



# HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN EUROPE

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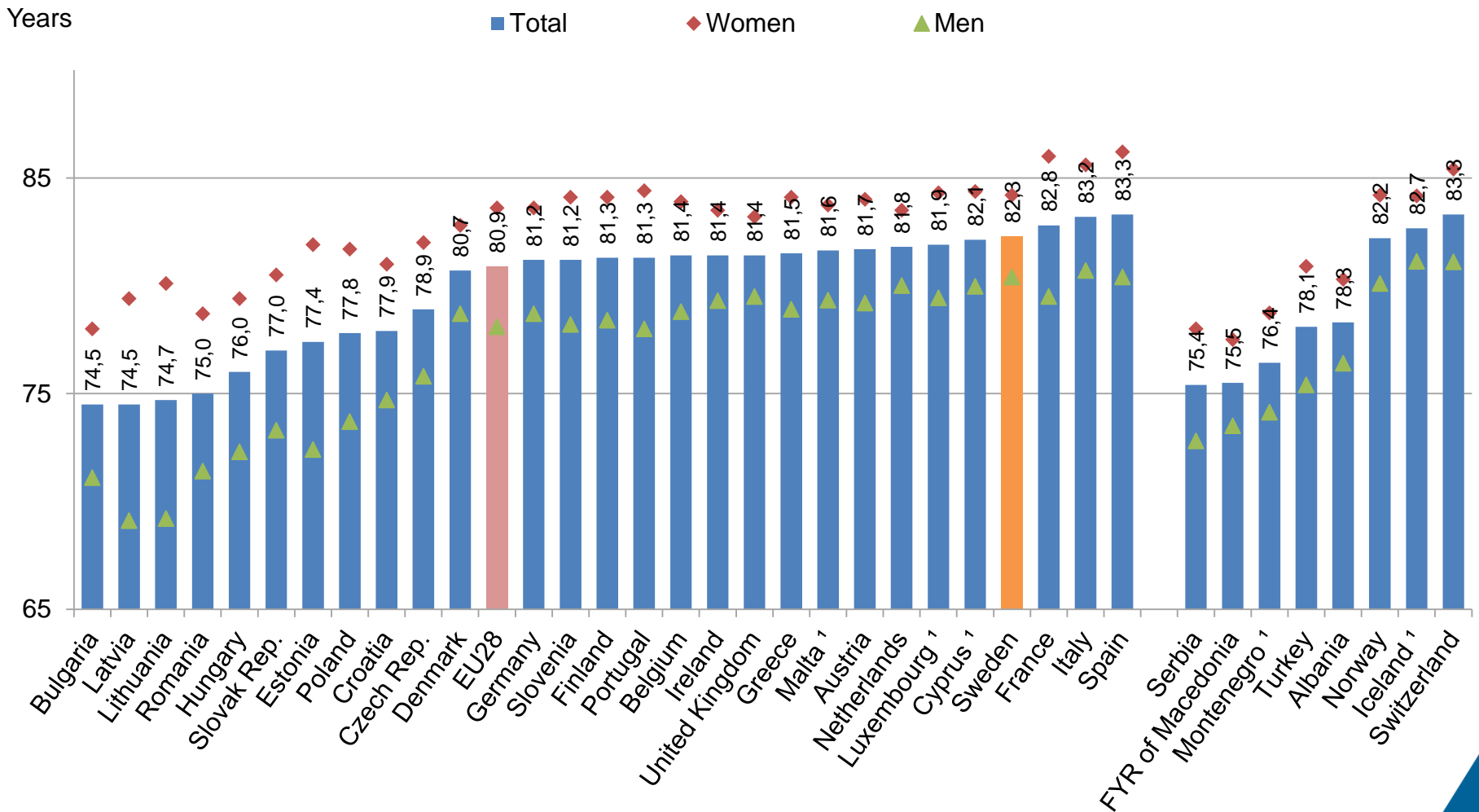


