|1| ARCHITECTS IN EUROPE

Salling Tower
Place: Aarhus (Denmark)
Architect: Dorte Mandrup
Photo: Quintin Lake & Torben Eskerod

1.1 THE NUMBER OF ARCHITECTS IN EUROPE

The estimated total number of architects in EUROPE-31 is approximately 562 000. The largest number of architects is in Italy, which has 160 000 architects. Germany accounts for another sizeable proportion of Europe's architects with 111 000 architects.

Other countries with high numbers of architects are Spain (56 000), the United Kingdom (41 000) and France (30 000). Analysed as a proportion of the population, the largest number of architects per 1 000 population - are in Italy (2.6 architects per 1 000 population), and Portugal (2.1 architects per 1 000 population). Taken overall, Europe has 1.0 architects per 1 000 population.

This year's survey figure of 562 000 architects in Europe is 3 per cent higher than in the previous survey two years ago. The estimated number of architects continues to climb, at a steady rate. This increase is explained by growing numbers of young architects entering the profession. Two countries record growth rates, over the last two years, of over ten per cent. These are Romania (13 per cent increase) and the UK (12 per cent higher between 2016 and 2018).
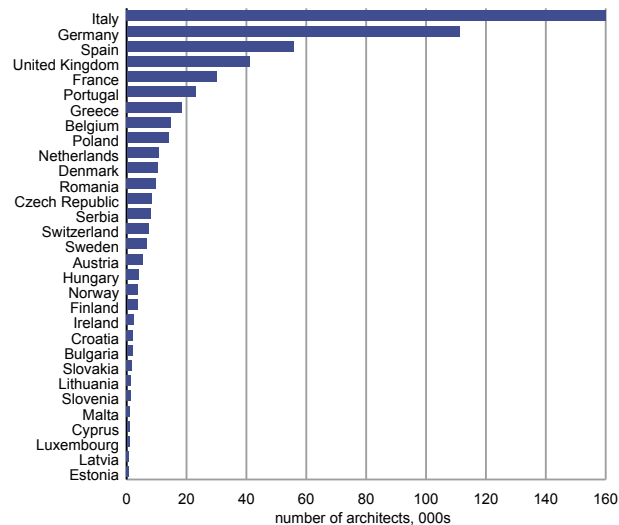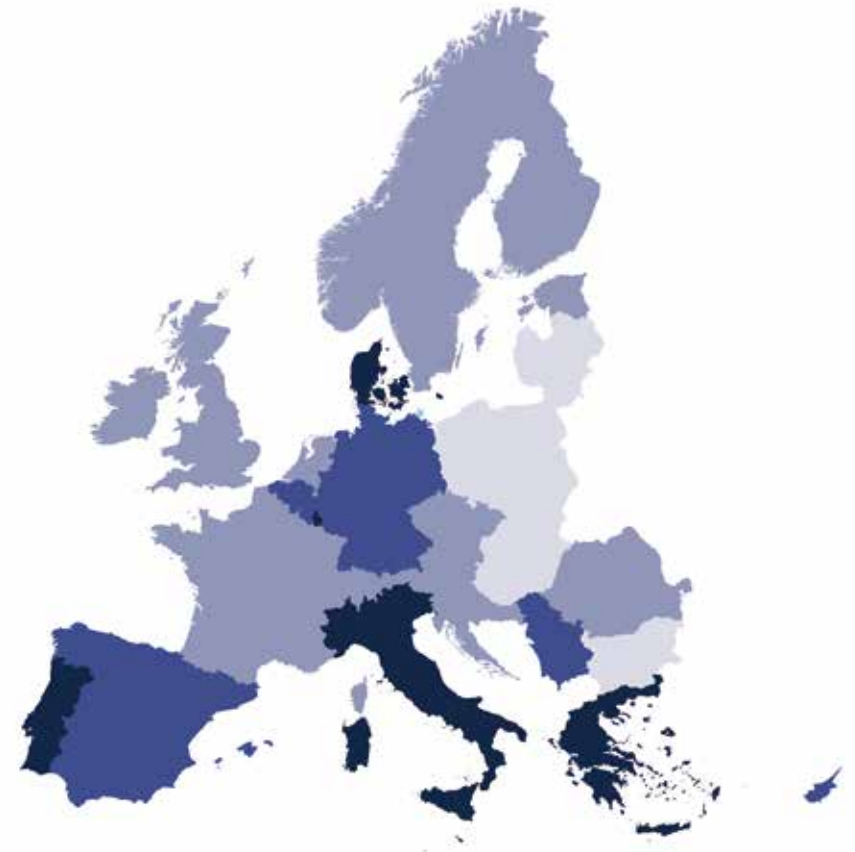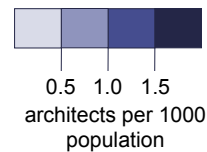
CHART 1-1
ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ARCHITECTS 2018

