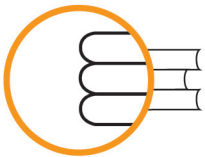




ISEI - IVEI

Rs5. PREMATURE SCHOOL-LEAVING





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PERCENTAGE OF EARLY SCHOOL LEAVERS IN THE POPULATION AGED 18-24 WITH AT MOST LOWER SECONDARY EDUCATION (ISCED2) AND NOT IN FURTHER EDUCATION OR TRAINING.

European Union Objective for 2010: No more than 10% early school leavers

The early school leaving rate has always been a basic concern in European educational policies. This data has been used as a strategic indicator, not only in the Luxembourg process for coordinating employment policies, but also in the list of structural indicators for monitoring the Lisbon process.

In the conclusions of the European Council of Lisbon, March 2000, a specific target was set for early school leavers: to halve the number of 18-24 year olds whose highest level of studies is basic secondary education (ISCED 2) and who stop studying. In short, the objective is to encourage young people in this age range to continue their education, either formally (post-compulsory) or through another type of training outside the educational system thereby preventing part of the population from being left out of the knowledge society. However, this indicator does not measure those who drop out of compulsory education or school failure understood as the percentage of pupils who fail to obtain the leaving certificate.

Over the years, the definition and methodology for this indicator have been modified. From 1992 to 1999 both inclusive, EPA-1999 (the Spanish initials for Active Population Survey) methodology was used, with data collected in the 2nd quarter from the Active Population Survey, only considering people who *dropped out of formal education*. Then EPA-2005 was brought in which takes into account the average of the 4 quarters and the population *in neither formal or non-formal education*. And finally since the first quarter of 2006, the condition of *not studying* (no type of training) includes people (18-24) who simultaneously are on holiday from formal studies and are not taking any non-formal studies. All the series presented in this indicator have been recalculated using EPA-2005 methodology.

Although the evolution of this indicator in European countries shows a downward trend, it must be remembered that the proposed benchmark is really ambitious and several member countries are a long way from the intended 10% for 2010. In 2007 only six countries reached the objective. Generally, it can be observed that there are many fluctuations and when percentages around 10% have been reached, further improvement is difficult, as in the case of the Basque Country with 15.4% in 2007.

(*) Training is considered to be any learning-related activity, formal or otherwise.



In 2007, the average for EU 15 was 16.4%, however with the inclusion of the remaining 12 countries the average percentage of early school leavers dropped to 14.8%. This is because these countries have a considerably lower rate of early school leavers than the other EU members.

In the Basque Country, the share of early school leavers between 2000-2007 varied between 13.2% and 15.8% which suggests that the objective set by the EU will not be reached by 2010, and even in the case of women which has always remained at or even below 10%, in 2007 the percentage of female early school leavers was 11%. The percentage of male early school leavers was 19.6%.

In 2007, the Basque Country and Navarre are the two Spanish regions with the lowest share of early school leavers, both well below the average for Spain as a whole which is 31.9%.

The breakdown by sex is also illuminating. In 2007, except for Bulgaria, Romania, Austria and Germany where the dropout percentage is the same for men and women, in all the other countries more men than women leave education early. In the case of Slovenia, Cyprus, Portugal and Spain there is more than a 10 point difference between the two groups. In the Basque Country the difference is also significant with the dropout rate for boys 8.6 points higher than for girls. In 13 of the Spanish regions, the difference between early leavers by sex is 10 points higher in boys than girls and it is only in Ceuta and Melilla where the dropout rate for girls is 5.6 points higher than for boys.



