

**State of Health in the EU cycle**

# **HEALTH AT A GLANCE: EUROPE 2022**

**Spotlight on the impact of the pandemic  
on young people's health and health  
service disruptions for non-COVID care**

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Director

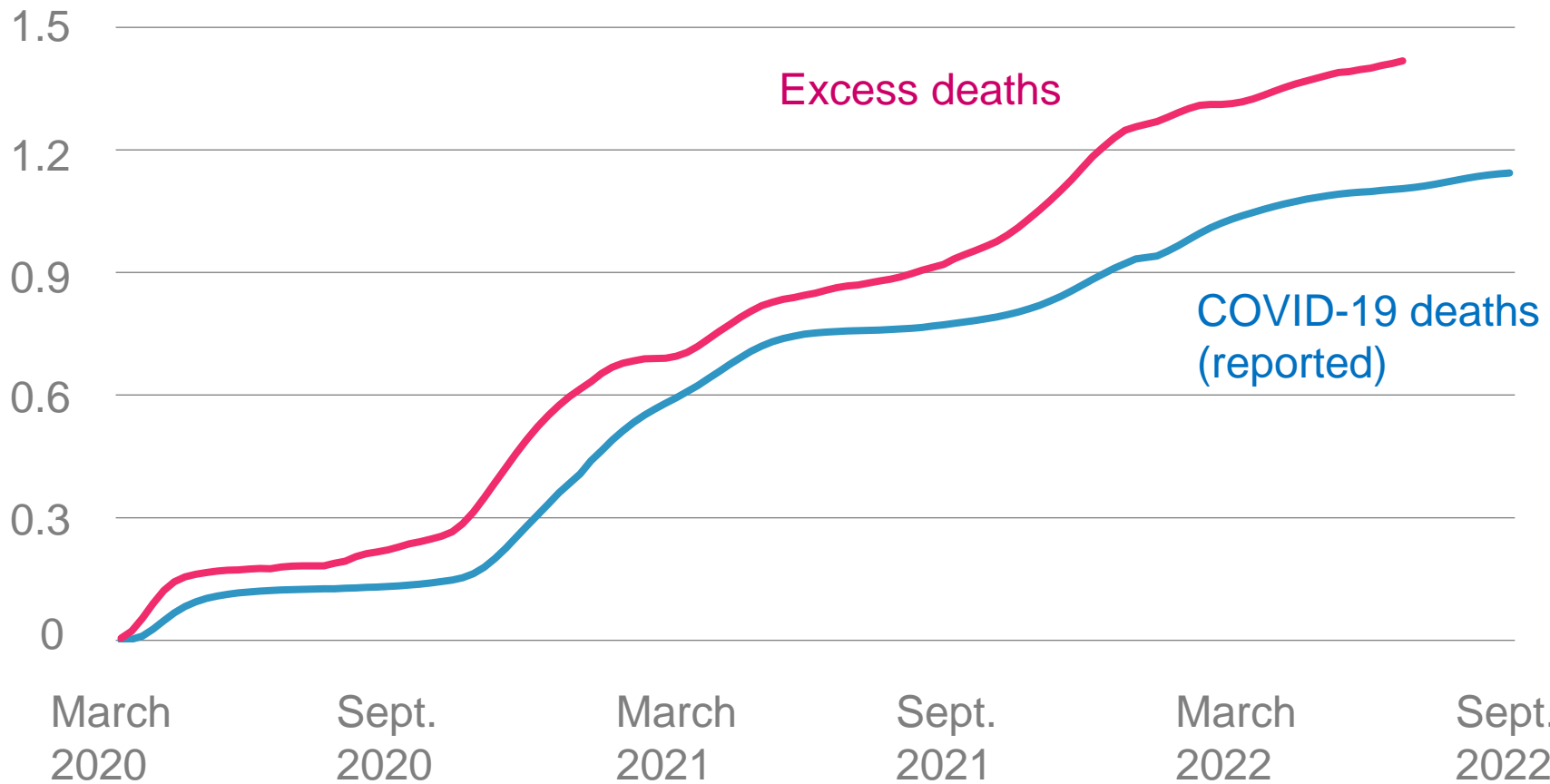
OECD Directorate for Employment, Labour & Social Affairs