CHART 1-2
NUMBER OF ARCHITECTS
PER 1000 POPULATION

Base: all 31 European countries

General notes for all tables and charts:
EUROPE-31 = all ACE member countries.
EUROPE-26 = all participants in the 2018 survey.
The total Europe-26 figure is weighted to reflect the total architectural population in all participating countries; weighting process described in Appendix.
Some countries have small samples, these are marked *.
Germany survey figures throughout have been provided by the BAK, which included the ACE survey questions in its own survey.

TABLE 1-1
ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ARCHITECTS IN EACH COUNTRY AND NUMBER OF ARCHITECTS
PER 1000 POPULATION

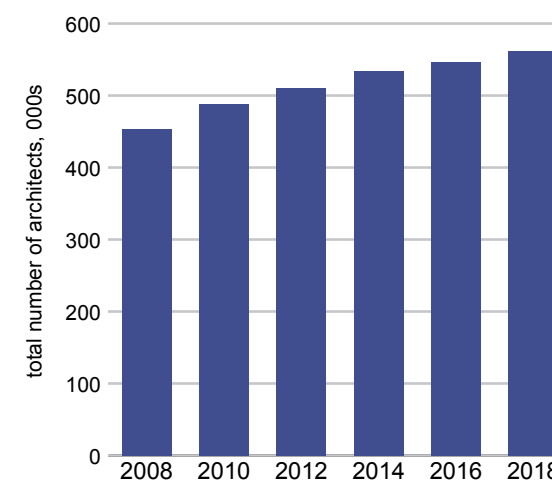|	number of architects	population	architects per 1000 population
Austria	5 400	8 822 267	0.6
Belgium	14 800	11 413 058	1.3
Bulgaria	2 000	7 050 034	0.3
Croatia	2 200	4 105 493	0.5
Cyprus	950	864 236	1.1
Czech Republic	8 300	10 610 055	0.8
Denmark	10 300	5 781 190	1.8
Estonia	800	1 319 133	0.6
Finland	3 600	5 513 130	0.7
France	30 000	67 221 943	0.4
Germany	111 200	82 850 000	1.3
Greece	18 500	10 738 868	1.7
Hungary	4 200	9 778 371	0.4
Ireland	2 500	4 838 259	0.5
Italy	160 000	60 483 973	2.6
Latvia	820	1 934 379	0.4
Lithuania	1 400	2 808 901	0.5
Luxembourg	950	602 005	1.6
Malta	1 000	475 701	2.1
Netherlands	10 600	17 118 084	0.6
Norway	3 825	5 295 619	0.7
Poland	14 000	37 976 687	0.4
Portugal	23 000	10 291 027	2.2
Romania	9 900	19 523 621	0.5
Serbia	8 000	7 001 444	1.1
Slovakia	1 730	5 443 120	0.3
Slovenia	1 380	2 066 880	0.7
Spain	55 700	46 659 302	1.2
Sweden	6 750	10 120 242	0.7
Switzerland	7 400	8 482 152	0.9
United Kingdom	41 000	66 238 007	0.6
EUROPE - 31 - 2018	562 200	533 427 181	1.1
EUROPE - 31 - 2016	*547 100*	*530 331 562*	*1.0*
EUROPE - 31 - 2014	*534 100*	*527 331 308*	*1.0*
EUROPE - 31 - 2012	*509 930*	*526 727 609*	*1.0*
EUROPE - 31 - 2010	*488 500*	*519 521 581*	*0.9*
EUROPE - 31 - 2008	*453 180*	*516 290 802*	*0.9*