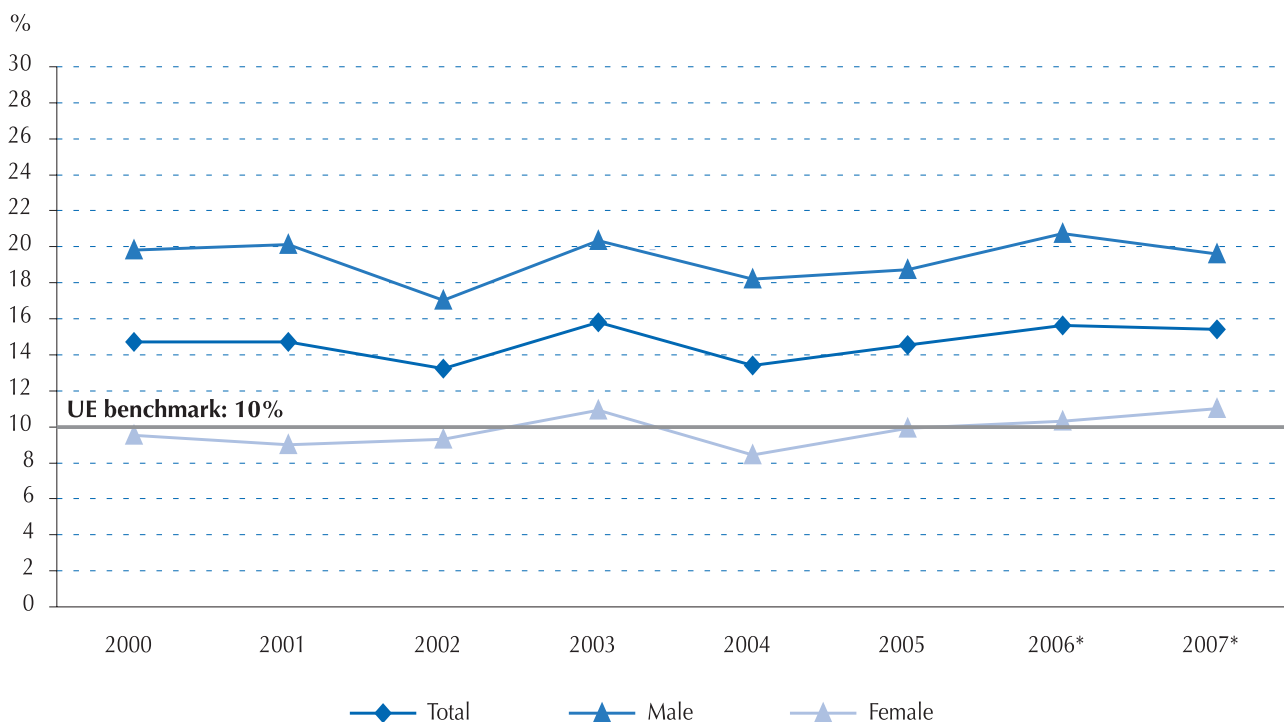
Table and Graph Rs5.1:

Percentage of early school leavers aged 18-24 in the Basque Country.

Year	Total	Male	Female
2000	14.7	19.8	9.5
2001	14.7	20.1	9.0
2002	13.2	17.0	9.3
2003	15.8	20.3	10.9
2004	13.4	18.2	8.4
2005	14.5	18.7	9.9
2006*	15.6	20.7	10.3
2007*	15.4	19.6	11.0

Note: The entire series is calculated with EPA-2005 methodology.

* Since the first quarter of 2006, the condition of *not studying* includes people (18-24) who simultaneously are *on holiday from formal studies* and are *not taking any non-formal studies*.



