

# Very Low Work Intensity in Ireland and the EU

11 August 2016

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## Abstract

Households where working age adults work less than 20 percent of their available time are categorized as very-low-work-intensity (VLWI) households by the EU. This is a major policy issue across Europe as VLWI drives up the risk of social exclusion and material deprivation. Ireland persistently records the highest incidence of VLWI in Europe. I use the latest EU-SILC data to address three questions; how do the characteristics of VLWI households compare to the rest of the population; how have these characteristics changed over time; and how does the data for Ireland compare to each of the other 31 countries covered in the EU-SILC dataset? The findings highlight striking differences between VLWI and non-VLWI households in terms of the incidence of single parent households, persistent joblessness, education levels, disability benefit recipients and the incidence of chronic illness. Notable differences between Ireland and the rest of the EU relate to our relatively high number of single parent households and the proportion of VLWI household members whose economic status is categorized as being involved in domestic duties and care responsibilities. While there is a difference in education levels between VLWI and non-VLWI households within Ireland, the education levels of both groups is relatively high compared to the EU average.

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## 1. Introduction

The work intensity of a household is the ratio of total months worked by working-age adults to the number of months the same adults could have worked in a given year. For example, a household with two working-age adults, one working full-time and the other not working, would record a work intensity of 50 percent. Households with a work intensity below 20 percent are categorized as very low work intensity (VLWI) households by the European Union. Ireland is notable in this regard as it persistently records the highest incidence of VLWI in the EU. In 2014, 21 percent of individuals in Ireland were living in VLWI households compared to an EU average of 11 percent. The Council of the European Union highlight concerns surrounding the prevalence of VLWI in Ireland in their 2016 country specific recommendations, with specific mention of the prevalence of VLWI among single-parent households. The EU recommends that Ireland expand and accelerate measures to increase work intensity.

In this paper I use the latest EU-SILC data to investigate how VLWI households and their members compare to non-VLWI households across a number of key characteristics. I generate descriptive statistics for each of the 31 countries in the EU-SILC data, thereby allowing for cross-country comparisons between Ireland and the rest of the EU. I examine how these characteristics have changed over time, starting from the onset of the recession in 2008 up until 2014. In addition, I compare the self-defined economic status of VLWI household members in Ireland to other countries in the EU, using the latest year of data (2014).

The main findings indicate that, compared to non-VLWI households, VLWI households in Ireland are more likely to be single-parent households and their members have a higher incidence of chronic illness and disability benefit claims. Of particular concern is the level of persistent joblessness; 18.8 percent of VLWI household members over 25 years of age that are currently not working, have never worked. There are several notable differences between the data for Ireland and the rest of the EU. An examination of the distribution of work intensity reveals that Ireland has a strikingly high number of individuals in households with zero work intensity relative to households with high work intensity, and this worsened dramatically from 2008 onwards. The percentage of VLWI households in Ireland that are single parent households is the third highest out of 30 countries, and the percentage of VLWI household members whose economic status categorizes them as being engaged in domestic

and care duties far exceeds the EU average. Relative to other EU countries, VLWI individuals in Ireland possess relatively high levels of education, which is almost equal to the EU average for non-VLWI individuals. From 2008-2014, both VLWI and non-VLWI groups in Ireland saw increases in educational attainment, while at the same time educational attainment remained flat throughout the EU, and even decreased in some countries (including the UK).

Despite the serious economic and social consequences of low work intensity households in the EU, the area has received relatively little attention internationally, with the notable exceptions of Watson, Maitre & Whelan (2012) and Watson, Maitre & Russell (2015), who focus on very low work intensity in Ireland. Watson, Maitre & Whelan (2012) note that, although the recession contributed to a sharper increase in VLWI in Ireland compared to the EU-15, Ireland still experienced very high rates of VLWI even prior to the recession. They highlight a number of risk factors associated with VLWI, such as low education, disability and being a single parent and compare the principal economic status of VLWI households in Ireland to the EU-15 in 2009 (the latest data available at the time). This paper builds on the work of Watson, Maitre & Whelan (2012) by using the latest data (up to 2014) to generate comparative statistics between Ireland and the full sample of 31 EU-SILC countries. This includes useful comparative data on the UK, which Watson, Maitre & Whelan (2012) could not include in their study due to technical problems with the data at the time. Watson, Maitre and Russell (2015) examine transitions into and out of household joblessness in Ireland from 2004 to 2014. Their findings indicate that joblessness will likely fall as employment increases, but at a slower rate than the fall in unemployment as joblessness itself inhibits entry to employment.

The remainder of the paper proceeds as follows. Section 2 describes the data and methodological approach. Section 3 analyses the incidence of VLWI in Ireland and the EU and compares the work intensity distribution in Ireland with the EU average. Section 4 compares the characteristics of VLWI and non-VLWI households in Ireland and across the EU and examines the relative risk of poverty and social exclusion between both groups. Section 5 shows the self-defined economic status of VLWI household members for each country in the EU in 2014 and Section 6 concludes.

## 2. Data and Methodology

I separate the population into two groups, those in very-low-work-intensity households (the VLWI group) and those in households whose work intensity exceeds 20 percent (the non-VLWI group).<sup>1</sup> For the full 32 countries covered in the dataset, I compare the average characteristics of the VLWI group with the non-VLWI group. For comparative purposes and to help draw international comparisons between Ireland and the EU, I also calculate the average characteristics across the full EU sample as well as the EU-15. A range of findings for the full sample of countries is presented in detail in a comprehensive set of appendix tables. For brevity, in the main body of the text I typically present graphs comparing Ireland to the EU-15 and the UK, and where relevant I make reference to any notable similarities or differences between Ireland and other countries.

It should be noted that the 20 percent threshold used by the EU to denote very low work intensity may be somewhat arbitrary in the sense that it does not mark a definitive cutoff point where something occurs to sharply separate the two groups. A household with work intensity of 20.1 percent is likely to possess similar characteristics and be of equal concern as a household with work intensity of 19.9 percent. However, it is often informative and necessary to choose a threshold to demarcate two groups or to indicate a point after which a variable becomes of concern.<sup>2</sup> Therefore, the results presented in this paper are informative as they reveal that the VLWI group, identified as being of particular concern by the EU, differ markedly from non-VLWI households on a number of key characteristics and poverty risk factors. More formally, letting  $X$  denote a vector of characteristics, such as education, single parent households etc., I calculate the following statistics for each country in the sample;  $E[X|VLWI=1]$  and  $E[X|non-VLWI=1]$ .

The EU-SILC data contains a weighting score which is designed to overcome difficulties associated with non-representativeness of the sample with the general population. Eurostat publishes yearly figures on the incidence of VLWI across the EU and in doing so use weighted averages. As a first step in this paper I present statistics on the incidence of VLWI. Rather than simply use the published Eurostat statistics, I ensure that I can replicate their findings using the EU-SILC data. This is a useful first step as failure to replicate these statistics would be an early indication of either data or methodological issues. However, I

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<sup>1</sup> The EU-SILC data focuses only on people aged 0-59 living in households where the adults work less than 20 percent of their available time.

<sup>2</sup> Another example of this type of cutoff is the at-risk-of-poverty rate which occurs at 60% of median income. Of course, just because a household records 60.1%, this does not mean that they are automatically no longer at risk of poverty.

also calculate the incidence using the un-weighted statistics and this does not alter the implications or conclusions drawn from the data.

While it may address some concerns regarding non-representativeness of a sample, the use of weights can be problematic in itself and several notable studies call for caution in both their use and interpretation (see e.g., Gelman, 2007 and Barabas and Jerit, 2010). There are some specific concerns regarding weighting of EU-SILC data. As noted by Iacovou et al. (2012), it is unclear whether the EU-SILC weights are design weights or whether they also adjust for non-response. Moreover, it appears that adjusting for non-response (when it occurs), is carried out in an inconsistent fashion across countries.<sup>3</sup> For clarity and ease of interpretation, and given the fact that the same broad conclusions are reached irrespective of whether one uses the weighted or unweighted sample, I present the average characteristics of the two groups (VLWI and non-VLWI) using the raw un-weighted data.<sup>4</sup>

