

Statistics in focus

POPULATION AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

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Labour market

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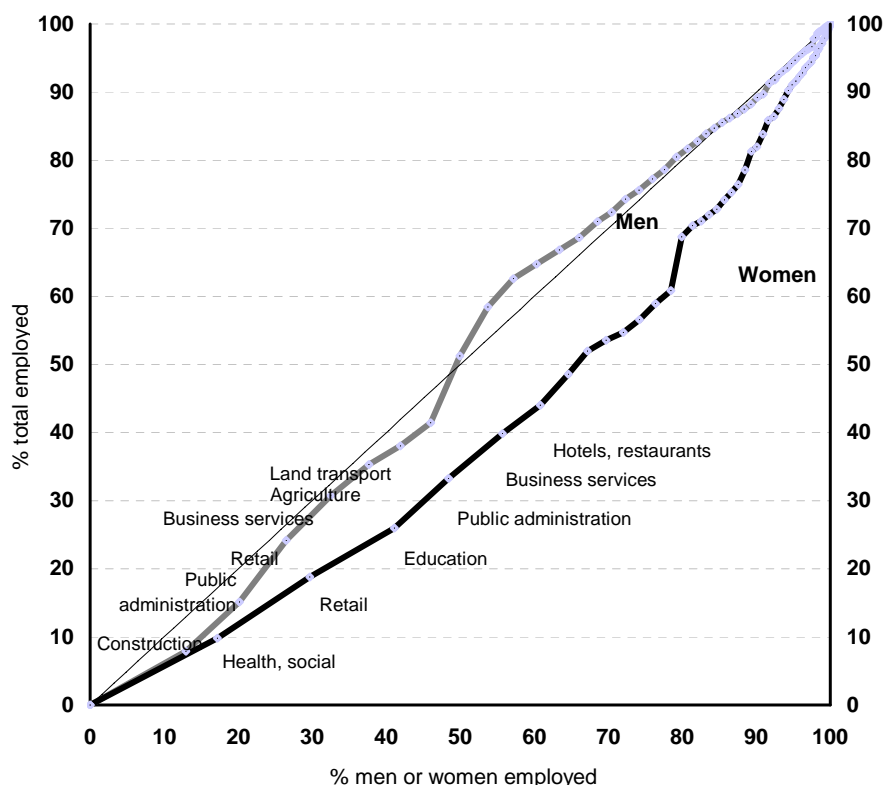
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The concentration of men and women in sectors of activity

There have been continuous attempts in the EU over many years to ensure equality of opportunity in employment between men and women. These have focused in part on changing the attitudes as well as the practices which result in men and women doing different kinds of job. The latest evidence from the EU Labour Force Survey, examined below, shows not only that women remain more concentrated in a few sectors of activity than men but that this concentration seems to be increasing rather than falling. The evidence, in addition, shows that the degree of employment concentration in a limited number of occupations is also much higher among women than among men.

Figure 1: Concentration of women and men in employment by NACE 2-digit sector in the EU25, 2005



Guide to Figure 1: the figure indicates the extent to which women and men in employment are concentrated in a few sectors of activity in the EU. It shows on the horizontal axis the cumulative share of women and of men employed in each of the 62 NACE 2-digit sectors, ranked according to the relative number of women or men employed in them, and on the vertical axis, the share of the total employed working in each sector. If the share of women and men employed in each sector was the same, then the curves would lie on the 45 degree line in both cases. The more the curve diverges from the 45 degree line, the more women and men are concentrated in different sectors.



Table 1: Distribution of employment in the main NACE-2 digit sectors, 2005*% women employed*

WOMEN	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU
Health&Social work (85)	22.1	8.6	12.6	32.1	18.5	9.0	18.9	8.5	10.9	20.5	11.3	7.4	10.1	12.2	16.3	11.4
Retail trade (52)	11.4	13.1	11.6	8.8	12.9	13.0	13.5	15.0	14.3	10.0	11.3	13.2	16.4	13.8	9.3	14.7
Education (80)	14.3	11.6	10.9	8.9	8.6	15.4	10.7	11.3	9.6	10.1	13.2	11.2	13.9	15.6	9.9	14.1
Public administration (75)	10.1	6.1	7.4	6.9	7.7	5.5	6.0	6.6	6.0	10.0	5.5	5.1	6.8	4.4	11.1	8.1
Business activities (74)	6.5	3.1	4.4	5.5	8.2	3.1	7.4	7.2	8.9	6.3	10.3	6.9	2.3	2.3	8.2	5.5
Hotels&restaurants (55)	3.9	6.5	4.9	2.9	4.6	5.5	8.0	8.1	9.4	3.3	6.2	10.7	4.1	3.4	4.3	4.9
Agriculture (01)	1.4	7.1	2.6	1.8	1.6	3.5	1.3	13.8	3.3	2.5	2.9	3.2	7.9	11.8	1.6	2.5
Wholesale trade (51)	2.6	2.3	3.2	2.9	2.6	1.5	1.9	2.9	2.5	3.1	3.1	3.2	2.2	2.7	2.3	2.3
Other service activities (93)	1.9	0.9	2.0	1.2	3.8	2.3	2.8	2.4	2.6	1.7	4.2	3.2	2.0	2.1	1.6	2.3
Private households (95)	1.0	0.3	0.1	0.3	1.0	0.1	0.8	3.9	8.2	4.7	3.1	9.2	0.3	0.4	4.9	0.1
Financial intermediation (65)	2.6	1.2	1.7	2.4	2.5	1.4	3.1	2.2	1.6	2.0	1.7	4.4	1.2	0.7	8.1	2.1
Manufacture food&beverages (15)	1.9	4.5	3.1	2.6	2.8	4.0	2.1	2.8	2.1	2.4	1.6	3.4	4.7	4.1	1.1	3.2
Cultural&sporting activities (92)	1.8	1.3	2.0	2.5	1.8	4.1	2.4	1.6	2.1	1.7	1.6	2.2	3.1	2.1	1.2	2.4
Construction (45)	1.3	1.3	2.0	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.5	0.4	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.6	2.3	1.7	1.9	1.1
Top 6 in each country	68.3	57.8	51.8	65.1	60.5	53.5	64.5	63.9	61.3	61.7	57.8	58.6	59.8	62.7	63.0	58.7