Source: EPA-2005. Spanish National Statistics Institute (INE)

**Table Rs5.2:****Percentage of early school leavers aged 18-24 in the Spanish regions.**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006*	2007*
TOTAL	29.1	29.7	30.7	31.6	32.0	30.8	31.3	31.9
Andalusia	35.5	35.3	36.8	38.2	39.2	37.9	39.0	38.5
Aragon	21.9	20.8	27.0	24.0	23.5	23.0	26.3	26.6
Asturias (Principate of)	21.8	19.8	22.4	28.6	26.3	20.1	24.0	23.7
Balearics	42.0	40.7	40.3	41.4	42.5	39.3	37.3	44.3
Canaries	34.1	36.9	33.0	32.7	33.5	30.5	35.4	37.1
Cantabria	22.8	24.2	26.2	29.1	26.3	21.8	25.2	26.8
Castilla - La Mancha	35.8	36.4	36.5	36.2	37.0	36.5	39.5	38.0
Castilla y León	21.6	22.9	22.8	24.4	23.3	25.7	24.7	24.7
Catalonia	29.1	30.1	31.2	33.9	34.0	33.1	29.1	32.2
Ceuta y Melilla	37.5	32.2	36.1	40.8	41.3	44.4	47.9	50.8
Comunidad Valenciana	32.7	35.8	36.0	36.0	35.6	32.1	32.1	32.3
Basque Country	14.7	14.7	13.2	15.8	13.4	14.5	15.6	15.4
Extremadura	41.0	37.9	38.2	36.9	39.7	37.0	36.9	35.4
Galicia	29.2	27.5	26.9	25.0	24.3	23.0	25.8	25.0
Madrid (Comunidad de)	19.6	20.8	23.7	22.6	25.4	26.0	27.0	26.6
Murcia (Región de)	39.2	37.7	38.7	42.0	42.8	39.4	39.4	40.0
Navarra (Com. Foral de)	16.4	17.9	21.6	20.8	21.2	18.4	15.2	17.7
Rioja (La)	26.1	27.0	27.3	34.7	35.0	29.0	28.2	31.5

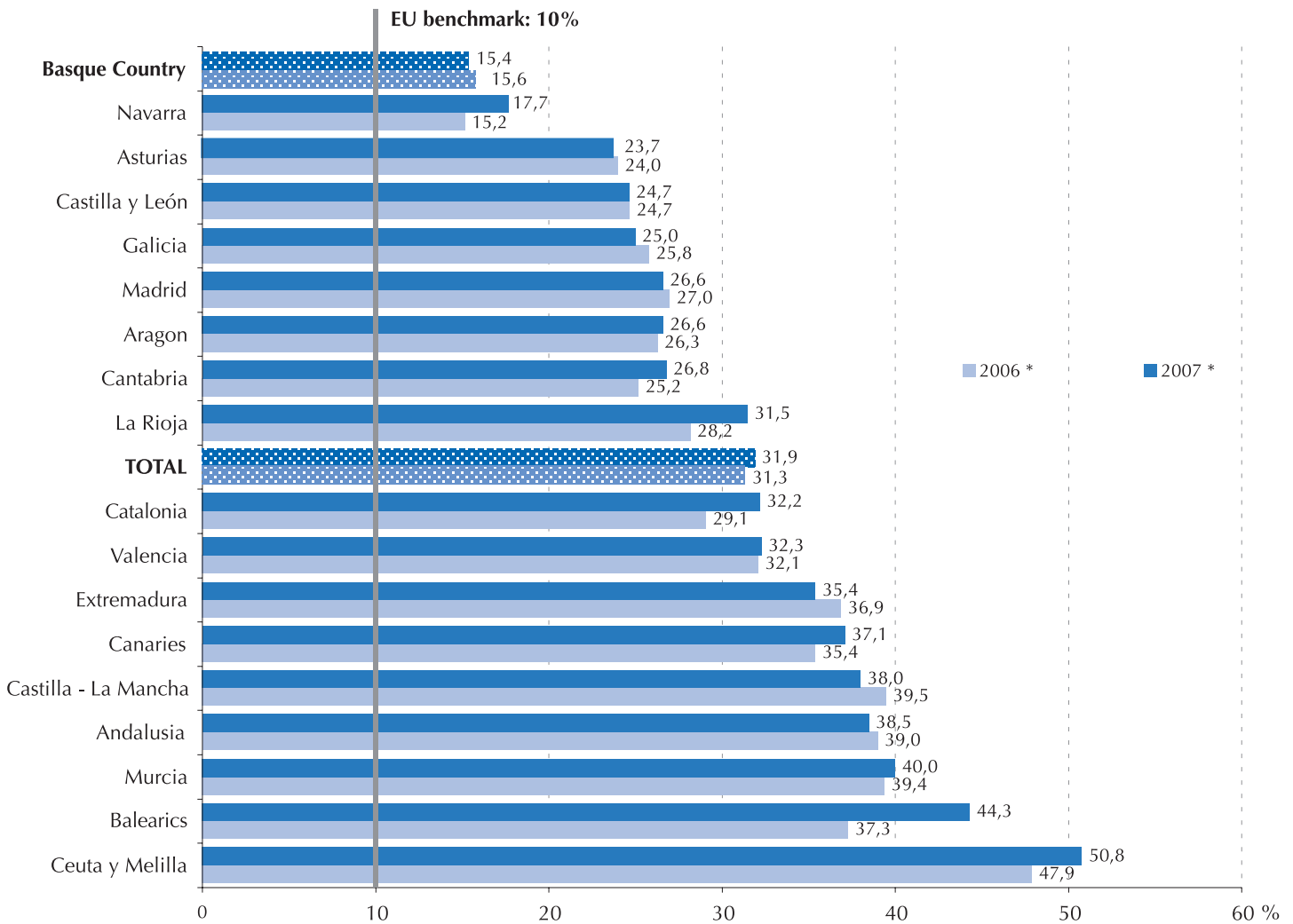
* Since the first quarter of 2006 the condition of *not studying* includes people (18-24) who simultaneously are *on holiday from formal studies* and are *not taking any non-formal studies*.

