (2018–2019); Age 16+**




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 & 2019.*

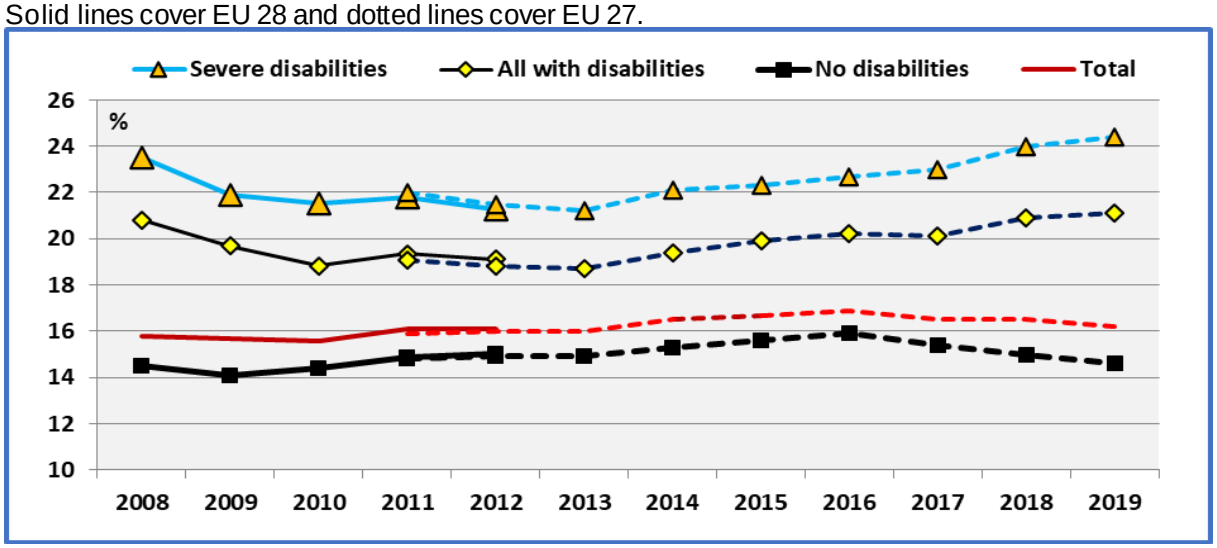
### 7.2.3 Evolution at the EU level

In the following graph, we may observe a deterioration (increase of poverty) of the situation of persons with disabilities at the EU level, in the last years. On the contrary, we observe an improvement (decrease of poverty) for persons without disabilities.

Globally, there was an abrupt decrease of GDP in 2020, in the EU. However, we do not expect an equivalent increase of poverty. In fact, active national policies, notably extensive job retention programmes, have attenuated the impact of the slowdown following the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Figure 39: Persons at risk of poverty after social transfers by disability and year. EU, Age 16+**

Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27.




Note: The risk of poverty means that a person lives in a household with an equivalised household disposable income less than 60 % of the median national equivalised household disposable income (after social transfers).

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB and Eurostat (Data extracted on 03/06/2021 from [ESTAT]).*

In order to capture better the situation of persons with disabilities, we present below the evolution of financial poverty by age group.

Concerning persons aged 16-64, we may note that this group relies mainly on work income. Globally, it follows the evolution of the economic cycle. The evolution of the risk of financial poverty is similar for persons with and without disabilities. Poverty decreased for both groups between 2015-2019.

Concerning persons aged 65 and over, we may note that this group relies mainly on retirement pensions. The evolution of financial poverty of this group is different compared to persons aged 16-64. Again, the evolution of the risk of financial poverty is similar for persons with and without disabilities.

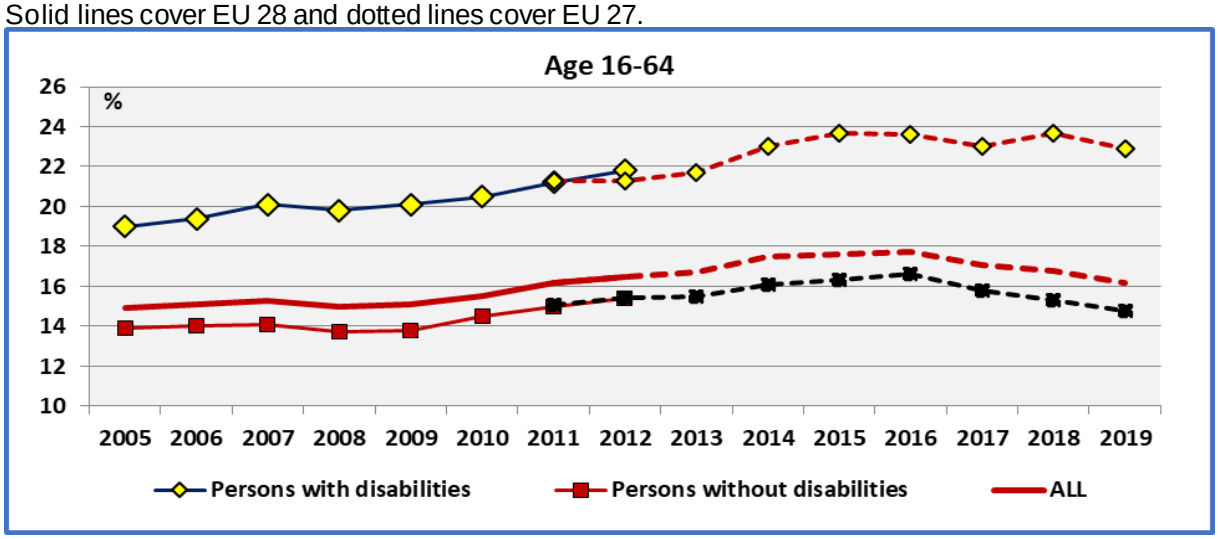
Generally. retirement pensions and social transfers dampen any negative impact of the economic crisis and the ensuing reduction of income. In fact, retirement pensions and social allowances might not decrease in the same proportion as nominal wages. Consequently, for elderly people, household income might not decrease in case of a recession, at least at the initial stage. On the contrary, for persons active on the labour market, the loss of employment and probably the evolution of wages might mean a lower median income. These factors might explain why we observe an increase of poverty levels for persons aged 16-64 and a decrease for elderly persons aged 65 and over during the recession period 2008 to 2013.

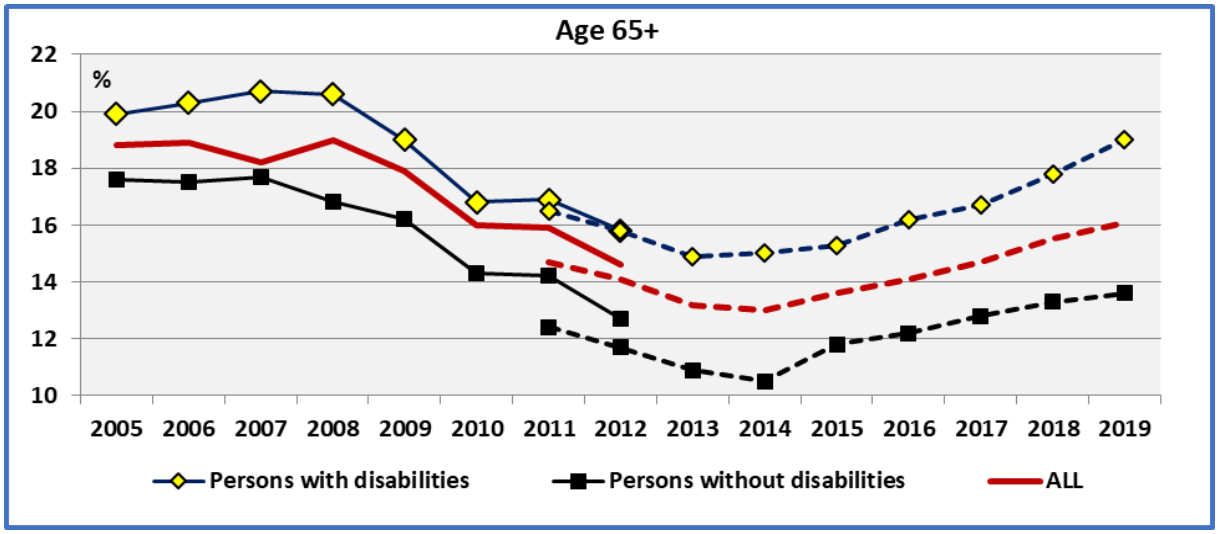
During an improvement on the labour market, economically active persons aged 16-64 may improve their situation relative to retired persons.

We have to stress that this indicator does not take into account health expenses which might be important for elderly people. Health expenses increase the cost of living and hence the risk of poverty, all other things being equal.

**Figure 40: Persons at risk of poverty after social transfers by disability and year. EU 28**

Solid lines cover EU 28 and dotted lines cover EU 27.






*Data source: EU-SILC UDB and Eurostat (Data extracted on 03/06/2021 from [ESTAT]).*

Concerning the relative gap in financial poverty (difference between persons with and without disabilities as a percent of the latter), the previous graphs indicates that this gap has increased both for persons aged 16-64 and for persons aged 65 and over. This reveals the lack of success of European and national policies to decrease the gap between persons with and without disabilities.

### 7.2.4 Income of persons with disabilities

In the following graph, we present the disability income gap. For the comparison, we use the equivalised household disposable income of persons with and without disabilities.

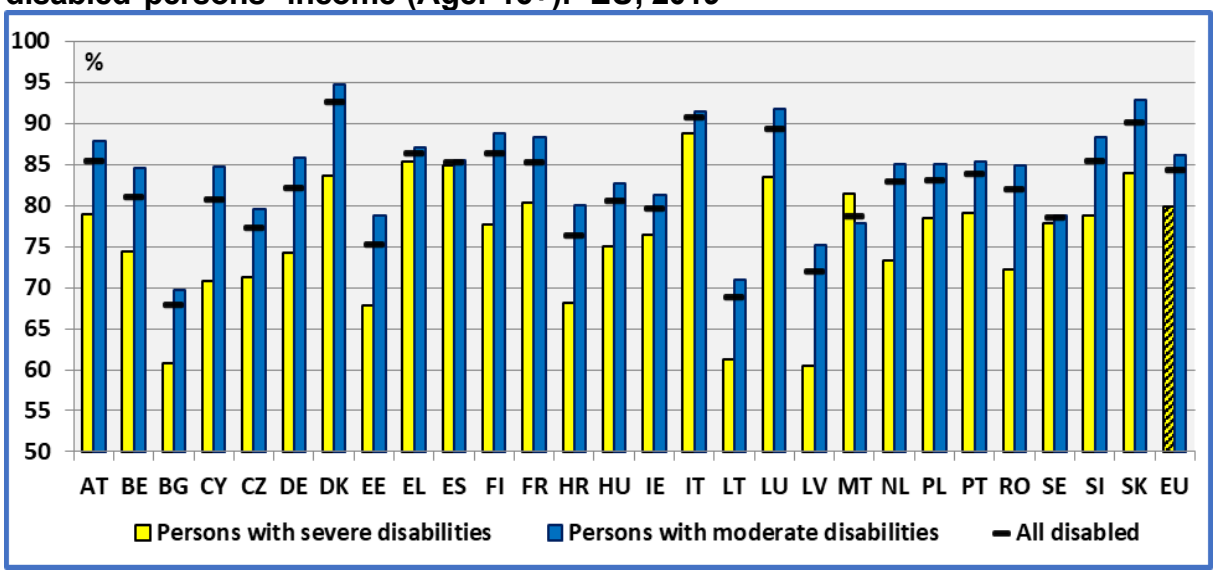
Eurostat notes that the total disposable income of a household is calculated by adding together the personal income received by all household members plus income received at household level. To take into account the impact of differences in household size and composition, the total disposable household income is "equivalised".[82] This equivalisation takes into account the composition of the household and helps us to make comparisons at the individual level.

The highest gaps can be found in Bulgaria, Lithuania and Latvia. In fact, in these countries the equivalised disposable household income of persons with disabilities as a percentage of non-disabled persons' income is very low. On the other hand, the income gap is low in Slovakia, Italy and Denmark. In fact, in these countries the percentage is high.

We may note that the income gap for persons with severe disabilities is higher compared to persons with moderate disabilities.

[82] Eurostat applies an equivalisation factor which gives a weight of 1.0 to the first person aged 14 or more, a weight of 0.5 to other persons aged 14 or more and a weight of 0.3 to persons aged 0-13. https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/en/ilc_esms.htm.

**Figure 41: Mean income of persons with disabilities as a percentage of non-disabled persons' income (Age: 16+). EU, 2019**




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

In order to have a magnitude of the equivalised household disposable income, we may note that, it is EUR 20 675 (=100) for persons without disabilities, 17 813 (86 %) for persons with moderate disabilities and EUR 16 503 (80 %) for severely disabled, in the EU 27. The overall, covering persons with and without disabilities, is EUR 19 903. But there are important differences between countries which are not apparent in the previous figure.[83]

If we take the median values, we obtain similar results. In the EU 27, the median value is EUR 17 963 (=100), for persons without disabilities, EUR 15 469 (86 %) for persons with moderate disabilities and EUR 14 605 (81 %) for severely disabled.

### 7.2.5 Distribution of income and risk of poverty

As indicated above, persons at risk-of-poverty are persons with an equivalised household disposable income below the risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60 % of the national median equivalised household disposable income (after social transfers).
We may visualise this indicator, in the following figure. It represents the distribution of persons by ratio of relative income (equivalised household disposable income / National median value). Persons with a ratio less than 0.6 are at risk of poverty.

The sum of persons with disabilities below the threshold is 21 % (1 %+5 %+15 %) (21.1 % not rounded value) and for persons without disabilities, the share is 14 % (1 %+4 %+9 %) (14.6 % not rounded value).

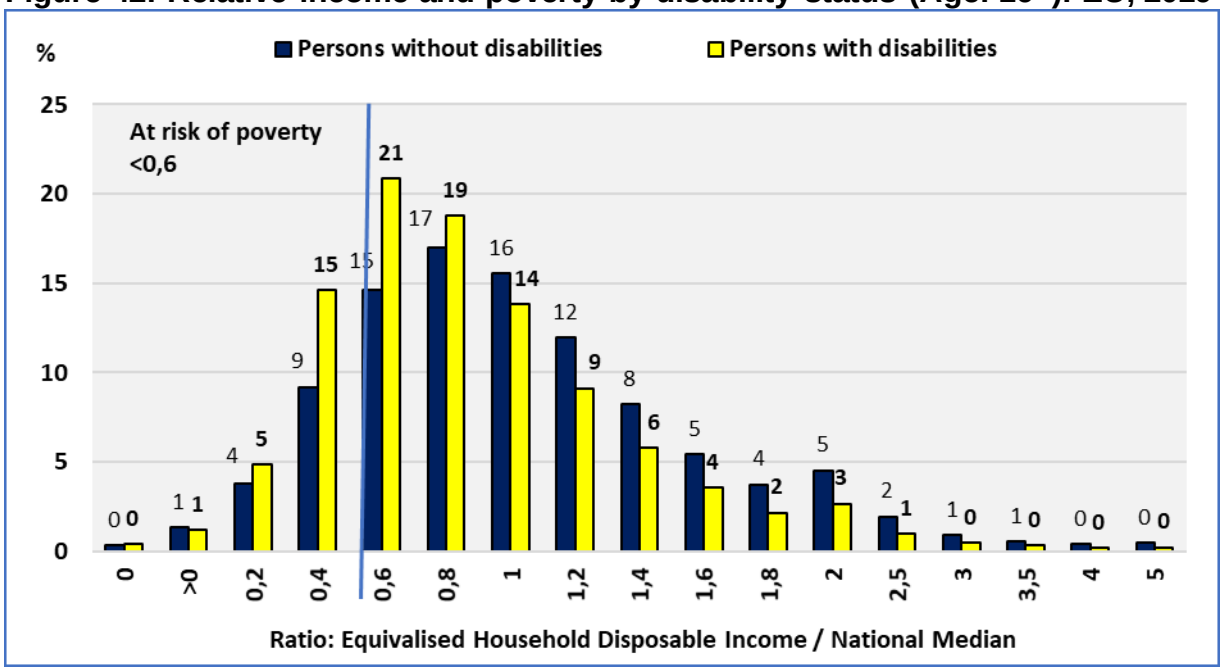
We may note that another 40 % of persons with disabilities (21 %+19 %) are very close to the poverty threshold and below the respective national median values, which corresponds to '1' in the abscise (horizontal line) of the following graph.

The group of 21 % is of particular interest since an unexpected expense may push them under the poverty threshold. Also, if we take into account disability related

[83] The total varies from EUR 5 555 in Bulgaria to EUR 43 891 in Luxembourg.

expenses, aimed to overcome barriers, reduce their disposable income and may push them again under the poverty threshold.

**Figure 42: Relative income and poverty by disability status (Age: 16+). EU, 2019**




Note: We distinguish a zero ratio from very low ratios (close to zero but positive). The first is denoted '0' and the second '>0'.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

Persons with disabilities face a higher poverty risk compared to persons without disabilities but also are more vulnerable to unexpected expenses. This financial fragility can be measured by the share of persons who declare inability to face unexpected financial expenses. In the EU, in 2019, this rate is 40.9 % for persons with disabilities and 27.4 % for persons without disabilities (EU-SILC UDB 2019). These rates are close to the sum of persons below the ratio of 0.8; in the previous graph.

# 8 Severely materially deprived people

## 8.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

Article 28 of the UN Convention treats “Adequate standard of living and social protection”. It recognises the “the right of persons with disabilities to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families. including adequate food. clothing and housing. and to the continuous improvement of living conditions. and shall take appropriate steps to safeguard and promote the realization of this right without discrimination on the basis of disability”.

We may note that in the framework of the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, the Alert Mechanism includes indicators on people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, people at risk of poverty after social transfers, severely materially deprived people and people living in households with very low work intensity.

In the framework of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion specified how it will contribute to the Commission priorities.[84] It defined a set of impact indicators which are relevant to the socio-economic field. They include, notably people at risk of poverty and social exclusion. Severe deprivation is a component of the Europe 2020 headline indicator "population at risk of poverty or social exclusion".

At the European Council held on 17 June 2010, the Member states’ Heads of State and Government endorsed a new EU strategy for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, known as the Europe 2020 strategy.

"Severely materially deprived persons" is an indicator of social exclusion which expresses the person’s inability to afford for certain goods or services which are considered as of common use. This indicator complements the income-related measures of poverty in order to have wider understanding of the various facets of social exclusion. The collection "material deprivation" covers indicators relating to economic strain, durables, housing and environment of the dwelling.

## 8.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 8.2.1 Definition of severe material deprivation

The indicator concerning severely materially deprived persons presents the share of population with an enforced lack of at least four out of nine material deprivation items in the 'economic strain and durables' dimension.

Deprivation here refers to an enforced lack and not to a deliberate choice. For example, if a household cannot afford a colour TV, then it is counted among deprived persons. However, if it is a deliberate choice, then there is no deprivation.

The nine items are:

1. Arrears on mortgage or rent payments, utility bills, hire purchase instalments, etc;

[84] European Commission: Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. 12/01/2021, https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/strategic-plan-2020-2024-employment-social-affairs-and-inclusion_en.

2. Capacity to afford paying for one week's annual holiday away from home;
3. Capacity to afford a meal with meat, chicken, fish (or vegetarian equivalent) every second day;
4. Capacity to face unexpected financial expenses;
5. Household cannot afford a telephone (including mobile phone);
6. Household cannot afford a colour TV;
7. Household cannot afford a washing machine;
8. Household cannot afford a car and
9. Ability of the household to pay for keeping its home adequately warm.

Severely materially deprived persons are persons with an enforced lack of at least four out of nine material deprivation items. Critics argue that certain items are subjective measures and all persons do not share the same thresholds.

### 8.2.2 General comments

In 2019, about 8.8 % of people with disabilities aged 16 and over are severely materially deprived compared to 4.4 % of people without disabilities. The total is 5.5 %.

For comparison, if we define the criterion to be lack for “at least 3 dimensions”. then the percentage of people with disabilities increases sharply. The cut point has a big importance for the number of materially deprived people.

In the 27 EU Member States, there are about 19.3 million persons (aged 16 and over) living in households at risk of severe material deprivation. There are about 7.5 million with disabilities and 11.9 million without disabilities.

**Table 14: Persons severely materially deprived by disability status (Age: 16+). EU 27, 2019**

| | Not at risk | At risk | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1,000,000 | | |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 258.2 | 11.9 | 270.0 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 77.1 | 7.5 | 84.6 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | **335.3** | **19.3** | **354.6** |
| | % | | |
| | | | % |
| **Persons without disabilities** | 95.6 | 4.4 | 100 |
| **Persons with disabilities** | 91.2 | 8.8 | 100 |
| | | | |
| **Total** | **94.6** | **5.5** | **100** |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

Concerning gender, in the EU 27, about 9.2 % of women with disabilities are severely materially deprived compared to 8.3 % of disabled men, aged 16 and over.

Concerning age, in the EU 27, about 10.6 % of persons with disabilities are severely materially deprived compared to 6.9 % of disabled aged 60 and over.

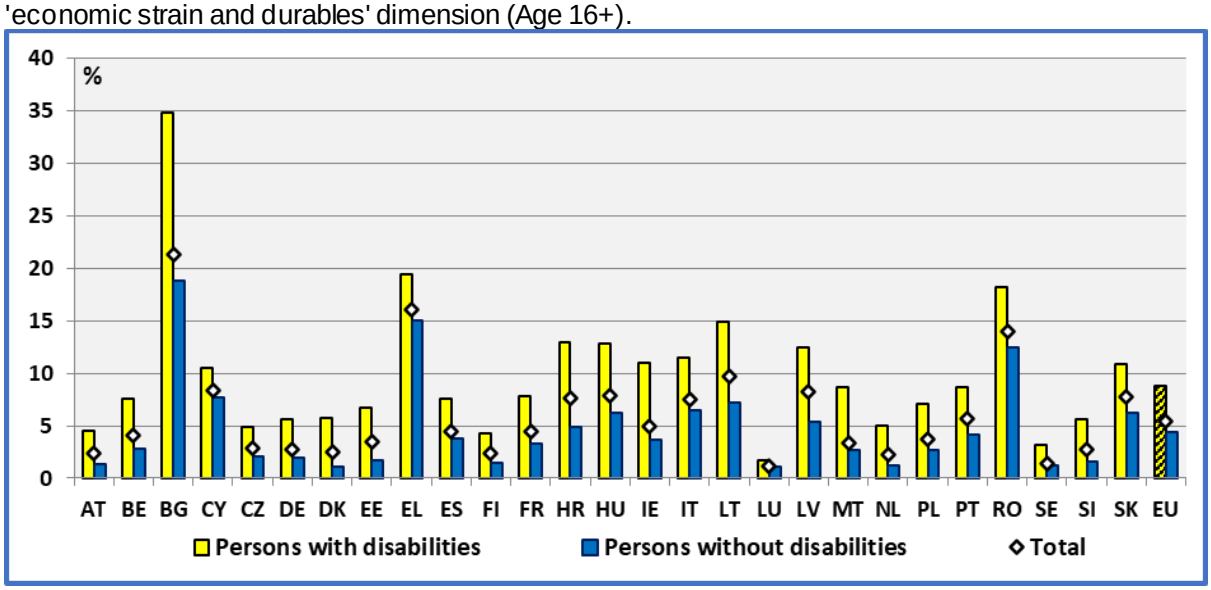
A higher degree of disability is associated with a higher rate of persons at risk of severe material deprivation. In the EU 27, the rate is 7.7 % for persons with moderate

disabilities, aged 16 and over, and 11.6 % for persons with severe disabilities of the same age group.

