



20 years TOGETHER

Poland in the European Union

Warsaw 2024

Content-related works

Statistics Poland
Statistical Products Department

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Dear Readers,



20 years ago, on the 1st May 2004, Poland, together with Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Malta, Slovakia, Slovenia and Hungary, joined the European Union. It was the largest enlargement in the history of the Community — the European Union gained nearly 74 million new citizens.

Since then, Poland has experienced significant social and economic changes, backed by several occurrences, such as opening the borders, expansion of the common market, and aid in the form of European funds. The European Union membership opened new perspectives for citizens, entrepreneurs and institutions operating in various areas. Also, Polish official statistics has been developing over the last 20 years following the standards of the European Statistical System. Today, we are one of the leaders initiating the enhancement of European statistical principles and practices, by undertaking new research topics, exploring innovative data sources and introducing innovative methods of statistics production.

To celebrate this important anniversary, we prepared a publication entitled *20 years together. Poland in the European Union*. I hope that Poland's presence in the EU shown from a statistical perspective will be interesting to you and will encourage you to use Statistics Poland and Eurostat's data resources more extensively.

I wish you pleasant reading!

President
of Statistics Poland

Dominik Rozkrut, Ph.D.

Contents

Note to the Reader	6
About the European Union – INTRODUCTION	8
European statistics – POLAND IN THE ESS	22
Poland in the EU – THEN AND NOW	32
A glance at the EU – STATISTICAL RANKINGS	90
Sources	110

Note to the Reader

The publication consists of four chapters:

- Chapter 1** contains selected basic information about the European Union;
- Chapter 2** presents the European statistics and Poland's contribution to it;
- Chapter 3** shows selected social, economic and environmental changes observed during Poland's-20-year membership in the European Community;
- Chapter 4** presents Poland's EU rankings based on the values of indicators characterising some challenges featured in the EU's development priorities.

The Eurostat database was used as the primary source of statistics used in the publication (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>). For comparability reasons, data for Poland were drawn from Eurostat as well, therefore they may slightly differ from data in other publications of Statistics Poland. Most of the computing data (e.g. per capita data, calculations of dynamics and structure indicators) were calculated by the authors.

The publication generally presents data for the period from 2004 to the last year available in the Eurostat database by the end of April 2024 (usually 2022 or 2023). Exceptions, i.e. the use of data for years from outside this period, result from methodological changes or situations where research providing the studied data was introduced later than in 2004.

The publication contains some simplifications and generalisations due to its illustrative nature. Data for the whole EU, regardless of the year they refer to, concern 27 EU states (EU members as of 2024). The names of some categories and indicators have been shortened compared to the applicable standards and classifications in official statistical sources. Due to data rounding (fractions equal to or over 0.50 are rounded up to 1), in some cases the sums of the components may slightly differ from the amount given in the 'total' section.

Methodological explanations concerning definitions and indices used in the publication can be found in the database on the Eurostat website and in the 'Statistics Explained' tab (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php>).

Statistics on the European Single Market (page 20-21) refer to the years 2021-2023.

Data on the innovative activities of enterprises (page 72-73) concern entities employing 10 persons and more, excluding the financial sector agriculture, forestry and fishing, as well as mining and quarrying.

European Union (EU) member states codes

EU27	European Union
AT	Austria
BE	Belgium
BG	Bulgaria
CY	Cyprus
CZ	Czechia
DE	Germany
DK	Denmark
EE	Estonia
EL	Greece
ES	Spain
FI	Finland
FR	France
HR	Croatia
HU	Hungary
IE	Ireland
IT	Italy
LT	Lithuania
LU	Luxembourg
LV	Latvia
MT	Malta
NL	Netherlands
PL	Poland
PT	Portugal
RO	Romania
SE	Sweden
SI	Slovenia
SK	Slovakia





About the European Union

INTRODUCTION



European Union in figures

Area

The European Union (EU) is a political and economic partnership of 27 European countries. Its area covers most of Europe and the member states' territories located in Asia (Cyprus), North America (Guadeloupe, Martinique), South America (French Guiana) and Africa (Ceuta, Madeira, Mayotte, Reunion, Saint Martin, Canary Islands). The area of the EU totals over 4.2 million km². The largest country in the Community is France (638.5 thousand km²) and the smallest is Malta (0.3 thousand km²).

Population

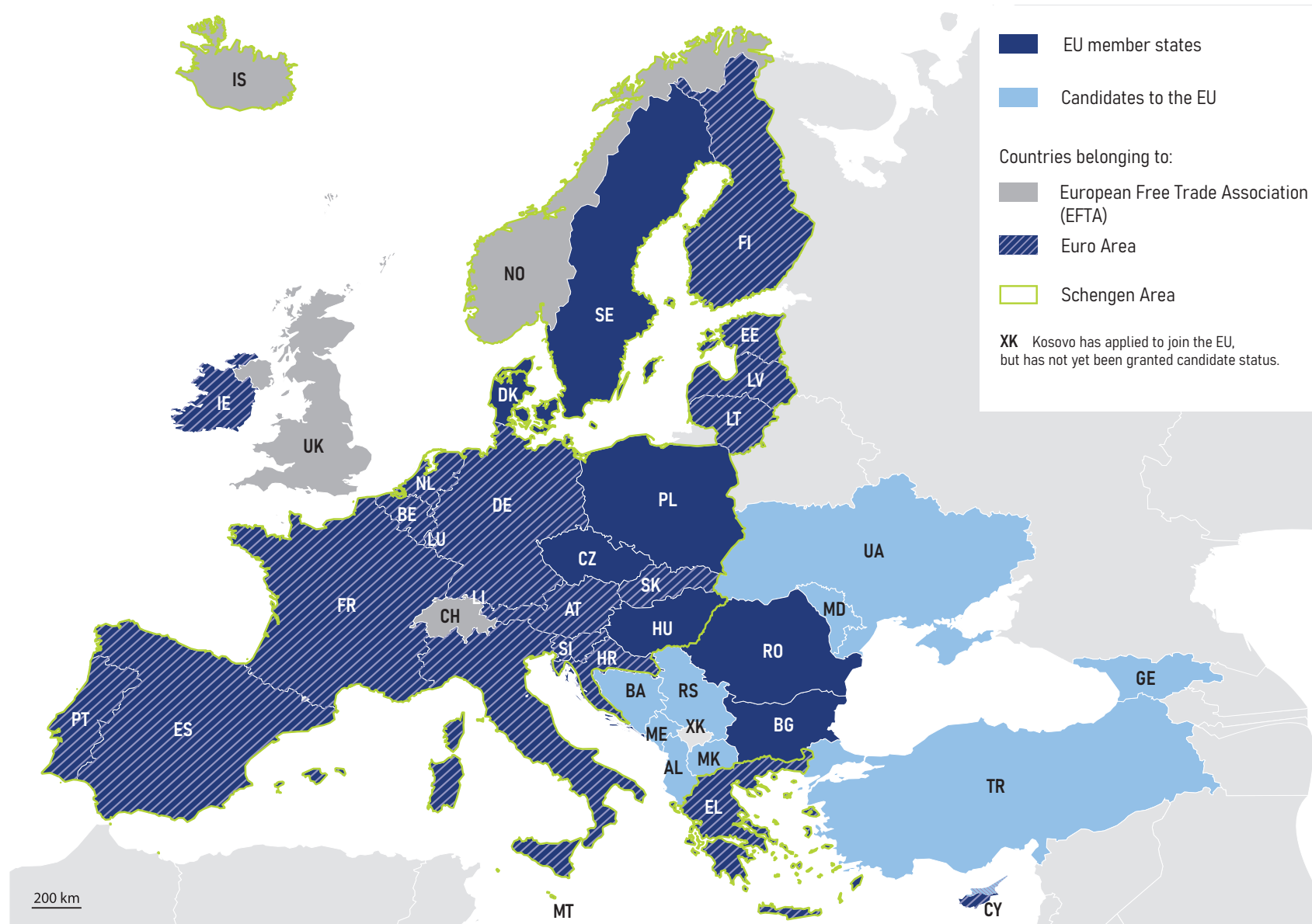
Approximately 450 million people, i.e. around 6% of the world's population, live in the EU. The member country with the largest population is Germany (almost 19% of the EU population) and the least-populated one is Malta (0.1%). The most populous metropolis in the EU is Paris, inhabited by over 10 million people.

The largest group of people in the EU (around 100 million) speak German on a daily basis. It is the official language of Germany, Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg. However, almost half of EU citizens declare the knowledge of English, which is only spoken as an official language in Ireland and Malta (with a combined population of slightly over 5 million).

The EU launched the Galileo satellite navigation system, which provides a radio signal for positioning, navigation and timing. It is a global system that is an alternative to the American GPS. The first services of the system started on 15 December 2016.

Languages

The official languages of all member states are also the official languages of the EU. There are currently three official alphabets (Latin, Greek and Cyrillic), and 24 official languages in the EU: Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish.



Key dates

Schuman Declaration
- a plan to strengthen
cooperation in Europe

9 May 1950

Signing of the Convention
establishing the European Free Trade
Association (EFTA)

4 January 1960

Establishment
of a customs union

1 July 1968

Accession of Greece to
the European Community

1 January 1981

18 April 1951
Establishment of the Europe-
an Coal and Steel Community
by Belgium, France, Germany,
Italy, Luxembourg
and the Netherlands



25 March 1957
Signing of the Treaties of Rome
establishing the European
Economic Community (EEC)
and the European Atomic
Energy Community (Euratom)

1 January 1973
The accession of Denmark,
Ireland and the United Kingdom
to the European Community



7-10 June 1979
First direct elections to
the European Parliament





Poland's official application
for EU membership

8 April 1994

Schengen Agreement -
abolition of border controls
enters into force

26 March 1995



Accession of Austria, Finland
and Sweden to the EU

1 January 1995



First elections to the European
Parliament in Poland

13 June 2004



Accession of Cyprus, Czechia,
Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia,
Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slove-
nia and Hungary to the EU

1 May 2004



Accession of Croatia
to the EU

1 July 2013

1 January 1986

Accession of Spain
and Portugal to
the European
Community



7 February 1992

Signing of the Treaty on
European Union in Maastricht

1 January 1993

Creation of the European
single market

31 March 1998

Opening of
membership
negotiations
with Poland



1 January 1999

Adoption of the euro
single currency by
11 EU countries

1 January 2007

Accession of Bulgaria
and Romania to the EU



13 December 2007

Signing of the Lisbon
Treaty reforming
the structure
and functioning of the EU

21 December 2007

Poland in the Schengen Area

**1 July-31 December
2011**

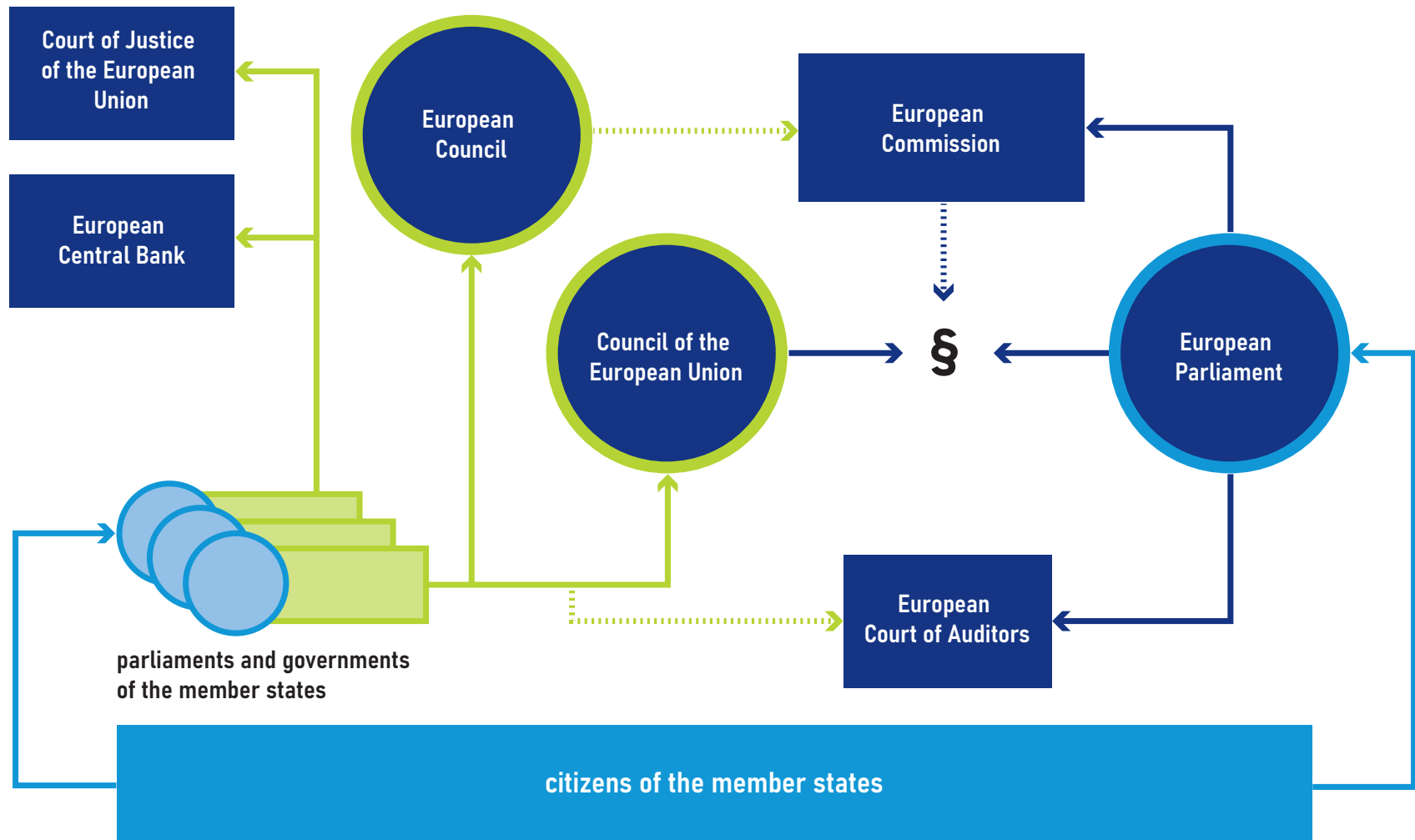
Poland's presidency in
the Council of the EU



**1 February
2020**

Brexit – the United Kingdom
leaves the EU

EU institutions





European Parliament

represents EU citizens



European Commission

represents the common interests
of the EU



Council of the European Union

represents the governments
of the member states



European Council

represents the governments
of the member states

Composition

705 directly elected members (MEPs)
every 5 years

College of Commissioners,
1 from each EU country

ministers of the EU member states,
chaired by the representative of
the country holding the presidency

heads of states or
governments of EU countries,
president of the European
Council, president of the
European Commission

Role

- takes decisions on European law jointly with the Council of the EU
- approves the EU budget and monitors the correct use of EU funds
- adopts resolutions

- executive body of the EU
- drafts new legislation
- manages the EU budget
- ensures that EU law is correctly applied by the member states

- EU decision-making body
- jointly with the European Parliament decides on European law and approves the EU budget

- the highest level of political cooperation in the EU
- sets the overall policy direction and priorities of the EU

Headquarters

Strasbourg (France), Brussels
(Belgium), Luxembourg

Brussels (Belgium)

Brussels (Belgium)

Brussels (Belgium)

The work of these bodies is supported by other institutions, including:

- **The Court of Justice of the European Union** (exercising judicial authority in the EU),
- **The European Central Bank** (managing the EU's monetary and economic policy),
- **The European Court of Auditors** (supervising the implementation of the budget and the EU's revenues and expenditure).

In front of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, there are flagpoles with the flags of the member states. The flagpoles holding the flags of the ten countries admitted to the EU in 2004 were manufactured in the Gdansk Shipyard.

Accession referendum

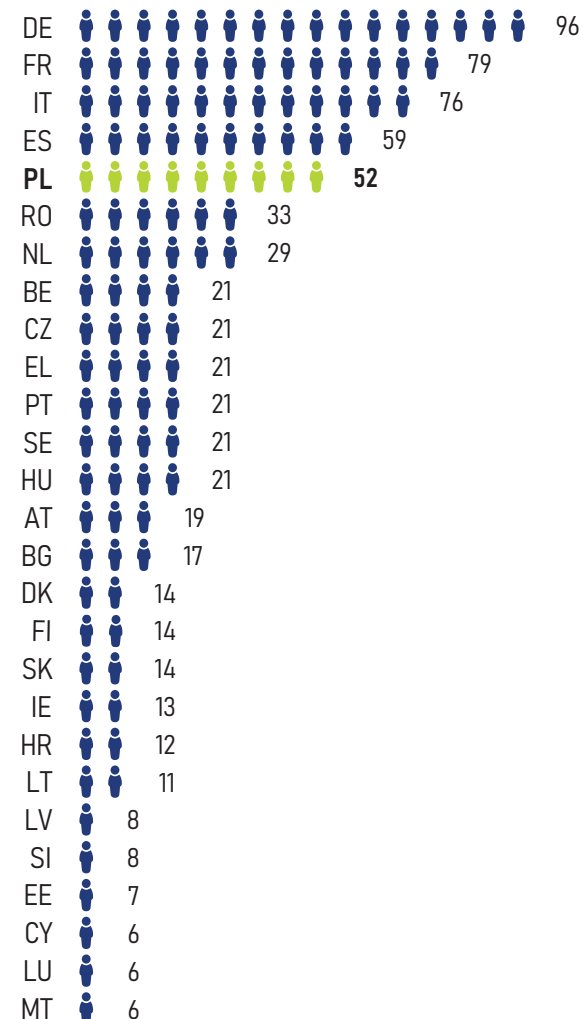
Citizens usually have influence over the decision on a country's accession or exit from the EU. In Poland, a nationwide referendum on the ratification of the Treaty on the Republic of Poland's accession to the European Union (the accession referendum) was held on 7th–8th June 2003. The election turnout was 58.9% of eligible voters, 77.5% of whom were in favour of Poland's accession to the EU.

Elections to the European Parliament

Poles have already elected their representatives to the European Parliament four times, for the first time in the year of Poland's accession to the Community. On the 20th anniversary of their membership in the EU, Poles will vote in the European Parliament elections for the fifth time – the Council of the European Union set the election date for between 6th and 9th June 2024.

Election date	Number of registered candidates	Number of elected MEPs		Votes cast in % of entitled voters
		total	of which women	
13 June 2004	1 887	54	7	20.87
7 June 2009	1 293	50	11	24.53
25 May 2014	1 277	51	12	23.82
26 May 2019	866	52	18	45.68

Number of seats in the European Parliament



In the European Parliament, MEPs are seated according to political affiliation, not country of origin. The number of MEPs for each country is proportional to its population, but cannot be smaller than 6 or larger than 96 MEPs.

Poles in the EU institutions

European Parliament		European Commission		European Council	
2004–2007	Jacek Saryusz-Wolski Vice-President	2004	Danuta Hübner EU Commissioner - Trade	2014–2019	Donald Tusk President
2004–2007	Janusz Onyszkiewicz Vice-President	2004–2009	Danuta Hübner EU Commissioner - Regional Policy		
2007–2009	Adam Bielan Vice-President	2009–2010	Paweł Samecki EU Commissioner - Regional Policy		
2007–2009	Marek Siwiec Vice-President	2010–2014	Janusz Lewandowski EU Commissioner - Budget		
2009–2012	Jerzy Buzek President	2014	Jacek Dominik EU Commissioner - Budget		
2014–2018	Ryszard Czarnecki Vice-President	2014–2019	Elżbieta Bieńkowska EU Commissioner - Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs		
2017–2019	Bogusław Liberadzki Vice-President	from 2019	Janusz Wojciechowski EU Commissioner - Agriculture		
2018–2019	Zdzisław Krasnodębski Vice-President				
from 2019	Ewa Kopacz Vice-President				

Presidency of the Council of the EU

Every six months, a different member state takes over the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and leads its work. Subsequent countries taking over the presidency closely collaborate in groups of three. This system was introduced in 2009 by the Lisbon Treaty. Poland takes over the presidency of the Council after Hungary, forming a presidency trio with Denmark and Cyprus. The first Polish presidency fell on the second half of 2011, and the next will start in the first half of 2025.

EU budget

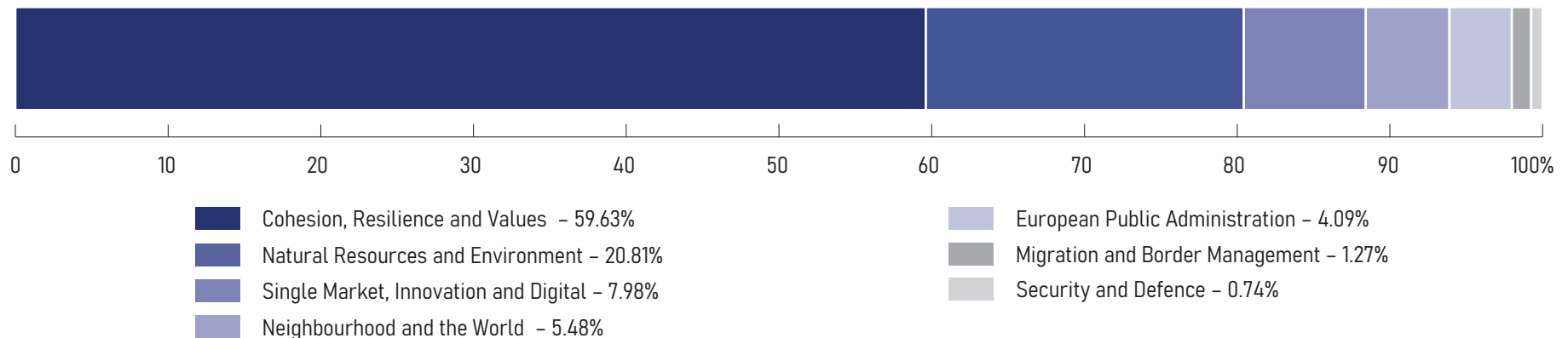
The European Union has a common budget from which its policies and programmes are funded. Since 1988, the EU has operated on the basis of long-term budgets, known as multiannual financial frameworks (MFF), which cover 5 to 7 years. The EU budget for 2021-2027 combines the MFF and the emergency recovery instrument NextGenerationEU to support countries' recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and to facilitate green and digital transformations.

In 2021, for the first time since the late 1980s, a new source of the EU's own revenue was introduced. It is member states' contribution based on the weight of plastic packaging waste that has not been recycled. It is intended to encourage a reduction in the use of plastic and a move towards a circular economy.

Revenue

The EU budget is mainly (in approx. 70%) funded by contributions from member states based on their gross national income, in about 13% by customs duties on imports from outside the EU, and in approx. 12% by contributions based on the value added tax.

Expenditure from the EU budget for 2021-2027



Financial transfers between Poland and the EU

From Poland's accession to the EU until the end of 2023, the country paid EUR 84 billion into the common budget, while its receipts from there totalled EUR 246 billion. This means that in the above period, Poland received EUR 162 billion net from the EU budget, which makes the country one of the largest beneficiaries of EU funds. These funds are of an investment nature – they are intended to stimulate economic development and competitiveness. For nearly 20 years of membership, Poland has received on average over EUR 12 billion (gross) annually.

EUR 246 bn



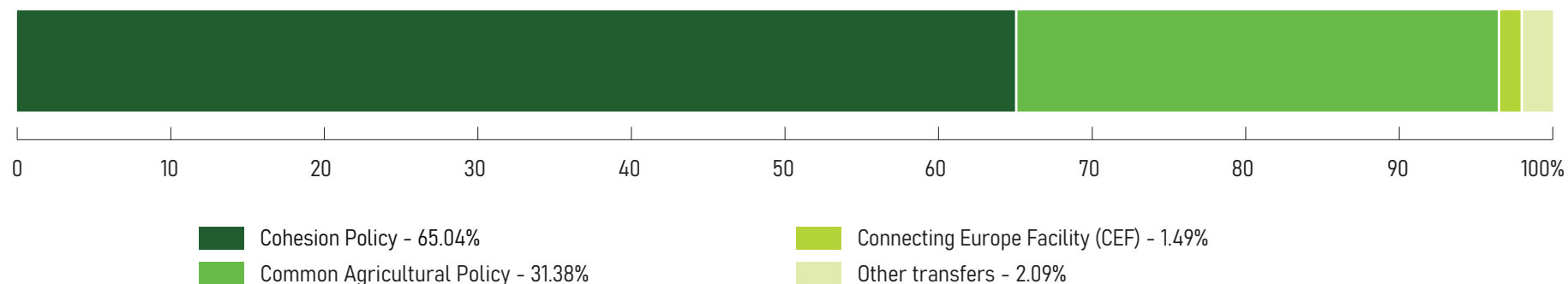
Transfers from the EU budget to Poland

EUR 84 bn



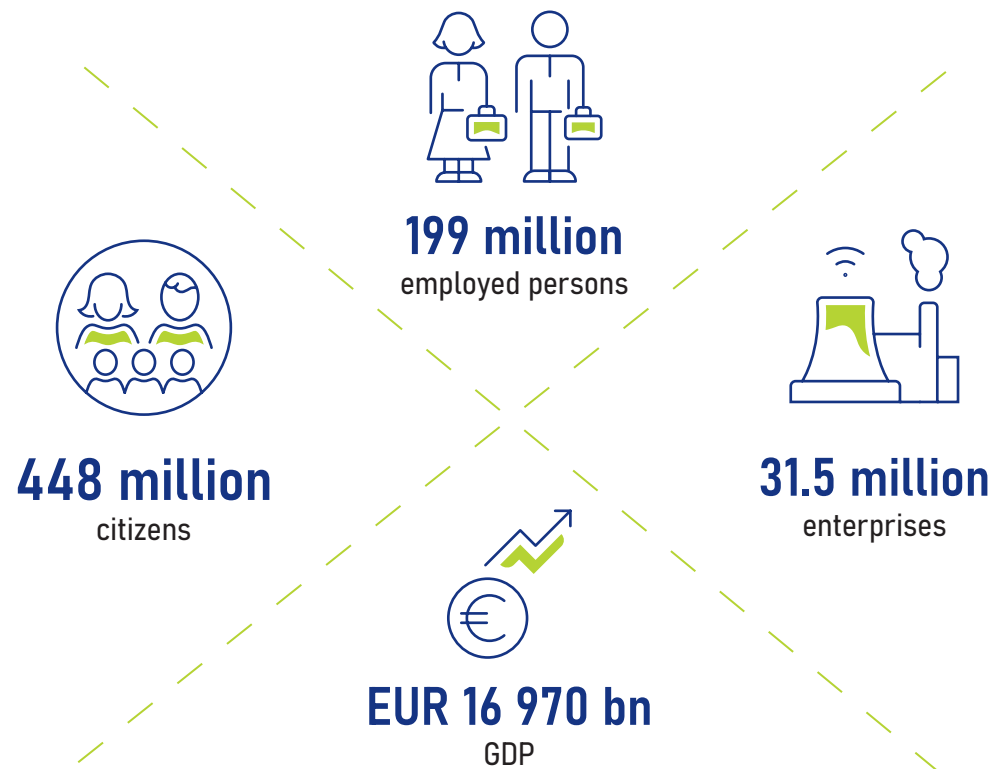
Contributions to the EU budget

Funds allocated to Poland in 2004-2023



EU single market

The European single market, launched in 1993, is the cornerstone of the European integration. It guarantees free movement of goods, services, capital and people across the European Union. It covers all EU member states, as well as Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway (members of the European Economic Area). Switzerland also has partial access to the European single market through bilateral agreements.



3.5%

employment of persons with a citizenship
of another EU country

2.5%

tertiary level students from
another EU country

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS

bn EUR

11 585

assets

9 802

liabilities



Free movement
of people



Free movement
of capital



Free movement
of goods



Free movement
of services

**EU single
market*****EXPORTS**

bn EUR

IMPORTS**4 131**

INTRA-EU

4 012**2 558**

EXTRA-EU

2 519**EXPORTS**

bn EUR

IMPORTS**1 294**

INTRA-EU

1 196**1 361**

EXTRA-EU

1 155

*Data refer to the latest available year.





European statistics

POLAND IN THE ESS



European Statistical System



As Poland joined the EU, Polish official statistics became a part of the European Statistical System (ESS). The system is a partnership formed by Eurostat (the statistical office of the EU), the National Statistical Institutes of EU and EFTA countries, and other national authorities producing European statistics.

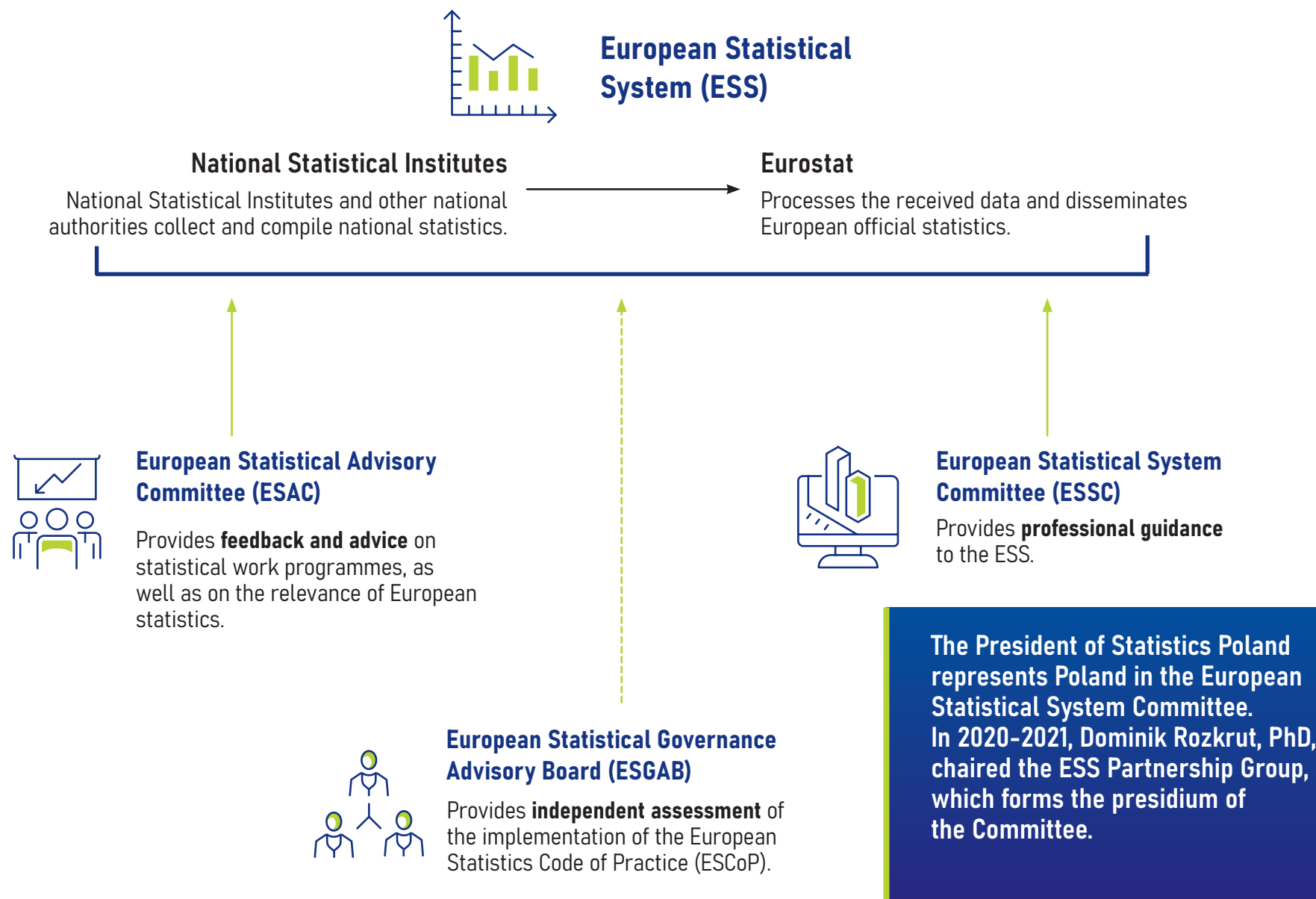
ESS members are bound by common requirements and regulations regarding statistics, guided by the European Statistics Code of Practice. The established standards ensure the consistency and methodological comparability of data produced by the member states, and guarantee the high quality of the data.



The cooperation between Statistics Poland and the ESS had begun long before Poland joined the EU.

In the pre-accession process, Poland, having received financial support from the PHARE and Transition Facility programmes, adjusted its official statistics to the EU standards. Statistics was one of the first areas to receive a positive assessment in terms of its alignment with the common EU requirements.

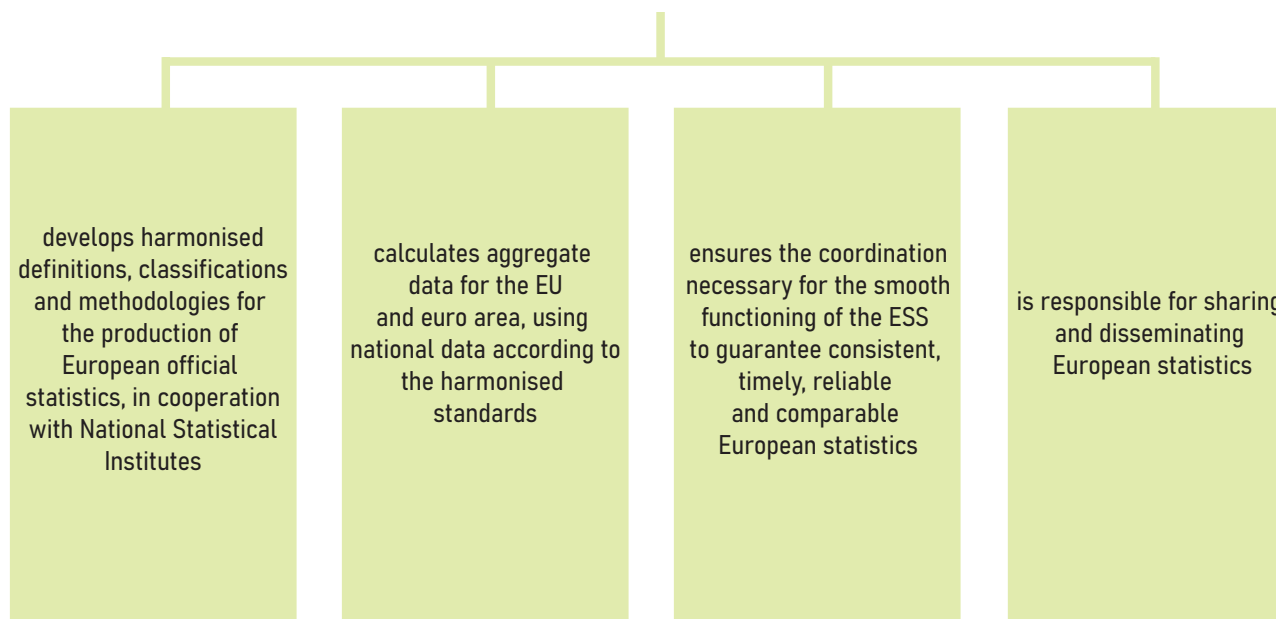
Many surveys whose aim is to collect comprehensive statistical data are agreed upon within the ESS. These include EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS) or the Community Innovation Survey (CIS).





Statistical office of the EU

The origins of the statistical office of the EU date back to 1953, when the Statistics Division for the Coal and Steel Community was established. In 1958, it was transformed into Eurostat, which became one of the main units of the European Commission. Eurostat's headquarters (Information Office) is located in Luxembourg, while the Data Terminal is in Brussels.



The cooperation between countries in the framework of the ESS takes place at many levels. Employees of Statistics Poland represent Poland in approximately 50 Eurostat Working Groups, which establish data quality standards and create development trends for various areas of statistics.