Source: EPA-2005, data are the yearly average for the four quarters. Spanish National Statistics Institute (INE)



Graph Rs5.2:

Percentage of early school leavers aged 18-24 in the Spanish regions. 2006 and 2007.



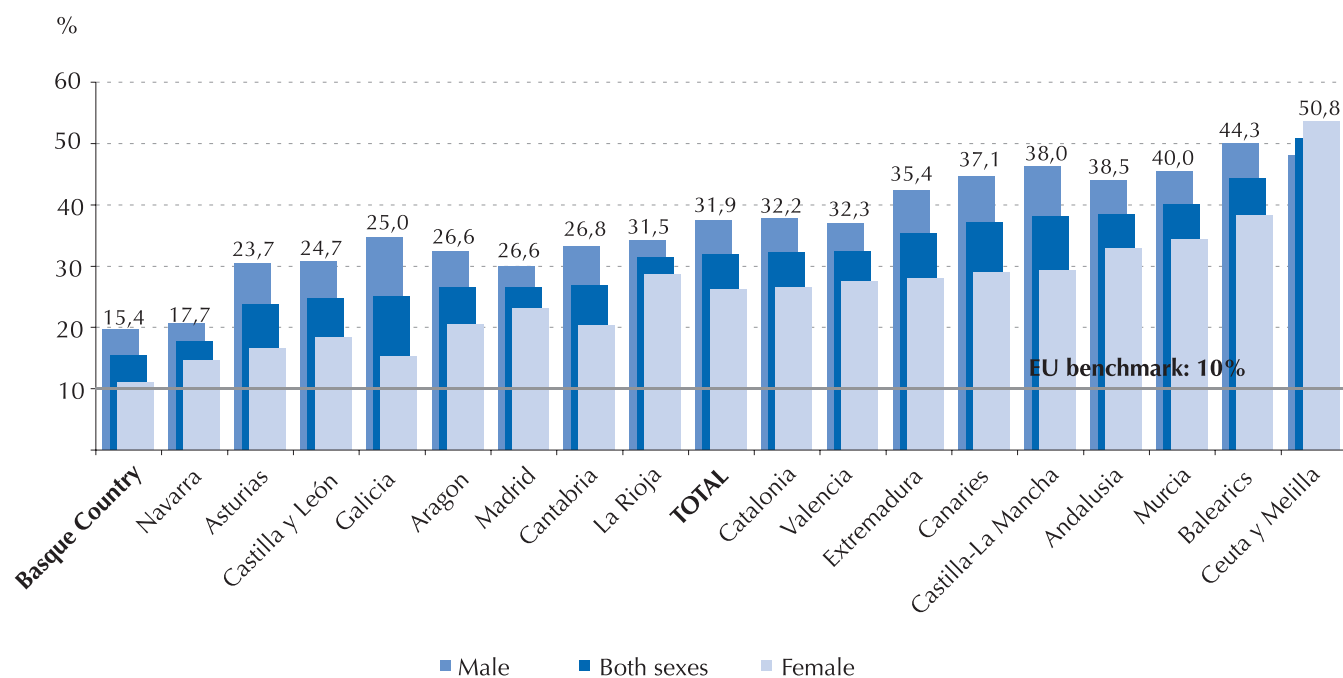
Note: Ascending order of early school leaving.