Base: all 31 European countries

Population source: Eurostat population as at 1 January 2018 copyright (c) Eurostat

Number of Architects source: Mirza & Nacey estimates. The starting point was data compiled for the 2008 Sector Study which itself was based on the research publication produced by COAC - Architectural Practice Around the World research by the Collegi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya (COAC) based on information supplied by national institutes and associations of architects of the individual countries. For the 2008 ACE report this data from COAC was updated using a mixture of primary and secondary sources including Member Organisations' websites and email contact with Member Organisations. Final figures are Mirza & Nacey best estimates based on these several different sources. All figures are 'latest available'.

Note: some 2008 figures were substantially revised in 2010 which accounts for some of the increase between those two years.

CHART 1-3
CHANGE IN ESTIMATED NUMBER OF
ARCHITECTS IN EUROPE-31 2008 TO 2018
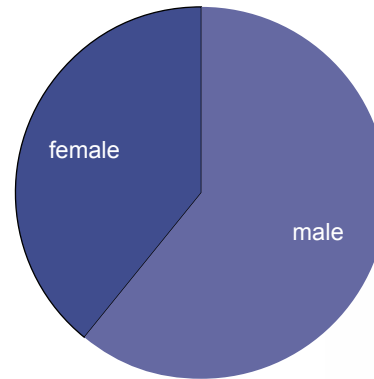

Base: all 31 European countries

1.2 PROFILE OF ARCHITECTS

TABLE 1-2
GENDER OF ARCHITECTS ANALYSED BY COUNTRY

per cent	gender of architects	
	male	female
Austria	78	22
Belgium	68	32
Croatia	46	54
Cyprus *	80	20
Czech Republic	78	22
Denmark	56	44
Estonia *	74	26
Finland	48	52
France	63	37
Germany **	62	38
Greece	45	55
Hungary *	75	25
Ireland	69	31
Italy	57	43
Lithuania	52	48
Luxembourg *	68	32
Malta *	64	36
Netherlands	77	23
Norway	47	53
Poland *	59	41
Portugal	54	46
Romania	55	45
Slovenia *	52	48
Spain	65	35
Sweden	42	58
United Kingdom	74	26
2018 EUROPE-26***	61	39
2016 EUROPE-27***	62	38
2014 EUROPE-26***	61	39
2012 EUR-25 ***	64	36
2010 EUR- 23 ***	69	31
2008 EUR-17***	63	37

* caution - small sample. ** Germany figures provided by BAK
*** weighted to reflect the total architectural population in all
participating countries; weighting process described in Appendix

CHART 1-4
MALE / FEMALE SPLIT ALL RESPONDING ARCHITECTS

CHART 1-5
PROPORTION OF FEMALE ARCHITECTS

20   35   50   n/a
% female

The majority of the profession continues to be male; 61 per cent of architects are male, 39 per cent are female. Countries which have the highest proportions of male architects include Austria, the Czech Republic, and the Netherlands. Countries with the highest proportion of female architects include Sweden, Greece, Norway, Croatia and Finland.