### **3. The Distribution and Incidence of Work Intensity**

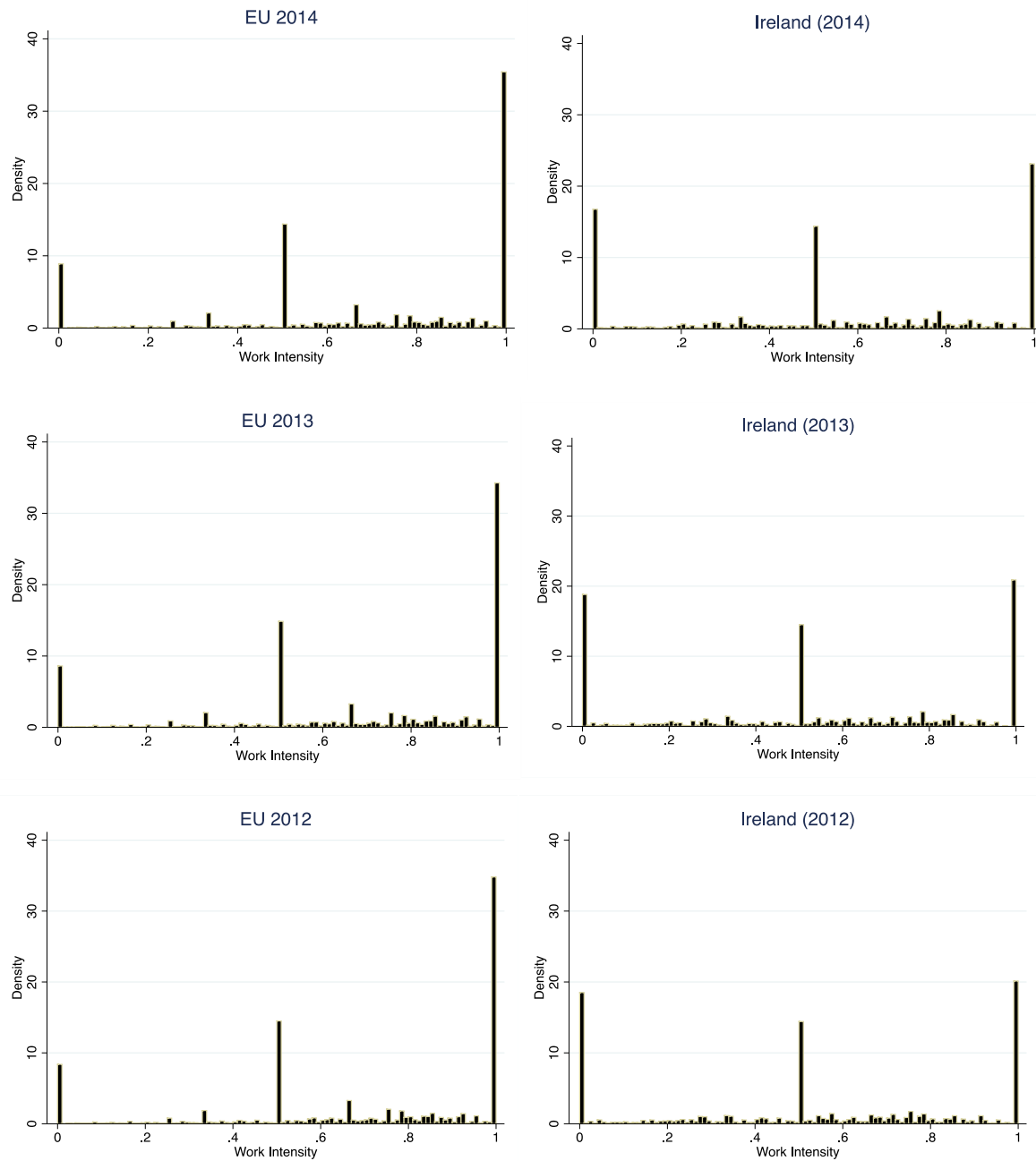
The work intensity indicator can range from 0 (none of the working-age adults in the house are working) to 1 (all working-age adults are working their full available time). A common feature of the work intensity distribution in each country is the existence of three peaks at 0, 0.5 and 1. Figure 1 graphs the work intensity distribution in Ireland compared to the total distribution across the EU from 2008 to 2014. The change in the distribution in Ireland from 2008 onwards and the difference between Ireland and the rest of the EU is striking. While the incidence of VLWI households in Ireland in 2008 was still relatively high, the shape of the work-intensity distribution looked roughly the same as in other EU countries. However, from 2010 onwards the distribution in Ireland was characterized by the fact that the proportion of fully jobless households (work intensity=0) almost equaled the percentage of fully working households. No other country displayed this property. In 2010 Ireland recorded the highest rate of VLWI households and the third lowest (out of 31 countries) rate of households with work intensity equal to 1. Examining the distributions of work intensity also reveals that although we use the 20 percent work intensity threshold to define VLWI households, the statistic is primarily driven by households where the working-age adults do not work any of their available time.

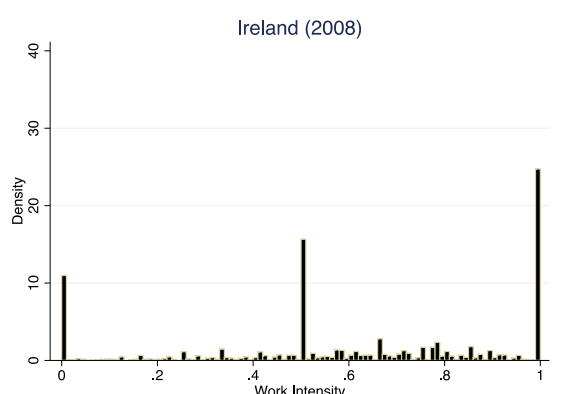
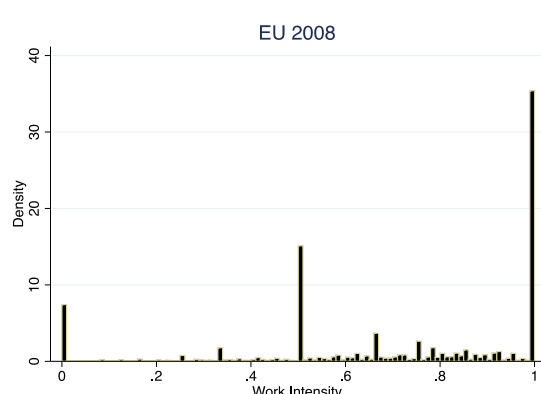
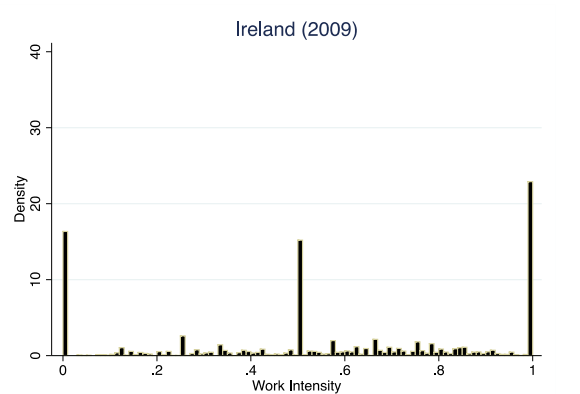
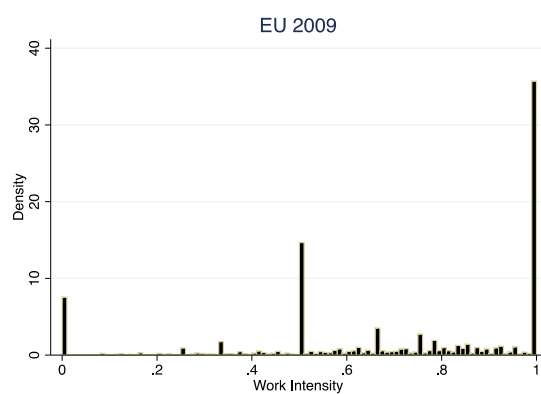
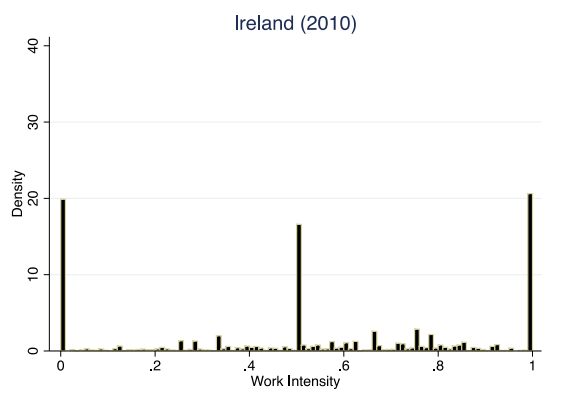
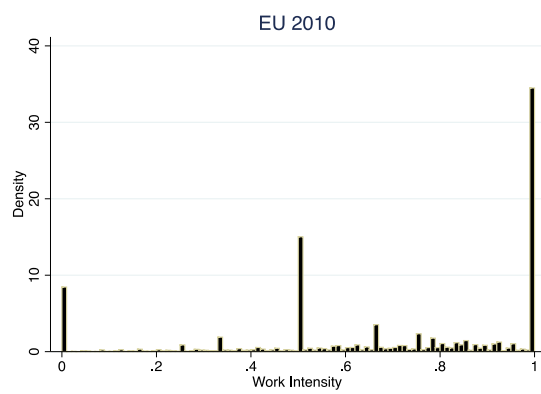
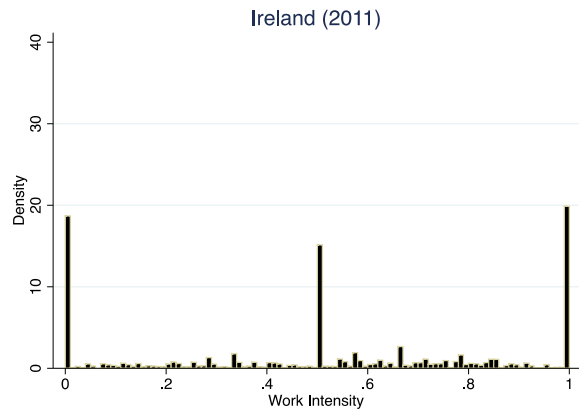
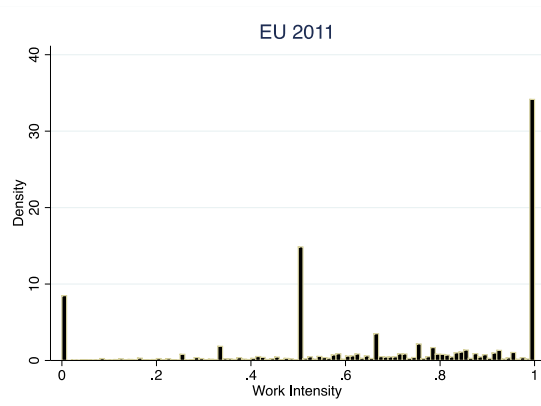
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<sup>3</sup> As noted by Gelman (2007), good advice on creating weights tends to be much vaguer than other methods in the statistical literature.

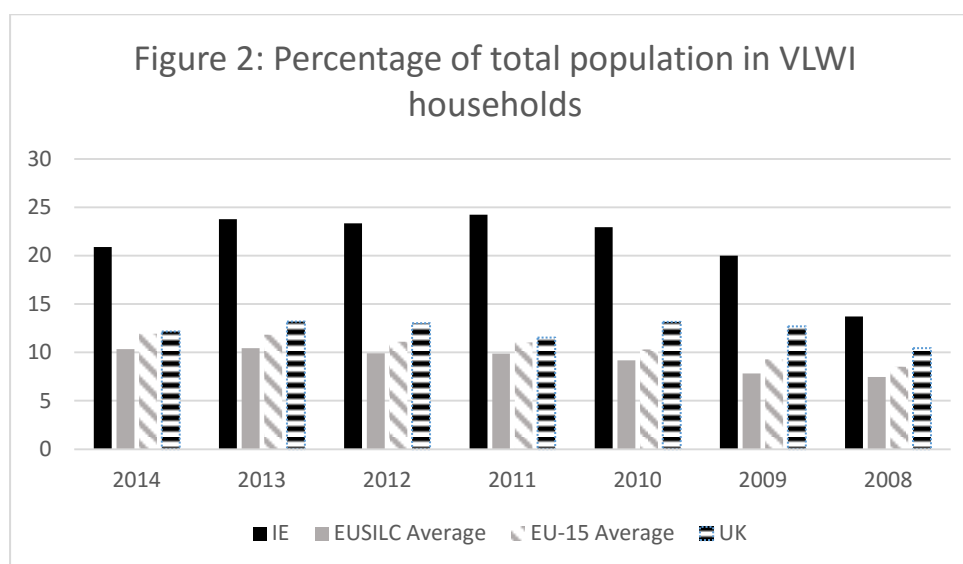
<sup>4</sup> I have statistics using the weighted data which are available on request. As mentioned, the conclusions do not differ regardless of the approach.