* Since 2006, the condition of *Not studying* includes people (18-24) who are simultaneously *on holiday from formal education* and are *NOT participating in non-formal education*.

Source: EPA-2005, data are the yearly average for the four quarters. Spanish National Statistics Institute (INE)

**Table and Graph Rs5.3:****Percentage of Early School Leavers by sex in the Spanish regions in 2007.**

	Both sexes	Men	Women
Total	31.9	37.5	26.1
Andalusia	38.5	43.9	32.8
Aragon	26.6	32.4	20.4
Asturias (Principate of)	23.7	30.5	16.5
Balearics	44.3	49.9	38.3
Canaries	37.1	44.6	29.0
Cantabria	26.8	33.2	20.3
Castilla - La Mancha	38.0	46.3	29.2
Castilla y León	24.7	30.7	18.4
Catalonia	32.2	37.7	26.5
Ceuta y Melilla	50.8	48.0	53.6
Comunidad Valenciana	32.3	37.0	27.4
Basque Country	15.4	19.6	11.0
Extremadura	35.4	42.3	27.9
Galicia	25.0	34.6	15.2
Madrid (Comunidad de)	26.6	30.0	23.1
Murcia (Región de)	40.0	45.4	34.3
Navarra (Com. Foral de)	17.7	20.6	14.6
Rioja (La)	31.5	34.2	28.6



Note: ordered by both sexes.

* Since 2006, the condition *Not studying* includes people (18-24) who are simultaneously *on holiday from formal education* and are *NOT participating in non-formal education*.

Source: EPA-2005, data are the yearly average for the four quarters. Spanish National Statistics Institute (INE).

