



European
Commission

The Council Recommendation on access to affordable high- quality long-term care

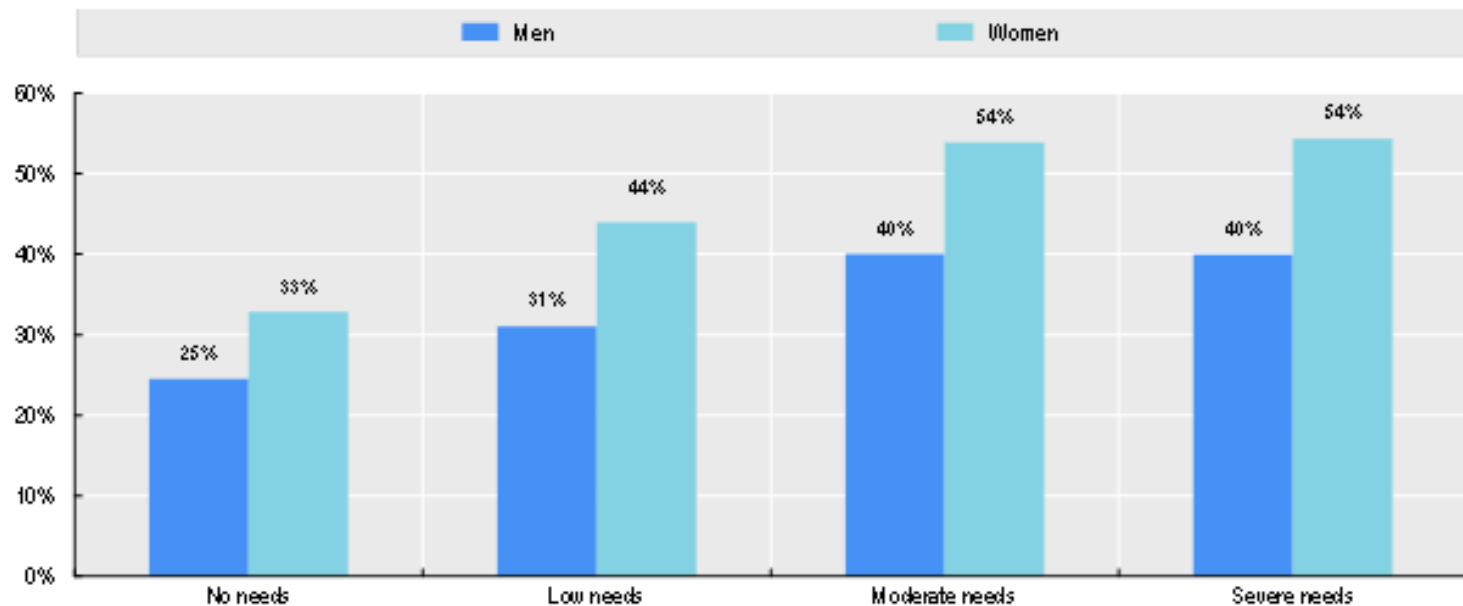


[#EUCareStrategy](#)

*Employment,
Social Affairs
and Inclusion*

Women are poorer in old age and have more LTC needs compared to men

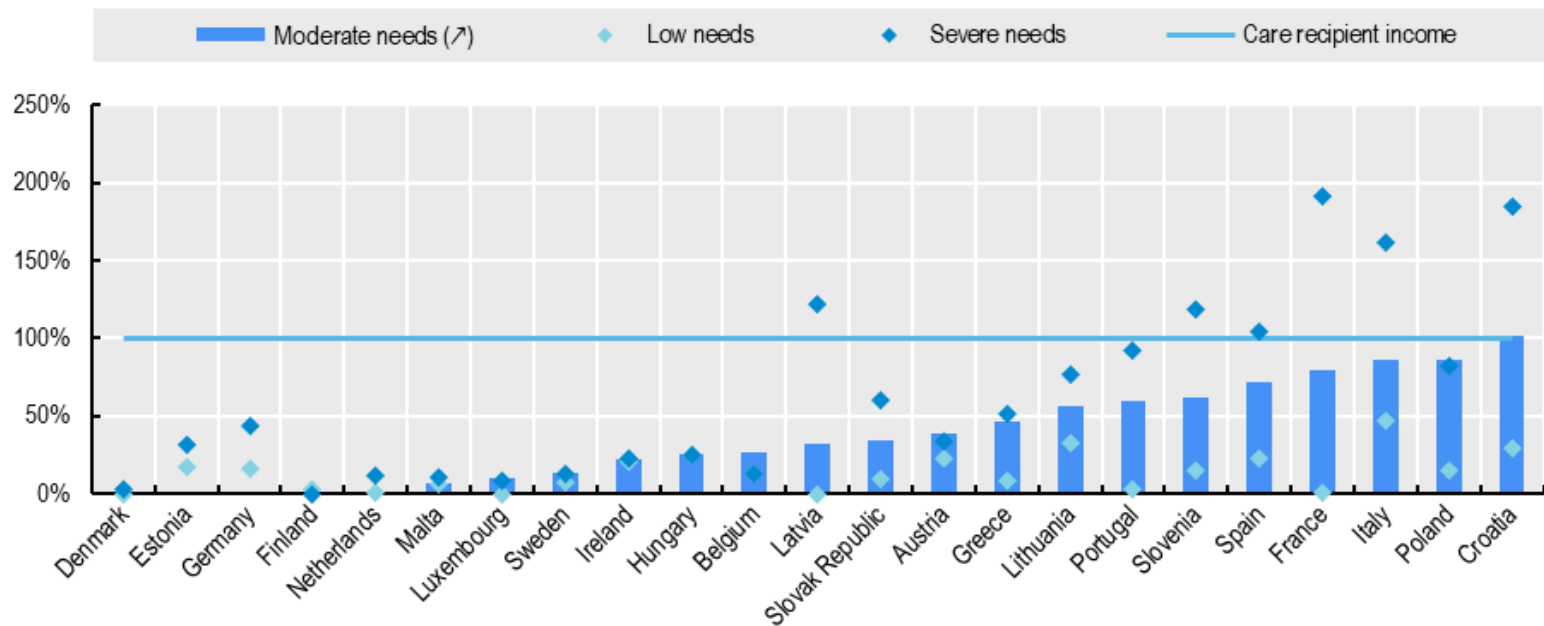
Older people earning a low income with and without LTC needs, by gender



