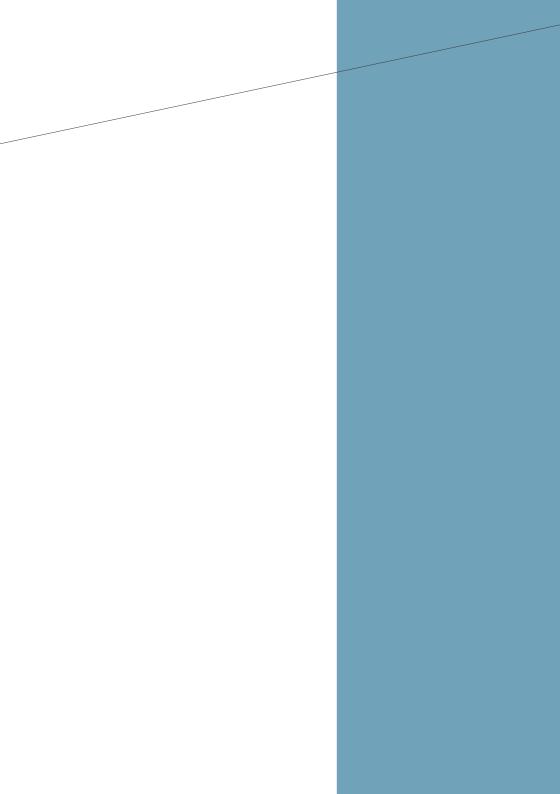


2025

# FLANDERS IN FIGURES

STATISTICS FLANDERS



#### INTRODUCTION

The brochure **Flanders in Figures** gives a concise picture of Flanders based on a comprehensive set of Flemish official statistics. The statistics cover a wide range of themes and are grouped into 4 main sections: population and society, economy and enterprises, environment, government and governance. Several themes included a brief comparison of Flemish data with the situation in other regions of the European Union.

Flanders in Figures is available digitally on the **Statistics Flanders website** at https://www.vlaanderen.be/en/statistics-flanders. On this website, most of the statistics included in this brochure can be viewed in more detail, as well as the corresponding data sets and information about the sources and definitions used. Printed copies of Flanders in Figures can be ordered free of charge from the Flemish administration's publications database (https://www.vlaanderen.be/publicaties/flanders-in-figures).

The statistics in this brochure always refer to the **Flemish Region**, except where it is indicated that they concern the **Flemish Community**. The Flemish Region is responsible for matters relating to the territory, the 'place-specific' matters (e.g. economy). Matters relating directly to the inhabitants, the 'person-related' matters (e.g. culture), fall within the responsibility of the Flemish Community.

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# About the Statistics Flanders network

**Statistics Flanders (SF)** is the network of Flemish administration entities that develop, produce and publish official statistics. These official statistics provide a reliable and high-quality picture of Flanders: from the people who live and work there, to the economy and the living environment, to the position of Flanders in the world. At the same time, the Statistics Flanders network offers a broader context by thematically compiling statistics, mapping trends and placing figures in a geographical perspective.

The Statistics Flanders network pursues a coordinated statistics policy, so that the official statistics about Flanders and the underlying data are readily available to all via one central portal at https://www.vlaanderen.be/en/statistics-flanders. In this way, citizens, organisations and companies are provided with fast, reliable, correct and independent information about Flanders.

We develop, produce and disseminate all official statistics about Flanders in accordance with the legal provisions and international principles of quality, relevance and professional independence. These principles are also reflected in the 4 strategic objectives that guide the work of the Statistics Flanders network:

- Official statistics are for everyone.
- We provide high-quality statistics using a methodical approach.
- We are transparent and work independently.
- We work innovatively and focus on the future.

The Flanders Statistics Authority (VSA), headed by the chief statistician of the Flemish administration, coordinates the Statistics Flanders network and supports it to methodically develop, produce and disseminate high-quality official statistics.

#### **Entities from the Statistics Flanders network**

#### Chancellery, Public Governance, Foreign Affairs and Justice Policy Area

Flanders Chancellery & Foreign Office

Agency for Home Affairs

Agency for Justice and Enforcement

Agency for Facility Operations

Digital Flanders Agency

Agency for Government Personnel

**Audit Flanders** 

Visit Flanders

Flanders Investment & Trade

#### Finance and Budget Policy Area

Department of Finance and Budget

Flemish Tax Service

#### **Education and Training Policy Area**

Department of Education and Training

Agency for Higher Education, Adult Education, Qualifications and Study Grants

Agency for Educational Services

Agency for School Infrastructure

#### Welfare, Public Health and Family Policy Area

Department of Care

Flemish Infrastructure Fund for Person-related Matters

Flemish Social Protection Agency

Growing Up Agency

Public Psychiatric Care Centre - Geel

Public Psychiatric Care Centre – Rekem

Flemish Agency for Persons with Disabilities

Growth Package Payment Agency

Flemish Agency for Cooperation on Data Sharing between Actors in the Care Sector

#### Culture, Youth, Sport and Media Policy Area

Department of Culture. Youth and Media

Sports Flanders Agency

Flemish Regulator for the Media

Flemish Public Broadcaster

#### Work, Economy, Science, Innovation, Agriculture and Social Economy Policy Area

Department of Work, Economy, Science, Innovation and Social Economy

Public Employment Service of Flanders

Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries

Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture,

Fisheries and Food

Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship

Meise Botanic Garden

Flemish Institute for Technological Research

#### Mobility and Public Works Policy Area

Department of Mobility and Public Works

Agency for Roads and Traffic

Agency for Maritime and Coastal Services

Flemish Waterways plc

Flemish Public Transport Company – De Lijn

Airport Development Company Flanders

#### Environment and Spatial Development Policy Area

**Environment Department** 

Housing Agency - Flanders

Flanders Heritage

Energy and Climate Agency of Flanders

Agency for Nature and Forests

Research Institute for Nature and Forest

Flanders Environment Agency

Public Waste Agency of Flanders

Flemish Land Agency

#### Other entities

Flemish Community Commission

Flemish municipalities and provinces

Administrative Services of the Council of Community Education

Flemish Utilities Regulator



# 1.1 Population

Sources: Statbel, Eurostat, processed by Statistics Flanders

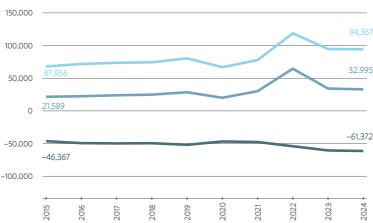
#### Population (number)