**Table Rs5.4:****Percentage of early school leavers in the European Union.**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
EU (27)	17.6	17.3	17.1	16.6	15.9	15.5	15.2	14.8
EU (25)	17.3	17.0	16.6	16.1	15.4	15.1	15.0	14.5
EU (15)	19.5	19.0	18.7	18.3	17.5	17.1	16.9	16.4
Germany	14.9	12.5	12.6	12.8 ⁽ⁱ⁾	12.1	13.8	13.9	12.7
Austria	10.2	10.2	9.5	9.3 ^(b)	8.7 ⁽ⁱ⁾	9.0	9.6	10.9
Belgium	12.5	13.6	12.4	12.8	11.9 ^(b)	13.0	12.6	12.3
Bulgaria	:	20.3	21.0	22.4	21.4	20.0	18.0	16.6
Cyprus	18.5	17.9	15.9	17.4 ^(b)	20.6	18.1	16.0	12.6
Denmark	11.6	9.0	8.6	10.3 ^(b)	8.5	8.5	10.9	12.4 ^(b)
Slovakia	:	:	5.6	4.9 ^(b)	7.1	5.8	6.4	7.2
Slovenia	:	7.5	4.8 ^(u)	4.3 ^(u)	4.2 ^(u)	4.3 ^(u)	5.2 ^(u)	4.3 ^(u)
Spain	29.1	29.2	29.9	31.3	31.7	30.8^(b)	29.9	31.0
Estonia	14.2	14.1	12.6	11.8	13.7	14.0	13.2	14.3
Basque Country	14.7	14.7	13.2	15.8	13.4	14.5	15.6	15.4
Finland	8.9 ^(b)	10.3	9.9	8.3 ^(b)	8.7	9.3	8.3	7.9 ^(p)
France	13.3	13.5	13.4	13.6 ^(b)	13.1	12.0	12.3	12.7
Greece	18.2	17.3	16.7	15.5 ^(b)	14.9	13.3	15.9	14.7
Hungary	13.8	12.9	12.2	11.8 ^(b)	12.6	12.3	12.4	10.9
Ireland	:	:	14.7	12.3 ^(b)	12.9 ^(p)	12.3 ^(p)	12.3	11.5
Italy	25.3	26.4	24.3	23.5	22.3	21.9	20.8	19.3
Latvia	:	:	19.5	18.1	15.6	11.9	19.0 ^(p)	16.0 ^(p)
Lithuania	16.7	13.7	14.3 ^(b)	11.8	9.5 ^(b)	9.2	10.3	8.7
Luxembourg	16.8	18.1	17.0	12.3	12.7	13.3	17.4	15.1
Malta	54.2	54.4	53.2	48.2	42.0 ^(b)	41.2	41.7	37.6
Netherlands	15.5	15.3	15.0	14.2 ^(b)	14.0	13.6	12.9	12.0
Poland	:	7.9	7.6	6.3	5.7 ^(b)	5.5	5.6	5.0
Portugal	42.6	44.0	45.1	40.4	39.4 ^(b)	38.6	39.2 ^(p)	36.3 ^(p)
United Kingdom	18.4	17.7	17.8	16.8	14.9 ⁽ⁱ⁾	14.0	13.0	:
Czech Republic	:	:	5.5	6.0 ^(b)	6.1	6.4	5.5	:
Romania	22.3	21.3	23.2	23.2	23.6 ^(b)	20.8	19.0	19.2
Sweden	7.7	10.5 ^(b)	10.4	9.0 ^(b)	8.6	11.7 ^(b)	12.0	:

(:) not available

(b) break in the series

(i) Due to the introduction of concepts and harmonized definitions there is a lack of comparability with previous years