5 December 2022

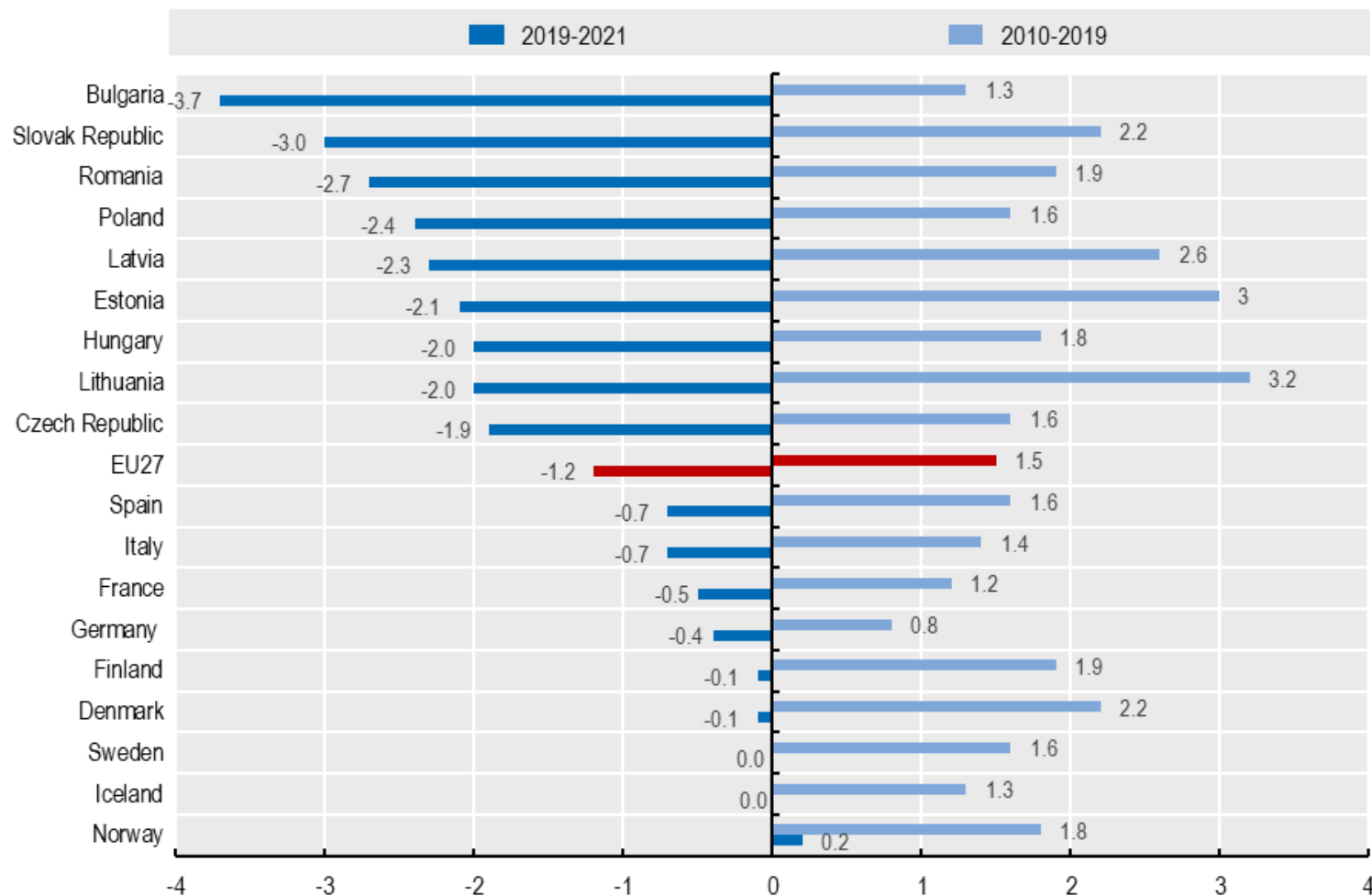


# Over 1.1 million people in the EU have died from COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic and excess mortality has been even higher