THERE ARE DISPARITIES  
IN HEALTH  
ACROSS COUNTRIES,  
ACROSS GENDERS



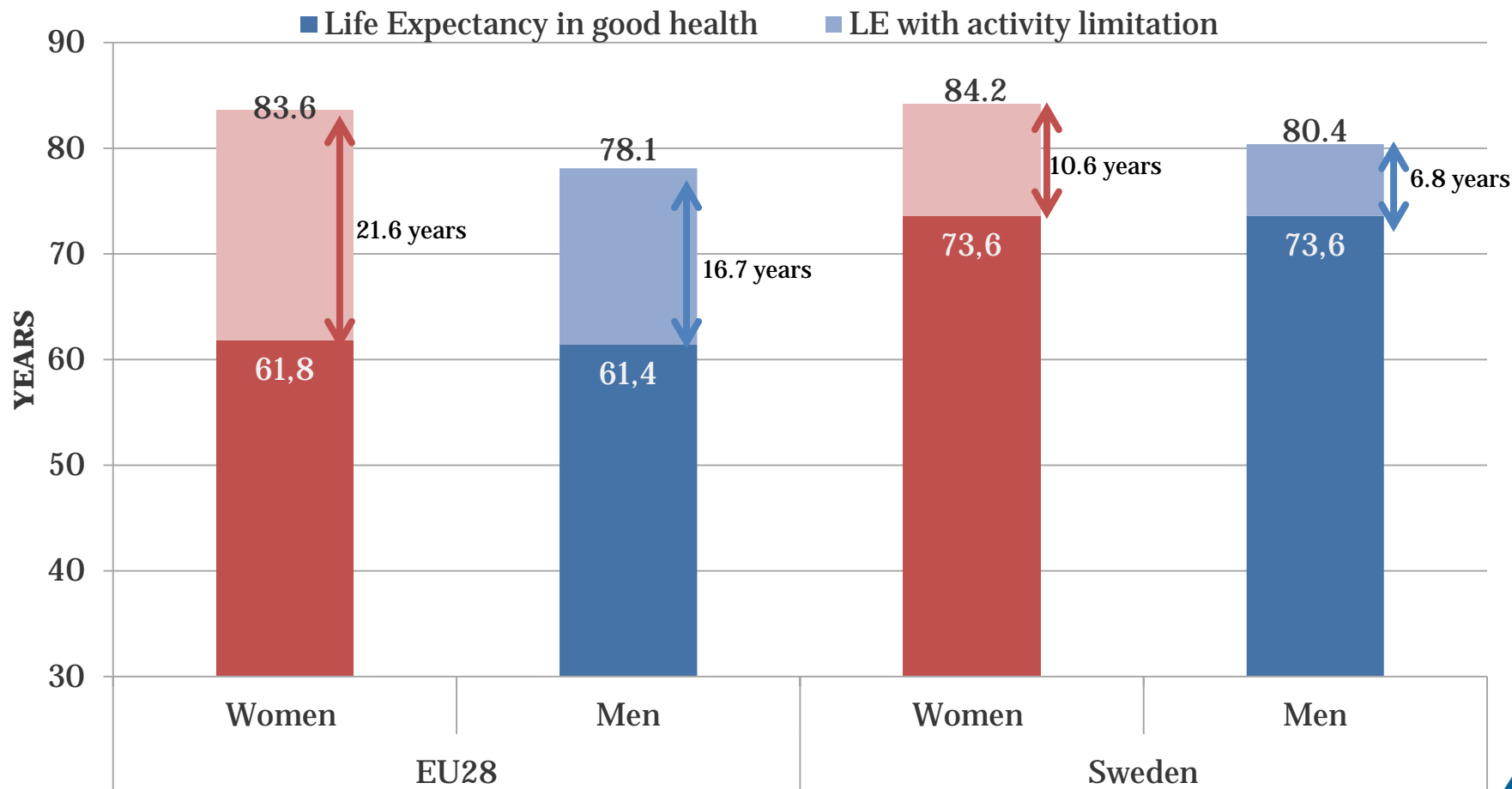
# Life expectancy varies across EU countries by 9 years, and women live longer

