

28. INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

This chapter contains the **Structural Indicators (SI)**, which provide an instrument for a medium-term assessment of the progress made towards the “Europe 2020” strategy (previously the Lisbon strategy) objectives. Structural indicators are compiled by Eurostat from data transmitted regularly by national statistical institutions, some data are provided by international organisations (e.g. OECD, European Central Bank). The indicators are selected in compliance with the SI shortlist.

The set of indicators is completed by **Sustainable Development Indicators (SDI)** for long-term monitoring of the Sustainable Development Strategy, which rests on three main pillars: economic growth, social cohesion and environmental protection. Both SDI and SI use a standard methodology to be internationally comparable.

Countries whose indicators are compared in the tables are classified by geopolitical groupings and listed alphabetically by their names in Czech. Czech-English names of the countries are given in the methodological introduction to this chapter. They are in the abbreviated form.

‘EU 27’ refers to the European Union of 27 countries. See the following table for EU enlargements.

Countries which joined the EU	Date of joining	Abbreviations			
Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom	1 November 1993 (The Treaty on European Union)	EU	EU 15	EU 25	EU 27
Austria, Finland, Sweden	1 January 1995				
Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia	1 May 2004				
Bulgaria, Romania	1 January 2007				

‘EA 16’ (Euro area of 16 countries) refers to Member States of the European Union where the euro was in use on 31 December 2009. The following table shows how the euro came in use.

Countries where the euro was introduced	Date of introduction	Abbreviations			
Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain	1 January 2002	EA 12	EA 13	EA 15	EA 16
Slovenia	1 January 2007				
Cyprus, Malta	1 January 2008				
Slovakia	1 January 2009				

‘Candidate countries’ refers to countries striving for the accession to the European Union (Croatia, Macedonia and Turkey).

‘Other countries’ enlarge the comparison. They are Iceland and Norway (EFTA members) and neutral Switzerland of Europe and Japan and the United States (economically highly developed countries of other continents), for which comparable data are available.

Notes on tables

Table 28-1. GDP per capita in PPS

Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita in Purchasing Power Standards (PPS), EU 27=100. The volume index of GDP per capita is given as a percentage of the EU 27 average. The underlying data for index calculating are expressed in PPS, which is a common currency eliminating the differences in price levels between countries. This allows meaningful volume comparisons of GDP between countries. The index is intended for cross-country comparisons rather than for temporal comparisons.

Table 28-2. Growth rate of real GDP per capita

Annual GDP growth rate per capita at constant prices.

Table 28-3. Labour productivity per person employed

GDP in PPS per person employed relative to the EU 27 (EU 27=100).

Table 28-4. Business investment

Gross fixed capital formation by the private sector as a percentage of GDP.

Table 28-5. Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD)

Gross domestic expenditure on R&D as a percentage of GDP.

Table 28-6. Comparative price levels

Comparative price levels of final consumption expenditure of households including indirect taxes (EU 27=100).

Table 28-7. Tax rate on low wage earners

The indicator is available only for single persons without children when they earn no more than 67% of the average earnings.

Table 28-8. Employment rate

Persons in employment aged 15–64 as a percentage of the total population of the same age group.

Table 28-9. Employment rate of older workers

Persons in employment aged 55–64 as a percentage of the total population of the same age group.

Table 28-10. Long-term unemployment rate

Long-term unemployed (12 months and more) as a percentage of the total economically active population aged 15–64.

Table 28-11. Dispersion of regional employment rates

Coefficient of variation of employment rates across regions (NUTS level 2). The indicator is not applicable to Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta and Slovenia as these countries comprise only one (in the case of Ireland) or two NUTS level 2 regions.

Table 28-12. At-risk-of-poverty rate after social transfers

The share of persons with an equivalised disposable income below the risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60% of the national median equivalised disposable income (after social transfers).

Table 28-13. Youth education attainment level

Percentage of the population aged 20–24 having completed at least upper secondary education.

Tables 28-14 and 28-15. Healthy life years at birth: males, females

The number of years that a person at birth is still expected to live in a healthy condition. A healthy condition is defined by the absence of limitations in functioning/disability.

Table 28-16. Greenhouse gas emissions

Total emissions of the 6 main greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol are weighted by their global warming potentials and aggregated to give total emissions in CO₂ equivalents. The total emissions are presented as indices, with the base year 1990=100. The indicator is compiled to observe the fulfilment of the targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions according to the Kyoto Protocol and the EU Council Decision for the years 2008–2012.

Table 28-17. Energy intensity of the economy

Gross inland consumption of energy (expressed in tonnes of oil equivalent, toe) divided by GDP (in purchasing power standard, 1 000 PPS). Data are recalculated to EU 27=100. This way, the indicator was made at the CZSO this year for the first time to achieve better international comparability. For temporal comparisons, a similar indicator can be used from the structural indicators compiled by Eurostat, which uses exchange rates to obtain national GDPs in EUR 1 000 (see the hyperlink at the end of this methodological introduction).

Table 28-18. Total energy consumption of transport

Total energy consumption of all transport modes, i.e. rail, road, air transport and inland navigation. Energy used for pipeline transport is excluded. The main fuels covered are oil products, electricity and small quantities of gases and biogases.

Table 28-19. Volume of freight transport relative to GDP

The ratio between tonne-kilometres (inland modes) and GDP (2000=100).

Table 28-20. Share of electricity generated from renewable energy sources in gross inland electricity consumption

The ratio between the electricity produced from renewable energy sources (wind, solar and geothermal sources, biomass/waste) and the gross national electricity consumption (gross national electricity generation, plus electricity imports, minus exports).

Further data can be found on the website of the Czech Statistical Office at:

- http://www.czso.cz/eng/redakce.nsf/i/international_data_s6m

Other international comparison indicators are published on Eurostat website:

SI:

- http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/structural_indicators/introduction

SDI:

- <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/sdi/introduction>

Czech and English names of the countries

Belgie	<i>Belgium</i>	Kypr	<i>Cyprus</i>	Rakousko	<i>Austria</i>
Bulharsko	<i>Bulgaria</i>	Litva	<i>Lithuania</i>	Rumunsko	<i>Romania</i>
Česká republika	<i>Czech Republic</i>	Lotyšsko	<i>Latvia</i>	Řecko	<i>Greece</i>
Dánsko	<i>Denmark</i>	Lucembursko	<i>Luxembourg</i>	Slovensko	<i>Slovakia</i>
Estonsko	<i>Estonia</i>	Maďarsko	<i>Hungary</i>	Slovinsko	<i>Slovenia</i>
Finsko	<i>Finland</i>	Makedonie	<i>Macedonia</i>	Spojené království	<i>United Kingdom</i>
Francie	<i>France</i>	Malta	<i>Malta</i>	Spojené státy	<i>United States</i>
Chorvatsko	<i>Croatia</i>	Německo	<i>Germany</i>	Španělsko	<i>Spain</i>
Irsko	<i>Ireland</i>	Nizozemsko	<i>Netherlands</i>	Švédsko	<i>Sweden</i>
Island	<i>Iceland</i>	Norsko	<i>Norway</i>	Švýcarsko	<i>Switzerland</i>
Itálie	<i>Italy</i>	Polsko	<i>Poland</i>	Turecko	<i>Turkey</i>
Japonsko	<i>Japan</i>	Portugalsko	<i>Portugal</i>		