Cumulative number of deaths across EU countries, millions



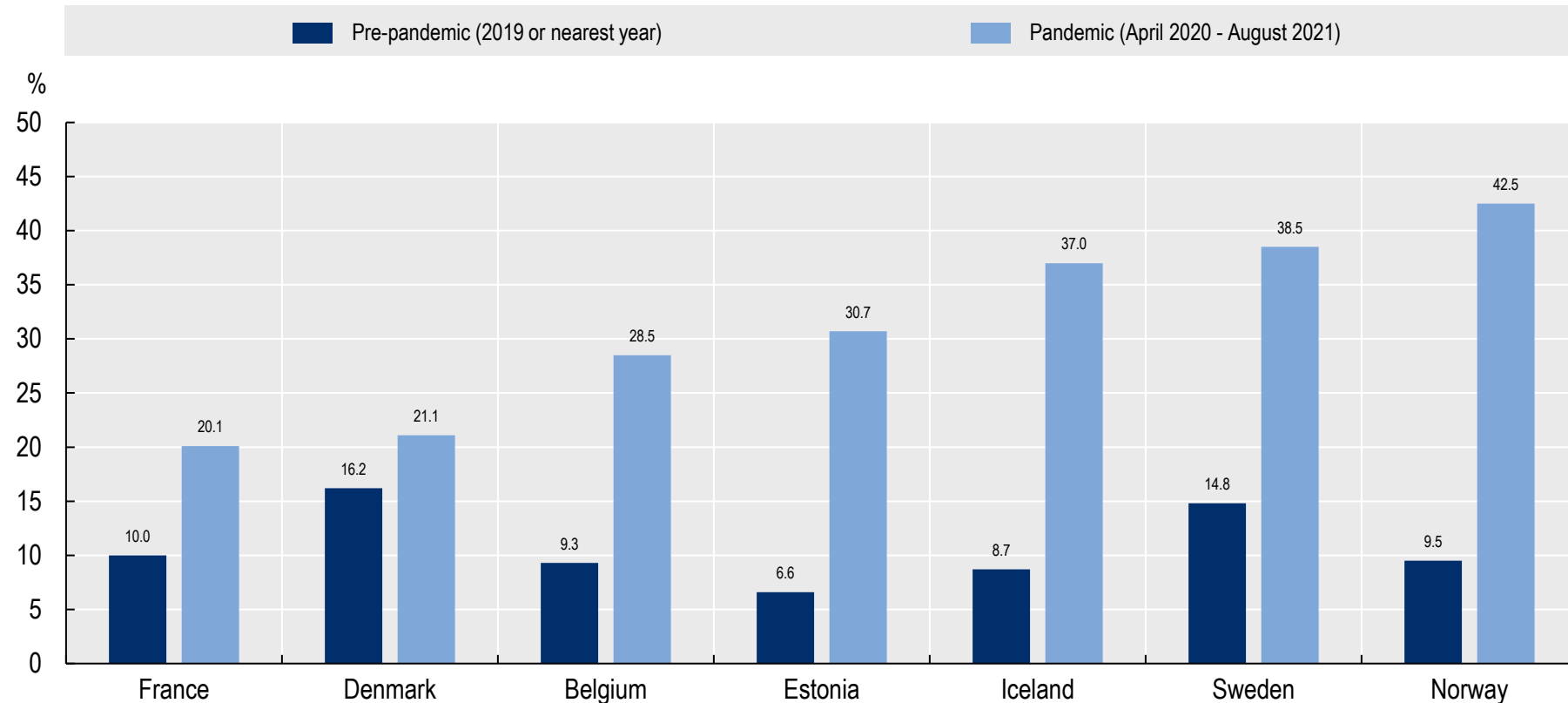
# COVID-19 has reduced life expectancy in almost all EU countries, with unprecedented falls in some countries in 2020 and 2021