Life expectancy, by gender, 2014





# But women have more years lived in poor health than men



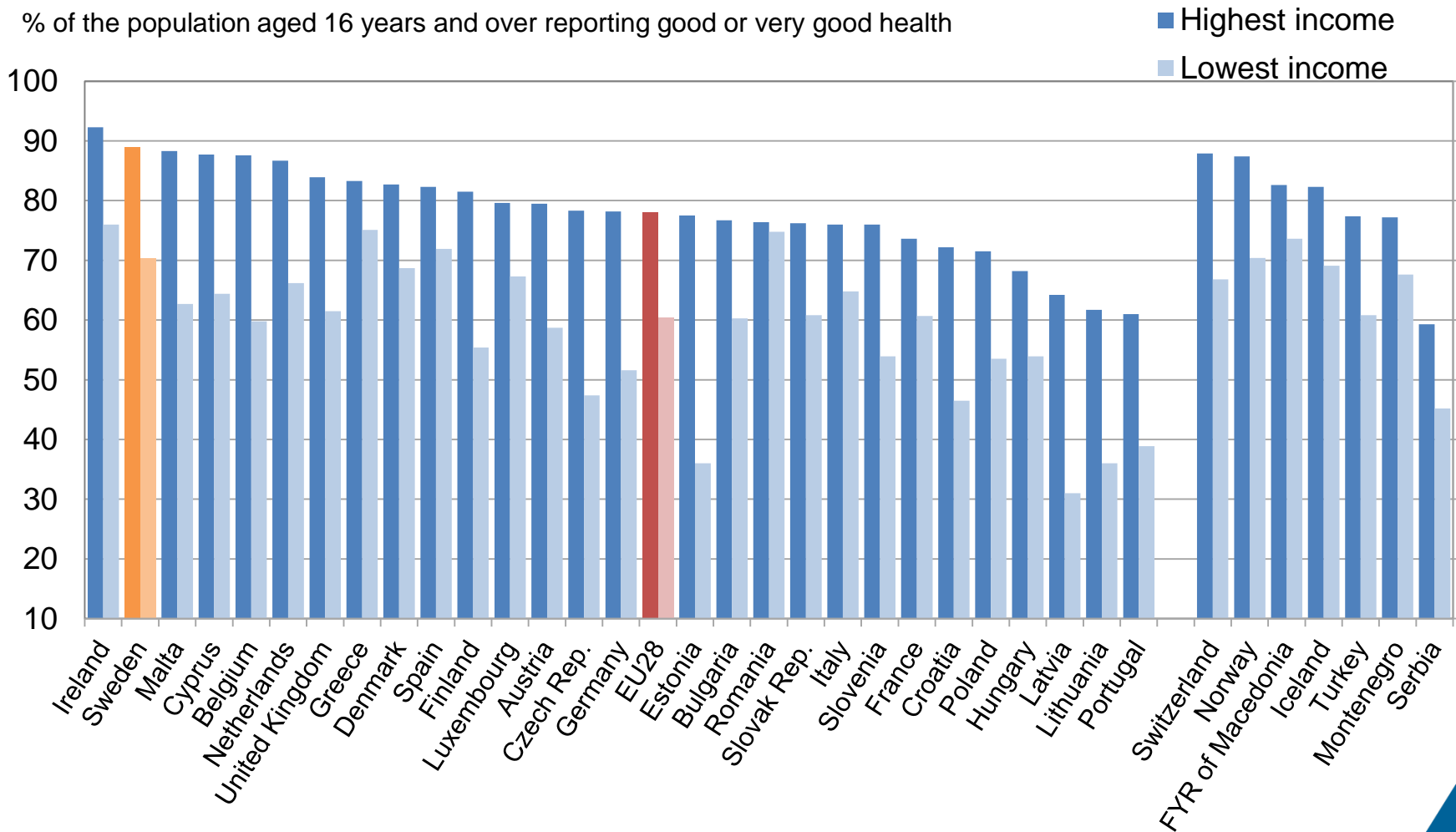


THERE ARE ALSO  
DISPARITIES IN HEALTH  
ACROSS EDUCATION AND  
