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E-Skills Week 2012

Computer skills in the EU27 in figures

The increasing use of computers in the work place has led to computer literacy being a necessity in a large majority of professions. A sound understanding and knowledge of computer applications and programs is becoming more and more important in working life[1].

On the occasion of the e-skills week[2], which will take place from 26-30 March 2012, **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, publishes data on university graduates in computing[3] and computer skills of individuals[4]. The European e-Skills week 2012 is a European campaign focused on raising the interest of young people in ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) as well as showing people how to get jobs and e-skills for life in the digital age.

In the EU27, 3.4% of graduates obtained a degree in computing in 2009

In the **EU27**, the share of computing graduates was 3.4% of all university graduates in 2009, compared with 4.0% in 2005. Among the Member States, the development of the share of computing graduates between 2005 and 2009 has been mixed. The highest increases were registered in **Malta** (1.9% of all graduates in 2005 to 5.6% in 2009) and **Hungary** (2.0% to 3.4%), and the largest decreases in **Portugal** (5.1% to 1.7%) and the **United Kingdom** (5.9% to 4.0%). In 2009, the highest shares of computing graduates were found in **Malta** and **Austria** (both 5.6% of all graduates), **Spain** (5.1%), **Cyprus** (4.7%) and **Estonia** (4.4%).

Share of individuals having used a PC varies between 50% in Romania and 96% in Sweden

In 2011, more than three quarters of those aged 16-74 in the **EU27** had used a computer[5], while this share was 96% amongst those aged 16-24. The highest shares of those aged 16-74 having used a computer were observed in **Sweden** (96%), **Denmark**, **Luxembourg** and the **Netherlands** (all 94%), and the lowest in **Romania** (50%), **Bulgaria** (55%) and **Greece** (59%). In most Member States the share of young people who had used a computer was above 95%.

A fifth of those aged 16-24 in the EU27 have written a computer program

In 2011, almost two thirds of individuals aged 16-74 in the **EU27** reported having moved or copied files or folders on a computer, compared with 89% for those aged 16-24. Of those aged 16-74, 43% stated they had used basic arithmetic formulas in a spreadsheet[6], while this share was 67% among the younger age group. Three out of ten individuals aged 16-74 had created an electronic presentation[6], compared with six out of ten individuals aged 16-24. The share of individuals in the **EU27** having written a computer program[6] was 10% amongst those aged 16-74 and 20% amongst the younger age group.

Computing graduates & computer use

	Computing graduates*, % of all tertiary graduates		Persons who have ever used a computer, % of all individuals, 2011	
	2005	2009	Aged 16-74	Aged 16-24
EU27	**4.0**	**3.4**	**78**	**96**
Belgium	3.8	1.9	85	99
Bulgaria	2.2	2.0	55	87
Czech Republic	3.6	4.2	78	97
Denmark	3.8	3.3	94	99
Germany	4.1	3.6	89	99
Estonia	5.1	4.4	80	99
Ireland	2.9	3.8	81	98
Greece	5.2	4.2**	59	97
Spain	6.5	5.1	74	98
France	4.3	4.0	85	93
Italy	1.1	1.3**	61	90
Cyprus	6.2	4.7	62	96
Latvia	3.0	3.0	74	99
Lithuania	2.7	2.4	68	99
Luxembourg	:	:	94	100
Hungary	2.0	3.4	74	98
Malta	1.9	5.6	72	98
Netherlands	3.9	3.7	94	100
Austria	4.8	5.6	85	100
Poland	3.8	3.2	70	99
Portugal	5.1	1.7	64	98
Romania	:	0.9	50	81
Slovenia	1.5	2.0	76	99
Slovakia	3.5	2.9	83	99
Finland	4.6	3.0	93	100
Sweden	3.9	2.9	96	100
United Kingdom	5.9	4.0	91	100
Iceland	3.7	2.6	97	100
Norway	5.8	4.0	96	100
Switzerland	4.7	3.5	:	:
Croatia	2.4	4.0	:	:
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	1.2	8.1	:	:
Turkey	3.2	3.0	:	:

: Data not available
* First and second stage of tertiary education (International Standard Classification of Education levels 5 and 6).
** Data for Greece: 2008 instead of 2009; data for Italy for 2009 refer to ISCED level 5 only.

Computer skills of individuals, 2011
% all individuals

	Copied or moved a file or folder		Used basic arithmetic formulas in a spreadsheet		Created electronic presentations		Written a computer program	
	Aged 16-74	Aged 16-24	Aged 16-74	Aged 16-24	Aged 16-74	Aged 16-24	Aged 16-74	Aged 16-24
EU27	**63**	**89**	**43**	**67**	**31**	**59**	**10**	**20**
Belgium	68	92	46	67	35	70	11	20
Bulgaria	41	76	22	47	6	18	2	5
Czech Republic	60	89	43	74	18	42	5	11
Denmark	79	95	67	88	50	88	11	19
Germany	72	94	44	60	33	67	9	18
Estonia	59	91	47	75	25	48	9	21
Ireland	60	82	44	54	21	36	9	(13)
Greece	47	88	34	65	23	55	8	17
Spain	58	84	41	66	33	66	12	27
France	67	85	49	74	38	63	11	17
Italy	54	85	35	61	23	50	9	18
Cyprus	53	92	41	77	29	65	6	12
Latvia	61	97	46	87	32	75	7	18
Lithuania	57	97	42	82	29	68	8	20
Luxembourg	80	96	62	73	50	75	16	(21)
Hungary	63	92	48	81	20	45	11	25
Malta	59	93	44	74	30	63	8	(21)
Netherlands	81	95	54	63	55	89	9	12
Austria	75	99	56	87	43	84	13	30
Poland	52	94	33	70	16	47	6	16
Portugal	57	96	42	78	32	78	7	18
Romania	38	72	20	46	8	18	6	16
Slovenia	61	97	48	85	36	85	6	(16)
Slovakia	70	95	52	77	23	54	6	13
Finland	77	95	61	76	52	84	26	37
Sweden	73	88	61	67	51	72	24	34
United Kingdom	72	94	51	72	36	61	13	25
Iceland	82	94	73	86	55	88	15	20
Norway	68	89	67	85	61	86	18	(20)

( ) Data with reduced reliability due to small number of respondents.

1. For more information, see the "Digital Agenda Scoreboard 2011"of the Directorate General Information Society of the European Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda/scoreboard/index_en.htm and the pillar "Digital Competence in the Digital Agenda": http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda/scoreboard/docs/pillar/digitalliteracy.pdf
2. More information on the e-skills week campaign can be found here: http://eskills-week.ec.europa.eu/
3. **Computing**: Computer sciences: system design, computer programming, data processing, networks, operating systems and software development (hardware development is classified in engineering).
4. Data on computer skills come from the surveys on ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) usage in households and by individuals. The survey covered households with at least one person aged 16-74, and individuals aged 16-74. Further information can be found in the dedicated section on the Eurostat website: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/information_society/introduction
5. A **computer** is defined as a multi purpose machine, powered by one of the major operating systems, e.g. MacOS, Linux, Windows. Devices considered as personal computers in the survey include desktops, laptops, netbooks and tablets; smart phones are excluded.
6. **Used basic arithmetic formulas in a spreadsheet** means e.g. to add, subtract, multiply or divide figures in an Excel sheet. **Created electronic presentations** with presentation software (e.g. slides), including e.g. images, sound, video or charts, could be PowerPoint slides, but also photo presentations in form of books etc. for which use of specific software installed, downloaded or directly used via the internet would be required. **Written a computer program** using a specialised programming language refers to the use of high-level computer languages.

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