EMPLOYMENT AT EUROSTAT

637

experts in total

54.9%

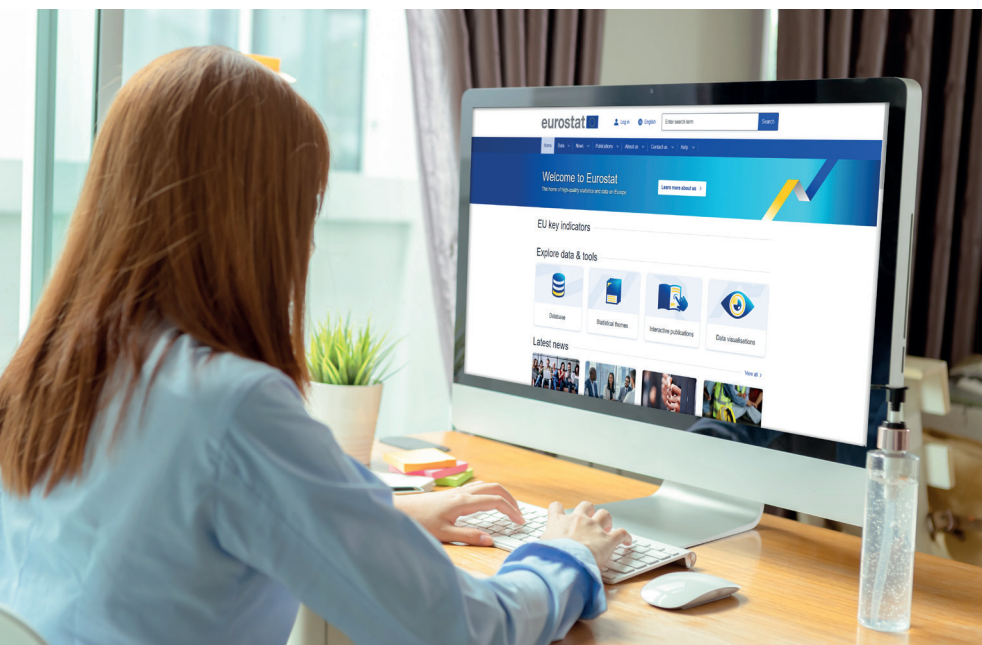
women

**44**

Polish experts

6.9%Polish experts
in % of total

Eurostat provides data user support services free of charge and in all languages of the member states (as well as in Albanian, Bosnian, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Norwegian, Serbian and Turkish). To obtain such support, complete the form on the Eurostat website in your preferred language, and a representative from the European Statistical Centre for User Support will provide you with all the necessary explanations.



The Eurostat's website offers many modern, free products presenting data and methodological information, including a database, publications and studies, podcasts and data visualisation tools. The disseminated data concern the EU, the euro area, EU countries and their regions, and in many cases also data on candidate states and selected non-EU countries (e.g. the USA and Japan).



Statistical education

European Statistical Training Programme

The European Statistical Training Programme (ESTP), coordinated by Eurostat, is addressed to statisticians in member, candidate and associated countries. As part of the programme, experts from various countries conduct international courses, workshops and seminars on topics including EU legislation, EU statistical methodology and practice, as well as issues related to modern data dissemination and presentation. The courses, initially conducted only in stationary format, are increasingly often supplemented with online training.

European Master in Official Statistics



In 2016, under the auspices of Eurostat, an unprecedented educational programme, the European Master in Official Statistics (EMOS) was launched in the EU. EMOS is a special programme path for master's studies, implemented at selected universities of EU countries, in cooperation with statistical offices. It aims to educate highly skilled staff for the needs of official statistics.

PARTICIPATION OF STATISTICS POLAND'S STAFF IN TRAININGS WITHIN ESTP IN 2010-2023



The EMOS network currently covers 33 education programmes in 17 countries. In Poland, the EMOS title can be awarded by three universities which implement the programme in cooperation with Statistics Poland: Gdańsk University of Technology, Warsaw University of Life Sciences and the University of Lodz.

Eurostat and statistical offices of EU member states support the development of statistics beyond the ESS by accepting interns from non-EU countries, e.g. in the framework of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance and the 'Internships in the Civil Service' programme, which is part of the Academy of Public Administration of the Eastern Partnership.

SELECTED INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP IN STATISTICS POLAND

PROGRAMME	IPA (Multi-beneficiary Statistical Cooperation Programme)	EMOS (European Master in Official Statistics)	Civil service internships
YEARS	2009-2024	2022-2024	2014-2018
INTERNS	 67	 7	 10
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Kosovo, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Türkiye	Finland, Germany, Italy, Montenegro	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine

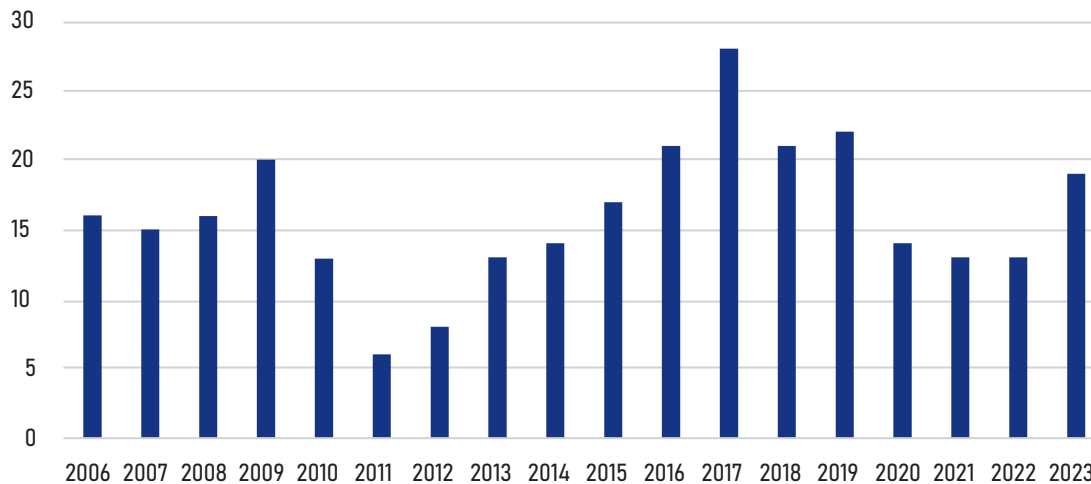
EC funded projects

For years, Poland has been actively using European Commission funds allocated for projects that support the development of national and European official statistics. Grant projects focus on such issues as the improvement of methodology, introduction of new surveys areas and innovative data sources, and the development of innovative methods of producing and disseminating statistical data.

289

EC grant agreements signed by
the Polish official statistics
in 2006–2023

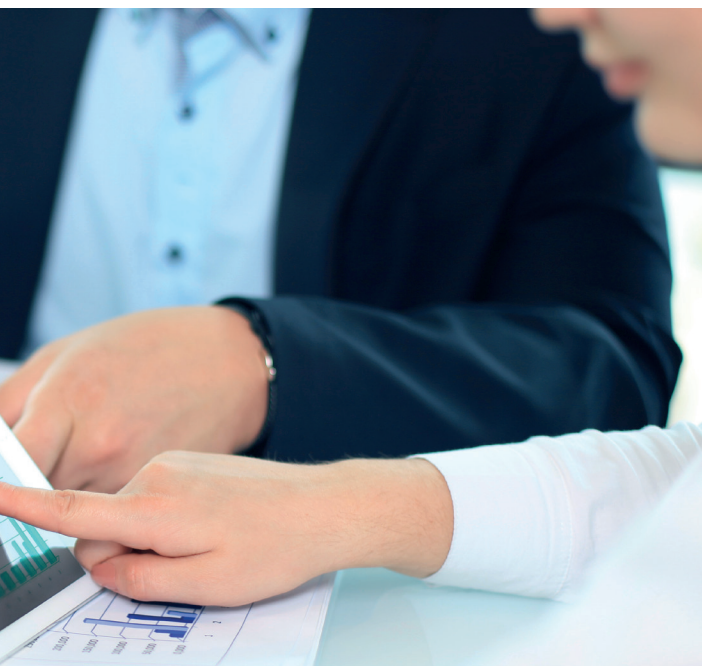
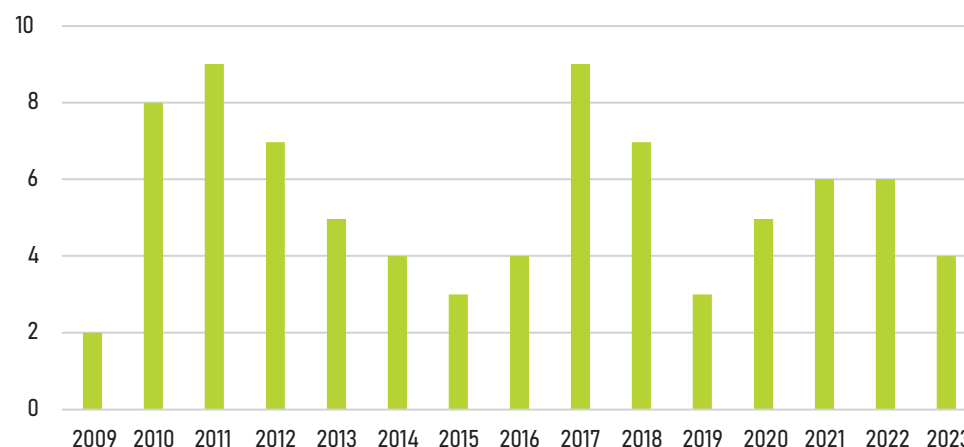
NUMBER OF EC GRANT AGREEMENTS SIGNED BY
THE POLISH OFFICIAL STATISTICS



Multibeneficiary projects

Multibeneficiary projects are multi-year joint initiatives of several countries subsidised from EU funds. They are particularly important to the development of European statistics. Statistics Poland has gained experience both in the role of a co-partner and leader of such projects. Innovative projects involving large data sets (Big Data) and smart statistics are examples of initiatives developed in partnership with Statistics Poland.

NUMBER OF MULTIBENEFICIARY GRANTS CARRIED OUT BY THE POLISH OFFICIAL STATISTICS



The 'Trusted Smart Statistics - Web Intelligence Network' is the first international innovative statistical project in which Statistics Poland acts as a coordinator. Statistics Poland joined the project in 2021. Statistical institutions from Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom are also involved in the initiative.





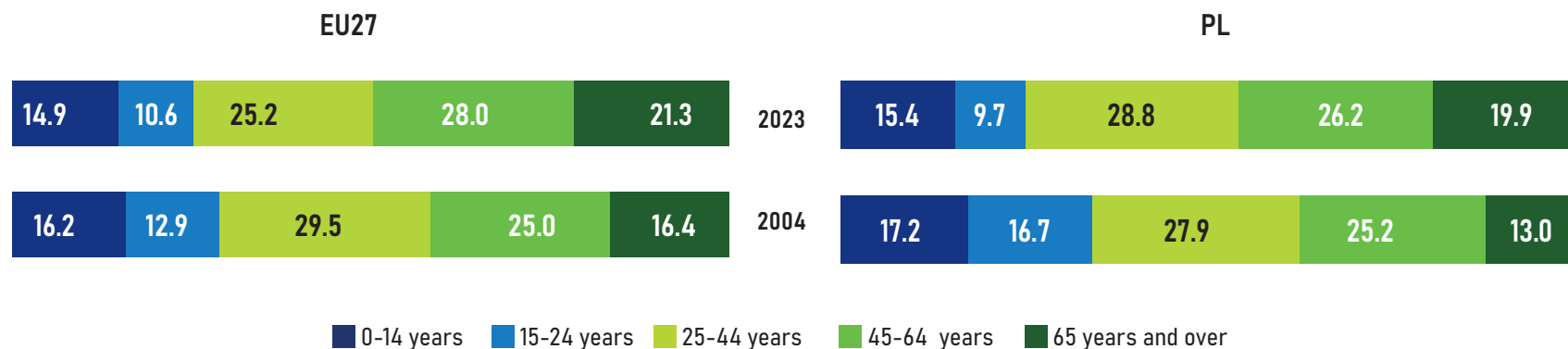
Poland in the EU

THEN AND NOW

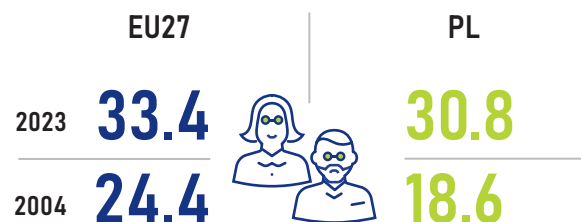


Society

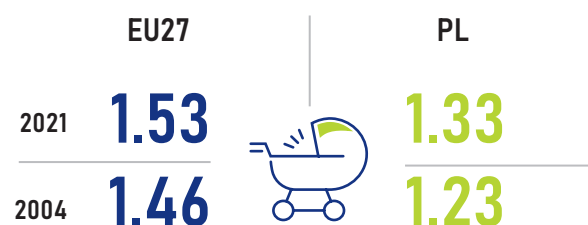
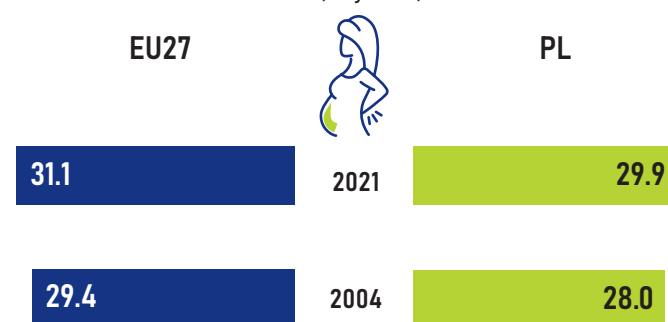
AGE STRUCTURE OF POPULATION (in %)



OLD-AGE DEPENDENCY RATIO (population 65 years and over to population 15–64 years)



TOTAL FERTILITY RATE

MEAN AGE OF WOMEN AT CHILDBIRTH
(in years)

Population ageing is one of the main challenges for the EU. Increasing the active participation of older people in the social and economic life is a priority of EU policies. The Active Ageing Index (AAI) is used to measure the wellbeing of seniors, their activity in the labour market, participation in the social life and healthy living. In Poland, the value of the active ageing index is one of the lowest in the EU. Poland was the first in Europe to conduct analyses of this phenomenon at regional level (voivodships).

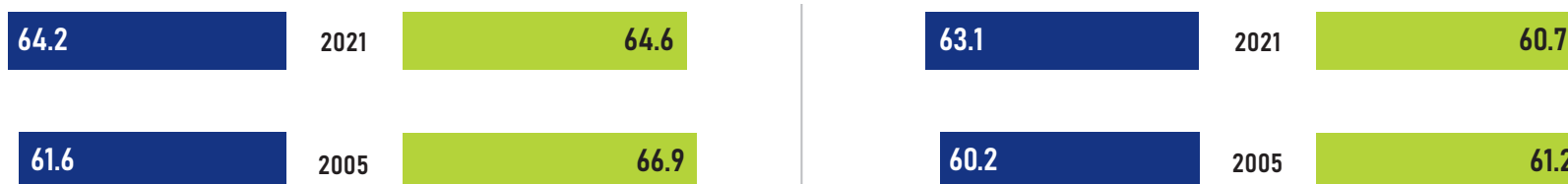
LIFE EXPECTANCY

(in years)



HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY

(in years)



HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY AT 65 YEARS

(in years)



SELF-PERCEIVED HEALTH OF POPULATION

(in %)



very good/good



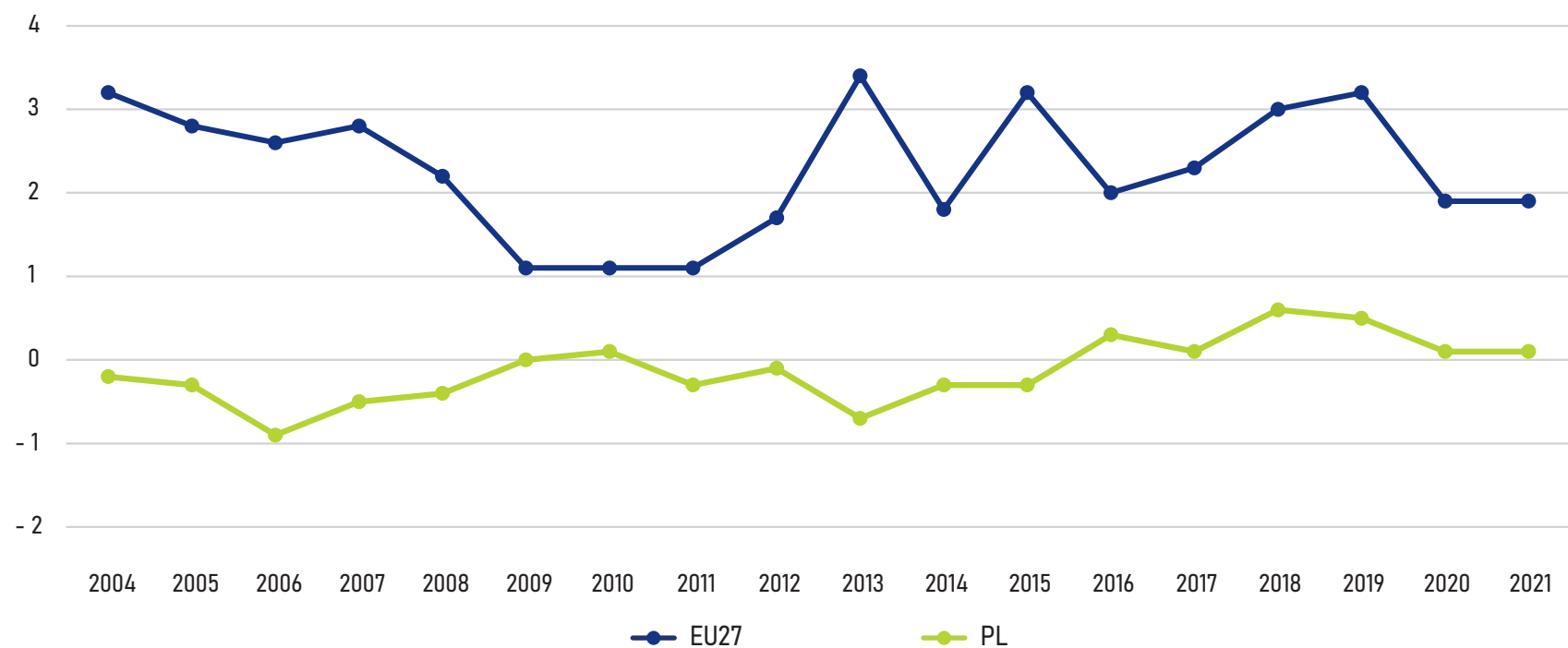
fair



bad/very bad

2022	EU27	67.8	23.5	8.7
	PL	62.3	27.8	9.9
2005	EU27	64.1	25.0	10.9
	PL	54.5	26.8	18.6

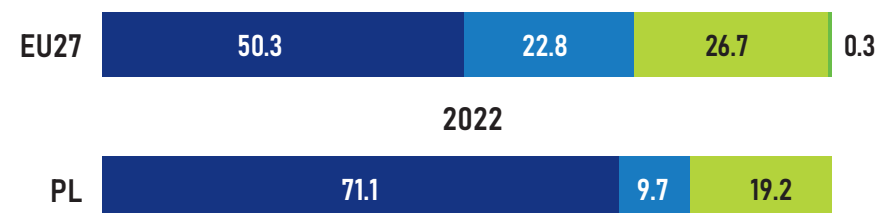
NET MIGRATION PER 1000 POPULATION (as of the half of surveyed period)



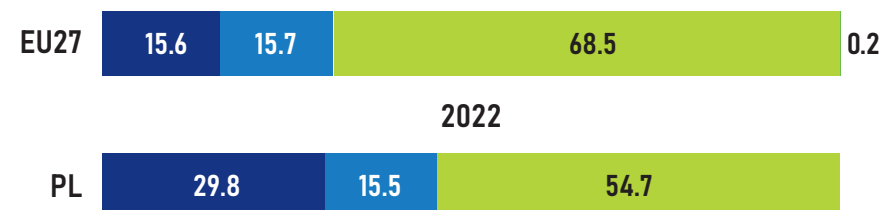


MIGRANTS BY CITIZENSHIP (in %)

EMIGRANTS

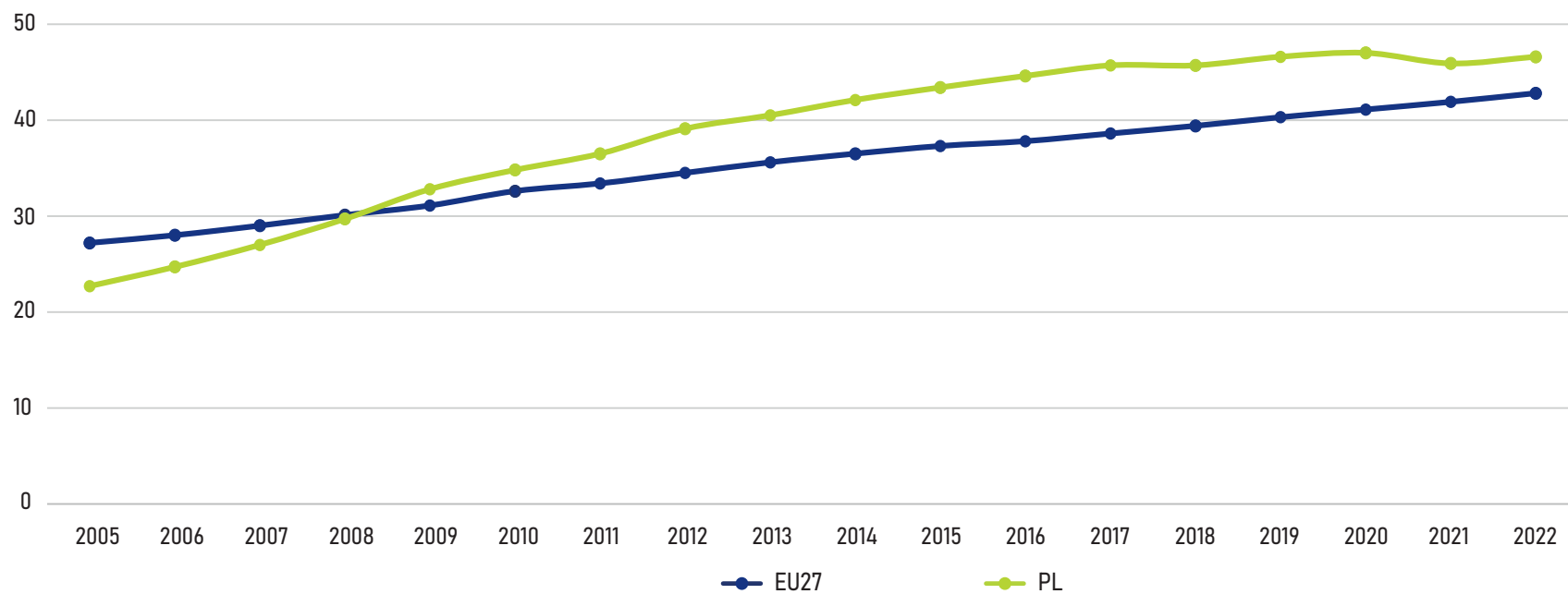


IMMIGRANTS



- Reporting country
- EU27 countries
- Non-EU27 countries
- Stateless and unknown

POPULATION WITH TERTIARY EDUCATION (in % of the population aged 30–34)



ADULTS PARTICIPATING IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

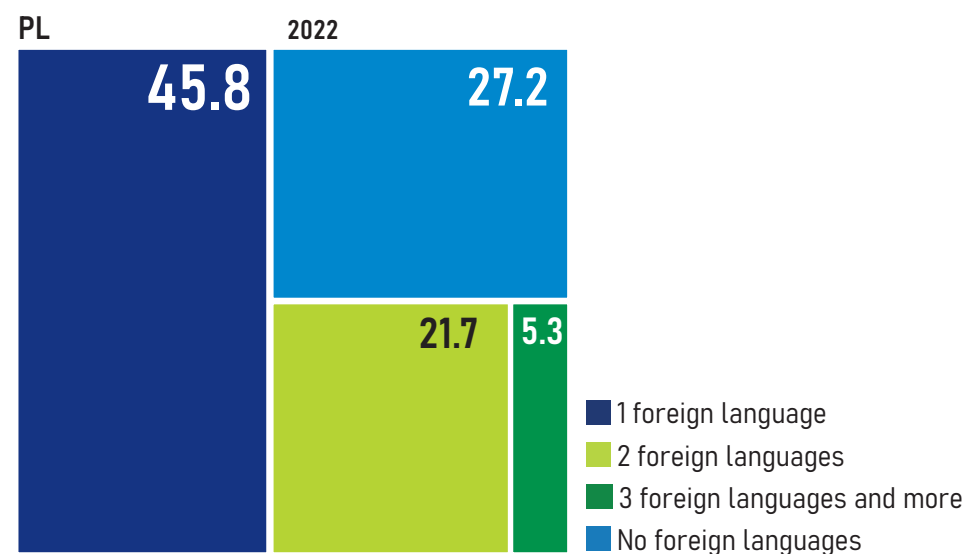
(in % of the population aged 25-64)



In 1987, the Erasmus programme was launched in the EU. It aims to promote and facilitate student exchange between universities across member states of the European Community. Between 2014–2020, over 4 million young people used the opportunity to study and train abroad. Poland joined the programme in 1998.

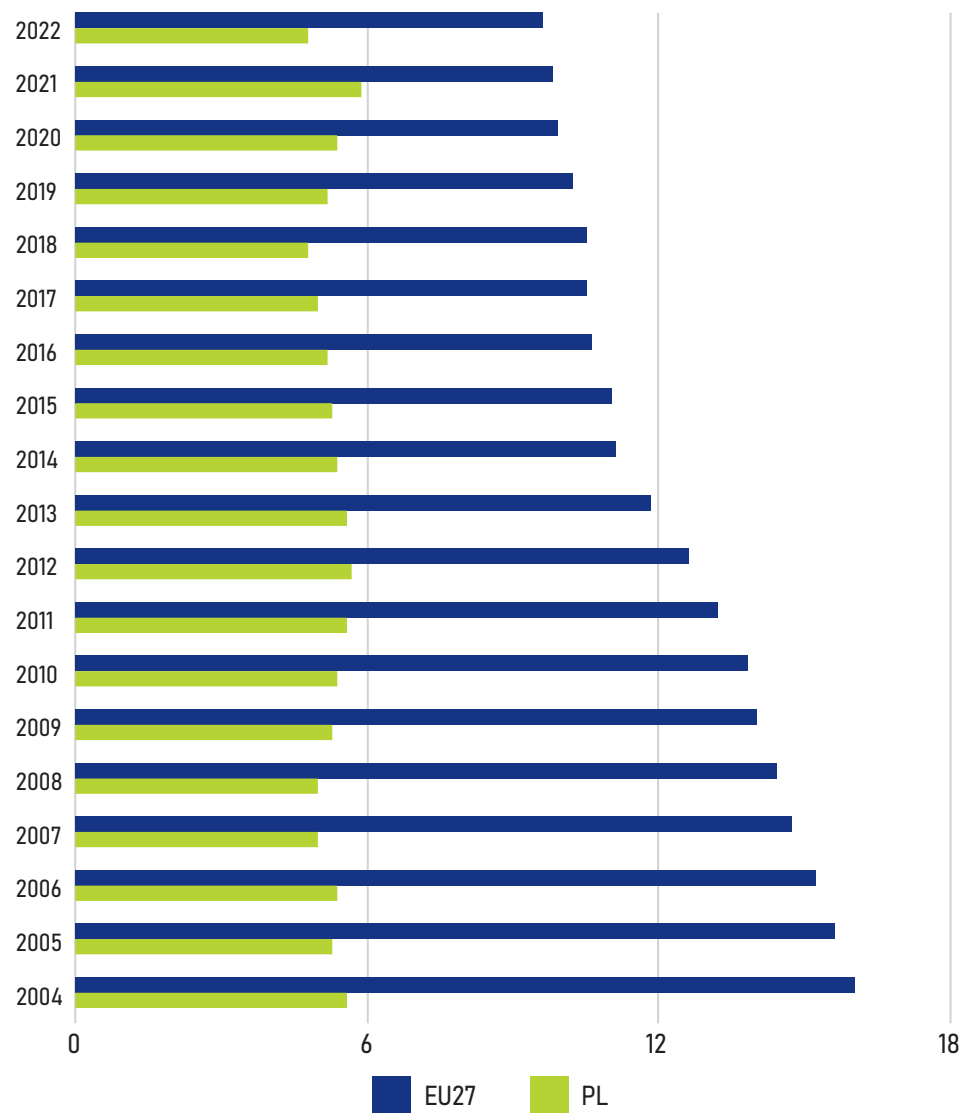
PERSONS WITH FOREIGN LANGUAGES KNOWLEDGE

(in % of the population aged 18-69)

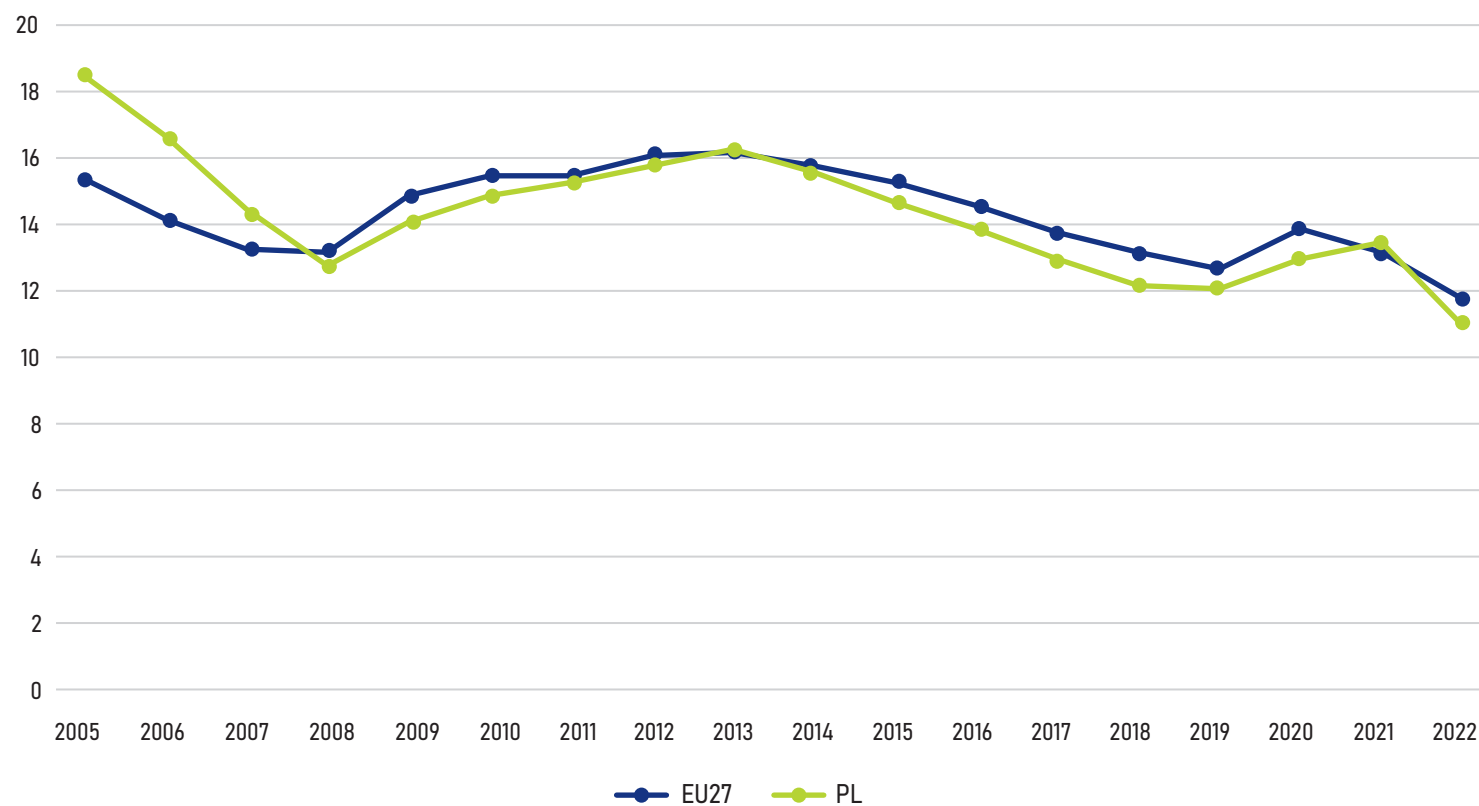


EARLY LEAVERS FROM EDUCATION AND TRAINING

(in % of the population aged 18–24)

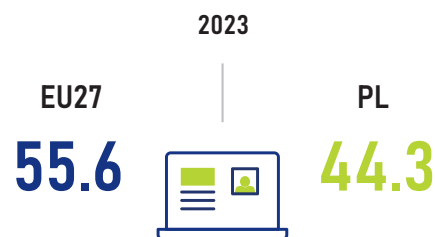


YOUNG PEOPLE NEITHER IN EMPLOYMENT NOR IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING (NEET) (in % of the population aged 15–29)



INDIVIDUALS WITH AT LEAST BASIC DIGITAL SKILLS

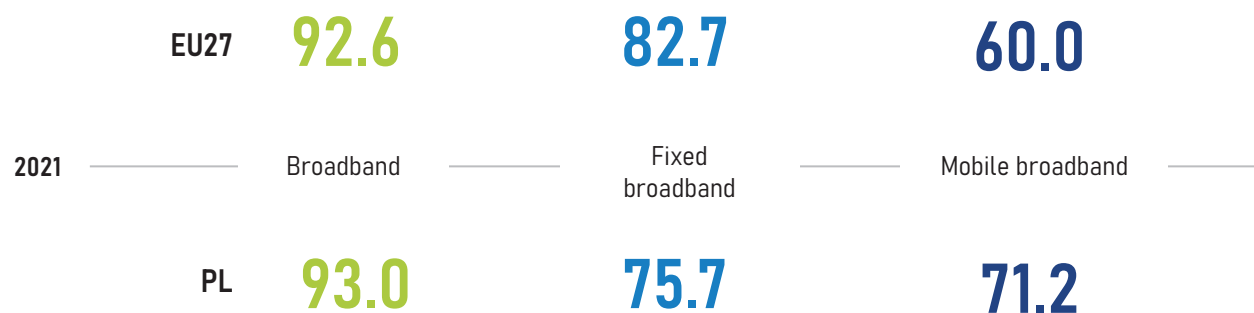
(in % of the population aged 16-74)



Information and communication technologies (ICT) affect the economy and people's everyday lives in many ways, as observed by e.g. the annual survey on the ICT usage in public administration units, enterprises and households. The latest edition of this survey shows that only 6% of the EU population aged 16-74 never used the Internet (and 14% of the 55+ age group).

HOUSEHOLDS WITH ACCESS TO THE INTERNET VIA BROADBAND CONNECTION

(in % of total households in urban areas)



		2022	
		EU27	PL
	Finding information about goods and services	69.6	74.3
	Sending/receiving e-mails	76.9	69.3
	Reading online news sites/newspapers/news magazines	63.6	64.3
	Participating in social networks (creating user profile, posting messages or other contributions to social media)	58.1	60.6
	Watching internet streamed TV or videos	65.1	58.2
	Internet banking	59.6	55.6
	Telephoning or video calls	65.5	54.8
	Seeking health information	51.9	52.0
	Listening to music (e.g. web radio, music streaming) or downloading music	53.8	47.0
	Watching video on demand from commercial services	42.3	35.1
	Playing or downloading games	28.8	17.6
	Selling goods or services	18.4	13.4
	Doing an online course (of any subject)	16.4	8.4

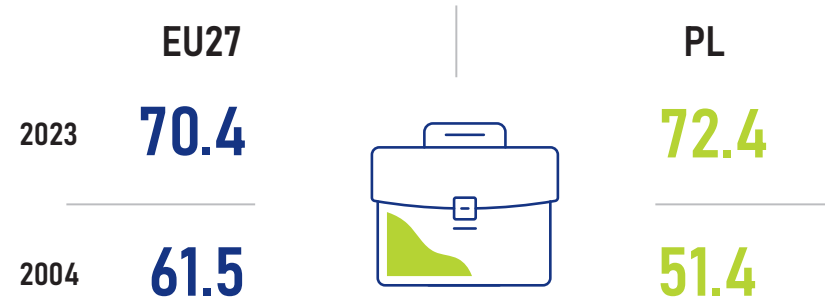
INDIVIDUALS USING THE INTERNET FOR PRIVATE PURPOSES BY SELECTED ACTIVITIES

(in % of the population aged 16-74)



Since 1992, changes on the Polish labour market have been recorded by the Polish edition of the European Labour Force Survey (LFS). It provides data on the employed, unemployed and the economically inactive people on a quarterly basis. The results of this survey are comparable across the EU. Based on the quarterly LFS results and monthly data from registers, Eurostat calculates the harmonised unemployment rate.

