

Example Fact Sheet

Name	
Committee	EMPL II – Committee on Employment and Social Affairs II
Topic	Shifting demographic tides across Europe: How can we reform our welfare systems and transform our societies to cope with the challenges inherent in an ageing population and longevity?
Fact 1	Statistics about the population of the European countries show: i) death rate: 10.9 deaths/1000 population ii) birth rate: 9.1 births/1000 population iii) infant mortality rate: 4.5 deaths/1000 population
Sources	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_the_European_Union https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/fields/2066.html
Fact 2	The mean in youth unemployment rates in the European Union has risen up to 19.6%, with specific countries such as Greece, Spain, Italy, having >50%, >50%, >30% respectively of young people of ages 15-24 unemployed. Increase in retirement age and life expectancy are considered major factors.
Sources	http://www.presstv.ir/detail/235066.html http://www.eyp.org/tallinn/Tallinn-2012-Academic-Preparation-Kit_FINAL_FINAL.pdf
Fact 3	Modern, export-oriented economies, based on industrial production, reduce youth unemployment rates and thus increase the ability of the “working part of the society”, which is 1/3 of the total population, to sustain the other 2/3, which comprise of children of early age and pensioners, and enforce the local economy.
Source	http://www.npr.org/2012/04/04/149927290/the-secret-to-germanys-low-youth-unemployment
Fact 4	Decreasing the retirement age in order to provide jobs for the unemployed masses of ages 15-24 results in people receiving pensions for more years, as life expectancy increases dramatically, whereas increasing the retirement age results in greater youth unemployment and at the same time less productivity. In both cases, the economy is far from advancing.
Source	http://www.usnews.com/opinion/articles/2010/09/20/cutting-benefits-isnt-the-way-to-save-social-security http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/01/14/AR2011011404962.html
Fact 5	People from different countries of the EU bear little knowledge about the job opportunities that exist in different countries than their own. This generates “special” types of unemployment that exist in specific parts of the EU. To present an example, Mediterranean countries need industry workers and they house many people who have university degrees in physics and medicine, while in northern countries there is great need of those professions and at the same time there are countless jobless industry workers. If those people withheld the necessary knowledge of those job opportunities, the unemployment rates in both countries would decrease at a significant level.
Source	http://theeconomicanalyst.com/content/can-immigration-solve-looming-demographic-problem
Fact 6	There is not enough financial support from the governments to young couples, in the form of allowances and financial benefits, in order to encourage an increase in birth rates.
Source	http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20090506182530AAk2wgp
Fact 7	The high fertility rates of 1960 have decreased significantly in the previous two decades, resulting in having many people over the age of 65 and few people in the workforce, which in turn causes grave repercussions in the population pyramid, which is essential for a competitive economy.
Source	http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Population_structure_and_ageing
Fact 8	European populations show an aging raise in the future. In the 60s there were 3 youngsters for an elderly person, but in 2035 it is predicted that for every youngster there would be two elderly people. Europe is aging with extreme speed, but not all countries age with the same rate.

Source	http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Population_projections
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