**Figure 1: Distribution of Work Intensity in Ireland and the EU**





Given the high concentration of jobless households shown in the distributions in Figure 1, it is unsurprising that the incidence of VLWI households grew during the same period of time with Ireland recording VLWI rates far in excess of the EU average. Figure 2 plots the incidence of VLWI in Ireland from 2008 to 2014 along with the corresponding rates in the EU-SILC 31, EU-15 and the UK.



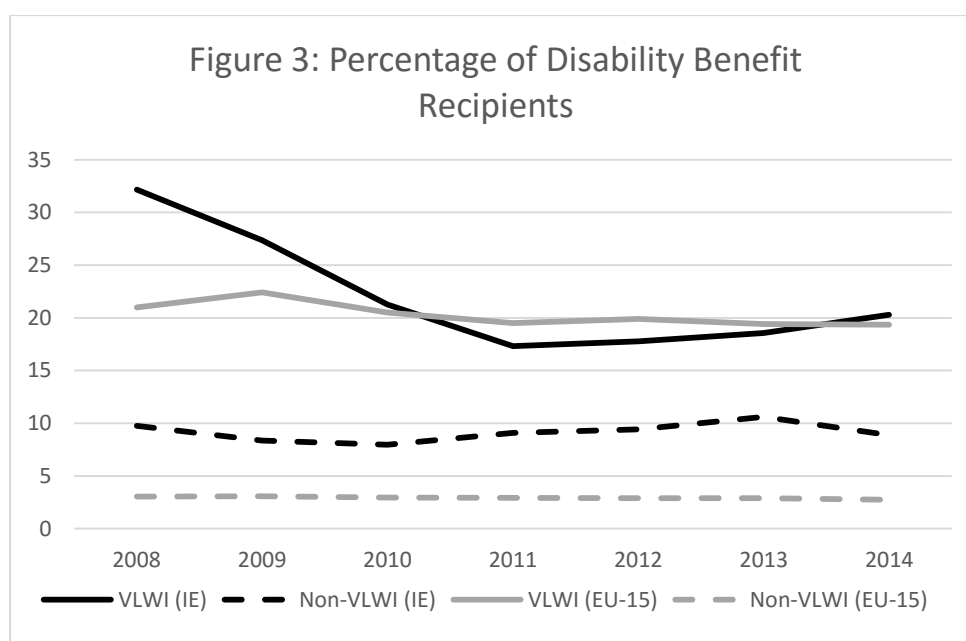
#### 4. Characteristics of VLWI Households

VLWI households in Ireland possess different characteristics to non-VLWI households, the most notable of which relate to the percentage of single-parent households, the incidence of disability benefit recipients, the level of education and the persistence of joblessness.

In 2014, 39 percent of VLWI household members over 16 years of age reported having a chronic illness compared to just 16 percent of non-VLWI household members. A chronic illness is characterized as being a permanent condition which is expected to require a long period of observation or care. Similar differences are reported throughout the EU with rates of chronic illness in VLWI households typically being double that of non-VLWI households (see Appendix Table A1). The rates of chronic illness in Ireland, in both VLWI and non-VLWI households, are relatively low compared to other EU countries. However, when making these comparisons it should be noted that Ireland has a relatively young population compared to the other countries in the survey and as such one would expect a lower incidence of chronic illness. Unsurprisingly there are also differences regarding the percentage of household members in receipt of disability benefit, with 20 percent of VLWI



household members in Ireland receiving disability payments compared to 9 percent of non-VLWI household members. Again, this is a common observation across other EU countries as seen in Table A2. However, Ireland is notable in that the percentage of non-VLWI members in receipt of disability benefit is the highest of all the EU-15 countries and the second highest out of 30 countries. Figure 3 shows the percentage of disability benefit recipients in VLWI and non-VLWI households in Ireland and the EU-15 from 2008-2014. Figure 3 also reveals that since 2008 there has been a sharp decline in the percentage of VLWI households claiming disability benefit in Ireland, falling from over 30 percent in 2008 to approximately 20 percent in 2014.



In 2014, 38 percent of VLWI household members aged over 25 were educated above secondary level, compared to 62 percent of non-VLWI household members. Table A3 shows education levels for VLWI and non-VLWI households throughout Europe. Ireland stands out as having the most highly educated workforce in the EU as measured by the percentage of over 25's with a greater than second level education. This is true for both VLWI and non-VLWI groups. The percentage of highly educated VLWI household members in Ireland has doubled from 2008 to 2014 and this group now possess comparable levels of education to the EU average for non-VLWI household members, as shown in Figure 4. The sharp increase in educational attainment experienced in Ireland is not a common feature of other EU countries, with some countries experiencing an educational decline over the same period. For example,

in the UK educational attainment in 2014 is lower for both VLWI and non-VLWI groups compared to 2008.

It is well established that education levels affect wages. EU-SILC data contains information on gross monthly earnings and the number of hours worked per week and from this an hourly wage rate can be calculated. I compare the median hourly wage for the VLWI and non-VLWI group in Ireland over time, focusing on part-time workers.<sup>5</sup> This is shown in Table 1. The median hourly wage for the VLWI group of part-time workers is lower than that of the non-VLWI group. The median hourly wage for both groups declined following the onset of the economic downturn in 2008 but in recent years the median wage has been increasing.

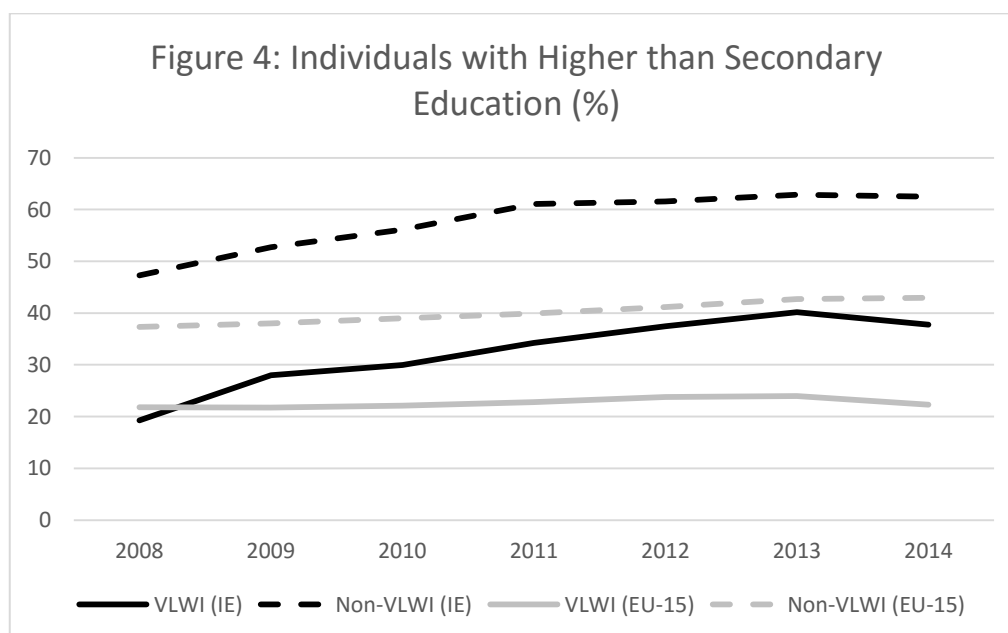
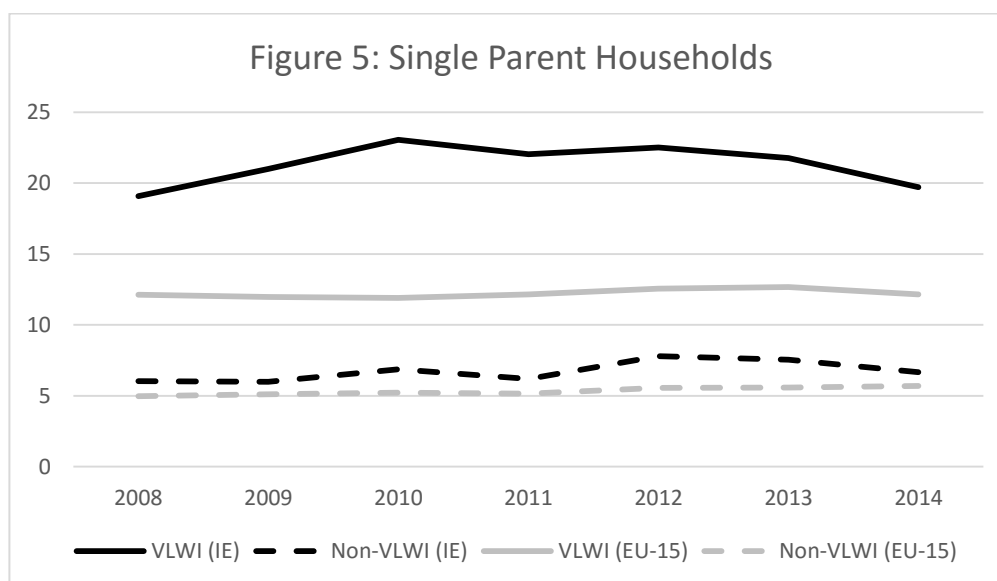


Table 1: Median Hourly Wage of Part-Time Workers in Ireland (2008-2014)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
VLWI	11.54	11.47	10.76	9.98	10.35	10.03	10.36
Non-VLWI	12.55	14.11	12.99	12.05	11.60	12.04	12.43

<sup>5</sup> There are not enough observations for full-time workers in VLWI households to do any meaningful wage analysis for this category of worker. As such I focus on part-time workers which are more common in VLWI households.