TABLE 1-3
EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF ARCHITECTS ANALYSED BY COUNTRY

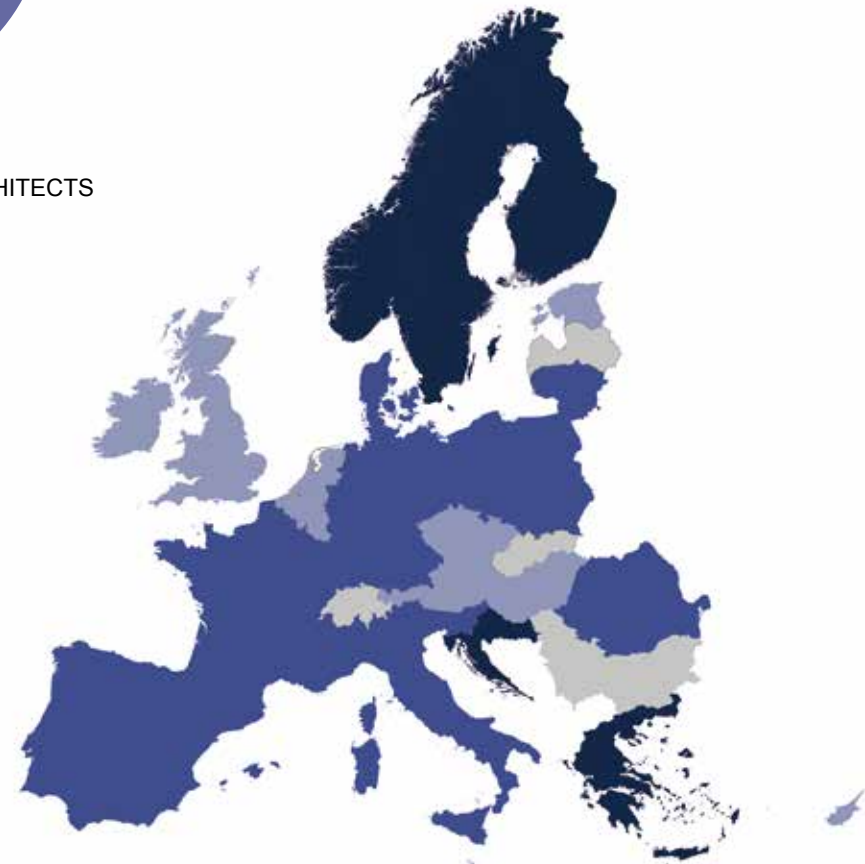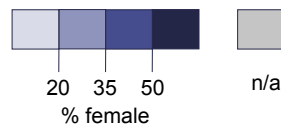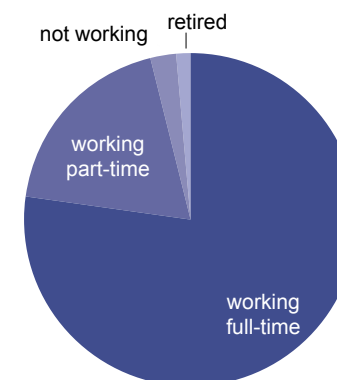| per cent	working full-time	working part-time	not working	retired
Austria	92	8	0	0
Belgium	92	7	1	0
Croatia	90	9	0	0
Cyprus *	90	10	0	0
Czech Republic	82	18	0	0
Denmark	77	19	1	2
Estonia *	78	13	4	4
Finland	92	7	1	0
France	89	9	1	1
Germany **	81	17	2	0
Greece	74	22	2	2
Hungary *	91	9	0	0
Ireland	88	12	0	0
Italy	67	25	5	2
Lithuania	80	18	0	2
Luxembourg *	96	4	0	0
Malta *	91	9	0	0
Netherlands	66	33	0	0
Norway	94	6	0	0
Poland *	84	16	0	0
Portugal	81	16	2	1
Romania	84	15	1	0
Slovenia *	89	9	0	2
Spain	80	18	2	0
Sweden	90	10	0	0
United Kingdom	76	18	1	5
2018 EUROPE-26 ***	77	19	2	1
*2016 EUROPE-27 ***	77	15	6	3*
*2014 EUROPE-26 ***	78	15	5	2*
*2012 EUROPE-25 ***	76	15	6	2*
*2010 EUROPE-23 ***	84	11	4	1*
*2008 EUROPE-17***	87	9	3	2*

* caution - small sample
** Germany figures provided by BAK
*** weighted to reflect the total architectural population in all participating countries. The weighting process is explained in the Appendix.