There is a wide diversity of situations in the Member States. The share of severely materially deprived persons is low in Luxembourg, Sweden and Finland. It is relatively high in Romania, Greece and Bulgaria. Similar rankings were found in previous year.

**Figure 43: Percent of persons severely materially deprived by disability status and Member State. 2019**

Percent of population with an enforced lack of at least four out of nine material deprivation items in the 'economic strain and durables' dimension (Age 16+).




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

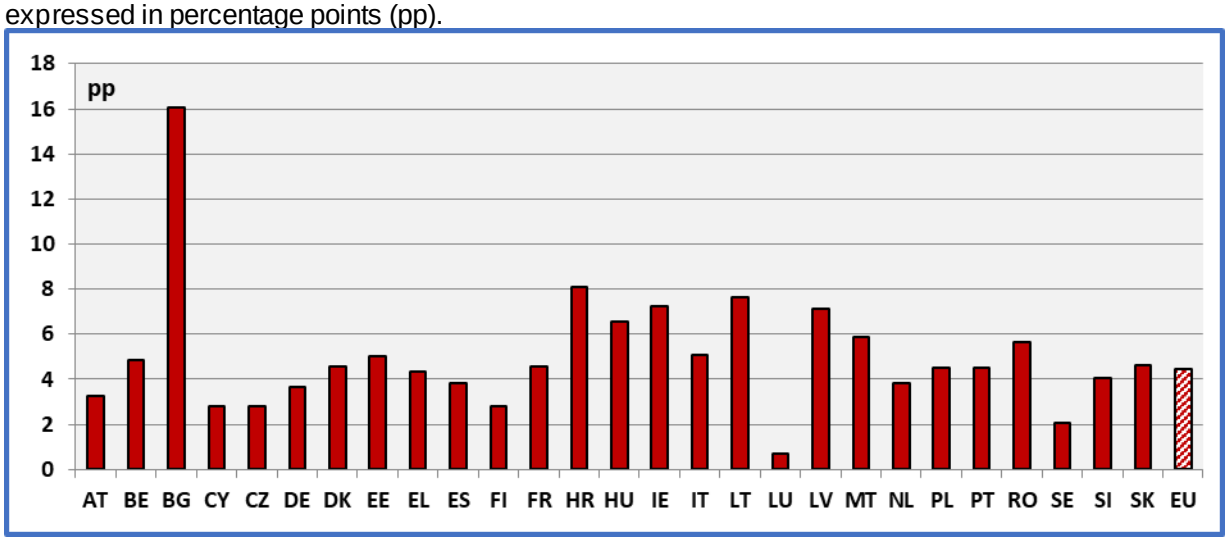
We may note that Member States with high income have low rates of severe material deprivation and countries with low income have high rates of severe material deprivations.

The range of variation here is much bigger compared to other poverty indicators. In fact, the characteristic of a group of persons in one country is not compared to a national average. Here, the reference is the same for all Member States: deprivation in at least four items out of nine. In summary, here we have an absolute measure of poverty and not a relative one as in the case of financial poverty.

If we define disadvantage as the difference of respective rates between persons with and without disabilities, we find that this disadvantage is high, notably in most of the new Member States. This disadvantage ranges from a low 0.7 percentage point (Luxembourg) to 16.1 percentage points (Bulgaria). The EU 27 average gap is 4.5 percentage points.

**Figure 44: Disadvantage of persons with disabilities concerning severe material deprivation (Age: 16+), 2019**

Disadvantage = (Percent of persons with disabilities) – (Percent of persons without disabilities); expressed in percentage points (pp).



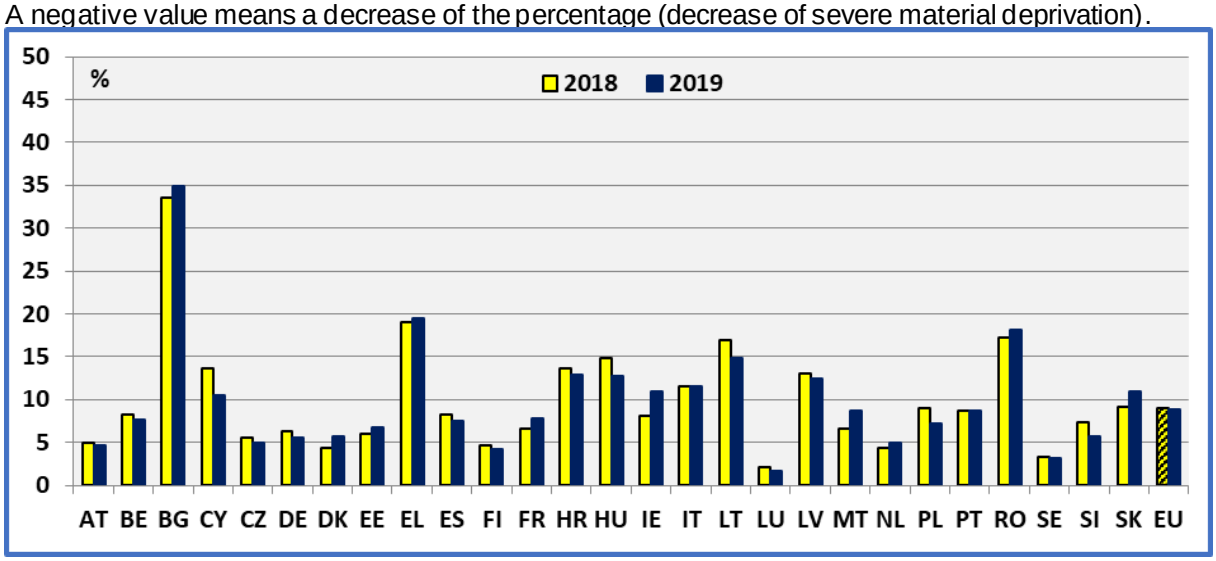

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

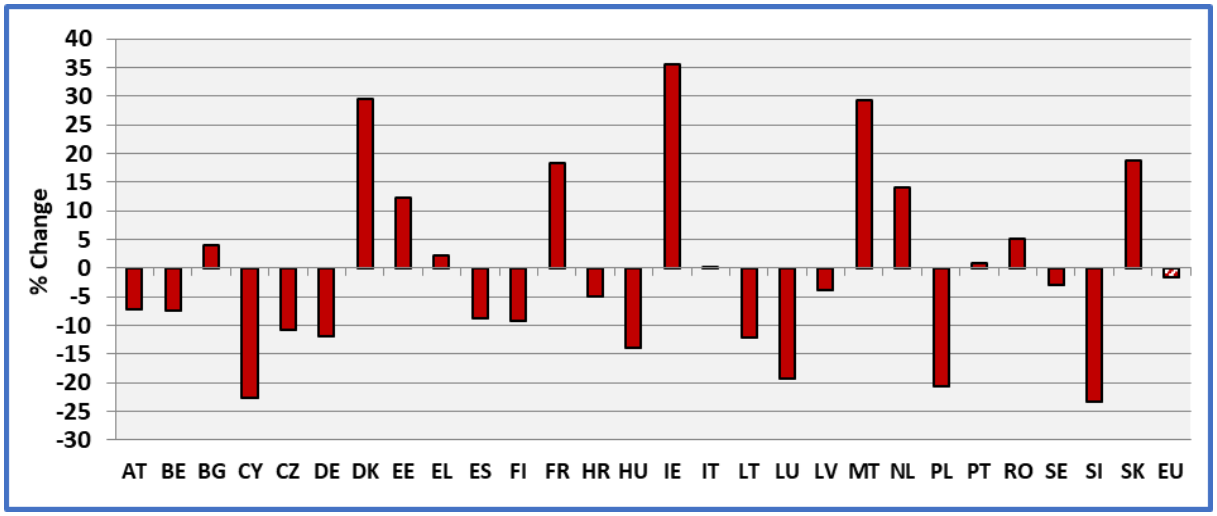
### 8.2.3 Evolution through time at national level

Concerning persons with disabilities, in the EU, aged 16 and over, we observe an improvement in the majority of Member States (15 countries).

**Figure 45: Percent of persons with disabilities severely materially deprived in 2018 and 2019 and relative change between 2018 and 2019 (Age: 16+)**

A negative value means a decrease of the percentage (decrease of severe material deprivation).






*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 & 2019.*

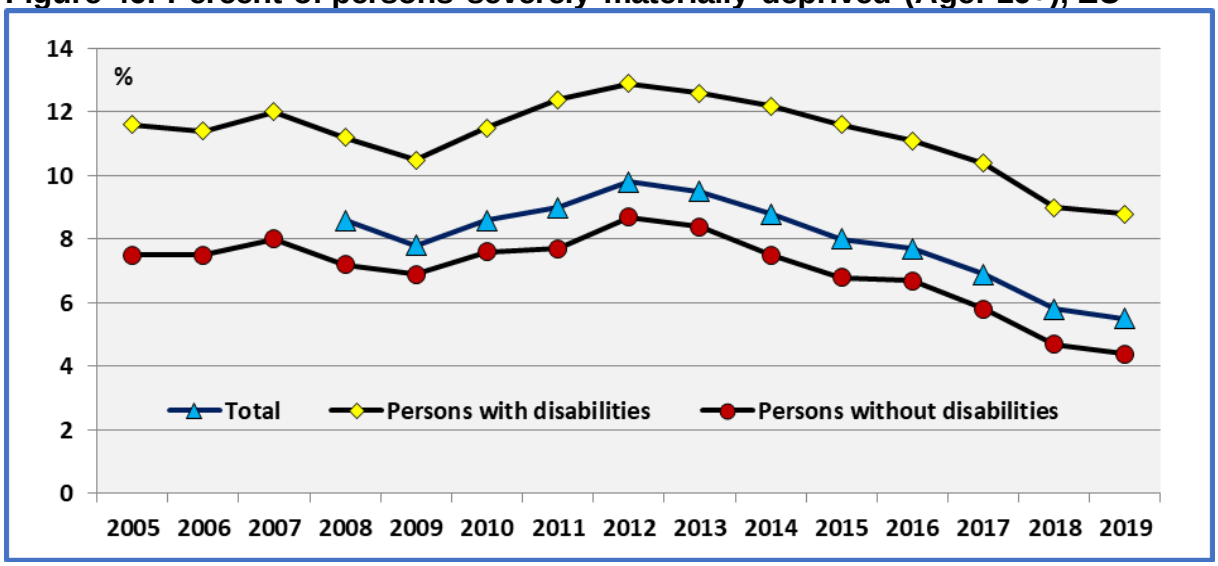
### 8.2.4 Evolution through time at the EU level

In the following graph. we present the evolution of severe material deprivation for persons with and without disabilities. We may observe that all groups are affected by the 2008/2009 recession and that the different evolutions present a cyclical fluctuation following the labour market and the economic cycle.

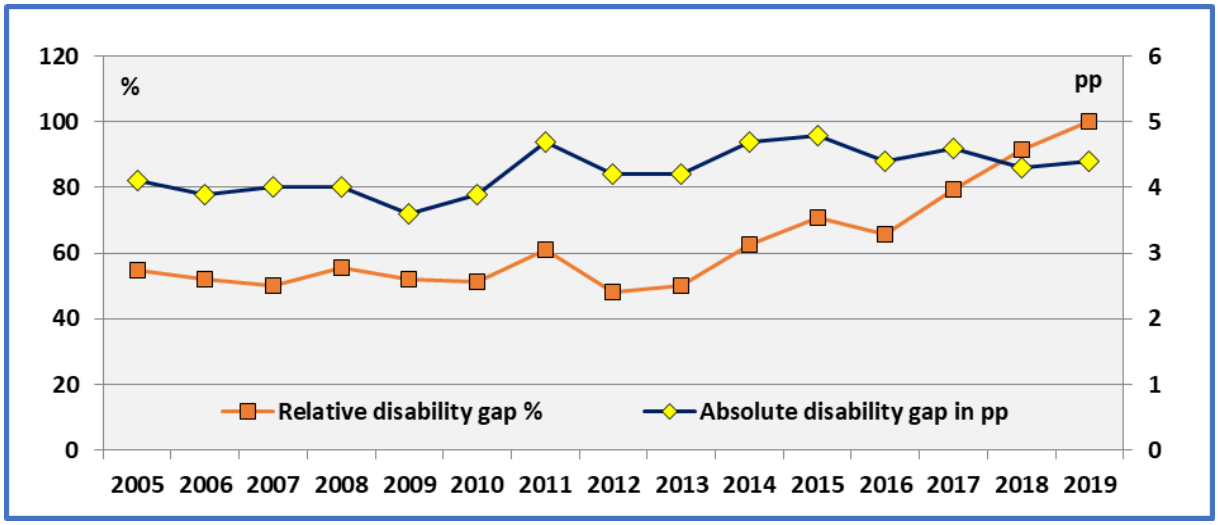
Since 2013, we observe an improvement (decrease of poverty) for all groups.

However, the situation of persons with disabilities has deteriorated in comparison to persons without disabilities. In fact, the relative difference[85] of the rates of severe material deprivation between persons with and without disabilities has increased. This raises several questions concerning the efficiency of national and European policies.

**Figure 46: Percent of persons severely materially deprived (Age: 16+), EU**




[85] Relative severe material deprivation rate: (% persons with disabilities - % Persons without disabilities) / (% Persons without disabilities).




Absolute gap: (% persons with disabilities - % Persons without disabilities).
Relative gap: 100*(% persons with disabilities - % Persons without disabilities) / (% Persons without disabilities).
Note: From 2005 to 2009: EU 28 and from 2010 onwards: EU 27.
*Data source: Eurostat and EU-SILC UDB for 2005-2009 and 2019.*

# 9 People at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion

## 9.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

The European Commission in its Communication concerning the Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 notes that "monitoring the progress in Member States will rely on improved statistical data collection on the situation of persons with disabilities.

The European Commission has set out strategic guidance for the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility in its 2021 Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy (ASGS). Commission recommendations provide notably that Member States should outline the most important national challenges in terms of gender equality and equal opportunities for all, regardless of gender, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation. It notes that everyone has the right to equal treatment and opportunities regarding employment, social protection, education, and access to goods and services available to the public (principle 3 of the European Pillar of Social Rights)

In the framework of the Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion specified how it will contribute to the Commission priorities.[86] It defined a set of impact indicators which are relevant to the socio-economic field. They include, notably people at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

We may note that in the framework of the prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, the Alert Mechanism includes indicators on people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, people at risk of poverty after social transfers, severely materially deprived people and people living in households with very low work intensity.

At the European Council held on 17 June 2010, the Member states' Heads of State and Government endorsed an EU strategy for jobs and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, known as the Europe 2020 strategy. The headline indicator "population at risk of poverty or exclusion" was attached to the EU-wide objective to reduce the number of Europeans exposed to poverty and social exclusion by 2020.

The headline indicator combines three sub-indicators namely the at-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers, the severe material deprivation rate, and people living in households with very low work intensity. This indicator corresponds to the sum of persons who are either at risk of poverty or severely materially deprived or living in households with very low work intensity. Persons present in several sub-indicators are counted only once.

As discussed above, each poverty indicator has its advantages and weaknesses. The global indicator covering persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion combines the three cited indicators and hence takes into account all dimensions of poverty and social exclusion.

[86] European Commission: Strategic Plan 2020-2024, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. 12/01/2021, https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/strategic-plan-2020-2024-employment-social-affairs-and-inclusion_en.

## 9.2 Assessment and analysis of main results and their evolution

### 9.2.1 General comments

In 2019, in the EU, about 28.4 % of people with disabilities, aged 16 and over, live in households which are at risk of poverty or social exclusion, compared to 18.4 % of persons without a disability of the same age group. The percentage for all persons aged 16 and over is 20.8 %.

This represents about 73.6 million people, aged 16 and over at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion. This total includes 49.6 million without disabilities and 24.0 million with disabilities.

**Table 15: People at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion, EU, 2019**
Persons who are either at risk of poverty or severely materially deprived or living in households with very low work intensity.

| **Age** | **16-64** | | | **65+** | | | **16+** | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Poverty or social exclusion** | | | **Poverty or social exclusion** | | | **Poverty or social exclusion** | | |
| **Disability** | **No** | **Yes** | **Total** | **No** | **Yes** | **Total** | **No** | **Yes** | **Total** |
| | **1 000 000** | | | | | | | | |
| **Not disabled** | 181.9 | 42.7 | 224.6 | 38.2 | 6.8 | 45.0 | 220.4 | 49.6 | 270.0 |
| **Disabled** | 29.7 | 15.1 | 44.9 | 30.8 | 8.9 | 39.7 | 60.5 | 24.0 | 84.6 |
| ***Moderate*** | 23.5 | 9.8 | 33.3 | 21.3 | 5.9 | 27.1 | 44.8 | 15.7 | 60.4 |
| ***Severe*** | 6.2 | 5.3 | 11.6 | 9.5 | 3.1 | 12.6 | 15.8 | 8.4 | 24.2 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 211.6 | 57.8 | 269.4 | 69.0 | 15.8 | 84.7 | 280.9 | 73.6 | 354.6 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | **%** | | | | | | | | |
| **Not Disabled** | 81.0 | 19.0 | 100 | 84.8 | 15.2 | 100 | 81.6 | 18.4 | 100 |
| **Disabled** | 66.3 | 33.7 | 100 | 77.5 | 22.5 | 100 | 71.6 | 28.4 | 100 |
| ***Moderate*** | 70.5 | 29.5 | 100 | 78.4 | 21.6 | 100 | 74.1 | 25.9 | 100 |
| ***Severe*** | 54.1 | 45.9 | 100 | 75.6 | 24.4 | 100 | 65.3 | 34.7 | 100 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| **Total** | 78.5 | 21.5 | 100 | 81.4 | 18.6 | 100 | 79.2 | 20.8 | 100 |

Note: The data are not adjusted for missing values.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

In the EU, in 2019, about 29.2 % of women with disabilities, aged 16 and over, are at risk of poverty or social exclusion, compared to 27.4 % of disabled men of the same age group.

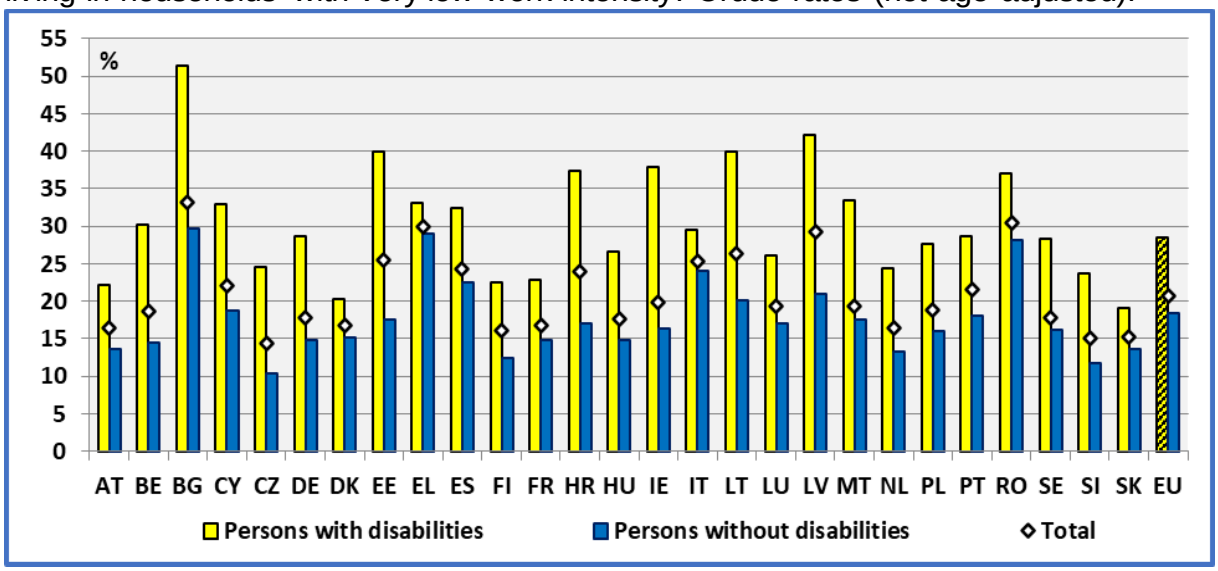
In the EU, in 2019, about 33.7 % of persons with disabilities, aged 16-64, are at risk of poverty or social exclusion, compared to 22.5 % of disabled aged 65 and over.

Persons with severe disabilities face a higher risk compared to persons with moderate disabilities.

Concerning people with disabilities aged 16 plus. the lowest rates can be found in Slovakia, Denmark and Austria. On the other hand. the highest rates can be found in Estonia, Latvia and Bulgaria.

**Table 47: Percent of people living in households at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion (Age: 16+), 2019**

Percent of persons who are either at risk of poverty or severely materially deprived or living in households with very low work intensity. Crude rates (not age-adjusted).

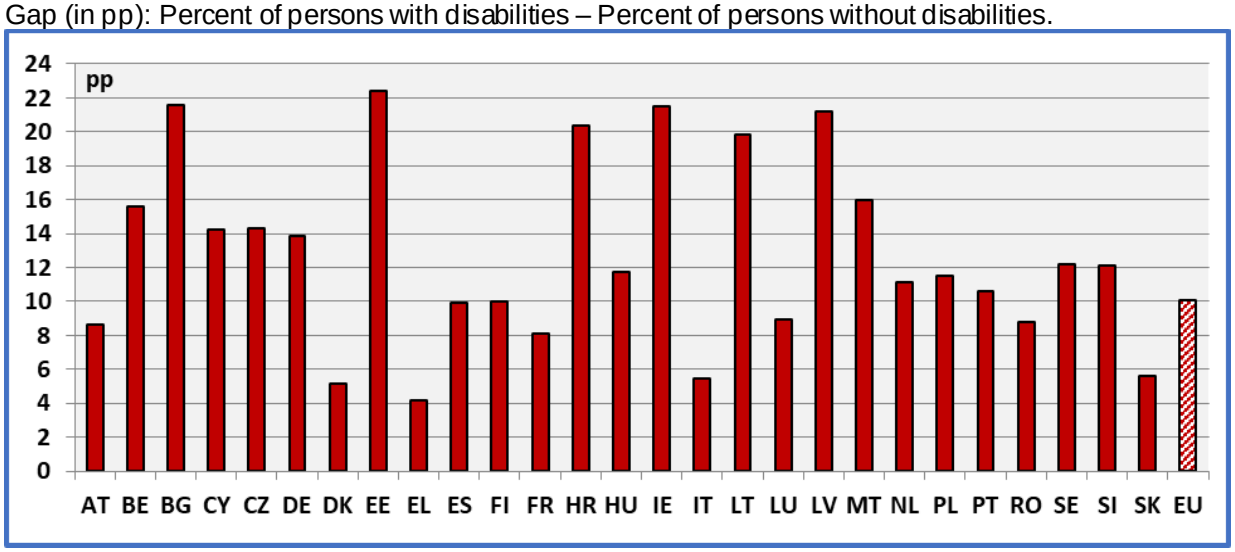



*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

In the EU, the gap between persons with and without disabilities amounts to 10.1 percentage points. High gaps can be found in Ireland, Bulgaria and Estonia. On the contrary. small gaps can be found in Greece, Denmark and Italy.