% men employed

MEN	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU
Construction (45)	10.6	10.5	15.6	12.2	10.6	13.2	20.7	13.3	19.5	11.2	13.3	19.4	14.7	14.8	14.7	13.9
Public administration (75)	10.4	8.3	6.7	5.3	7.8	5.3	4.4	8.6	6.5	9.0	7.0	8.7	8.7	6.5	13.3	6.7
Retail trade (52)	5.8	6.6	4.4	6.4	5.3	4.7	5.7	9.7	6.0	5.5	7.1	7.0	6.1	5.8	3.4	6.7
Business activities (74)	6.2	3.9	3.3	5.9	5.9	6.3	5.3	4.7	5.2	6.7	6.8	4.1	1.9	1.9	5.4	5.0
Agriculture (01)	2.6	10.0	3.8	4.2	2.6	5.1	8.9	10.9	5.8	4.6	4.3	4.8	10.5	16.4	2.3	6.0
Land transport (60)	5.3	7.0	7.0	3.9	2.4	7.0	4.5	4.0	4.4	4.6	4.0	2.6	7.5	7.2	4.9	7.1
Wholesale trade (51)	3.7	4.1	3.6	6.0	3.9	1.8	3.3	3.7	4.2	5.0	4.6	5.9	2.3	4.0	4.3	2.3
Health&Social work (85)	4.7	2.2	2.6	5.6	4.6	1.8	3.0	2.9	2.6	5.0	3.8	2.1	1.7	2.7	3.4	2.8
Education (80)	5.2	2.7	2.6	6.1	3.3	3.4	3.2	4.5	3.4	4.5	2.9	3.0	3.2	4.6	4.0	3.4
Hotels&restaurants (55)	3.1	3.8	3.2	1.6	2.8	1.8	4.1	6.2	5.5	3.2	4.0	6.3	2.3	0.9	2.6	3.5
Vehicle sale&repair (50)	2.8	2.6	2.8	3.8	3.5	4.2	3.0	3.8	3.1	2.9	3.3	4.4	1.9	5.0	2.6	3.9
Metal products (28)	2.7	2.2	5.1	2.5	4.1	4.9	1.4	1.9	2.6	2.8	3.4	2.0	0.8	1.9	2.1	2.8
Machinery (29)	1.7	2.9	3.9	3.4	4.5	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.8	2.1	3.7	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.8	2.4
Manufacture food&beverages (15)	3.0	4.7	2.2	3.2	2.2	2.9	3.3	2.8	2.7	3.1	1.9	3.4	3.4	2.7	0.8	3.9
Top 6 in each country	43.5	47.1	42.7	42.2	38.7	42.5	49.6	53.4	48.5	42.3	43.2	52.1	53.5	55.7	51.3	45.4

Notes: LU: data refer to 2004.

Nace-2 digit sectors are sorted according to the EU25 average. Cells shaded in grey correspond to the top 6 sectors in each individual country. For the following countries, one of the top 6 sectors does not appear in the list of sectors shown in the table: Women: EE, LT, SK, BG and RO; Men: EE, LV, LU and IS. The sum of the top 6 sectors may not correspond to the total shown in the table because of rounding errors.

Women are more concentrated in a few sectors than men in the EU25

As is well known, a much larger proportion of women in employment work in services than in the case of men while comparatively few work in industry.

In the EU25, six sectors of activity, defined at the NACE 2-digit level (of which there are 62 in total), employed just over 60% of all women in work in 2005, all of them involving the supply of market or public services. These sectors comprise health care and social services (in which 17% of all women in work were employed), retailing (12.5%), education (11.5%), public administration (7%), business activities (7%) and hotels and restaurants (5%). These six sectors, however, accounted for only 31% of men in employment.

For men, the degree of concentration is much less than for women, with the six most important sectors employing 42% of those in work in the EU25 in 2005. They are construction (which employed 13% of all men as against just 1.5% of women), public administration

(7%, much the same as for women), retailing (6%, half the proportion of women), business activities (6%, slightly less than for women), agriculture (5% as against 4% of women) and land transport (4%, four times the share for women). These 6 sectors accounted for 33% of women in employment (Figure 1 and Table 1).

The evidence is therefore that not only are the jobs which women do spread much less evenly across sectors but that the sectors in which women predominantly work are different from those in which men are concentrated. As a result, in some of the sectors concerned, jobs are mainly filled by women, in others by men (Table 2). Women, therefore, make up almost 80% of those working in health and social work and over 70% of those employed in education, while they account for over 60% of total employment in retailing. Equally, among the sectors in which men are concentrated, women make up just 8% of the work force in construction and only 14% of that in land transport.