More than three quarters of the profession is working full-time, and most of the remainder are working part-time. The proportion who are not working (unemployed or for other reasons) this year is 2 per cent. Although the proportion of architects working full-time is similar to that recorded since 2012, the proportion of architects not working has fallen to the lowest level recorded in this survey. Consequently, there has been a significant increase in the proportion of architects working part-time.

The highest proportion of architects working part-time is in Italy (25 per cent), the Netherlands (33 per cent) and Greece (22 per cent). The highest proportion of architects not working is in Italy, at 5 per cent.

CHART 1-6
EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF ARCHITECTS

1.4 FIELD OF EMPLOYMENT

Sole Principals make up the largest group of architects; 29 per cent. Nine per cent of architects are Partners and Directors, so well over one third of the profession run their own business. One quarter of architects are employed in private practices, as Associates or salaried staff. Another 9 per cent describe themselves as Freelance. The public sector employs 14 per cent of architects, half of whom are working for local, municipal, regional or central government.

Austria has the highest proportion of Sole Principals (65 per cent) and also, along with Croatia, the highest proportion of Partners & Directors (32 per cent).

More architects are employed in private practice in Sweden and Norway than elsewhere - more than 50 per cent of the profession, including salaried and Associates.

More than a quarter of architects in Belgium, France and the Czech Republic are freelance.

Countries with the highest proportions of architects working in the public sector are Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Portugal.