**Figure 48: The poverty and social exclusion gap between persons with and without disability (Age: 16+), 2019**

Gap (in pp): Percent of persons with disabilities – Percent of persons without disabilities.




*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

However. the aggregation of all age groups might be misleading. As noted above, people aged 16-64 and people aged 65 and over face different risks. Furthermore, the statistical indicator is not the same for both groups. In fact, work intensity plays an important role for persons aged 16 to 59 but is not relevant to retired people. Also,

poverty among economically active persons does not require the same policies as for elderly people.

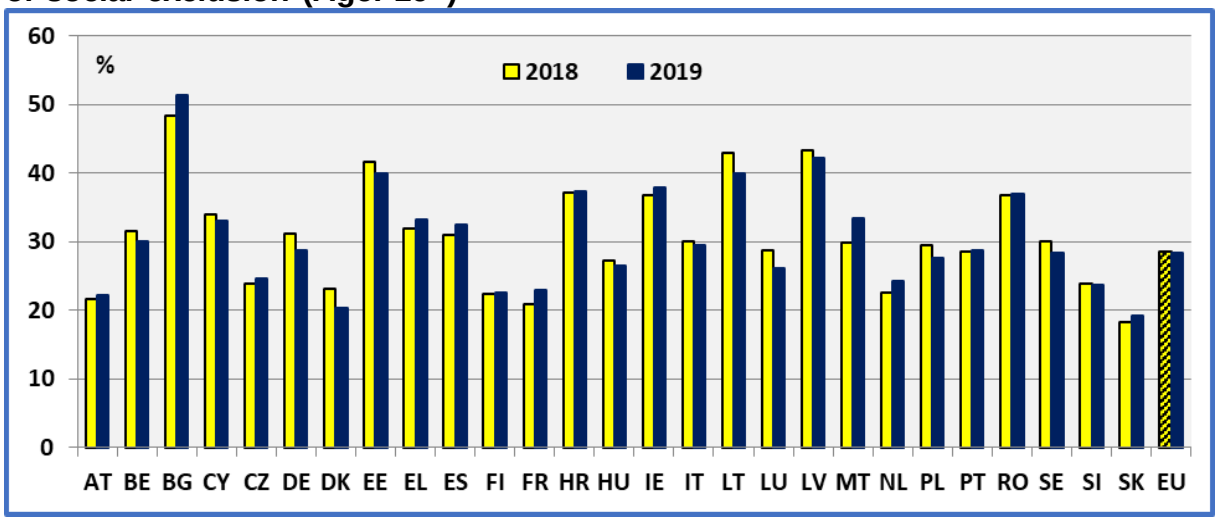
For persons aged 16 to 64, the dominant instrument to take people out of poverty or social exclusion is employment and education. For persons aged 65 and over, policies concerning retirement pensions are more relevant. For these reasons, we will detail below the situation of persons aged 16 to 64 years and persons aged 65 and over.

### 9.2.2 Evolution in the Member States

The Member States follow different paths. The following figure indicates an improvement of the situation of persons with disabilities in 13 Member States and an increase in 14 Member States.

However, we have to note that several national changes are relatively small: less than one (1) percentage points in absolute value and are not significant (at 95 %). Still, the reduction at the EU level is significant.[87]

**Figure 49: Evolution of the share of persons with disabilities at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion (Age: 16+)**



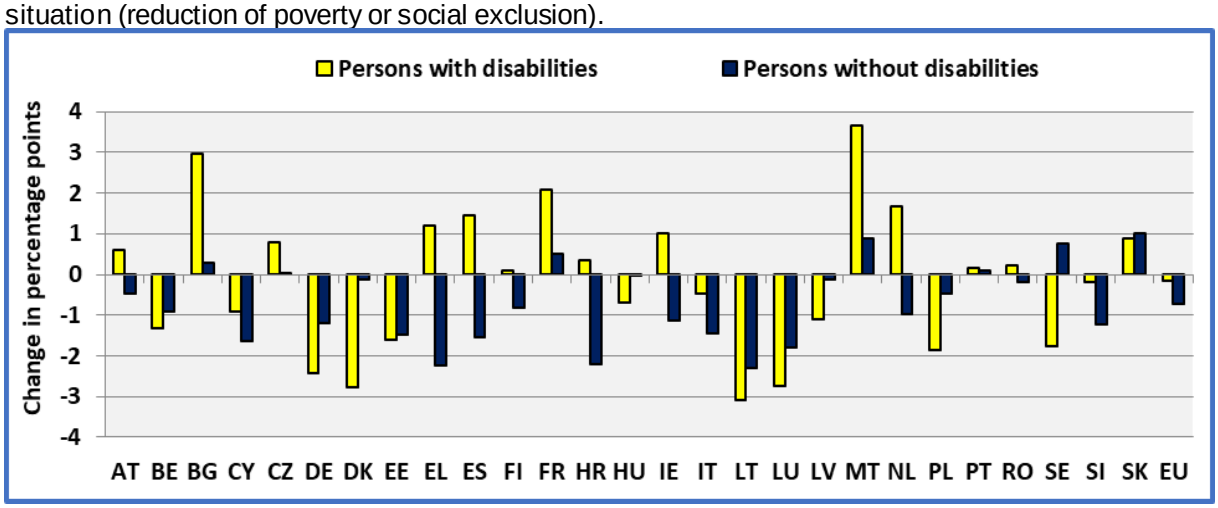

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

We may observe a relatively small correlation between the changes (both in absolute and relative terms) of persons with and without disabilities.

[87] If we pool all observations together, at the EU level, the reduction is significant at 95 % despite its small absolute magnitude, due to a large sample. However, if we analyse the situation by Member State, this does not hold for several countries where the sample is relatively small (e.g., Ireland and Malta). Generally, and as a rule of thumb, at national level, if the change is higher than 1 percentage point, the change is significant for persons without disabilities and 1.9 pp for persons with disabilities. In fact, if I take 1.96 x standard error, I obtain on average '1' and '1.9'.

**Figure 50: Change between 2018 and 2019 of risk-of-poverty or social exclusion (Age: 16+)**

Change = % Persons in 2019- % Persons in 2018. A negative value means an improvement of the situation (reduction of poverty or social exclusion).



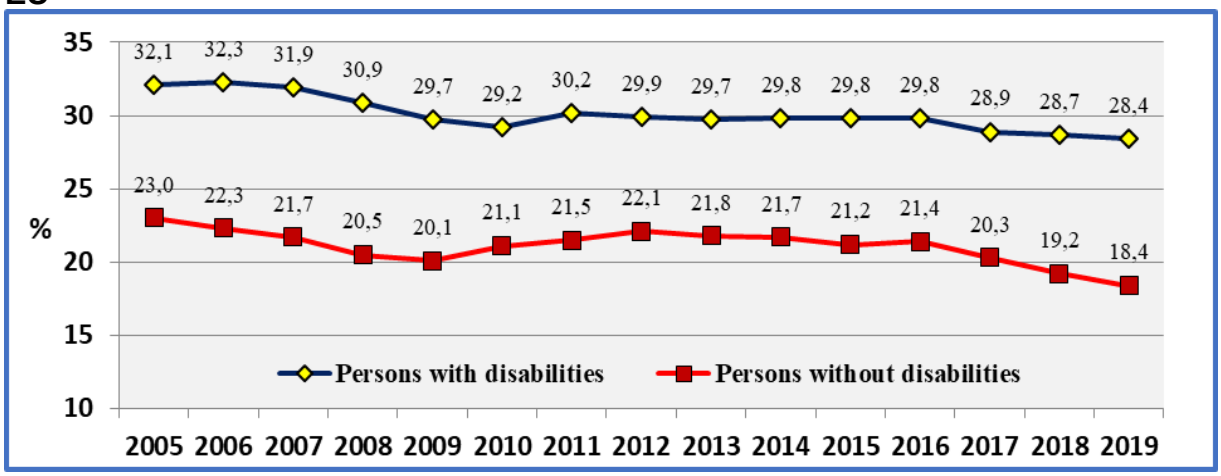

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

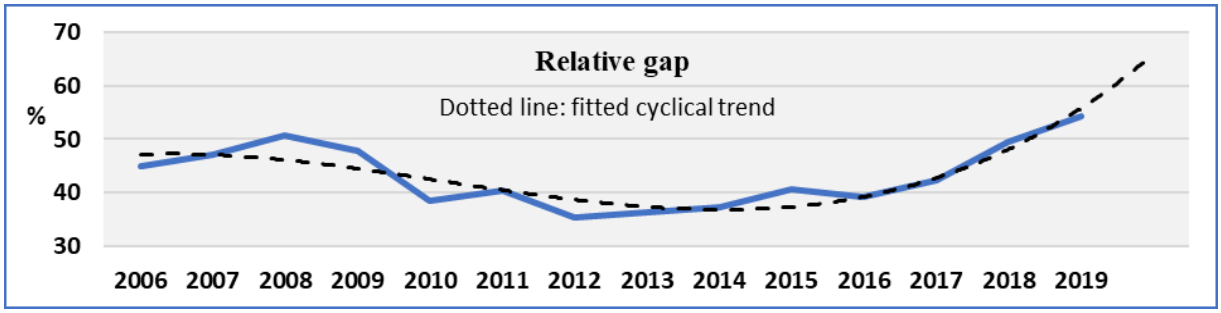
### 9.2.3 Evolution at the EU level

In the following graph, we present the evolution of the percentage of persons at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by disability status. Since 2016, we observe a decrease of poverty for both groups but the decline of poverty or social exclusion for persons without disabilities is steeper.

We may observe a cyclical fluctuation of the poverty rates. From 2009/2010 to 2011/2012, after the financial crisis, we note an increase of poverty, and a decrease of poverty after 2012, with some small fluctuations for persons with disabilities.

**Figure 51: Percent of persons at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion (Age: 16+), EU**






Note: Relative gap = 100*(% persons with disabilities - % persons without disabilities) / % persons without disabilities.
Note: EU 28 before 2010. EU 27 from 2010 and later.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB and Eurostat (Data extracted on 10/06/2021 from [ESTAT]).*

However, as noted above, persons aged 16-64 and persons aged 65 and over do not share the same characteristics. Due to the importance of age and given the specific characteristics of elderly persons, we present below the evolution of poverty and social exclusion rates by age group.

Concerning persons aged 16-64 and 65 and over, the following figure indicates that the two groups have followed different paths.

Since 2017, persons aged 16-64 improved their situation following a favourable situation on the labour market. On the contrary, elderly people experienced a deterioration of their situation.

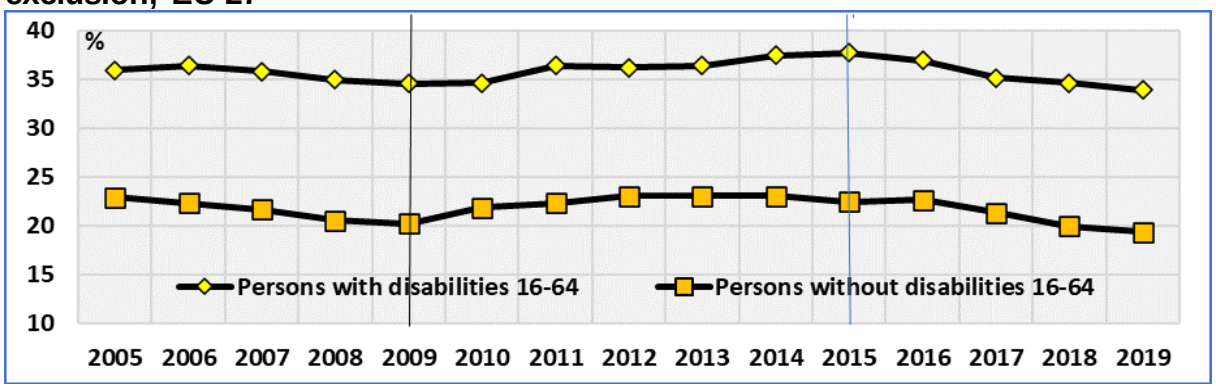
As noted above. the economic cycle does not affect elderly persons through wages and employment. The economic cycle affects this age group through pension schemes. Apparently, stable pensions (at least not decreasing) improve the situation of elderly relative to economically active people during a recession. This can be reversed during an improvement on the labour market, and this probably explains the reversal of the evolution of poverty in 2014.

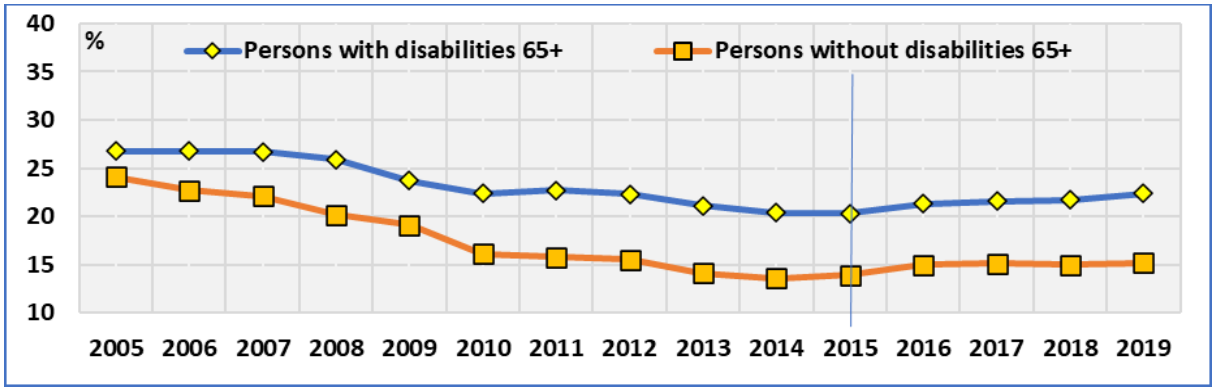
Concerning the relative gap between persons with and without disabilities aged 16-64, we may observe a persistent high relative gap. We observe a slight increase of this relative gap since 2016. The important increase of the relative gap, in 2015, might be due, at least partly, to a change in definitions of disability in Germany.

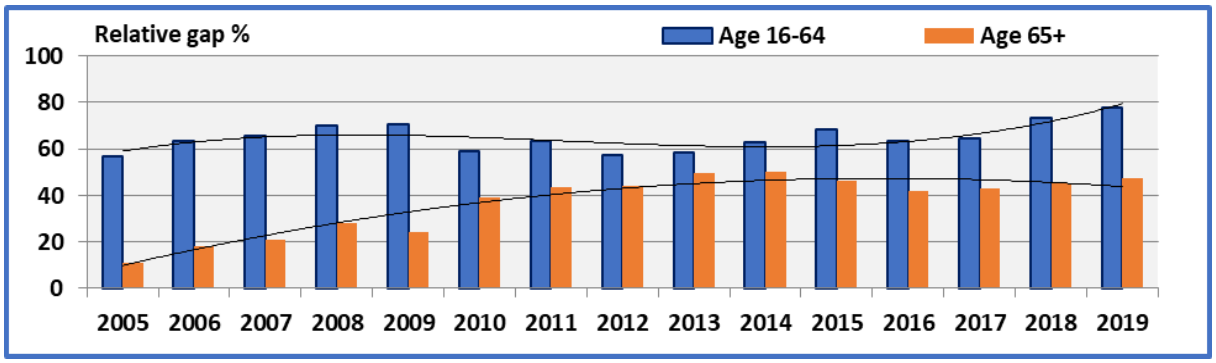
Concerning the relative gap between persons with and without disabilities, aged 65 and over, we may observe a deterioration of the situation of persons with disabilities relative to persons without disabilities. However, since 2013, we observe a reversal of the trend in favour of persons with disabilities.

Globally, the long-term trend reveals a deterioration of the situation of persons with disabilities relative to persons without disabilities, for all age groups.

**Figure 52: Percent of persons living in households at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion; EU 27**




Note: EU 28 before 2010. EU 27 from 2010 and later.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB and Eurostat (Data extracted on 10/06/2021 from [ESTAT]).*

# PART V: Health and Medical care Indicators

## 10 General health and unmet medical needs

### 10.1 Relevance to EU policy / Strategy

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) provides in its Article 25 (Health) that "States Parties recognize that persons with disabilities have the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health without discrimination on the basis of disability. States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to ensure access for persons with disabilities to health services that are gender-sensitive, including health-related rehabilitation".

Universal health coverage is an objective of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. One of the three priorities of the EU's health policy is increasing accessibility to healthcare.

The European Pillar of Social Rights is about delivering new and more effective rights for citizens. It builds upon 20 key principles, structured around three categories: 1) Equal opportunities and access to the labour market, 2) Fair working conditions and 3) Social protection and inclusion. The third area covers health care, inclusion of people with disabilities and long-term care. Health care stipulates that everyone has the right to timely access to affordable, preventive and curative health care of good quality.

The EU Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030[88] stresses the need for a sustainable and equal access to healthcare and notes that persons with disabilities have the right to high-quality healthcare. Also, it considers that a monitoring progress in Member States requires improved statistical data collection on the situation of persons with disabilities.

On 25 September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted a Resolution on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". Goal 3 aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. It covers notably, self-perceived health (Very good or good) and unmet need for medical examinations and care.

In 2017, the Commission developed a reference indicator framework to monitor the SDGs in an EU context. The EU SDG indicator set is aligned as far as appropriate with the UN list of global Indicators.

In the following, we are going to present the share of people with good or very good perceived health and self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care.

[88] European Commission: "Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions; Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030". European Union, 2021.

## 10.2 General health

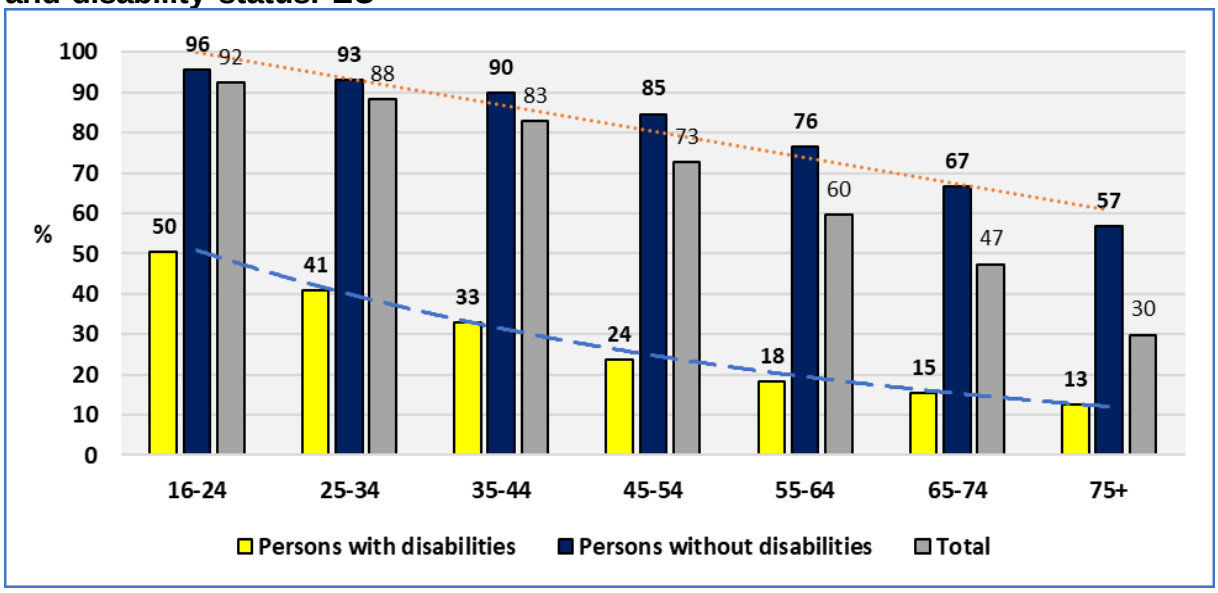
In the following, we will focus on the indicator: share of people with good or very good perceived health (% of population aged 16 or over). This indicator is included as a main indicator in the Social Scoreboard for the European Pillar of Social Rights. The indicator is also part of the EU Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicator set. It is used to monitor progress towards SDG 3 on good health and well-being.

Eurostat[89] notes that the indicator is a subjective measure on how people judge their health in general on a scale from "very good" to "very bad". It is expressed as the share of the population aged 16 or over perceiving itself to be in "good" or "very good" health. The data stem from the EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU SILC). Indicators of perceived general health have been found to be a good predictor of people's future health care use and mortality.

In the EU, in 2019, about 20.5 % of persons with disabilities, aged 16 and over, declare to be in good or very good health compared to 83.6 % of persons without disabilities. The total, for the same age group, is 68.5 %.

Health deteriorates with age, but this deterioration is more rapid for persons with disabilities, at least at younger ages. This means that prevention and rehabilitation ought to begin at an early age.

**Figure 53: Share of people who declare good or very good health by age group and disability status. EU**

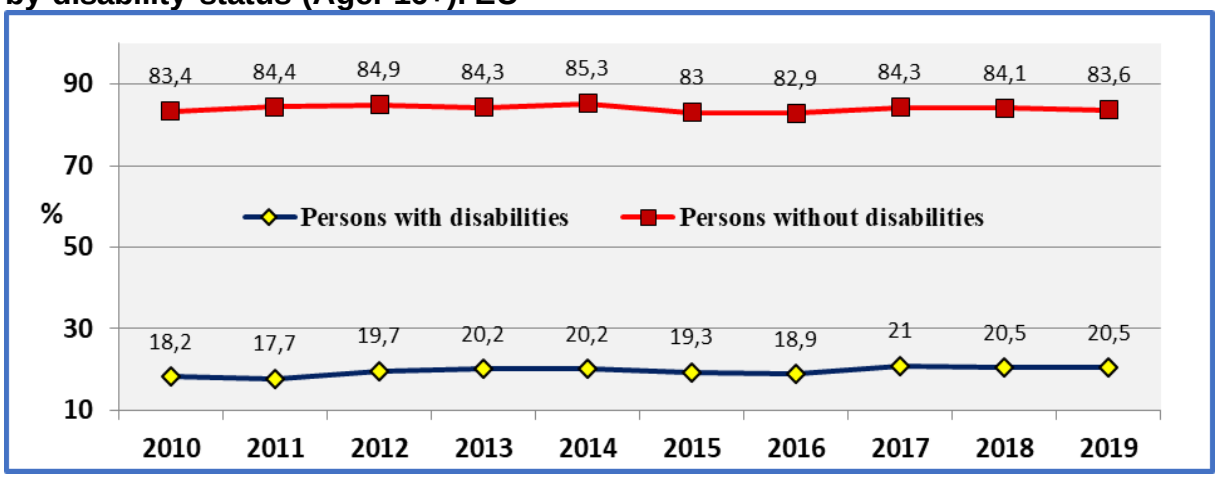



Note: The dotted line is the best fit for persons without disabilities and the dotted line is the best fit for persons with disabilities.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

A small improvement has taken place for persons with disabilities, between 2010 and 2019. The analysis by age group indicates that this improvement concerns mainly persons aged 45 and over.