SOCIOECONOMIC GROUPS



# People with lower income have poorer health status compared to people with higher income

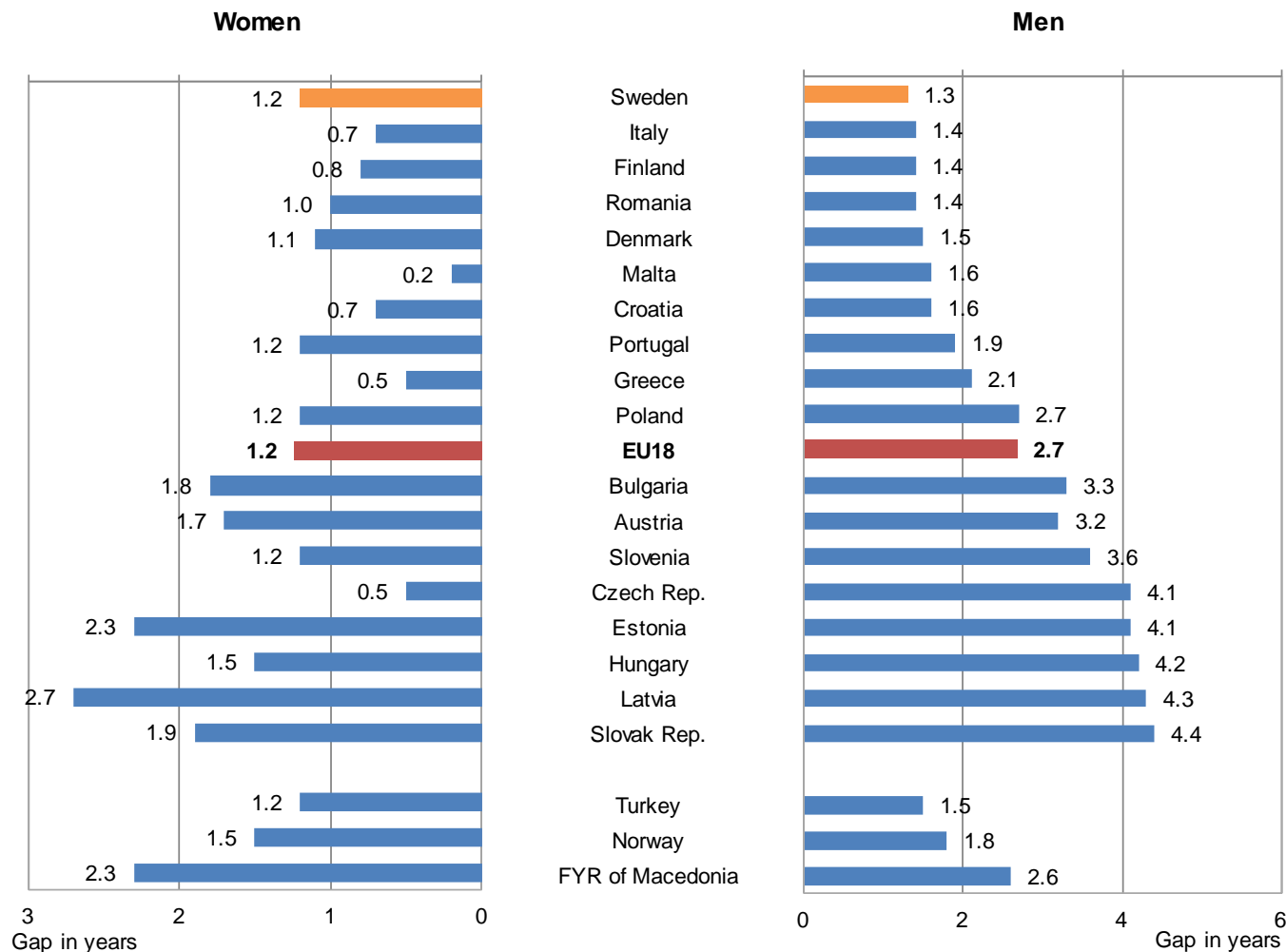
## Self-reported health status, by income