			2015	2025
		TOTAL	6,444,127	6,864,766
•		Men	3,182,692	3,399,819
		Women	3,261,435	3,464,947
	<b>A</b>	Aged 0-17	1,252,370	1,315,768
A STATE OF THE STA	A !!   !!   !!   !!	Aged 18-66	4,092,909	4,232,196
	111	Aged 67 and over	1,098,848	1,316,802
. IV 64	Т'	Belgian	5,939,997	6,108,373
		Non-Belgian	504,130	756,393
	li	nhabitants per km²	482	504

# International migration

(number) — Immigration — Emigration — Balance

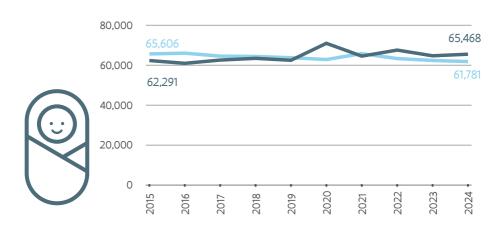




# Births and deaths

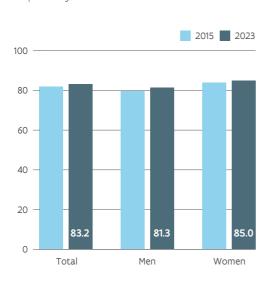
(number) — Births — Deaths





# Life expectancy at birth

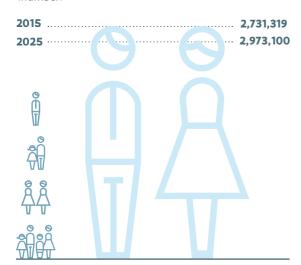
(expected years of life)





#### **Private households**

(number)

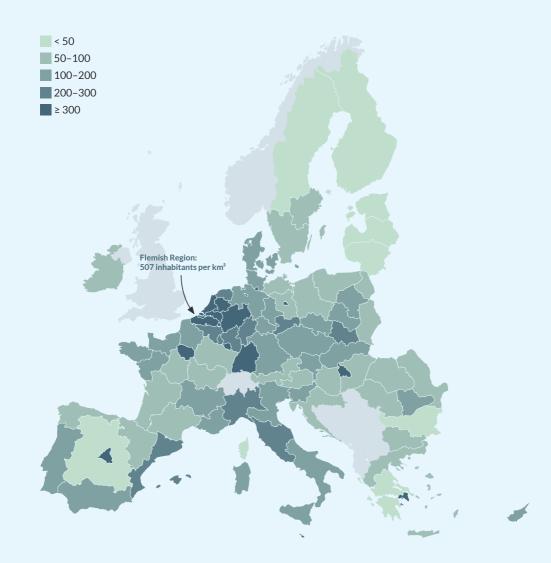


# Household types (number) Married couple with child(ren) Married couple without child Unmarried couple with child(ren) Unmarried couple without child Single parent household Single person household Other Other

# **Total** fertility rate (average number of children per woman) 1.66 2015 2023

#### Population density in 2023

(EU-NUTS 1 regions, number of inhabitants per km²)



#### 1.2 Labour

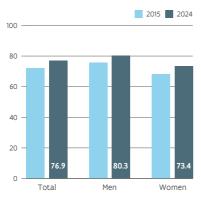
Sources: LFS Statbel, processed by Centre of Expertise for Labour Market Monitoring

# Population (aged 15-64) by socio-economic position

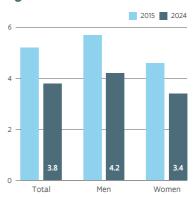
(persons)



# Employment rate (aged 20-64) (%)

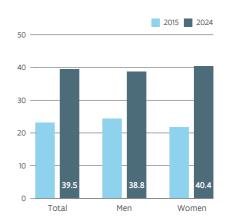


# ILO unemployment rate (aged 15-64) (%)

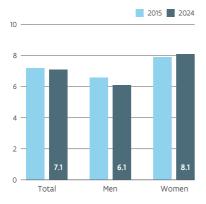




# Employees working from home (aged 20-64) (%)



Employees (aged 20-64) with temporary employment contract (%)



# Part-time employees (aged 20-64) (%)

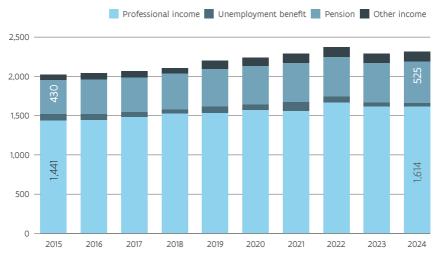


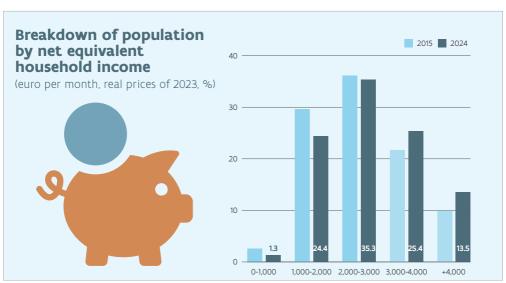
## 1.3 Income and poverty

Sources: PPS Social Integration, Federal Pension Service, DG Disability, EU-SILC Statbel, Eurostat, processed by Statistics Flanders

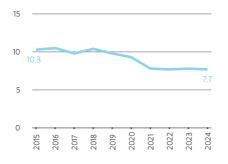
# Personal income per month of the population (aged 18 and over)

(euro, real prices of 2023)