Table 1: Distribution of employment in the main NACE-2 digit sectors, 2005

															% women employed		
MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	HR	IS	NO	EU-25	WOMEN		
13.4	28.8	14.9	10.4	11.1	6.7	9.8	12.6	28.0	28.7	20.9	9.1	28.3	34.9	17.2	Health&Social work (85)		
10.8	12.7	14.8	14.2	11.2	9.6	11.2	12.1	9.4	7.7	13.8	13.6	9.1	11.6	12.5	Retail trade (52)		
13.6	9.9	9.1	13.6	10.5	7.1	12.1	12.7	9.4	17.2	14.3	8.9	10.9	11.7	11.4	Education (80)		
5.2	6.3	6.1	7.1	5.4	4.1	6.7	7.9	4.9	6.4	7.7	6.4	4.6	5.5	7.3	Public administration (75)		
4.1	8.9	7.3	3.3	5.0	1.5	5.2	3.5	7.2	7.8	7.5	4.3	5.4	5.4	7.3	Business activities (74)		
8.2	4.8	8.5	2.3	6.9	2.4	5.8	5.6	4.8	3.1	5.1	6.4	4.1	4.0	5.1	Hotels&restaurants (55)		
0.5	2.2	5.0	16.1	12.8	33.6	8.9	2.4	2.8	1.0	0.7	18.7	2.1	1.4	3.8	Agriculture (01)		
3.3	2.4	3.0	2.2	2.4	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.6	2.7	1.8	2.1	1.6	2.7	2.6	Wholesale trade (51)		
3.4	1.8	2.9	1.5	2.0	1.1	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.4	2.1	1.9	2.6	2.0	2.6	Other service activities (93)		
0.3	0.1	0.5	0.1	6.5	0.4	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.2	2.3	Private households (95)		
5.0	1.9	3.0	2.3	1.3	1.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.3	3.0	2.3	4.9	1.7	2.2	Financial intermediation (65)		
1.6	1.4	1.6	3.4	2.1	2.5	2.3	3.0	2.0	0.9	1.0	3.1	5.1	1.7	2.2	Manufacture food&beverages (15)		
2.3	2.4	1.6	1.7	1.0	0.8	1.8	1.9	2.5	3.0	3.0	1.8	3.0	2.1	2.1	Cultural&sporting activities (92)		
1.2	1.3	2.3	0.9	1.0	1.2	0.9	1.3	1.0	0.8	1.8	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.5	Construction (45)		
56.2	71.5	60.7	64.9	59.0	68.3	54.6	54.8	63.6	70.9	69.2	63.0	63.7	73.0	60.8	Top 6 in each country		
															% men employed		
MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	HR	IS	NO	EU-25	MEN		
11.3	10.1	11.5	9.5	19.0	9.0	10.9	15.8	11.8	10.5	13.1	14.1	13.4	12.5	13.0	Construction (45)		
10.4	8.4	6.9	5.8	7.6	6.2	5.9	6.2	4.2	4.9	6.5	7.1	3.7	5.7	7.2	Public administration (75)		
7.5	7.5	6.0	5.4	7.6	4.7	5.4	4.1	4.2	4.2	8.2	5.9	5.2	5.6	6.3	Retail trade (52)		
3.1	8.6	5.1	4.2	3.9	1.9	4.5	3.8	6.3	9.2	7.4	3.3	5.1	7.6	6.1	Business activities (74)		
2.0	4.2	4.7	17.0	10.0	30.9	8.1	5.0	4.8	2.4	1.7	14.3	4.6	3.3	5.2	Agriculture (01)		
1.2	4.1	4.5	6.1	3.5	5.2	5.3	6.7	5.2	4.8	3.8	4.9	1.5	4.4	4.2	Land transport (60)		
3.9	4.3	4.4	3.9	4.2	2.3	1.9	3.2	5.2	6.3	3.0	3.3	5.2	6.1	4.1	Wholesale trade (51)		
5.2	5.5	4.5	2.0	2.1	1.6	1.6	2.2	3.5	5.3	4.8	2.3	4.2	6.7	4.0	Health&Social work (85)		
5.1	5.2	3.2	3.1	2.8	2.3	3.1	3.1	4.6	5.4	4.6	2.0	4.2	5.6	3.8	Education (80)		
7.3	3.5	4.6	1.1	3.8	1.0	3.1	2.6	1.8	2.3	3.5	4.5	3.4	2.4	3.4	Hotels&restaurants (55)		
2.7	2.2	3.2	3.0	4.2	1.8	2.6	2.5	3.1	3.2	3.0	3.2	4.2	3.9	3.2	Vehicle sale&repair (50)		
1.9	2.4	4.8	3.0	3.0	1.8	5.8	5.2	2.6	2.9	2.0	2.9	2.8	1.3	3.1	Metal products (28)		
0.6	1.3	3.2	2.1	1.3	2.4	4.6	3.0	4.0	3.1	2.0	1.0	1.1	1.5	2.7	Machinery (29)		
3.8	2.2	2.3	3.9	2.1	2.6	2.5	2.4	1.8	1.7	1.7	3.6	6.4	2.6	2.5	Manufacture food&beverages (15)		
47.0	45.2	39.0	48.1	52.6	58.5	41.3	42.9	38.0	41.6	44.8	50.9	41.0	44.2	41.9	Top 6 in each country		

Notes: LU: data refer to 2004.
Nace-2 digit sectors are sorted according to the EU25 average. Cells shaded in grey correspond to the top 6 sectors in each individual country. For the following countries, one of the top 6 sectors does not appear in the list of sectors shown in the table: Women: EE, LT, SK, BG and RO; Men: EE, LV, LU and IS. The sum of the top 6 sectors may not correspond to the total shown in the table because of rounding errors.

Table 2: The largest sectors employing women and men, 2005

	TOP 6 among women						TOP 6 among men					
	Private hholds (95)	Manuf. wearing apparel (18)	Health, Social work (85)	Other serv. activities (93)	Education (80)	Retailing (52)	Mining uranium thorium (12)	Construction (45)	Other mining (14)	Mining coal lignite (10)	Mining metal (13)	Manuf. basic metal (27)
BE	92.4	73.6	78.7	73.0	68.3	60.7	100.0	91.5	70.0	85.5	91.2	
BG	62.2	85.0	77.7	76.2	78.9	63.6		90.2	93.2	90.8	86.6	
CZ	100.0	89.3	78.7	79.4	76.2	66.6	90.0	91.3	82.7	91.0	82.5	
DK	88.9	100.0	83.1	61.8	55.6	54.2		90.8	9.5		80.6	
DE	91.5	68.3	76.8	64.4	67.9	66.4	100.0	87.3	91.3	92.0	100.0	
EE	100.0	97.4	83.6	97.6	82.5	74.1		87.6	100.0	76.7	100.0	
IE	88.7	73.7	82.2	74.0	70.9	63.5		95.0	92.0	87.5	86.9	
EL	96.2	61.1	64.4	73.1	60.8	48.9		98.2	93.9	97.4	89.2	
ES	91.3	76.2	73.4	77.1	65.4	61.3	100.0	94.5	93.5	97.6	86.5	
FR	83.6	69.0	77.9	74.3	66.1	61.2		91.2	89.9	93.6	92.0	
IT	86.1	75.1	65.4	71.8	74.3	50.4		94.7	89.1	100.0	89.9	
CY	97.2	78.0	72.9	81.0	74.1	58.9	100.0	94.1	85.4		100.0	
LV	56.4	95.2	85.0	57.8	80.4	72.2		87.1	100.0	51.5	91.3	
LT	48.0	91.5	81.2	85.0	76.5	69.6	100.0	90.2	75.0	44.5	92.3	
LU	100.0	40.6	76.9	87.4	62.8	65.0		91.7	100.0		93.4	
HU	78.2	86.0	77.7	68.8	77.6	65.1		93.6	91.1	79.3	83.9	
MT	100.0	42.2	53.8	82.3	54.4	39.4		95.6	100.0		100.0	
NL	87.8	96.4	81.0	81.3	60.6	57.8		90.5	79.9		95.0	
AT	96.3	72.3	73.8	83.0	70.7	67.4		85.4	82.8	100.0	83.3	
PL	100.0	85.2	81.2	76.2	77.8	68.2		93.2	100.0	87.3	84.2	
PT	99.0	88.3	81.6	84.6	76.2	55.7		95.6	94.2		94.7	
RO	63.6	87.9	77.9	58.8	72.3	63.0		89.9	89.6	83.8	92.5	
SI	100.0	79.2	83.6	83.6	77.2	63.9		93.5	100.0	89.0	78.6	
SK	94.9	89.9	82.4	75.2	76.7	70.5		93.7	95.3	93.7	86.2	
FI	60.8	91.2	88.2	82.5	65.6	67.7		93.0	92.1	94.3	100.0	
SE	100.0	81.2	83.0	78.9	74.3	62.5		93.5	93.6	66.2	90.5	
UK	61.7	62.2	79.0	75.5	73.0	59.3		89.6	94.6	100.0	100.0	
HR	92.5	88.5	76.4	91.1	78.4	65.7		92.4	92.4	100.0	90.9	
IS		80.5	85.4	90.8	69.1	60.3		93.5	100.0		94.7	
NO	91.6	79.6	82.4	88.2	65.0	65.0		93.6	82.4	100.0	80.7	
EU-25	87.4	79.0	77.5	71.8	70.5	61.1	97.7	91.8	91.0	89.1	88.2	

Notes: LU: data refer to 2004.