# THE PANDEMIC HAD A MAJOR IMPACT ON YOUNG PEOPLE'S HEALTH



# The rate of depressive symptoms among young people more than doubled during the pandemic in several countries

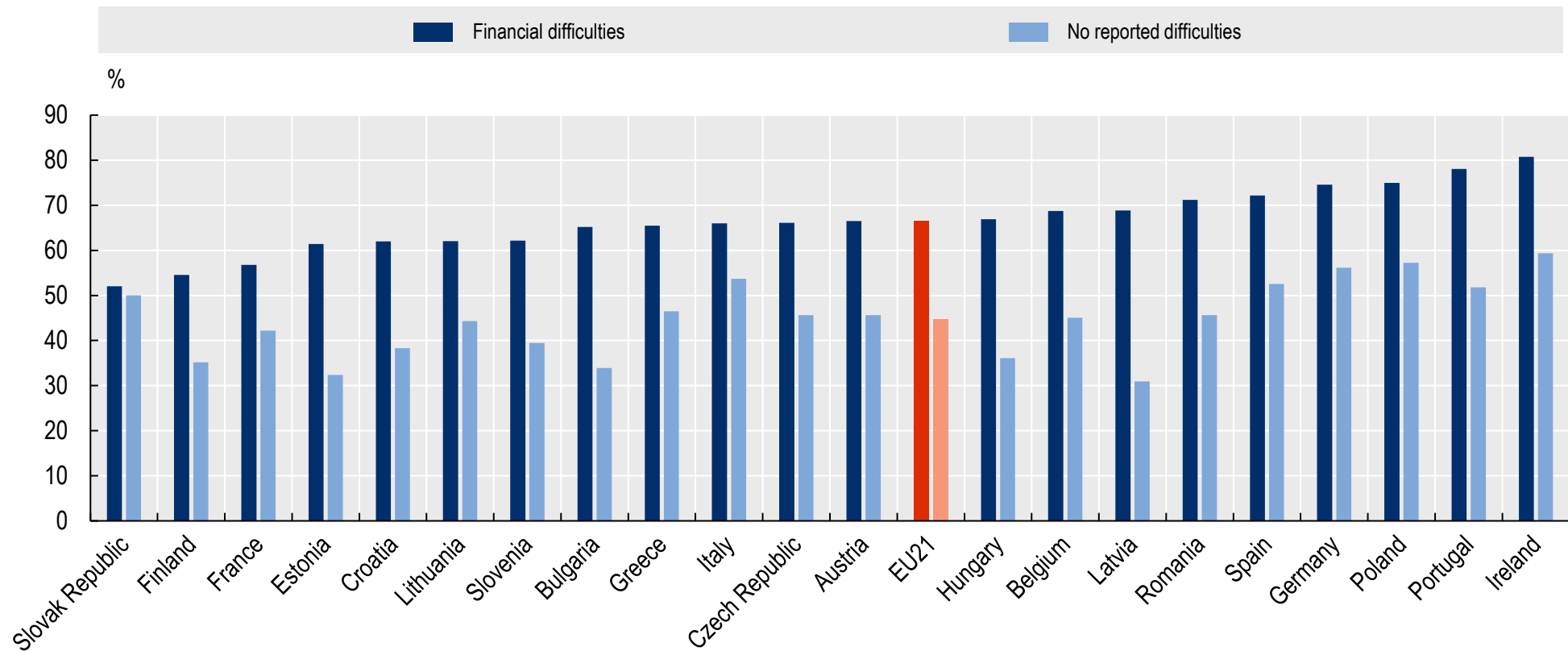


Note: The data relate to young people aged 18-29

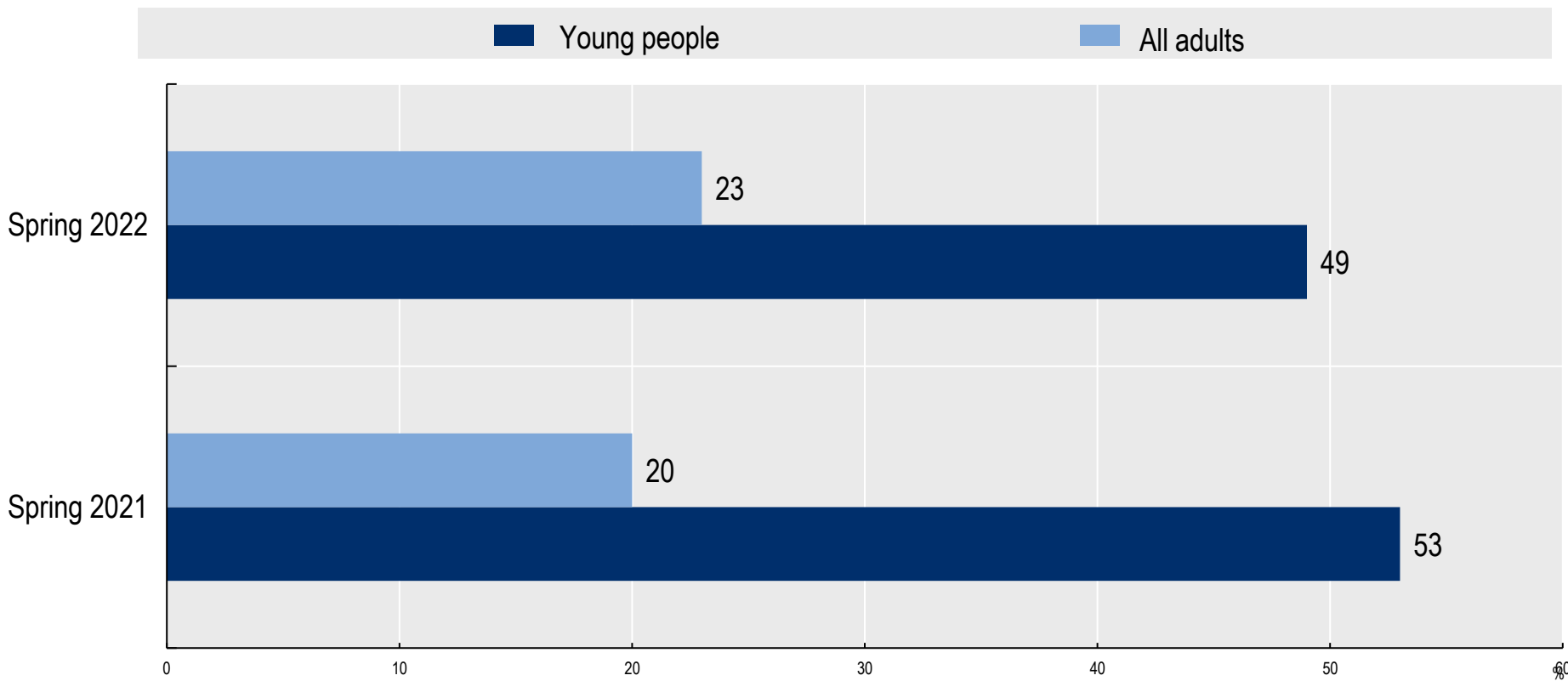


# Young people in precarious financial circumstances were at heightened risk of depression

Share of young people at risk of depression (WHO-5 score <50)



# Around half of young people (18-29) reported unmet needs for mental health care services in spring 2021 and spring 2022