# People with lower education level have shorter lives

Difference in Life Expectancy at age 65 between high and low education groups





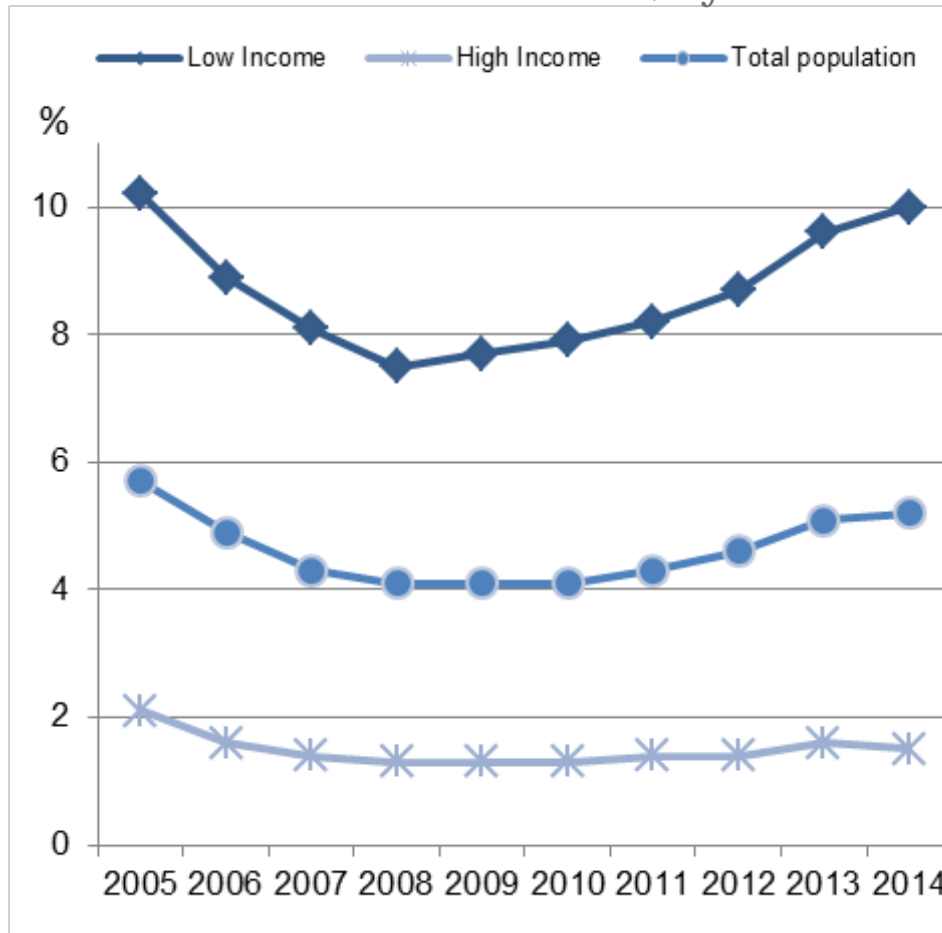
# UNEQUAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE





# People with lower income have more unmet care needs

Unmet needs for dental care, by income level, over time



Source: OECD/EU Health at a Glance 2016.

Note: Average for all EU countries using EU-SILC data.