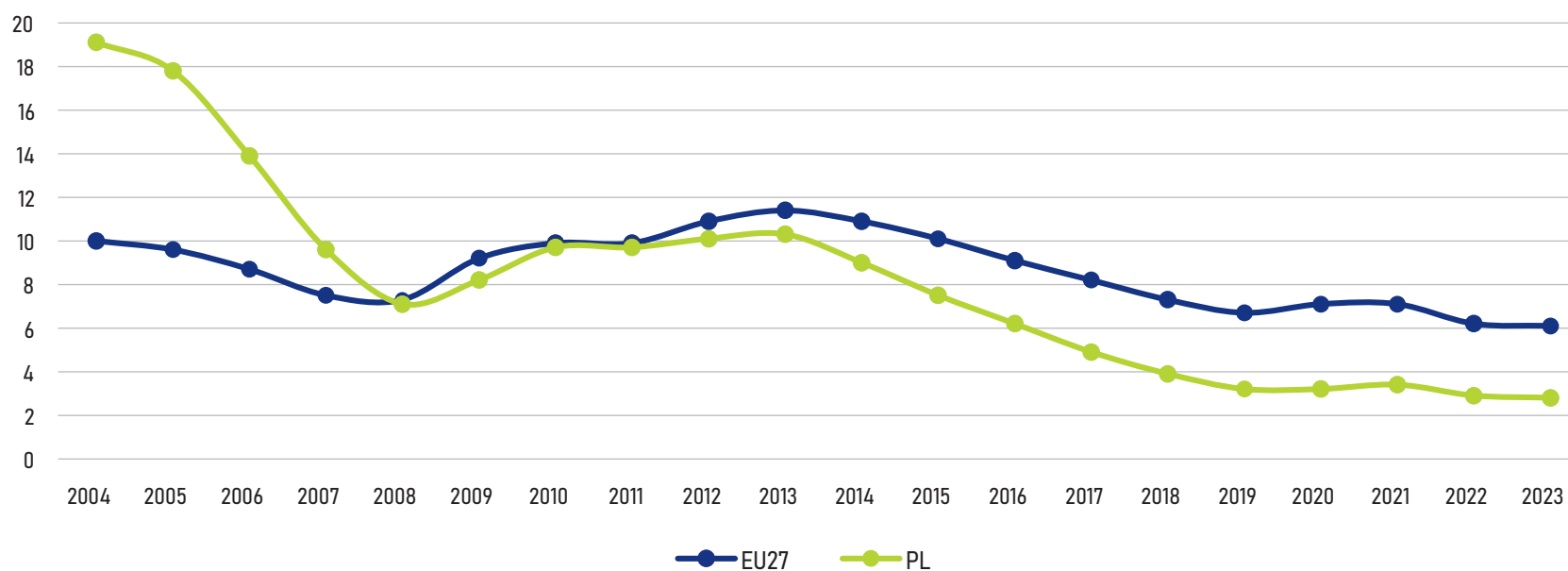
EMPLOYMENT RATE OF PERSONS AGED 15-64 (in %)

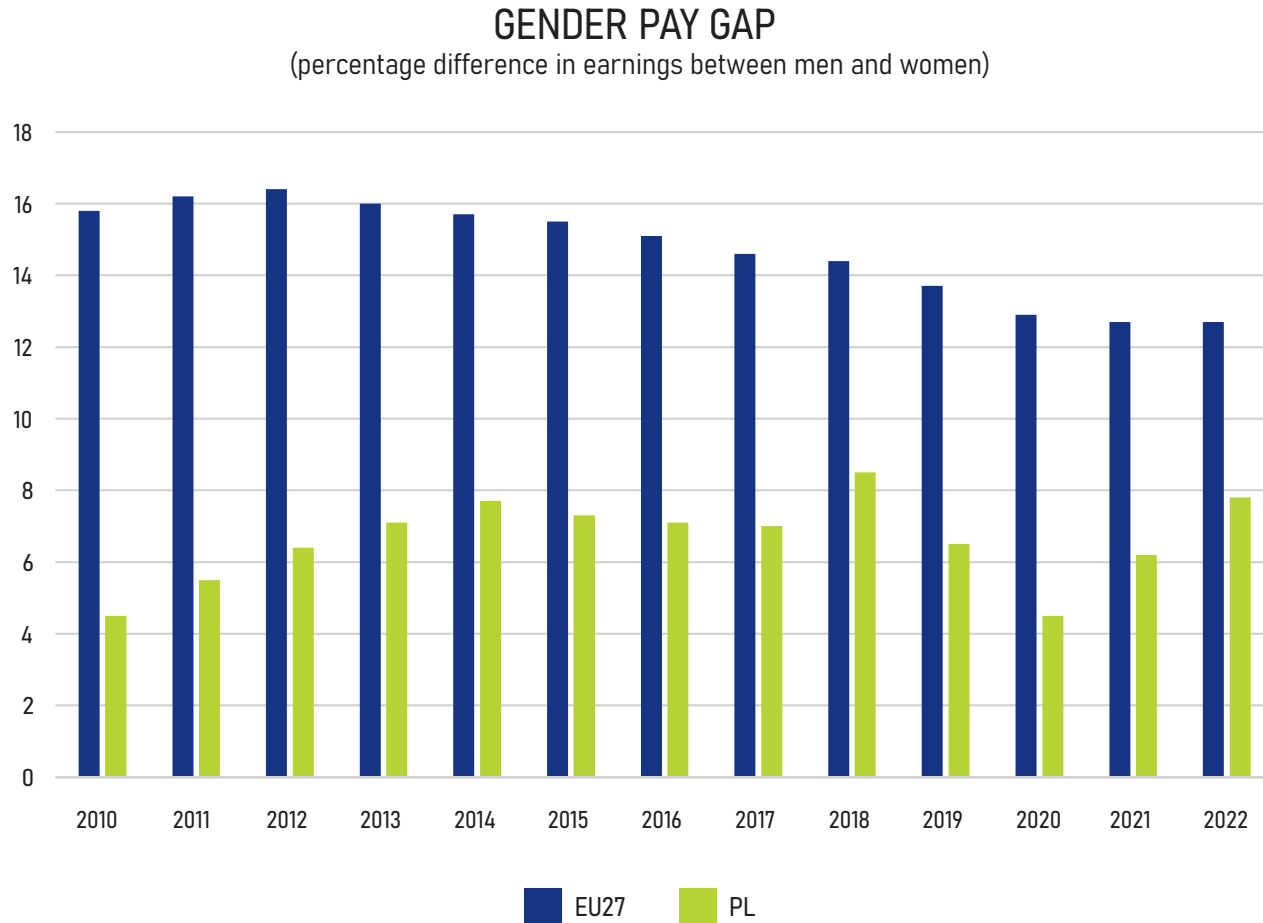


UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF PERSONS AGED 15-24 (in %)



UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF PERSONS AGED 15-74 (in %)

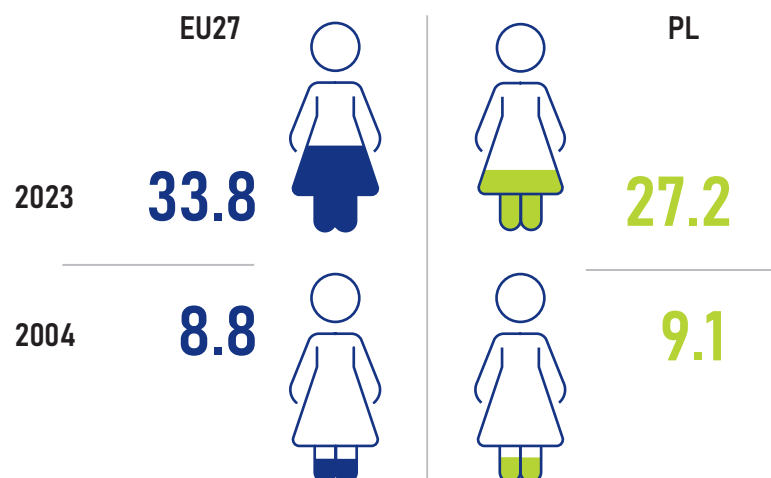




Most member states (except Austria, Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Italy) set a minimum wage. Its amount varies across the countries (it ranges from EUR 477 in Bulgaria to EUR 2,571 in Luxembourg). In Poland, the minimum wage totals EUR 978.

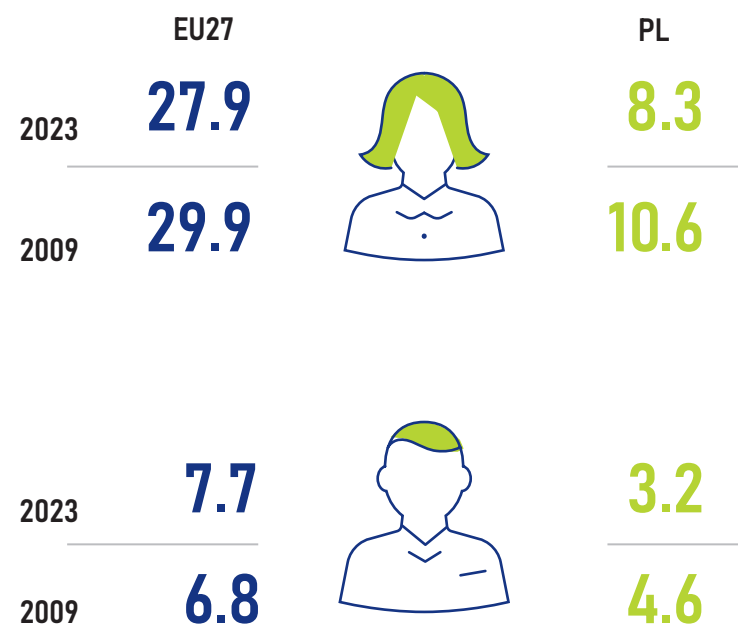
SHARE OF WOMEN IN SENIOR MANAGEMENT POSITIONS

(in % of board members)

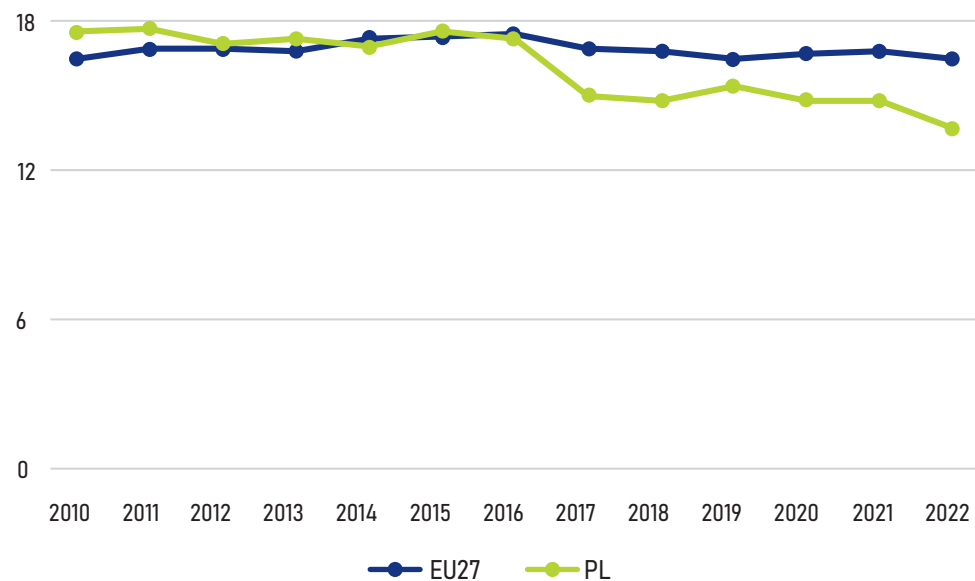


EMPLOYED PERSONS WORKING PART-TIME

(in % of total employment aged 20-64)



AT-RISK-OF-POVERTY RATE (after social transfers, in %)

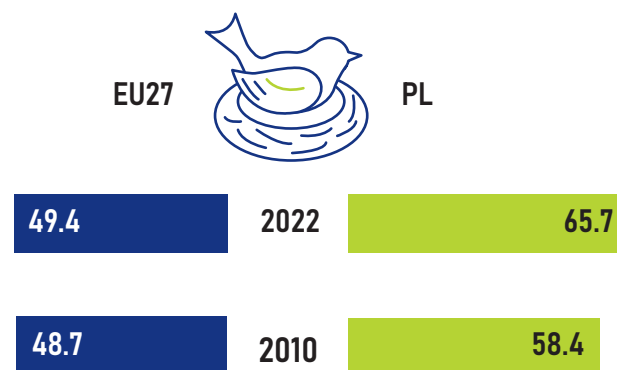


The EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) survey provides data on income, poverty, social exclusion and other living conditions. Its results are useful in conducting social policy both at the EU and member state level. The EU-SILC was launched in 2003 in several member states, and since 2005 it has been a universal EU survey, carried out by all member states.



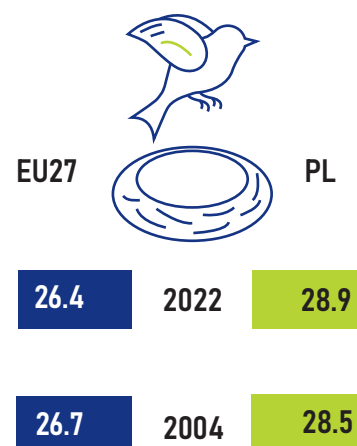
SHARE OF YOUNG ADULTS LIVING WITH THEIR PARENTS

(percentage of adults aged 18-34)

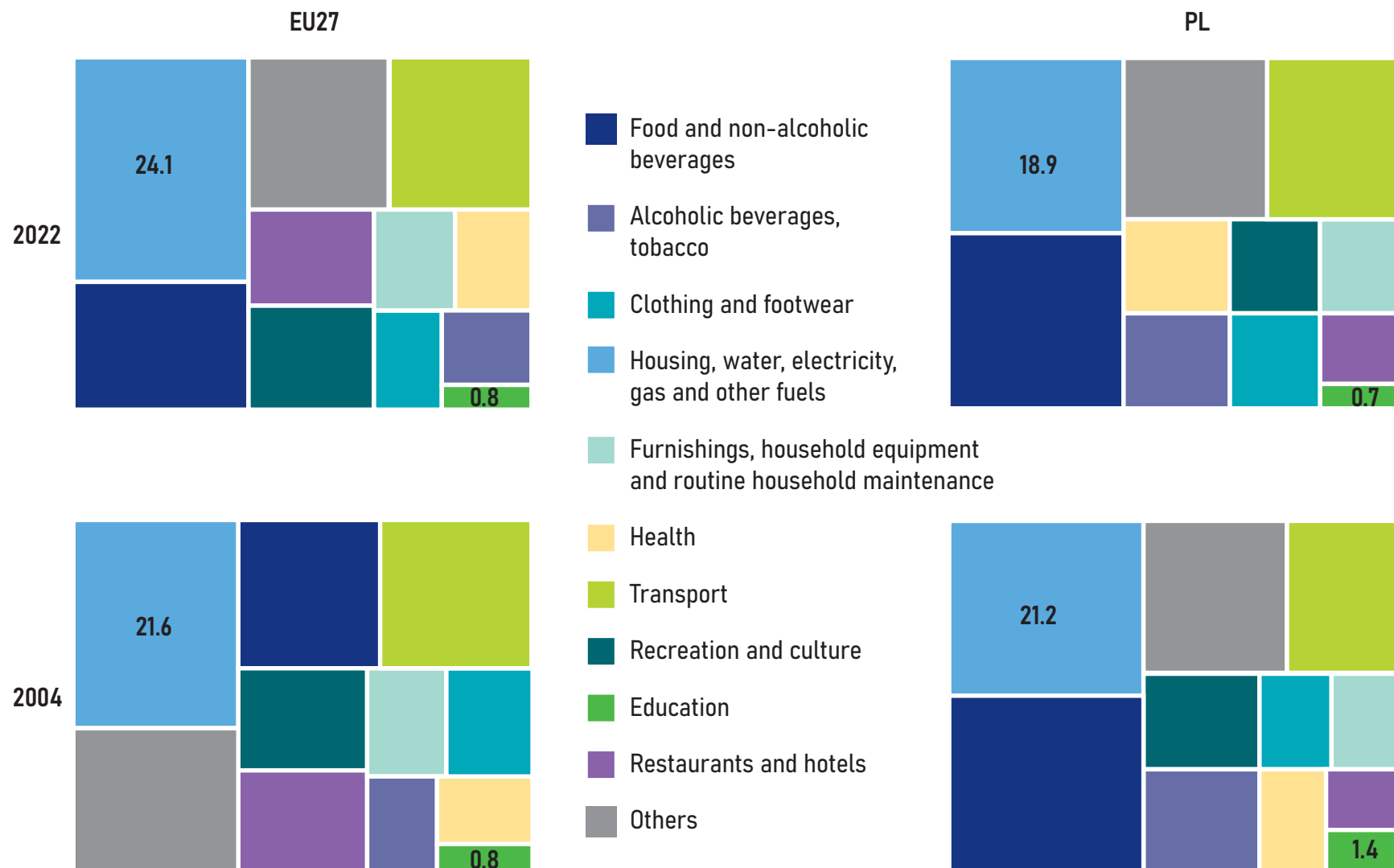


AVERAGE AGE OF YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVING THE PARENTAL HOUSEHOLD

(in years)

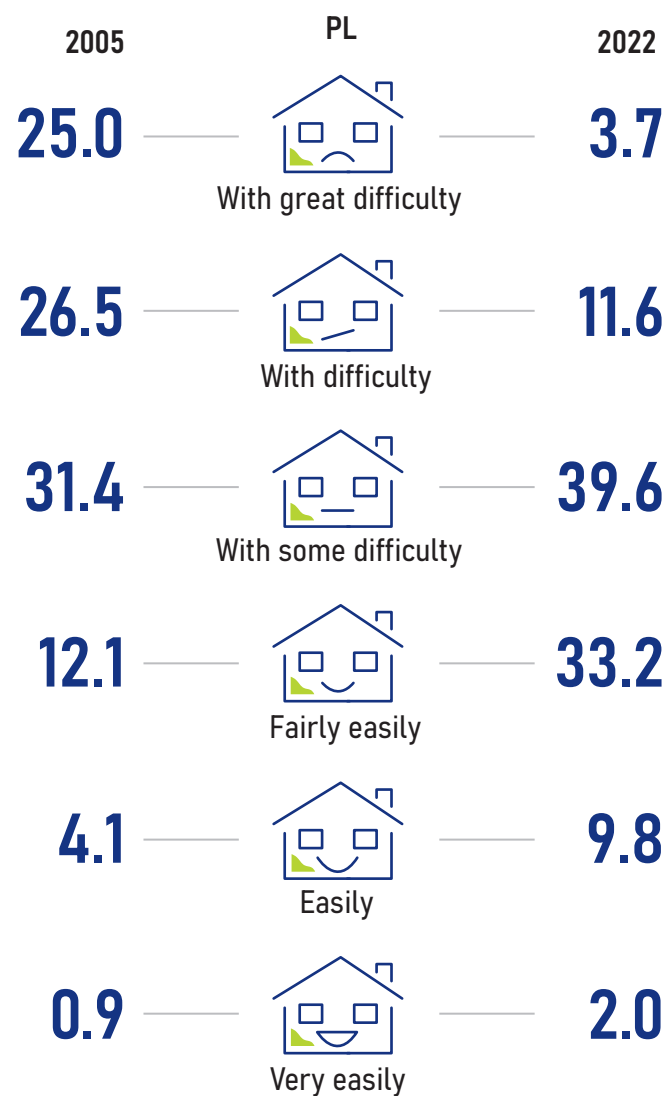


STRUCTURE OF HOUSEHOLDS' FINAL CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE (in %)

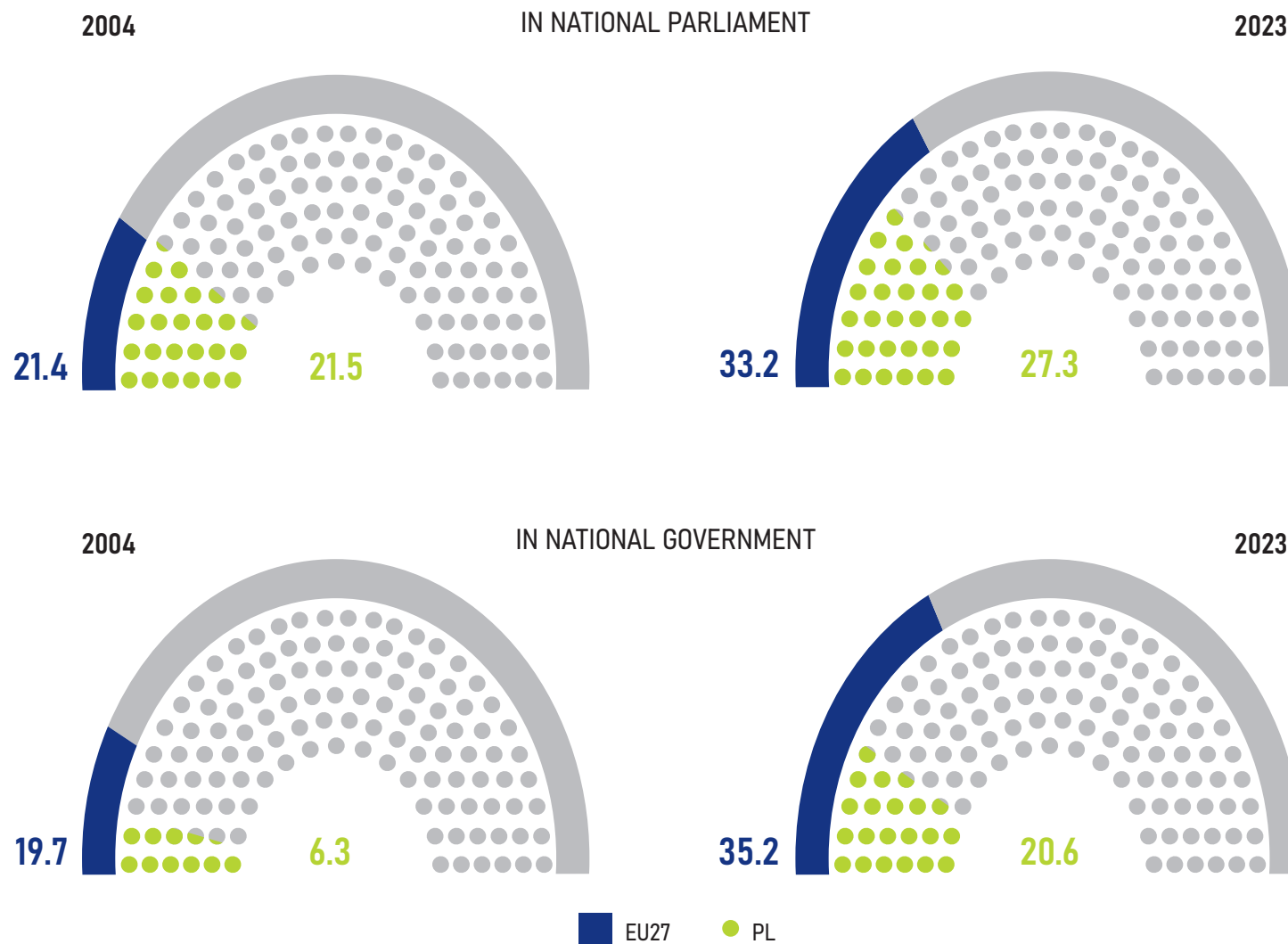


SUBJECTIVE EVALUATION OF HOUSEHOLDS INCOME SITUATION

(percentage of households which declared that they "make ends meet")



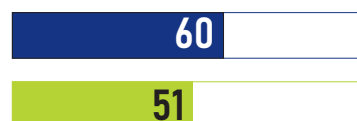
SEATS HELD BY WOMEN (in %)



POPULATION WITH CONFIDENCE IN EU INSTITUTIONS

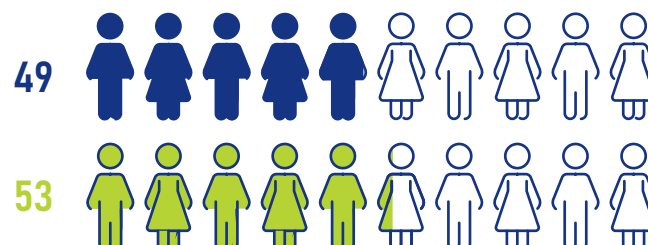
(in % of total population)

2004

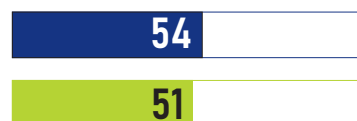


EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2023



2004



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

2023



2004



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

2023



EU27



PL

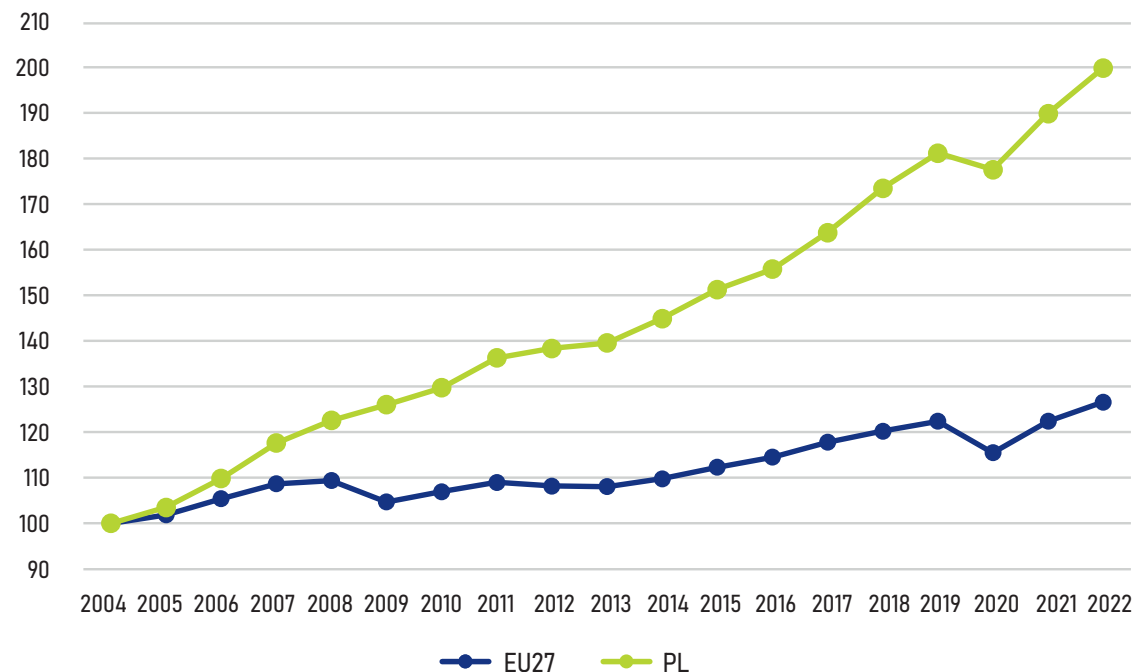
In 2012, the EU received the Nobel Peace Prize for fostering peace and reconciliation across the continent, promoting human rights and democracy. The EU donated the funds received with the prize (EUR 930 thousand) and an additional EUR 930 thousand from its own budget to children deprived of the opportunity to grow up in peace.

Economy

POLAND'S SHARE
IN THE EUROPEAN UNION'S
GDP
(in %)



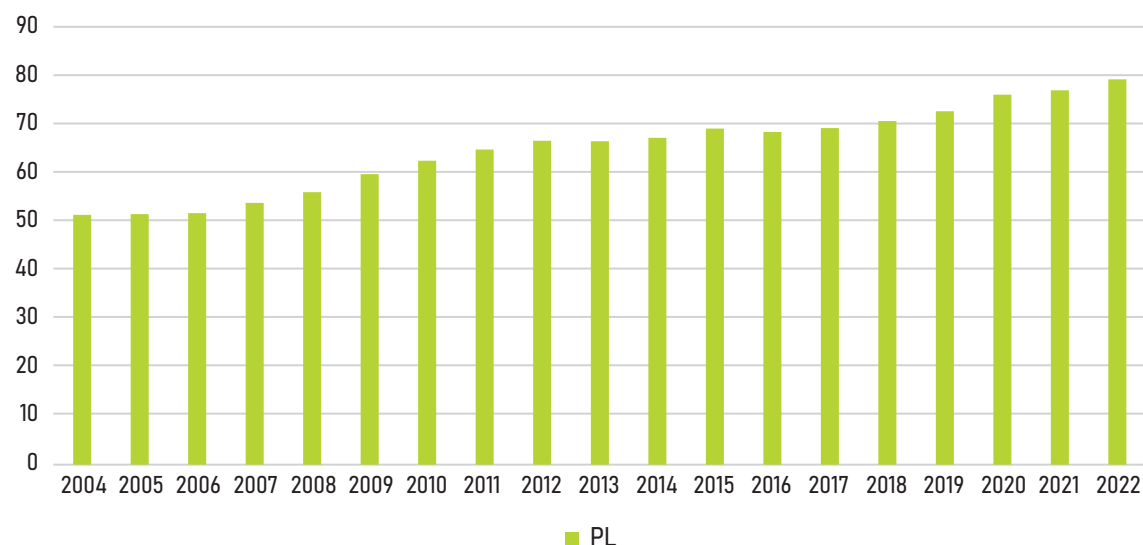
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT
(constant prices, 2004=100)



The EU countries that meet the convergence criteria can join the eurozone (economic and monetary union). The participating member states (currently 20 countries) follow the common monetary policy of the European Central Bank. They use the common currency, the euro, which was first introduced in a non-cash form in 1999 and in the cash form in 2002. The euro is also the official means of payment in 6 non-EU countries, i.e. Andorra, Montenegro, Kosovo, Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican City.

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT PER CAPITA

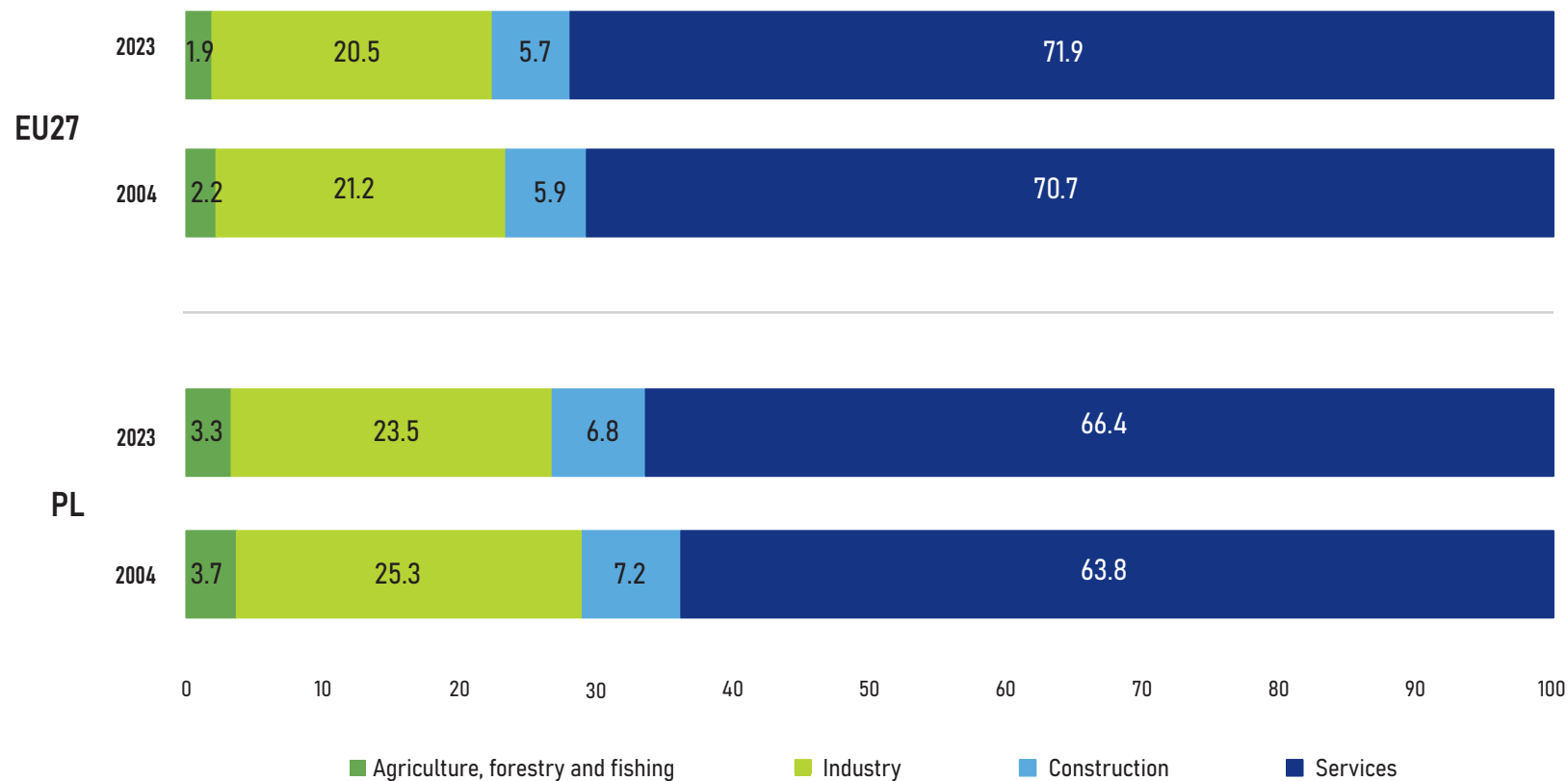
(in PPS in relation to the EU average)



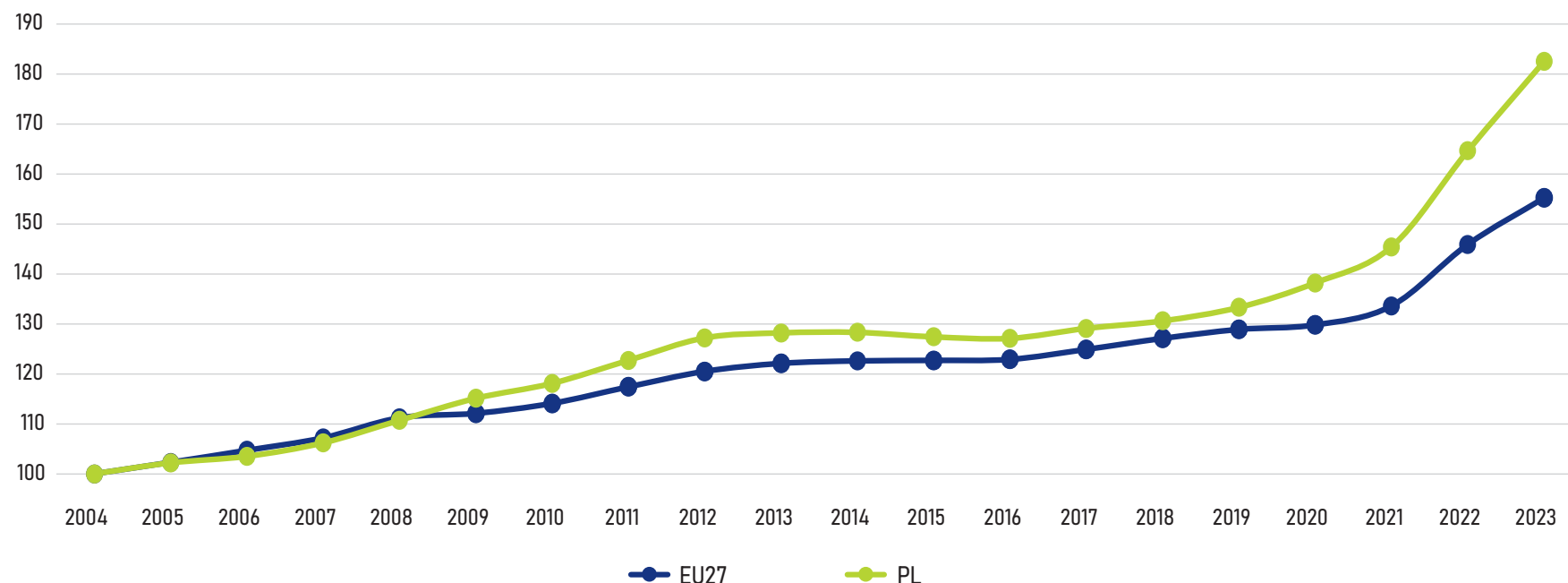
The prices of goods and services vary significantly between countries. Purchasing Power Parities (PPP) are used to directly compare the cost of specific goods and services in different countries. The PPP is a kind of artificial currency that allows the comparison of prices after eliminating differences resulting from currency exchange rates. The EU uses the Purchasing Power Standard (PPS) as a common conventional currency, whereas the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund adopted the international dollar for such purpose.