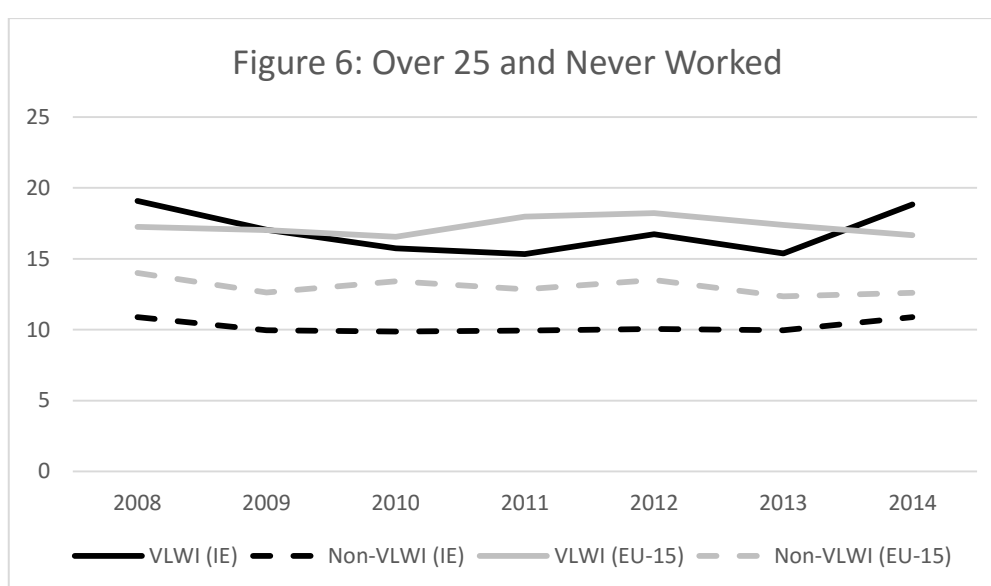
In 2014, twenty percent of VLWI households in Ireland were single parent households, which is the second highest rate in the EU after the UK (see Table A4). The percentage of single parent households among the non-VLWI group is much lower at seven percent, however by EU standards this is still quite high with only France, Luxembourg, Latvia and the UK being higher. Figure 5 compares the percentage of single-parent households in Ireland to the EU-15 average from 2008 to 2014.



I examine the percentage of out of work individuals that have never worked. According to the EU-SILC data, having ever worked refers to individuals who have worked on a full or part-time basis for at least six months. Holiday work by students from which they return to their studies is disregarded, as is casual work undertaken from time to time. I focus on individuals aged over 25 as this allows time for people to have completed their education and sought employment. Table A5 shows the percentage of people in VLWI and non-VLWI households that have never worked in Ireland and across the EU and Figure 6 summarizes this graphically by comparing Ireland to the EU-15 average. A number of noteworthy features emerge from this data. In 2014, 19 percent of out-of-work members of VLWI households report never having worked, compared to just 11 percent of non-VLWI household members. The difference between the two groups in Ireland is quite large by EU standards. The percentage of the VLWI group that never worked is currently higher than the EU average whereas the percentage of the non-VLWI group that have never worked is slightly lower. The relatively high percentage of VLWI members that have never worked is a particularly

worrying statistic as it points to a societal group of people who are permanently excluded from employment.

There are differences in the characteristics of the never-worked group in VLWI households compared to non-VLWI households. While females make up the majority of individuals who have never worked in both household types, the percentage of the never-worked group that are male is far higher in VLWI households (34 percent) compared to non-VLWI households (20 percent). The education levels also differ; 34 percent of the VLWI never-worked group possess a level of education exceeding upper secondary level compared to 45 percent for the never-worked group in non-VLWI households.



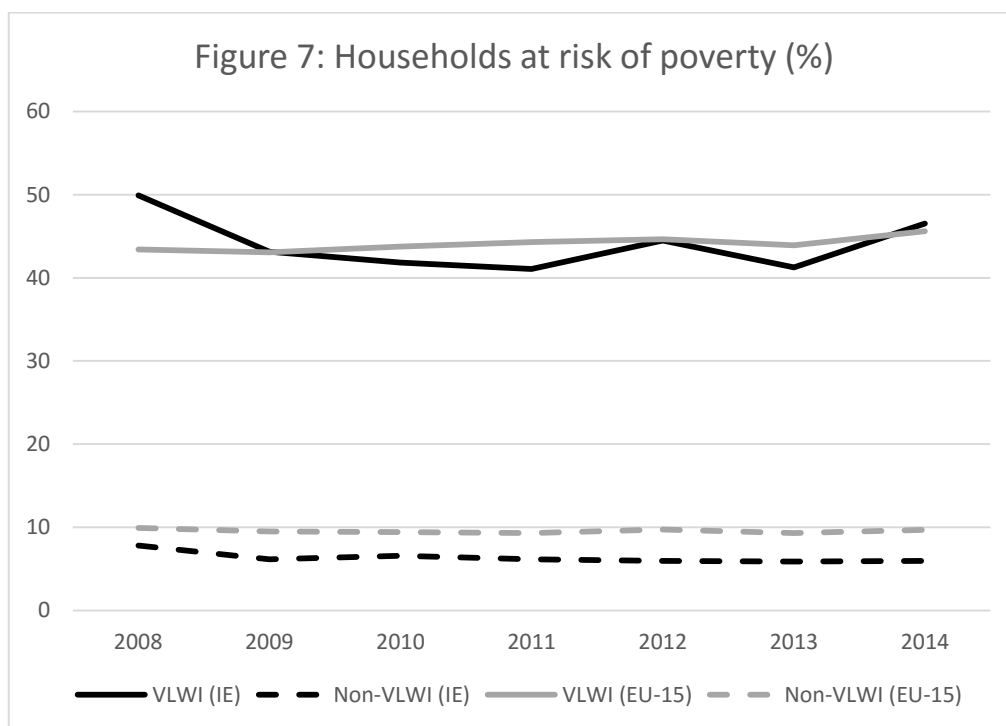
#### 4.1 Poverty and Deprivation

Households in the EU are defined as being at risk of poverty if household disposable income is less than 60 percent of median income. In Ireland, 47 percent of VLWI households are at risk of poverty compared to 6 percent of non-VLWI households. As seen from Table A6 and Figure 7 below, this pattern is observed across the EU. The risk of poverty among VLWI households in Ireland is approximately equal to the EU average. For non-VLWI households the risk of poverty in Ireland is the 5<sup>th</sup> lowest out of 30 countries (after Denmark, the Netherlands, Czech Republic and Iceland).

It is not surprising that average earnings are lower among VLWI households. In Ireland, the average equivalised annual household earnings of VLWI households (€13,726 in

2014) is half that of non-VLWI households (€26,832 in 2014). In Figure 8 I show the income distribution for VLWI and non-VLWI households.<sup>6</sup>

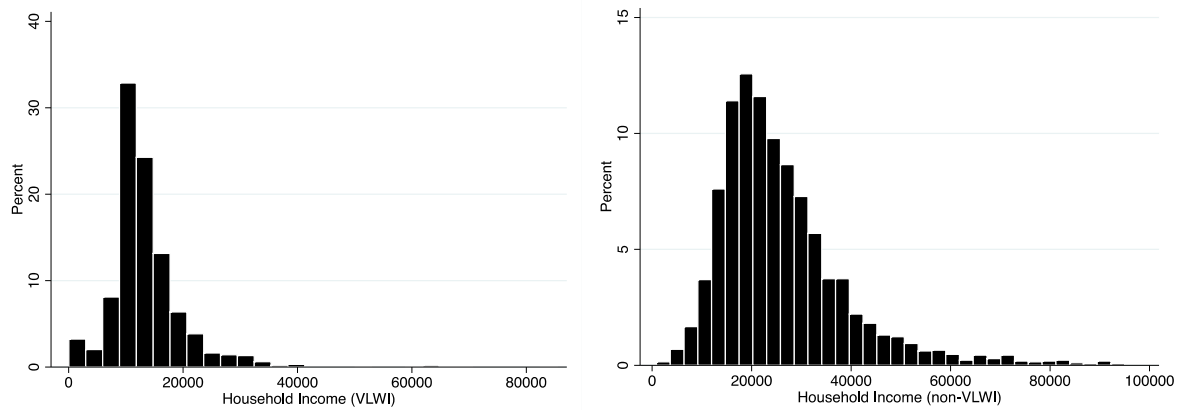
As an indicator of social exclusion, the EU-SILC data contains information on the ability of households to “make ends meet”.<sup>7</sup> The idea of this variable is to capture the level of difficulty experienced by households in paying its usual expenses, taking account of all sources of household income. A relatively high percentage of both VLWI and non-VLWI households in Ireland report difficulties in making ends meet (see Table A7). In 2014, 89 percent of VLWI households in Ireland report difficulties in making ends meet (compared to an EU-15 average of 71 percent) and 71 percent of non-VLWI households report difficulties (compared to an EU-15 average of 45 percent).



<sup>6</sup> For clarity of the graphs, I do not show the portion of the distribution above €100,000.

<sup>7</sup> The household respondent chooses one of six categories to describe their ability to make ends meet; 1. with great difficulty, 2. with difficulty, 3. with some difficulty, 4. fairly easily, 5. easily and 6. very easily. For simplicity I generate a binary variable indicating difficulty in making ends meet which equals one if response 1-3 is given and zero if response 4-6 is given.

Figure 8: Household earnings distribution of VLWI and non-VLWI households



## 5. Self-defined economic status of VLWI households

Self-defined economic status captures labour information on current activity status for all household members aged 16 and over. Focusing on members of VLWI households, Table 2 shows the percentage of respondents in each of the economic categories for every EU country in 2014. In Ireland, 33.8 percent of VLWI household members over the age of 16 were unemployed compared to an EU-15 average of 30.5 percent and 18.7 percent in the UK. The percentage of VLWI members categorized as being full-time employed in Ireland was 1.4 percent compared to an EU-15 average of 3.9 percent and 1.2 percent in the UK. There is a striking difference between Ireland and the EU average regarding the percentage of VLWI household members categorized as being engaged in domestic and care duties (23 percent in Ireland versus an EU-15 average of 14.5 percent). There is also a substantial proportion of VLWI household members in Ireland categorized as disabled / unfit to work (15.5 percent) and students (14.6 percent).