Table 3: Distribution of employment in the main NACE-2 digit sectors, 2000*(% women employed)*

WOMEN	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU
Health&Social work (85)	21.4	9.6	11.3	31.8	16.6	8.7	15.6	9.3	10.1	19.4	11.1	6.4	9.1	10.3	14.9	10.9
Retail trade (52)	12.8	12.8	11.8	9.4	13.6	13.9	13.2	14.0	15.7	9.8	12.4	11.8	15.5	12.5	10.3	13.3
Education (80)	13.2	12.7	11.2	8.1	7.9	13.6	10.2	10.3	9.2	10.3	13.7	10.0	14.4	16.3	9.4	14.2
Public administration (75)	9.9	5.4	7.0	6.3	8.1	6.2	4.7	6.6	6.5	10.2	5.7	6.7	6.8	5.1	11.2	7.4
Business activities (74)	7.3	2.0	4.1	5.1	7.6	4.0	7.2	5.6	7.7	6.5	8.9	6.6	2.1	2.0	7.4	4.2
Hotels&restaurants (55)	4.1	6.2	4.5	3.2	4.8	5.0	9.5	7.1	8.2	3.3	5.5	11.4	3.5	2.4	4.2	4.3
Agriculture (01)	1.2	10.0	3.3	2.0	2.0	5.1	2.1	16.8	4.6	2.8	3.8	4.6	12.3	17.2	1.9	3.2
Wholesale trade (51)	2.8	2.2	3.2	2.9	2.8	1.7	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.1	5.1	1.7	3.3	2.1	2.3
Other service activities (93)	2.0	0.9	1.9	1.5	3.8	1.9	2.3	1.9	2.6	1.7	3.5	2.9	1.5	1.9	2.1	2.4
Financial intermediation (65)	2.6	1.2	2.0	2.8	2.9	1.3	4.0	2.0	1.6	2.0	1.9	5.5	0.9	0.6	7.3	2.0
Manufacture food&beverages (15)	1.9	4.1	3.1	2.6	2.9	4.5	2.6	2.6	2.2	2.6	1.5	3.0	11.0	3.7	0.0	3.2
Private households (95)	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.9	0.0	1.0	3.7	6.7	4.7	2.4	4.4	0.3	0.2	6.1	0.1
Cultural&sporting activities (92)	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.5	1.7	5.1	2.3	1.7	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.3	2.5	1.2	1.2	1.9
Manufacture wearing apparel (18)	0.5	7.6	2.1	0.4	0.5	4.2	0.7	2.8	2.2	0.6	2.9	2.8	1.1	5.5	0.0	5.2
Top 6 in each country	68.8	58.8	50.0	63.9	58.5	52.4	60.3	64.1	57.7	61.0	57.3	53.0	69.1	66.8	60.5	55.2

(% men employed)

MEN	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU
Construction (45)	10.0	9.5	15.3	11.7	12.9	14.6	16.0	11.5	16.5	10.9	11.6	15.7	10.8	13.2	13.1	11.7
Public administration (75)	10.1	8.1	6.3	5.5	8.0	5.1	4.7	8.8	6.1	8.7	7.6	10.2	8.6	5.8	10.5	6.6
Retail trade (52)	7.0	8.4	4.5	5.1	5.0	4.3	6.0	9.8	6.7	5.4	7.1	7.1	6.7	3.6	4.1	6.9
Agriculture (01)	2.4	13.8	4.8	4.7	2.7	5.4	11.4	12.9	6.9	5.3	4.7	5.3		21.7	3.3	8.3
Business activities (74)	5.8	2.1	3.4	5.8	5.1	3.9	4.9	4.4	4.5	6.2	6.4	3.3	2.5	2.5	4.9	3.8
Wholesale trade (51)	3.2	2.8	3.4	5.8	4.3	2.6	3.6	4.2	4.3	4.9	4.7	6.1	2.8	3.8	4.5	2.3
Land transport (60)	5.5	6.7	7.4	3.4	2.4	8.3	3.4	4.1	5.0	4.6	4.4	2.4	6.4	5.4	4.9	7.8
Education (80)	4.9	2.7	2.6	5.5	3.2	2.4	3.4	4.6	3.4	4.4	3.3	2.8	4.0	4.4	3.7	3.3
Health&Social work (85)	4.9	2.5	2.0	4.9	3.8	1.2	2.8	2.9	2.5	4.7	4.1	1.9	1.2	1.9	4.2	2.9
Vehicle sale&repair (50)	2.6	2.0	2.9	3.5	3.4	2.6	3.1	3.1	3.3	2.8	3.2	5.5	2.9	4.5	3.7	3.7
Hotels&restaurants (55)	2.7	3.9	2.6	1.9	2.6	0.9	4.4	5.6	5.6	3.2	3.5	8.3	1.2	0.3	4.2	2.9
Machinery (29)	1.7	3.7	4.4	4.3	4.8	0.9	1.3	1.0	1.8	2.3	3.9	0.6	0.2	1.6	1.9	2.7
Metal products (28)	2.9	1.4	4.2	3.2	3.6	2.6	2.4	1.9	2.8	2.9	3.2	1.7	0.5	1.3	1.6	2.8
Manufacture food&beverages (15)	2.7	4.5	2.4	3.4	2.2	3.1	3.6	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.0	3.5	12.7	3.1	0.8	4.3
Top 6 in each country	43.4	50.9	42.7	39.4	40.2	43.9	47.3	53.2	46.9	41.4	42.1	52.9	58.2	54.9	46.0	45.6

*Notes: PL: data refer to 2004. HR: no data for 2000.**Nace-2 digit sectors are sorted according to the EU25 average. Cells shaded in grey correspond to the top 6 sectors in each individual country. For the following countries, 1 or 2 of the top 6 sectors do not appear in the list of sectors shown in the table: Men: EE, LU and IS. The sum of the top 6 sectors may not correspond to the total shown in the table because of rounding errors.*

Some increase in concentration since 2000

The degree of concentration of women's employment in the top 6 sectors of activity seems to have risen in the recent past, if only slightly, but nevertheless more than for men. In 2000, therefore, just under 59% of women in work in the EU25 were employed in the top six sectors, which were the same as in 2005, implying an increase of some 2 percentage points over the five years up to 2005 (Table 3). This to a large extent is due to the growth of jobs in health and social work (which employed over 1% more of the women in work in 2005 than in 2000) and to a lesser extent, in education and business activities (which each employed 0.5% more). These three sectors are ones in which overall employment expanded at a relatively high rate between these years, which in itself would tend to increase the proportion of women in work employed in them, other things being equal. But health and education, as noted above, are also sectors dominated by women, in terms of the number employed, raising the question of whether this domination increased or diminished over the period.