[89] https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/sdg_03_20/.

**Figure 54: Evolution of the share of people who declare good or very good health by disability status (Age: 16+). EU**




*Data source: Eurostat (Data extracted on 10/06/2021 from [ESTAT]).*

## 10.3 Unmet medical needs

### Introduction

The indicator 'unmet medical needs' is part of the EU Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicator set. It is used to monitor progress towards SDG 3 on good health and well-being and SDG 1 on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere.

The indicator is also included as a main indicator in the Social Scoreboard for the European Pillar of Social Rights. Universal health coverage is an objective of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. One of the priorities of the EU's health policy is increasing accessibility to healthcare.

Eurostat[90] notes that the indicator measures the share of the population aged 16 and over reporting unmet needs for medical care due to one of the following reasons: 'Financial reasons', 'Waiting list' and 'Too far to travel' (all three categories are cumulated). Dental care is excluded.

Eurostat notes that the indicator is derived from self-reported data, so it is, to a certain extent, affected by respondents' subjective perception as well as by their social and cultural background. Another factor playing a role is the different organisation of health care services. All these factors should be taken into account when analysing the data and interpreting the results.

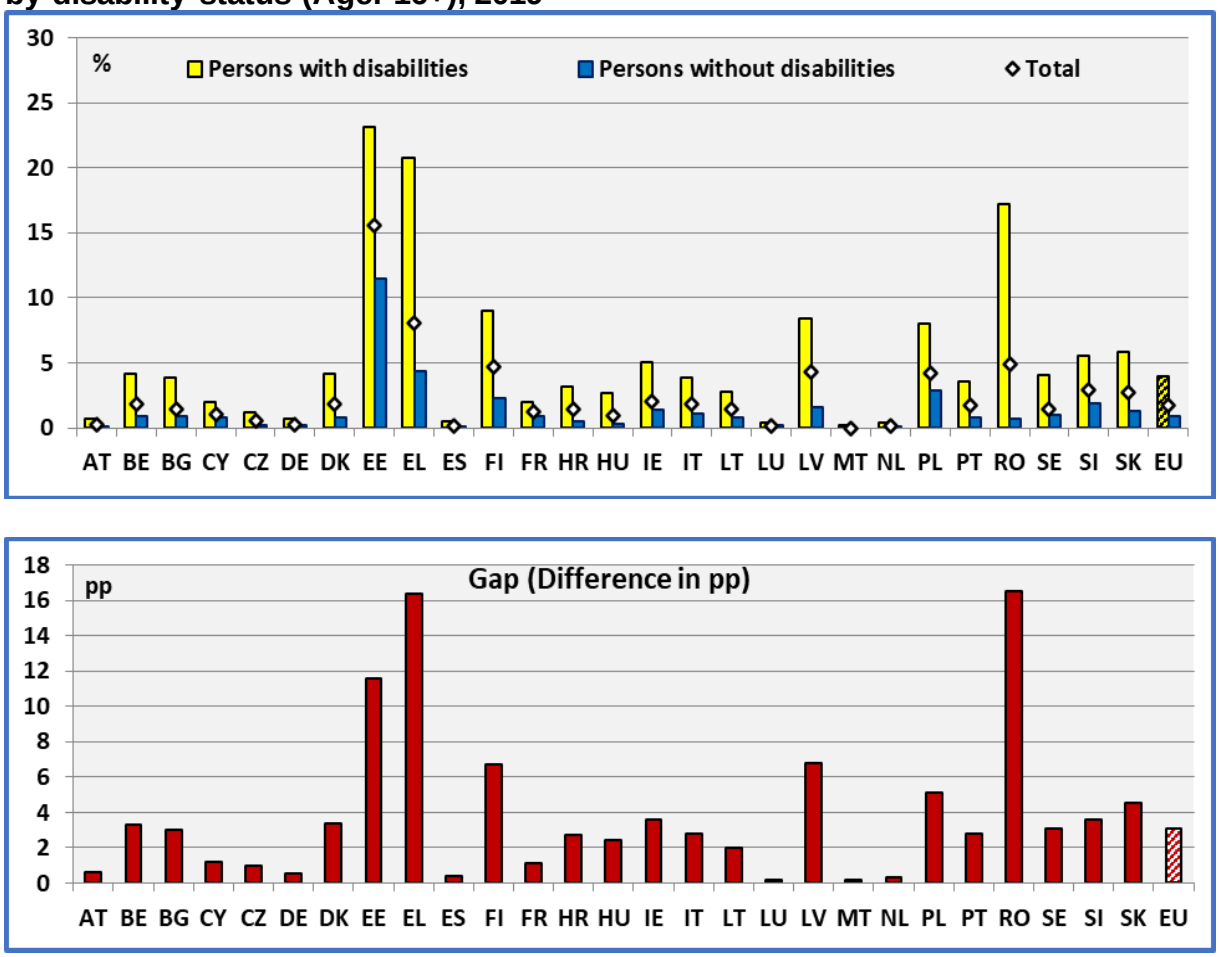
### Analysis by Member State

In the EU, about 4.0 % of persons with disabilities report unmet needs for medical care due to 'Financial reasons', 'Waiting list' or 'Too far to travel', compared to 0.9 % for persons without disabilities.

Concerning persons with **disabilities** aged 16 and over, the rates are high in Romania, Greece and Estonia. Similarly, the gap is high in these three Member States.

[90] https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/sdg_03_60/.

**Figure 55: Percent of persons who report unmet needs for medical examination by disability status (Age: 16+), 2019**

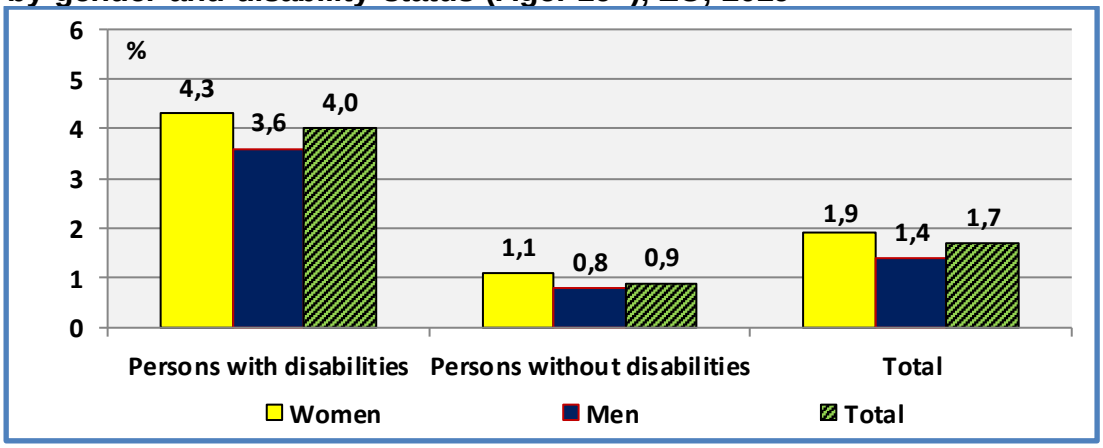



Note: Unmet needs for medical care due to: 'Financial reasons', 'Waiting list' or 'Too far to travel'.
Gap: % persons with disabilities - % persons without disabilities.
*Data source: Eurostat (Data extracted on 23/04/2021 from [ESTAT]).*

### 10.3.1 Analysis by gender

The share of women declaring unmet needs for medical examination is higher compared to men inside each group (persons with and without disabilities). However, gender differences inside each group are small compared to the disability gap (difference between persons with and without disabilities).

**Figure 56: Percent of persons who report unmet needs for medical examination by gender and disability status (Age: 16+), EU, 2019**




*Data source: Eurostat (Data extracted on 23/04/2021 from [ESTAT]).*

Self-reported unmet needs for medical examination increase with age.

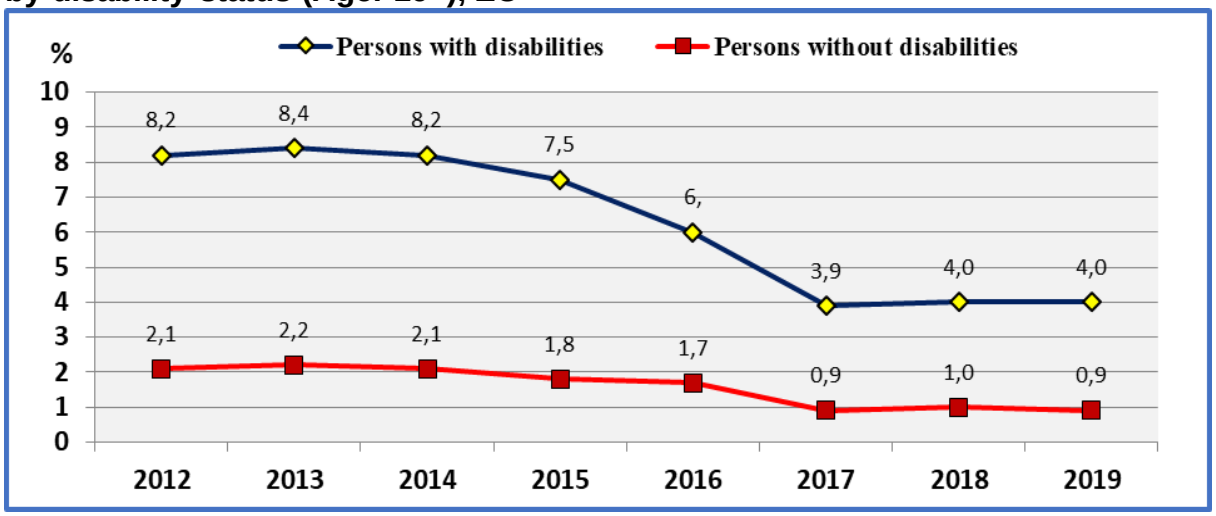
### 10.3.2 Evolution at EU level

We may observe a significant improvement of the situation of persons with disabilities between 2012 and 2017. During this period, the following figure indicates a sharp decrease of the percentage of persons with disabilities reporting unmet needs for medical examination.

The evolution follows the business cycle: an improvement of the economic situation after 2012 has led to a sharp decrease of unmet medical needs. However, a floor was reached around 2017.[91]

Also, the gap between persons with and without disabilities has been reduced significantly. However, the difference remains, and it was unchanged during the last years.

**Figure 57: Percent of persons who report unmet needs for medical examination by disability status (Age: 16+), EU**




*Data source: Eurostat (Data extracted on 23/04/2021 from [ESTAT]).*

As shown in the previous EDE report, persons with disabilities present a higher rate of comorbidities and thus a higher risk in relation to COVID-19 compared to persons without disabilities. In fact, persons with disabilities are overrepresented in diseases/conditions associated with severe/fatal cases.

A disruption in healthcare services, the saturation of hospitals and the postponement of cases non-related to COVID-19 might have an important detrimental effect on the health of persons with disabilities. In fact, in the past, more persons with disabilities have been in hospital as a day patient and more had been in hospital for overnight or longer compared to persons without disabilities.

This means that the COVID-19 pandemic might increase unmet medical needs if national and European policies do not address this issue.

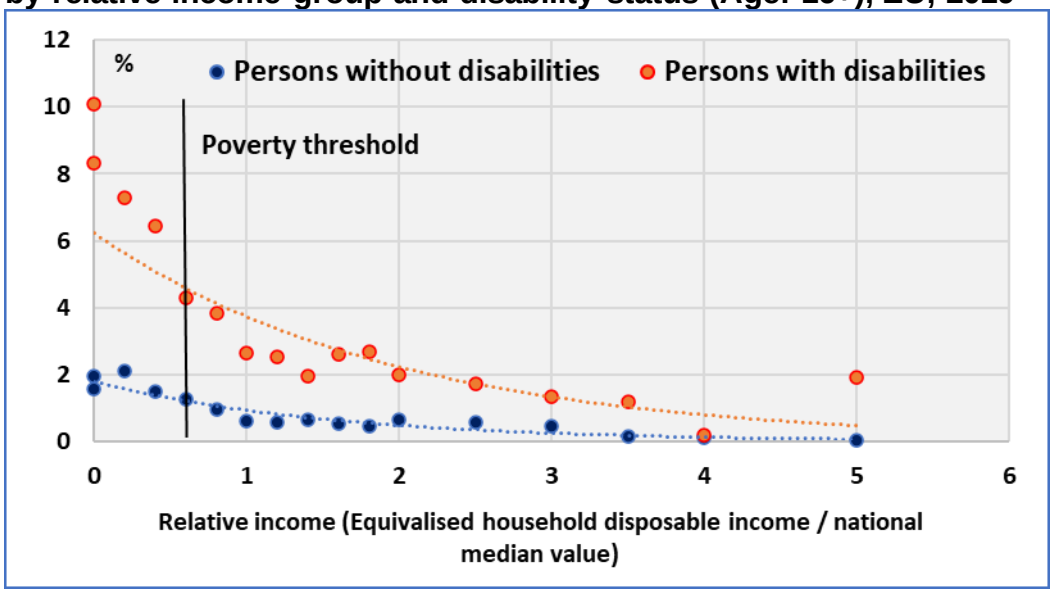
[91] See the GDP growth cycle as a percentage of deviation from the trend in: Eurostat, "*Business Cycle Clock*"; https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/bcc/bcc.html.

### The relation between income and unmet medical needs

The following figure indicates the strong relation between unmet medical needs and income. Furthermore, it indicates that, for similar relative income levels, persons with disabilities face a bigger disadvantage (higher rate of unmet medical needs).

The share of persons with disabilities at very low relative incomes (between zero and very small values) who report unmet medical needs varies between 10 % and 8 %. The equivalent rates for persons without disabilities are 1.6 % and 2.0 %. However, we have to note that the group of persons with no income (zero value) might include persons who temporary declare zero income or face exceptional circumstances.

**Figure 58: Percent of persons who report unmet needs for medical examination by relative income group and disability status (Age: 16+), EU, 2019**




Note: The axis distinguishes zero relative income from very low relative income values. That explains why we have two values on the vertical axis. The dotted lines represent exponential fits. Equivalised household disposable income is total net household income which has been divided by a factor in order to take into account the composition of the household. The national median value covers persons aged 16 and over but is very close to the overall national value.
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019.*

From another point of view, in the EU, in 2019, about 35.9 % of persons with disabilities who have unmet medical needs are persons at risk of financial poverty, compared to 28.6 % of persons without disabilities. As expected, there is a concentration among persons at risk of poverty.

## ANNEX I: Statistical tables

### 1. Population of persons with disabilities

**Table 16: Percent of people with disabilities by Member State, 2019**
The data include only persons living in private households (see note).

| | 2018 | 2019 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total | Total | Gender | | Degree | |
| | % | % of the same age group | | | | |
| | | Total | Men | Wo-men | Severe | Moderate |
| | 16+ | 16+ | | | | |
| **AT** | 34.1 | 33.9 | 32.7 | 35.1 | 9.0 | 24.9 |
| **BE** | 25.2 | 27.2 | 25.3 | 29.0 | 9.2 | 18.0 |
| **BG** | 16.8 | 16.1 | 13.9 | 18.2 | 3.2 | 13.0 |
| **CY** | 24.0 | 23.5 | 22.8 | 24.2 | 6.8 | 16.7 |
| **CZ** | 28.0 | 28.6 | 25.9 | 30.5 | 7.8 | 20.8 |
| **DE** | 22.3 | 22.0 | 21.3 | 22.6 | 7.2 | 14.8 |
| **DK** | 29.1 | 31.1 | 29.0 | 33.1 | 5.8 | 25.3 |
| **EE** | 39.7 | 35.0 | 32.1 | 37.5 | 11.5 | 23.5 |
| **EL** | 24.0 | 23.1 | 21.0 | 25.0 | 9.5 | 13.6 |
| **ES** | 20.7 | 18.4 | 16.4 | 20.4 | 3.8 | 14.7 |
| **FI** | 34.3 | 35.7 | 31.9 | 39.5 | 7.6 | 28.1 |
| **FR** | 25.3 | 25.0 | 23.0 | 26.8 | 9.2 | 15.8 |
| **HR** | 33.5 | 34.4 | 32.1 | 36.4 | 10.6 | 23.7 |
| **HU** | 25.4 | 24.8 | 22.1 | 27.1 | 7.1 | 17.7 |
| **IE** | 15.9 | 16.4 | 16.0 | 16.7 | 5.1 | 11.2 |
| **IT** | 23.8 | 22.1 | 19.6 | 24.5 | 5.5 | 16.7 |
| **LT** | 30.6 | 31.7 | 27.5 | 35.1 | 6.5 | 25.2 |
| **LU** | 27.2 | 25.5 | 23.3 | 27.7 | 7.6 | 17.9 |
| **LV** | 40.1 | 39.5 | 34.9 | 43.1 | 8.6 | 30.9 |
| **MT** | 12.0 | 11.8 | 10.4 | 13.2 | 2.6 | 9.2 |
| **NL** | 31.3 | 29.3 | 25.7 | 32.8 | 5.0 | 24.3 |
| **PL** | 24.0 | 24.4 | 22.7 | 25.8 | 7.6 | 16.8 |
| **PT** | 33.6 | 33.0 | 27.4 | 37.9 | 7.9 | 25.1 |
| **RO** | 26.5 | 25.4 | 20.8 | 29.8 | 6.0 | 19.4 |
| **SE** | 12.8 | 13.1 | 10.6 | 15.6 | 4.1 | 9.0 |
| **SI** | 35.4 | 28.5 | 26.2 | 30.7 | 8.9 | 19.6 |
| **SK** | 31.3 | 31.4 | 28.0 | 34.7 | 9.2 | 22.2 |
| **EU** | **24.7** | **23.9** | **21.7** | **25.9** | **6.8** | **17.1** |

*Note: All EU SILC estimations cover only persons living in private households.*
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*
*Additional data can be downloaded from Eurostat [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

## Table 17: Population of people with disabilities by Member State, 2019

The data include only persons living in private households.

| | 1,000 (Thousands) | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Disability** | | | **Men** | | | **Women** | | |
| | **No** | **Disabled** | **Total** | **No** | **Disabled** | **Total** | **No** | **Disabled** | **Total** |
| | **16+** | | | | | | | | |
| **AT** | 4,845 | 2,488 | 7,333 | 2,414 | 1,173 | 3,586 | 2,431 | 1,315 | 3,746 |
| **BE** | 6,572 | 2,450 | 9,022 | 3,298 | 1,117 | 4,415 | 3,274 | 1,334 | 4,607 |
| **BG** | 4,977 | 955 | 5,933 | 2,452 | 395 | 2,847 | 2,526 | 560 | 3,086 |
| **CY** | 551 | 169 | 720 | 269 | 80 | 349 | 282 | 90 | 371 |
| **CZ** | 4,204 | 1,681 | 5,885 | 1,820 | 637 | 2,457 | 2,384 | 1,044 | 3,428 |
| **DE** | 53,058 | 14,928 | 67,985 | 26,189 | 7,091 | 33,280 | 26,869 | 7,837 | 34,706 |
| **DK** | 3,248 | 1,464 | 4,712 | 1,649 | 673 | 2,322 | 1,599 | 791 | 2,390 |
| **EE** | 684 | 368 | 1,052 | 329 | 156 | 485 | 354 | 213 | 567 |
| **EL** | 6,869 | 2,065 | 8,934 | 3,398 | 906 | 4,304 | 3,470 | 1,160 | 4,630 |
| **ES** | 31,901 | 7,213 | 39,114 | 15,909 | 3,109 | 19,018 | 15,992 | 4,104 | 20,096 |
| **FI** | 2,858 | 1,587 | 4,445 | 1,516 | 709 | 2,225 | 1,342 | 877 | 2,220 |
| **FR** | 38,643 | 12,887 | 51,530 | 18,857 | 5,642 | 24,498 | 19,787 | 7,245 | 27,032 |
| **HR** | 2,209 | 1,156 | 3,365 | 1,093 | 517 | 1,610 | 1,116 | 639 | 1,755 |
| **HU** | 5,921 | 1,948 | 7,869 | 2,882 | 817 | 3,699 | 3,039 | 1,131 | 4,170 |
| **IE** | 3,199 | 625 | 3,824 | 1,577 | 300 | 1,877 | 1,622 | 326 | 1,947 |
| **IT** | 38,524 | 10,951 | 49,475 | 19,173 | 4,670 | 23,843 | 19,351 | 6,281 | 25,632 |
| **LT** | 1,521 | 706 | 2,228 | 722 | 274 | 996 | 799 | 432 | 1,232 |
| **LU** | 361 | 123 | 484 | 184 | 56 | 240 | 176 | 67 | 244 |
| **LV** | 916 | 597 | 1,512 | 436 | 233 | 670 | 479 | 363 | 842 |
| **MT** | 362 | 48 | 411 | 188 | 22 | 210 | 174 | 27 | 200 |
| **NL** | 9,712 | 4,016 | 13,728 | 5,066 | 1,749 | 6,814 | 4,646 | 2,267 | 6,914 |
| **PL** | 19,095 | 6,167 | 25,262 | 8,781 | 2,584 | 11,365 | 10,314 | 3,583 | 13,897 |
| **PT** | 5,862 | 2,891 | 8,753 | 2,959 | 1,117 | 4,076 | 2,903 | 1,774 | 4,677 |
| **RO** | 12,095 | 4,122 | 16,217 | 6,216 | 1,632 | 7,848 | 5,879 | 2,490 | 8,369 |
| **SE** | 7,182 | 1,081 | 8,262 | 3,733 | 441 | 4,174 | 3,449 | 639 | 4,088 |
| **SI** | 1,217 | 484 | 1,702 | 623 | 221 | 843 | 595 | 264 | 858 |
| **SK** | 3,035 | 1,391 | 4,425 | 1,537 | 597 | 2,134 | 1,497 | 794 | 2,291 |
| **EU** | **269,600** | **84,562** | **354,200** | **133,271** | **36,916** | **170,200** | **136,300** | **47,646** | **184,000** |

*Note: The estimates have not been adjusted for missing values. This affects estimates for Germany (marginally) because we miss information concerning age.*

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

## 2. Employment

### Table 18: Employment rate by disability status and Member State. Age 20-64, 2019

The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons aged 20 to 64 in employment by the total population of the same age group. The data are not seasonally adjusted.