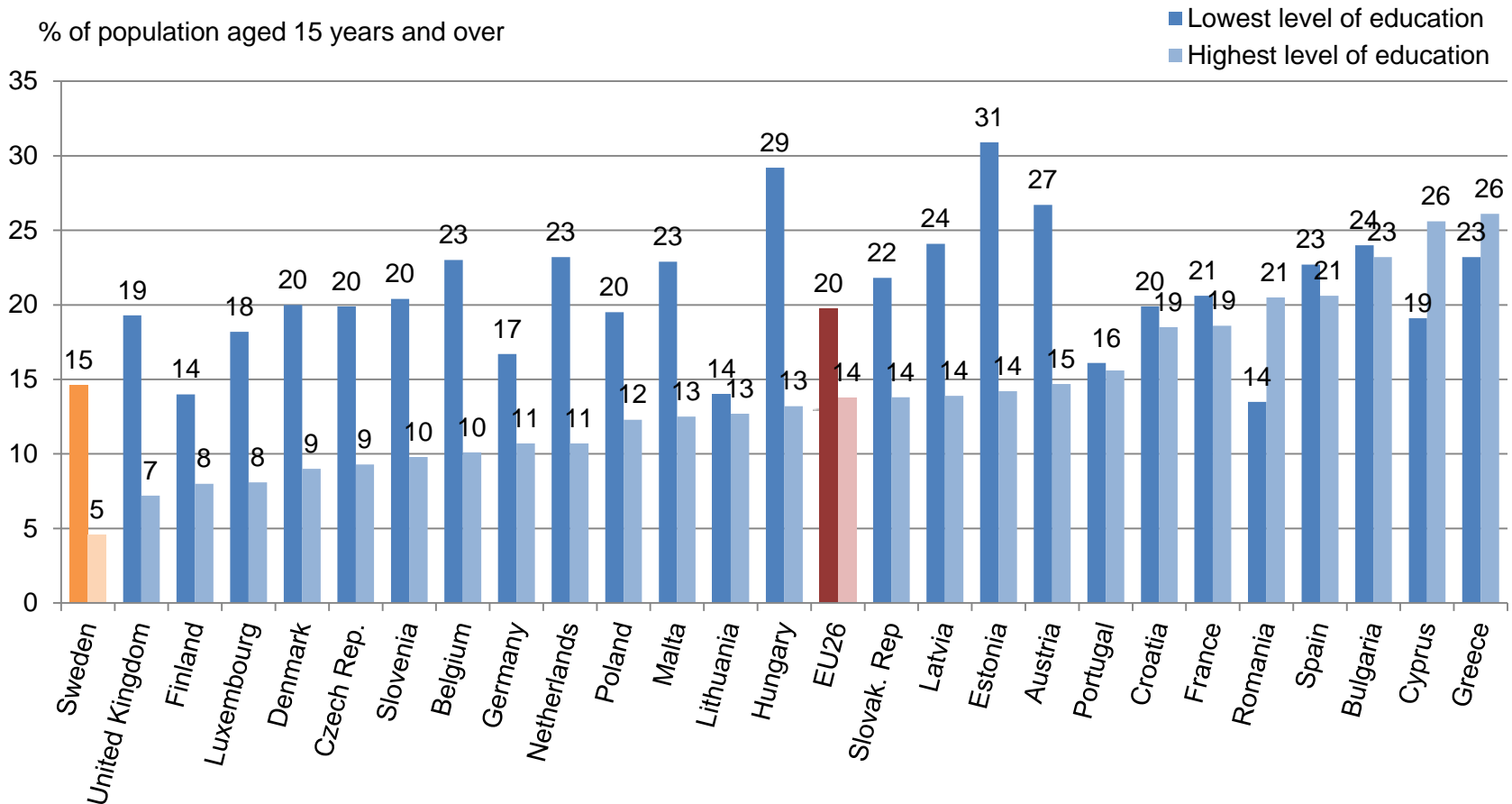


MORE UNHEALTHY  
BEHAVIOURS AMONG  
PEOPLE WITH LOWER  
EDUCATION LEVEL (BUT  
WITH EXCEPTIONS)