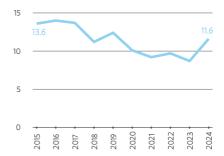




# Population below the poverty treshold (%)



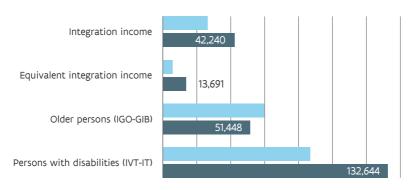
# Population living in households making ends meet with difficulty (%)



#### Social assistance benefits°

(number)





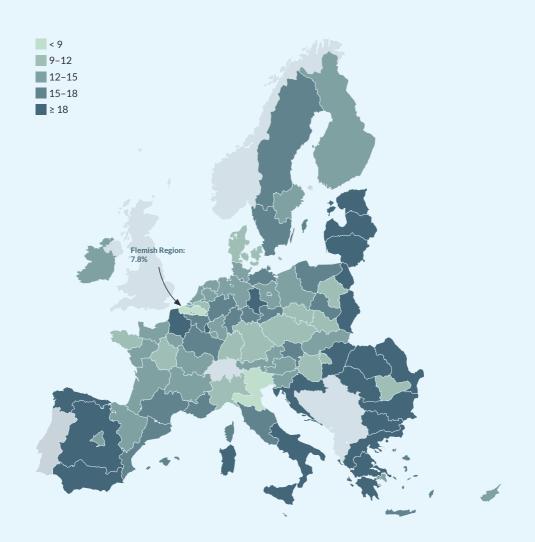
0 20,000 40,000 60,000 80,000 100,000 120,000 140,000



\* MOST RECENT FIGURE 2023 FOR OLDER PERSONS

#### Population below the poverty treshold in 2023°

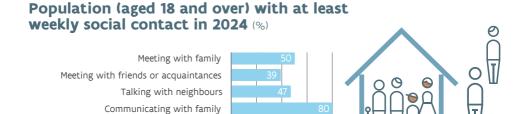
(EU-NUTS 1 regions, %)



<sup>\*</sup> NO DATA AVAILABLE FOR SOME REGIONS IN PORTUGAL AND FINLAND

#### 1.4 Social cohesion and culture

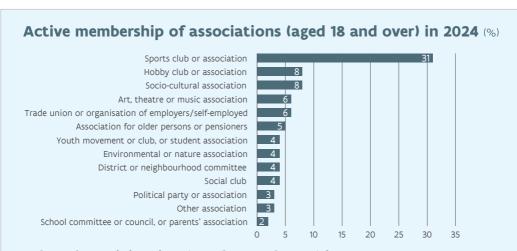
Source: SF survey



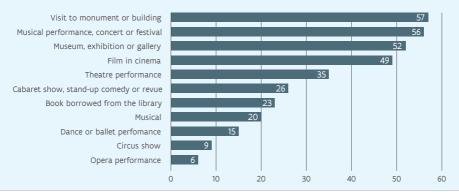
20

60

Communicating with friends or acquaintances



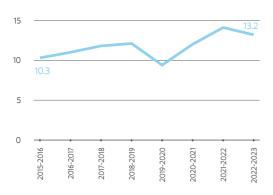
#### Cultural participation (aged 18 and over) in 2024 (% at least once a year)

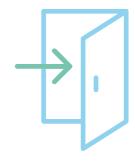


## 1.5 Education and training

Sources: Flemish Ministry of Education and Training, LFS Statbel, processed by Centre of Expertise for Labour Market Monitoring

# Early leavers from education and training° (%)

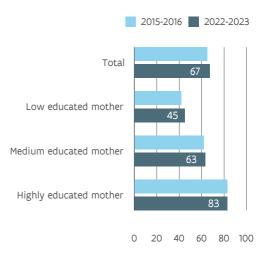




#### Higher education starters by mother's educational attainment°

(% leaving secondary education and moving on to higher education the following year,





\*FLEMISH COMMUNITY, PROVISIONAL FIGURES 2022-2023

<sup>°</sup> FLEMISH COMMUNITY

# Share of 25-34 year-olds with higher education qualifications (%)



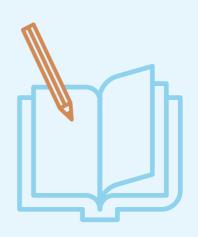


# Population (aged 25-64) by educational attainment level (%)

	Low educated	Medium educated	Highly educated
2015	22.9	39.9	37.2
2024	15.1	39.7	45.3

# Participation rate in education and training (aged 25-64) over past 4 weeks (%)

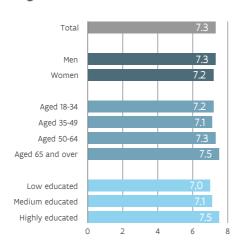




## 1.6 Well-being and health

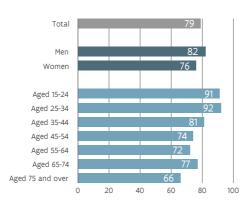
Sources: Statbel, Sciensano, SF survey, processed by Statistics Flanders

Overall life satisfaction of population (aged 18 and over) in 2024 (score out of 10)