GROSS VALUE ADDED BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

(current prices, in %)



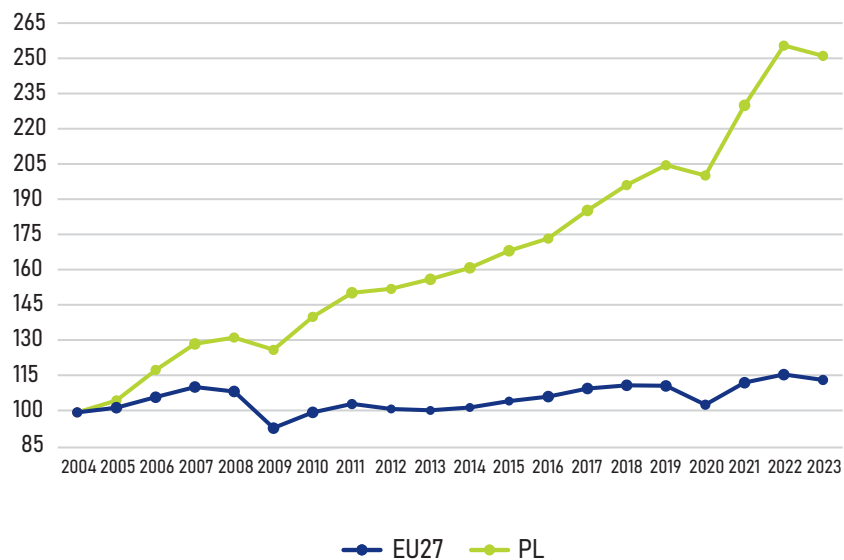
HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICES (HICP) (2004=100)



EU member states do not all use the same method for measuring inflation, choosing rather one convenient for them, which makes it difficult to compare their respective inflation data (e.g. Poland uses the Consumer Price Index). Therefore, in 1997, European statistics introduced the Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP). It is calculated by member states on the basis of the harmonized methodology and the unified basket of consumer goods and services. The HICP is also computed by some non-EU countries (including Iceland, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, the United States, Switzerland and Türkiye).

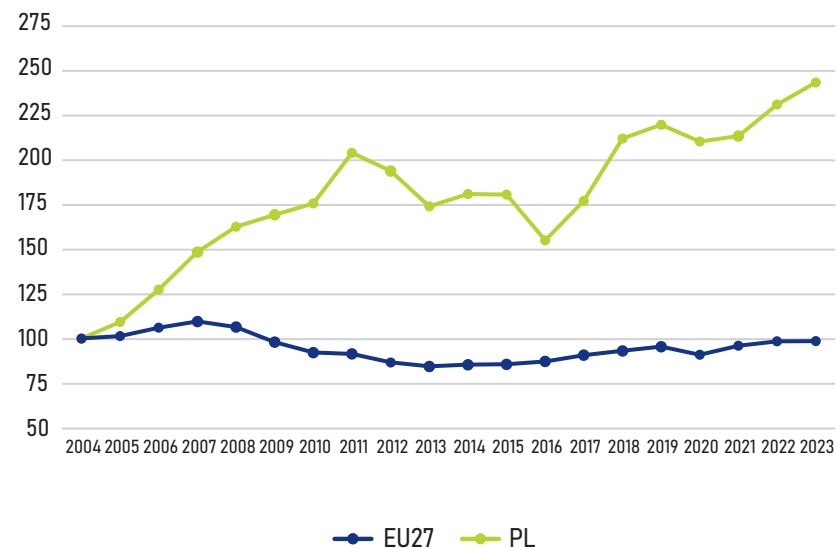
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

(constant prices, 2004=100)



PRODUCTION IN CONSTRUCTION

(constant prices, 2004=100)



POLAND'S SHARE
IN GROSS VALUE ADDED
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
INDUSTRY
(in %)

2023

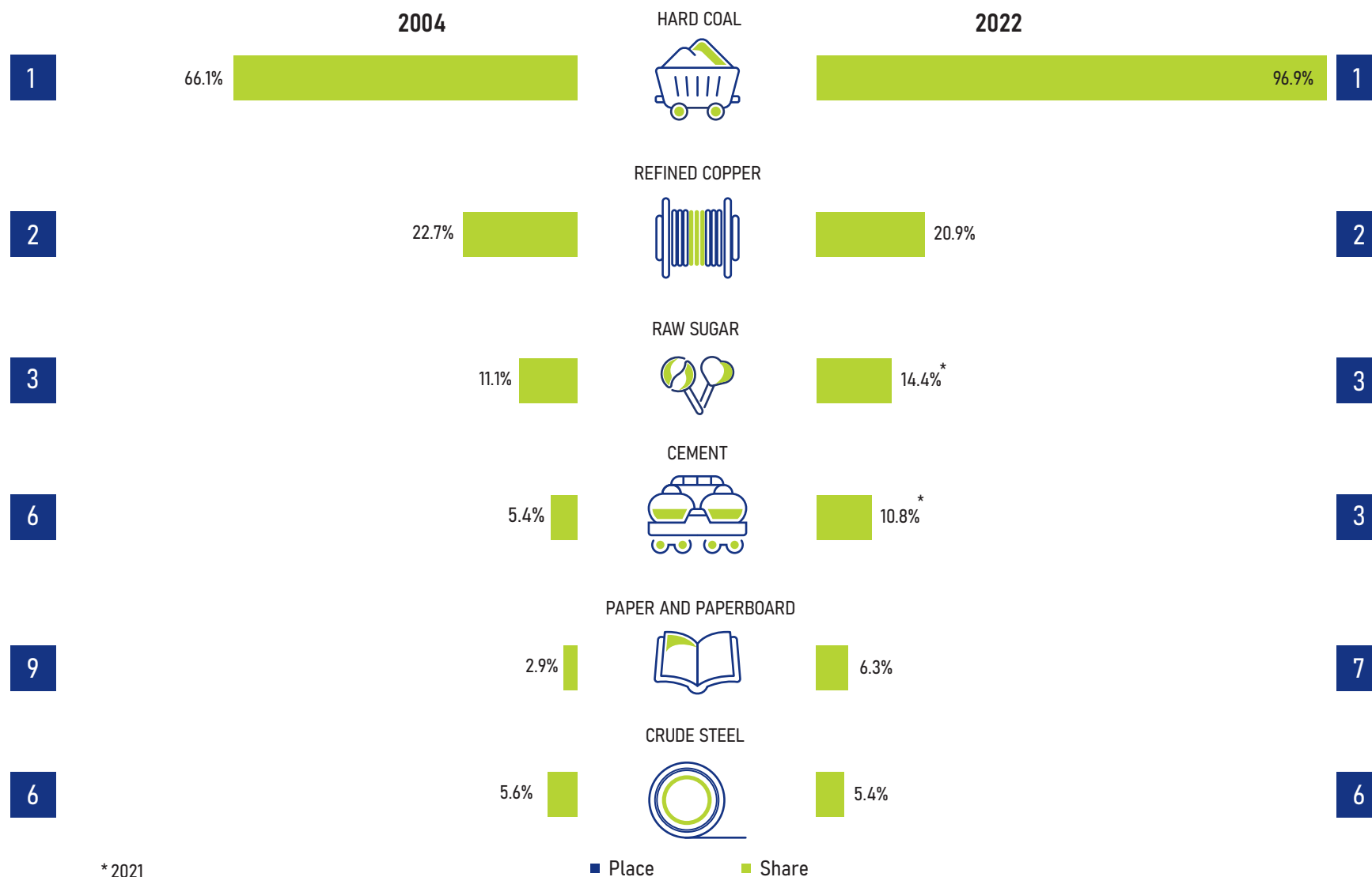
7.6

2004

5.4



PRODUCTION OF SELECTED INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS – POLAND'S SHARE AND PLACE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION



AGRICULTURAL LAND (in % of total area)



In terms of production volume, the most popular vegetables in the EU are tomatoes, onions and carrots, and apples among fruit. Every third apple in the EU comes from Poland. Our country is also a recognised producer of root vegetables, including sugar beet, potatoes and carrots, as well as cucumbers and cabbage (Poland produces the largest amounts of the latter in the whole EU). Poland is also the EU leader in the production of sour cherries, raspberries and currants, and the second largest producer of strawberries and blueberries (behind Spain) in the Community.

AGRICULTURAL AREA UNDER ORGANIC FARMING (in % of total agricultural land)



AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS (in millions)

	EU27	PL
2020	9.1	1.3
2010	12.1	1.5

AREA OF AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS IN POLAND (in % of total area of agricultural holdings in the EU)

2020	9.5
2010	9.1

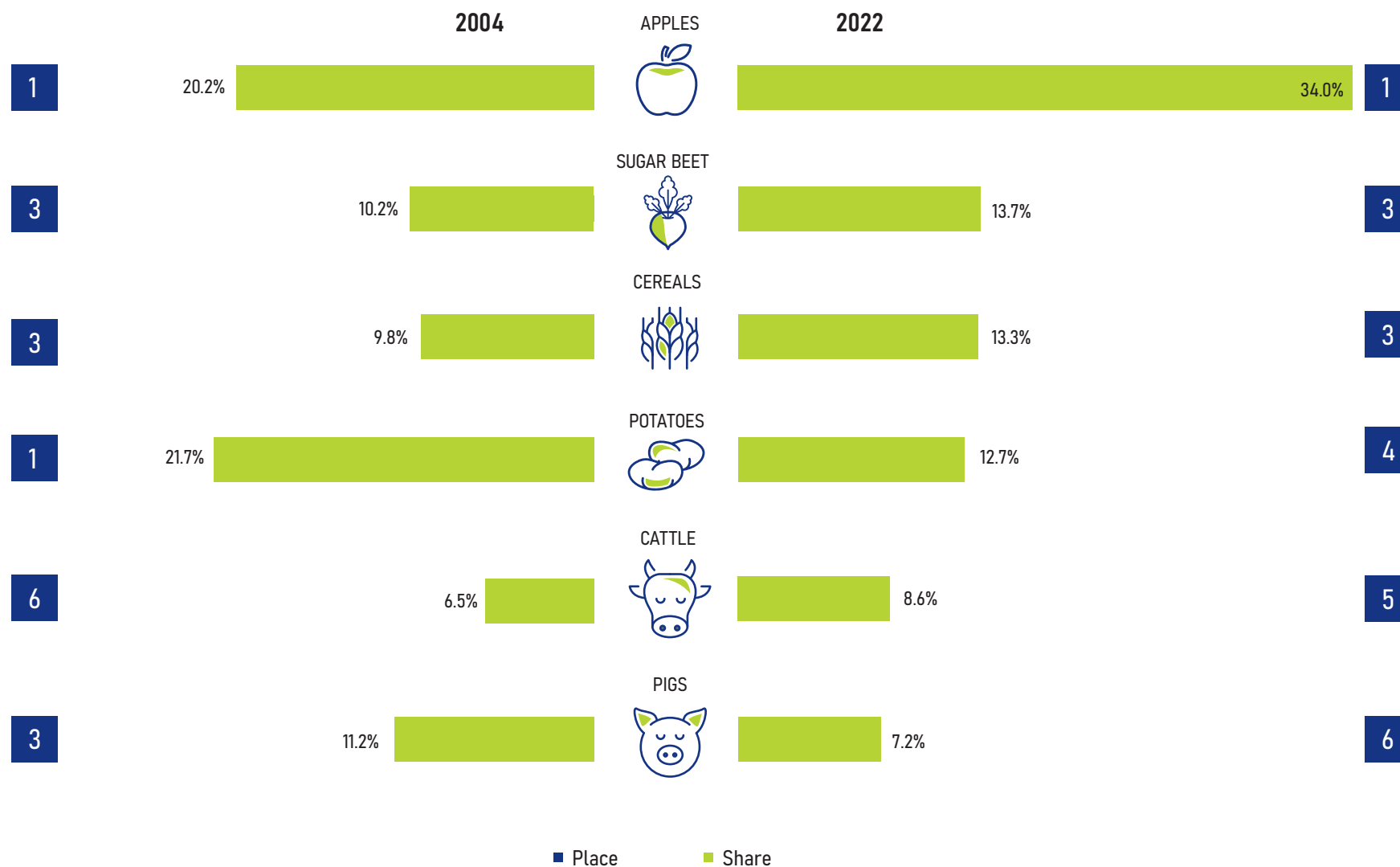


AVERAGE SIZE OF AGRICULTURAL HOLDING (in ha)

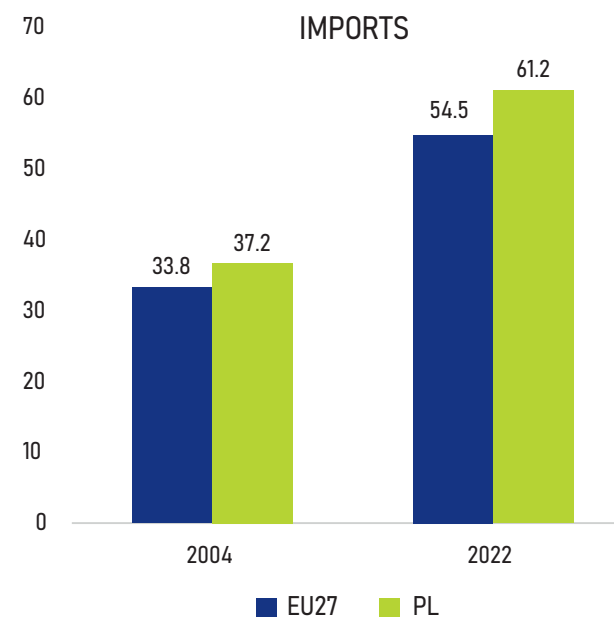
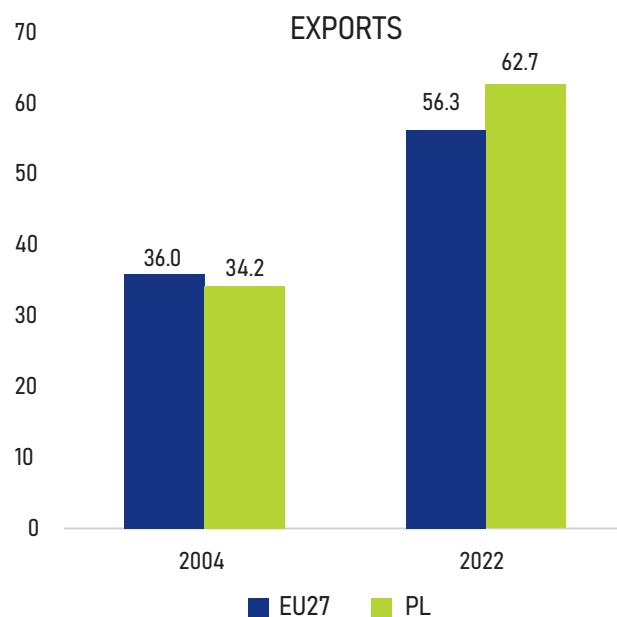
	EU27	PL
2020	17.1	11.3
2010	13.1	9.6



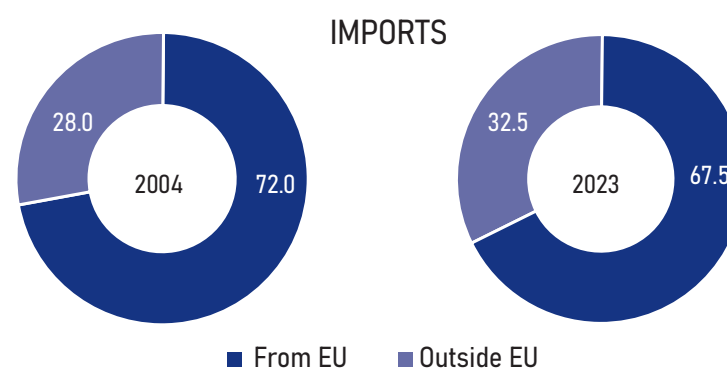
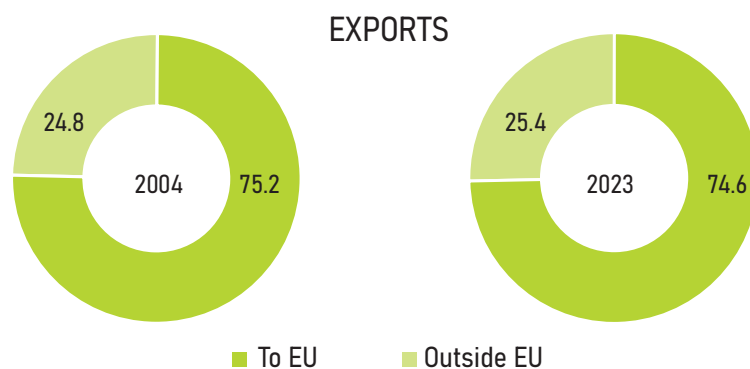
PRODUCTION OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS – POLAND'S SHARE AND PLACE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION



FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER OF GOODS AND SERVICES (in % of GDP)

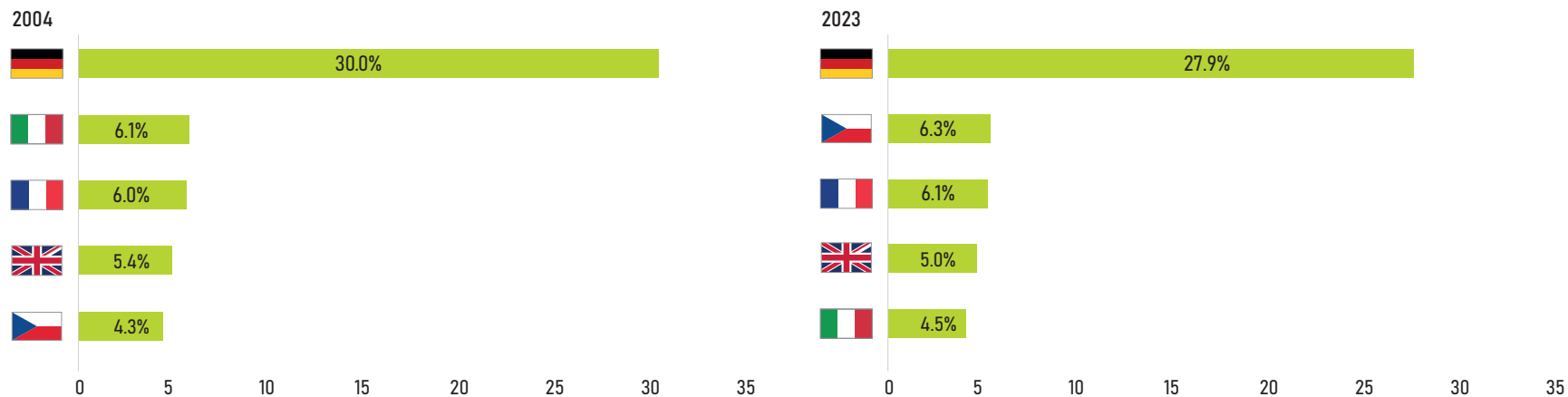


POLAND'S FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER OF GOODS (in %)

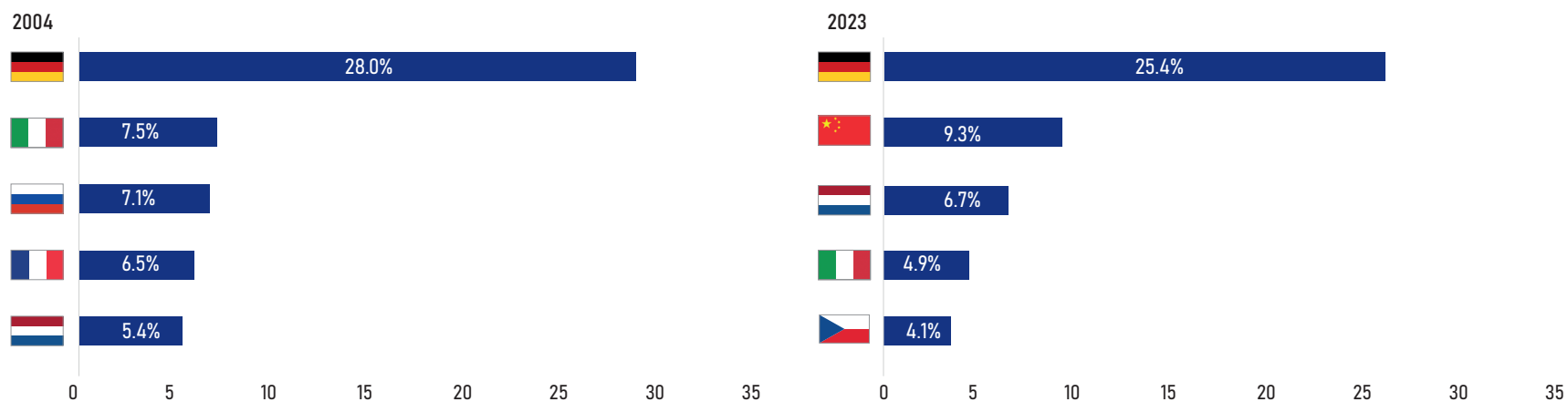


POLAND'S MAIN TRADING PARTNERS

EXPORTS

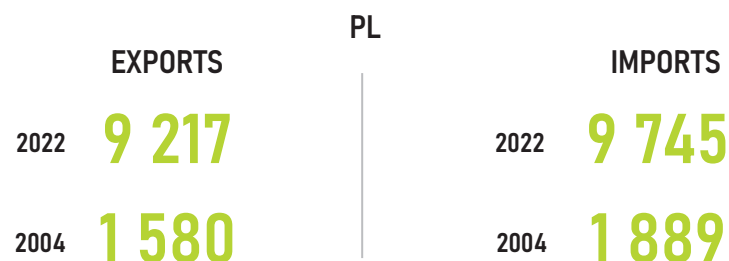
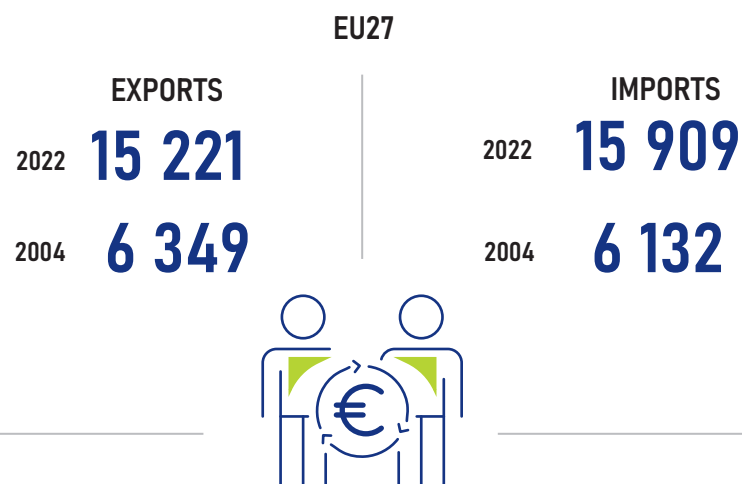


IMPORTS



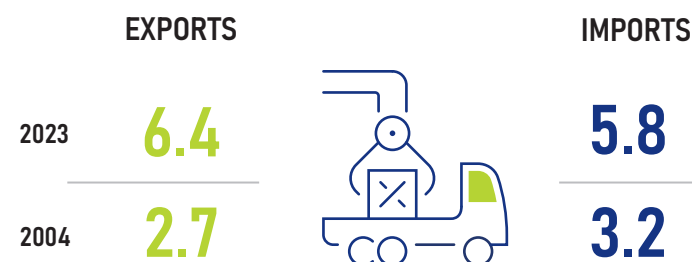
FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER OF GOODS PER CAPITA

(in EUR)



POLAND'S SHARE IN INTRA-EU FOREIGN TRADE TURNOVER OF GOODS

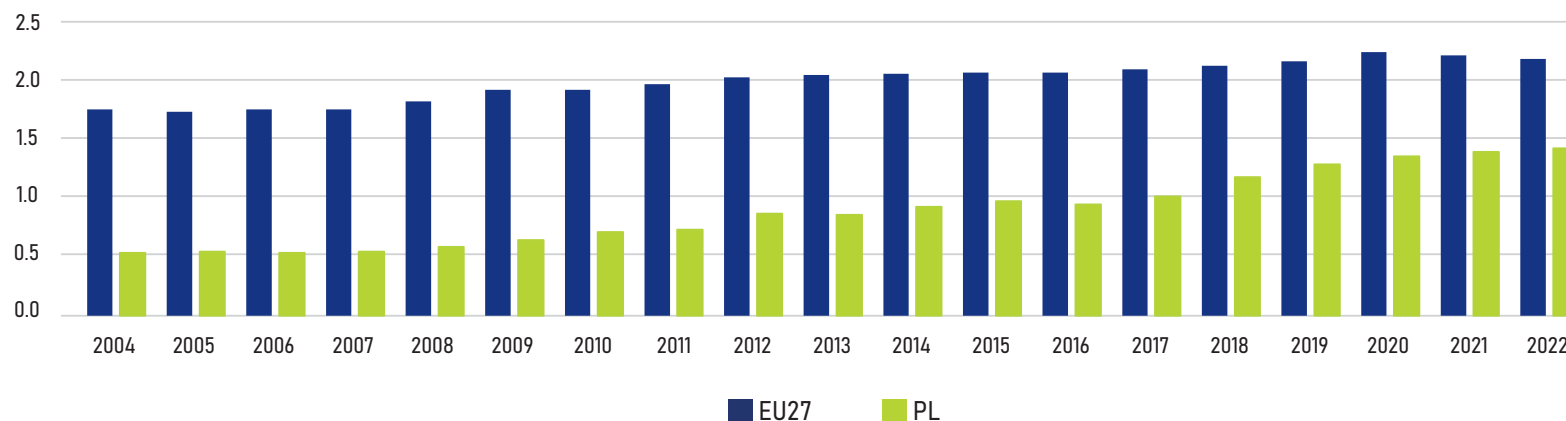
(in %)



The United States is the largest destination of goods exported from the EU, and the second largest supplier of the Community (behind China). In 2023, 20% of the value of the EU total exports went to the US, and about 14% of the EU total imports came from that country. Imports from the United States include energy raw materials (crude oil and natural gas) and pharmaceutical products, while China mostly supplies the EU with telecommunications equipment.

EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

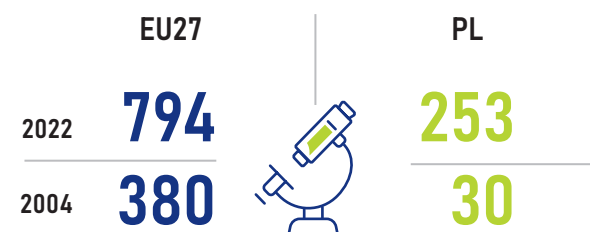
(in % of GDP)



The EU first research and development initiative was the ESPRIT programme (European Strategic Program for Research in Information Technologies), launched in 1984. It involved a series of R&D projects in areas such as information technologies, energy, industrial mechanisation, microelectronics, software technology, office systems and information processing. This programme provided innovative technologies for the needs of European industry until the end of 1990s.

EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PER CAPITA

(in EUR)

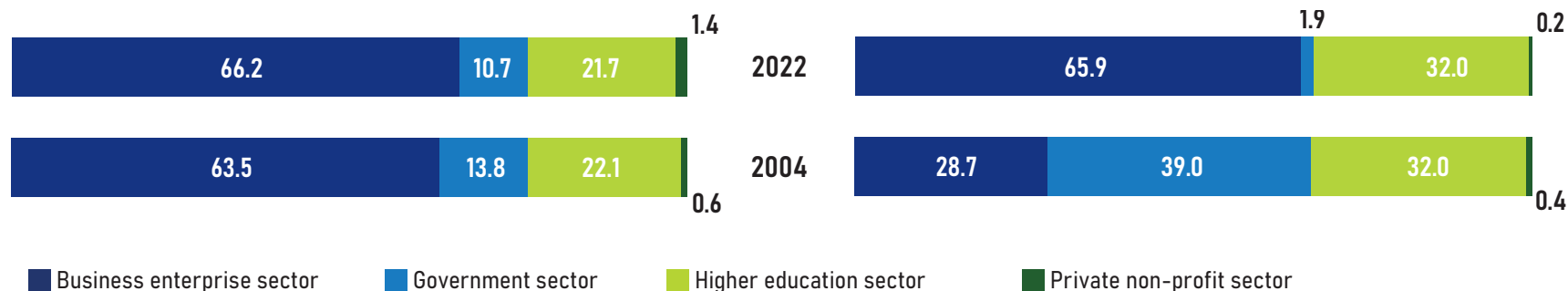


EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BY PERFORMANCE SECTORS

(in %)

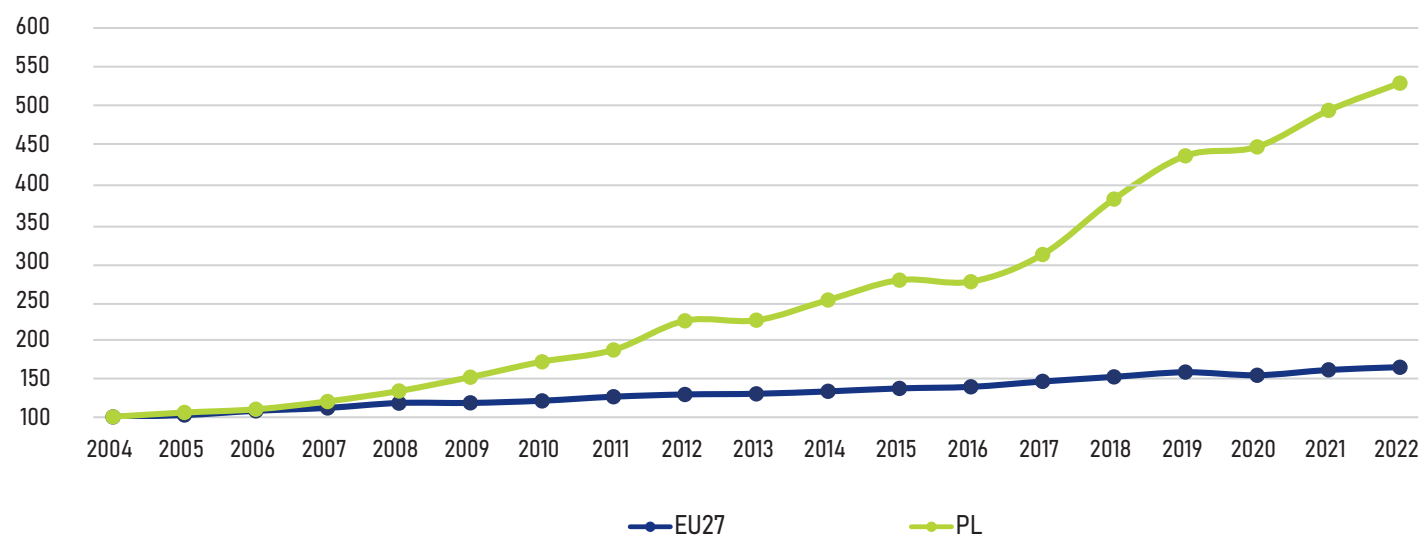
EU27

PL



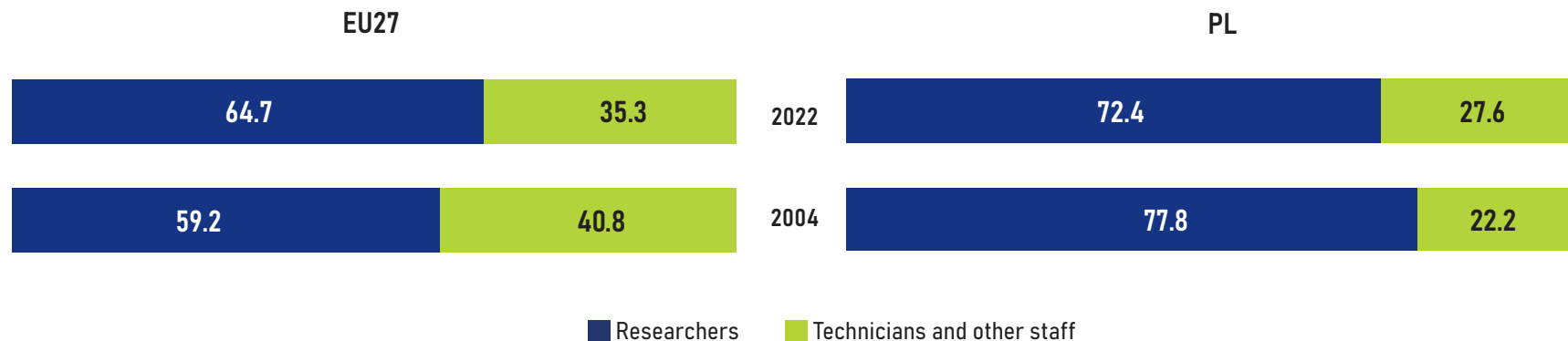
EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

(in PPS, constant prices, 2004=100)



RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL BY PROFESSIONAL POSITION

(based on full-time equivalents, in %)

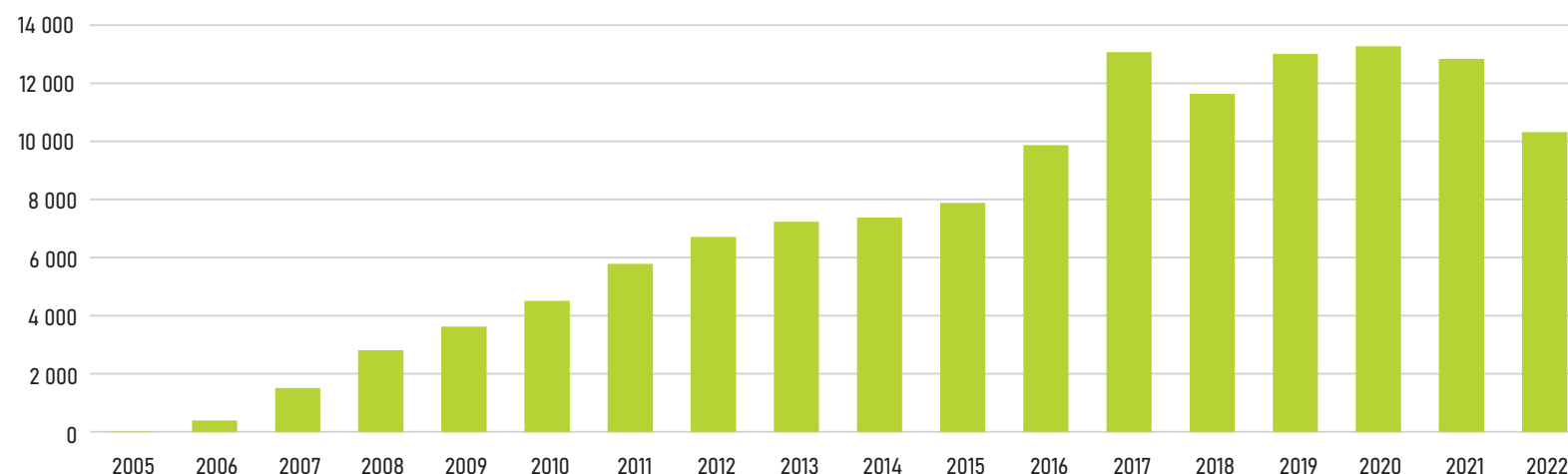


RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL BY SEX

(in %)



EUROPEAN PATENTS (GRANTED BY EPO) VALIDATED IN POLAND



The Patent Office of the Republic of Poland is responsible for granting and providing legal protection of intellectual industrial property. However, Polish residents may also apply for such protection to patent offices of other countries, and since 1st March 2004, to the European Patent Office (EPO) as well. A European patent is granted on the basis of one application, which makes it possible for the applicant to seek legal protection of intellectual industrial property in 38 members of the European Patent Organisation.