## 6. Conclusion

Targeting VLWI households is a key component of the European Union 2020 strategy as VLWI drives up the risk of social exclusion and material deprivation. In this paper I have

shown in detail how VLWI households and their members differ from non-VLWI household members, both in characteristics such as education, disability benefit receipt and single parent households, as well as the incidence of poverty and social exclusion. While some of the observations in Ireland are common throughout Europe, there are some notable differences. For example, the incidence of VLWI households that are single parent households is particularly high in Ireland by EU standards. Regarding self-defined economic status, Ireland also has a strikingly high number of VLWI household members that categorize themselves as being engaged in domestic and care duties.

A particular challenge to policy relates to the persistence of joblessness throughout an individual's life. In 2014, 19 percent of VLWI household members over 25 years of age in Ireland who were without a job, had never worked before. This is a worrying statistic and points to a societal group of people who are permanently excluded from employment. Labour market initiatives targeting this group of people seems of particular importance.

**Table 2: Self defined economic status of VLWI household members (2014)**

Country	Employed (FT)	Employed (PT)	Self-employed (FT)	Self-employed (PT)	Unemployed	Student	Retired	Disabled	Military	Domestic tasks	Other
AT	3.5	3.3	0.6	25.8	11.6	32.2	7.0	0.3	0.0	13.7	2.0
BE	3.6	4.3	0.4	0.0	24.2	12.6	9.0	23.1	0.0	15.1	7.8
BG	7.3	2.2	0.5	0.3	50.5	3.7	8.3	14.5	0.0	7.8	5.1
CY	5.8	3.2	0.4	2.1	36.5	11.3	6.3	10.2	1.1	19.8	3.4
CZ	3.3	0.9	0.0	0.2	27.8	8.9	13.6	31.8	0.0	11.7	1.9
DE	4.6	6.4	0.1	0.4	36.1	13.6	5.5	18.4	0.3	8.7	6.2
DK	6.2	4.3	0.2	0.2	19.1	24.0	0.2	33.5	0.0	2.3	9.9
EE	5.7	3.7	0.3	0.6	23.9	9.9	2.4	40.7	0.4	12.5	0.0
EL	3.8	1.8	0.8	0.4	45.7	7.3	15.1	3.9	0.5	18.7	2.1
ES	5.2	4.8	0.8	0.2	51.9	10.9	2.4	9.2	0.0	12.1	2.6
FI	1.3	5.3	0.1	0.2	36.5	19.1	1.7	25.7	1.9	6.0	2.3
FR	4.2	5.0	0.3	0.4	34.2	11.2	8.4	16.4	0.0	11.4	8.7
HR	4.1	0.6	0.2	0.1	44.9	7.9	28.3	3.1	0.0	9.4	1.4
HU	6.5	1.6	0.0	0.0	22.6	8.8	13.5	24.7	0.0	4.8	17.6
<b>IE</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>33.8</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>
IS	3.9	3.3	2.2	1.7	11.6	23.2	0.0	38.1	0.0	6.6	9.4
IT	3.0	2.1	1.0	0.7	37.6	12.0	6.2	5.9	0.0	27.0	4.4
LT	4.0	2.2	0.3	0.0	40.0	6.7	3.2	33.8	0.0	7.2	2.6
LU	4.9	2.2	0.4	0.4	14.6	14.3	10.5	19.6	0.0	31.9	1.2
LV	7.8	2.5	0.4	0.4	38.8	6.3	4.4	26.1	10.7	2.7	0.0
MT	2.9	3.7	0.5	0.7	18.7	7.8	2.8	11.9	0.0	43.9	7.2
NL	5.3	12.3	0.9	1.9	15.5	13.1	1.7	24.7	0.0	13.5	11.3
NO	7.3	3.0	0.4	0.6	15.1	26.6	1.7	38.9	0.4	3.2	3.2



Table 2 continued

Country	Employed (FT)	Employed(PT)	Self-employed (FT)	Self-employed (PT)	Unemployed	Student	Retired	Disabled	Military	Domestic tasks	Other
PL	4.2	1.6	0.7	0.2	28.2	7.2	10.7	25.3	0.0	7.4	14.5
PT	4.7	2.0	0.5	0.3	47.9	10.4	10.2	8.7	0.2	11.9	3.2
RO	0.2	0.0	0.6	1.0	15.3	5.6	44.2	4.5	0.0	23.7	4.9
SE	6.2	2.2	0.0	0.5	29.7	31.6	8.4	17.3	0.0	1.4	2.7
SI	3.8	0.5	0.5	0.1	42.6	15.3	26.8	3.1	0.0	4.5	2.8
SK	2.8	0.5	0.6	0.0	48.5	6.9	7.8	23.2	0.0	2.3	7.5
UK	1.2	4.7	0.3	0.9	18.7	12.4	5.0	30.9	0.0	20.3	5.5
<b>EU</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>5.1</b>
<b>EU-15</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>30.5</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>4.8</b>

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Appendix Table A1: Percentage of individuals with a chronic illness

Country	VLWI (2014)	Non-VLWI (2014)	VLWI (2013)	Non-VLWI (2013)	VLWI (2012)	Non-VLWI (2012)	VLWI (2011)	Non-VLWI (2011)	VLWI (2010)	Non-VLWI (2010)	VLWI (2009)	Non-VLWI (2009)	VLWI (2008)	Non-VLWI (2008)
AT	55.9	25.7	54.3	25.7	52.9	23.7	53.1	24.1	51.2	23.7	47.4	21.6	47.4	22.0
BE	43.0	15.6	43.0	16.3	38.5	15.3	39.7	16.2	41.5	15.7	39.8	15.7	42.7	15.4
BG	23.6	9.6	23.4	8.1	21.6	7.9	22.8	8.3	26.2	9.0	28.8	10.8	32.7	13.4
CH	-	-	53.0	29.9	52.4	28.7	49.9	27.0	53.9	27.5	49.9	27.3	55.5	26.2
CY	38.7	19.3	41.9	19.7	38.0	19.2	45.0	20.1	46.9	21.8	41.4	18.5	40.1	15.8
CZ	55.9	17.8	58.3	17.6	56.0	16.7	52.0	18.0	51.2	17.8	55.4	18.3	52.5	16.2
DE	56.5	27.1	55.0	26.7	52.8	25.1	50.2	24.8	48.9	24.3	49.3	24.2	46.0	23.8
DK	54.4	21.0	58.5	20.2	56.7	21.2	55.0	21.1	55.4	19.2	53.8	20.8	53.8	16.7
EE	60.5	30.2	61.6	29.3	57.6	28.3	55.7	30.1	51.9	27.8	66.3	27.0	68.3	24.1
EL	19.8	9.5	19.9	8.1	23.5	8.2	25.3	8.9	25.3	8.3	26.1	7.2	29.4	9.4
ES	33.5	19.5	34.0	19.8	29.9	14.7	27.7	13.8	35.7	19.4	41.8	20.6	44.8	19.6
FI	55.3	32.5	60.8	35.3	61.3	33.5	58.8	32.2	55.5	31.0	55.3	29.9	56.6	28.6
FR	47.1	25.9	48.7	25.4	47.2	25.3	45.0	25.5	45.6	25.1	45.7	25.5	44.8	25.1
HR	37.0	15.8	39.5	15.9	35.6	14.8	40.9	20.4	39.4	21.7	-	-	54.0	23.4
HU	49.6	21.4	48.3	21.8	48.9	20.9	49.3	20.6	50.8	21.4	52.1	20.6	-	-
<b>IE</b>	<b>39.5</b>	<b>16.0</b>	<b>34.4</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>39.1</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>15.4</b>
IS	68.3	24.9	58.6	22.6	56.1	21.7	60.2	22.6	58.9	22.1	69.8	21.6	82.1	20.3
IT	21.3	13.4	22.3	14.3	20.5	13.3	24.2	14.8	21.6	12.9	22.3	12.2	25.9	12.2
LT	53.3	17.0	47.4	16.4	44.7	15.1	41.3	14.4	43.3	13.9	52.0	15.7	56.2	17.8
LU	40.0	15.9	37.3	17.2	33.9	15.0	36.3	15.1	35.9	15.1	33.7	14.9	37.4	16.1
LV	52.6	25.5	52.5	24.3	45.6	20.7	43.4	20.8	44.8	20.6	46.6	21.1	55.2	22.9
MT	34.1	14.5	34.2	15.1	39.3	15.6	38.0	15.6	39.7	15.7	40.0	15.3	36.6	11.5
NL	62.1	25.2	62.9	26.0	55.8	25.2	57.1	25.1	54.3	24.7	56.8	24.2	54.9	24.0
NO	62.7	26.5	58.8	27.3	60.8	25.1	59.4	28.9	60.8	25.9	61.8	27.9	58.1	25.7
PL	48.7	20.0	47.8	20.0	51.3	20.7	51.5	20.3	51.8	20.0	51.4	19.4	48.4	18.3
PT	45.6	26.1	46.0	26.7	44.3	23.6	47.9	21.7	46.1	20.3	49.4	21.1	48.3	21.4
RO	34.2	7.5	35.7	8.1	37.3	8.7	42.7	9.0	39.6	8.7	39.8	8.7	35.8	9.2
RS	-	-	31.0	16.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SE	56.2	27.0	47.9	28.4	52.0	27.1	46.2	25.3	49.0	23.8	52.8	23.7	53.1	24.8
SI	39.9	21.2	42.3	20.5	48.5	23.1	51.2	24.7	55.0	24.9	47.7	20.9	49.5	27.2
SK	44.5	17.5	44.8	18.2	44.6	17.5	48.1	18.8	42.4	18.6	40.2	18.0	41.7	17.8
UK	52.5	21.3	51.4	19.7	50.9	20.2	52.2	24.8	50.4	22.5	48.7	22.1	50.5	22.3
<b>EU</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>48.3</b>	<b>19.6</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>20.4</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>43.6</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>44.1</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>19.8</b>

Note: The statistics show the percentage of VLWI individuals that have a chronic illness as well as the percentage of non-VLWI individuals that report a chronic illness from 2008-2014.