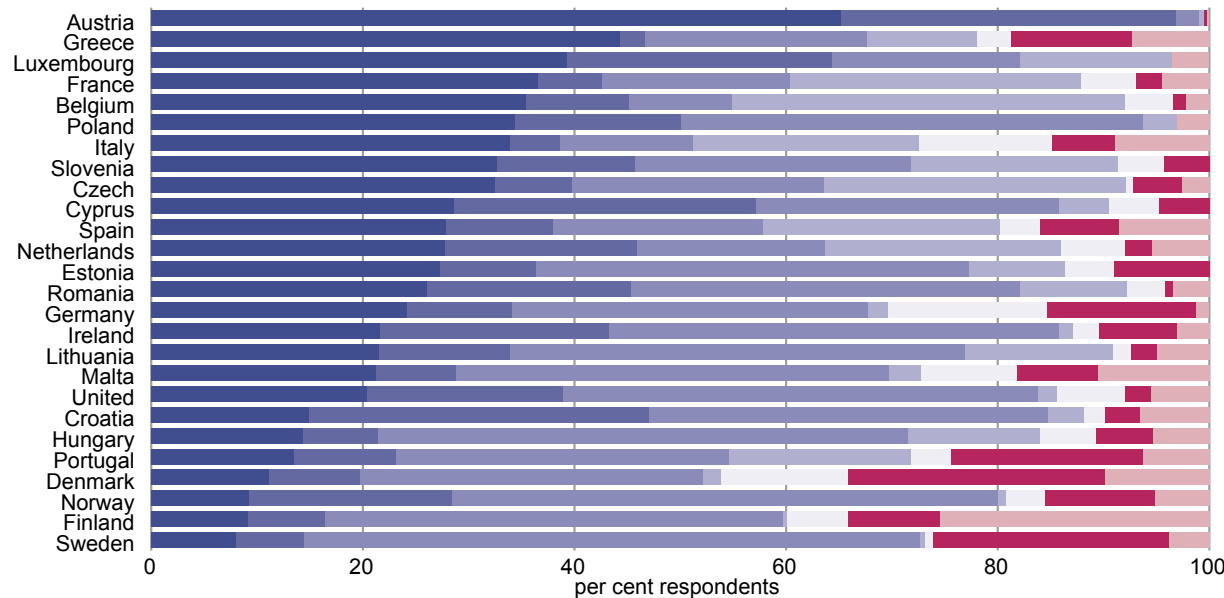CHART 1-7
FIELD OF EMPLOYMENT

CHART 1-8
MAIN EMPLOYMENT FIELDS BY COUNTRY

per cent respondents

- sole principal
- partner/director
- private practice salaried employees
- freelance
- other private
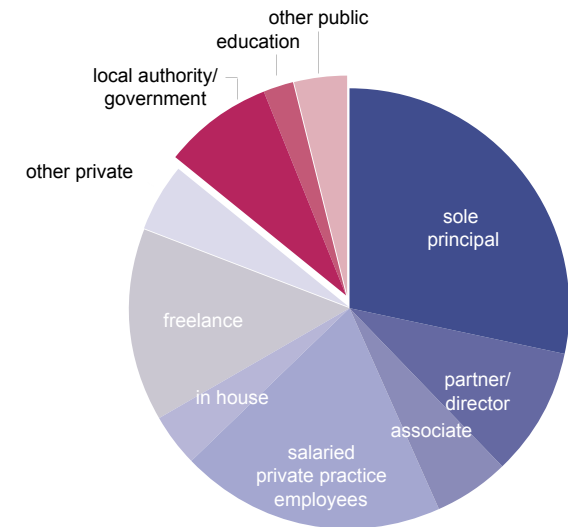- local & central government
- other public

TABLE 1-4
ARCHITECTS' FIELD OF EMPLOYMENT BY COUNTRY

per cent

	sole principal	partner director	associate	private practice salaried employees	in-house	agency **	freelance/ short-term contract	other private	local authority	central govt	education	other public
Austria	65	32	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Belgium	35	10	5	5	1	0	37	3	1	0	1	1
Croatia	15	32	7	31	1	0	3	1	3	0	2	4
Cyprus *	29	29	5	24	5	0	5	0	0	5	0	0
Czech Republic	32	7	9	15	0	0	28	1	5	0	1	1
Denmark	11	9	2	30	3	0	2	9	21	3	6	4
Estonia *	27	9	23	18	0	0	9	5	5	5	0	0
Finland	9	7	6	38	1	0	0	5	4	5	6	20
France	37	6	13	4	0	0	28	5	2	0	1	4
Germany	24	10	0	34	14	0	2	1	13	1	0	1
Greece	44	2	7	14	0	0	10	3	9	2	4	3
Hungary *	14	7	9	41	2	0	13	4	2	4	2	4
Ireland	22	22	11	31	1	0	1	2	5	2	1	2
Italy	34	5	6	6	2	0	21	10	5	1	4	5
Lithuania	21	12	4	39	1	0	14	1	2	0	2	3
Luxembourg *	39	25	14	4	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	4
Malta *	21	8	9	32	2	0	3	8	2	6	5	6
Netherlands	28	18	3	15	2	0	22	4	2	1	2	4
Norway	9	19	7	45	0	0	1	3	9	2	3	2
Poland *	34	16	3	41	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Portugal	13	10	3	29	1	0	17	3	17	2	2	4
Romania	26	19	6	31	1	0	10	3	1	0	2	2
Slovenia *	33	13	0	26	4	0	20	0	4	0	0	0
Spain	28	10	4	16	1	0	22	3	7	1	3	5
Sweden	8	7	7	52	0	0	0	1	18	4	2	1
United Kingdom	20	19	14	31	1	0	2	5	1	1	2	3
2018 EUROPE-26	29	9	5	20	4	0	14	5	7	1	2	4
2016 EUROPE-27	*26*	*8*	*6*	*16*	*1*	*10*	*15*	*5*	*6*	*1*	*3*	*3*
2014 EUROPE-26	*29*	*9*	*7*	*20*	*2*	*7*	*8*	*4*	*7*	*1*	*2*	*3*
2012 EUROPE-25	*32*	*11*	*7*	*16*	*2*	*8*	*10*	*5*	*5*	*1*	*1*	*3*
2010 EUROPE-23	*39*	*12*	*6*	*16*	*1*	*4*	*11*	*4*	*3*	*1*	*2*	*2*
2008 EUROPE-17	*24*	*16*	*5*	*22*	*3*	*6*	*9*	*4*	*6*	*1*	*2*	*3*