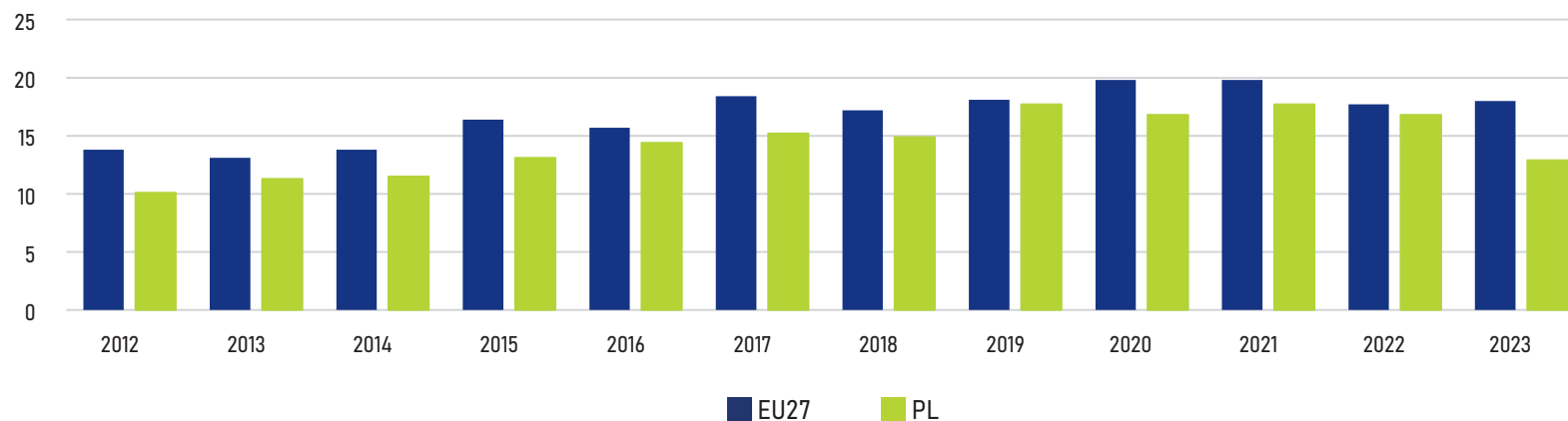
ENTERPRISES CONDUCTING E-SALES

(in % of total surveyed enterprises)



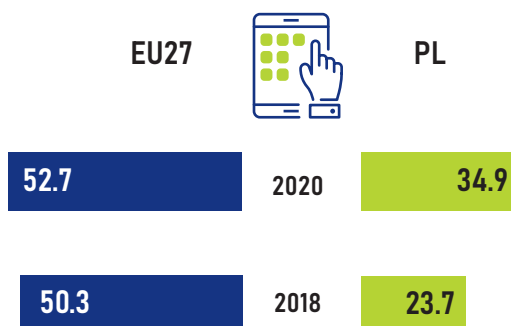
SHARE OF E-COMMERCE IN TOTAL TURNOVER OF SURVEYED ENTERPRISES

(in %)



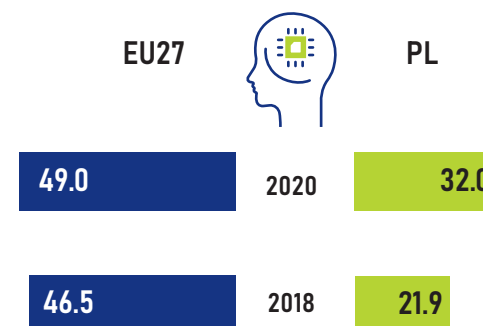
INNOVATION ACTIVE ENTERPRISES

(in % of total surveyed enterprises)



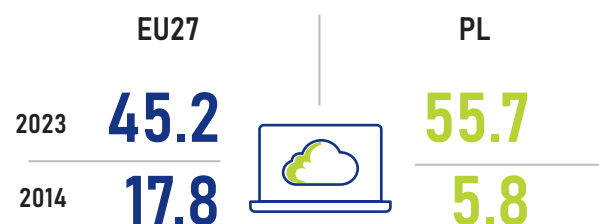
ENTERPRISES WITH COMPLETED INNOVATION ACTIVITIES

(% of total surveyed enterprises)



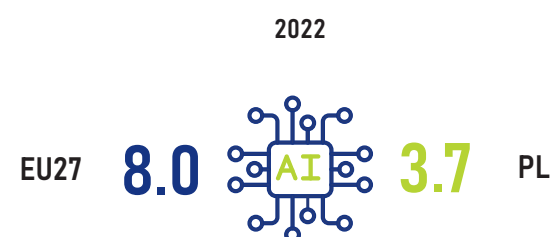
ENTERPRISES BUYING CLOUD COMPUTING SERVICES

(in % of total surveyed enterprises)



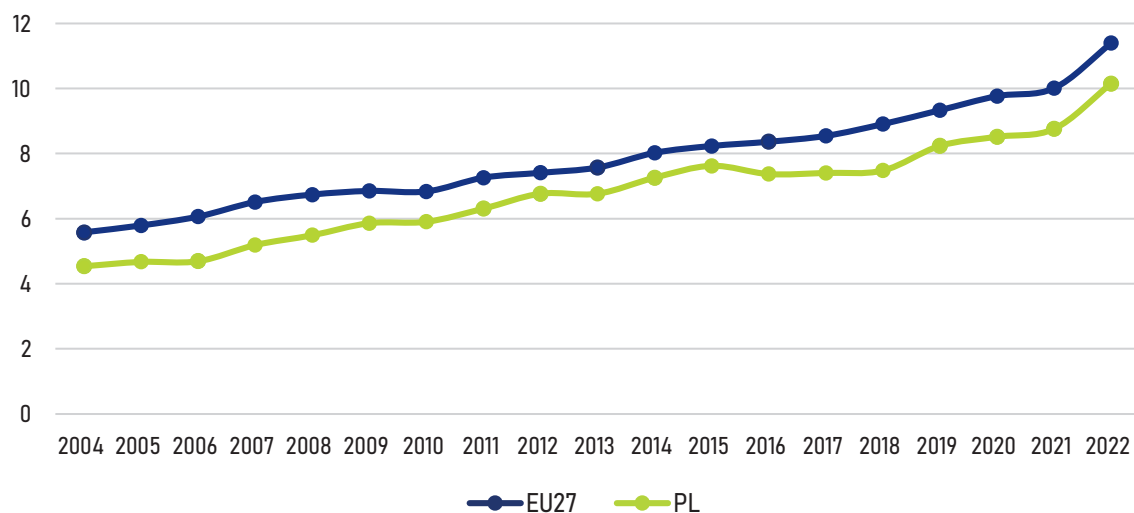
ENTERPRISES USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TECHNOLOGIES

(in % of total surveyed enterprises)



The efficiency of the use of energy by an economy can be measured by e.g. the energy productivity index. It determines the value of GDP that is produced in a given economy per unit of energy. The higher the energy productivity, the greater the value of GDP that can be produced per unit of energy.

ENERGY PRODUCTIVITY
(in PPS per kilogram of oil equivalent)



POLAND'S SHARE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

PRIMARY ENERGY PRODUCTION (in %)

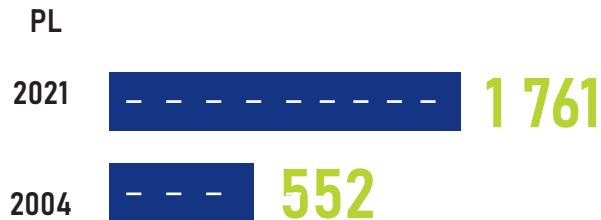


FINAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION (in %)



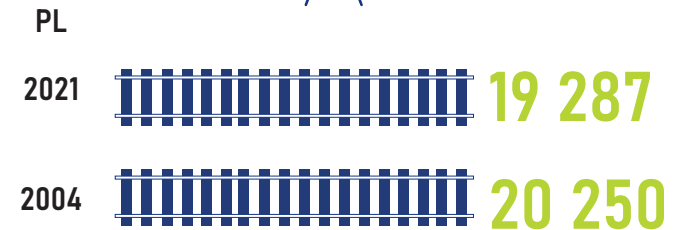
MOTORWAYS

(in kilometres)



RAILWAYS

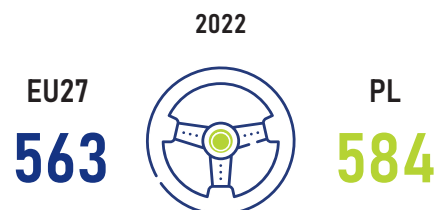
(in kilometres)



Polish official statistics modernised the process of producing road and sea transport data by implementing an intelligent TranStat system in 2021. The TranStat uses large data sets (big data) from the 'sensors', i.e. the Automatic Identification System (AIS) and the Electronic Toll Collection System (e-TOLL). TranStat makes it possible, for example, to enhance the management of transport systems used for modern planning and shaping the transport policy.

LENGTH OF ROADS BY TYPE (in kilometres)

2022	19 459	153 808	254 313
PL	State roads	Provincial roads	Communal roads
2004	18 368	157 314	203 773



MOTORISATION RATE (passenger cars per 1000 inhabitants)

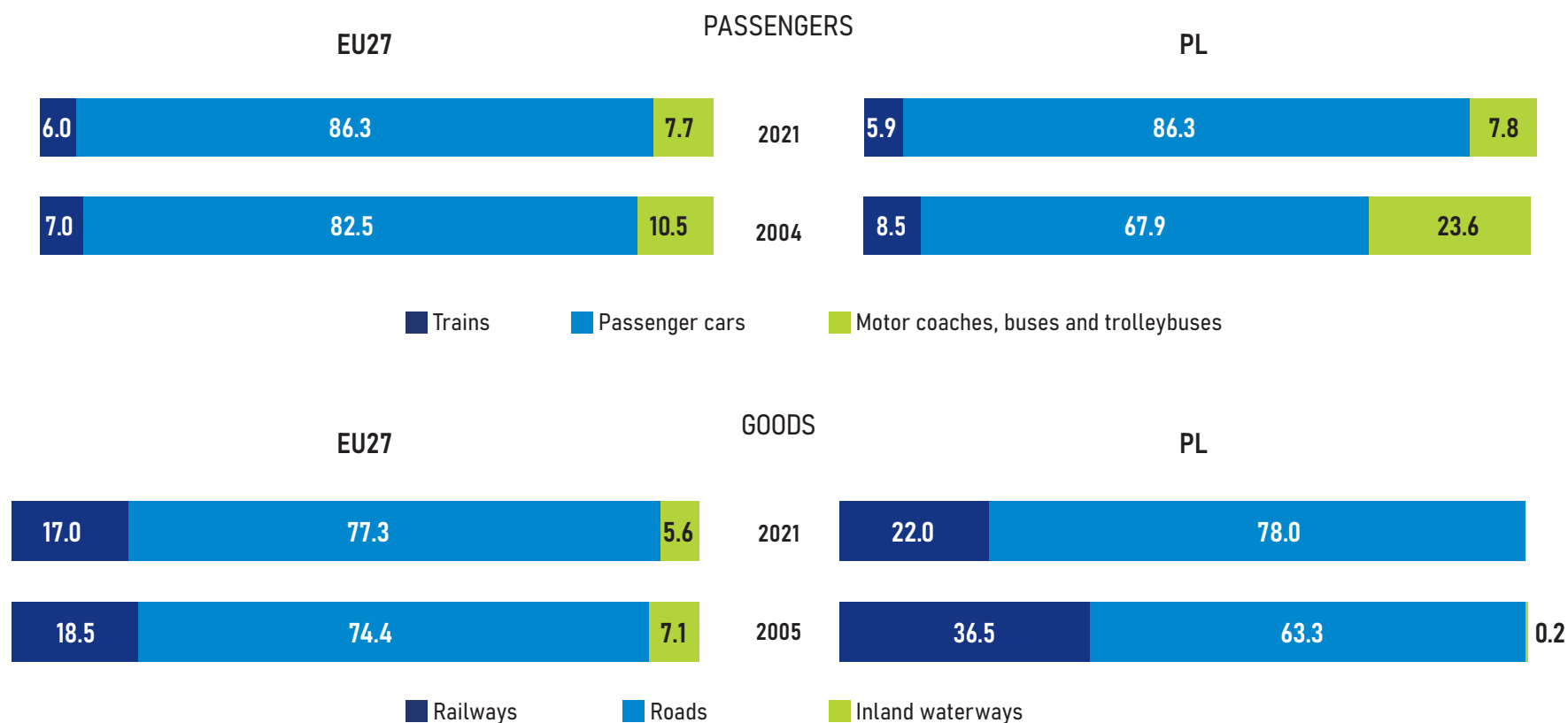


NEW PASSENGER CARS BY SELECTED TYPES OF ENGINES

PL	204 899	146 632	46 500	12 200	11 293
2022	Petrol	Hybrid	Diesel	LPG	Electricity

Out of five kinds of transport (maritime, road, rail, inland waterway and air), it is maritime transport that has the largest share (approx. 68%) in the EU total freight transport (based on tonne-kilometres). In Poland, however, goods are transported mainly by road (approx. 70%).

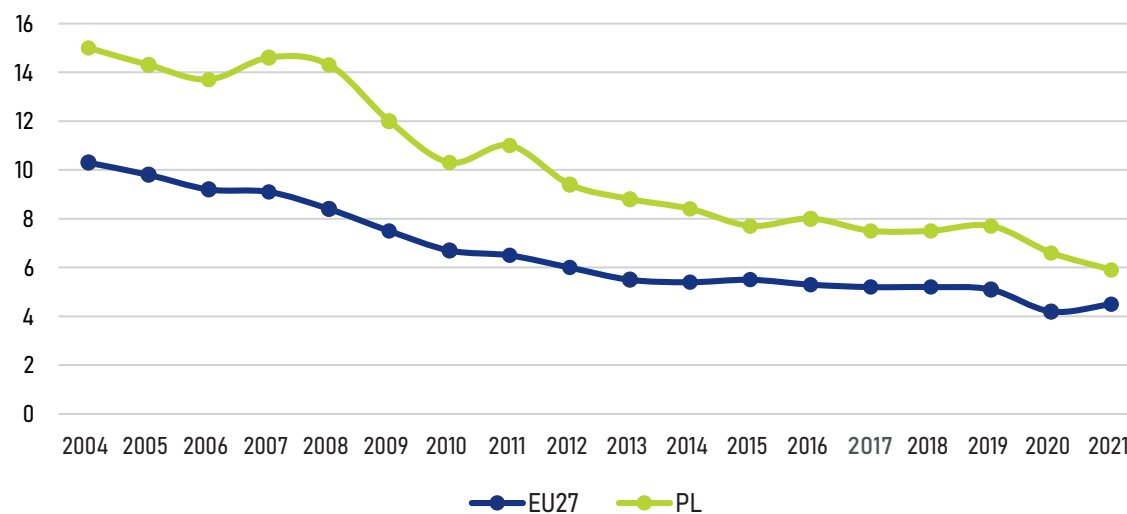
TRANSPORT BY MEANS OF LAND TRANSPORT (in %)



NUMBER OF ROAD ACCIDENTS INVOLVING DEATH OR PERSONAL INJURY

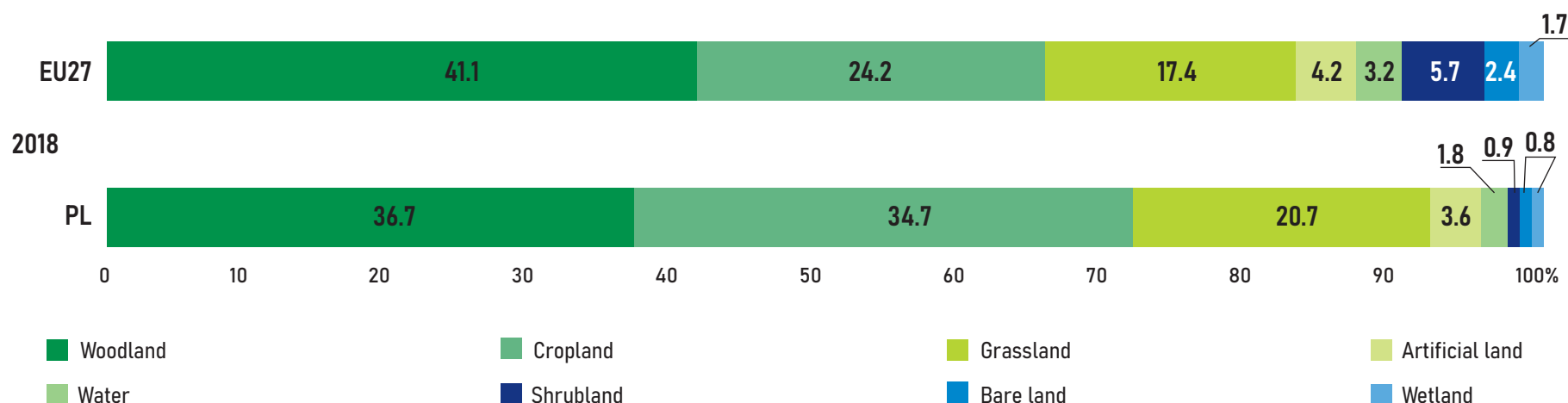
	EU27		PL
2021	822 454		22 816
2004	1 147 470		51 068

ROAD TRAFFIC DEATHS PER 100 THOUSAND POPULATION



Environment

LAND COVER



One of the requirements of Poland's accession to the European Union was launching a new form of nature protection, i.e. the Natura 2000 area. Such areas distinguished in member states form the European Ecological Network Natura 2000, which constitutes approx. 18% of the EU's total territory. Poland ranks fourth (behind Luxembourg, Bulgaria and Slovenia) among EU states with the largest share of protected areas in the total area of the country.

LAND USE BY USE TYPE

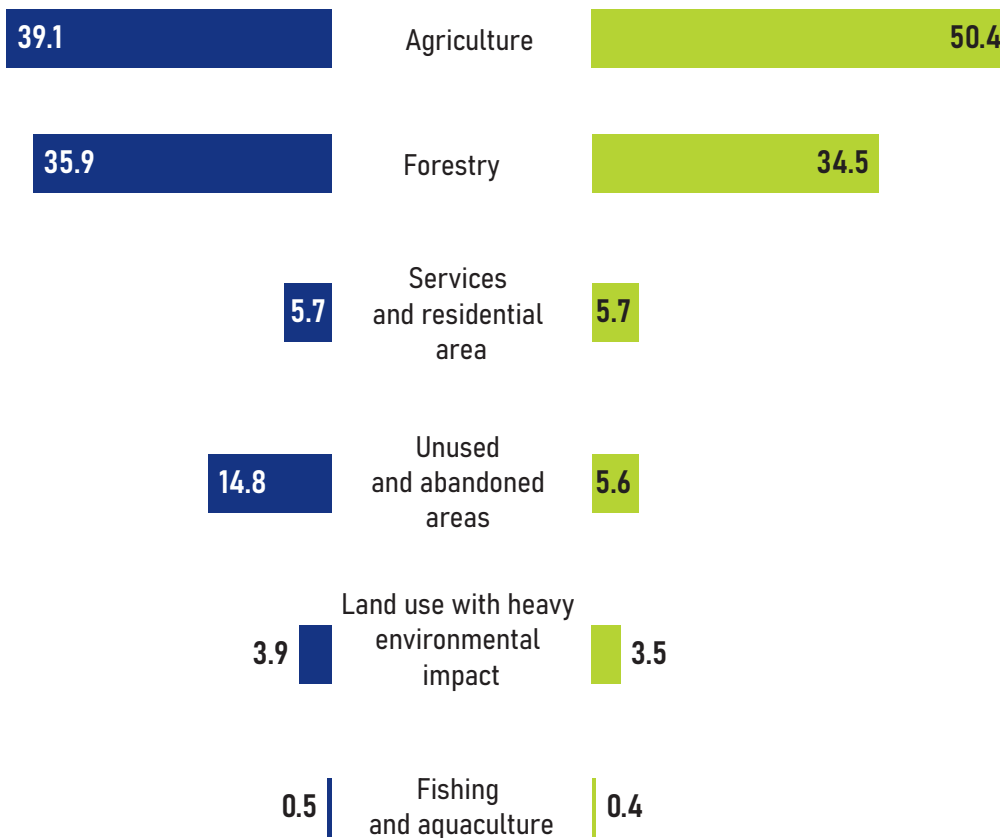
(in %)



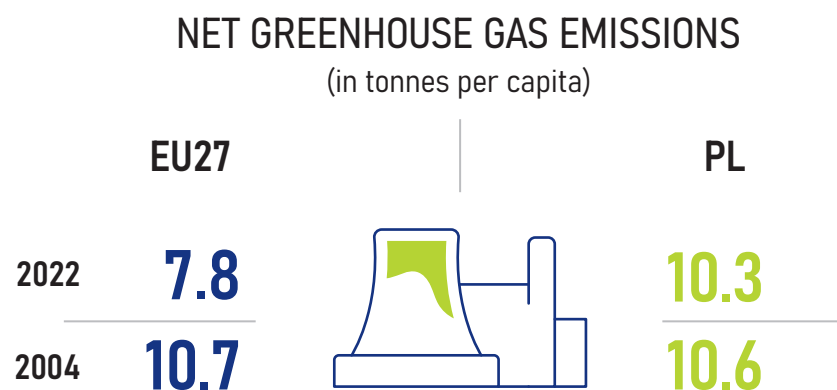
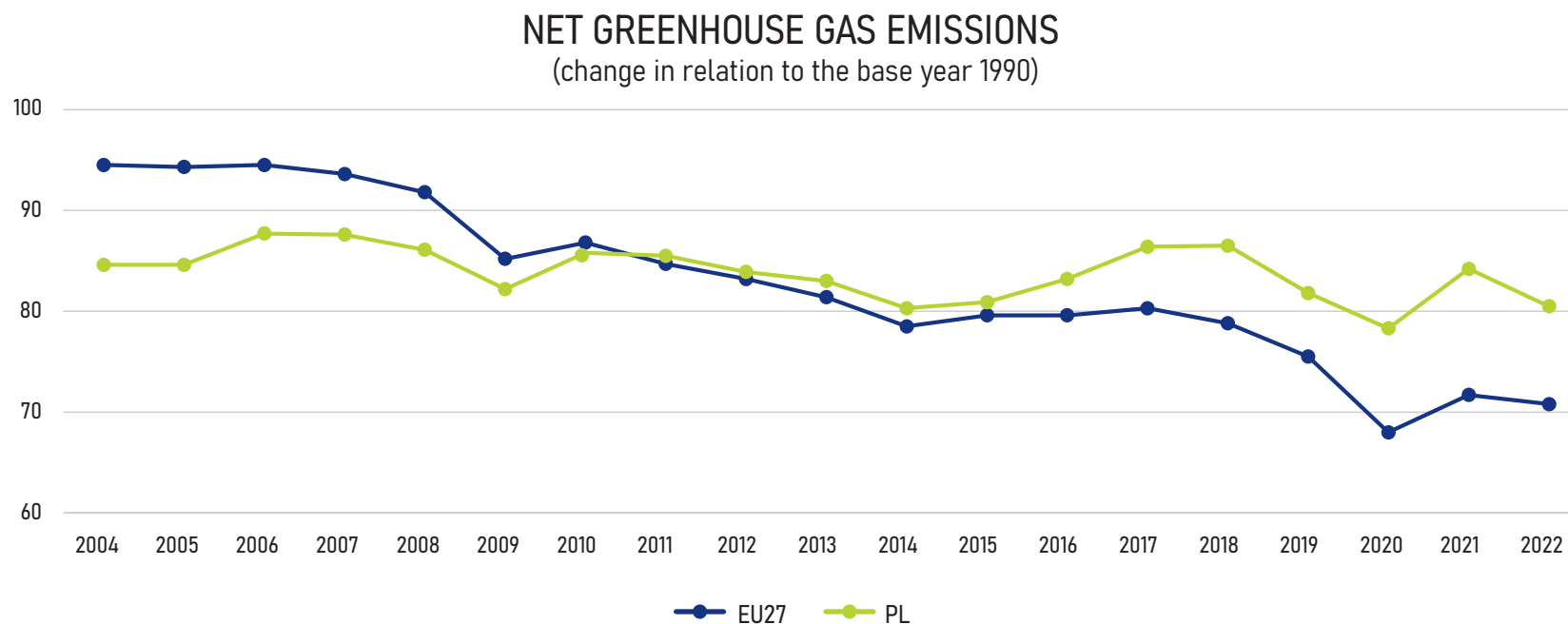
EU27

PL

2018

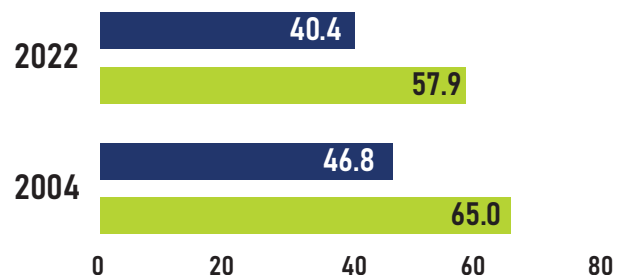
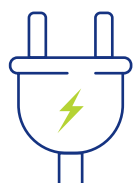


Every three years, a Land Use and Coverage Area Survey (LUCAS) is conducted in EU countries. Among other data, it provides information on land takeovers for economic purposes, soil degradation and biodiversity. Data from the LUCAS survey are used for several purposes, including the performance of the Common Agricultural Policy and the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

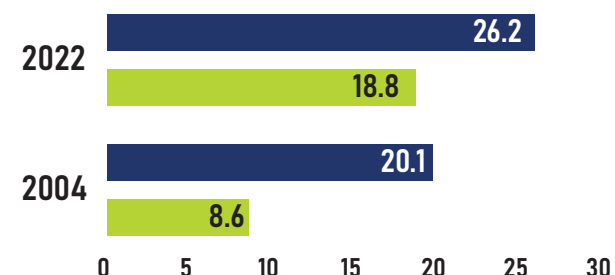


GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY SOURCE SECTORS (in %)

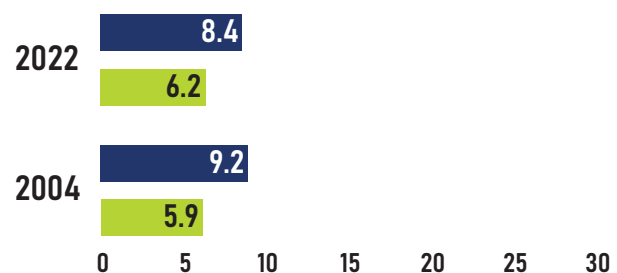
Energy industries



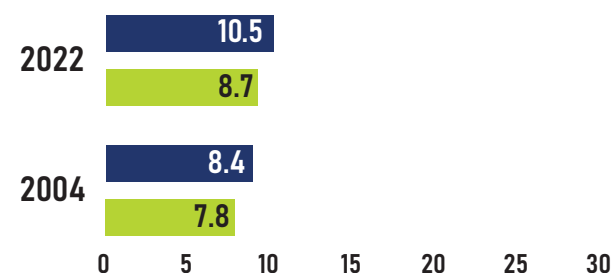
Transport



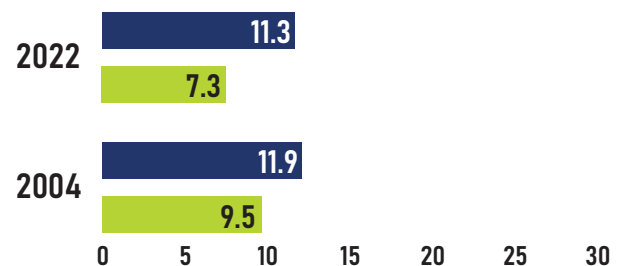
Industrial processes



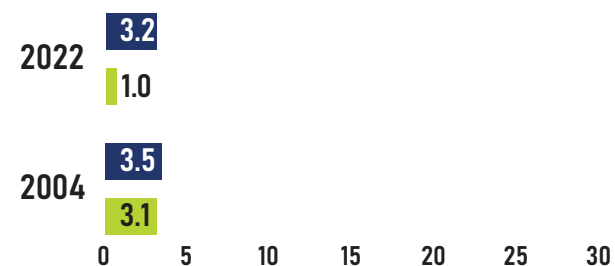
Agriculture



Manufacturing and construction

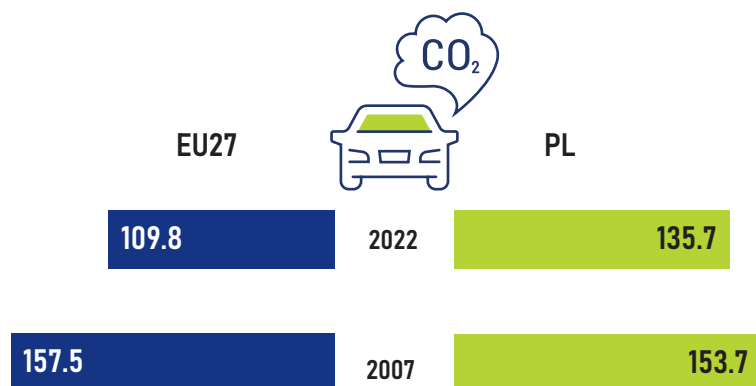


Waste management

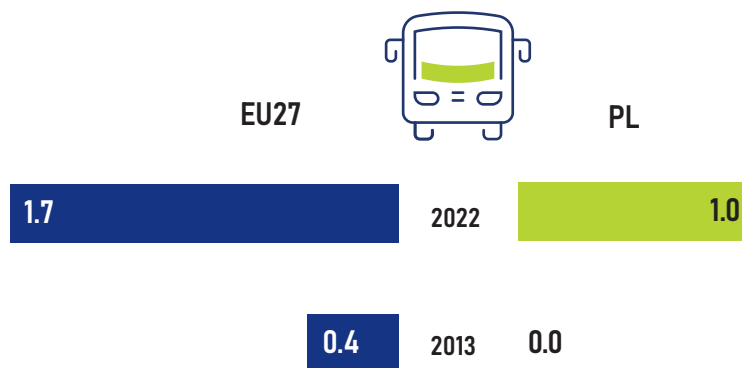


■ EU27 ■ PL

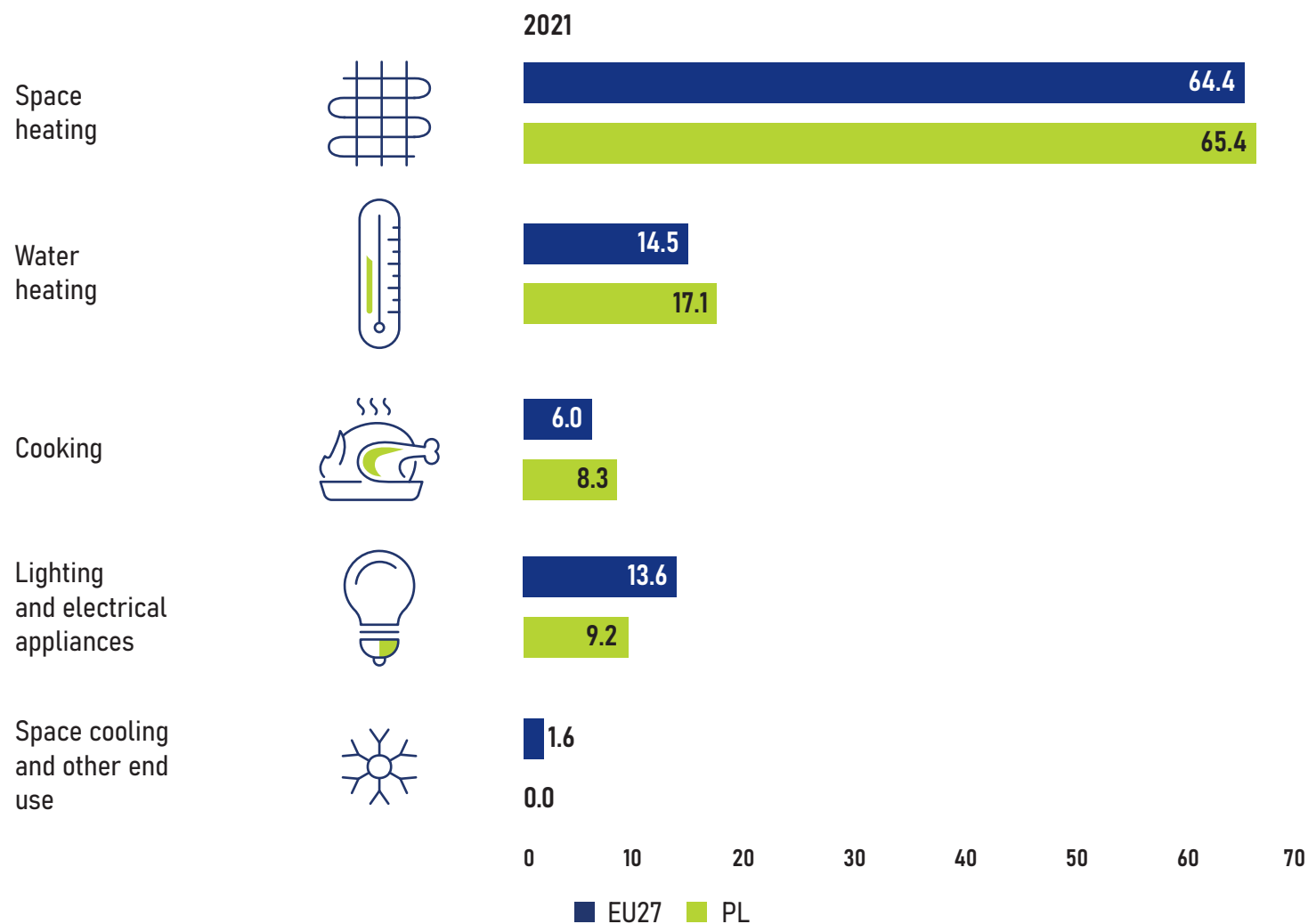
AVERAGE CO₂ EMISSIONS FROM NEW PASSENGER CARS (in g/km)