In practice, while the share of jobs filled by women in health and social work was the same in 2005 as in

2000, the share in education was larger, so that women became even more dominant in this sector than before. At the same time, women's share of jobs in business activities and public administration also increased but since they represented a smaller proportion of the work force than men, jobs in these sectors became more evenly divided between men and women over this period.

The degree of concentration of men's employment also increased between 2000 and 2005, but only marginally (by around half a percentage point in respect of the top 6 sectors). Unlike for women, the composition of the top 6 sectors changed slightly, with land transport assuming the place of wholesale distribution. In addition, the share of men in work employed in the top-ranking sector, construction, rose over the period (from just under 12.5% to 13%). This was entirely due to an increase in overall employment in the sector, the share of jobs taken by men remaining much the same, which was also the case in agriculture and retailing, while their share of jobs in the other three sectors declined slightly.

Table 3: Distribution of employment in the main NACE-2 digit sectors, 2000

														(% women employed)			
MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	NO	EU-25	WOMEN			
10.3	27.2	13.4	10.4	9.0	6.3	9.0	12.5	26.1	27.8	19.6	24.8	31.4	16.0	Health&Social work (85)			
11.2	12.8	14.8	13.5	11.5	9.2	12.2	12.7	9.0	7.4	14.1	10.9	10.8	12.8	Retail trade (52)			
15.2	8.4	7.9	13.7	9.5	6.9	10.9	13.2	9.7	16.9	12.7	9.5	11.4	10.9	Education (80)			
6.7	5.6	6.4	7.1	5.3	3.2	6.4	8.5	5.3	5.8	6.2	4.6	6.5	7.2	Public administration (75)			
4.0	9.6	7.5	3.1	4.2	0.9	3.8	2.3	5.5	7.3	7.0	4.3	5.8	6.7	Business activities (74)			
7.7	5.1	9.0	2.4	7.0	1.3	4.8	4.1	5.0	3.6	5.4	4.6	4.6	5.0	Hotels&restaurants (55)			
0.8	2.4	5.6	16.4	14.1	40.5	9.5	3.8	3.6	1.0	0.8	3.3	2.1	4.4	Agriculture (01)			
4.4	3.5	3.4	2.6	1.7	0.9	2.2	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.1	2.8	2.8	2.8	Wholesale trade (51)			
1.9	2.2	3.2	1.4	1.8	0.7	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.3	2.1	3.1	1.7	2.5	Other service activities (93)			
5.5	2.2	3.2	2.1	1.1	0.9	2.5	1.5	2.2	1.7	3.1	4.4	1.7	2.3	Financial intermediation (65)			
2.0	1.5	1.8	3.4	2.3	2.0	2.5	3.0	2.3	1.2	1.2	5.7	2.1	2.3	Manufacture food&beverages (15)			
0.0	0.1	0.4	0.1	6.7	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.4	2.0	Private households (95)			
1.5	2.6	1.8	1.7	0.8	0.8	1.7	1.8	2.6	3.0	3.1	3.9	1.9	1.9	Cultural&sporting activities (92)			
2.0	0.2	0.9	3.5	7.2	6.6	3.9	4.7	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.4	0.2	1.6	Manufacture wearing apparel (18)			
56.7	68.6	59.0	64.6	58.2	72.7	52.9	55.7	60.6	68.9	65.0	60.2	70.4	58.7	Top 6 in each country			
														(% men employed)			
MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	IS	NO	EU-25	MEN			
10.2	9.6	11.7	9.2	20.5	6.7	9.0	13.5	11.6	9.9	11.8	11.0	11.0	12.3	Construction (45)			
8.4	8.3	7.6	6.1	7.5	5.6	5.5	7.0	4.5	5.4	6.2	4.9	6.4	7.2	Public administration (75)			
5.8	5.8	5.8	5.6	7.3	4.8	6.3	4.0	3.7	3.8	7.5	6.0	5.2	6.1	Retail trade (52)			
2.1	3.8	5.1	17.7	10.2	35.7	8.8	7.4	6.3	3.2	2.0	5.5	4.4	5.7	Agriculture (01)			
2.7	8.6	4.8	4.2	3.1	1.0	3.7	2.9	6.4	8.5	7.4	4.9	6.7	5.6	Business activities (74)			
4.3	7.2	4.6	4.0	3.3	1.3	2.3	3.2	4.7	6.5	3.6	3.8	6.9	4.3	Wholesale trade (51)			
1.6	3.5	4.6	6.3	3.6	5.1	6.1	8.1	5.6	4.5	3.8	2.9	4.7	4.3	Land transport (60)			
4.9	5.0	3.7	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.2	4.3	5.3	4.2	3.2	5.3	3.7	Education (80)			
6.0	5.1	3.6	2.0	2.0	1.5	2.0	2.4	2.8	4.6	3.7	3.3	5.7	3.6	Health&Social work (85)			
3.1	2.7	2.8	3.1	4.2	1.1	3.3	2.2	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.5	4.0	3.1	Vehicle sale&repair (50)			
7.0	3.0	3.9	1.0	3.7	0.8	3.0	2.1	1.7	2.5	3.1	4.0	2.1	3.1	Hotels&restaurants (55)			
0.2	1.9	2.9	2.1	1.3	3.3	2.7	2.8	4.8	3.5	2.4	1.0	1.7	3.0	Machinery (29)			
0.5	2.3	5.3	2.7	3.1	2.3	5.3	4.1	3.2	3.0	2.1	1.7	1.4	3.0	Metal products (28)			
3.4	2.5	2.4	4.4	2.2	2.6	3.0	3.2	2.0	1.7	2.2	7.3	2.7	2.7	Manufacture food&beverages (15)			
42.2	44.5	40.3	49.2	53.5	61.3	41.1	44.3	39.3	40.0	40.8	41.7	42.1	41.3	Top 6 in each country			

Notes: PL: data refer to 2004. HR: no data for 2000.