(p) Provisional data

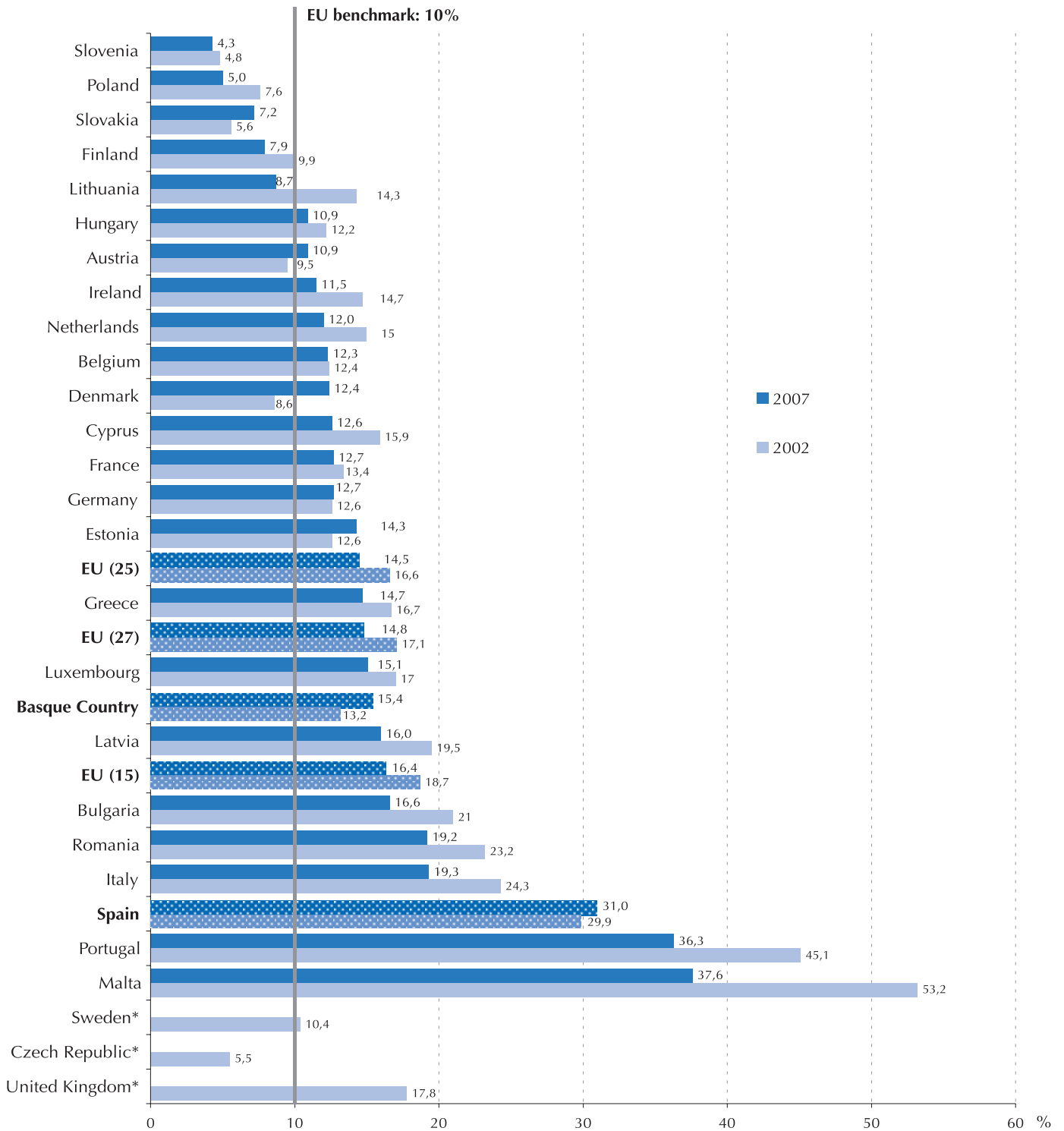
(u) Data with comparability problems

Source: EUROSTAT. (LFS – Structural Indicators for the European Union)



Graph Rs5.4:

Early school leaving in the European Union in 2007.



Note: Ascending order of early school leaving for the criterion "2007".
(*) Countries with no data for 2007.

Source: EUROSTAT. (LFS – Structural Indicators for the European Union).