# People with lower education level smoke more often

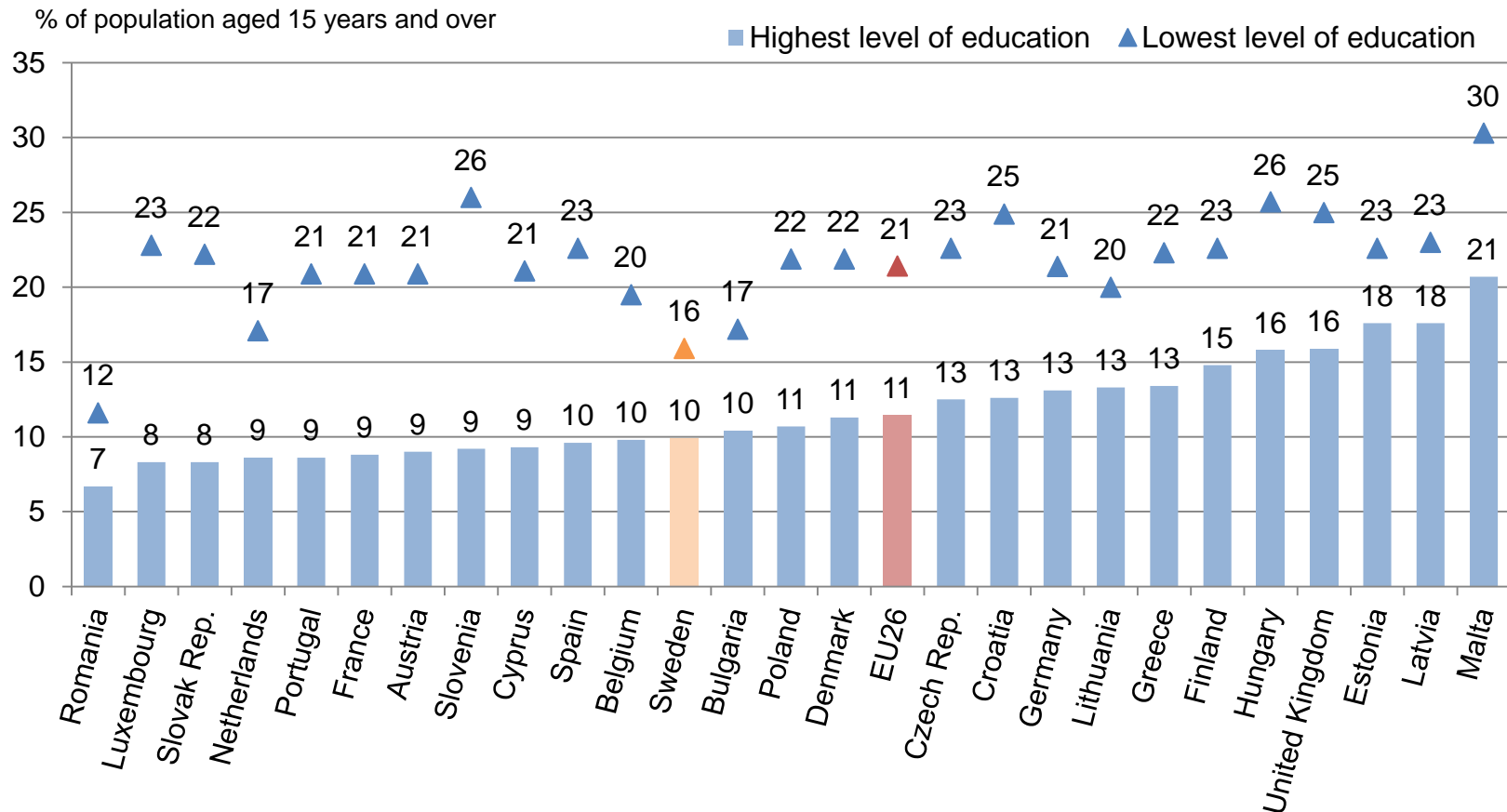
## Daily smoking, by education level





# People with lower education level are more obese

## Obesity, by education level



Note: self-reported height and weight.

Source: OECD/EU Health at a Glance 2016



Men with lower income are more at risk of hazardous drinking, but this is the opposite among women

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- People with lower income *drink less* alcohol than people with higher income.
- But men with lower income engage in *hazardous drinking* more than men with higher income.
- The reverse relationship is true among women.