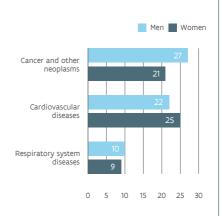








# Leading causes of death in 2022 (%)

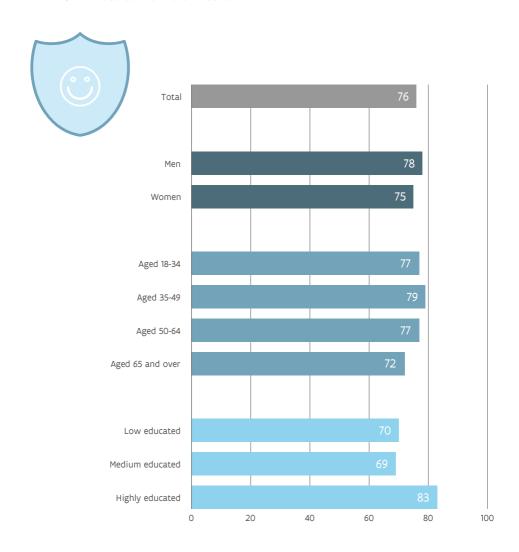


# 1.7 Safety

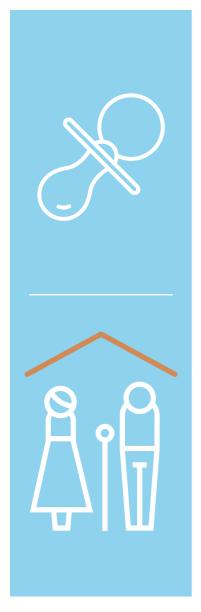
Source: SF survey

# Perceptions of personal safety in the neighbourhood of population (aged 18 and over)

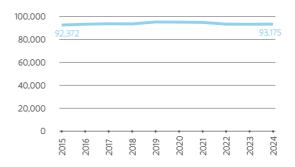
in 2024 (% seldom or never unsafe)



Sources: IMA, Growing Up Agency

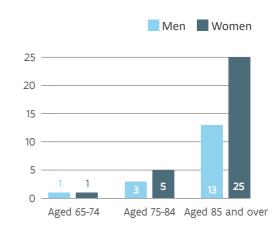


# Formal childcare places for babies and toddlers<sup>®</sup> (number)



\*FLEMISH COMMUNITY

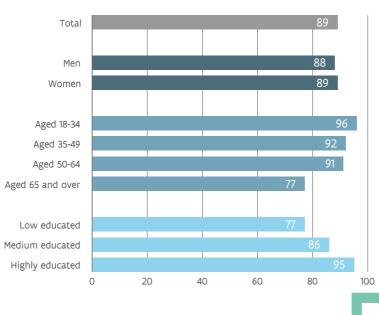
# Population in residential care centres in 2021 (%)



# 1.9 Sports and tourism

Sources: SF survey, Sports Flanders Agency, Statbel, processed by Statistics Flanders

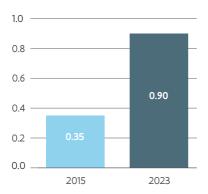
# Population (aged 18 and over) practising sports at least annually in 2024 (%)



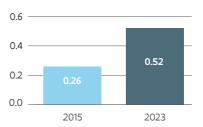




#### Relative Olympic top sports index (Flanders' market share in the total number of top sports index points to be earned worldwide. in %)



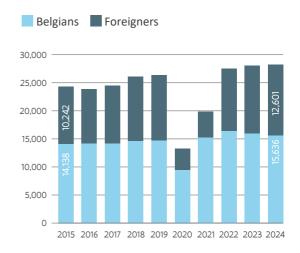
# **Relative Paralympic top sports index** (Flanders' market share in the total number of top sports index points to be earned worldwide, in %)



# Overnight stays by tourists

(number x 1,000)







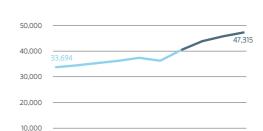
## 2.1 Economy and enterprises

Sources: Statbel, INA, NBB, HERMREG-FPB, BISA, IWEPS, VSA, Eurostat, processed by Statistics Flanders

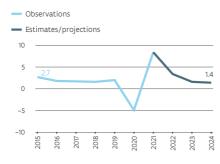
Observations — Estimates/projections

#### GDP per capita (euro PPS)





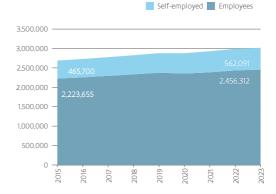
#### Real economic growth (%)





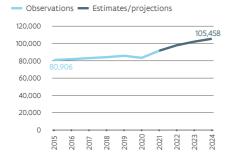
#### **Employment** (persons)



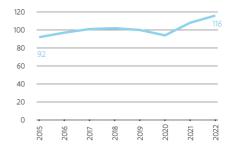


**ECONOMY AND ENTERPRISES** 

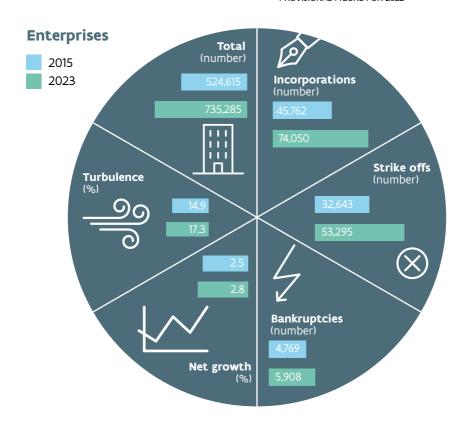
#### Labour productivity (euro PPS)



#### Export ratio\* (% GDP)

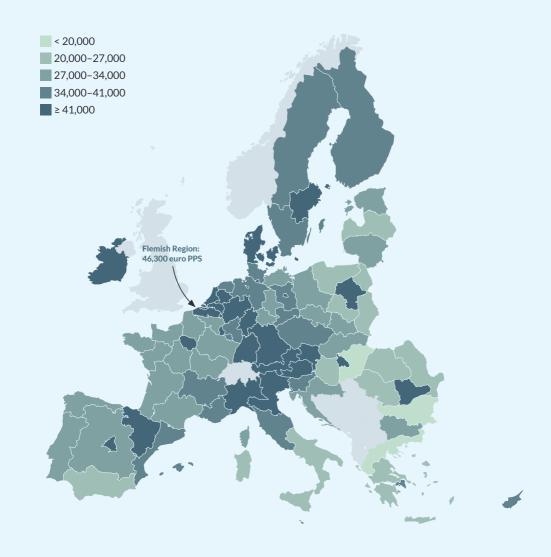


\*PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR 2022



#### Gross domestic product per inhabitant in 2023

(EU-NUTS 1 regions, euro purchasing power standard)

