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Macro Roundup Article

Headline: Has Europe Already Reached its Demographic Tipping Point?

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Tweet: The EU's working-age (20-64) share of the population peaked at 61.4% in 2008 and has now dropped to 58%. Europe is the only continent with falling working-age populations.

Summary: The EU population rose in the year to January 2023, helped by an influx of displaced persons from Ukraine, after a temporary two-year dip that reflected the impact of the pandemic. Last year, Eurostat forecast that the population would peak at 453mm in 2026. But the 2023 numbers came in below expectations as EU births fell to levels Eurostat had not forecast for another two decades, suggesting the peak may come before 2026. The EU's working-age population, those aged 20-64, who contribute the bulk of tax revenues, shrank from a peak of 270mm in 2011 to an estimated 261mm this year, according to UN data. Relative to total population, the EU working-age group peaked at 61.4% in 2008 and has now dropped to 58%. The EU fertility rate dropped to 1.46 in 2022, with the figure as low as 1.16 in Spain, 1.24 in Italy, and 1.29 in Poland. It fell below the replacement level of 2.1, at which the population is stable without immigration, in the early 1970s.

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Primary Topic: Family/Marriage

Topics: Demographics, Family/Marriage, GDP, Growth, News article, Workforce

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