| | Disability | | | Women | | Men | | Degree | | Target |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Disability | | Disability | | | | EU 2020 |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Yes | No | Severe | Moderate | |
| **AT** | 54.6 | 77.5 | 71.1 | 49.7 | 70.0 | 59.5 | 85.0 | 26.3 | 62.6 | (77-78) 77 |
| **BE** | 44.1 | 77.3 | 69.9 | 42.1 | 73.8 | 46.2 | 80.7 | 15.9 | 58.4 | 73.2 |
| **BG** | 40.2 | 76.6 | 73.4 | 41.2 | 72.5 | 39.2 | 80.7 | (14.7) | 45.4 | 76 |
| **CY** | 52.4 | 77.4 | 73.3 | 48.2 | 71.9 | 56.6 | 83.3 | 26.2 | 60.8 | (75-77) 75 |
| **CZ** | 55.2 | 81.2 | 76.2 | 53.4 | 73.2 | 57.9 | 91.8 | 27.2 | 64.1 | 75 |
| **DE** | 53.3 | 82.2 | 76.9 | 51.1 | 78.0 | 55.7 | 86.5 | 29.0 | 64.3 | 77 |
| **DK** | 60.1 | 78.9 | 73.6 | 57.7 | 76.6 | 62.9 | 81.2 | 38.4 | 65.4 | 80 |
| **EE** | 64.9 | 85.9 | 80.2 | 65.6 | 82.4 | 64.1 | 89.3 | 47.1 | 71.8 | 76 |
| **EL** | 32.6 | 62.8 | 59.6 | 28.9 | 51.7 | 36.7 | 74.3 | 21.3 | 40.9 | 70 |
| **ES** | 39.0 | 69.8 | 66.1 | 37.3 | 63.3 | 40.7 | 76.3 | 21.3 | 42.7 | 74 |
| **FI** | 56.9 | 77.8 | 71.4 | 60.1 | 76.2 | 53.2 | 79.2 | 33.2 | 62.1 | 78 |
| **FR** | 56.9 | 75.1 | 71.7 | 56.9 | 71.2 | 56.9 | 79.2 | 43.4 | 63.6 | 75 |
| **HR** | 37.0 | 71.0 | 63.2 | 35.8 | 64.9 | 38.2 | 77.0 | 22.5 | 42.1 | 62.9 |
| **HU** | 50.2 | 79.3 | 74.4 | 47.8 | 73.2 | 52.9 | 85.3 | 20.8 | 60.5 | 75 |
| **IE** | 32.6 | 76.5 | 70.6 | 26.5 | 71.5 | 38.8 | 81.7 | 17.7 | 38.9 | (69-71) 69 |
| **IT** | 51.6 | 68.6 | 66.7 | 43.7 | 57.9 | 59.8 | 79.4 | 24.8 | 58.4 | (67-69) 67 |
| **LT** | 53.9 | 79.8 | 74.2 | 55.1 | 77.8 | 52.5 | 82.0 | 18.2 | 60.1 | 72.8 |
| **LU** | 51.5 | 73.1 | 68.4 | 48.6 | 67.9 | 55.1 | 78.2 | 35.0 | 58.2 | 73 |
| **LV** | 60.8 | 79.0 | 73.7 | 62.0 | 74.2 | 59.5 | 84.2 | 35.9 | 65.2 | 73 |
| **MT** | 47.1 | 75.8 | 73.5 | 34.4 | 64.3 | 60.2 | 86.2 | (45.6) | 47.5 | 70 |
| **NL** | 56.3 | 83.1 | 76.5 | 53.6 | 79.0 | 59.7 | 86.8 | 22.9 | 63.0 | 80 |
| **PL** | 43.3 | 75.8 | 70.4 | 41.7 | 67.9 | 45.1 | 85.0 | 24.4 | 50.3 | 71 |
| **PT** | 59.8 | 79.1 | 74.6 | 58.3 | 76.0 | 62.1 | 82.1 | 42.0 | 63.9 | 75 |
| **RO** | 46.3 | 74.3 | 69.9 | 38.3 | 62.2 | 56.9 | 85.5 | (12.4) | 54.3 | 70 |
| **SE** | 58.4 | 82.4 | 79.8 | 58.7 | 78.9 | 58.1 | 85.5 | 44.6 | 64.1 | 80 |
| **SI** | 55.0 | 76.0 | 71.4 | 54.9 | 72.8 | 55.1 | 78.9 | 45.6 | 58.6 | 75 |
| **SK** | 56.3 | 79.4 | 74.1 | 53.1 | 73.4 | 60.1 | 85.0 | 30.1 | 64.6 | 72 |
| **EU** | 51.3 | 75.6 | **71.5** | **49.0** | **69.3** | **53.9** | **82.0** | **29.8** | **58.8** | **75** |

*Note: Data in parenthesis are indicative.*
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

**Table 19: Employment rate by disability status and Member State. Age 20-64, 2018**

| | Persons with limitations | Persons without limitations | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| **AT** | 56.5 | 77.5 | 71.6 |
| **BE** | 43.8 | 75.6 | 69.1 |
| **BG** | 35.4 | 75.5 | 71.7 |
| **CY** | 49.7 | 75.2 | 70.9 |
| **CZ** | 51.9 | 80.6 | 75.2 |
| **DE** | 50.0 | 81.4 | 75.6 |
| **DK** | 60.9 | 81.0 | 75.6 |
| **EE** | 64.3 | 85.2 | 78.8 |
| **EL** | 31.1 | 60.7 | 57.6 |
| **ES** | 43.1 | 69.8 | 66.2 |
| **FI** | 58.3 | 75.9 | 70.8 |
| **FR** | 57.2 | 75.4 | 71.9 |
| **HR** | 34.3 | 68.3 | 60.6 |
| **HU** | 48.3 | 78.9 | 73.6 |
| **IE** | 37.3 | 77.6 | 72.6 |
| **IT** | 51.9 | 67.1 | 65.1 |
| **LT** | 49.8 | 80.3 | 74.2 |
| **LU** | 51.1 | 70.1 | 65.8 |
| **LV** | 61.1 | 80.0 | 74.4 |
| **MT** | 42.5 | 74.8 | 72.3 |
| **NL** | 60.6 | 83.5 | 77.4 |
| **PL** | 40.2 | 75.2 | 69.3 |
| **PT** | 58.4 | 77.4 | 72.7 |
| **RO** | 45.5 | 74.2 | 69.4 |
| **SE** | 52.7 | 81.0 | 78.0 |
| **SI** | 55.6 | 74.5 | 69.0 |
| **SK** | 56.5 | 79.7 | 74.5 |
| **EU** | **50.8** | **75.0** | **70.7** |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1.*

**Table 20: Evolution of the employment rate of people with and without disabilities, EU, age: 20-64**

| | EU 28 | | | EU 27 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Persons with disabilities | Persons without disabilities | All (28) | Persons with disabilities | Persons without disabilities | All (27) |
| **2006** | 46.3 | 71.6 | 66.8 | | | |
| **2007** | 46.1 | 71.6 | 67.6 | | | |
| **2008** | 46.4 | 73.9 | 68.7 | | | |
| **2009** | 46.1 | 72.5 | 67.6 | | | |
| **2010** | 46.0 | 72.0 | 67.2 | | | |
| **2011** | 46.9 | 72.0 | 67.2 | | | |
| **2012** | 47.9 | 71.5 | 67.0 | | | |
| **2013** | 48.5 | 71.4 | 66.8 | | | |
| **2014** | 48.7 | 72.5 | 67.7 | | | |
| **2015** | 47.4 | 73.1 | 68.3 | | | |
| **2016** | 48.1 | 73.9 | 69.3 | | | |
| **2017** | 50.6 | 74.8 | 70.5 | 50.2 | 73.6 | 69.5 |
| **2018** | 52.0 | 76.2 | 71.8 | 50.8 | 75.0 | 70.7 |
| **2019** | | | | 51.3 | 75.6 | 71.5 |
| **2020** | | | | | | 70.7 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB. Estimation for 2020.*

**Table 21: Employment rate of young people with and without disabilities, EU**

| | EU 28 | | | EU 27 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Age : 20-29 | | Age : 20-64 | Age : 20-29 | | Age : 20-64 |
| | Persons without disabilities | Persons with disabilities | All 20-64 | Persons without disabilities | Persons with disabilities | All 20-64 |
| **2006** | 61.5 | 52.3 | 66.8 | | | |
| **2007** | 61.3 | 53.1 | 67.6 | | | |
| **2008** | 62.6 | 51.9 | 68.7 | | | |
| **2009** | 59.7 | 48.4 | 67.6 | | | |
| **2010** | 58.2 | 49.3 | 67.2 | | | |
| **2011** | 57.3 | 48.8 | 67.2 | | | |
| **2012** | 56.5 | 46.1 | 67.0 | | | |
| **2013** | 55.3 | 46.5 | 66.8 | | | |
| **2014** | 56.8 | 43.4 | 67.8 | | | |
| **2015** | 57.0 | 42.5 | 68.3 | | | |
| **2016** | 57.7 | 43.9 | 69.3 | | | |
| **2017** | 58.4 | 46.0 | 70.5 | 55.5 | 46.1 | 69.5 |
| **2018** | 59.5 | 48.1 | 71.8 | 56.7 | 46.1 | 70.7 |
| **2019** | | | | 57.8 | 47.4 | 71.5 |
| **2020** | | | | | | 70.7 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB. Estimation for 2020.*

## 3. Unemployment

### Table 22: Unemployment rate by disability status and Member State. Age 20-64, 2019

The unemployment rate represents unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force. The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed. The data are not seasonally adjusted.

| | Disability | | | Women | | Men | | Degree | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Disability | | Disability | | | |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Yes | No | Severe | Moderate |
| AT | 18,3 | 5,7 | 8,8 | 16,0 | 6,2 | 20,2 | 5,3 | 40,5 | 14,5 |
| BE | 16,4 | 5,3 | 7,0 | 15,3 | 5,4 | 17,4 | 5,3 | 33,3 | 13,3 |
| BG | 16,2 | 11,8 | 12,0 | 15,8 | 11,4 | 16,6 | 12,2 | (28,9) | 15,2 |
| CY | 20,7 | 9,3 | 10,8 | 21,0 | 10,0 | 20,5 | 8,6 | 33,8 | 18,5 |
| CZ | 12,6 | 3,3 | 4,7 | 11,9 | 3,9 | 13,5 | 2,7 | 31,5 | 9,2 |
| DE | 20,1 | 3,5 | 6,0 | 20,1 | 3,6 | 20,0 | 3,4 | 37,5 | 15,3 |
| DK | 12,7 | 5,7 | 7,4 | 10,9 | 5,5 | 14,5 | 5,9 | 21,3 | 11,3 |
| EE | 8,7 | 4,2 | 5,2 | 6,7 | 4,0 | 10,6 | 4,4 | 13,0 | 7,5 |
| EL | 31,1 | 19,5 | 20,3 | 34,4 | 24,0 | 28,0 | 15,9 | 39,4 | 27,3 |
| ES | 30,0 | 17,0 | 18,1 | 33,4 | 19,2 | 26,5 | 15,2 | 44,1 | 28,1 |
| FI | 18,0 | 7,2 | 10,1 | 13,3 | 6,0 | 23,5 | 8,1 | 31,3 | 16,2 |
| FR | 16,9 | 8,7 | 10,0 | 15,6 | 9,7 | 18,4 | 7,8 | 25,0 | 13,7 |
| HR | 27,9 | 13,9 | 16,1 | 27,1 | 16,2 | 28,5 | 11,8 | 39,2 | 25,3 |
| HU | 12,4 | 4,9 | 5,8 | 11,9 | 5,5 | 12,9 | 4,4 | 33,4 | 8,9 |
| IE | 20,1 | 7,7 | 8,5 | 19,8 | 6,3 | 20,3 | 8,8 | 26,6 | 18,7 |
| IT | 16,8 | 11,5 | 12,0 | 17,7 | 12,9 | 16,0 | 10,5 | 21,8 | 16,2 |
| LT | 16,4 | 9,9 | 11,0 | 12,3 | 8,4 | 21,0 | 11,4 | 25,2 | 15,9 |
| LU | 13,4 | 4,6 | 6,2 | 13,4 | 4,3 | 13,4 | 4,9 | 28,8 | 8,5 |
| LV | 15,2 | 8,0 | 9,9 | 14,1 | 7,9 | 16,5 | 8,1 | 21,0 | 14,6 |
| MT | 3,7 | 1,4 | 1,6 | 0,0 | 1,4 | 5,8 | 1,4 | (0,0) | 4,6 |
| NL | 7,2 | 2,6 | 3,5 | 7,0 | 3,1 | 7,4 | 2,2 | 4,5 | 7,4 |
| PL | 13,4 | 6,6 | 7,4 | 12,9 | 8,2 | 13,8 | 5,2 | 16,2 | 12,9 |
| PT | 17,6 | 9,6 | 11,2 | 17,8 | 10,5 | 17,2 | 8,8 | 22,0 | 16,9 |
| RO | 2,5 | 2,0 | 2,1 | 1,3 | 1,3 | 3,6 | 2,5 | (5,1) | 2,4 |
| SE | 16,6 | 5,0 | 6,0 | 14,9 | 5,2 | 18,8 | 4,8 | 21,9 | 15,0 |
| SI | 20,5 | 7,7 | 10,1 | 20,3 | 9,1 | 20,8 | 6,4 | 28,8 | 17,7 |
| SK | 13,2 | 8,1 | 9,0 | 14,6 | 7,8 | 11,7 | 8,3 | 22,7 | 11,6 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| EU | 17,3 | 8,3 | 9,5 | 17,0 | 9,1 | 17,6 | 7,6 | 29,3 | 14,8 |

*Note: Data in parenthesis are indicative.*
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

## Table 23: Unemployment rate by disability status and Member State. Age 20-64, 2018

The unemployment rate represents unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force. The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed. The data are not seasonally adjusted.

| | Disability | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | **Yes** | **No** | **Total** |
| **AT** | 15.6 | 5.0 | 7.6 |
| **BE** | 17.5 | 5.7 | 7.4 |
| **BG** | 21.8 | 12.9 | 13.4 |
| **CY** | 24.7 | 11.3 | 13.1 |
| **CZ** | 15.6 | 3.6 | 5.4 |
| **DE** | 22.8 | 3.7 | 6.6 |
| **DK** | 12.6 | 5.1 | 6.8 |
| **EE** | 8.9 | 4.8 | 5.9 |
| **EL** | 32.8 | 21.8 | 22.5 |
| **ES** | 32.8 | 17.4 | 19.0 |
| **FI** | 18.8 | 8.2 | 10.9 |
| **FR** | 17.1 | 8.5 | 9.9 |
| **HR** | 33.0 | 16.9 | 19.4 |
| **HU** | 15.4 | 5.3 | 6.6 |
| **IE** | 22.1 | 7.0 | 8.2 |
| **IT** | 16.7 | 13.3 | 13.7 |
| **LT** | 20.0 | 8.9 | 10.6 |
| **LU** | 13.4 | 6.2 | 7.5 |
| **LV** | 13.6 | 8.3 | 9.6 |
| **MT** | 5.6 | 1.6 | 1.8 |
| **NL** | 6.9 | 2.6 | 3.5 |
| **PL** | 14.3 | 7.0 | 7.8 |
| **PT** | 18.6 | 11.0 | 12.6 |
| **RO** | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| **SE** | 22.7 | 5.1 | 6.6 |
| **SI** | 19.0 | 8.9 | 11.5 |
| **SK** | 13.2 | 6.9 | 8.1 |
| **EU** | **18.6** | **8.8** | **10.1** |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1.*
*Additional data can be downloaded from https://www.disability-europe.net/theme/statistical-indicators.*

**Table 24: Evolution of unemployment rate by disability status. Age 20-64, EU**

| | EU 28 | | | | EU 27 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | All | Disability | | | All |
| | Severe | All Disabled | No disability | Total | Severe | All Disabled | No disability | Total |
| **2006** | 23.3 | 16.6 | 8.6 | 9.7 | | | | |
| **2007** | 22.6 | 16.1 | 8.0 | 9.1 | | | | |
| **2008** | 26.7 | 15.9 | 7.1 | 8.4 | | | | |
| **2009** | 28.1 | 17.3 | 9.0 | 10.2 | | | | |
| **2010** | 28.2 | 18.0 | 9.8 | 10.9 | | | | |
| **2011** | 28.0 | 17.4 | 10.2 | 11.2 | | | | |
| **2012** | 27.6 | 18.1 | 11.2 | 12.2 | | | | |
| **2013** | 28.1 | 19.0 | 11.8 | 13.0 | | | | |
| **2014** | 29.8 | 19.6 | 11.3 | 12.6 | | | | |
| **2015** | 29.9 | 20.2 | 10.8 | 12.1 | | | | |
| **2016** | 28.5 | 19.6 | 10.1 | 11.4 | | | | |
| **2017** | 27.0 | 17.1 | 9.1 | 10.2 | 29.7 | 18.4 | 9.9 | 11.1 |
| **2018** | 28.4 | 16.7 | 8.0 | 9.2 | 32.8 | 18.6 | 8.8 | 10.1 |
| **2019** | | | | | 29.3 | 17.3 | 8.3 | 9.5 |
| **2020** | | | | | | | | 9.9 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB. Data for 2020 are estimations.*

**Table 25: Evolution of unemployment rate by disability status, age 16-24. EU**

| | EU 28 | | EU 27 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Persons with disabilities | Persons without disabilities | Persons with disabilities | Persons without disabilities |
| **2006** | 19.9 | 16.7 | | |
| **2007** | 20.6 | 16.2 | | |
| **2008** | 22.4 | 16.0 | | |
| **2009** | 28.5 | 21.8 | | |
| **2010** | 25.4 | 23.5 | | |
| **2011** | 24.5 | 22.4 | | |
| **2012** | 27.6 | 24.2 | | |
| **2013** | 28.8 | 25.5 | | |
| **2014** | 32.7 | 24.1 | | |
| **2015** | 29.7 | 23.3 | | |
| **2016** | 29.4 | 21.9 | 33.0 | 25.1 |
| **2017** | 24.6 | 19.4 | 26.4 | 21.8 |
| **2018** | | | 26.7 | 20.5 |
| **2019** | | | 25.4 | 19.7 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

## 4. Economic activity

**Table 26: Activity rate by disability status and Member State (Age 20-64). 2019**
Percent of the population (same age group) which is employed or unemployed.
The data are not seasonally adjusted.

| | Disability | | | Women | | Men | | Degree | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Disability | | Disability | | | |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Yes | No | Severe | Moderate |
| **AT** | 66.8 | 82.2 | 77.9 | 59.2 | 74.7 | 74.6 | 89.8 | 44.2 | 73.2 |
| **BE** | 52.7 | 81.6 | 75.2 | 49.7 | 78.0 | 55.9 | 85.2 | 23.9 | 67.3 |
| **BG** | 48.0 | 86.9 | 83.5 | 48.9 | 81.8 | 47.0 | 91.9 | (20.7) | 53.5 |
| **CY** | 66.1 | 85.3 | 82.2 | 61.0 | 79.8 | 71.2 | 91.1 | 39.6 | 74.6 |
| **CZ** | 63.1 | 83.9 | 79.9 | 60.6 | 76.1 | 67.0 | 94.3 | 39.7 | 70.5 |
| **DE** | 66.7 | 85.2 | 81.8 | 64.0 | 80.9 | 69.7 | 89.5 | 46.4 | 75.9 |
| **DK** | 68.8 | 83.7 | 79.5 | 64.8 | 81.0 | 73.6 | 86.2 | 48.9 | 73.7 |
| **EE** | 71.0 | 89.6 | 84.6 | 70.3 | 85.8 | 71.7 | 93.4 | 54.1 | 77.6 |
| **EL** | 47.4 | 78.0 | 74.7 | 44.1 | 68.0 | 51.0 | 88.3 | 35.2 | 56.3 |
| **ES** | 55.7 | 84.2 | 80.8 | 56.1 | 78.3 | 55.3 | 90.0 | 38.2 | 59.4 |
| **FI** | 69.4 | 83.8 | 79.4 | 69.4 | 81.1 | 69.5 | 86.2 | 48.4 | 74.0 |
| **FR** | 68.4 | 82.3 | 79.7 | 67.4 | 78.8 | 69.7 | 85.9 | 57.9 | 73.7 |
| **HR** | 51.3 | 82.4 | 75.2 | 49.1 | 77.4 | 53.4 | 87.3 | 36.9 | 56.3 |
| **HU** | 57.3 | 83.3 | 79.0 | 54.2 | 77.5 | 60.7 | 89.1 | 31.3 | 66.4 |
| **IE** | 40.8 | 82.8 | 77.2 | 33.0 | 76.3 | 48.7 | 89.6 | 24.2 | 47.9 |
| **IT** | 62.0 | 77.6 | 75.8 | 53.2 | 66.5 | 71.2 | 88.7 | 31.7 | 69.7 |
| **LT** | 64.5 | 88.6 | 83.3 | 62.8 | 84.9 | 66.5 | 92.6 | 24.3 | 71.4 |
| **LU** | 59.4 | 76.7 | 72.9 | 56.1 | 71.0 | 63.6 | 82.3 | 49.2 | 63.6 |
| **LV** | 71.7 | 85.9 | 81.8 | 72.1 | 80.6 | 71.3 | 91.6 | 45.4 | 76.4 |
| **MT** | 49.0 | 76.9 | 74.7 | 34.4 | 65.2 | 63.9 | 87.4 | (45.6) | 49.8 |
| **NL** | 60.6 | 85.3 | 79.3 | 57.6 | 81.5 | 64.5 | 88.8 | 24.0 | 68.0 |
| **PL** | 50.0 | 81.2 | 76.0 | 47.9 | 73.9 | 52.4 | 89.6 | 29.1 | 57.8 |
| **PT** | 72.5 | 87.5 | 84.0 | 70.9 | 84.9 | 75.0 | 90.0 | 53.8 | 76.9 |
| **RO** | 47.5 | 75.9 | 71.4 | 38.8 | 63.0 | 59.0 | 87.7 | (13.1) | 55.6 |
| **SE** | 70.1 | 86.7 | 84.9 | 69.0 | 83.2 | 71.6 | 89.8 | 57.1 | 75.4 |
| **SI** | 69.2 | 82.3 | 79.4 | 68.9 | 80.1 | 69.6 | 84.3 | 64.0 | 71.2 |
| **SK** | 64.9 | 86.3 | 81.5 | 62.2 | 79.6 | 68.1 | 92.7 | 38.9 | 73.2 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **62.0** | **82.5** | **79.0** | **59.1** | **76.2** | **65.4** | **88.8** | **42.1** | **69.0** |

*Note: Data in parenthesis are indicative.*
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

**Table 27: Activity rate by disability status and Member State (Age 20-64). 2018**
Percent of the population (same age group) which is employed or unemployed.
The data are not seasonally adjusted.