* caution - small sample
** 'agency' was offered as a staff category in previous surveys but was removed from 2018

1.5 YEARS QUALIFIED AS AN ARCHITECT

Architects in Europe are an experienced profession; three quarters of architects have at least 10 years' experience, and half of these have 20 years' experience or more.

Just 15 per cent of architects in Europe have 5 years or less experience; the proportion is higher than this in Poland, Croatia and Luxembourg.

The profession's experience profile has not changed significantly over the course of this survey.

CHART 1-9
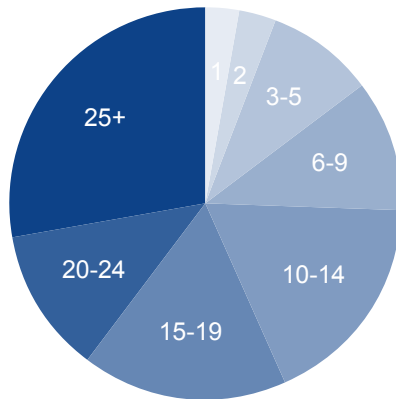NUMBER OF YEARS ARCHITECTS
HAVE BEEN QUALIFIED

TABLE 1-5
NUMBER OF YEARS QUALIFIED AS AN ARCHITECT ANALYSED BY COUNTRY

per cent	number of years qualified as an architect							
	1	2	3 to 5	6 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 +
Austria	6	3	9	11	17	19	14	22
Belgium	8	5	13	10	15	9	8	33
Croatia	0	1	10	14	13	16	14	31
Cyprus *	0	5	33	5	10	0	14	33
Czech Republic	0	0	5	15	18	13	10	40
Denmark	4	3	8	10	11	13	11	40
Estonia *	0	0	4	13	4	9	4	65
Finland	1	2	8	9	12	16	18	35
France	3	3	8	10	16	15	9	35
Germany	0	0	5	10	16	18	17	35
Greece	2	3	9	16	18	12	9	31
Hungary *	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ireland	3	0	7	9	17	12	16	36
Italy	4	3	8	11	17	18	13	26
Lithuania	0	1	4	15	25	8	5	42
Luxembourg *	4	0	0	11	21	21	14	29
Malta *	6	9	20	21	14	14	3	14
Netherlands	1	2	8	10	18	14	12	36
Norway	4	6	14	15	18	12	10	22
Poland *	3	9	25	16	25	13	9	0
Portugal	3	3	15	12	21	17	12	17
Romania	1	4	20	19	19	13	7	16
Slovenia *	0	2	2	17	30	13	7	28
Spain	7	3	13	8	23	22	7	18
Sweden	3	5	11	13	19	13	13	23
United Kingdom	4	5	10	10	12	9	9	41
2018 EUR-26	3	3	9	11	18	17	12	28
2016 EUR-27	3	4	10	13	19	14	10	27
2014 EUR-26	3	3	9	15	19	14	12	27
2012 EUR-25	3	4	12	16	19	11	11	24
2010 EUR-23	3	5	16	14	12	9	12	28
2008 EUR-17	4	3	11	17	17	12	13	23

* caution - small sample

1.6 AGE PROFILE OF ARCHITECTS

Three out of ten architects are aged under 40, another three out of ten are in their forties. The remaining architects are aged 50 and over. There are five countries where the profile is skewed towards the younger age groups; in Poland, Malta, Hungary, Cyprus and Romania at least 50 per cent of architects are aged under 40.