Source: OECD analyses based on the Long-Term Care Social Protection questionnaire and the OECD Income Distribution Database. SHARE survey (Wave 8, 2019) and TILDA survey for Ireland (Wave 3, 2015). The EU average is the unweighted average of the shares in each country

Out-of-pocket costs remain high in spite of public support

Share of care user's disposable income spent on out-of-pocket costs of home care, for different needs



Low income is the 20th percentile of income and high income is the 80th percentile of income, both among people of retirement age or older.

Source: OECD analyses based on the OECD Long-Term Care Social Protection questionnaire, the SHARE survey (Wave 8, 2019) and TILDA survey for Ireland (Wave 3, 2015).

Council Recommendation on access to affordable high-quality LTC



Affordability

adequate, timely and comprehensive social protection



Availability

more LTC services & options, home care & community-based care, territorial gaps, innovative & digital solutions, accessibility



Quality

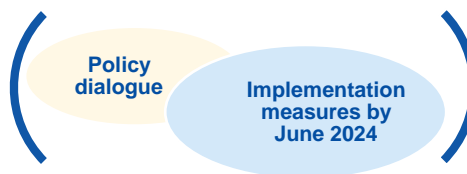
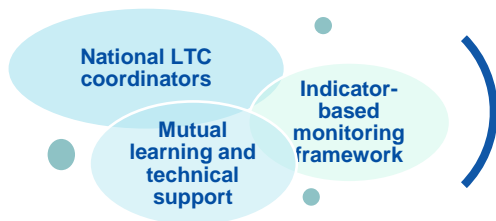
LTC quality framework, based on quality principles and quality assurance



Carers

quality employment, fair working conditions, addressing skills needs and workforce shortages, access to support services and social protection for informal carers, work-life balance

Monitoring and governance



European Care Strategy: EU-level actions on LTC

LTC services

- Policy dialogue and mutual learning for the national LTC coordinators and in SPC/ EMCO
- International cooperation (WHO, OECD)

Workforce

- Skills
- Social dialogue
- Working conditions
- Occupational health and safety
- Support for informal carers

Funding and technical support

- Technical assistance (TSI)
- Innovation (Horizon Europe, EASI)
- Digitalization (Digital Europe)
- EU funds (RRPs, ESF+, ERDF...)

Evidence and monitoring

- Improving data, task force on LTC statistics
- Projections on demand for care
- Policy monitoring (European Semester, Social OMC)

European Care Strategy: EU-level actions on LTC (ctd)



LTC services

- **Strategic partnership with WHO** (LTC self-assessment tool, support for informal carers) - May
- Mutual learning on **LTC quality** - June
- Mutual learning on **social protection for LTC** - November
- Work with **OECD to measure effectiveness of social protection for LTC** - November

EC – WHO partnership on long-term care



Building more accessible, better quality and resilient long-term care systems

European Care Strategy: EU-level actions on LTC (ctd)

Commission decision setting up the European social dialogue committee for social services

As part of the follow-up to the 2022 Care Strategy and the 2023 Social Dialogue Initiative, the Commission adopted on 10 July 2023 a decision setting up the European social dialogue committee for social services.



Pact for Skills: launch of large-scale skills partnership for long-term care

Today, long-term care service providers, social partners and education and training providers, with the support of the European Commission, have set up a large-scale skills partnership for the long-term care sector.



- [Large-scale partnership for skills in LTC](#) - April
- [Commission decision setting up the European social dialogue committee for social services](#) - July
- CEDEFOP brief "[Handling change with care: skills for the EU care sector](#)" - September
- On-going: study on admission conditions and pathways for third-country national to join the EU labour market; thematic study on the application of EU labour law in the long-term care sector; analysis of occupational safety and health issues in the health and LTC sector
- Mutual learning in 2024

European Care Strategy: EU-level actions on LTC (ctd.)



Funding and technical support



Funding and technical support

- **Technical Support Instrument Flagship on Integrated care** (EL, ES, IE, IT)
- **ESF+ 2021-2027 programming period: support for health and long-term care sectors and services in 22 Member States - €6.7 billion**
- **Scalable social innovations in LTC (EASI)**
- **Reforms and investments in the Resilience and Reform Programmes 7.3 billion € for 18 Member States**

Thank you!