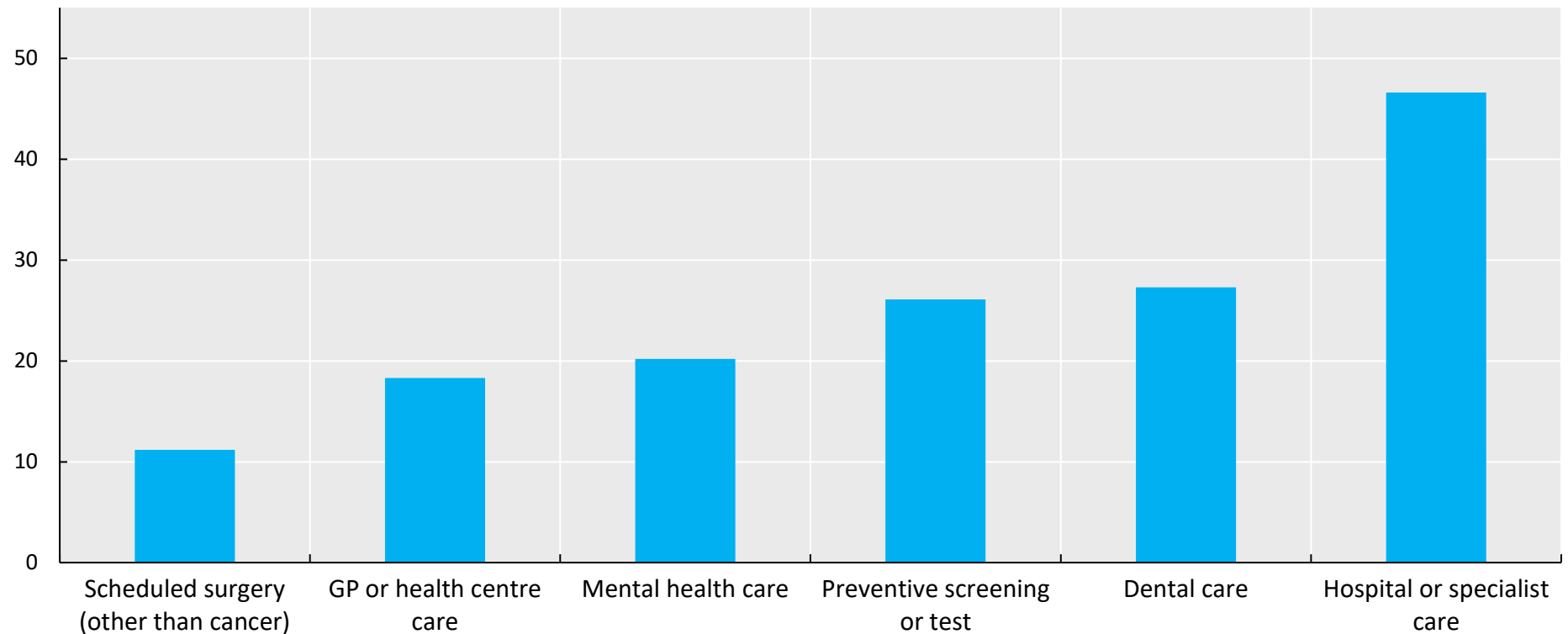
# THE PANDEMIC HAD A MAJOR IMPACT IN DISRUPTING NON-COVID CARE



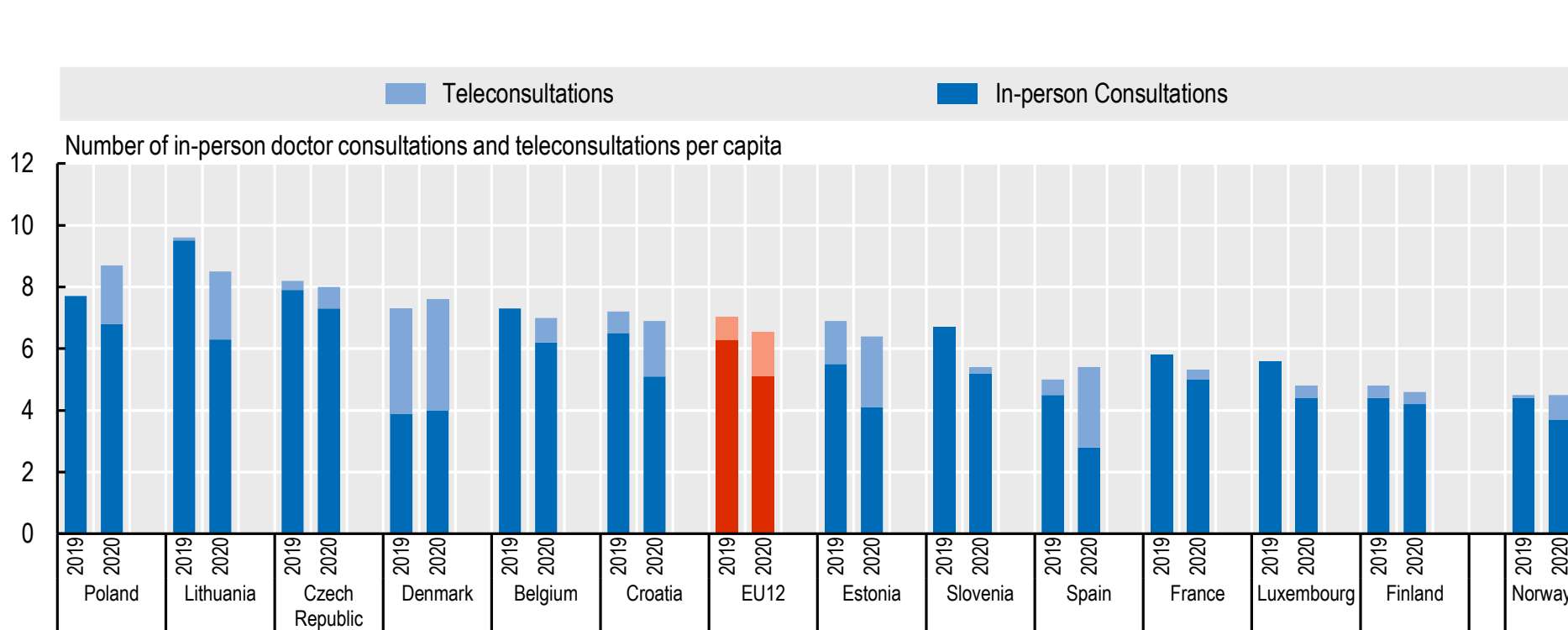


# Unmet health care needs in the EU were high for many different types of care in spring 2021

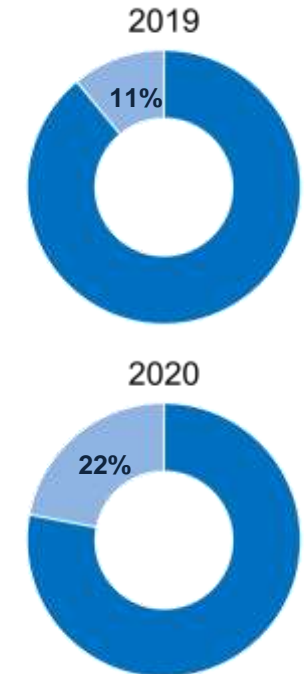
% of unmet needs by type of health care



# Teleconsultations offset partly the decrease in in-person consultations and helped maintain continuity of care



Share of teleconsultations