The average age of female architects is younger than men; 30 per cent of female architects are aged 50 or more, compared with 53 per cent of males. The difference is even greater amongst the younger age groups; 38 per cent of female architects are aged under 40, compared with 20 per cent of male architects.

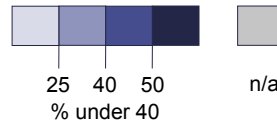CHART 1-11
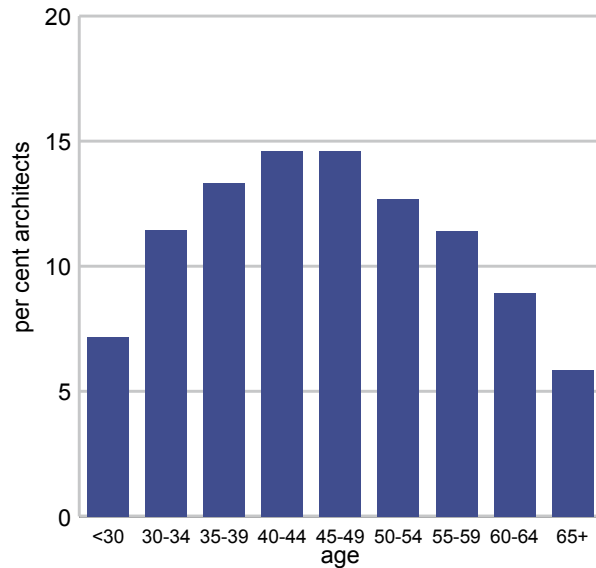PROPORTION OF ARCHITECTS AGED UNDER 40

25   40   50   n/a
% under 40

CHART 1-10
AGE PROFILE OF ARCHITECTS

TABLE 1-6
AGE OF ARCHITECTS ANALYSED BY COUNTRY

per cent	age of architects								
	<30	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65+
Austria	2	2	8	19	21	16	12	12	8
Belgium	20	13	14	10	9	9	12	9	3
Croatia	3	13	17	14	10	13	12	8	8
Cyprus *	10	30	10	0	10	10	10	5	15
Czech Republic	1	18	13	16	10	5	9	15	14
Denmark	5	12	9	9	14	10	13	16	13
Estonia *	5	0	14	18	0	0	14	18	32
Finland	5	8	6	13	13	17	16	16	7
France	3	10	12	14	15	11	13	12	9
Germany	1	8	12	14	15	18	17	10	4
Greece	5	17	17	16	11	6	11	13	4
Hungary *	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ireland	4	7	17	19	11	12	9	11	10
Italy	6	10	11	13	17	15	11	9	7
Lithuania	5	24	14	10	4	8	15	13	7
Luxembourg *	0	4	18	21	21	4	14	14	4
Malta *	32	24	11	17	3	3	2	5	5
Netherlands	3	8	14	15	14	12	9	8	17
Norway	10	18	16	15	8	12	8	10	1
Poland *	34	19	19	13	9	0	6	0	0
Portugal	11	17	18	20	13	8	6	3	4
Romania	10	31	20	14	7	4	4	5	5
Slovenia *	2	15	26	11	15	7	7	11	7
Spain	14	12	16	21	13	8	7	4	4
Sweden	8	13	17	13	10	15	12	12	0
United Kingdom	5	15	11	11	11	8	8	10	21
2018 EUROPE-26	7	11	13	15	15	13	11	9	6
2016 EUR-27	8	13	15	15	13	11	10	8	6
2014 EUR-26	7	12	15	16	13	13	11	7	6
2012 EUR-25	9	15	16	14	13	12	10	6	4
2010 EUR-23	10	15	15	10	12	12	12	8	4
2008 EUR-17	9	14	19	13	13	14	10	5	2

* caution - small sample

CHART 1-12
POPULATION PYRAMID - ANALYSIS OF ARCHITECTS
BY AGE AND GENDER