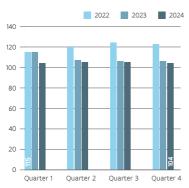


# 2.2 International trade and digital economy

Sources: INA, Statbel, Eurostat, processed by Statistics Flanders

#### Goods exports°

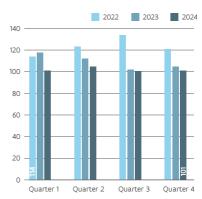
(billion euro, current prices)



<sup>\*</sup> PROVISIONAL FIGURES 2024 FOR OUARTER 4

#### **Goods imports**°

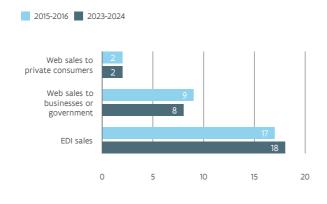
(billion euro, current prices)

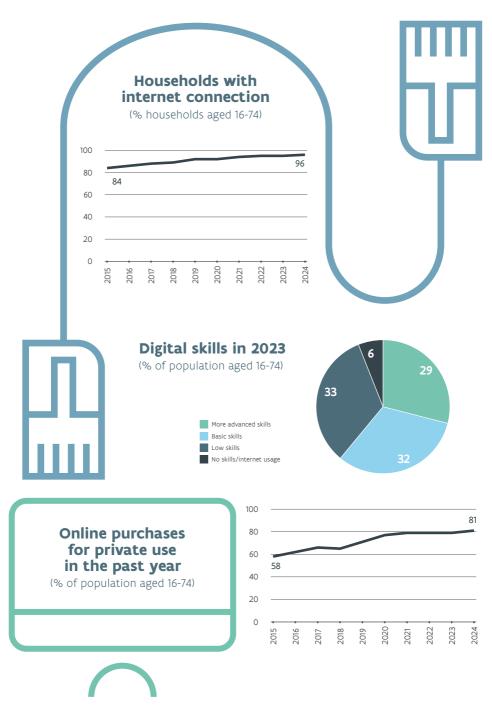


<sup>\*</sup> PROVISIONAL FIGURES 2024 FOR OUARTER 4

#### Turnover from e-commerce by type

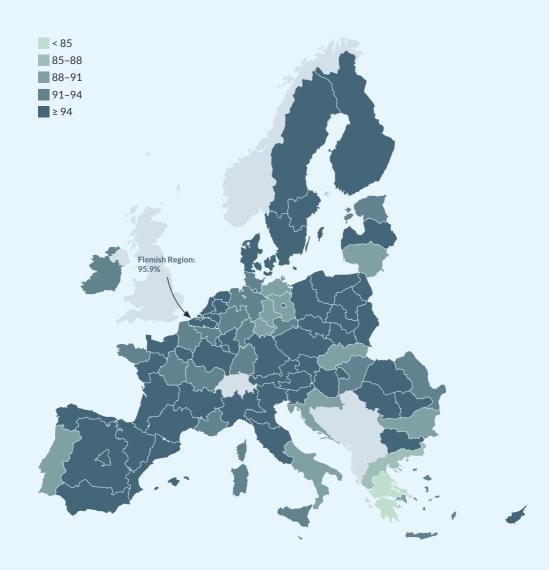
(% of total turnover in enterprises with at least 10 employees)





#### Households with internet connection in 2024°

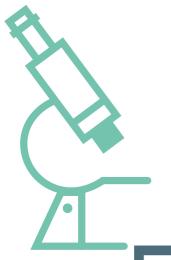
(EU-NUTS 1 regions, %)



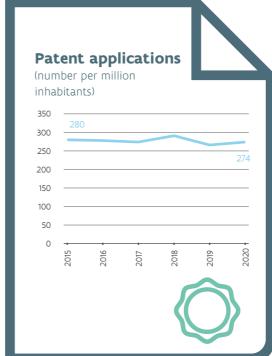
<sup>\*</sup>NO DATA AVAILABLE FOR THE FINNISH REGION OF ÅLAND

### 2.3 Science and innovation

Source: ECOOM



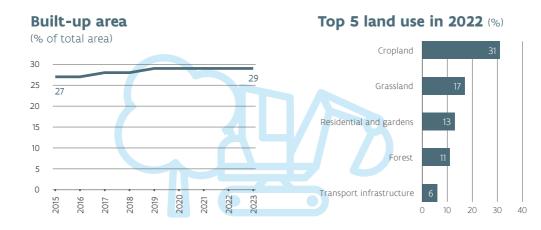
Research and development	2015	2022	
<b>R&amp;D intensity</b> (% of GDP)	2.67	3.52	
R&D personnel (in FTE)	46,517	69,291	





## 3.1 Spatial use

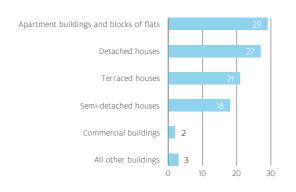
Sources: Environment Department, Statbel, processed by Statistics Flanders



## 3.2 Building and housing

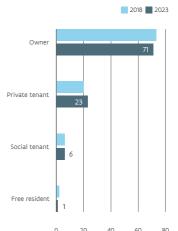
Sources: Housing Agency - Flanders/Policy Research Centre Housing, Statbel, processed by Statistics Flanders

#### Housing types in 2024 (%)



#### Home ownership status

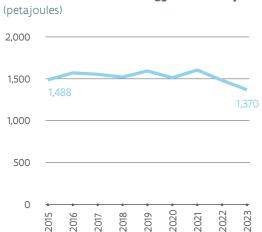


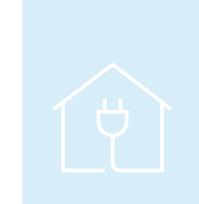


# 3.3 Energy

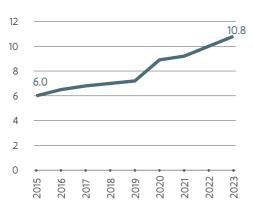
Source: VEKA

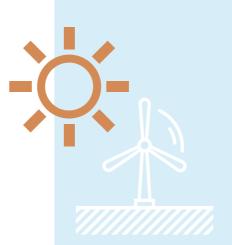
#### **Gross domestic energy consumption**