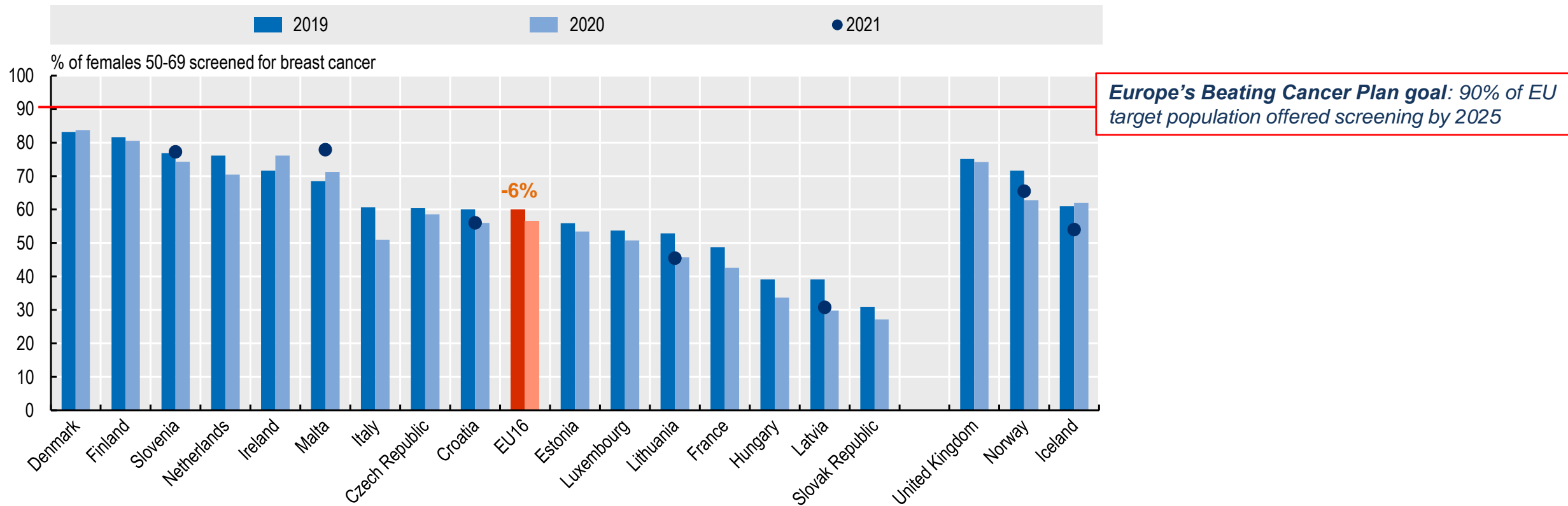


Note: Average across 12 EU countries

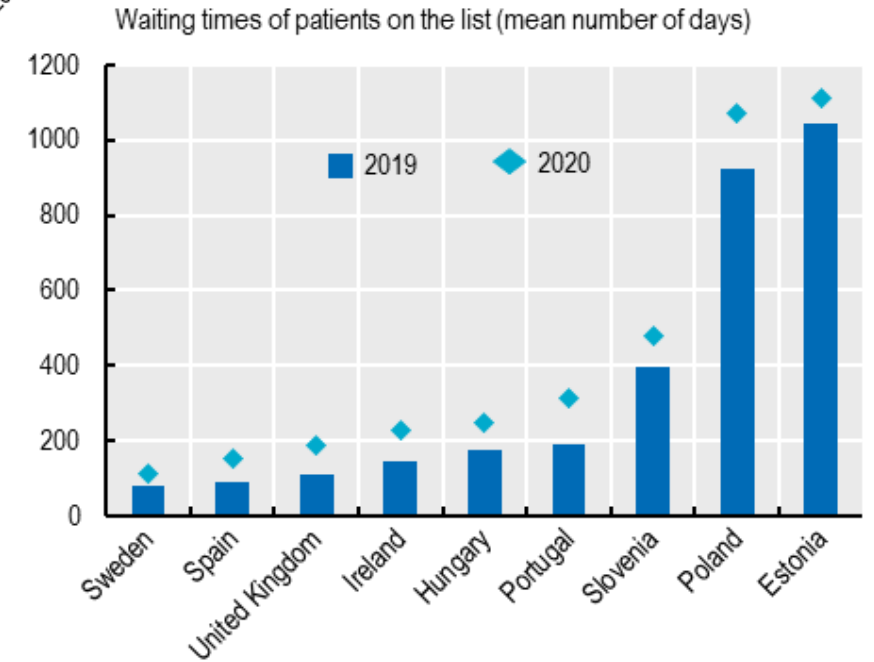
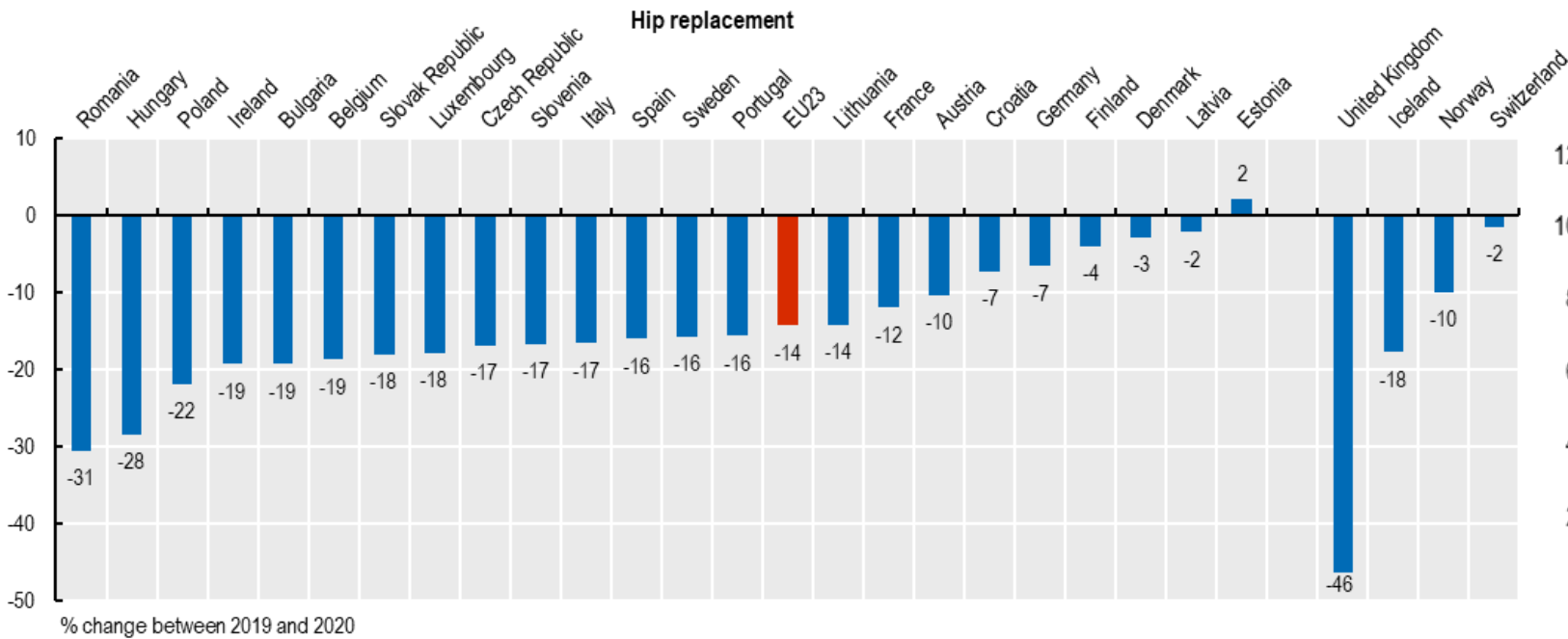


# Cancer screening dropped in most countries in 2020, but more in countries that had lower pre-pandemic rates

Delayed cancer diagnoses and treatments come at high costs, both for patients and health systems



# Elective (non-urgent) surgery fell sharply in 2020, resulting in longer waiting times



# Key findings from disruptions of services during the pandemic

**+90%**

Number of teleconsultations in 2020 compared with 2019

**+19%**

Increase in flu vaccination among older people in first year of pandemic

**23%**

Adults having mental health issues reporting unmet care needs in 2022

**-15%**

Fewer cancer surgery in 2020 compared to 2019 due to fewer diagnoses

**-16%**

Fewer elective surgery in 2020, resulting in longer waiting times

**50%**

At least half of new health investments needed to improve resilience should be devoted to health workforce



# Thank you



Report released on

5 December 2022



<http://www.oecd.org/health/health-at-a-glance-europe/>  
[https://ec.europa.eu/health/state/glance\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/state/glance_en)



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