**Table Rs5.5:****Early school leaving in the European Union by sex in 2007.**

	Both sexes	Men	Women	Difference
EU (27)	14.8	16.9	12.7	4.2
EU (25)	14.5	16.7	12.3	4.4
EU (15)	16.4	18.8	14	4.8
Germany	12.7	13.4	11.9	1.5
Austria	10.9	11.6	10.2	1.4
Belgium	12.3	13.9	10.7	3.2
Bulgaria	16.6	16.3	16.9	-0.6
Cyprus	12.6	19.5	6.8	12.7
Denmark	12.4(b)	15.7(b)	8.9(b)	6.8
Slovakia	7.2	8.1	6.3	1.8
Slovenia	4.3(u)	5.7(u)	2.7(u)	14.6
Spain	31.0	36.1	25.6	10.5
Estonia	14.3	21	:(u)	:
Basque Country	15.4	19.6	11.0	8.6
Finland	7.9(p)	9.7(p)	6.3(p)	3.4
France	12.7	14.6	10.9	3.7
Greece	14.7	18.6	10.7	7.9
Hungary	10.9	12.5	9.3	3.2
Ireland	11.5	14.2	8.7	5.5
Italy	19.3	22.6	15.9	3.6
Latvia	16.0(p)	19.7(p)	12.3(p)	7.4
Lithuania	8.7	11.4	5.9(u)	5.5
Luxembourg	15.1	19.2	11.1(u)	8.1
Malta	37,6	41,5	33,3	5,5
Netherlands	12,0	14,4	9,6	6,3
Poland	5,0	6,4	3,6	2,8
Portugal	36,3(p)	42(p)	30,4(p)	11,6
Romania	19,2	19,2	19,1	0.1

(:) not available

(b) break in the series

(p) Provisional data

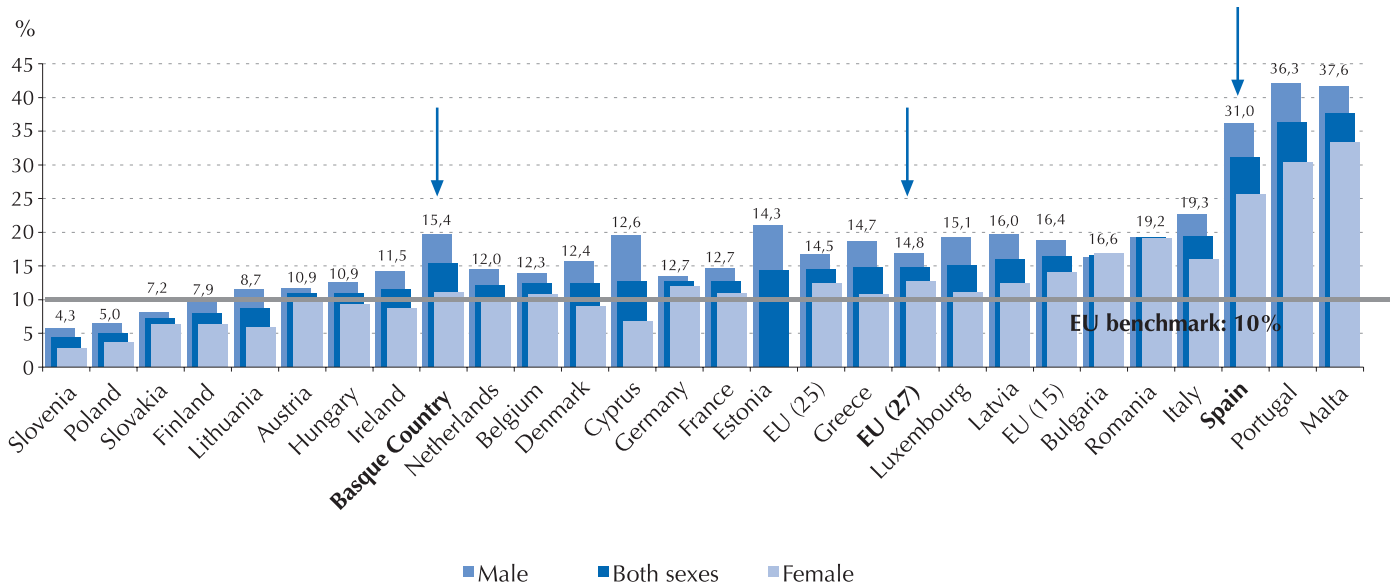
(u) Data with comparability problems

Source: EUROSTAT. (LFS – Structural Indicators for the European Union)



Graph Rs5.5:

Early school leaving in the European Union by sex in 2007.



Note: ascending order of school leaving under the criterion of both sexes

Source: EUROSTAT. (LFS – Structural Indicators for the European Union)