Table A2: Percentage of individuals over 16 years of age receiving disability benefits

Country	VLWI (2014)	Non-VLWI (2014)	VLWI (2013)	Non-VLWI (2013)	VLWI (2012)	Non-VLWI (2012)	VLWI (2011)	Non-VLWI (2011)	VLWI (2010)	Non-VLWI (2010)	VLWI (2009)	Non-VLWI (2009)	VLWI (2008)	Non-VLWI (2008)
AT	23.9	2.3	24.1	2.4	22.6	2.5	21.3	2.4	23.1	1.7	24.1	2.8	21.8	2.0
BE	21.7	2.5	22.3	2.6	17.8	1.9	16.4	2.3	17.5	2.1	17.8	2.0	4.2	2.1
BG	20.9	6.2	18.7	6.0	17.2	4.8	17.1	4.3	19.6	5.7	17.5	4.8	19.2	6.4
CH	-	-	26.0	2.3	26.6	2.4	26.7	2.5	23.8	2.5	22.8	2.7	29.5	2.3
CY	17.7	1.7	17.1	1.7	18.0	1.6	19.8	1.8	20.7	1.8	22.3	1.7	22.0	1.7
CZ	37.3	4.5	38.0	4.3	36.4	4.6	36.9	4.9	39.5	5.3	40.6	5.7	38.0	5.5
DE	19.8	1.8	19.1	1.8	18.0	2.1	17.5	2.3	17.6	2.3	17.9	2.1	15.6	1.9
DK	32.0	2.6	30.2	2.8	35.3	2.7	36.9	2.7	38.2	3.1	38.3	3.1	33.9	3.2
EE	47.9	10.8	42.7	9.4	40.9	7.5	36.3	7.2	34.4	7.0	49.1	7.1	51.7	6.1
EL	4.6	0.8	6.2	0.8	8.1	1.1	10.0	1.1	9.2	1.2	10.6	1.2	11.3	1.1
ES	9.8	1.9	9.8	1.9	11.0	1.9	11.3	1.8	12.7	2.0	16.9	2.1	15.0	1.6
FI	28.0	5.8	32.2	5.6	32.4	5.4	29.4	5.9	31.0	5.8	35.7	6.0	36.1	6.4
FR	9.7	1.1	12.4	1.1	12.6	1.2	11.2	1.2	17.0	2.4	15.5	2.3	13.1	1.5
HR	20.6	4.2	19.8	4.6	22.5	4.5	21.4	5.0	21.4	5.3	-	-	-	-
HU	26.5	4.0	29.6	3.9	30.8	4.4	32.1	4.7	31.8	5.0	36.6	5.6	41.7	6.4
<b>IE</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>27.4</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>32.2</b>	<b>9.8</b>
IS	47.8	3.3	35.8	3.7	37.1	3.1	36.8	3.2	33.5	3.1	50.6	3.4	54.5	3.5
IT	11.0	2.4	11.0	2.6	11.3	2.6	11.1	2.7	11.7	2.7	13.1	2.7	13.0	2.5
LT	34.9	8.5	35.6	8.6	34.5	9.6	32.5	10.3	27.9	5.8	44.5	7.3	48.1	7.3
LU	21.0	2.3	19.8	2.3	21.0	2.4	17.6	2.3	17.7	2.4	14.8	2.0	16.7	2.0
LV	27.9	5.9	26.7	5.9	23.5	5.4	22.9	5.1	21.9	5.1	26.2	4.9	31.8	4.4
MT	12.2	1.3	12.2	1.5	13.4	1.7	14.0	1.7	14.8	1.8	18.0	1.8	18.6	2.0
NL	20.8	2.3	23.1	2.2	22.5	2.3	24.9	2.2	22.0	2.6	25.3	2.6	25.1	2.5
NO	54.4	8.2	53.2	8.1	51.9	8.3	56.9	8.0	52.4	7.3	51.2	7.6	51.3	7.8
PL	26.0	3.9	24.7	4.0	25.0	4.2	25.9	4.6	26.7	5.0	26.9	5.1	26.1	5.1
PT	9.6	1.2	9.8	1.0	13.0	1.6	14.5	1.5	14.4	1.5	19.0	1.7	19.1	2.0
RO	19.0	1.9	20.1	2.2	22.6	2.5	27.1	3.4	25.3	3.6	24.2	3.3	20.2	3.5
RS	-	-	7.5	1.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SE	25.5	2.6	21.3	2.8	25.1	2.9	26.7	3.7	30.7	3.8	36.6	4.5	36.3	4.5
SI	14.3	4.4	17.6	4.3	18.2	4.5	17.9	4.4	18.3	4.5	19.4	4.7	18.7	4.4
SK	27.8	4.4	30.8	4.4	30.9	4.0	30.1	3.9	28.0	4.0	27.1	4.3	29.1	4.4
UK	32.5	2.6	31.3	3.0	30.0	3.4	26.5	2.9	23.4	2.7	23.3	2.8	21.5	2.9
<b>EU</b>	<b>24.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>24.1</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>3.9</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>19.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>

Note: The statistics show the percentage of VLWI individuals that are in receipt of disability benefit as well as the percentage of non-VLWI individuals that are in receipt of disability benefit from 2008-2014.

**Table A3: Percentage of over 25s with higher than a secondary education**

Country	VLWI (2014)	Non-VLWI (2014)	VLWI (2013)	Non-VLWI (2013)	VLWI (2012)	Non-VLWI (2012)	VLWI (2011)	Non-VLWI (2011)	VLWI (2010)	Non-VLWI (2010)	VLWI (2009)	Non-VLWI (2009)	VLWI (2008)	Non-VLWI (2008)
AT	20.2	37.9	20.0	37.2	17.2	36.4	18.8	34.9	19.2	34.1	16.9	34.0	16.8	33.8
BE	18.6	49.5	20.8	51.0	22.0	50.3	21.6	48.5	20.2	46.7	18.9	43.6	25.4	46.1
BG	7.6	25.8	9.4	26.3	9.8	27.0	10.1	25.7	12.2	24.4	14.9	22.6	10.5	20.3
CH	-	-	26.7	42.6	22.7	41.4	21.5	40.7	21.6	39.1	16.6	37.7	20.0	37.5
CY	24.4	42.9	24.0	41.0	23.5	39.5	21.1	37.7	15.6	35.1	16.0	35.0	18.4	34.5
CZ	5.1	21.6	7.0	20.8	7.9	20.2	8.2	19.2	7.6	17.8	6.8	16.7	7.4	16.4
DE	26.8	51.8	26.5	50.8	26.4	49.8	25.7	48.8	25.7	49.6	23.9	47.3	29.0	50.5
DK	35.2	46.5	32.8	44.9	32.5	43.7	28.4	41.9	29.3	39.6	31.6	39.7	35.3	39.1
EE	13.9	37.7	17.7	39.3	14.5	39.1	13.3	38.4	12.7	37.5	8.8	34.8	7.5	34.2
EL	23.5	41.1	24.5	39.9	23.8	33.9	21.5	33.4	22.6	34.2	19.4	34.6	19.1	32.1
ES	14.8	40.0	18.3	39.2	19.8	37.3	22.3	37.6	20.8	37.4	23.3	35.9	21.8	34.5
FI	24.0	50.7	22.3	49.6	23.4	48.0	21.8	46.1	21.7	44.7	19.4	43.0	19.7	41.4
FR	17.4	39.0	15.7	38.0	14.7	37.3	16.4	36.0	13.9	34.1	12.6	32.5	12.8	32.1
HR	6.7	18.1	8.0	18.9	8.0	17.6	7.6	17.4	7.2	16.9	-	-	-	-
HU	8.5	29.5	8.7	26.8	10.7	28.8	10.8	28.2	10.9	28.1	9.7	28.8	8.7	26.1
<b>IE</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>37.4</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>61.1</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>47.3</b>
IS	25.0	45.7	24.4	49.5	22.7	46.8	24.7	46.3	23.0	44.8	18.9	43.7	14.9	43.5
IT	14.2	26.0	14.1	24.4	14.6	23.6	13.8	22.5	13.9	21.4	13.3	21.1	14.2	20.0
LT	33.9	62.5	35.2	64.0	37.0	63.8	37.5	64.0	36.7	63.2	33.2	62.4	36.7	61.9
LU	14.6	34.3	16.2	33.1	14.2	32.1	14.7	32.1	14.1	32.0	14.5	34.5	14.4	36.4
LV	20.5	41.7	23.4	42.6	19.1	42.3	20.5	39.1	16.1	37.3	15.1	34.5	14.6	30.3
MT	5.1	28.8	4.5	26.5	5.3	24.8	4.8	23.5	5.1	16.6	5.5	17.7	5.2	17.4
NL	22.9	46.4	23.7	46.2	23.5	45.6	24.2	44.2	25.3	42.9	24.9	42.2	23.5	42.1
NO	27.4	50.3	35.3	53.2	26.4	49.6	29.6	49.3	27.4	48.5	27.0	47.0	28.6	45.7
PL	13.7	35.9	13.9	35.7	12.4	33.2	15.2	32.3	12.9	31.8	13.3	30.3	10.9	28.9
PT	9.3	20.6	19.6	21.1	23.2	20.3	19.9	18.8	19.1	17.1	20.8	17.0	19.4	16.2
RO	9.5	20.2	12.5	20.8	18.2	24.5	16.8	24.3	14.0	19.2	13.3	19.1	13.6	18.7
RS	-	-	14.4	23.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SE	34.4	51.2	36.9	49.7	34.4	47.8	34.1	45.5	28.8	44.7	29.0	43.2	30.7	41.4
SI	11.5	29.3	12.3	28.4	10.9	26.6	11.2	25.1	10.5	23.7	12.1	22.4	11.2	21.6
SK	8.6	28.3	9.3	27.6	6.7	27.4	6.6	26.1	8.2	24.1	7.5	23.0	8.0	20.7
UK	20.6	46.4	28.1	52.5	29.8	49.9	24.3	46.9	27.3	50.6	29.5	48.5	25.8	47.4
<b>EU</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>33.9</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>22.3</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>42.7</b>	<b>23.8</b>	<b>41.2</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>39.9</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>38.0</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>37.4</b>

Note: The statistics show the percentage of VLWI individuals that are educated above secondary level as well as the percentage of non-VLWI individuals that are educated above secondary level from 2008-2014.