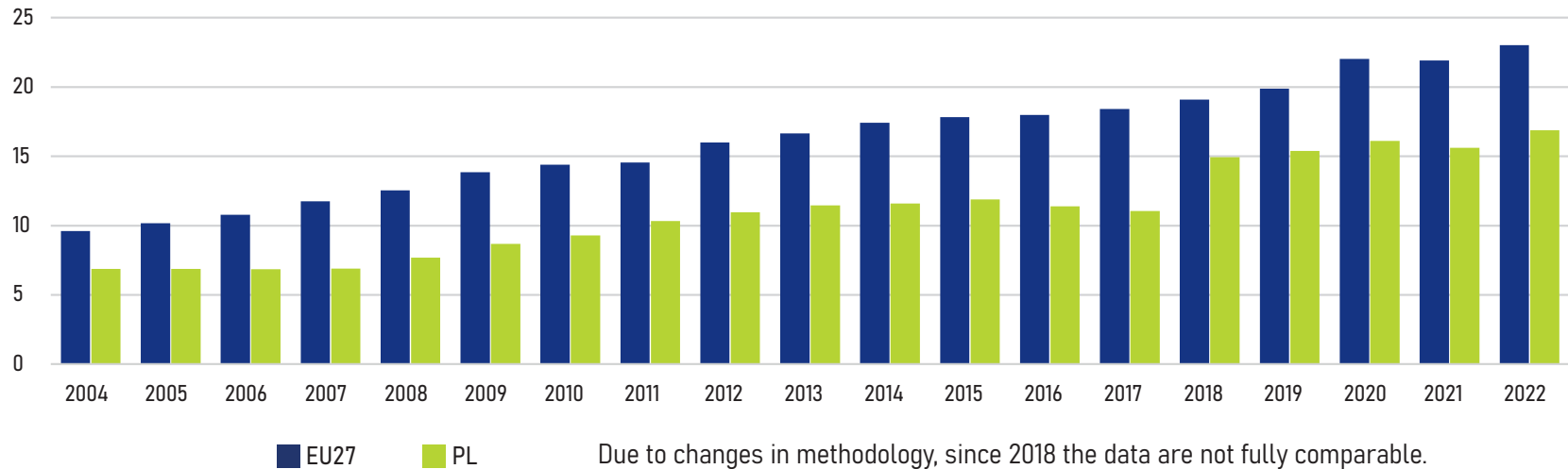
ZERO-EMISSION BUSES, MOTOR COACHES AND TROLLEYBUSES (in % of all vehicles of this type)



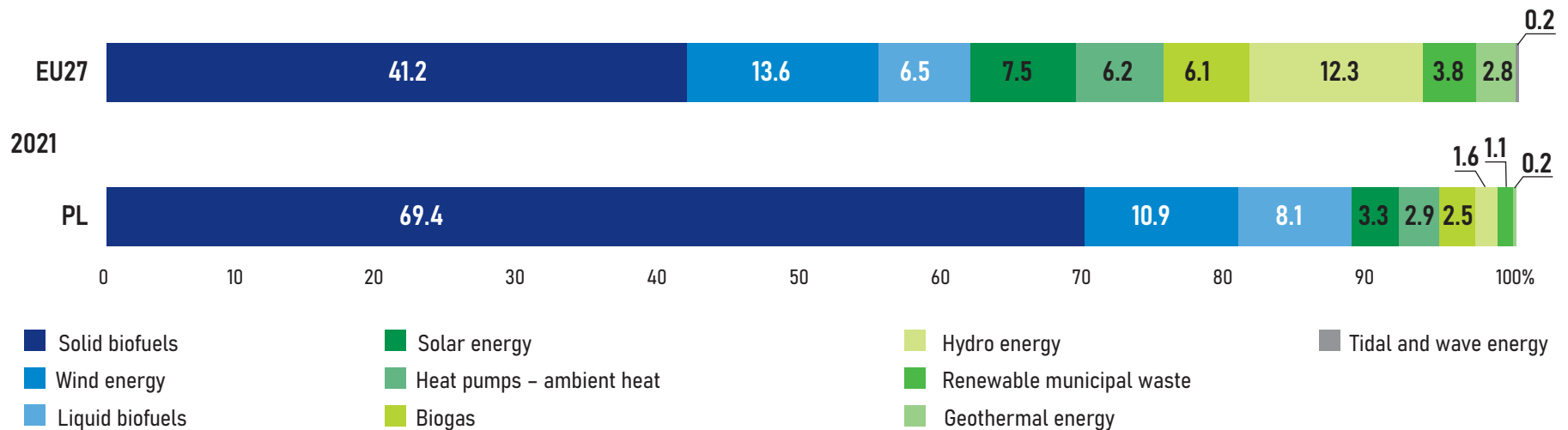
STRUCTURE OF ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN HOUSEHOLDS BY TYPE OF USE (in %)



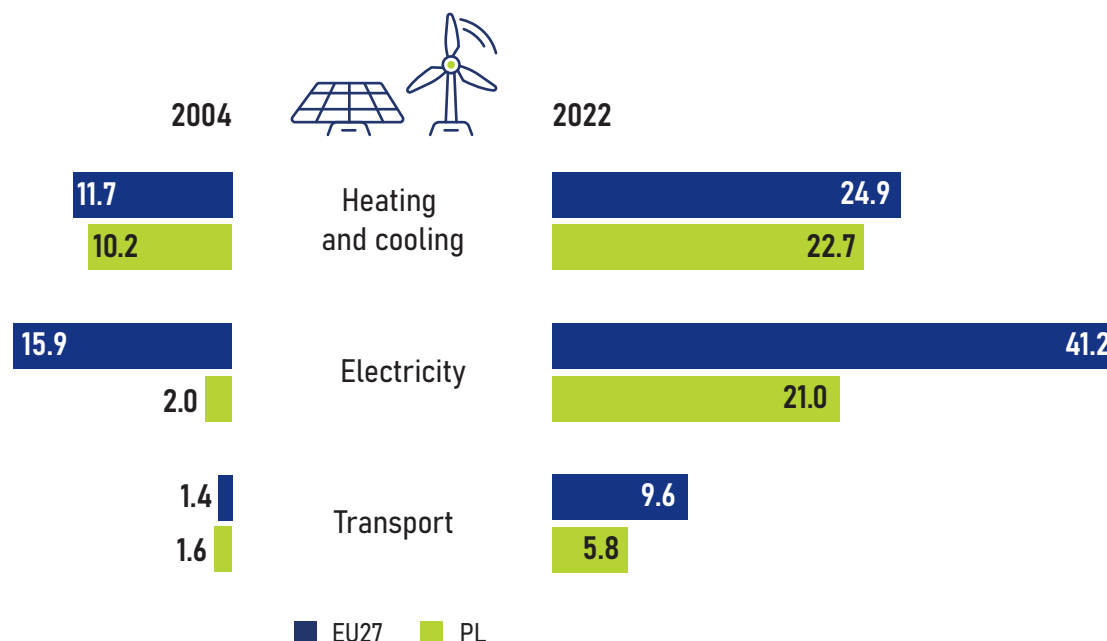
SHARE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN GROSS FINAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION (in %)



STRUCTURE OF PRIMARY ENERGY PRODUCTION FROM RENEWABLE SOURCES



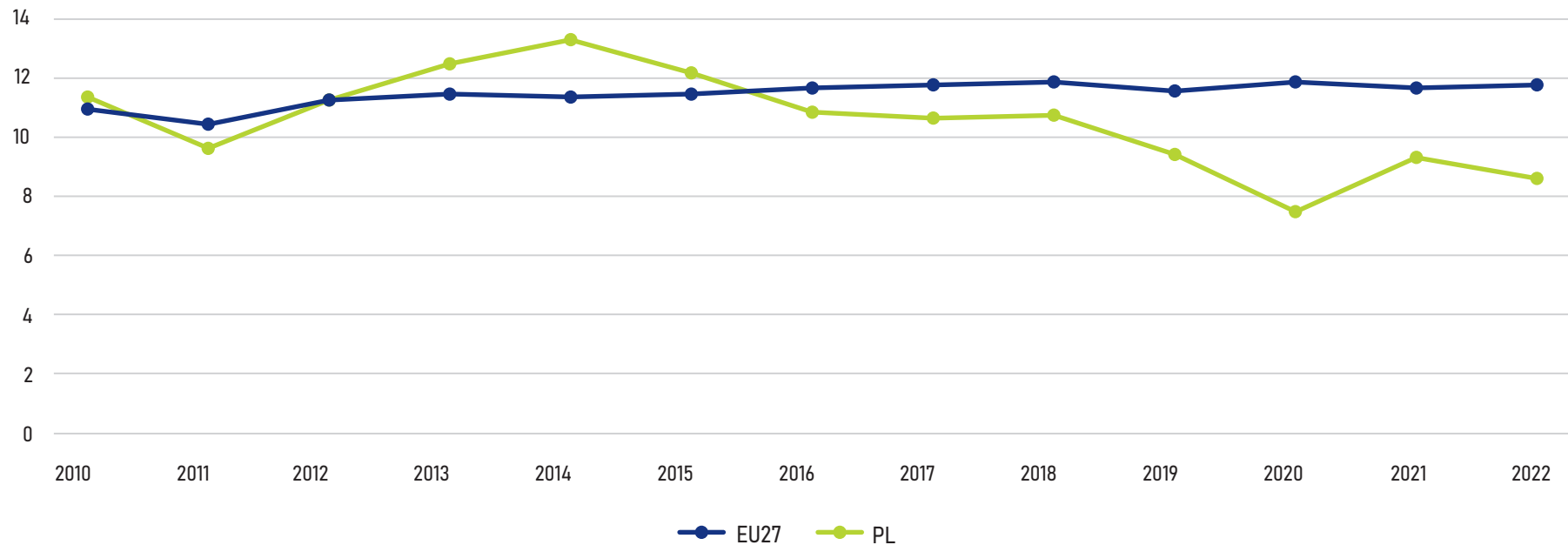
SHARE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN GROSS FINAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION BY SECTORS (in %)



EU member states committed themselves to increasing the consumption of renewable energy. In accordance with the latest EU directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (RED III), at least 42.5% of the total energy consumed in the EU will have been provided by renewable energy sources by 2030. The directive does not specify targets for individual member states.

CIRCULAR MATERIAL USE RATE

(share of material recovered and fed back into the economy in overall material use, in %)

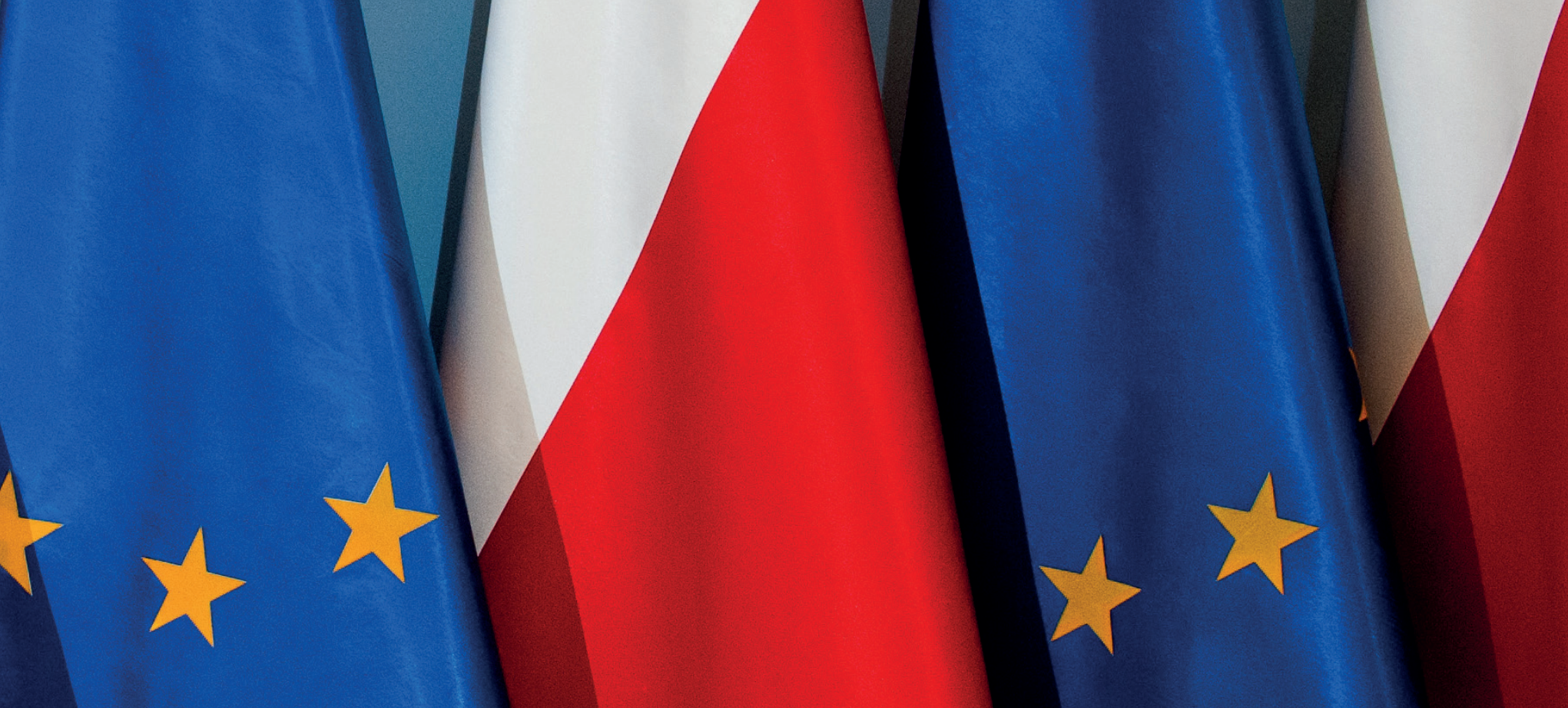


The priority of EU policies is the transformation towards a circular economy (Polish abbreviation: GOZ). It is a system in which the generation of waste is minimised because items traditionally considered as waste can be reused. They can be repaired, repurposed and recycled so that they retain value after their initial use. Such a system allows rational use of resources and the reduction of the negative impact on the environment. Tracking progress in the transformation of the Polish economy towards circular economy is possible through the set of the circular economy indices developed as part of the 'oto-GOZ' project.

RAW MATERIAL CONSUMPTION (MATERIAL FOOTPRINT) (in tonnes per capita)







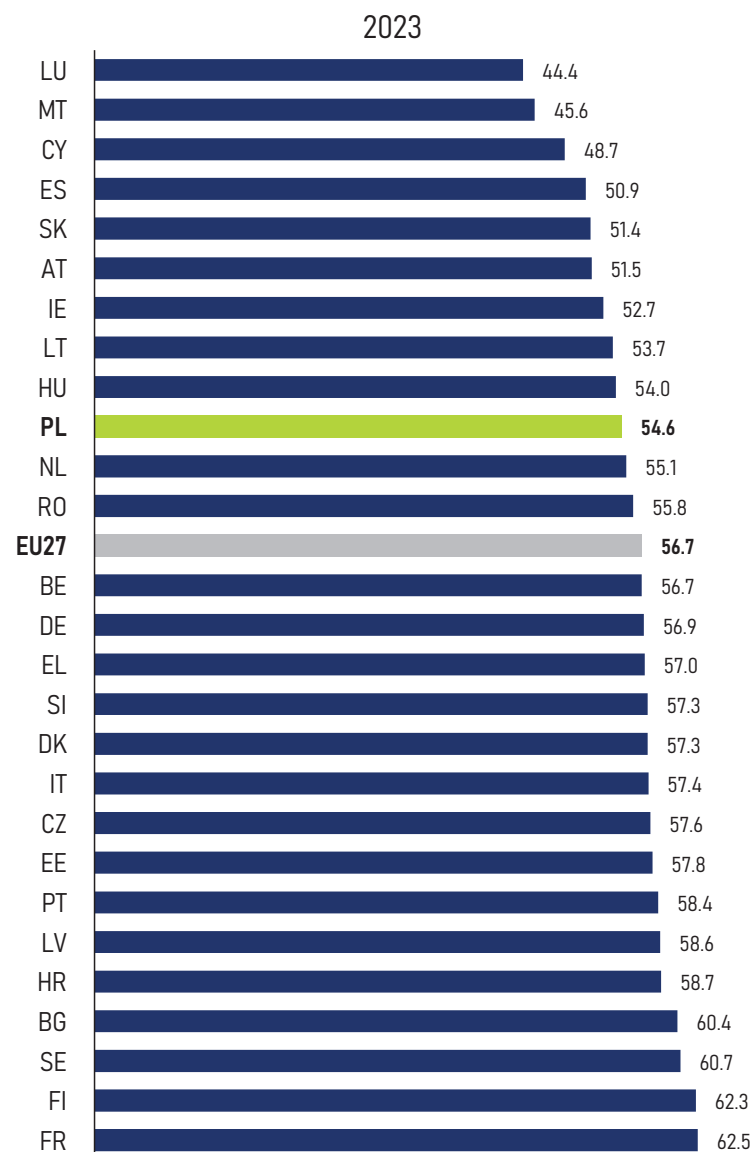
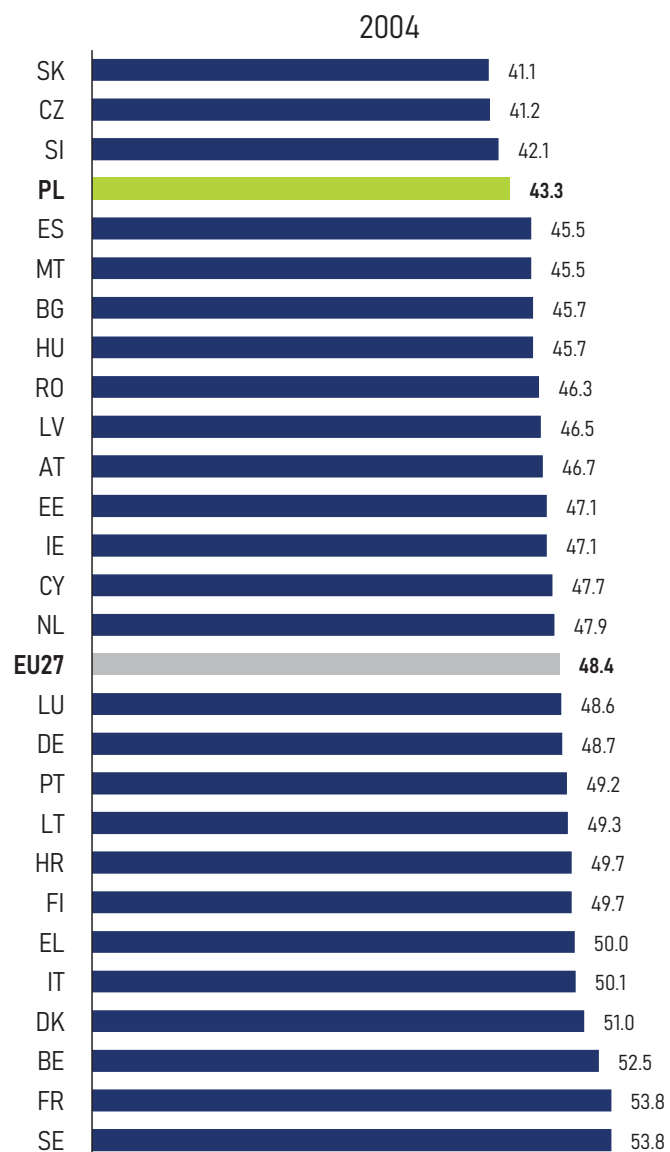
A glance at the EU

STATISTICAL RANKINGS



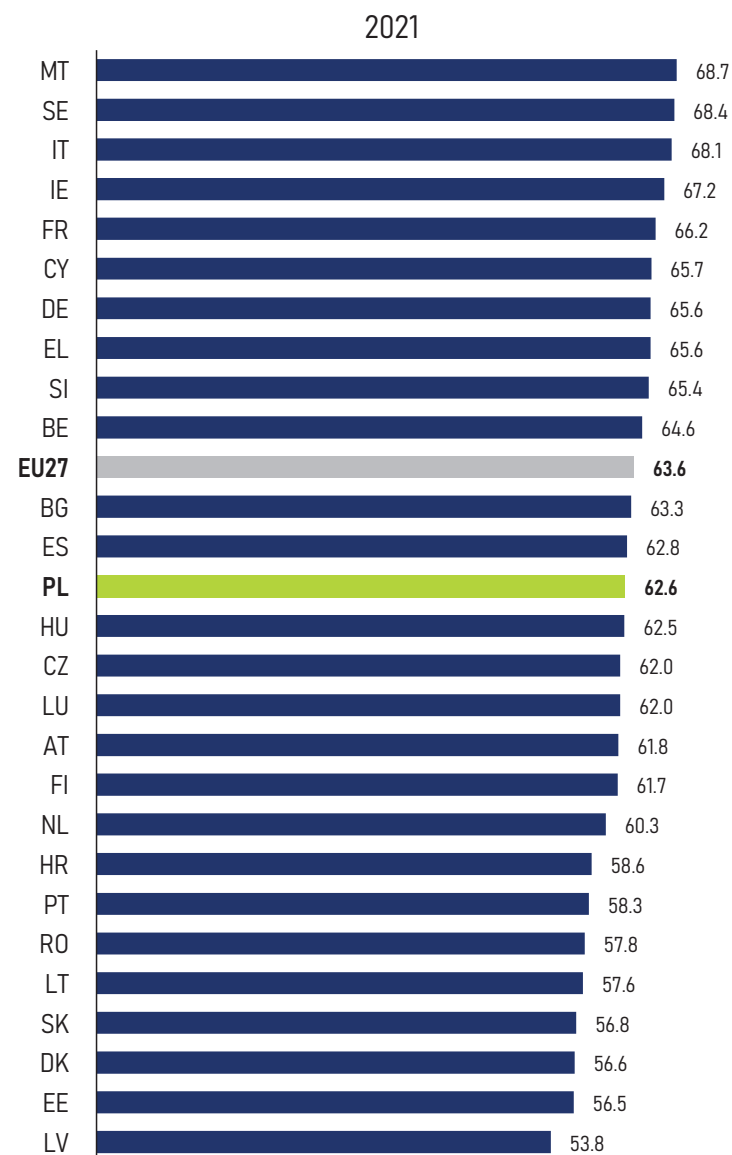
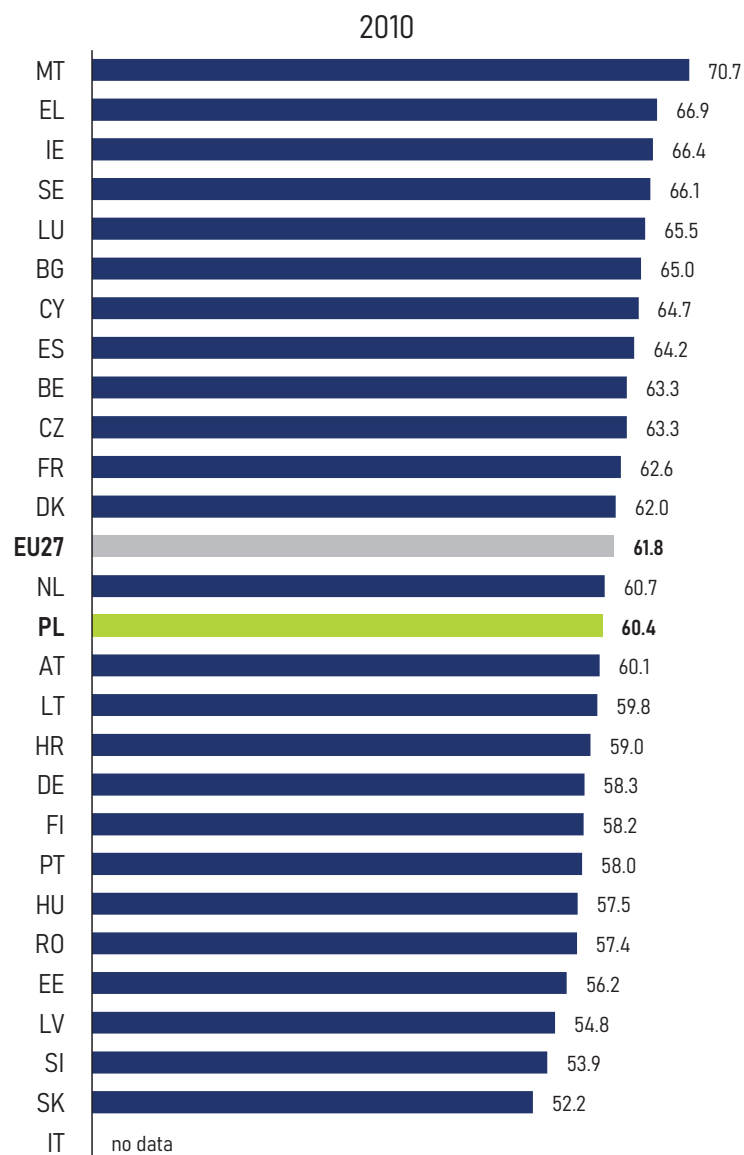
AGE DEPENDENCY RATIO

(population aged 0–14 and 65 and over per 100 persons aged 15–64)



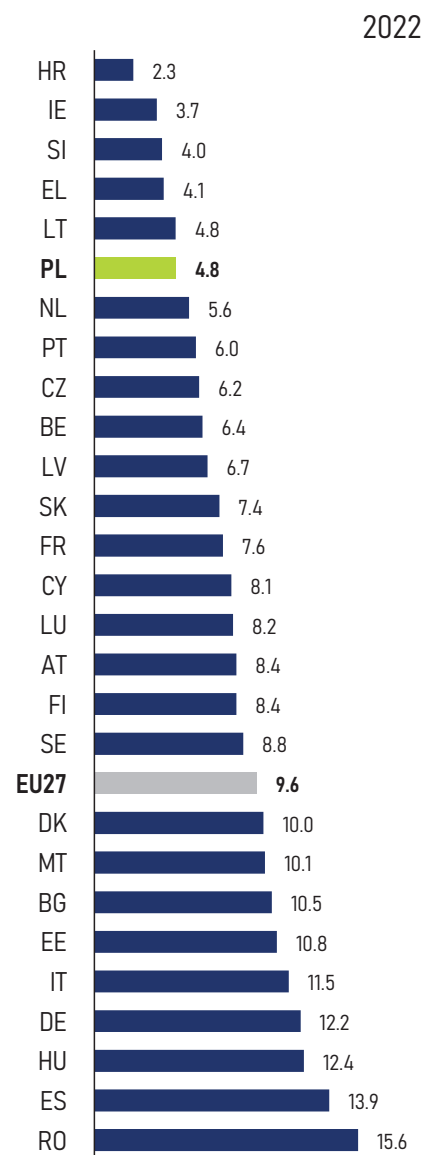
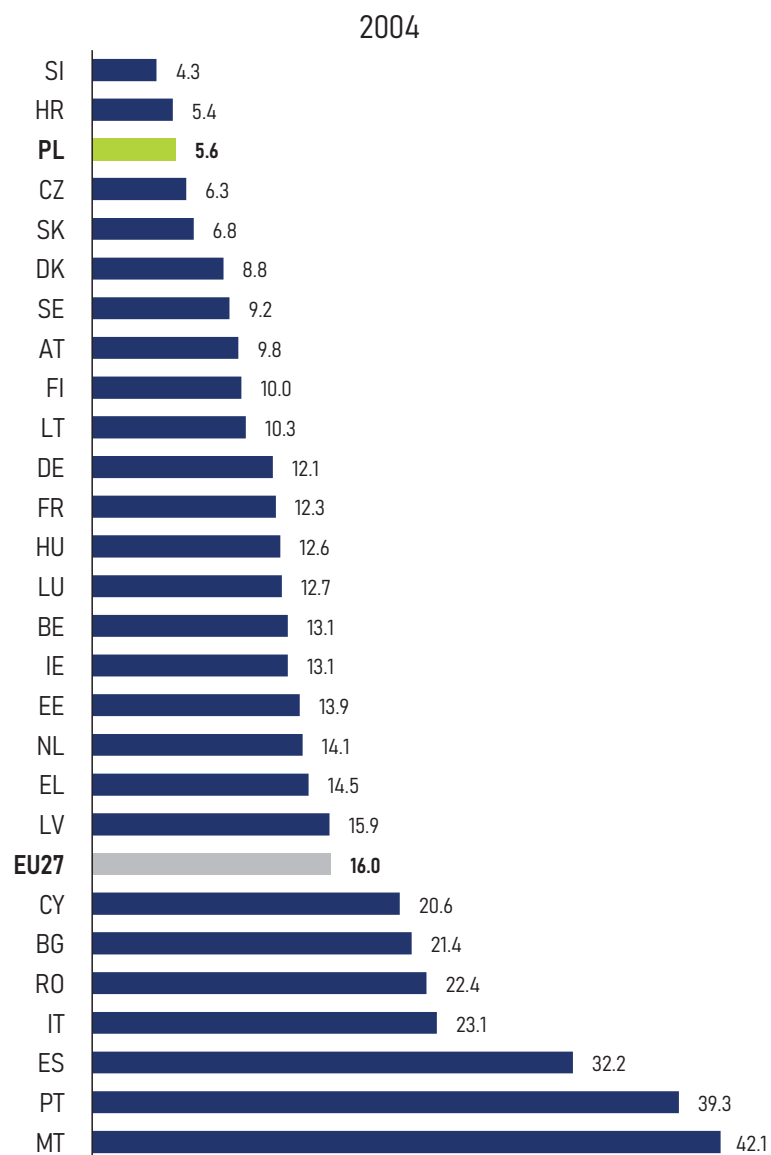
HEALTHY LIFE EXPECTANCY

(in years)



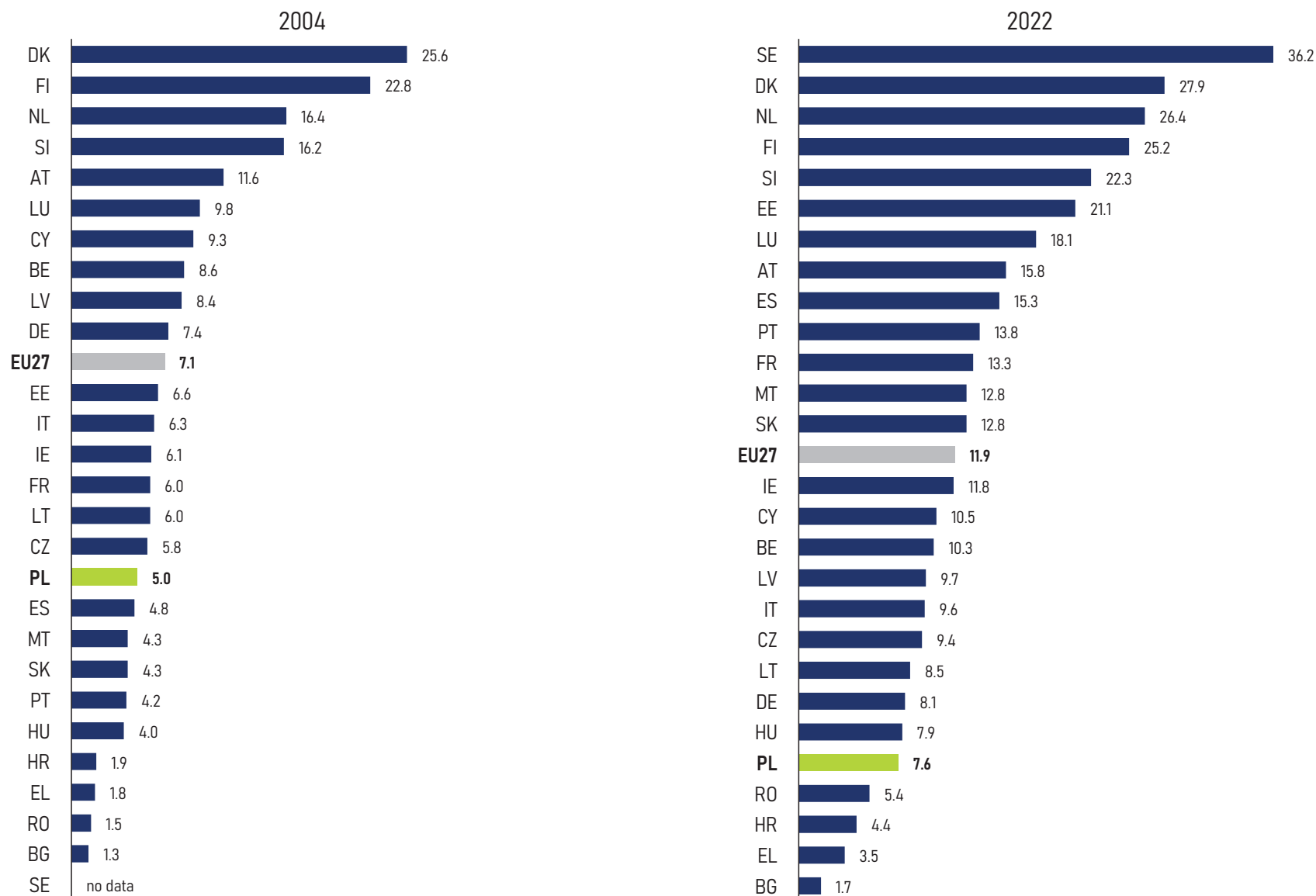
EARLY LEAVERS FROM EDUCATION AND TRAINING

(in % of the population aged 18-24)



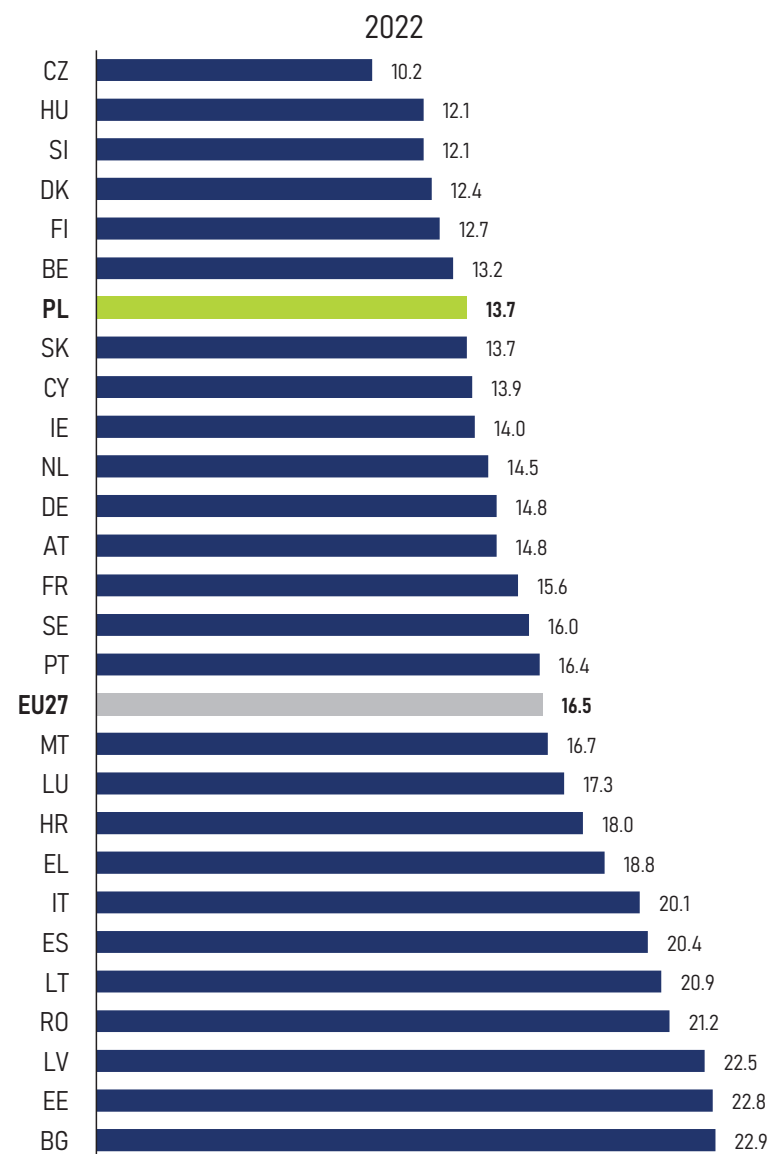
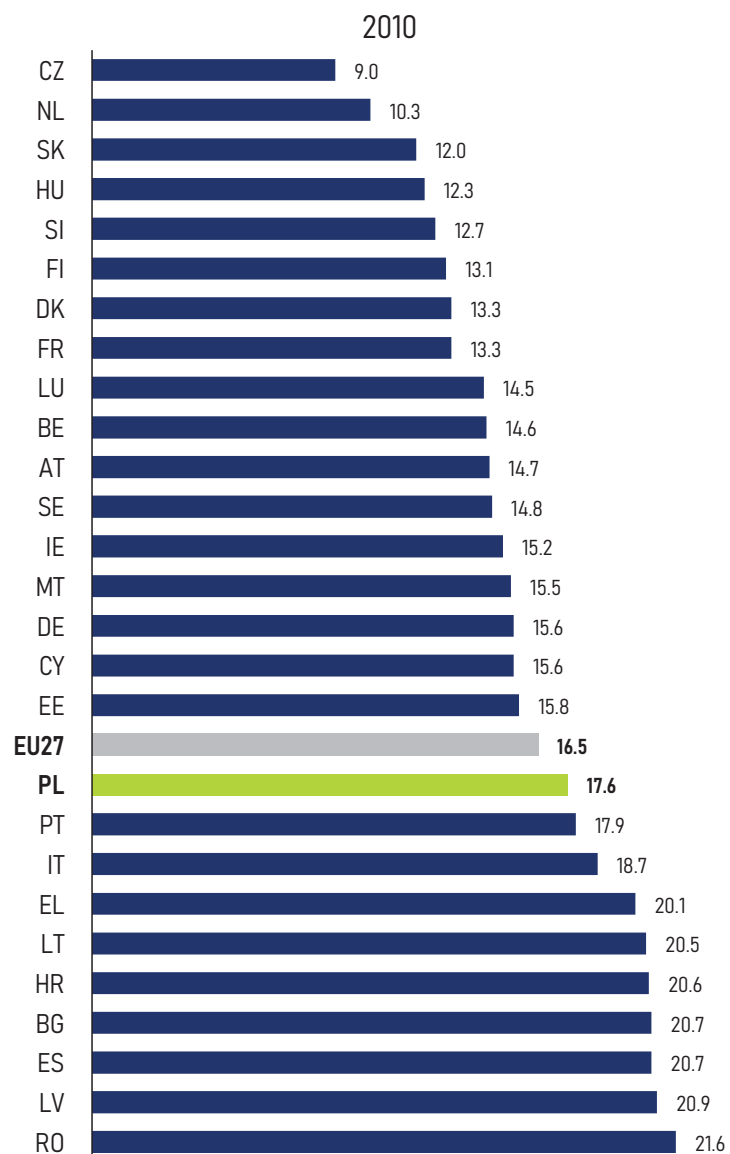
ADULTS PARTICIPATING IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING

(in % of the population aged 25-64)



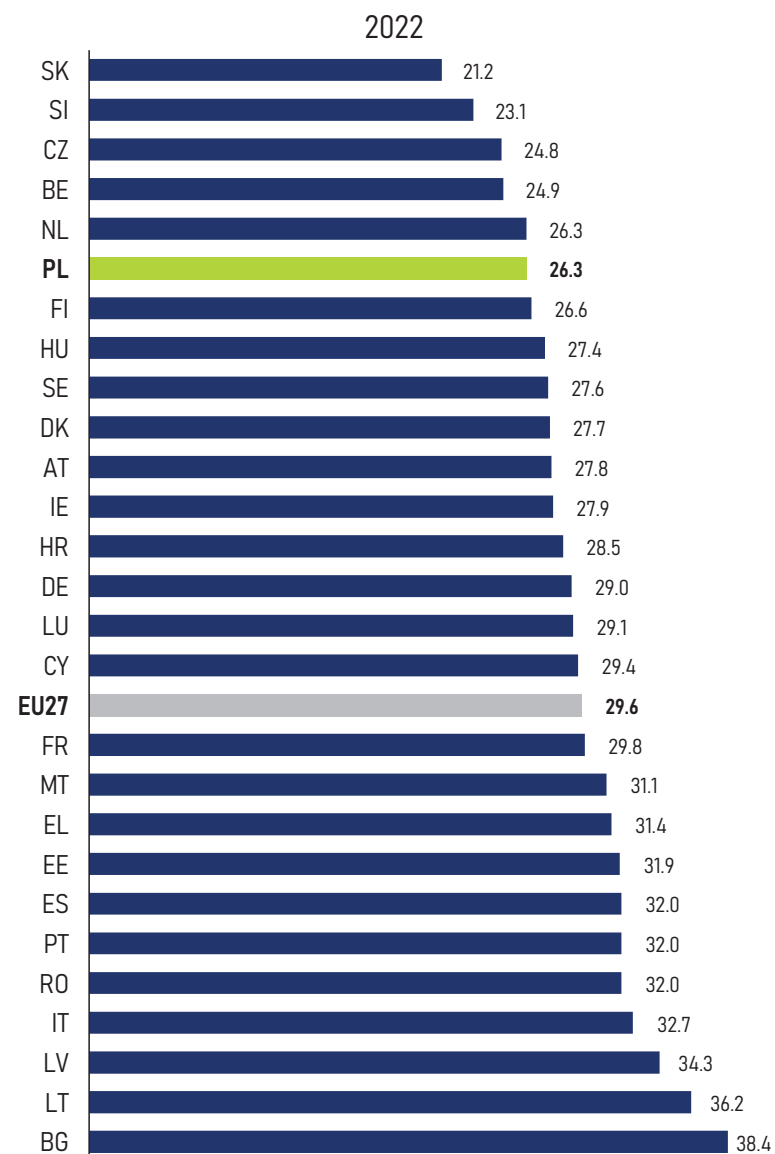
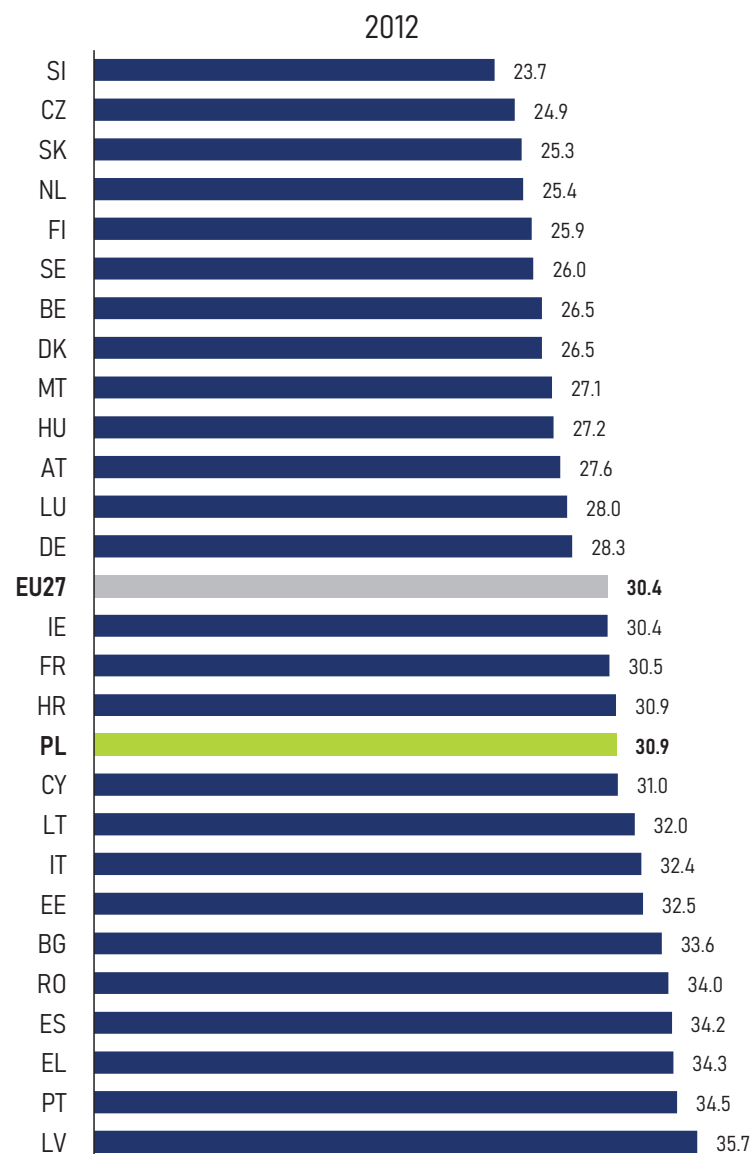
AT-RISK-OF-POVERTY RATE

(after social transfers, in %)



GINI COEFFICIENT

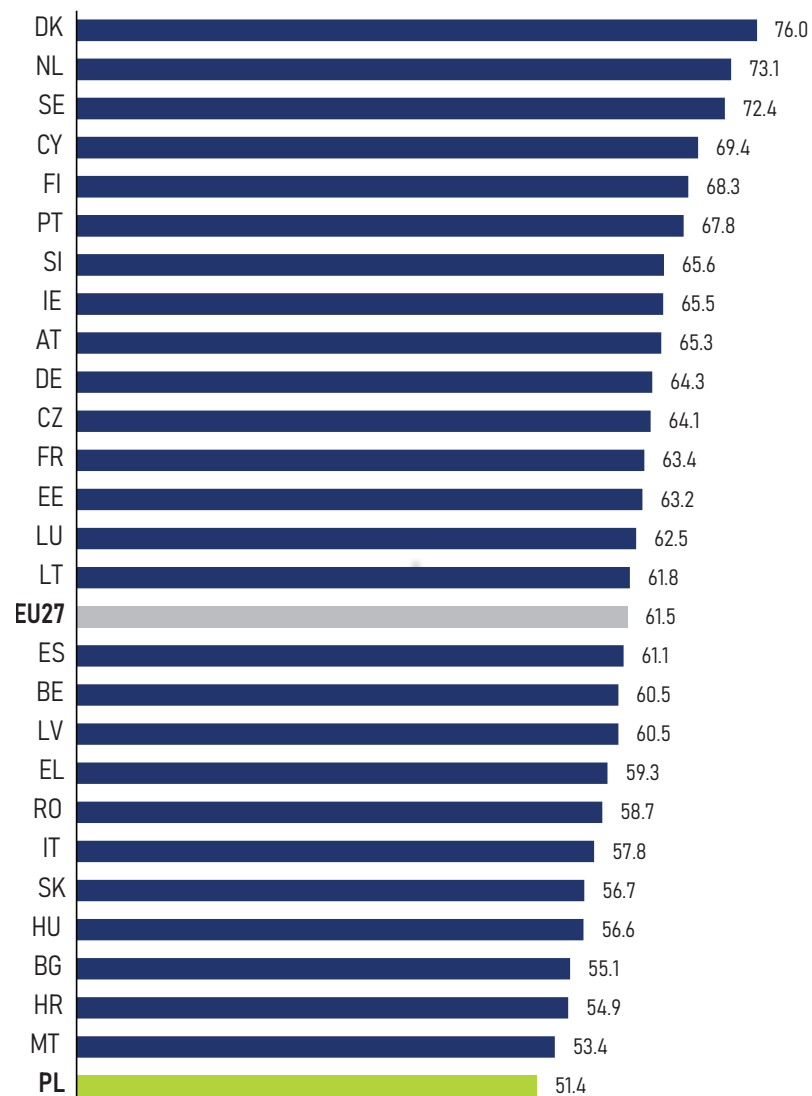
(measure of income distribution inequality ranging between 0 and 100; the greater the income inequalities, the higher the indicator)



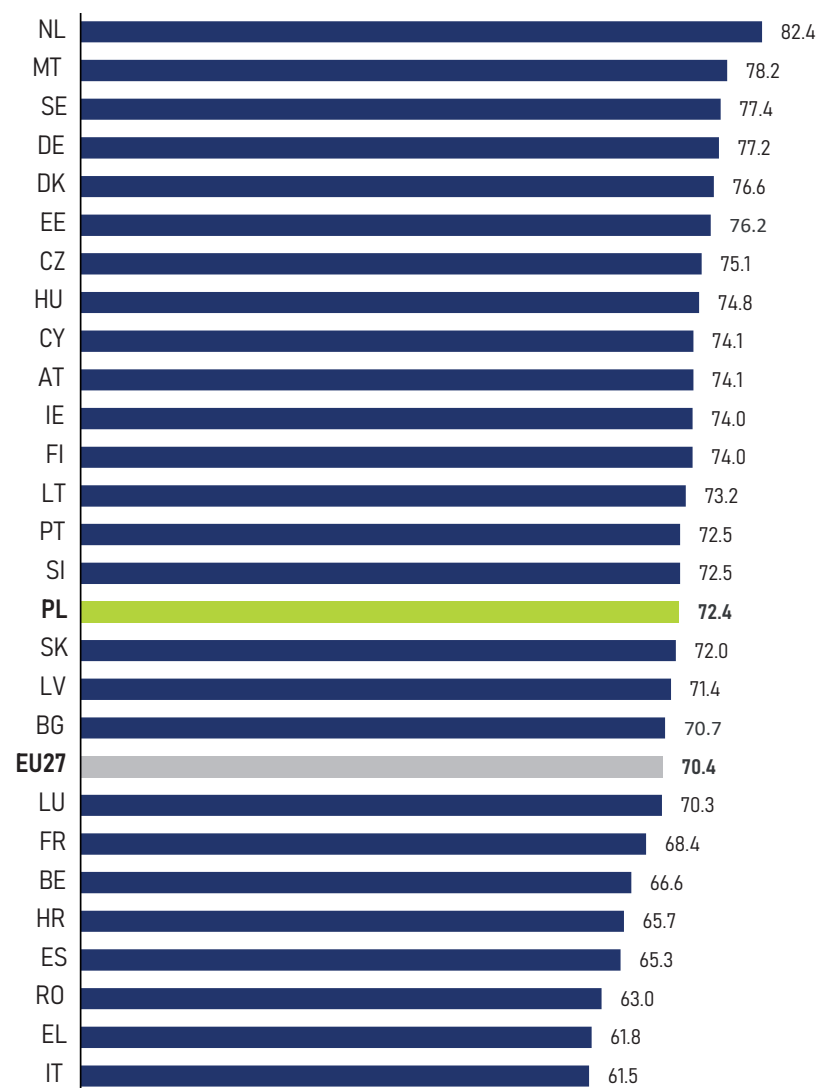
EMPLOYMENT RATE OF PERSONS AGED 15-64

(in %)

2004

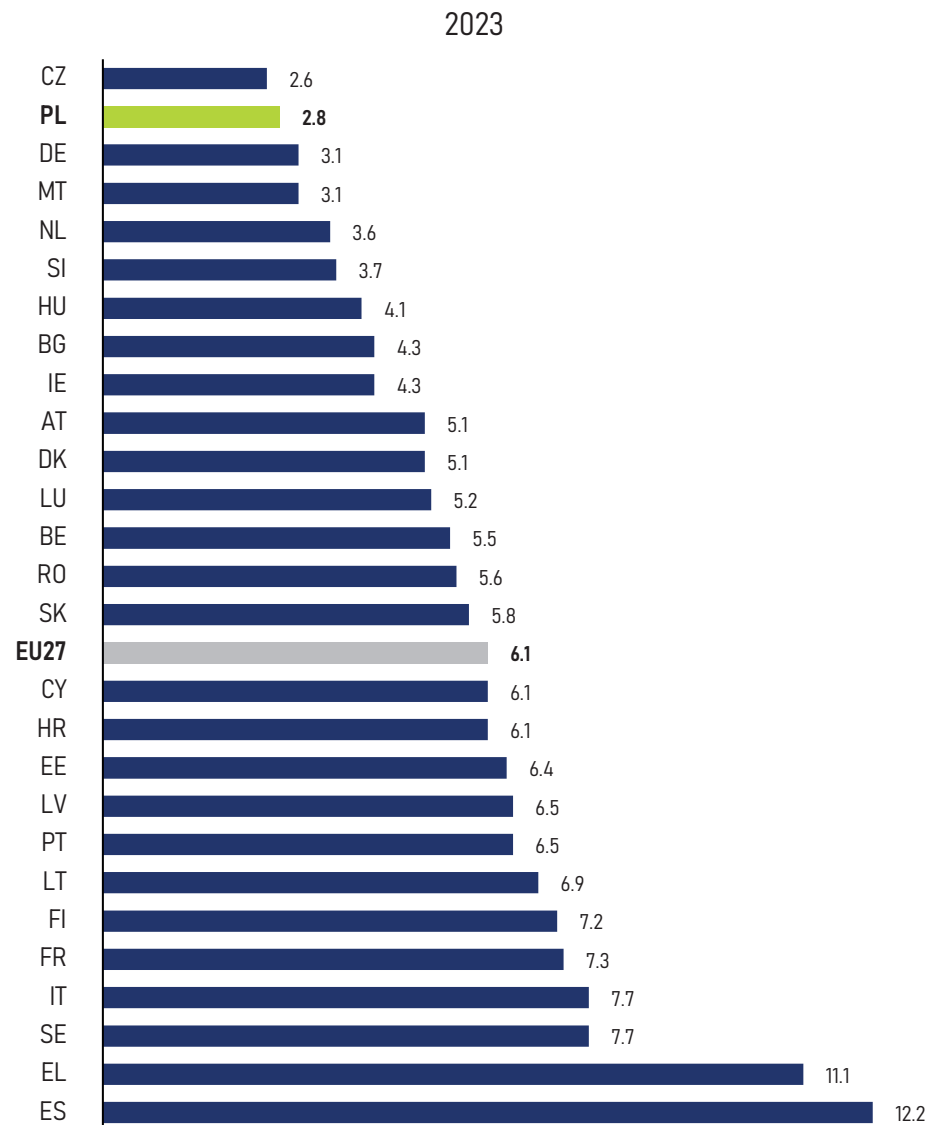
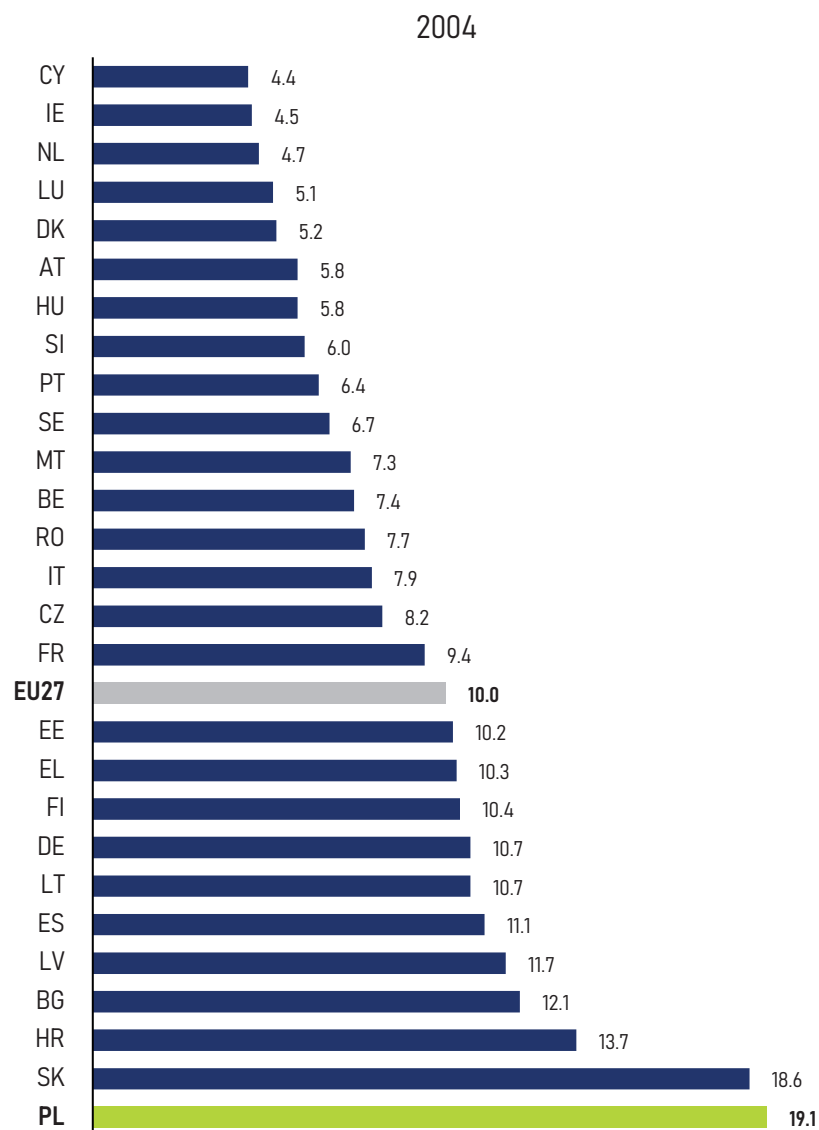


2023



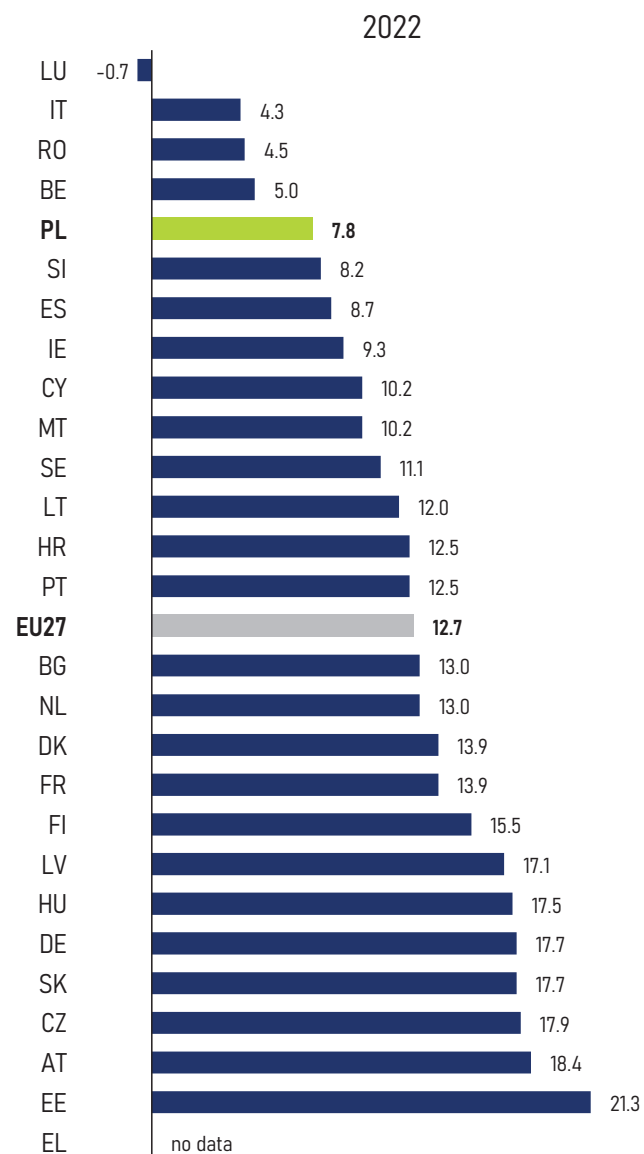
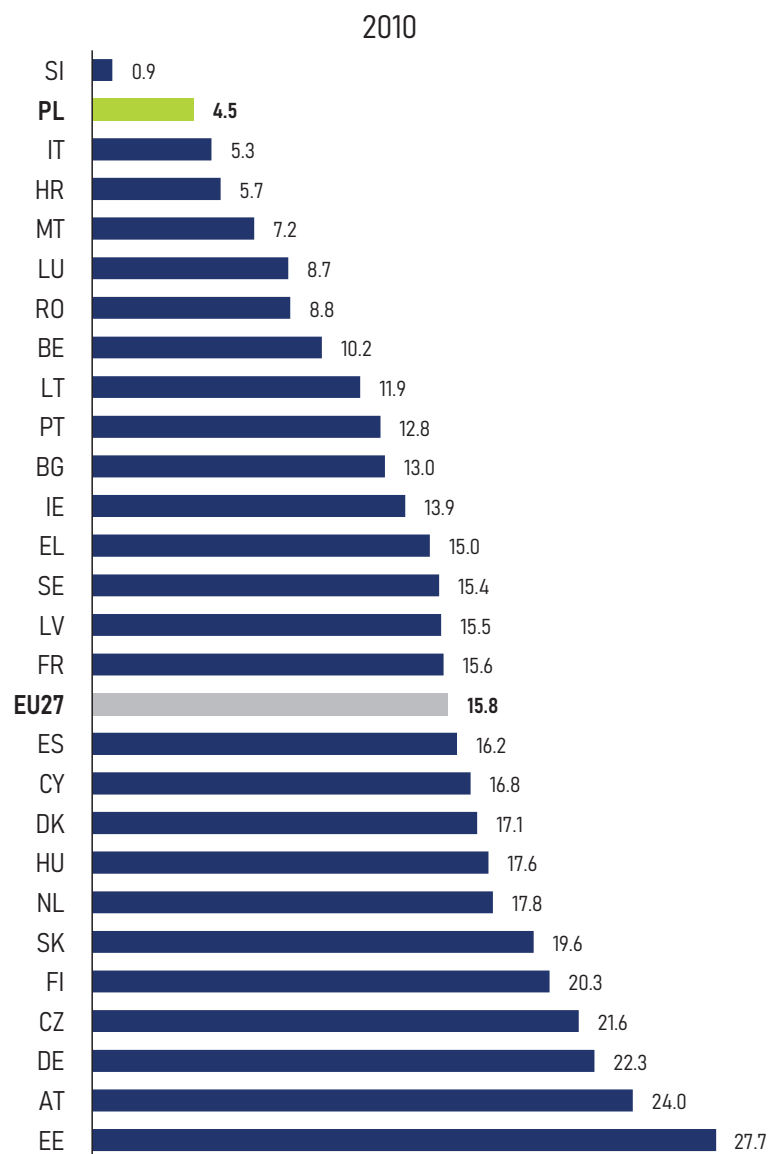
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF PERSONS AGED 15-74

(in %)



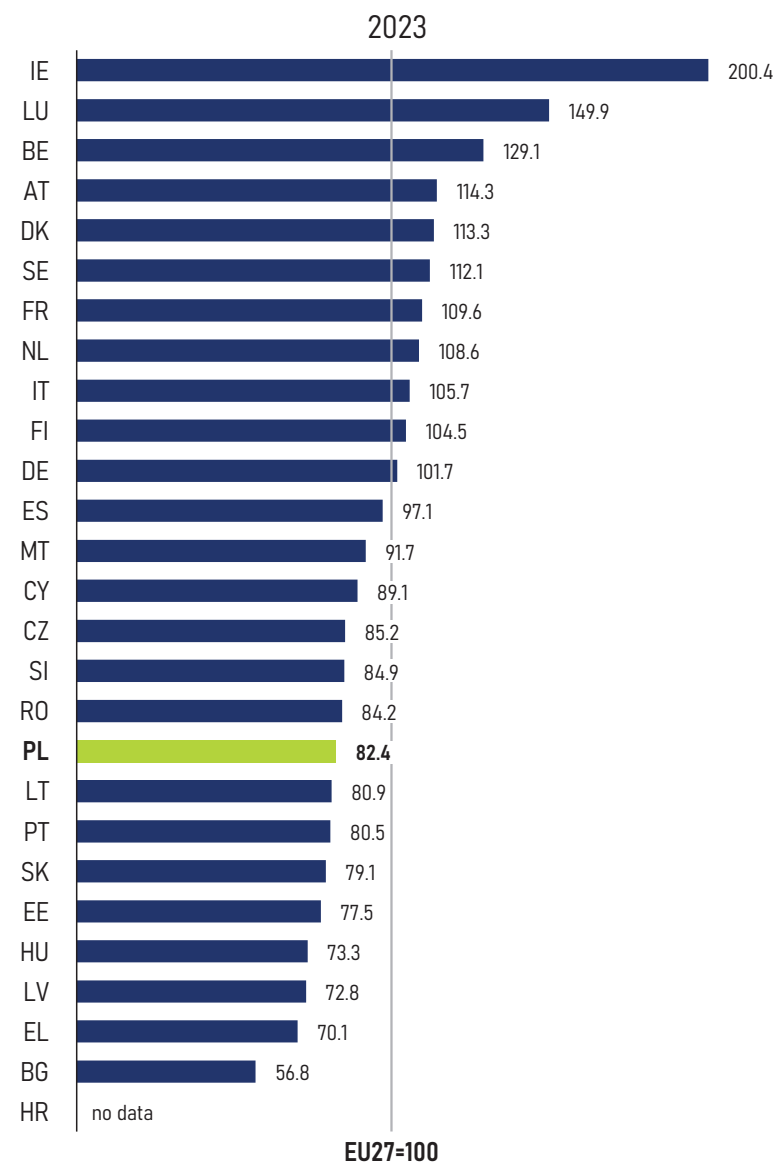
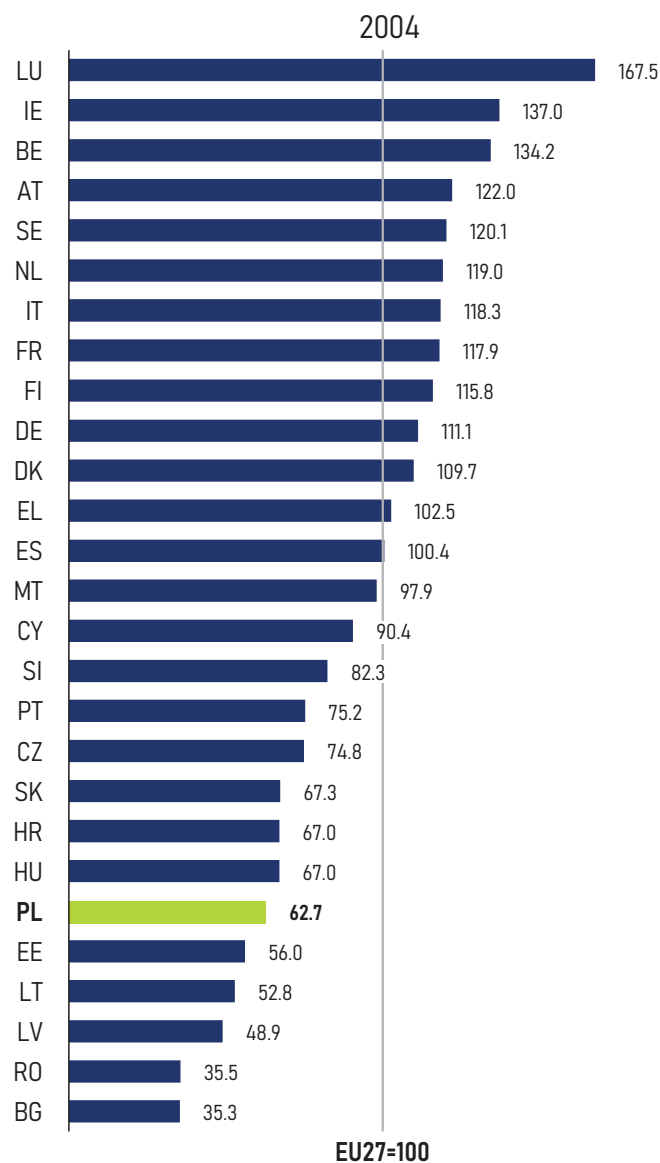
GENDER PAY GAP

(percentage difference in earnings between men and women)



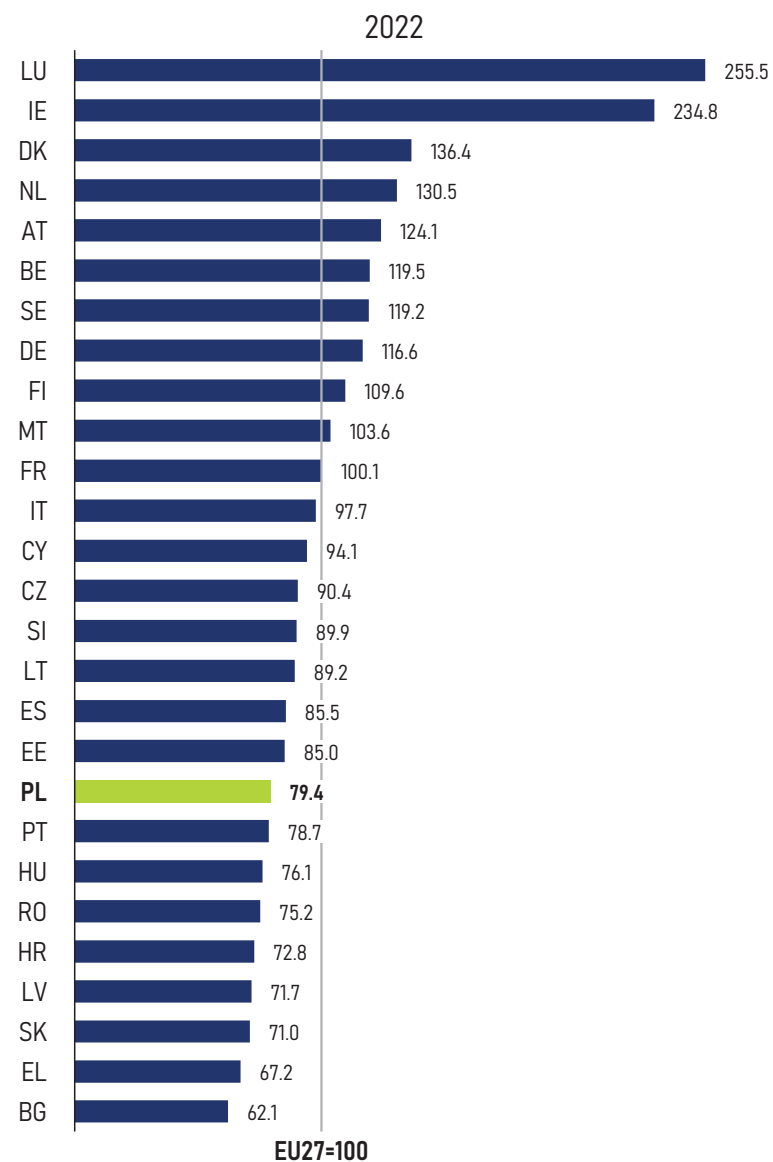
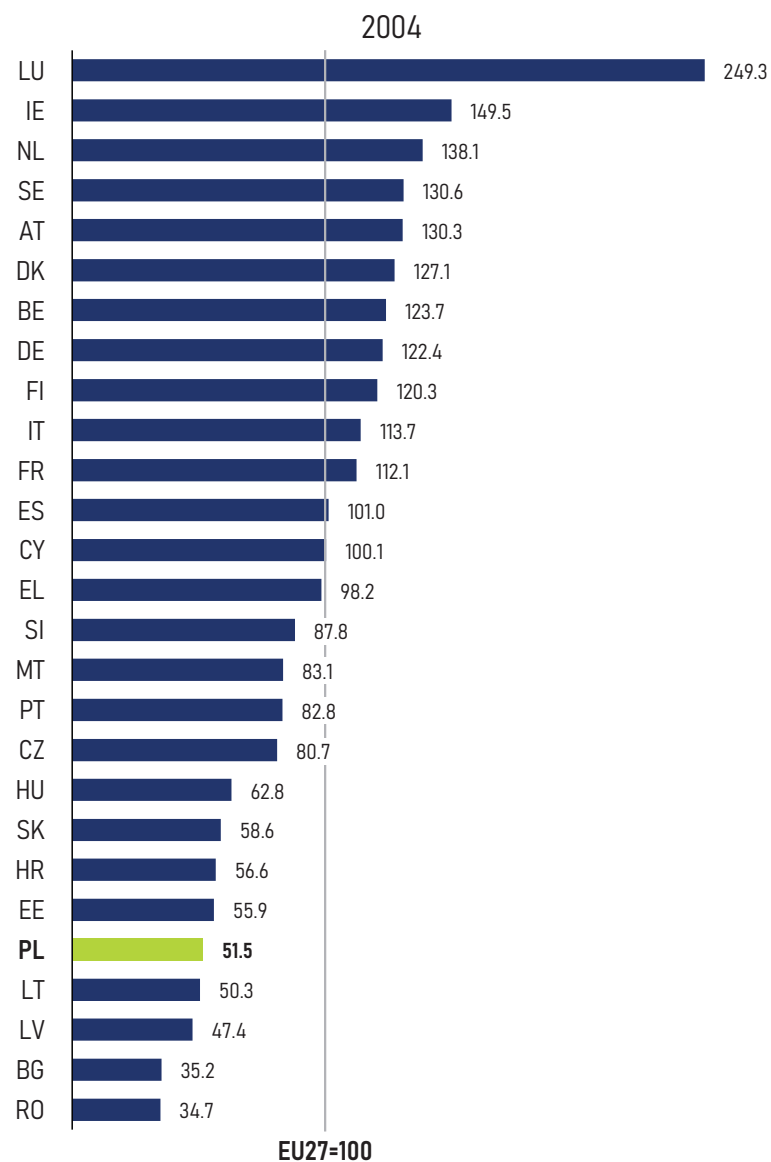
LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY

(GDP per person employed in PPS in relation to the EU average)



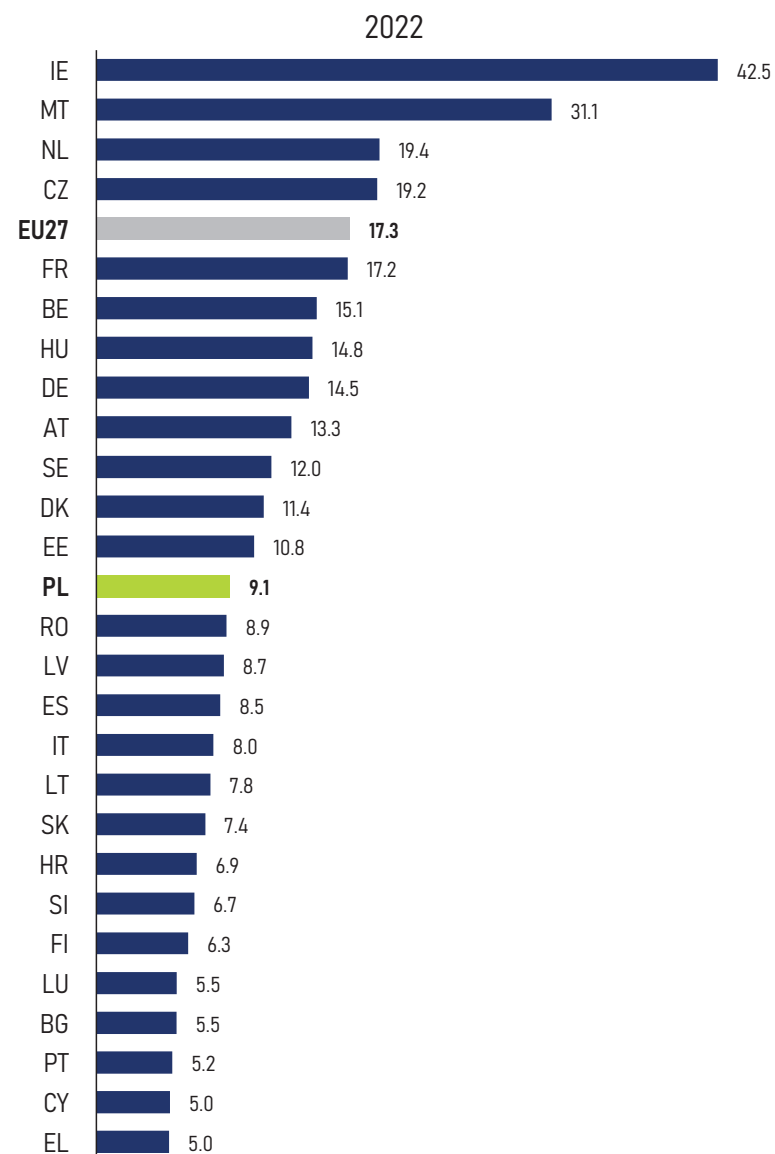
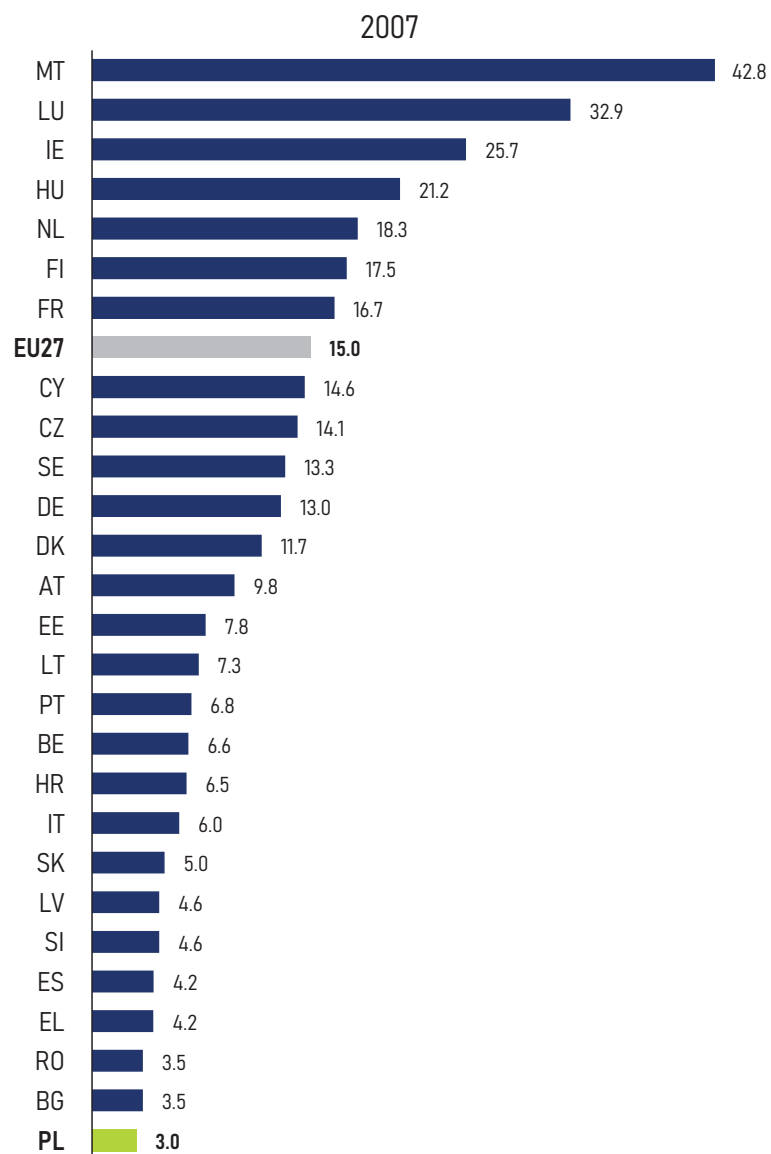
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT PER CAPITA

(in PPS in relation to the EU average)



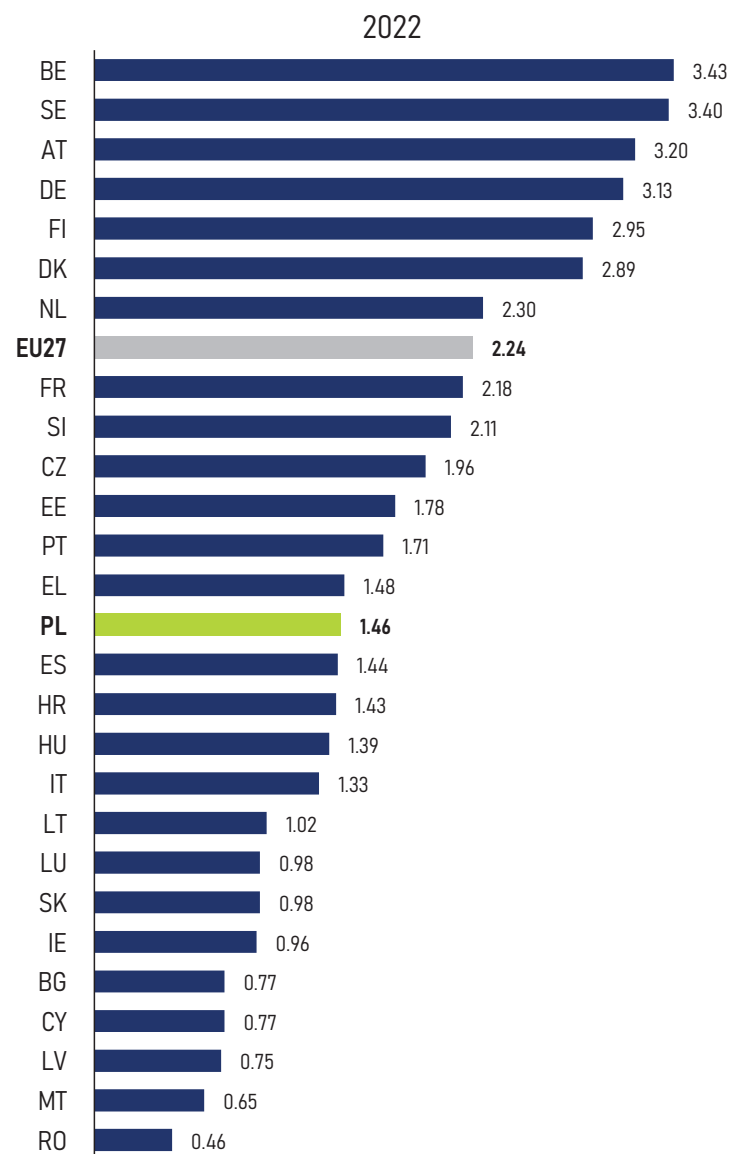
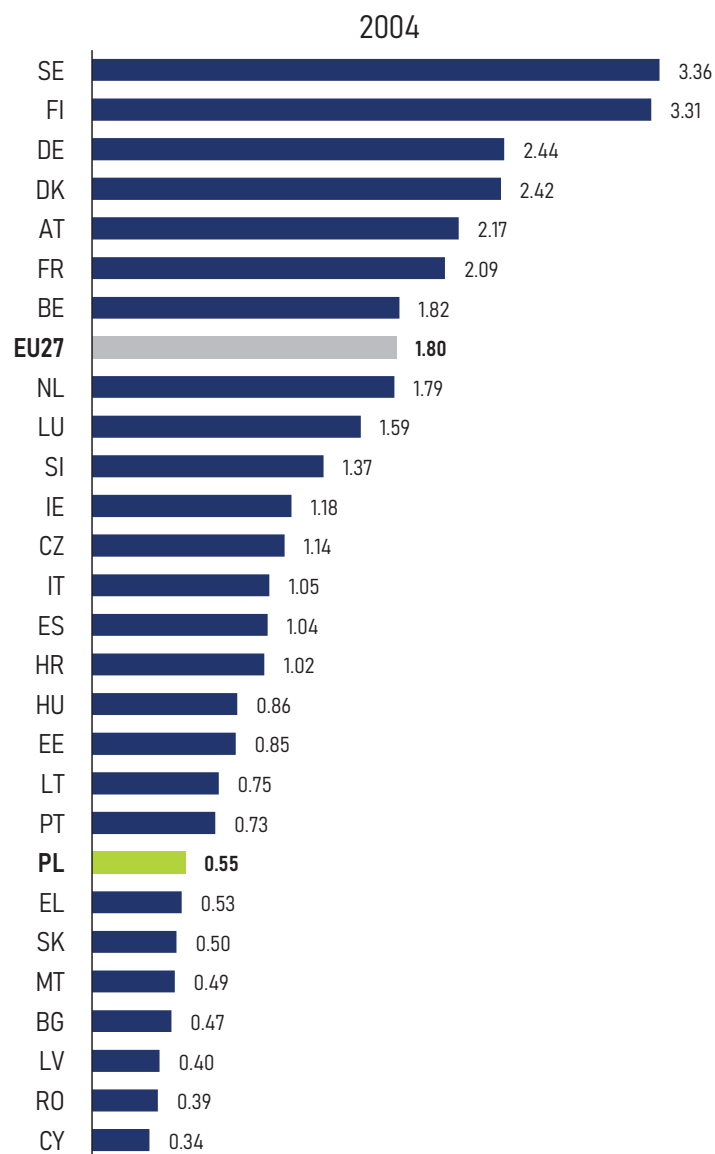
HIGH-TECH PRODUCTS' SHARE IN TOTAL EXPORTS

(in %)



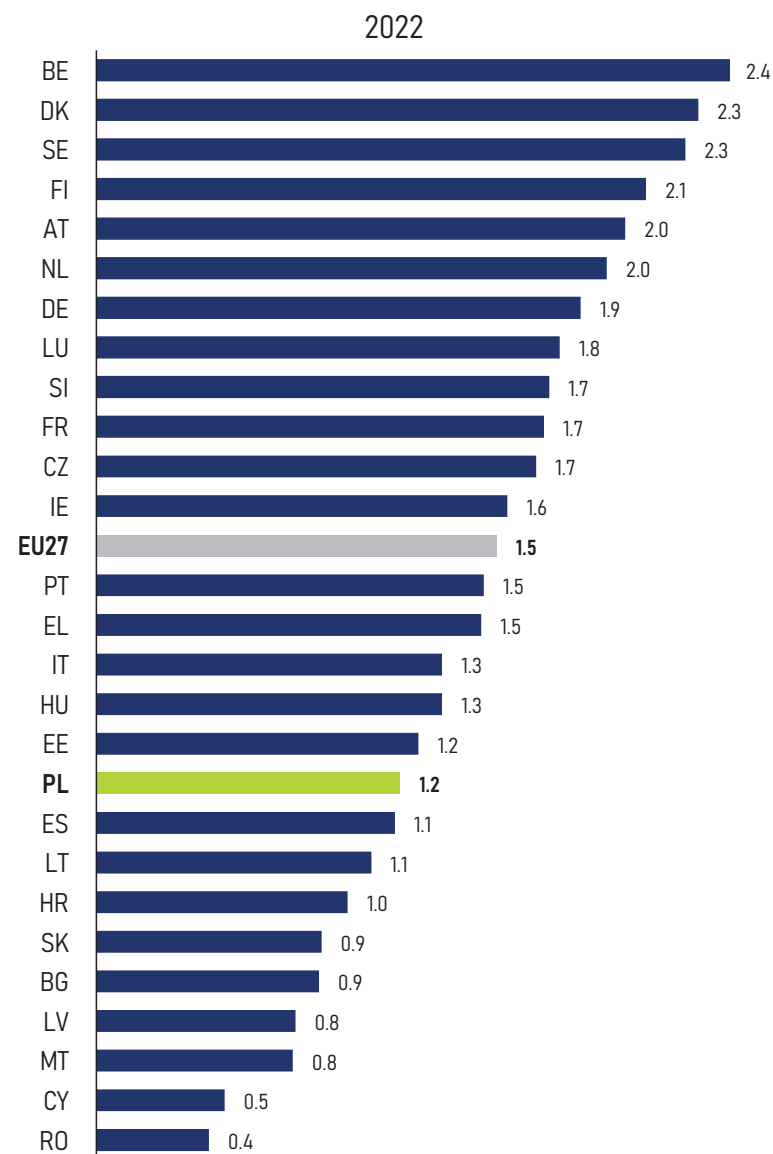
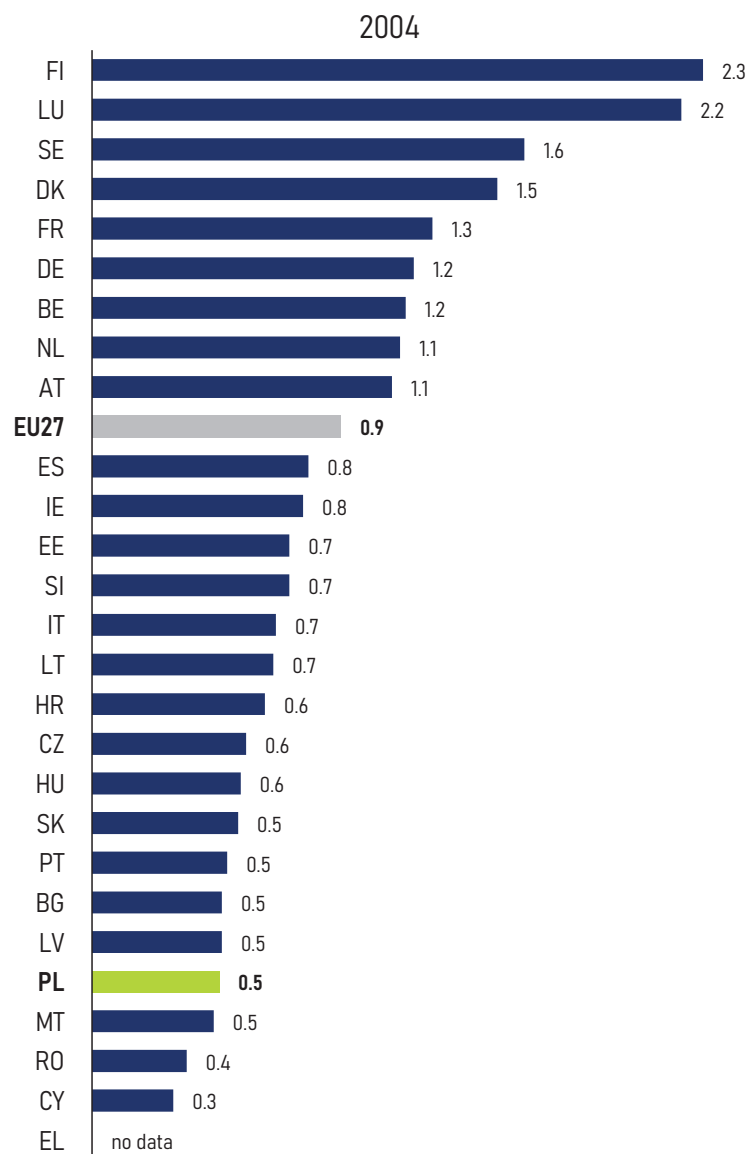
EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

(in % of GDP)



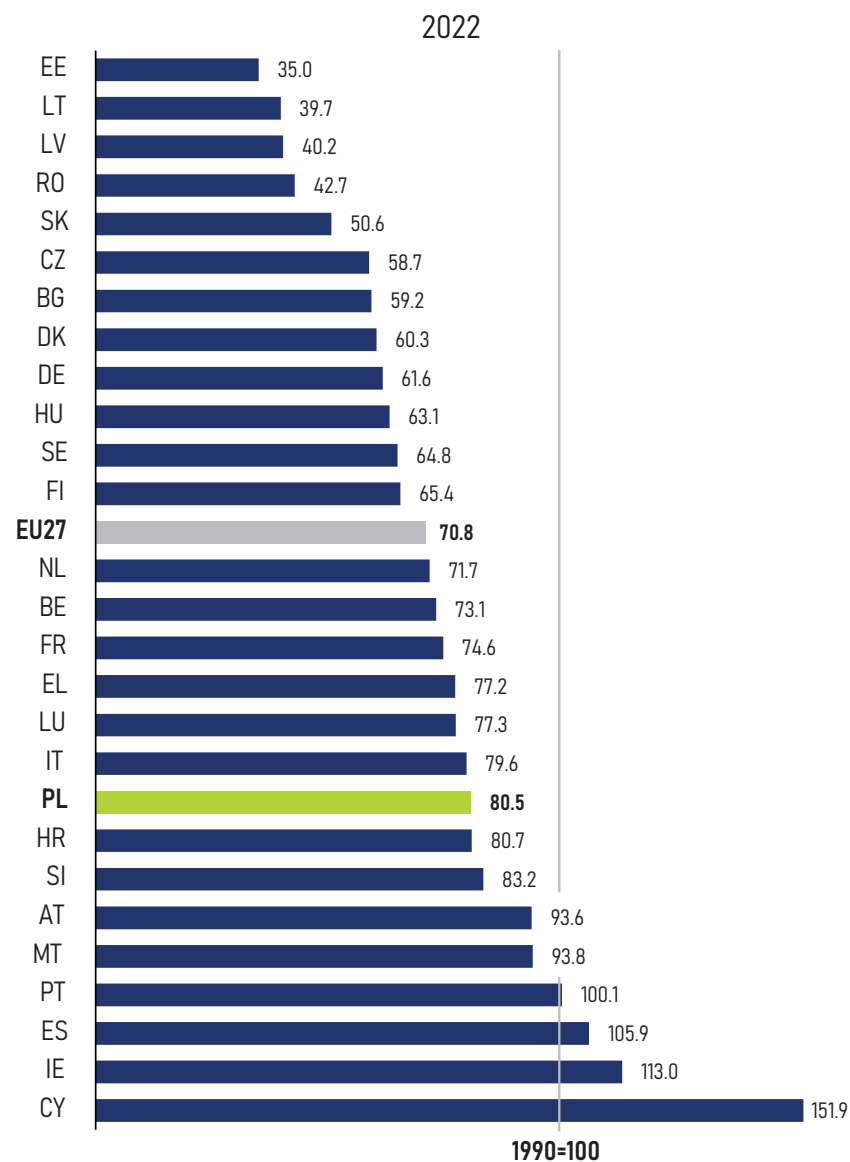
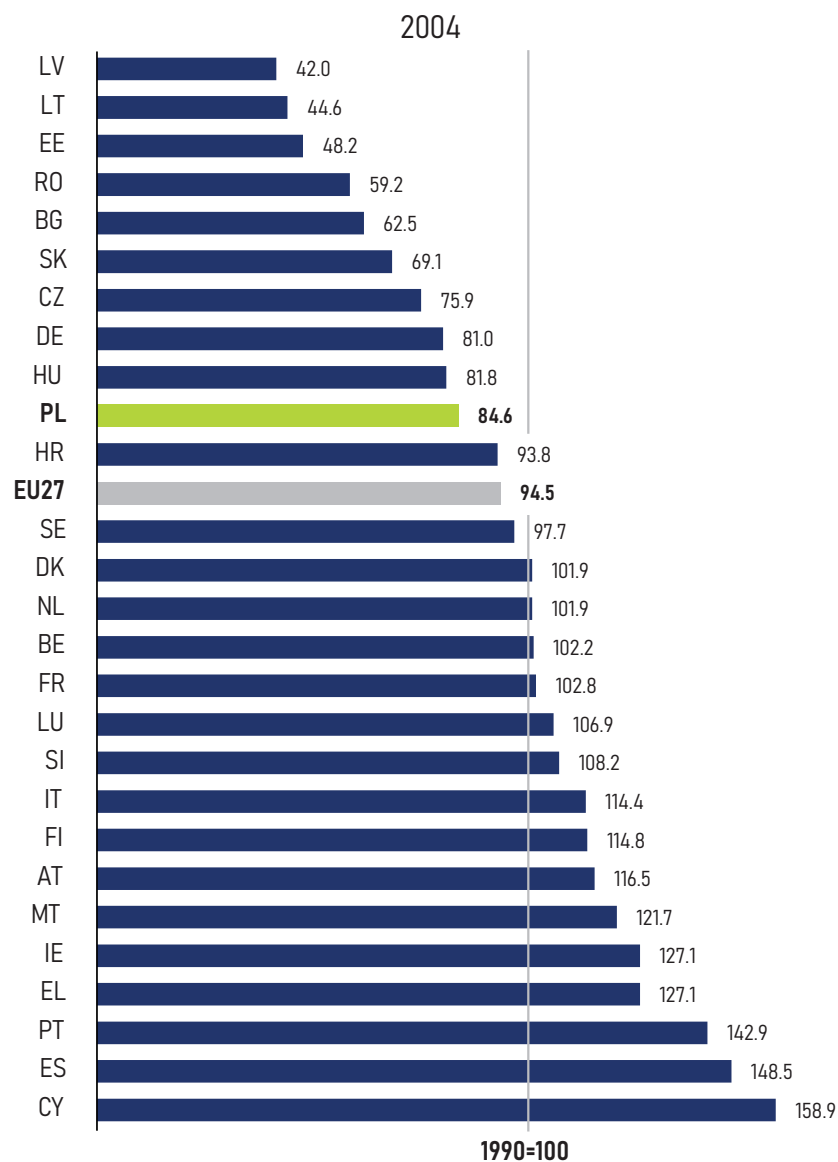
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL

(in % of the economically active population)



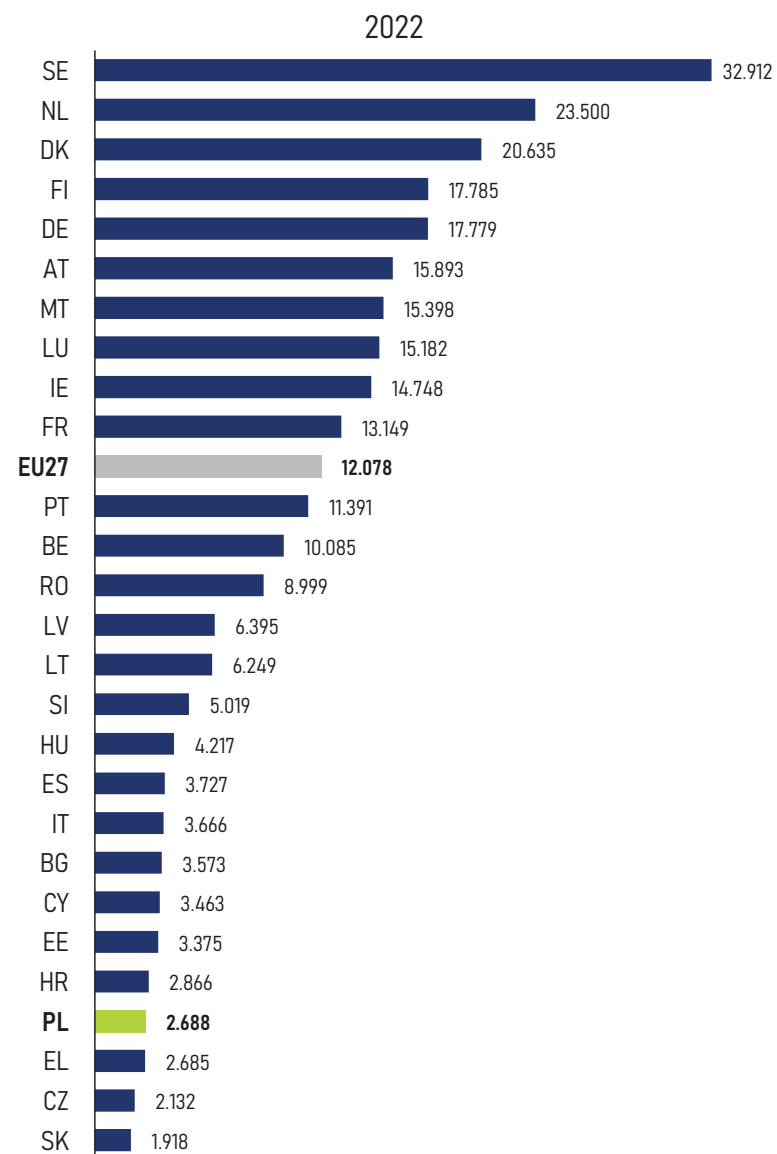
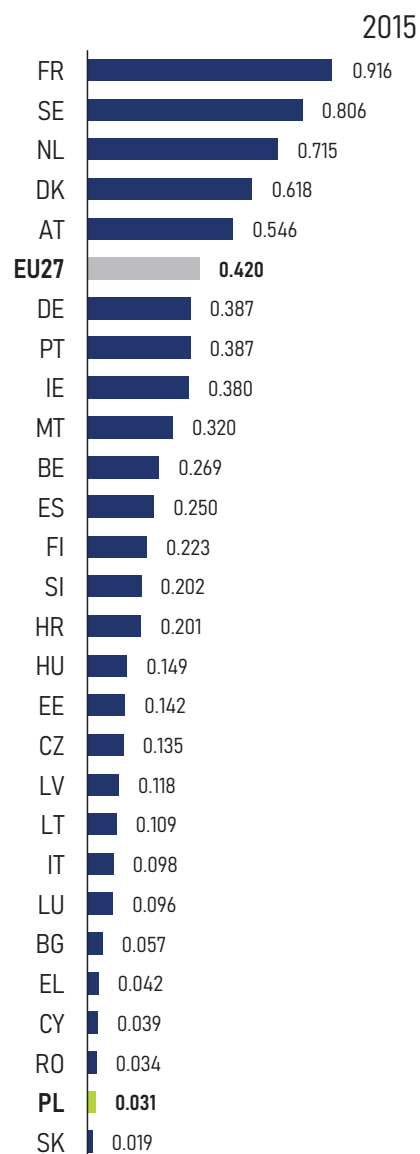
NET GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

(change in relation to the base year 1990)



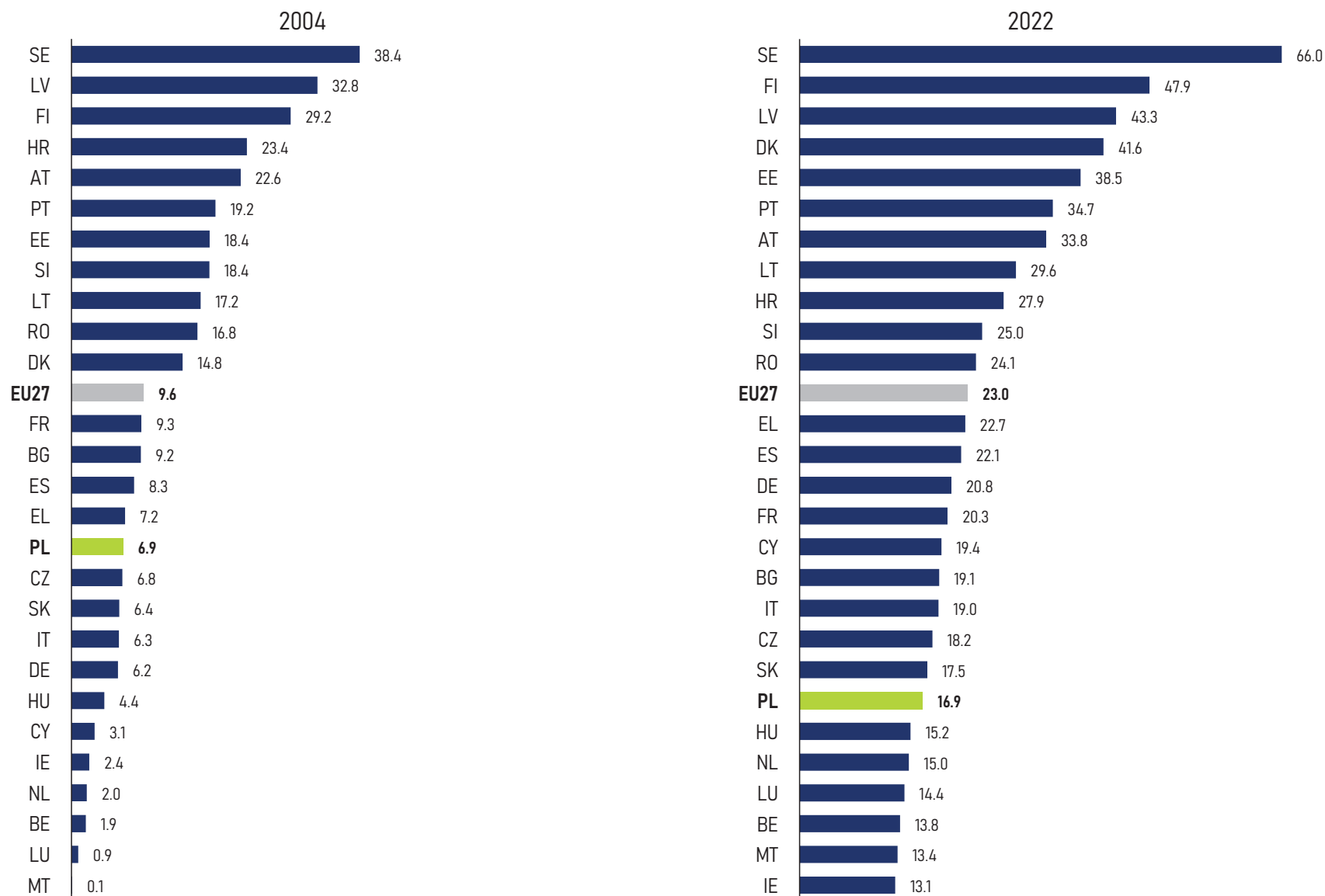
ZERO-EMISSION PASSENGER CARS

(in % of total newly registered passenger cars)



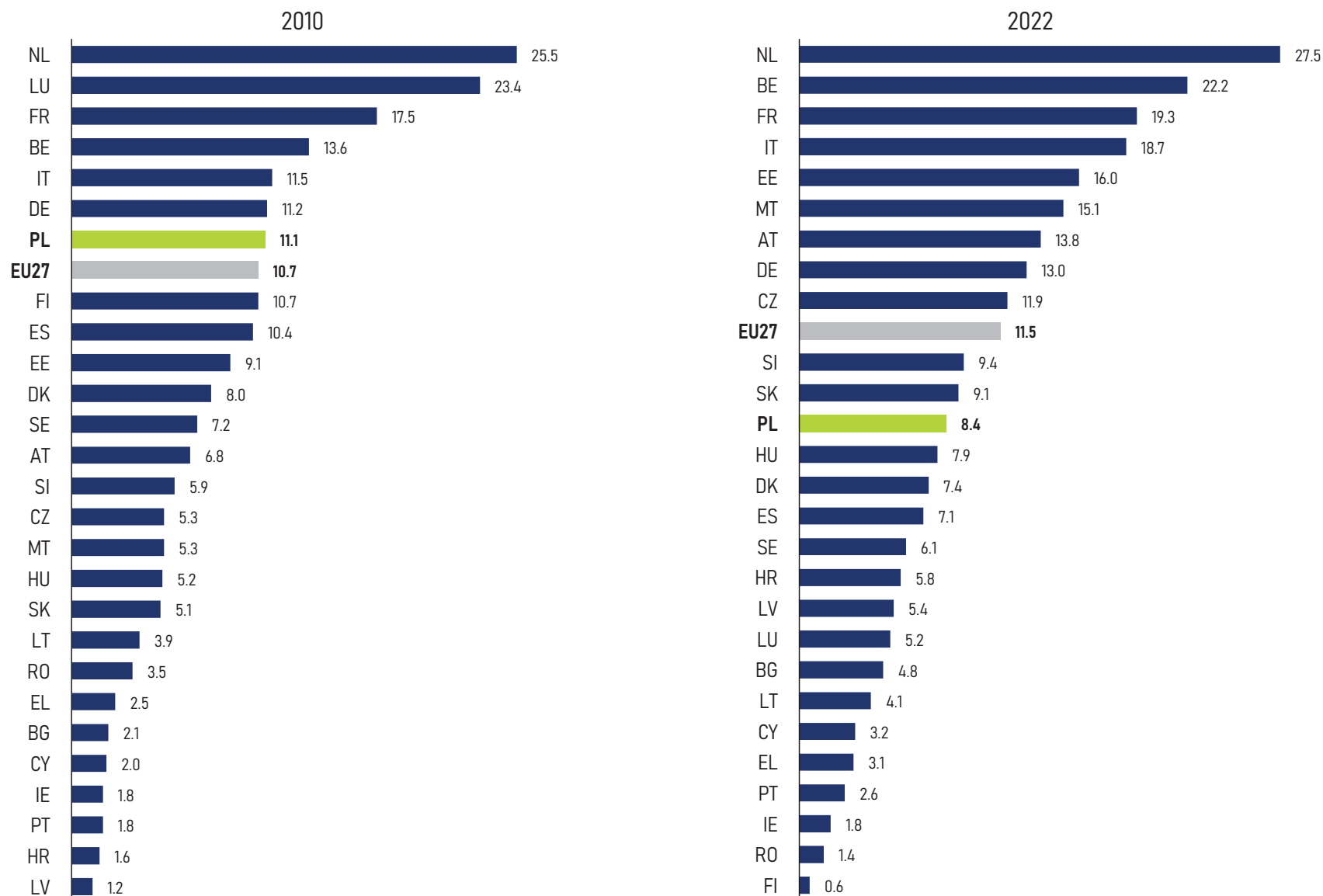
SHARE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN GROSS FINAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION

(in %)



CIRCULAR MATERIAL USE RATE

(share of material recovered and fed back into the economy in overall material use, in %)



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Ministry of Digitisation, Galileo System

<https://www.gov.pl/web/cyfryzacja/usluga-komercyjna-galileo-konsultacje-publiczne#:~:text=System%20Galileo%2C%20to%20unijny%20globalny%20system%20nawigacji%20satelitarnej,%28Initial%20Services%29%20zosta%C5%82y%20uruchomione%2015%20grudnia%202016%20r>

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