Nace-2 digit sectors are sorted according to the EU25 average. Cells shaded in grey correspond to the top 6 sectors in each individual country. For the following countries, 1 or 2 of the top 6 sectors do not appear in the list of sectors shown in the table: Men: EE, LU and IS. The sum of the top 6 sectors may not correspond to the total shown in the table because of rounding errors.

The degree of concentration of employment is similar across Member States

Although the degree of concentration of women's employment in the top 6 sectors varies across countries, the share exceeded 50% in all countries in 2005 and was in all cases higher than that of men, in most cases markedly so. Concentration is highest in the Netherlands and Sweden, where 71% of all women in work were employed in the top 6 sectors in 2005 (though this is less than in Norway – 73%) followed by the UK, Belgium and Romania with 68-69%. In Romania agriculture employed a third of women in 2005. The concentration is lowest in the Czech Republic and Estonia (with only 52-53%), and was under 58% in Bulgaria, Italy, Malta, Slovenia and Slovakia.

These relatively high degrees of concentration partly reflect the preponderance of women in a number of sectors (Table 2). Women, therefore, made up over 80% of the work force in health and social work in all of the Nordic countries, the Netherlands, Ireland and Portugal as well as in all the new Member States, apart from the Czech Republic and Hungary (78-79%) as well as Cyprus and Malta. On the other hand, they comprised 'only' 64-65% in Greece and Italy and just 54% in Malta. Women similarly accounted for over 75% of employment in education in all the new Member States, except Cyprus (74%) and Malta (54%), as well as in Bulgaria and Croatia (in Romania, it was 72%). On the other hand, the lower degree concentration of women's employment in the

Czech Republic and Estonia is more a reflection of the smaller overall size of the top 6 sectors rather than of a smaller share of jobs filled by women within them. Indeed, women make up more of the work force in health and retailing in these two countries than in the EU as a whole.

There is a broad similarity across Member States both in the degree of concentration of employment and in the composition of the top 6 sectors. In half of the EU Member States, health and social work is the largest employer of women, as it is also in Iceland and Norway. In Denmark, this sector accounted for 32% of all women in employment and 28-29% in the Netherlands, Finland and Sweden. By contrast, less than 10% of women at work were employed in health and social sector in Cyprus, Greece, Estonia and Slovenia. In six countries, education is the top employer of women while retailing is the largest employer in five others. In Poland and Portugal, agriculture remains the main employer of women accounting for respectively 16% and 13% of all women in work in 2005. This is even more the case in Romania and Croatia, with shares reaching 34% and 19%, respectively. Nevertheless, the sectors which make up the largest six employers of women are the same as for in the EU as a whole in 11 countries. In 10 others, only one sector differs, while in the remaining four Member States, two sectors differ.

Men's employment is more diversified

Men are not only less concentrated in a few sectors of activity than women but the sectors concerned vary more between countries. Apart from in Greece, Cyprus, Lithuania, Latvia, Luxembourg and Portugal, the top 6 sectors employed less than half of the men in work in 2005 in all countries and under 40% in Germany, Austria and Finland. The degree of concentration of men's employment is highest in Romania: almost 59% of men in work being concentrated in the top 6 sectors.

Construction is the biggest employer of men in all EU Member States with the sole exception of Lithuania and Poland (where it is agriculture), providing jobs for over 10% of men in work in all of them (except Poland), though less than 15% in most (the largest share being in Spain, Ireland, Cyprus and Portugal at around 19-20%). This is in large part a result of men making up virtually all of the work force in the sector (over 90% in most cases). The other sectors comprising the top 6 differ. In only Ireland, Hungary and Poland is the make up of these sectors the same as for the EU25 as a whole. This partly reflects the inclusion of agriculture in the top 6 at EU25 level and its relatively small size in most Member States.

Public administration, however, is included among the top 6 sectors in all Member States except Denmark and Finland, in both of which women make up around 52% of the work force in this sector, more than in any other country apart from Sweden (54%). (It is also among the top 6 in the acceding and non-EU countries shown in the table apart from Iceland). Moreover, business activities features among the top 6 sectors in 17 EU countries (but not in the acceding or candidate countries), and retailing features in most (but not in Estonia, Luxembourg, Finland and Sweden).

Concentration of women's employment increasing in most Member States

The proportion of women in work employed in the top 6 sectors generally increased between 2000 and 2005, except in Belgium, Greece, Malta and Slovakia, where it slightly fell, as well as in Latvia and Lithuania where the decline was more significant. While the degree of concentration also rose in Iceland and Norway, it fell both in Bulgaria and Romania.

For men, the concentration of employment in the top 6 sectors also increased in 14 EU countries, remained unchanged in the Czech Republic and declined in 10 Member States. It also fell in Bulgaria, Romania as well as in Iceland.

The occupational pattern of women's and men's employment

While there is some relationship between the concentration of employment in particular sectors of activity and in particular occupations – insofar as some occupations are specific to certain sectors – it is not necessarily very close. In practice, there is a bigger difference between the occupations, or jobs, which men and women do than between the sectors in which they

are employed. As for sectors, however, the degree of employment concentration in a limited number of occupations is much higher among women than among men. In 2005, almost 36% of women in work in the Union were employed in just six of the 130 standard occupational categories (ISCO-88 3-digit) whereas the top six occupations for men were responsible