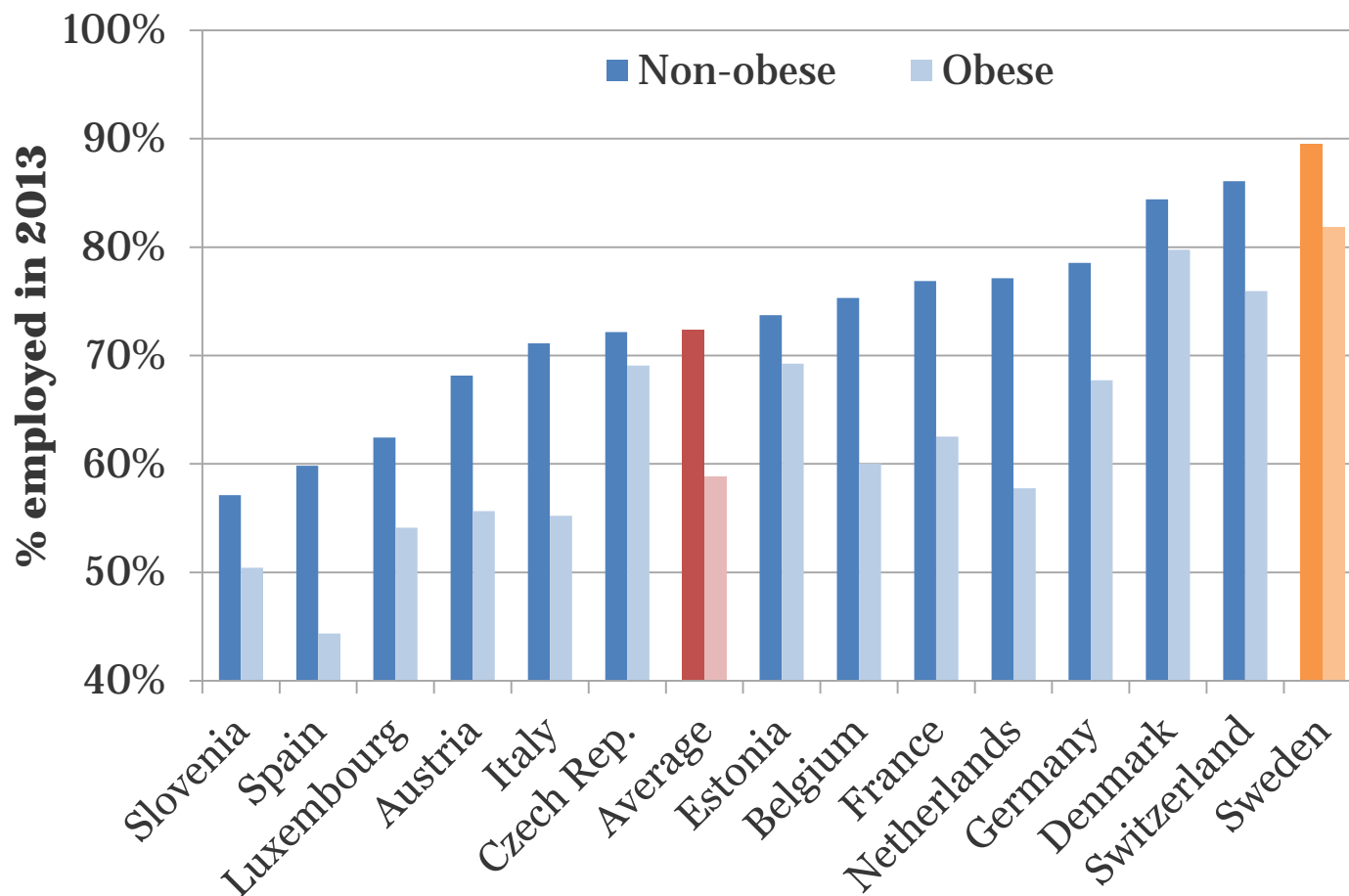


ILL-HEALTH IS ASSOCIATED  
WITH NEGATIVE  
LABOUR MARKET IMPACTS



# Poor health has negative impact on employment

Employment rate among people aged 50-59, by obesity status, 2013





## Policy options

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- Improving access to quality health care for all
- Preventing unhealthy behaviours and their related chronic diseases
- Addressing the social determinants of health (education, income, employment, housing, environment)





# Thank you for your attention

- OECD/EU (2016) *Health at a Glance*  
<http://www.oecd.org/health/health-at-a-glance-europe-23056088.htm>
- OECD (2015) *Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use*  
<http://www.oecd.org/health/tackling-harmful-alcohol-use-9789264181069-en.htm>
- OECD Obesity Update 2017  
<http://www.oecd.org/health/obesity-update.htm>