| | Disability | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | **Yes** | **No** | **Total** |
| **AT** | 66.9 | 81.6 | 77.5 |
| **BE** | 53.1 | 80.2 | 74.7 |
| **BG** | 45.3 | 86.7 | 82.8 |
| **CY** | 66.0 | 84.7 | 81.6 |
| **CZ** | 61.5 | 83.7 | 79.5 |
| **DE** | 64.7 | 84.6 | 80.9 |
| **DK** | 69.7 | 85.3 | 81.1 |
| **EE** | 70.6 | 89.5 | 83.7 |
| **EL** | 46.3 | 77.6 | 74.3 |
| **ES** | 64.1 | 84.5 | 81.7 |
| **FI** | 71.8 | 82.6 | 79.5 |
| **FR** | 69.0 | 82.4 | 79.8 |
| **HR** | 51.2 | 82.2 | 75.2 |
| **HU** | 57.1 | 83.3 | 78.8 |
| **IE** | 47.9 | 83.5 | 79.0 |
| **IT** | 62.3 | 77.5 | 75.5 |
| **LT** | 62.2 | 88.2 | 83.0 |
| **LU** | 59.0 | 74.7 | 71.1 |
| **LV** | 70.6 | 87.3 | 82.3 |
| **MT** | 45.1 | 76.1 | 73.6 |
| **NL** | 65.0 | 85.8 | 80.2 |
| **PL** | 46.9 | 80.8 | 75.2 |
| **PT** | 71.8 | 86.9 | 83.3 |
| **RO** | 45.9 | 74.8 | 69.9 |
| **SE** | 68.1 | 85.4 | 83.6 |
| **SI** | 68.6 | 81.8 | 78.0 |
| **SK** | 65.1 | 85.6 | 81.0 |
| **EU** | 62.4 | 82.2 | 78.7 |
| **UK** | 62.4 | 87.6 | 81.9 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1.*

**Table 28: Evolution of the activity rate. EU. Age 20-64**

| | EU 28 | | | EU 27 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | All persons | Disability | | All persons |
| | Moderate | Severe | | Moderate | Severe | |
| **2006** | 62.4 | 38.5 | 75.0 | | | |
| **2007** | 61.5 | 38.2 | 74.4 | | | |
| **2008** | 62.7 | 37.6 | 75.0 | | | |
| **2009** | 63.1 | 37.1 | 75.2 | | | |
| **2010** | 63.4 | 37.0 | 75.4 | | | |
| **2011** | 64.1 | 38.3 | 75.7 | | | |
| **2012** | 66.6 | 38.7 | 76.3 | | | |
| **2013** | 67.6 | 39.7 | 76.8 | | | |
| **2014** | 68.6 | 40.3 | 77.5 | | | |
| **2015** | 67.3 | 39.4 | 77.8 | | | |
| **2016** | 67.4 | 39.9 | 78.2 | | | |
| **2017** | 68.2 | 42.0 | 78.4 | 67.5 | 43.9 | 78.1 |
| **2018** | 70.3 | 41.8 | 79.1 | 69.1 | 42.7 | 78.7 |
| **2019** | | | | 69.0 | 42.1 | 79.0 |
| **2020** | | | | | | 78.5 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB. Data for 2020 are simple extrapolations based on LFS results.*

## 5. Early school leavers

### Table 29: Share of early school leavers by disability status and Member State (Age 18-24)

The EU-SILC estimators for young disabled people are indicative.
Percentage of the population aged 18-24 with "at most" lower secondary education and not in further education or training. The EU-SILC data are not comparable with LFS data.
*Due to the limited number of observations. estimations for persons with disabilities are indicative.*

| | 2018 | | | 2019 | | | Target |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | Disability | | | |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Total | EU 2020 |
| **AT** | 23.5 | 8.6 | 10.7 | 15.4 | 8.1 | 9.0 | 9.5 |
| **BE** | 15.3 | 7.3 | 8.0 | 13.7 | 7.7 | 8.3 | 9.5 |
| **BG** | (24.9) | 17.0 | 17.3 | (16.3) | 19.0 | 18.9 | 11 |
| **CY** | 17.2 | 8.2 | 8.7 | 8.0 | 7.1 | 7.1 | 10 |
| **CZ** | a | 6.8 | 7.1 | (8.2) | 7.6 | 7.7 | 5.5 |
| **DE** | 23.7 | 6.4 | 7.8 | 30.0 | 5.7 | 7.4 | <10 |
| **DK** | 11.5 | 11.1 | 11.2 | 18.0 | 6.4 | 8.9 | <10 |
| **EE** | 16.2 | 7.9 | 9.2 | 20.3 | 7.3 | 9.5 | 9.5 |
| **EL** | 18.5 | 3.3 | 3.8 | (7.8) | 2.9 | 3.0 | 9.7 |
| **ES** | 30.4 | 15.5 | 16.1 | 32.4 | 15.1 | 15.7 | * 15 |
| **FI** | 16.4 | 2.7 | 5.6 | 20.3 | 4.6 | 8.5 | 8 |
| **FR** | 19.7 | 8.9 | 9.8 | 19.2 | 8.0 | 8.9 | 9.5 |
| **HR** | 21.7 | 3.5 | 4.5 | 18.4 | 2.8 | 3.7 | 4 |
| **HU** | 23.2 | 11.8 | 12.6 | 17.1 | 11.5 | 11.7 | 10 |
| **IE** | 10.7 | 3.5 | 4.0 | (28.3) | 3.2 | 5.2 | 8 |
| **IT** | 32.4 | 17.9 | 18.6 | 27.0 | 19.9 | 20.2 | (15-16) 16 |
| **LT** | 17.9 | 4.9 | 6.3 | 15.9 | 3.3 | 4.6 | <9 |
| **LU** | 18.6 | 8.6 | 9.7 | 17.0 | 11.0 | 11.7 | <10 |
| **LV** | 17.2 | 9.7 | 10.6 | 16.6 | 7.8 | 8.8 | 13.4 |
| **MT** | a | 19.4 | 20.1 | a | 20.0 | 20.6 | 10 |
| **NL** | 7.7 | 3.1 | 3.9 | 15.4 | 4.4 | 5.9 | <8 |
| **PL** | 13.7 | 4.3 | 4.8 | 10.5 | 4.2 | 4.5 | 4.5 |
| **PT** | 21.9 | 12.4 | 13.5 | 23.2 | 11.1 | 12.3 | 10 |
| **RO** | (29.8) | 14.3 | 15.1 | 41.4 | 11.3 | 13.0 | 11.3 |
| **SE** | a | 4.7 | 5.3 | (6.5) | 7.4 | 7.3 | <10 |
| **SI** | 5.8 | 2.9 | 3.4 | 5.7 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 5 |
| **SK** | 15.5 | 6.2 | 6.8 | 18.3 | 9.5 | 10.1 | <6 |
| | | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **20.3** | **9.8** | **10.6** | **21.8** | **9.7** | **10.6** | **<10** |

**: Target defined for school drop-out rate*
*Notes: (data in parenthesis): Between 20 and 49 observations in the sample. "a": Less than 20 observations.*
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1 and EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

**Table 30: Evolution of the shares of early school leavers. EU. Age: 18-24 Europe 2020 target: 10 %**

| | EU 28 | | | EU 27 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Persons with disabilities** | **Persons without disabilities** | **Total** | **Persons with disabilities** | **Persons without disabilities** | **Total** |
| **2006** | 23.4 | 13.2 | 13.9 | | | |
| **2007** | 24.0 | 12.7 | 13.4 | | | |
| **2008** | 25.1 | 12.2 | 13.2 | | | |
| **2009** | 23.0 | 12.3 | 13.1 | | | |
| **2010** | 21.6 | 12.0 | 12.7 | | | |
| **2011** | 18.9 | 11.0 | 11.6 | | | |
| **2012** | 21.8 | 10.3 | 11.2 | | | |
| **2013** | 21.5 | 9.4 | 10.4 | | | |
| **2014** | 22.5 | 11.2 | 12.2 | | | |
| **2015** | 22.0 | 11.7 | 12.5 | | | |
| **2016** | 23.6 | 11.0 | 12.0 | | | |
| **2017** | 19.6 | 9.5 | 10.3 | 21.8 | 9.8 | 10.7 |
| **2018** | 19.9 | 9.9 | 10.7 | 20.3 | 9.8 | 10.7 |
| **2019** | | | | 21.8 | 9.7 | 10.6 |
| **2020** | | | | | | 10.5 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB. Data for 2020 are simple extrapolations based on LFS results.*

## 6. Persons who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education

### Table 31: Percent of persons who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education by Member State and disability status. Age: 30-34

Share of the population of the same age group.
Due to the limited number of observations. estimations for persons with disabilities are indicative. Indicator for the EU target refers to ISCED 2011 level 5-8 (data 2014 onwards). National targets as set out in the most recent National Reform Programmes. The definitions of the national targets are comparable to the EU target except for Germany. France and Finland.[1]

| | 2018 | | | 2019 | | | EU 2020 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | Disability | | | Target | |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Total | | |
| **AT** | 42.1 | 49.0 | 47.6 | 34.7 | 51.2 | 47.3 | 38 | |
| **BE** | 35.3 | 52.0 | 49.8 | 30.4 | 55.8 | 52.5 | 47 | |
| **BG** | (7.6) | 33.4 | 32.6 | (6.4) | 32.5 | 31.5 | 36 | |
| **CY** | 43.1 | 59.3 | 57.9 | 42.7 | 56.1 | 55.0 | 46 | |
| **CZ** | 35.7 | 41.2 | 40.7 | 27.1 | 39.2 | 38.0 | 32 | |
| **DE** | 17.0 | 44.2 | 41.2 | 25.1 | 43.9 | 42.2 | 42 | (1) |
| **DK** | (45.5) | 52.5 | 51.4 | 49.5 | 58.5 | 56.6 | >40 | |
| **EE** | 43.4 | 49.3 | 48.0 | 44.0 | 44.9 | 44.7 | 40 | |
| **EL** | 33.8 | 44.2 | 43.8 | 20.2 | 45.7 | 44.6 | 32 | |
| **ES** | 31.7 | 47.1 | 45.9 | 36.1 | 46.3 | 45.5 | 44 | |
| **FI** | 42.4 | 48.1 | 46.6 | 40.1 | 53.0 | 49.9 | 42 | (1) |
| **FR[2]** | 28.9 | 50.3 | 47.6 | 42.5 | 48.4 | 47.6 | 50 | (1) |
| **HR** | 17.3 | 31.8 | 30.5 | 28.7 | 33.6 | 33.2 | 35 | |
| **HU** | 23.1 | 33.7 | 33.1 | 33.7 | 37.2 | 37.0 | 34 | |
| **IE** | (39.9) | 61.7 | 60.4 | (30.4) | 69.8 | 67.8 | 60 | |
| **IT** | 23.8 | 28.1 | 27.8 | 16.6 | 27.0 | 26.3 | 26-27 | |
| **LT** | (46.9) | 64.9 | 63.2 | 54.1 | 61.5 | 60.2 | 48.7 | |
| **LU** | 35.9 | 53.5 | 51.0 | 46.8 | 57.8 | 56.7 | 66 | |
| **LV** | 42.9 | 49.2 | 47.9 | 32.1 | 47.3 | 45.3 | 34-36 | |
| **MT** | a | 34.0 | 33.4 | (40.2) | 34.1 | 34.4 | 33 | |
| **NL** | 49.2 | 64.0 | 61.1 | 41.7 | 62.2 | 59.1 | >40 | |
| **PL** | 32.2 | 49.9 | 48.5 | 33.1 | 49.9 | 48.5 | 45 | |
| **PT** | 30.6 | 35.1 | 34.4 | 24.0 | 37.0 | 35.2 | 40 | |
| **RO** | 18.0 | 28.8 | 28.1 | 22.6 | 28.5 | 28.1 | 26.7 | |
| **SE** | (27.0) | 54.9 | 52.6 | (21.8) | 51.6 | 49.3 | 45-50 | |
| **SI** | 38.9 | 43.3 | 42.6 | 34.4 | 45.9 | 44.1 | 40 | |
| **SK** | 29.7 | 35.5 | 34.9 | 34.6 | 34.7 | 34.7 | 40 | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **29.4** | **43.8** | **42.3** | **32.5** | **43.6** | **42.5** | **>40** | |

*Notes: "(data in parenthesis)": Between 20 and 49 observation. "a": Less than 20 observations.*
*1: Definition differs. DE: EU 2020 includes ISCED 2011 level 4-8; FI: narrower national definition (excluding former tertiary Vocational Education and Training (VET)); FR: 27-33 years-old.*
*2: Age group 27-33: 32.9 % (disabled). 43.2 % (non-disabled) and 42.2 % (total).*
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1 and EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021*.

**Table 32: Evolution of the share of persons who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education by disability status. Age: 30-34**

| | EU 28 | | EU 2020 | EU 27 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Persons with disabilities** | **Persons without disabilities** | **Target** | **Persons with disabilities** | **Persons without disabilities** |
| **2006** | 24.5 | 33.7 | 40 | | |
| **2007** | 23.4 | 31.9 | 40 | | |
| **2008** | 20.4 | 33.1 | 40 | | |
| **2009** | 21.6 | 35.4 | 40 | | |
| **2010** | 22.8 | 37.0 | 40 | | |
| **2011** | 27.1 | 36.9 | 40 | | |
| **2012** | 27.8 | 39.3 | 40 | | |
| **2013** | 28.5 | 41.1 | 40 | | |
| **2014** | 29.7 | 42.6 | 40 | | |
| **2015** | 29.4 | 43.0 | 40 | | |
| **2016** | 30.3 | 43.5 | 40 | | |
| **2017** | 32.4 | 42.5 | 40 | 31.7 | 41.8 |
| **2018** | 31.7 | 44.9 | 40 | 29.4 | 43.8 |
| **2019** | | | | 32.5 | 43.6 |
| **2020** | | | | | 44.2 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB. Data for 2020 are simple extrapolations based on LFS results.*

## 7. Very low work intensity

**Table 33: Percent of persons living in households with very low work intensity (Age 16-59)**

People living in households with very low work intensity are people living in households where the adults work less than 20 % of their total work potential during the past year.

| | 2018 | | | 2019 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | Disability | | |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Total |
| **AT** | 16.2 | 4.7 | 7.6 | 17.9 | 4.3 | 7.8 |
| **BE** | 31.5 | 8.8 | 13.1 | 31.9 | 8.5 | 13.1 |
| **BG** | 25.3 | 7.4 | 8.8 | 24.2 | 7.9 | 9.1 |
| **CY** | 19.1 | 6.8 | 8.6 | 18.9 | 5.4 | 7.2 |
| **CZ** | 16.6 | 2.9 | 5.2 | 18.8 | 2.5 | 5.2 |
| **DE** | 28.4 | 5.6 | 9.3 | 25.6 | 5.2 | 8.4 |
| **DK** | 23.8 | 8.8 | 12.4 | 19.1 | 7.4 | 10.5 |
| **EE** | 15.1 | 3.0 | 6.2 | 16.5 | 2.8 | 6.1 |
| **EL** | 35.5 | 14.5 | 16.2 | 39.7 | 13.2 | 15.5 |
| **ES** | 28.8 | 9.2 | 11.6 | 34.0 | 8.9 | 11.6 |
| **FI** | 21.0 | 7.6 | 11.3 | 20.0 | 7.1 | 10.8 |
| **FR** | 17.7 | 6.3 | 8.2 | 19.4 | 5.7 | 8.0 |
| **HR** | 26.4 | 8.7 | 11.9 | 24.4 | 6.8 | 10.0 |
| **HU** | 20.8 | 3.3 | 5.7 | 19.3 | 2.9 | 5.0 |
| **IE** | 34.6 | 9.4 | 12.1 | 38.8 | 9.9 | 13.3 |
| **IT** | 22.2 | 10.9 | 12.1 | 23.1 | 9.7 | 11.0 |
| **LT** | 21.6 | 6.1 | 8.7 | 18.2 | 5.2 | 7.6 |
| **LU** | 19.3 | 6.9 | 9.5 | 19.5 | 5.6 | 8.4 |
| **LV** | 16.4 | 5.4 | 8.3 | 16.4 | 5.8 | 8.5 |
| **MT** | 21.5 | 4.1 | 5.3 | 15.2 | 4.1 | 4.9 |
| **NL** | 20.1 | 5.5 | 9.1 | 25.5 | 5.3 | 9.7 |
| **PL** | 21.6 | 4.1 | 6.5 | 17.9 | 3.6 | 5.6 |
| **PT** | 15.8 | 5.5 | 7.7 | 14.4 | 4.5 | 6.5 |
| **RO** | 18.0 | 5.9 | 7.5 | 15.0 | 5.1 | 6.3 |
| **SE** | 26.7 | 7.0 | 8.9 | 22.5 | 6.6 | 8.2 |
| **SI** | 12.5 | 4.2 | 6.4 | 12.9 | 4.5 | 6.1 |
| **SK** | 10.4 | 3.6 | 4.8 | 12.0 | 4.7 | 6.0 |
| | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **22.8** | **7.2** | **9.6** | **22.9** | **6.6** | **9.0** |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1 and EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

*Additional data can be downloaded from Eurostat: (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

**Table 34: Evolution of the percentage of persons living in households with low work intensity (WI < 20 %). Age 16-59**

| | EU 28 | | | | EU 27 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | All | Disability | | | All |
| | Severe | All disabled | Not disabled | | Severe | All disabled | Not disabled | All |
| 2005 | | 24.2 | 8.3 | 10.4 | | | | |
| 2006 | | 24.9 | 8.2 | 10.6 | | | | |
| 2007 | | 23.9 | 7.7 | 9.7 | | | | |
| 2008 | | 23.2 | 6.7 | 9.1 | | | | |
| 2009 | | 22.8 | 6.8 | 9.1 | | | | |
| 2010 | 39.5 | 24.2 | 7.8 | 10.2 | | | | |
| 2011 | 40.3 | 24.5 | 7.9 | 10.4 | | | | |
| 2012 | 38.7 | 23.9 | 8.1 | 10.5 | | | | |
| 2013 | 39.1 | 24.1 | 8.5 | 11.2 | | | | |
| 2014 | 41.6 | 25.1 | 8.7 | 11.6 | | | | |
| 2015 | 41.3 | 25.6 | 8.3 | 11.0 | | | | |
| 2016 | 41.7 | 25.8 | 8.3 | 11.0 | | | 7.8 | 10.2 |
| 2017 | 39.6 | 23.9 | 7.6 | 10.1 | 37.7 | 23.3 | 7.2 | 9.6 |
| 2018 | 39.3 | 22.8 | 6.9 | 9.4 | 38.6 | 22.8 | 6.7 | 9.1 |
| 2019 | | | | | 39.1 | 22.7 | | |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*
*Additional data can be downloaded from Eurostat:*
*(https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

## 8. People at risk of poverty after social transfers (financial poverty)

### Table 35: People at risk of poverty by disability status and Member State; Age: 16+

Percent of people living in households with a household equivalised disposable income less than 60 % of the median national household equivalised disposable income.

| | 2018 | | | 2019 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | Disability | | |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Total |
| **AT** | 16.3 | 11.7 | 13.3 | 16.5 | 11.2 | 13.0 |
| **BE** | 23.5 | 13.0 | 15.7 | 20.3 | 11.3 | 13.8 |
| **BG** | 31.2 | 19.7 | 21.6 | 34.5 | 20.1 | 22.4 |
| **CY** | 22.8 | 12.5 | 15.0 | 23.1 | 11.5 | 14.3 |
| **CZ** | 19.1 | 8.3 | 11.3 | 20.2 | 8.5 | 11.8 |
| **DE** | 26.2 | 13.7 | 16.5 | 24.2 | 12.7 | 15.2 |
| **DK** | 15.6 | 12.1 | 13.1 | 12.9 | 12.8 | 12.9 |
| **EE** | 38.5 | 17.4 | 25.8 | 35.7 | 16.1 | 23.0 |
| **EL** | 16.6 | 18.1 | 17.7 | 17.7 | 17.0 | 17.2 |
| **ES** | 23.4 | 19.9 | 20.6 | 23.6 | 18.5 | 19.4 |
| **FI** | 15.4 | 10.8 | 12.4 | 15.6 | 10.1 | 12.1 |
| **FR** | 13.7 | 11.2 | 11.8 | 15.6 | 11.5 | 12.5 |
| **HR** | 29.5 | 14.3 | 19.4 | 30.0 | 12.8 | 18.7 |
| **HU** | 16.6 | 10.2 | 11.8 | 18.3 | 10.0 | 12.0 |
| **IE** | 28.4 | 12.5 | 15.0 | 23.5 | 10.7 | 12.8 |
| **IT** | 20.0 | 19.0 | 19.2 | 21.2 | 18.9 | 19.4 |
| **LT** | 35.0 | 17.9 | 23.1 | 31.3 | 15.3 | 20.4 |
| **LU** | 23.3 | 15.2 | 17.4 | 20.2 | 14.3 | 15.8 |
| **LV** | 37.3 | 16.8 | 25.0 | 36.7 | 17.4 | 25.0 |
| **MT** | 23.6 | 15.0 | 16.1 | 26.1 | 15.1 | 16.4 |
| **NL** | 15.5 | 11.9 | 13.0 | 17.1 | 11.2 | 12.9 |
| **PL** | 22.1 | 13.5 | 15.6 | 22.5 | 14.0 | 16.1 |
| **PT** | 22.2 | 14.4 | 17.1 | 22.4 | 14.6 | 17.2 |
| **RO** | 25.4 | 20.6 | 21.9 | 26.4 | 21.2 | 22.5 |
| **SE** | 25.5 | 14.2 | 15.7 | 23.5 | 15.0 | 16.1 |
| **SI** | 18.7 | 10.9 | 13.7 | 18.8 | 9.6 | 12.3 |
| **SK** | 11.4 | 10.2 | 10.6 | 11.1 | 10.3 | 10.6 |
| | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **20.9** | **15.0** | **16.5** | **21.1** | **14.6** | **16.2** |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1 and EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

*Additional data can be downloaded from Eurostat: (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

**Table 36: Mean equivalised disposable income by Member State, 2019**
The base for comparison is persons without disabilities.
Equivalised disposable income is total household net disposable income adjusted for the composition of the household.

