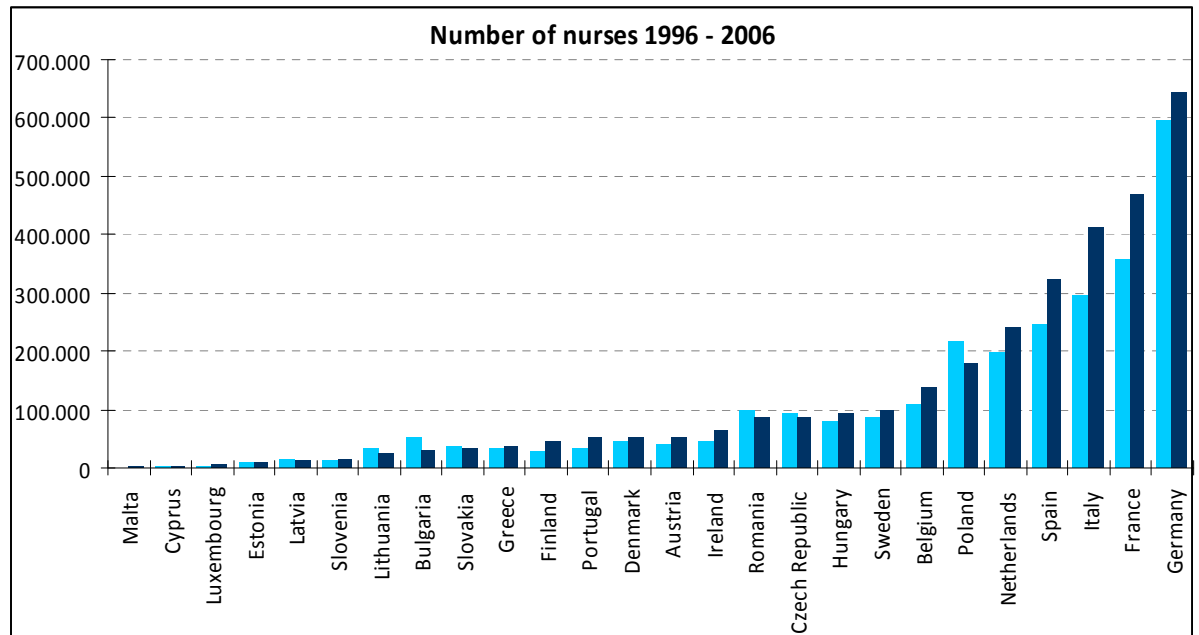


HEALTH PROFESSIONALS' PROFILE NURSES AND MIDWIVES

PERCENTAGE OF NURSES WORKING IN HOSPITALS (DATA AVAILABLE)	
Malta	88,3%
Portugal	82,0%
Latvia	76,8%
Germany	73,4%
France	73,2%
Denmark	70,3%
Czech Republic	68,0%
Finland	65,9%
Romania	64,6%
Italy	64,2%
Slovakia	63,9%
Bulgaria	63,0%
Estonia	60,3%
Lithuania	58,5%
Slovenia	54,7%
Hungary	52,5%



NOTE. All data refer to 2006 except Luxembourg and Slovakia (2005). Where data for the year 1996 are not available the closest year has been considered. Data for the United Kingdom are not available.

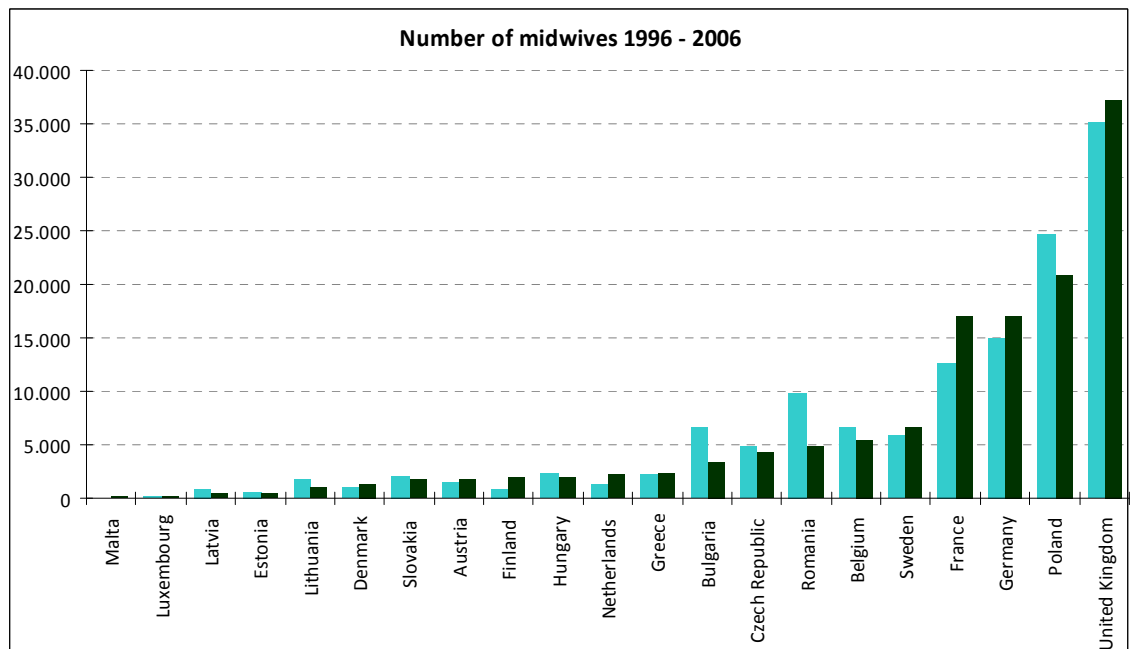
Source of data: WHO/Europe, European HFA Database, August 2009.

In 2006 the average number of **nurses per 100.000 inhabitants** was 745,5 in the European Union, 804,8 in EU15 and 556,8 in EU12. The Member States with the higher number of nurses per 100.000 inhabitants were Ireland (1.542,87) and the Netherlands (1.479,26). The Member States with the lower number of nurses per 100.000 inhabitants were Greece (326,81) and Romania (397,44).

Between 1996 and 2006, the **total number of nurses** generally increased in EU15 and decreased in most EU12 Member States. In particular, the total number of nurses, steadily increased up to more than 40% in Finland (+70,0%), Luxembourg (+53,5%), Portugal (+47,7%), Ireland (+45,9%). It decreased by more than 15% in Bulgaria (-38,2%), Lithuania (-26,4%), Poland (-17,0%) and Latvia (-16,5%).

In 2006 the average number of **midwives per 100.000 inhabitants** was 35,63 in the European Union, 34,4 in EU15 and 38,9 in EU12. The Member States with the higher number of midwives per 100.000 inhabitants were Sweden (72,0), Poland (54,9) and Belgium (51,8). The Member States with the lower number of midwives per 100.000 inhabitants were the Netherlands (13,4), Latvia (19,3) and Hungary (19,4).

Between 1996 and 2006, the **total number of midwives** significantly



NOTE. All data refer to 2006 except Luxembourg and Slovakia (2005) and the United Kingdom (2003). Where data for the year 1996 are not available the closest year has been considered. Data for Cyprus, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain are not available.

Source of data: WHO/Europe, European HFA Database, August 2009.

decreased in Latvia (-50,4%), Romania (-50,2%), Bulgaria (-47,8%), and Lithuania (-45,8%); while it almost doubled in Finland (+110,0), Luxembourg (+77,5%) and the Netherlands (+64,9%).