**Table A4: Percentage of single parent households**

Country	VLWI (2014)	Non-VLWI (2014)	VLWI (2013)	Non-VLWI (2013)	VLWI (2012)	Non-VLWI (2012)	VLWI (2011)	Non-VLWI (2011)	VLWI (2010)	Non-VLWI (2010)	VLWI (2009)	Non-VLWI (2009)	VLWI (2008)	Non-VLWI (2008)
AT	10.3	5.7	11.6	6.2	10.1	6.4	9.7	6.1	10.1	6.5	14.5	5.9	13.6	6.2
BE	17.7	7.9	18.7	7.1	16.8	7.0	18.0	6.7	15.2	6.8	17.1	6.6	15.2	7.1
BG	7.5	2.8	5.9	2.8	5.5	2.6	4.2	2.5	4.8	2.7	4.1	2.2	3.1	2.5
CH	-	-	10.7	4.4	12.0	5.0	10.8	4.9	10.8	4.6	11.1	4.1	9.4	4.7
CY	9.3	3.0	6.5	3.4	8.1	3.8	5.5	3.5	5.5	3.6	4.7	2.9	5.5	3.4
CZ	16.1	5.1	12.5	5.4	12.1	5.8	16.3	5.8	14.8	5.6	17.3	5.3	14.7	5.5
DE	11.1	6.3	10.4	6.2	11.3	5.5	11.4	5.3	13.2	5.7	14.1	5.6	15.3	6.3
DK	13.0	5.0	10.4	4.3	9.2	5.0	12.2	4.8	9.2	5.3	9.3	5.1	10.4	4.9
EE	8.4	4.9	7.1	5.0	6.5	6.2	6.8	5.4	8.1	6.2	8.1	7.0	10.5	7.0
EL	3.4	2.5	4.0	2.2	4.2	2.2	4.7	2.2	2.9	2.5	2.7	2.6	3.8	2.3
ES	6.4	4.0	5.4	3.9	5.8	3.8	5.5	3.7	5.6	3.5	4.7	3.1	5.1	2.9
FI	9.3	4.6	8.6	4.8	8.2	4.6	9.2	4.6	8.1	4.7	7.0	4.2	8.2	4.2
FR	15.7	7.3	15.1	7.3	11.7	7.1	13.0	7.0	12.9	6.8	11.8	7.1	13.9	7.0
HR	3.0	2.0	2.7	1.9	2.4	1.7	2.5	1.6	3.7	1.9	-	-	-	-
HU	8.1	6.1	8.7	5.9	8.7	5.9	8.6	6.3	9.1	6.3	8.4	5.6	8.5	5.7
<b>IE</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>22.0</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>6.0</b>
IS	26.4	5.9	26.1	5.8	19.0	6.8	26.0	6.2	27.6	6.5	16.7	6.1	25.7	5.4
IT	6.1	4.6	6.0	4.5	6.2	4.5	6.4	4.3	7.4	4.2	7.4	4.1	6.0	3.7
LT	6.0	5.7	6.0	5.7	6.9	5.4	7.1	6.1	6.2	5.6	6.6	5.0	6.6	5.5
LU	10.3	7.2	13.6	6.4	15.3	5.8	13.0	5.6	11.7	5.3	15.2	5.4	14.3	4.9
LV	8.1	7.4	8.1	7.9	8.5	8.3	10.2	7.5	9.8	7.9	9.4	7.1	8.7	7.2
MT	15.0	2.8	13.7	2.3	11.9	1.9	13.4	1.8	17.1	1.6	17.6	1.6	16.0	1.9
NL	14.3	5.4	14.8	4.9	14.3	5.4	13.2	5.5	13.9	4.6	12.8	4.8	12.6	4.3
NO	11.3	5.7	16.0	6.0	13.2	5.1	10.2	5.7	13.8	6.8	11.1	6.3	14.1	5.6
PL	6.5	3.1	7.1	3.2	7.1	3.4	7.1	3.5	7.6	3.2	6.9	3.3	7.2	3.7
PT	7.7	5.2	8.0	5.1	7.8	4.7	6.1	4.4	6.5	4.3	7.0	3.4	5.1	3.4
RO	1.8	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.2	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.0	2.5	3.1	3.0	5.1	3.0
RS	-	-	4.8	2.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SE	10.6	5.1	12.3	5.3	13.8	5.0	12.1	5.2	12.2	5.3	10.2	5.9	12.7	5.7
SI	6.1	3.4	5.7	3.2	5.4	3.5	5.8	3.2	6.1	3.0	6.7	3.1	8.0	3.0
SK	5.5	3.5	5.3	3.8	4.0	3.6	5.6	3.6	4.3	3.7	3.9	3.5	2.6	3.4
UK	26.6	8.1	29.3	7.9	30.8	8.6	25.6	5.8	26.5	5.9	24.9	6.7	26.7	5.7
<b>EU</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>5.0</b>

Note: The statistics show the percentage of VLWI households that are single-parent households as well as the percentage of non-VLWI households that are single-parent households from 2008-2014.

**Table A5: Percentage of over 25s that have never worked**

Country	VLWI (2014)	Non-VLWI (2014)	VLWI (2013)	Non-VLWI (2013)	VLWI (2012)	Non-VLWI (2012)	VLWI (2011)	Non-VLWI (2011)	VLWI (2010)	Non-VLWI (2010)	VLWI (2009)	Non-VLWI (2009)	VLWI (2008)	Non-VLWI (2008)
AT	9.9	7.4	11.2	8.5	10.4	7.8	10.4	9.9	12.4	9.1	11.6	10.8	14.6	11.2
BE	21.4	19.2	22.0	15.7	22.0	17.6	24.4	15.7	20.0	17.6	22.9	16.7	18.3	14.2
BG	23.0	14.9	22.4	15.3	21.6	15.0	20.9	15.2	19.3	11.3	19.6	10.7	19.9	13.1
CH	-	-	17.3	12.4	13.4	11.9	13.3	14.0	17.2	13.5	15.1	17.0	12.3	13.5
CY	19.0	13.5	18.9	13.6	19.0	14.2	23.5	18.5	26.4	18.2	28.1	18.5	25.8	20.8
CZ	10.9	8.5	10.6	7.7	9.0	6.0	8.4	5.0	7.9	4.2	6.2	4.6	5.6	4.9
DE	9.2	6.9	8.8	6.9	9.2	6.8	9.6	7.7	6.6	5.0	6.1	4.9	6.6	4.9
DK	22.0	12.0	21.8	10.3	16.2	10.0	18.5	4.9	12.0	28.3	18.5	11.0	10.1	8.3
EE	11.1	6.7	8.8	6.7	8.6	5.5	8.2	4.7	7.1	4.0	8.7	5.3	9.3	6.0
EL	27.9	25.2	27.9	26.5	29.1	28.0	28.4	25.5	35.5	29.7	38.8	32.2	41.9	37.3
ES	15.2	13.3	16.6	12.3	21.5	17.0	22.9	18.4	20.8	14.2	24.0	15.4	26.4	19.3
FI	17.1	7.1	17.9	10.1	23.5	22.3	21.6	17.7	13.0	5.0	8.2	4.6	9.1	14.7
FR	11.2	8.9	11.3	7.2	12.0	7.2	11.4	7.2	10.5	7.3	10.7	7.2	11.5	8.6
HR	19.5	16.3	20.0	16.2	22.3	19.7	21.6	19.0	23.1	18.9	-	-	-	-
HU	11.5	8.5	9.9	6.4	8.4	5.5	7.0	4.7	7.5	4.9	7.0	4.7	7.6	3.7
<b>IE</b>	<b>18.8</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>15.7</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>19.1</b>	<b>10.9</b>
IS	12.2	5.3	4.9	3.7	5.2	4.4	3.8	4.6	8.1	4.5	11.4	4.0	0.0	0.7
IT	26.6	24.4	31.5	28.0	32.6	28.3	32.9	28.3	37.0	34.2	35.1	33.8	40.3	34.4
LT	8.9	5.8	9.5	6.0	9.3	5.5	8.7	4.7	9.4	4.5	13.0	5.6	11.4	7.0
LU	6.1	7.8	6.6	6.6	5.7	5.1	6.4	6.1	7.4	4.6	7.5	4.5	7.8	5.4
LV	9.1	5.9	8.5	4.3	7.2	3.7	8.1	3.0	7.6	2.7	9.3	3.5	9.6	6.5
MT	27.4	19.0	25.5	18.3	28.9	18.8	25.3	19.6	28.3	18.8	24.9	19.1	27.7	20.6
NL	11.3	7.3	12.2	9.4	14.8	7.1	11.7	8.2	12.4	8.9	11.9	9.5	10.8	7.7
NO	-	-	11.0	9.8	13.5	12.5	11.5	8.7	9.4	10.3	10.6	9.2	3.6	5.3
PL	12.3	9.3	11.1	8.5	10.2	8.8	9.5	8.5	9.1	8.8	9.6	8.7	8.7	8.3
PT	13.2	10.3	14.3	9.6	17.1	8.5	14.7	10.8	15.9	12.7	17.3	15.2	16.5	17.7
RO	30.7	48.7	27.3	45.5	25.2	42.3	21.1	37.9	20.7	38.1	21.6	34.8	24.0	33.9
RS	-	-	28.2	28.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SE	21.0	12.8	22.4	10.0	23.0	12.6	26.0	12.7	16.7	4.9	13.4	5.2	14.3	7.5
SI	15.9	19.3	17.5	15.8	15.7	16.3	17.7	17.0	15.7	18.7	15.3	19.5	12.9	17.1
SK	16.9	11.8	13.7	10.3	15.4	10.0	12.3	10.1	12.1	8.8	13.6	7.4	9.9	8.9
UK	19.1	15.5	21.0	14.4	19.5	14.2	15.2	9.6	12.5	9.9	12.4	8.5	11.8	8.2
<b>EU</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>16.3</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>15.8</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>12.7</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>14.0</b>

Note: The statistics show the percentage of currently out of work VLWI individuals that have never worked as well as the percentage of currently out of work non-VLWI individuals that have never worked from 2008-2014.