| | Age 16+ | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | Non-disabled | |
| | Severe | Moderate | All disabled | Base | Euros |
| AT | 79.0 | 87.8 | 85.5 | 100 | 30,896 |
| BE | 74.4 | 84.6 | 81.1 | 100 | 28,057 |
| BG | 60.8 | 69.7 | 67.9 | 100 | 5,857 |
| CY | 70.8 | 84.8 | 80.7 | 100 | 20,347 |
| CZ | 71.2 | 79.6 | 77.3 | 100 | 11,538 |
| DE | 74.2 | 85.9 | 82.1 | 100 | 26,623 |
| DK | 83.6 | 94.7 | 92.7 | 100 | 35,173 |
| EE | 67.8 | 78.8 | 75.2 | 100 | 13,763 |
| EL | 85.3 | 87.0 | 86.3 | 100 | 9,831 |
| ES | 84.9 | 85.4 | 85.3 | 100 | 18,005 |
| FI | 77.7 | 88.8 | 86.4 | 100 | 29,673 |
| FR | 80.3 | 88.3 | 85.3 | 100 | 27,877 |
| HR | 68.1 | 80.0 | 76.3 | 100 | 8,771 |
| HU | 75.0 | 82.7 | 80.5 | 100 | 6,979 |
| IE | 76.4 | 81.2 | 79.7 | 100 | 31,350 |
| IT | 88.7 | 91.4 | 90.8 | 100 | 20,326 |
| LT | 61.3 | 70.9 | 68.9 | 100 | 10,337 |
| LU | 83.5 | 91.8 | 89.3 | 100 | 45,119 |
| LV | 60.5 | 75.2 | 72.0 | 100 | 10,761 |
| MT | 81.5 | 77.8 | 78.6 | 100 | 17,841 |
| NL | 73.4 | 85.0 | 83.0 | 100 | 28,907 |
| PL | 78.4 | 85.1 | 83.0 | 100 | 8,337 |
| PT | 79.1 | 85.3 | 83.8 | 100 | 12,520 |
| RO | 72.3 | 84.9 | 81.9 | 100 | 4,709 |
| SE | 77.8 | 78.8 | 78.5 | 100 | 27,799 |
| SI | 78.8 | 88.3 | 85.4 | 100 | 15,876 |
| SK | 83.9 | 92.8 | 90.2 | 100 | 8,993 |
| | | | | | |
| **EU** | **79.8** | **86.2** | **84.4** | **100** | **20,675** |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*
*Additional data can be downloaded from: Eurostat:*
*(https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

**Table 37: Percent of persons living in households at risk of poverty after social transfers by disability and year. EU. Age 16+**

| | EU 28 | | | | EU 27 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | All | Disability | | | All |
| | Severe | All disabled | Non disabled | | Severe | All disabled | Non disabled | |
| **2008** | 23.5 | 20.8 | 14.5 | 15.8 | | | | |
| **2009** | 21.9 | 19.7 | 14.1 | 15.7 | | | | |
| **2010** | 21.5 | 18.8 | 14.4 | 15.6 | | | | |
| **2011** | 21.8 | 19.4 | 14.9 | 16.1 | 22.0 | 19.1 | 14.8 | 15.9 |
| **2012** | 21.3 | 19.1 | 15.0 | 16.1 | 21.5 | 18.8 | 14.9 | 16.0 |
| **2013** | | | | | 21.2 | 18.7 | 14.9 | 16.0 |
| **2014** | | | | | 22.1 | 19.4 | 15.3 | 16.5 |
| **2015** | | | | | 22.3 | 19.9 | 15.6 | 16.7 |
| **2016** | | | | | 22.7 | 20.2 | 15.9 | 16.9 |
| **2017** | | | | | 23.0 | 20.1 | 15.4 | 16.5 |
| **2018** | | | | | 24.0 | 20.9 | 15.0 | 16.5 |
| **2019** | | | | | 24.4 | 21.1 | 14.6 | 16.2 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*
*Additional data can be downloaded from: Eurostat:*
*(https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

**Table 38: Persons living in households at risk of poverty after social transfers by disability and year**

| | EU 28 | | | EU 27 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Age: 16-64** | **Persons with disabilities** | **Persons without disabilities** | **ALL** | **Persons with disabilities** | **Persons without disabilities** | **ALL** |
| **2005** | 19.0 | 13.9 | 14.9 | | | |
| **2006** | 19.4 | 14.0 | 15.1 | | | |
| **2007** | 20.1 | 14.1 | 15.3 | | | |
| **2008** | 19.8 | 13.7 | 15.0 | | | |
| **2009** | 20.1 | 13.8 | 15.1 | | | |
| **2010** | 20.5 | 14.5 | 15.5 | | | |
| **2011** | 21.2 | 15.0 | 16.2 | 21.3 | 15.1 | 16.2 |
| **2012** | 21.8 | 15.4 | 16.5 | 21.3 | 15.4 | 16.5 |
| **2013** | 21.6 | 15.2 | 16.5 | 21.7 | 15.5 | 16.7 |
| **2014** | 23.2 | 15.9 | 17.3 | 23.0 | 16.1 | 17.5 |
| **2015** | 23.7 | 16.0 | 17.3 | 23.7 | 16.3 | 17.6 |
| **2016** | 23.3 | 16.1 | 17.3 | 23.6 | 16.6 | 17.7 |
| **2017** | 23.3 | 15.6 | 16.9 | 23.0 | 15.8 | 17.1 |
| **2018** | 23.8 | 15.2 | 16.7 | 23.7 | 15.3 | 16.8 |
| **2019** | | | | 22.9 | 14.8 | 16.2 |

| **Age: 65+** | **Persons with disabilities** | **Persons without disabilities** | **ALL** | **Persons with disabilities** | **Persons without disabilities** | **ALL** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **2005** | 19.9 | 17.6 | 18.8 | | | |
| **2006** | 20.3 | 17.5 | 18.9 | | | |
| **2007** | 20.7 | 17.7 | 18.2 | | | |
| **2008** | 20.6 | 16.8 | 19.0 | | | |
| **2009** | 19.0 | 16.2 | 17.9 | | | |
| **2010** | 16.8 | 14.3 | 16.0 | | | |
| **2011** | 16.9 | 14.2 | 15.9 | 16.5 | 12.4 | 14.7 |
| **2012** | 15.8 | 12.7 | 14.6 | 15.8 | 11.7 | 14.1 |
| **2013** | 15.0 | 11.9 | 13.7 | 14.9 | 10.9 | 13.2 |
| **2014** | 15.3 | 11.7 | 13.7 | 15.0 | 10.5 | 13.0 |
| **2015** | 15.5 | 12.4 | 14.0 | 15.3 | 11.8 | 13.6 |
| **2016** | 16.3 | 12.9 | 14.5 | 16.2 | 12.2 | 14.1 |
| **2017** | 17.1 | 13.1 | 15.0 | 16.7 | 12.8 | 14.7 |
| **2018** | 18.3 | 13.7 | 15.9 | 17.8 | 13.3 | 15.5 |
| **2019** | | | | 19.0 | 13.6 | 16.1 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*
*Additional data can be downloaded from: Eurostat:*
*(https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

## 9. Persons severely materially deprived

**Table 39: Percent of persons living in households which are severely materially deprived by disability status and Member State. Age: 16+**

Percent of population with an enforced lack of at least four out of nine material deprivation items in the 'economic strain and durables' dimension.

| | 2018 | | | 2019 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | Disability | | |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Total |
| **AT** | 4.9 | 1.5 | 2.7 | 4.6 | 1.3 | 2.4 |
| **BE** | 8.2 | 3.4 | 4.6 | 7.6 | 2.8 | 4.1 |
| **BG** | 33.5 | 17.6 | 20.2 | 34.9 | 18.8 | 21.4 |
| **CY** | 13.6 | 8.1 | 9.4 | 10.5 | 7.7 | 8.4 |
| **CZ** | 5.5 | 2.3 | 3.2 | 4.9 | 2.1 | 2.9 |
| **DE** | 6.4 | 2.2 | 3.1 | 5.6 | 1.9 | 2.7 |
| **DK** | 4.4 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 5.7 | 1.2 | 2.6 |
| **EE** | 6.0 | 2.3 | 3.7 | 6.7 | 1.7 | 3.5 |
| **EL** | 19.0 | 15.5 | 16.4 | 19.4 | 15.1 | 16.1 |
| **ES** | 8.3 | 4.3 | 5.1 | 7.5 | 3.7 | 4.4 |
| **FI** | 4.7 | 1.7 | 2.7 | 4.3 | 1.4 | 2.4 |
| **FR** | 6.7 | 3.2 | 4.1 | 7.9 | 3.3 | 4.4 |
| **HR** | 13.6 | 6.0 | 8.5 | 12.9 | 4.9 | 7.6 |
| **HU** | 14.8 | 7.0 | 9.0 | 12.8 | 6.2 | 7.8 |
| **IE** | 8.1 | 4.0 | 4.7 | 11.0 | 3.7 | 4.9 |
| **IT** | 11.5 | 7.4 | 8.4 | 11.5 | 6.5 | 7.6 |
| **LT** | 16.9 | 8.8 | 11.3 | 14.9 | 7.3 | 9.7 |
| **LU** | 2.1 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| **LV** | 13.0 | 6.4 | 9.0 | 12.5 | 5.4 | 8.2 |
| **MT** | 6.7 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 8.6 | 2.7 | 3.4 |
| **NL** | 4.4 | 1.3 | 2.3 | 5.0 | 1.2 | 2.3 |
| **PL** | 9.0 | 3.4 | 4.7 | 7.1 | 2.7 | 3.7 |
| **PT** | 8.6 | 4.3 | 5.7 | 8.7 | 4.2 | 5.7 |
| **RO** | 17.3 | 12.3 | 13.6 | 18.2 | 12.5 | 13.9 |
| **SE** | 3.3 | 0.6 | 0.9 | 3.2 | 1.2 | 1.5 |
| **SI** | 7.3 | 1.9 | 3.8 | 5.6 | 1.6 | 2.7 |
| **SK** | 9.2 | 4.9 | 6.2 | 10.9 | 6.3 | 7.7 |
| | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **9.0** | **4.7** | **5.8** | **8.8** | **4.4** | **5.5** |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1 and EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

*Additional data can be downloaded from Eurostat: (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

**Table 40: Percent of persons living in households which are severely materially deprived. EU 27*. Age 16+**

| | Total | Persons with disabilities | Persons without disabilities |
|---|---|---|---|
| **2005** | | 11.6 | 7.5 |
| **2006** | | 11.4 | 7.5 |
| **2007** | | 12.0 | 8.0 |
| **2008** | 8.6 | 11.2 | 7.2 |
| **2009** | 7.8 | 10.5 | 6.9 |
| **2010** | 8.6 | 11.5 | 7.6 |
| **2011** | 9.0 | 12.4 | 7.7 |
| **2012** | 9.8 | 12.9 | 8.7 |
| **2013** | 9.5 | 12.6 | 8.4 |
| **2014** | 8.8 | 12.2 | 7.5 |
| **2015** | 8.0 | 11.6 | 6.8 |
| **2016** | 7.7 | 11.1 | 6.7 |
| **2017** | 6.9 | 10.4 | 5.8 |
| **2018** | 5.8 | 9.0 | 4.7 |
| **2019** | 5.6 | 8.8 | 4.5 |

** : Data for 2005-2009 cover EU 28.*
*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*

## 10. People at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion

**Table 41: Percent of people at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion by disability status and Member State. Age: 16+**

| | 2018 | | | 2019 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disability | | | Disability | | |
| | Yes | No | Total | Yes | No | Total |
| AT | 21.7 | 14.1 | 16.7 | 22.2 | 13.6 | 16.5 |
| BE | 31.5 | 15.4 | 19.5 | 30.1 | 14.5 | 18.7 |
| BG | 48.3 | 29.5 | 32.6 | 51.3 | 29.7 | 33.2 |
| CY | 33.9 | 20.4 | 23.6 | 33.0 | 18.7 | 22.1 |
| CZ | 23.8 | 10.3 | 12.1 | 24.6 | 10.3 | 14.4 |
| DE | 31.1 | 16.0 | 19.6 | 28.7 | 14.8 | 17.9 |
| DK | 23.1 | 15.4 | 17.6 | 20.3 | 15.2 | 16.8 |
| EE | 41.6 | 19.1 | 25.7 | 40.0 | 17.6 | 25.4 |
| EL | 32.0 | 31.2 | 31.4 | 33.2 | 29.0 | 30.0 |
| ES | 31.0 | 24.1 | 25.5 | 32.5 | 22.5 | 24.4 |
| FI | 22.4 | 13.3 | 16.4 | 22.5 | 12.5 | 16.1 |
| FR | 20.8 | 14.3 | 15.9 | 22.9 | 14.8 | 16.8 |
| HR | 37.1 | 19.2 | 25.1 | 37.4 | 17.0 | 24.0 |
| HU | 27.2 | 14.8 | 18.0 | 26.5 | 14.8 | 17.7 |
| IE | 36.8 | 17.5 | 20.5 | 37.9 | 16.4 | 19.9 |
| IT | 30.0 | 25.5 | 26.7 | 29.5 | 24.1 | 25.3 |
| LT | 43.0 | 22.4 | 28.3 | 39.9 | 20.1 | 26.4 |
| LU | 28.8 | 18.9 | 21.7 | 26.0 | 17.1 | 19.4 |
| LV | 43.3 | 21.1 | 29.7 | 42.2 | 20.9 | 29.3 |
| MT | 29.8 | 16.6 | 18.2 | 33.5 | 17.5 | 19.4 |
| NL | 22.6 | 14.2 | 17.2 | 24.3 | 13.2 | 16.4 |
| PL | 29.4 | 16.5 | 19.4 | 27.6 | 16.1 | 18.9 |
| PT | 28.5 | 18.0 | 21.6 | 28.7 | 18.1 | 21.6 |
| RO | 36.8 | 28.4 | 30.6 | 37.0 | 28.2 | 30.4 |
| SE | 30.1 | 15.4 | 17.4 | 28.3 | 16.1 | 17.7 |
| SI | 23.9 | 12.9 | 16.8 | 23.8 | 11.7 | 15.1 |
| SK | 18.3 | 12.5 | 14.5 | 19.2 | 13.5 | 15.3 |
| | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **28.6** | **19.1** | **21.3** | **28.4** | **18.4** | **20.8** |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1 and EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

*Additional data can be downloaded from Eurostat: (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

**Table 42: Percent of persons living in households at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion; EU**

| | | Age: 16-64 | | Age: 65+ | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Persons with disabilities | Persons without disabilities | Persons with disabilities | Persons without disabilities |
| EU 28 | 2005 | 35.9 | 22.9 | 26.8 | 24.1 |
| | 2006 | 36.4 | 22.3 | 26.8 | 22.7 |
| | 2007 | 35.8 | 21.6 | 26.7 | 22.1 |
| | 2008 | 34.9 | 20.5 | 25.9 | 20.2 |
| | 2009 | 34.5 | 20.2 | 23.7 | 19.1 |
| EU 27 | 2010 | 34.6 | 21.8 | 22.4 | 16.1 |
| | 2011 | 36.4 | 22.3 | 22.7 | 15.8 |
| | 2012 | 36.2 | 23.0 | 22.3 | 15.5 |
| | 2013 | 36.4 | 23.0 | 21.1 | 14.1 |
| | 2014 | 37.4 | 23.0 | 20.4 | 13.6 |
| | 2015 | 37.7 | 22.4 | 20.3 | 13.9 |
| | 2016 | 36.9 | 22.6 | 21.3 | 15.0 |
| | 2017 | 35.1 | 21.3 | 21.6 | 15.1 |
| | 2018 | 34.6 | 19.9 | 21.7 | 15.0 |
| | 2019 | 33.9 | 19.3 | 22.4 | 15.2 |

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB.*
*Additional data can be downloaded from Eurostat:*
*(https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

## 11. Self-reported unmet medical needs

**Table 43: Self-reported unmet needs for medical examination by disability and Member State. Age: 16+**

Percent of population of the same age group

| | 2018 | | | 2019 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Disabled | Non-disabled | Total | Disabled | Non-disabled | Total |
| **AT** | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| **BE** | 4.3 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 4.2 | 0.9 | 1.8 |
| **BG** | 5.6 | 1.2 | 1.9 | 3.9 | 0.9 | 1.4 |
| **CY** | 2.5 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| **CZ** | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 0.5 |
| **DE** | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| **DK** | 3.1 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 4.2 | 0.8 | 1.8 |
| **EE** | 23.6 | 11.7 | 16.4 | 23.1 | 11.5 | 15.6 |
| **EL** | 19.7 | 5.4 | 8.8 | 20.8 | 4.4 | 8.1 |
| **ES** | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| **FI** | 9.5 | 2.3 | 4.8 | 9.0 | 2.3 | 4.7 |
| **FR** | 1.6 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 0.9 | 1.2 |
| **HR** | 3.7 | 0.3 | 1.5 | 3.2 | 0.5 | 1.4 |
| **HU** | 2.3 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 2.7 | 0.3 | 0.9 |
| **IE** | 5.3 | 1.4 | 2.0 | 5.0 | 1.4 | 2.0 |
| **IT** | 5.1 | 1.5 | 2.4 | 3.9 | 1.1 | 1.8 |
| **LT** | 4.2 | 1.3 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 0.8 | 1.4 |
| **LU** | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| **LV** | 11.6 | 2.6 | 6.2 | 8.4 | 1.6 | 4.3 |
| **MT** | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| **NL** | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| **PL** | 8.8 | 2.8 | 4.2 | 8.0 | 2.9 | 4.2 |
| **PT** | 4.0 | 1.1 | 2.1 | 3.6 | 0.8 | 1.7 |
| **RO** | 16.2 | 0.8 | 4.9 | 17.2 | 0.7 | 4.9 |
| **SE** | 3.6 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 4.1 | 1.0 | 1.4 |
| **SI** | 5.9 | 1.9 | 3.3 | 5.5 | 1.9 | 2.9 |
| **SK** | 5.9 | 1.1 | 2.6 | 5.8 | 1.3 | 2.7 |
| | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **4.0** | **1.0** | **1.8** | **4.0** | **0.9** | **1.7** |

*Note: Unmet need for medical examination or treatment during the last 12 months. The data include only the following reasons: Could not afford to (too expensive), Waiting list and Too far to travel/no means of transportation.*

*Data source: EU-SILC UDB 2018 RELEASE 2020, VERSION 1 and EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

*Additional data can be downloaded from Eurostat: (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database?node_code=hlth).*

## ANNEX II: Metadata

### 1. Prevalence of disability

### Methodology

The European Statistics of Income and Living Condition (EU-SILC) survey[92] contains a small module on health, composed of 3 variables on health status and 4 variables on unmet needs for health care.

The variables on health status represent the so called Minimum European Health Module (MEHM), and measures 3 different concepts of health:

- Self-perceived health
- Chronic morbidity (people having a long-standing illness or health problem)
- Activity limitation – disability (self-perceived long-standing limitations in usual activities due to health problems)

The data on limitation in activities due to health problems refer to the auto-evaluation by the respondents of the extent of which they are limited in activities people usually do because of health problems for at least the last 6 months. The exact question is "Limitation in activities people usually do because of health problems for at least the last 6 months" and possible answers are:

- yes, strongly limited
- yes, limited
- no, not limited

The survey covers all individuals aged 16 years and over living in private households. Persons living in collective households and in institutions are generally excluded from the target population. It includes persons aged 16 and over living in private households.

Information concerning health and limitations is not collected for all persons in all countries. In Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Slovenia, the questions relative to health and limitations are asked to selected respondents and not all current household members aged 16 and over. The item non-response concerning limitations and other characteristics of the sample are presented in an Annex at the end of this report.

From 2014 onwards, the survey distinguishes: 1) Face to face interview-PAPI, 2) Face to face interview-CAPI, 3) CATI, telephone interview, 4) Self-administered by respondent, 5) Computer assisted web interviewing-CAWI, 6) Face to face interview-PAPI with proxy, 7) Face to face interview-CAPI with proxy, 8) CATI, telephone interview with proxy, 9) Self-administered by respondent with proxy and 10) Computer assisted web interviewing-CAWI with proxy. In the EU-SILC legal basis, priority is given to face-to-face personal interviews (PAPI or CAPI) over the other modes of data collection.

[92] *Eurostat: "Methodological Guidelines and Description of EU-SILC Target Variables - 2018 operation" (Version July 2019) DocSILC065 (2018 operation). EUROPEAN COMMISSION – Eurostat, Directorate F: Social Statistics, Unit F-4: Quality of life* https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database.

For estimations concerning health issues in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden, Slovenia, Iceland and Norway, we have used personal cross-sectional weights for selected persons (pb060). Otherwise, we have used personal cross-sectional weights (pb040).

We have used “age at the date of interview” for indicators concerning the prevalence rate, labour market and educational issues. We have used “age at the end of the income reference” period for income related indicators as well as for labour intensity. However, for Malta, we have only “age at the end of the income reference”. Also, data for Malta are aggregated by 5 years groups.

**Notes**

EU-SILC estimators may underestimate the number of people with disabilities. In fact, persons living in collective households and in institutions are generally excluded from the sample. This underestimation might be marginal for persons aged 16-64 but significant for persons aged 65 or more.

The estimates included here may present marginal differences from previous reports or from Eurostat estimates. This is due to changes between different versions of the micro-data delivered by Eurostat (March version, August version and subsequent updates for a specific year).

## 2. Employment rate

### Methodology

The EU-SILC question (PL031) on 'Self-defined current economic status' provides the following possible answers (since 2009):

1. Employee working full-time
2. Employee working part-time
3. Self-employed working full-time (including family worker)
4. Self-employed working part-time (including family worker)
5. Unemployed
6. Pupil, student, further training, unpaid work experience
7. In retirement or in early retirement or has given up business
8. Permanently disabled or/and unfit to work
9. In compulsory military community or service
10. Fulfilling domestic tasks and care responsibilities
11. Other inactive person

The employment indicator includes: 1. Employee working full-time, 2. Employee working part-time, 3. Self-employed working full-time and 4. Self-employed working part-time.

The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons in employment by the total population of the same age group. The EU 2020 indicator includes persons aged 20-64.

For comparison, the LFS survey uses the ILO definition and asks the labour status during the reference week. Employed population consists of those persons who during the reference week did any work for pay or profit for at least one hour, or were not working but had jobs from which they were temporarily absent. Other categories include was not working but had a job from which he/she was absent during the reference week, was not working because on lay-off, was a conscript on compulsory military or community service, and other who neither worked nor had a job during the reference week.

For data distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too. Otherwise, we have used personal cross-sectional weights (pb040).

### Notes

EU-SILC estimates may overestimate the percentage of people with disabilities in employment. In fact, persons living in collective households and in institutions are generally excluded from the sample.

## 3. Unemployment rate

### Methodology

The unemployment rate represents unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force. The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed.

EU-SILC 2009 onwards includes a question (PL031) on 'Self-defined current economic status'. The possible answers are:

1. Employee working full-time
2. Employee working part-time
3. Self-employed working full-time (including family worker)
4. Self-employed working part-time (including family worker)
5. Unemployed
6. Pupil, student, further training, unpaid work experience
7. In retirement or in early retirement or has given up business
8. Permanently disabled or/and unfit to work
9. In compulsory military community or service
10. Fulfilling domestic tasks and care responsibilities
11. Other inactive person

For estimations distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too. Otherwise, we have used personal cross-sectional weights (pb040).

### Notes

The data here may be slightly different from those presented by Eurostat on his web page.[93] In fact, Eurostat presents estimations using the results of the Labour Force Surveys (LFS). The two surveys use different definitions of unemployment but they yield estimations which are almost perfectly correlated.

The EU-SILC presents a systematically higher estimation. In fact, the EU-SILC data are based on self-declarations while the ILO definition does not include those who are not actively searching for a job.

[93] Eurostat (http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/microdata/).

## 4. Activity rate

### Methodology

Total population is divided into economically active and inactive population. The economically active population includes those who are employed, and those who are unemployed. An active person is a person who is economically active on the labour market.