Table 4: Distribution of employment in the main ISCO 3-digit occupations, 2005

% women employed																
WOMEN	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU
Shop salespersons & demonstrators (522)	6.6	12.1	8.6	7.6	7.8	9.4	10.4	10.1	8.7	6.1	5.7	10.8	9.8	7.2	4.7	11.0
Domestic&related helpers, cleaners&launders (913)	6.1	5.1	4.7	6.1	6.2	7.0	4.3	7.8	14.6	11.2	5.2	18.7	4.7	6.2	18.2	7.2
Personal care & related workers (513)	3.6	2.9	2.0	12.9	4.9	2.8	6.1	2.0	5.6	9.6	3.1	1.7	3.4	2.8	3.7	3.2
Other office clerks (419)	13.2	0.9	0.9	0.9	8.7	0.0	7.1	5.5	4.9	2.4	3.7	9.0	0.1	0.2	6.4	0.2
Administrative associate professionals (343)	2.1	3.2	9.0	5.4	6.0	7.9	0.3	3.5	6.1	3.8	7.1	4.2	3.4	3.1	8.7	3.4
Housekeeping & restaurant services workers (512)	3.7	5.2	4.8	2.2	4.6	3.4	6.3	4.6	6.6	2.1	4.2	4.0	5.9	3.2	2.3	3.3
Secretaries & keyboard-operating clerks (411)	3.5	1.6	2.4	9.5	2.6	0.3	5.4	4.8	4.3	4.6	4.3	2.8	1.3	1.2	6.0	6.1
Managers of small enterprises (131)	3.1	1.7	2.4	1.0	1.3	2.6	4.0	6.2	4.3	2.4	6.5	0.0	4.3	0.9	3.9	1.4
Finance & sales associate professionals (341)	0.9	0.7	2.0	3.4	3.7	1.2	1.8	0.7	2.2	3.4	2.1	2.7	1.6	1.3	3.0	4.9
Nursing & midwifery associate professionals (323)	1.2	3.1	5.0	3.9	4.1	2.7	0.2	2.7	0.0	3.7	0.1	0.6	2.6	0.6	3.3	2.1
Top 6 in each country	41.4	37.3	36.7	45.8	38.1	37.6	41.2	46.0	46.5	42.6	32.9	52.3	31.7	34.5	47.9	38.9
% men employed																
MEN	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU
Motor vehicle drivers (832)	4.6	10.3	7.5	4.1	4.5	9.4	5.8	6.6	6.0	4.5	4.3	5.9	8.5	10.2	4.6	7.4
Building frame & related trades workers (712)	4.5	3.3	6.0	4.9	2.5	6.3	8.0	6.1	8.8	4.4	5.3	10.8	6.8	8.2	3.3	4.8
Managers of small enterprises (131)	4.5	4.3	4.5	2.1	2.2	5.7	11.8	10.7	4.9	3.2	7.5	0.8	4.0	2.0	5.2	3.7
Building finishers & related trades workers (713)	3.3	1.8	3.7	2.8	5.2	1.3	5.0	4.4	4.5	3.5	3.9	3.5	2.6	3.3	3.5	4.8
Physical & engineering science technicians (311)	7.0	2.1	7.6	3.3	4.6	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3	5.7	4.7	1.6	1.5	0.7	2.0	1.9
Machinery mechanics & fitters (723)	2.4	2.8	3.7	2.5	4.6	3.1	3.7	2.5	3.2	3.3	3.5	2.6	3.3	4.8	2.0	4.8
Finance & sales associate professionals (341)	2.5	0.3	2.9	4.5	3.4	1.4	2.4	1.0	3.9	3.8	2.9	6.7	1.6	1.7	3.5	1.8
Architects, engineers & related professionals (214)	2.4	1.5	1.6	3.3	4.9	2.5	3.4	2.0	2.2	4.0	1.4	1.9	1.9	2.7	4.0	2.4
Production & operations department managers (122)	2.3	2.3	1.5	1.5	1.3	7.1	3.8	0.7	0.7	3.9	0.8	1.8	4.1	2.6	0.9	3.7
Shop salespersons & demonstrators (522)	1.4	3.9	2.0	3.5	1.6	1.4	3.4	4.5	2.7	1.8	2.0	5.5	2.0	1.9	1.3	4.2
Top 6 in each country	30.5	28.6	35.1	24.6	27.2	36.0	38.0	40.6	31.7	26.2	29.2	36.1	30.7	38.3	30.9	31.9

Notes: LU: data refer to 2004.

ISCO 3-digit occupations are sorted according to the EU25 average. Cells shaded in grey correspond to the top 6 occupations in each individual country. Note that for many countries, some occupations featuring among the top 6 do not appear in the list of occupations shown in the table. The sum of the top 6 occupations may not correspond to the total shown in the table because of rounding errors.

for just over 25% of total men in work. Moreover, the occupations concerned were markedly different for women and men (Table 4).

Women are far more concentrated in a few occupations than men in all countries except Lithuania (where 34.5% of women worked in the top 6 occupations compared to just over 38% for men). In 5 countries (Denmark, Norway, France, Luxembourg and Sweden), twice the proportion of women work in the top 6 sectors as in the case of men.

The highest concentration of women's employment is in Cyprus, Romania and Norway, where in each case over half of the women employed worked in the largest six occupational groups. This reflects the relatively high concentration in related sectors of activity. In Cyprus, therefore, around 19% of women in employment worked as "domestic and related helpers, cleaners and launderers", in Norway, a similar share worked as personal care workers, whereas in Romania, just over 27% worked as "crop and animal producers". The degree of concentration of women's employment is almost as high in Spain, Luxembourg and Croatia with 47-48% working in the six main occupations. By contrast, in Italy and Latvia, the top six occupations accounted for around 32% of all women in work, still much higher than for men.

For men, though the degree of concentration is generally lower, the proportion in the top 6 occupations exceeds 40% in Greece (where 11% were employed as managers of small enterprises) and Romania (where as for women a relatively large proportion – 22% – worked as crop and animal producers). The degree of concentration is lowest (around 25%) in Denmark and the Netherlands.

The top occupational groups for women are different from the top ones for men, though there are a few

similarities. Shop salespersons and demonstrators, managers of small businesses and finance and sales associate professionals, therefore, feature among the top 10 occupations for both men and women. Shop salespersons and demonstrators was the top occupational category for women in the EU25 as a whole, employing 8% of those in work, but only the 10th most important for men (employing under 3%). Similarly, the next largest categories, domestic helpers and personal care workers accounted for around 7-8% of women but only 1% or less of men. Since an additional 4% of women were employed as "housekeeping and restaurant service workers", over 25% quarter of women in employment worked in just four relatively low-skilled occupational categories. These four occupations accounted for just 6% of jobs occupied by men. In addition, just over 22% of women were employed in occupations which can be classified as general office jobs compared to under 8% of men.

In the case of men, just over 5% of those in employment in the EU25 worked as motor vehicle drivers and slightly less than 5% worked as building frame and related trades workers, with some 4% working as building finishers and related trades workers and just under 4% as machinery mechanics and fitters. These four occupations, therefore, accounted for almost 18% of all men in work but under 1% of women.

In 9 Member States (as well as in Iceland and Norway), 40% or more of women in work were employed in secretarial, clerical and sales jobs, as against 20% or less of men in all countries. Over 10% of women worked as nurses or teachers in all countries, (apart from Spain and Portugal), more than twice the proportion of men. At the same time, 20% or more of the men in work were working as craft and related trades workers in 19 Member States compared to 6% or less of women in all but Lithuania (10%) and Portugal (8%).