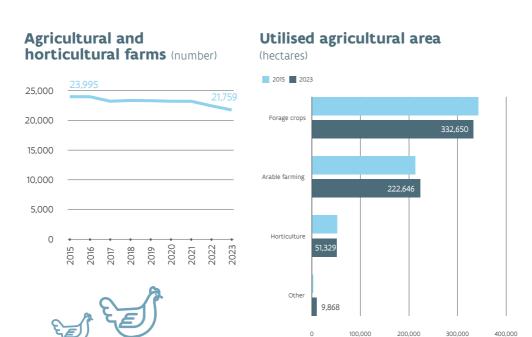
# Renewable energy in gross final energy consumption (%)





# 3.4 Agriculture

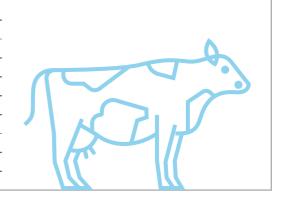
Sources: Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries, Statbel, Eurostat, processed by Statistics Flanders



#### **Livestock**

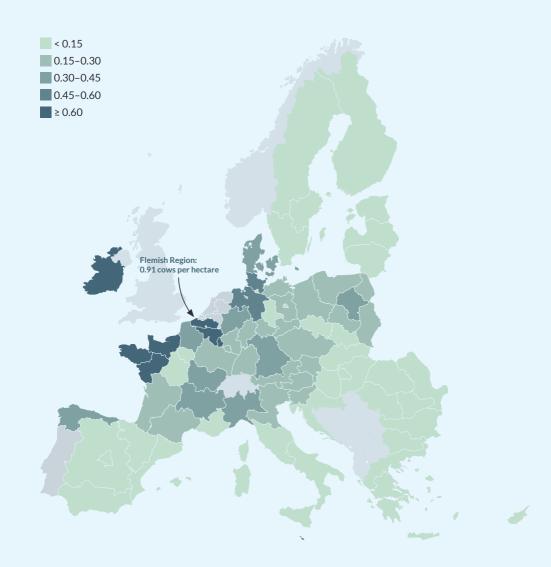
(number of animals x 1,000)

	2015	2023
Dairy cows	304	336
Suckler cows	153	116
Total cattle	1,321	1,234
Sows	430	339
Total pigs	5,981	5,037
Meat chickens	19,930	32,051
Egg-laying chickens	11,667	14,078
Total poultry	32,128	46,832



#### Cattle density in 2023°

(EU-NUTS 1 regions, units of cattle per hectare)



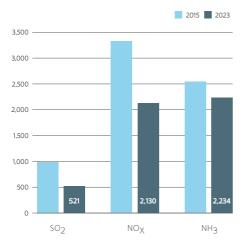
<sup>\*</sup>NO DATA AVAILABLE FOR REGIONS IN THE NETHERLANDS AND PORTUGAL

### 3.5 Nature and the environment

Sources: Environment Department, OVAM, VMM, ANB, INBO

#### Potentially acidifying emissions

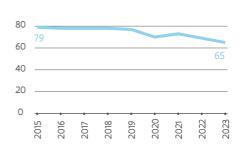
(million acid equivalents)



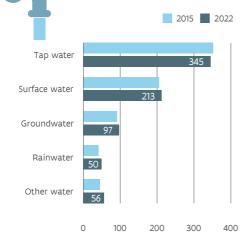


#### Greenhouse gas emissions

(megatonnes CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents)

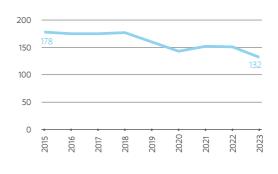


### Water consumption (million m<sup>3</sup>)



### Healthy life years lost due to particulate matter exposure

(DALYs per 10,000 person years)





#### Forest area

(hectares)

140,380

1997-1999

2009-2019

140,279

## Area with effective nature management

(hectares)

80,596

2015

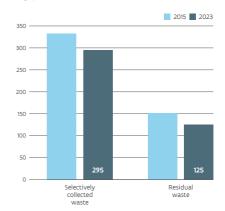
2024

114,266



#### Household waste

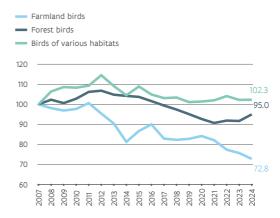
(kg per inhabitant)





#### **Common bird index**

(2007=100)



### 3.6 Transport

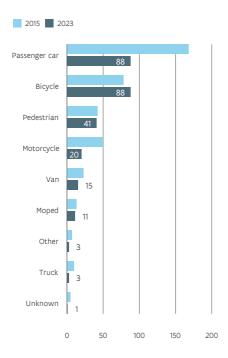
Sources: Department of Mobility and Public Works, MORA (SERV), Airport Authorities, Statbel, Eurostat, processed by Statistics Flanders

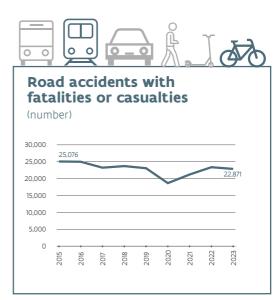
#### Modal split in 2024 (%)

	On foot	Bicycle	Bus, tram, metro	Train	Car	Other
0 to 1 km	56	22	0	0	21	2
1 to 5 km	12	28	3	0	56	1
5 to 10 km	4	15	4	0	75	1
10 to 40 km	0	7	5	4	82	2
40+ km	0	3	1	17	77	2

#### **Road fatalities**

(number)





#### Traffic jam severity

(kilometre hours per working day, yearly moving average)





#### Passengers by airport

(number x 1,000)

	2015	2022	2023	2024
Brussels Airport	23,460	18,931	22,201	23,611
Antwerp	221	240	260	209
Ostend-Bruges	276	369	386	353
Kortrijk-Wevelgem	*	10	9	9