**Table A6: Percentage of households at risk of poverty**

Country	VLWI (2014)	Non-VLWI (2014)	VLWI (2013)	Non-VLWI (2013)	VLWI (2012)	Non-VLWI (2012)	VLWI (2011)	Non-VLWI (2011)	VLWI (2010)	Non-VLWI (2010)	VLWI (2009)	Non-VLWI (2009)	VLWI (2008)	Non-VLWI (2008)
AT	44.3	8.5	41.8	10.8	44.7	10.7	42.9	8.2	48.1	9.6	42.3	9.8	42.4	10.3
BE	52.9	7.2	51.8	6.5	49.8	7.2	53.5	6.1	47.2	7.0	48.2	6.6	48.1	6.5
BG	55.1	14.1	59.8	10.9	59.3	10.9	59.1	11.0	61.1	11.3	67.0	11.7	65.1	12.8
CH	-	-	43.6	7.9	42.5	9.4	40.2	8.8	43.7	8.9	39.8	8.9	38.8	10.1
CY	45.9	10.6	43.6	12.4	42.0	12.2	42.9	10.8	43.7	10.9	43.8	10.6	41.9	10.0
CZ	46.6	5.0	36.2	5.0	37.6	5.8	41.8	5.9	39.5	5.4	35.9	4.5	36.3	5.0
DE	62.2	10.1	61.5	9.4	64.5	9.0	63.9	8.2	60.9	8.3	60.4	7.6	55.2	7.4
DK	26.6	2.7	20.6	2.7	22.6	3.3	26.3	3.6	29.6	4.4	29.6	4.8	27.8	4.0
EE	68.1	15.1	71.3	11.6	67.9	12.7	67.8	12.9	65.9	11.4	69.2	14.1	78.0	13.1
EL	43.0	16.9	45.4	16.4	46.1	19.8	50.4	16.8	37.8	18.5	35.0	17.9	37.2	16.3
ES	52.2	14.3	49.8	12.6	47.0	12.5	45.6	12.9	47.0	13.3	44.2	13.7	46.4	14.3
FI	48.1	6.1	43.8	6.0	51.2	6.3	51.8	7.1	51.6	6.6	51.7	6.7	46.4	7.5
FR	43.7	9.8	49.9	9.3	47.1	9.8	42.1	9.6	40.8	8.4	38.3	8.5	41.9	8.1
HR	52.3	9.6	56.0	9.9	54.1	9.8	56.3	10.0	61.0	10.3	-	-	-	-
HU	44.9	10.6	45.1	10.8	46.5	9.1	43.3	10.4	37.5	8.1	35.2	8.8	35.3	8.9
<b>IE</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>7.8</b>
IS	24.8	5.7	28.0	6.9	22.7	5.7	29.3	7.3	26.9	7.8	36.4	8.1	30.0	7.5
IT	46.1	12.1	45.3	12.0	43.4	12.7	46.1	12.0	45.1	11.2	40.9	11.7	45.4	11.0
LT	56.2	11.8	55.4	12.6	51.8	10.9	48.7	13.3	55.0	16.2	58.7	13.4	59.9	13.7
LU	41.2	13.4	37.2	12.1	36.8	12.2	36.5	13.7	36.8	14.9	42.1	16.2	50.4	19.0
LV	67.3	14.3	65.1	14.7	64.8	14.7	61.1	15.3	64.6	14.6	79.1	17.2	82.6	18.0
MT	52.5	8.6	51.7	9.2	48.9	9.0	50.9	9.5	52.1	8.6	49.5	8.7	54.5	8.0
NL	24.7	3.3	22.7	3.0	24.3	3.2	22.5	3.5	21.8	3.1	24.4	3.3	21.5	2.7
NO	39.2	6.0	36.9	6.1	37.7	5.9	36.2	5.9	38.5	5.4	39.5	6.1	38.9	6.6
PL	48.4	15.5	47.9	14.6	47.3	14.7	45.6	15.9	43.9	16.2	43.2	16.1	39.2	15.4
PT	50.0	14.4	46.5	13.3	44.4	13.5	43.7	13.8	44.3	13.2	43.5	13.9	42.3	15.2
RO	33.6	20.6	33.8	19.3	32.3	20.4	28.3	19.7	26.9	18.8	29.0	17.9	36.1	17.6
RS	-	-	53.1	17.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SE	55.5	9.2	60.5	8.3	61.3	8.6	53.7	7.8	50.6	7.7	47.6	7.4	40.2	7.8
SI	49.7	7.6	44.9	7.9	44.0	7.2	47.3	6.6	44.8	6.3	41.7	6.4	47.5	7.0
SK	52.0	7.3	49.6	6.6	50.1	7.2	45.3	7.8	40.1	7.6	40.4	7.8	38.9	8.4
UK	47.2	11.3	40.8	11.1	41.9	11.2	44.4	10.3	53.2	8.8	54.2	8.5	56.0	10.9
<b>EU</b>	<b>47.4</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>45.8</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>45.4</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>45.2</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>45.8</b>	<b>10.4</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>45.6</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>44.6</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>44.3</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>9.9</b>

Note: The statistics show the percentage of VLWI households at risk of poverty as well as the percentage of non-VLWI households at risk of poverty from 2008-2014.



**Table A7: Difficulty making ends meet**

Country	VLWI (2014)	Non-VLWI (2014)	VLWI (2013)	Non-VLWI (2013)	VLWI (2012)	Non-VLWI (2012)	VLWI (2011)	Non-VLWI (2011)	VLWI (2010)	Non-VLWI (2010)	VLWI (2009)	Non-VLWI (2009)	VLWI (2008)	Non-VLWI (2008)
AT	64.7	36.1	66.0	36.7	66.6	33.8	66.7	36.3	67.7	38.6	63.3	40.1	62.0	37.4
BE	76.9	34.1	73.0	35.2	70.7	37.1	74.3	35.8	75.0	36.2	73.4	36.5	74.2	38.1
BG	98.0	90.1	97.5	90.9	97.6	91.0	98.6	90.8	98.1	91.8	97.2	91.4	97.9	90.9
CH	-	-	53.0	25.1	48.3	23.7	55.1	25.0	50.5	23.6	55.2	33.0	48.0	28.0
CY	89.0	80.7	87.8	82.8	81.4	75.8	79.5	78.3	77.6	76.7	80.2	76.2	84.8	83.1
CZ	85.4	65.5	85.3	66.9	83.9	63.9	83.9	63.4	81.7	63.5	79.5	62.8	83.5	63.4
DE	53.9	16.2	53.7	17.9	54.1	18.0	53.3	17.6	52.2	18.3	54.7	19.8	47.4	17.7
DK	49.9	22.9	49.7	20.9	51.0	20.2	47.6	16.8	44.1	15.8	44.6	18.1	38.9	14.1
EE	92.2	60.4	92.1	65.8	92.5	64.9	91.1	65.9	90.4	66.8	90.1	66.1	74.0	36.9
EL	98.1	93.4	95.4	93.2	92.4	90.7	89.2	85.3	83.8	80.4	83.4	80.8	84.6	79.7
ES	87.0	60.8	83.9	62.3	77.6	56.2	75.7	51.1	75.1	55.3	73.2	57.4	71.9	57.4
FI	50.8	21.6	48.8	21.0	50.9	19.5	55.2	20.7	50.1	19.8	50.8	20.3	52.1	23.2
FR	81.1	60.2	80.6	60.9	78.0	57.5	78.6	58.0	80.2	56.6	77.0	59.3	74.2	51.9
HR	96.2	89.4	95.5	89.4	95.1	86.9	93.6	86.0	93.1	85.7	-	-	-	-
HU	95.8	86.7	96.0	88.2	96.8	87.8	96.4	89.5	96.1	89.7	95.4	88.9	94.2	85.8
<b>IE</b>	<b>88.7</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>89.4</b>	<b>69.6</b>	<b>88.1</b>	<b>67.4</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>65.4</b>	<b>86.9</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>58.3</b>	<b>77.8</b>	<b>51.2</b>
IS	77.9	47.2	73.9	51.1	70.6	50.1	75.7	52.4	75.4	50.5	60.6	41.7	63.8	30.0
IT	87.3	71.4	87.6	74.1	84.6	72.6	84.9	72.5	83.6	71.6	81.7	70.0	85.3	73.1
LT	96.3	80.2	95.9	83.0	97.4	84.7	96.0	83.9	96.9	88.0	95.9	84.7	94.0	79.0
LU	45.8	27.3	45.7	27.4	43.3	23.4	43.8	24.9	41.9	24.9	42.4	26.1	45.0	27.8
LV	95.8	80.3	96.9	81.8	95.8	81.9	95.8	85.2	95.0	83.4	92.8	79.6	92.9	76.4
MT	79.3	61.1	82.2	62.8	83.4	69.4	80.9	64.0	88.2	75.2	90.5	76.0	82.7	67.8
NL	59.4	20.5	57.8	22.7	50.7	17.9	52.4	18.3	46.9	18.5	45.8	16.5	46.4	18.9
NO	43.1	12.7	45.8	14.0	42.5	13.2	53.5	14.8	47.8	13.2	44.4	15.4	47.7	16.5
PL	87.0	67.5	86.4	69.4	87.3	69.7	85.2	67.9	86.0	68.8	85.5	68.1	88.6	70.6
PT	89.6	79.1	88.8	79.9	82.3	76.1	81.3	74.8	85.2	78.9	86.1	79.6	85.9	82.7
RO	91.2	83.5	92.3	85.1	90.8	85.8	92.4	86.1	91.9	86.7	90.7	83.2	90.5	81.2
RS	-	-	97.6	92.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SE	49.4	11.0	47.9	12.1	51.0	13.9	53.7	14.1	47.9	12.4	53.4	14.4	48.9	16.9
SI	84.4	69.4	85.5	72.4	80.4	65.5	85.6	69.5	85.5	67.3	81.3	68.3	79.7	68.1
SK	92.2	73.9	92.8	76.1	92.5	73.4	91.4	72.1	91.6	71.8	91.4	72.9	91.4	73.7
UK	74.8	44.7	78.8	47.4	75.8	46.8	68.9	41.1	72.6	39.2	71.7	40.8	71.5	41.8
<b>EU</b>	<b>78.7</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>78.2</b>	<b>58.7</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>56.1</b>	<b>76.4</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>72.7</b>	<b>52.8</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>70.5</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>69.8</b>	<b>45.4</b>	<b>67.8</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>42.1</b>	<b>65.5</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>42.1</b>

Note: The statistics show the percentage of VLWI households experiencing difficulty in making ends meet as well as the percentage of non-VLWI households experiencing difficulty in making ends meet from 2008-2014.