The activity rate is the ratio of economically active people on the labour market (employed or unemployed) to the total population of the same age group.

The EU-SILC survey introduced in 2009 a new classification of 'Self-defined current economic status' (question PL031). The possible answers are:

1. Employee working full-time
2. Employee working part-time
3. Self-employed working full-time (including family worker)
4. Self-employed working part-time (including family worker)
5. Unemployed
6. Pupil, student, further training, unpaid work experience
7. In retirement or in early retirement or has given up business
8. Permanently disabled or/and unfit to work
9. In compulsory military community or service
10. Fulfilling domestic tasks and care responsibilities
11. Other inactive person

We have included in the group of inactive people categories from '6' to '11'.

For estimations distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too. Otherwise, we have used personal cross-sectional weights (pb040).

### Notes

In order to make this indicator comparable to Europe 2020 indicators, we focus on people aged 20-64. However, estimations by age group follow the standard Eurostat age groups.

The number of persons with limitations in the age group 16-24 is relatively small. The estimates for this age group have only an indicative value.

EU-SILC estimates might overestimate the percentage of people with disabilities who participate in the labour force. In fact, persons living in collective households and in institutions are generally excluded from the sample.

## 5. Early school leavers

### Methodology

Europe 2020 indicator refers to the population aged 18-24 with “at most” lower secondary education and who were not in further education or training during the last four weeks preceding the survey.

Eurostat publishes on his webpage the percentage of early leavers from education and training. Eurostat uses the results of the LFS (Labour Force Survey). From 20 November 2009, this indicator is based on annual averages of quarterly data instead of one unique reference quarter in spring.

Lower secondary education refers to ISCED 2011 level 0, 1 and 2 (for data as from 2014) and to ISCED 1997 level 0, 1, 2 and 3C short (for data up to 2013).

EU-SILC 2014

The classification to be used for this variable is the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011) which includes 9 categories for educational attainment"

0 Less than primary education
1 Primary education
2 Lower secondary education
3 Upper secondary education (not further specified)
4 post-secondary non-tertiary education
5 first stage of tertiary education (not leading directly to an advanced research qualification)
6 second stage of tertiary education (leading to an advanced research qualification)
5 Short cycle tertiary
6 Bachelor or equivalent
7 Master or equivalent
8 Doctorate or equivalent

We define early leavers from education as those who have attained level ‘0’, ‘1’ or ‘2’ and are not currently participating in an educational activity. The EU-SILC survey collects information on “Current education activity” (whether the person is “In education” or “Not in education”).

ISCED 2011 levels 2 and 3, lower secondary and upper secondary education, correspond mainly to levels 2 and 3 in ISCED 1997. However, due to the clarification of criteria and subsidiary criteria, ISCED 2011 may be implemented differently than ISCED 1997 (i.e. with some programmes being classified at different levels than before). Such differences may affect time series data for some countries.

The methodology is described in “Methodological Guidelines and Description of EU-SILC Target Variables 2014 operation (Version October 2014), DocSILC065 (2014 operation); Directorate F: Social Statistics Unit F-4: Quality of life; European Commission, Eurostat”.

For estimations distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for

selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too. Otherwise, we have used personal cross-sectional weights (pb040).

**Notes**

Analysis by Member State may be considered to be robust for most countries. However, analysis by gender presents a certain number of statistical problems due to the low number of observations. Consequently, estimations for the age group 18-24 ought to be treated with caution.

In order to increase the robustness of estimates, we use the average of several years.

EU-SILC survey estimates cannot be compared with administrative data.

## 6. Persons who have completed a tertiary or equivalent education

### Methodology

Europe 2020 indicator refers to the age group 30-34.

Eurostat presents an indicator based on the LFS survey. Tertiary education covers ISCED 2011 levels 5, 6, 7 and 8 (short-cycle tertiary education, bachelor's or equivalent level, master's or equivalent level, doctoral or equivalent level, online code ED5-8 'tertiary education'). Data up to 2013 refer to ISCED 1997 levels 5 and 6. The data are calculated as annual averages of quarterly EU Labour Force Survey data (EU-LFS).

The educational attainment level of an individual is the highest ISCED (International Standard Classification of Education) level successfully completed, the successful completion of an education programme being validated by a recognised qualification.

### EU-SILC UDB 2014

The classification to be used for this variable is the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011) which includes 9 categories for educational attainment "

0 Less than primary education
1 Primary education
2 Lower secondary education
3 Upper secondary education (not further specified)
4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education
5 Short cycle tertiary
6 Bachelor or equivalent
7 Master or equivalent
8 Doctorate or equivalent

The methodology is described in "Methodological Guidelines and Description of EU-SILC Target Variables 2014 operation (Version October 2014), DocSILC065 (2014 operation); Directorate F: Social Statistics Unit F-4: Quality of life; European Commission, Eurostat".

For estimations distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too.

### Notes

There is a very high variability of the percentage of persons with a 'post-secondary non-tertiary education' (level 4). This category has an impact on of Austrian and German estimates.

EU-SILC estimates may overestimate the percentage of people who have completed a tertiary education. In fact, persons living in collective households and in institutions are generally excluded from the sample.

The data concerning persons with disabilities are indicative, due to the relatively small number of persons with limitations in the sample, notably in the age group 30-34.

## 7. Very low work intensity

### Methodology

We summarise below the methodology adopted in the EU-SILC survey.

A working age person is defined as a person aged 18-64. For each working age person (Wage/person) two figures are computed:[94]

- The number of months during the income reference period for which information on his/her activity status is available (the 'workable' months: NWAm);
- The number of months during the income reference period for which the person has been classified as worker (Number of 'worked' months: NWm).

A derived 'AGE' variable is constructed. This is the age at the end of income reference period.

In each household, EU-SILC UDB (User Data Base) calculates the derived variables:

$$TNWm = \sum_{household\ members} NWm$$

$$TNWAm = \sum_{household\ members} NWAm$$

$$WI = \frac{TNWm}{TNWAm}$$ (WI: Work Intensity)

Work intensity (RX040) is a continuous variable from 0 to 1 (People older than 59 has WORK_INT = 99). It is based on persons aged 18-59 (students excluded).

For 2011 and afterwards, the EU-SILC UDB data present a continuous variable varying from '0' to '1'. For 2010, the EU-SILC UDB data presented a binary indicator (0/1). For 2008 and 2009, the data presented four categories: 1) WI = 0; 2) 0 < WI < 0.5; 3) 0.5 ≤ W < 1and 4) W = 1. However, recent Eurostat updates present complete data since 2005.

The same work intensity status is assigned to each household member (including those younger than 18 years old).

WI=0 means that no adult is working in the household (a jobless household).
WI=1 means that all the adults in the household are employed during the whole year.

People living in households with very low work intensity are people living in households where the adults work less than 20 % of their total work potential during the past year.

For estimations distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for

[94] *Extract from "year 2009: Cross-sectional data; differences between data collected (as described in the guidelines) and anonymised user database"; European Commission – Eurostat, Directorate F: Social Statistics and Information Society, Unit F-3: Living Conditions and Social Protection.*

selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too. Otherwise, we have used personal cross-sectional weights (pb040).

We have used the age at the end of the income reference period (px020).

**Notes**

Concerning Europe 2020, Eurostat presents an indicator covering people aged 0-59 living in households where the adults work less than 20 % of their total work potential during the past year. As the EU-SILC survey presents information on disability only for people aged 16 or more, we present the percentage of people with and without disabilities aged 16 to 59.

Work intensity in the household can be seen as an indicator of the employment rate of the household. However, other factors than unemployment may affect it.

## 8. People at risk of poverty after social transfers (financial poverty)

### Methodology

A household is at risk of poverty (HX080=1) if equivalised household disposable income (HX090) is lower than 60 % of the median national household equivalised disposable income. The indicator refers to the household.

The EU-SILC personal file provides information on disability while the EU-SILC household file provides the poverty indicator. By combining both files, we estimate the percentage of persons (disabled and non-disabled) who live in households with a household equivalised disposable income lower than 60 % of the median national household equivalised disposable income.

The EU-SILC UDB database[95] computes first gross household income. This includes all sources of revenue (work, allowances, benefits, rents, profits, etc.) for a given household. Then it subtracts regular taxes on wealth and tax on income and social insurance contributions in order to arrive at the total disposable household income. Then it takes into account the household size in order to arrive at the equivalised disposable income. Then it calculates median national household equivalised disposable income. A household is below poverty if his household equivalised disposable income is less than 60 % of the median national household equivalised disposable income.

The EU-SILC survey provides also information on disability. Consequently, we may estimate the percentage of disabled persons who live in poor households.

For estimations distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too. Otherwise, we have used personal cross-sectional weights (pb040).

We have used the age at the end of the income reference period (px020).

### Notes

The poverty rate of disabled people aged 65 or more seems smaller compared to non-disabled persons of the same age group in certain Member States. As noted above, special allowances aimed to compensate for disability related barriers might reduce artificially poverty rates among elderly disabled people. Also, the indicator does not take into account extra health costs of elderly people.

[95] For a full description see: European Commission – Eurostat: Directorate F: Social Statistics and Information Society Unit F-3: Living conditions and social protection statistics; "EU-SILC 065 (2008 operation), Description of Target Variables: Cross-sectional and Longitudinal"; 2008 operation (Version January 2010).

## 9. Persons severely materially deprived

### Methodology

This indicator presents the share of population with an enforced lack of at least four out of nine material deprivation items in the 'economic strain and durables' dimension.

The nine items considered are:

1. Arrears on mortgage or rent payments, utility bills, hire purchase instalments or other loan payments;
2. Capacity to afford paying for one week's annual holiday away from home;
3. Capacity to afford a meal with meat, chicken, fish (or vegetarian equivalent) every second day;
4. Capacity to face unexpected financial expenses [set amount corresponding to the monthly national at-risk-of-poverty threshold of the previous year];
5. Household cannot afford a telephone (including mobile phone);
6. Household cannot afford a colour TV;
7. Household cannot afford a washing machine;
8. Household cannot afford a car and
9. Ability of the household to pay for keeping its home adequately warm.

For estimations distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too. Otherwise, we have used personal cross-sectional weights (pb040). Also, we have used the age at the end of the income reference period (px020).

### Notes

It is worth noting that financial poverty depends on national conditions (median national income) while material deprivation is defined in the same way in all Member States (at least four out of nine material deprivation items). Also, all items bear the same weight.

The survey indicates that the question focuses mainly on affordability of some aspects of living standards. However, subjective expectations might bias this measure. In fact, elderly people might indicate that “they don’t want or need it” instead of “would like to have it but cannot afford it” (for example holidays, car, etc.). This means that the share of elderly people might be biased downwards.

## 10. People at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion (AROPE)

### Methodology

This EU 2020 indicator corresponds to the sum of persons who are either:

- At risk of financial poverty, or
- Severely materially deprived, or
- Living in households with very low work intensity.

The total population is however not a simple arithmetic sum of its three components because of overlaps between the populations covered by the three sub-indicators.

Eurostat defines a person at risk-of-poverty or social exclusion as:

- Persons with an equivalised disposable income below the risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60 % of the national median equivalised disposable income (after social transfers); or
- Material deprivation covers indicators relating to economic strain and durables. Severely materially deprived persons have living conditions severely constrained by a lack of resources, they experience at least 4 out of 9 following deprivations items: cannot afford i) to pay rent or utility bills, ii) keep home adequately warm, iii) face unexpected expenses, iv) eat meat, fish or a protein equivalent every second day, v) a week holiday away from home, vi) a car, vii) a washing machine, viii) a colour TV, or ix) a telephone; or
- People living in households with very low work intensity are those aged 0-59 living in households where the adults (aged 18-59) work less than 20 % of their total work potential during the past year.

Persons present in several sub-indicators are counted only once.

Information concerning disability (limitations) is provided for persons aged 16 or more. Consequently, we construct our indicator for the age group 16+.

For estimations distinguishing limited and not limited people in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia we have used personal cross-sectional weights for selected persons (pb060). This holds for Iceland and Norway too.

### Notes

The EU-SILC survey provides information on disability (limitations) for persons aged 16 or more. The data include only persons living in private households.

The poverty or social exclusion indicator is established at the household level. The same value is attributed to all members of the household.

## 11. General health

### Methodology

The European Statistics of Income and Living Condition (EU-SILC) survey contains a small module on health, composed of 3 variables on health status.

The variables on health status represent the so called Minimum European Health Module (MEHM), and measures 3 different concepts of health:

- Self-perceived health;
- Chronic morbidity (people having a long-standing illness or health problem);
- Activity limitation – disability (self-perceived long-standing limitations in usual activities due to health problems).

The EU-SILC question (HS.1) is “How is your health in general”? Possible answers are:

- Very good;
- Good;
- Fair;
- Bad, or
- Very bad.

It refers to health in general.

### Notes

Eurostat notes that the measurement of self-perceived health is, by its very nature, subjective.

Comparability across countries ought to take into account the age structure of the countries under study. In fact, countries with a larger proportion of elderly people might report a higher proportion of people reporting to be in bad health.

## 12. Unmet needs for medical examination

### Methodology

The European Statistics of Income and Living Condition (EU-SILC) survey contains a small module on health, composed of 3 variables on health status and 4 variables on unmet needs for health care.

The variables on unmet needs for health care targets two broad types of services: medical care and dental care. The variables refer to the respondent's own assessment of whether he or she needed the respective type of examination or treatment, but did not have it and if so, what was the main reason of not having it.

A question (PH040) focusses on unmet need for medical examination or treatment during the last 12 months. The exact question is: “Was there any time during the past 12 months when you really needed medical examination or treatment (excluding dental) for yourself?

1. Yes, there was at least one occasion when the person really needed examination or treatment but did not receive it
2. No, there was no occasion when the person really needed examination or treatment but did not receive it

Another question (PH050) focusses on the main reason for unmet need for medical examination or treatment

Main reasons for unmet needs observed in SILC are the following:

1. Could not afford to (too expensive)
2. Waiting list
3. Could not take time because of work, care for children or for others
4. Too far to travel or no means of transportation
5. Fear of doctors (resp. dentists), hospitals, examination or treatment
6. Wanted to wait and see if problem got better on its own
7. Didn't know any good medical doctor (resp. dentist)
8. Other reasons

Eurostat currently disseminates an indicator concerning “self-reported unmet needs for medical examination for reasons of barriers of access”.

"Reasons of barriers of access" combines the following three reasons: ‘Could not afford to (too expensive)’, ‘Waiting list’ and ‘Too far to travel or no means of transportation’.

### Notes

Eurostat notes that the indicator is derived from self-reported data, so it is, to a certain extent, affected by respondents’ subjective perception as well as by their social and cultural background. It adds that, another factor playing a role is the different organisation of health care services, be that nationally or locally.

## 13. Methodological note on EU-SILC

The European Statistics of Income and Living Condition (EU-SILC) survey is the EU reference source for comparative statistics on income distribution and social exclusion at European level.

The European Statistics of Income and Living Condition (EU-SILC) survey contains a small module on health, including three questions on general health status.

Regulation (EU) 2019/2242, of 16 December 2019, on the organisation of a sample survey in the income and living conditions provides the technical details of the survey.

### Definition of disability

The EU-SILC term (activity limitation) does not expressly take into account any 'interactions with barriers' which is typical of the social model approach and the UNCRPD. However, it cannot be compared to medical approaches as it does not focus on impairments, functional limitations or the consequences of diseases.

In a simplified and linear relation between impairment, disability and handicap, the EU-SILC stands in the middle. It is close to the concept of disabilities.

### Characteristics of the sample

The survey covers all individuals aged 16 years old and over living in private households. Persons living in collective households and in institutions are generally excluded from the target population.

### Age

The micro-data present two measures for the age of the respondent. The first concerns age at the date of the interview and the second, age at the end of the income reference period.

We have used "age at the date of interview" for indicators concerning the disability prevalence, labour market and education issues. We have used "age at the end of the income reference" period for income related indicators as well as for labour intensity.

### Seasonality

Employment, unemployment and activity rates refer to the situation at the date of interview. For this reason, the data are not seasonally adjusted. On the contrary, the Labour Force Survey (LFS) provides an indicator which is based on annual averages of comparable quarterly data. However, income data presented here are annual (e.g. they cover a twelve-month period preceding the survey period).

### Interviews

Four types of data are involved in EU-SILC:

i. variables measured at the household level;
ii. information on household composition and basic characteristics of household members;
iii. income and 'basic variables' (education, basic labour information) measured at the personal level, but normally aggregated to construct household-level variables; and
iv. variables collected and analysed at the person-level 'the detailed variables' (health, access to health care, detailed labour information, activity history and calendar of activities').

For set (i)-(ii) variables, a sample of households including all household members is required.

Set (iii) is collected directly at the person level, covering all persons in each sample household.

In most countries, i.e. in the so-called 'survey countries', these income variables are collected through personal interviews with all adults aged 16+ in each sample household. By contrast, in 'register countries', set (iii) variables are compiled from registers and other administrative sources, thus avoiding the need to interview all members (adults aged 16+) in each sample household.

Set (iv) variables will normally be collected through direct personal interview in all countries.

Concerning disability, 'the register countries' select only a representative person per sample household since for these countries interviewing all household members for set (iii) is not involved.

Register countries include Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and Slovenia. The non-EU countries include Iceland and Norway.

The information included in the EU-SILC project can either be extracted from registers or be collected from interviews. In case of interviews, five modes of data collection are possible: 1. Face-to-face personal interview (PAPI); 2. Face-to-face personal interview (CAPI); 3. Telephone interview (CATI); 4. Self-administered by respondent; 5. Proxy interview. In the EU-SILC legal basis, priority is given to face-to-face personal interviews (PAPI or CAPI) over the other modes of data collection.

**Periodicity**

The cross-sectional and the longitudinal data are produced annually.

**Accessibility of micro-data**

In September 2020, the latest available micro-data accessible to researchers were those of 2018.

**Methodology of EU-SILC**

European Commission - Eurostat: "Methodological guidelines and description of EU-SILC target variables; 2015 operation (Version June 2016)"; European Commission,

Eurostat, Directorate F: Social Statistics, Unit F-4: Quality of life. DocSILC065 (2015 operation).

European Commission - Eurostat: “Methodological guidelines and description of EU-SILC target variables - *2018 operation*” (Version July 2019) DocSILC065 (2018 operation)

European Commission – Eurostat, Directorate F: Social Statistics, Unit F-4: Quality of life.

**Table 44: EU-SILC UDB 2019 - Sample characteristics***

| | Question PH030_F | | | | Limitations (Question: PH030) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Country | Not-selected | Missing | Filled | Sample | Severe | Moderate | No | Total |
| | Not-weighted | | | | | | | |
| **AT** | 0 | 4 | 10347 | 10351 | 925 | 2636 | 6786 | 10347 |
| **BE** | 0 | 125 | 12465 | 12590 | 1113 | 2205 | 9147 | 12465 |
| **BG** | 0 | 0 | 14980 | 14980 | 624 | 2389 | 11967 | 14980 |
| **CY** | 0 | 4 | 9291 | 9295 | 786 | 1803 | 6702 | 9291 |
| **CZ** | 0 | 4706 | 11421 | 16127 | 1018 | 2724 | 7679 | 11421 |
| **DE** | 0 | 288 | 20566 | 20854 | 1592 | 3333 | 15641 | 20566 |
| **DK** | 4474 | 30 | 5787 | 10291 | 379 | 1606 | 3802 | 5787 |
| **EE** | 0 | 361 | 12063 | 12424 | 1489 | 2973 | 7601 | 12063 |
| **EL** | 0 | 0 | 34836 | 34836 | 4175 | 6384 | 24277 | 34836 |
| **ES** | 0 | 181 | 33195 | 33376 | 1284 | 5078 | 26833 | 33195 |
| **FI** | 9074 | 108 | 9538 | 18720 | 608 | 2567 | 6363 | 9538 |
| **FR** | 0 | 574 | 20847 | 21421 | 2011 | 3450 | 15386 | 20847 |
| **HR** | 0 | 167 | 16953 | 17120 | 2157 | 4701 | 10095 | 16953 |
| **HU** | 0 | 195 | 12785 | 12980 | 1268 | 2986 | 8531 | 12785 |
| **IE** | 0 | 0 | 8217 | 8217 | 476 | 999 | 6742 | 8217 |
| **IT** | 0 | 1344 | 36983 | 38327 | 2194 | 6789 | 28000 | 36983 |
| **LT** | 0 | 517 | 9389 | 9906 | 728 | 2607 | 6054 | 9389 |
| **LU** | 0 | 258 | 8247 | 8505 | 606 | 1474 | 6167 | 8247 |
| **LV** | 0 | 298 | 9280 | 9578 | 937 | 3268 | 5075 | 9280 |
| **MT** | 0 | 0 | 8351 | 8351 | 309 | 964 | 7078 | 8351 |
| **NL** | 11614 | 332 | 13432 | 25378 | 845 | 3820 | 8767 | 13432 |
| **PL** | 0 | 6145 | 36232 | 42377 | 3096 | 6908 | 26228 | 36232 |
| **PT** | 0 | 24 | 28759 | 28783 | 2457 | 8016 | 18286 | 28759 |
| **RO** | 0 | 0 | 15314 | 15314 | 1097 | 3606 | 10611 | 15314 |
| **SE** | 5039 | 22 | 5599 | 10660 | 212 | 490 | 4897 | 5599 |
| **SI** | 12780 | 0 | 8590 | 21370 | 875 | 1814 | 5901 | 8590 |
| **SK** | 0 | 113 | 12606 | 12719 | 1475 | 3182 | 7949 | 12606 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| **EU** | **42981** | **15796** | **426073** | **484850** | **34736** | **88772** | **302565** | **426073** |

**: "Register countries" select a person per household for certain questions. "Survey countries" interview all members of the household aged 16 and over. Estimates are corrected for not selected (see methodology).*

*Source: EU-SILC UDB 2019 RELEASE 1 2021.*

## 14. Sources of data

1. European Commission: Commission implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/2242 of 16 December 2019 specifying the technical items of data sets, establishing the technical formats and specifying the detailed arrangements and content of the quality reports on the organisation of a sample survey in the income and living conditions domain pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

2. European Commission - Eurostat: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database.

3. European Commission – Eurostat: "European Health Interview Survey (EHIS wave 2): Methodological manual"; Theme: Populations and social conditions; Collection: Methodologies & Working papers. European Commission – Eurostat, 2013 edition.

4. European Commission - Eurostat: "Methodological guidelines and description of EU-SILC target variables - 2018 operation" (Version July 2019) DocSILC065 (2018 operation). European Commission – Eurostat, Directorate F: Social Statistics, Unit F-4: Quality of life.

5. European Commission - Eurostat: "Methodological guidelines and description of EU-SILC target variables; 2015 operation (Version June 2016)"; European Commission, Eurostat, Directorate F: Social Statistics, Unit F-4: Quality of life. DocSILC065.

6. EU-SILC UDB 2018 – Release 1 2020.

7. EU-SILC UDB 2019 - Release 1 2021.

8. EHIS Wave 2 2013-2015.

## List of tables

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