Table 4: Distribution of employment in the main ISCO 3-digit occupations, 2005

														<i>% women employed</i>			
MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	HR	IS	NO	EU-25	WOMEN		
9.6	7.9	7.7	11.6	5.7	7.8	8.2	10.2	6.6	6.3	9.0	10.3	10.8	11.8	8.0	Shop salespersons & demonstrators (522)		
8.6	5.9	8.4	6.0	11.3	3.0	5.0	5.4	7.2	5.2	6.0	6.6	4.8	5.7	7.6	Domestic&related helpers, cleaners&launderers (913)		
3.9	7.3	5.8	1.2	5.5	2.2	1.0	4.1	13.2	19.6	11.7	0.7	10.9	18.8	6.6	Personal care & related workers (513)		
0.0	2.1	9.2	4.1	1.0	0.6	0.1	0.3	2.2	3.9	7.8	3.7	1.8	0.0	5.2	Other office clerks (419)		
1.2	4.8	4.3	5.6	1.5	3.3	4.9	10.3	3.0	2.5	0.3	1.7	2.9	2.7	4.4	Administrative associate professionals (343)		
3.3	3.8	4.9	2.1	6.1	2.4	5.0	5.3	4.7	2.1	3.0	5.4	2.9	2.9	3.9	Housekeeping & restaurant services workers (512)		
15.1	2.9	4.0	1.2	0.7	1.6	4.5	1.4	3.4	1.7	5.1	2.4	1.6	5.2	3.7	Secretaries & keyboard-operating clerks (411)		
0.9	3.2	3.0	1.8	6.0	0.9	1.4	2.2	1.5	0.8	2.5	1.8	1.0	0.6	2.9	Managers of small enterprises (131)		
2.6	1.2	8.5	2.5	0.9	0.3	3.3	1.6	4.2	3.7	3.2	1.6	3.2	3.6	2.9	Finance & sales associate professionals (341)		
2.6	6.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.7	4.5	5.2	2.8	3.6	3.8	2.3	5.5	2.6	Nursing & midwifery associate professionals (323)		
44.0	37.6	44.4	42.5	45.6	50.6	34.7	40.1	41.3	42.8	44.4	47.9	39.0	51.7	35.6	Top 6 in each country		
														<i>% men employed</i>			
MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	HR	IS	NO	EU-25	MEN		
3.4	3.9	4.7	6.9	5.5	6.6	6.2	7.1	4.9	4.9	5.3	6.1	4.6	4.9	5.2	Motor vehicle drivers (832)		
6.6	3.8	2.6	3.2	8.3	3.1	2.2	7.4	4.7	4.9	3.9	3.7	4.7	5.3	4.7	Building frame & related trades workers (712)		
2.8	6.5	5.8	3.3	9.1	2.2	4.6	3.6	4.2	1.5	3.6	5.1	3.5	1.4	4.4	Managers of small enterprises (131)		
4.0	3.0	4.4	3.2	2.9	1.9	3.1	4.2	2.4	2.6	4.1	3.9	4.3	1.7	4.0	Building finishers & related trades workers (713)		
3.4	2.7	5.8	2.4	2.0	2.0	5.6	4.6	4.9	4.9	1.6	6.5	1.5	4.3	3.6	Physical & engineering science technicians (311)		
1.9	3.3	5.0	2.5	2.0	3.1	4.1	3.6	4.1	2.3	3.1	3.6	4.2	3.8	3.5	Machinery mechanics & fitters (723)		
1.7	2.8	6.2	2.1	2.3	0.2	3.6	1.9	3.2	5.5	3.6	2.4	3.4	5.8	3.3	Finance & sales associate professionals (341)		
1.4	3.5	1.3	2.3	1.5	2.8	3.5	1.4	5.0	2.9	3.6	1.8	2.3	2.1	3.1	Architects, engineers & related professionals (214)		
0.7	3.7	2.9	2.0	1.2	0.6	1.7	2.6	2.6	1.7	6.9	1.2	3.0	3.7	2.6	Production & operations department managers (122)		
4.4	3.5	2.1	3.6	3.3	1.9	2.6	2.3	2.8	4.1	3.5	3.7	5.7	6.0	2.6	Shop salespersons & demonstrators (522)		
29.3	25.1	31.9	32.8	34.5	43.7	29.5	30.5	28.4	27.6	30.8	35.0	27.3	30.1	25.5	Top 6 in each country		

Notes: LU: data refer to 2004. ISCO 3-digit occupations are sorted according to the EU25 average. Cells shaded in grey correspond to the top 6 occupations in each individual country. Note that for many countries, some occupations featuring among the top 6 do not appear in the list of occupations shown in the table. The sum of the top 6 occupations may not correspond to the total shown in the table because of rounding errors.

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The source for all the data in this report is Eurostat's European Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS). No EU-27 estimations provided because data refer to a period before Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU.

Sectors of activity are classified into 62 divisions identified by two-digit numerical codes (01 to 99) according to the NACE 2-digit codification. This information is available for all countries and all years from 2000 to 2005, except for Luxembourg and Poland. For the former, the latest available data relate to 2004, for Poland, data for NACE 2-digit sectors are only available in 2004 and 2005.

Note that in 2000, there were no data for NACE 96 and 97. In 2005, data was available for these sectors only for HU, BG and RO. These data were added to NACE 95, which also relate to activities of households.

Data on occupations are based on the ISCO-88 (International Standard Classification of Occupations), defined at the 3-digit level.

The LFS survey gives rise to comparability problems over time. There are breaks in the series for a number of countries either due to the transition from a Spring survey to a quarterly continuous survey, to changes in survey methods or to census revisions.

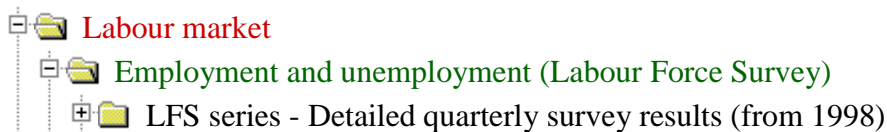
Where there is a break (DE: 2005; EL, IT and AT: 2004; FR and LU: 2003; LT: 2002; SE: 2001 and 2003; RO: 2002), the method used to calculate the change is to take the percentage point difference between the years for which there is no break and to exclude the change between years for which the data are non-comparable.

For small countries, it should be emphasised that because of the small sample size, the data in 2005 may not be fully comparable with those in 2000 and therefore that the change estimated between the two years may be subject to a significant margin of error.

Further information:

Data: [EUROSTAT Website/Home page/Population and social conditions/Data](#)

Population and social conditions



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