<sup>\*</sup> UNKNOWN

#### Freight traffic by seaport

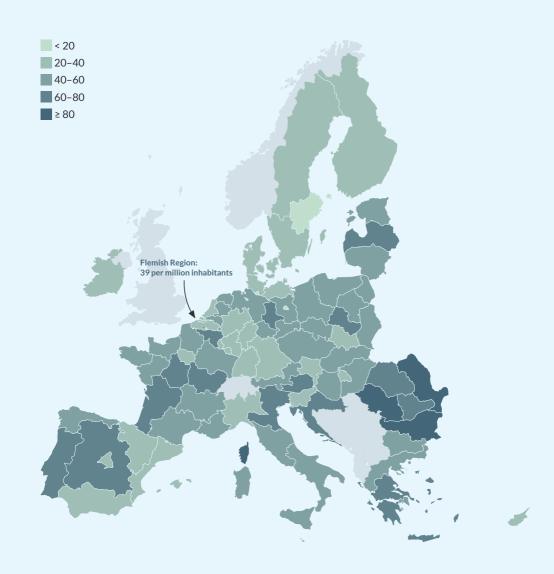
(million tonnes)

	2015	2022	2023	2024
Antwerp- Bruges	246.7	287.0	271.4	277.8
Ghent	26.4	33.0	29.8	29.4
Ostend	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.0
		,		



#### Road fatalities in 2023

(EU-NUTS 1 regions, number per million inhabitants)



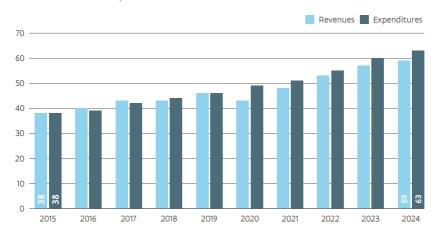


### 4.1 Public finances

Sources: Department FB, ABB

### Revenues and expenditures of the Flemish government

(billion euro, current prices)



## Revenues and expenditures of local governments

(billion euro, current prices)

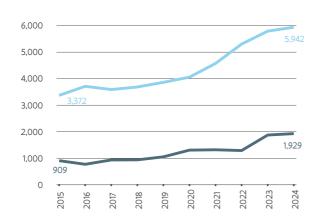


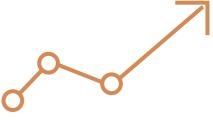
	2020	2023
Revenues		
Municipality, PCSW and district	15	19
Other local authorities	3	4
Expenditures		
Municipality, PCSW and district	15	18
Other local authorities	3	4

### Investment of the Flemish government

(million euro, current prices)

Investment in fixed assets — Investment subsidies



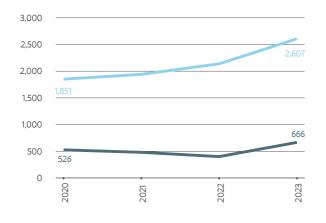




### Investment of local government

(million euro, current prices)

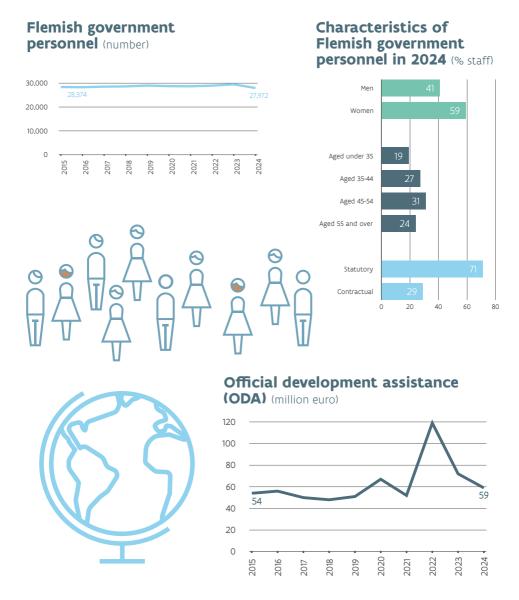
Municipalities (including districts and PCSWs) — Other local authorities





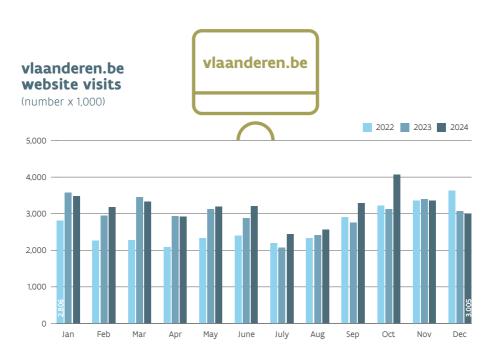
# 4.2 Government personnel and development cooperation

Sources: Flanders Chancellery and Foreign Office, AgO



### 4.3 Relationship government-citizens

Sources: Digital Flanders Agency, SF survey





#### More data

Consult the website of the Statistics Flanders network at https://www.vlaanderen.be/en/statistics-flanders.

Also consult the websites of the entities of the Statistics Flanders network.

#### Chancellery, Public Governance, Foreign Affairs and Justice Policy Area

Flanders Chancellery & Foreign Office	https://www.vlaanderen.be/departement-kanselarij- buitenlandse-zaken	
Agency for Home Affairs	https://gemeente-stadsmonitor.vlaanderen.be/	
	https://vlaanderenkiest.be/	
	www.vlaanderen.be/lokaal-bestuur#financiele_profielen	
Agency for Justice and Enforcement	https://www.vlaanderen.be/agentschap-justitie-en- handhaving/cijfers	
Agency for Facility Operations	https://overheid.vlaanderen.be/facilitairbedrijf	
Digital Flanders Agency	https://overheid.vlaanderen.be/digitaal-vlaanderen	
Agency for Government Personnel	https://overheid.vlaanderen.be/bedrijfsinformatie	
Audit Flanders	https://www.auditvlaanderen.be/	
Visit Flanders	https://toerismevlaanderen.be/nl/cijfers	
Flanders Investment & Trade	https://www.flandersinvestmentandtrade.com/export/landen	
Finance and Budget Policy Area		
Department of Finance and Budget	https://financeflanders.be	
Flemish Tax Service	https://www.vlaanderen.be/belastingen-en-begroting/vlaamse-belastingen	

Education	and	<b>Training</b>	Policy	Area

Department of Education and Training	https://onderwijs.vlaanderen.be/nl/onderwijsstatistieken
Agency for Educational Services	https://www.onderwijs.vlaanderen.be/nl/ onderwijsstatistieken/cijfermateriaal-en-data-agodi
Agency for School Infrastructure	https://www.agion.be/publicaties
Welfare, Public Health and Family	Policy Area
Department of Care	https://www.departementzorg.be/nl/onderzoek-cijfers-en-innovatie
Growing Up Agency	https://www.opgroeien.be/kennis/cijfers-en-onderzoek
Flemish Agency for Persons with Disabilities	https://www.vaph.be/over-vaph/beleid-en-cijfers/cijfers
Public Psychiatric Care Centre – Geel	https://www.opzgeel.be/nl
Public Psychiatric Care Centre – Rekem	https://www.opzcrekem.be/
Growth Package Payment Agency	https://www.groeipakket.be/voor-professionelen/cijfers
Flemish Agency for Cooperation on Data Sharing between Actors in the Care Sector	https://www.departementwvg.be/wie-wat-het-agentschap
Culture, Youth, Sport and Media P	Policy Area
Department of Culture, Youth and Media	https://www.vlaanderen.be/cjm/nl
Sports Flanders Agency	https://www.sport.vlaanderen/kennisplatform
Flemish Regulator for the Media	http://www.vlaamseregulatormedia.be/nl/radio-tv-en- netwerken
Flemish Public Broadcaster	https://www.vrt.be/nl/info/kijk-en-luistercijfers

#### Work, Economy, Science, Innovation, Agriculture and Social Economy Policy Area

	<del></del>
Department of Work, Economy, Science, Innovation and Social Economy	https://opendata.wewis.vlaanderen.be/ https://www.steunpuntwerk.be/ https://www.ewi-vlaanderen.be/onze-opdracht/data-en- indicatoren https://www.ecoom.be/en
Public Employment Service of Flanders	https://www.vdab.be/trends
Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries	https://landbouwcijfers.vlaanderen.be/
Flanders Research Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food	https://www.ilvo.vlaanderen.be/
Flanders Innovation & Entrepreneurship	https://www.vlaio.be/en
Meise Botanic Garden	https://www.plantentuinmeise.be/en/home
Flemish Institute for Technological Research	https://vito.be/en
Mobility and Public Works Policy	Area
Department of Mobility and Public Works	https://www.vlaanderen.be/mobiliteit-en-openbare-werken/open-data-over-mobiliteit-en-openbare-werken
	https://www.vlaanderen.be/mobiliteit-en-openbare-werken/onderzoek-verplaatsingsgedrag-vlaanderen-ovg
Agency for Roads and Traffic	https://wegenenverkeer.be/vlot-op-weg/verkeerstellingen
Agency for Maritime and Coastal Services	https://agentschapmdk.be/
Flemish Waterways plc	https://www.vlaamsewaterweg.be/nl/publicaties
Flemish Public Transport Company – De Lijn	https://www.delijn.be/en/

#### **Environment and Spatial Development Policy Area**

Environment Department	https://indicatoren.omgeving.vlaanderen.be/
Housing Agency - Flanders	https://www.vlaanderen.be/wonen-in-vlaanderen
Flanders Heritage	https://monitor.onroerenderfgoed.be/
Energy and Climate Agency of Flanders	https://www.energiesparen.be/energiestatistieken
Agency for Nature and Forests	https://www.natuurenbos.be/dossiers/bosinventaris
Research Institute for Nature and Forest	https://www.vlaanderen.be/inbo/natuurindicatoren/
Flanders Environment Agency	https://www.vmm.be
Public Waste Agency of Flanders	https://ovam.vlaanderen.be
Flemish Land Agency	https://www.vlm.be/nl/themas/Mestbank/Achtergrond/cijfers- en-studies/Paginas/default.aspx
Other entities	
Flemish Community Commission	https://www.vgc.be/en
Flemish municipalities and provinces	https://www.vvsg.be/
	https://provincies.incijfers.be
Administrative Services of the Council of Community Education	https://pro.g-o.be/themas/over-go/organisatiestructuur/centrale-niveau/centrale-diensten/
Flemish Utilities Regulator	https://www.vlaamsenutsregulator.be/nl/energiemarkt-cijfers

#### **Abbreviations**

ABB	Agency for Home Affairs
AgO	Agency for Government Personnel
ANB	Agency for Nature and Forests
BISA	Brussels Institute for Statistics and Analysis
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide
Covid-19	Coronavirus disease 2019
DALY	Disability Adjusted Life Year
DG	Directorate General
ECOOM	Centre for Research & Development Monitoring
EDI	Electronic Data Interchange
EU	European Union
Eurostat	Statistical office of the European Union
FB	Finance and Budget
FPB	Federal Planning Bureau
FTE	Full-time equivalent
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIB	Guaranteed income for the older persons
HERMREG	Harmonised Econometric Research for Modelling Regions
IGO	Income guarantee for the older persons
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMA	Intermutualistic Agency
INA	Institute for National Accounts
INBO	Research Institute for Nature and Forest
IT	Integration allowance
IVT	Income substitution allowance

IWEPS	Institut Wallon de l'Evaluation, de la Prospective et de la Statistique
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LV	Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries
MORA	Flanders Mobility Council
NBB	National Bank of Belgium
NH <sub>3</sub>	Ammonia
NO <sub>x</sub>	Nitrogen oxides
NUTS 1	Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (highest level)
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OVAM	Public Waste Agency of Flanders
PCSW	Public Centre for Social Welfare
PPS	Public Planning Service
PPS	Purchasing power standard
R&D	Research and Development
SERV	Social and Economic Council of Flanders
SF	Statistics Flanders
SILC	Statistics on Income and Living Conditions
SO <sub>2</sub>	Sulphur dioxide
Statbel	Belgian statistical office
VEKA	Energy and Climate Agency of Flanders
VMM	Flanders Environment Agency
VSA	Flanders Statistics Authority

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