

259/2016 - 20 December 2016

First estimate for October 2016

EU28 current account surplus €16.1 bn

€13.4 bn surplus for trade in services

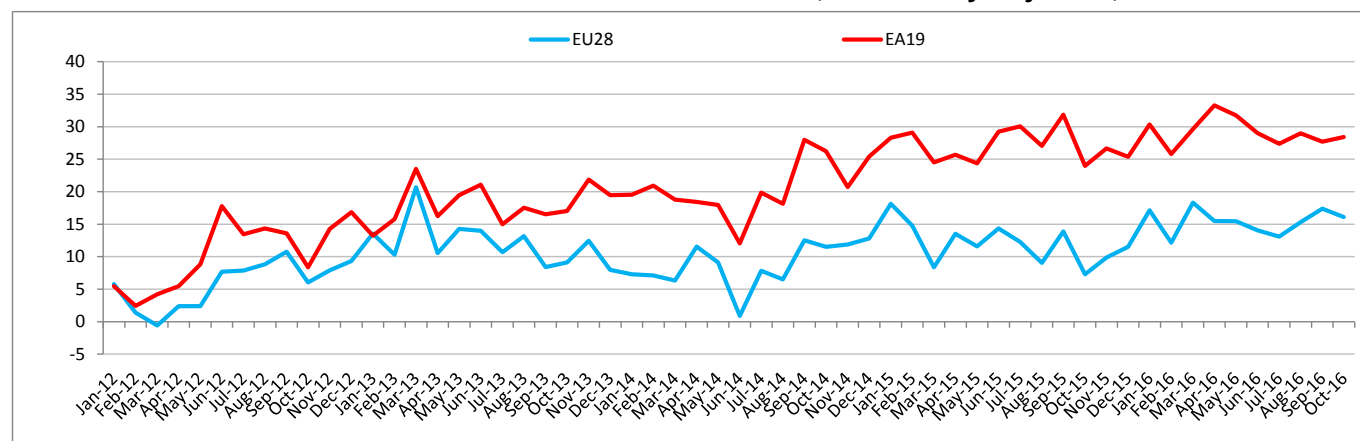
The **EU28** seasonally adjusted current account of the balance of payments recorded a surplus of €16.1 bn in October 2016, compared with surpluses of €17.4 bn in September 2016 and €7.3 bn in October 2015, according to estimates from **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

In October 2016, compared with September 2016, based on seasonally adjusted data, the surplus of the goods account decreased (+€9.5 bn compared with +€13.4 bn) and the deficit of the secondary income account grew slightly (-€6.4 bn compared with -€6.0 bn). The surplus of the services account increased (+€13.4 bn compared with +€12.1 bn) and the deficit of the primary income account fell (-€0.5 bn compared with -€2.1 bn).

The 12-month cumulated current account for the period ending in October 2016 recorded a surplus of €175.9 bn, compared with €147.8 bn for the 12 months to October 2015. The surplus of the goods account for the same period increased (+€147.0 bn compared with +€99.8 bn), while the surplus of the services account fell (+€138.7 bn compared with +€143.4 bn). The deficit of the secondary income account increased (-€79.2 bn compared with -€74.9 bn), as did the deficit of the primary income account (-€30.6 bn compared with -€20.4 bn).

These data are subject to revision.

EU28 and euro area current account balance, seasonally adjusted, bn €



Balance of payments euro-indicators for the EU28 - monthly data, seasonally adjusted (bn €)

	Oct 15	Nov 15	Dec 15	Jan 16	Feb 16	Mar 16	Apr 16	May 16	Jun 16	Jul 16	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16
EU28 current account balance	7.3	9.9	11.5	17.1	12.2	18.3	15.5	15.5	14.1	13.1	15.3	17.4	16.1
Balance of trade in goods	10.2	10.5	13.4	13.5	9.0	15.2	13.1	13.0	12.9	10.6	12.8	13.4	9.5
Balance of trade in services	10.3	12.6	11.4	10.4	11.2	11.9	10.3	10.9	10.8	11.2	12.2	12.1	13.4
Balance of primary income	-6.8	-6.4	-7.1	-0.2	-0.3	-1.9	-1.1	-2.1	-3.2	-2.7	-3.0	-2.1	-0.5
Balance of secondary income	-6.4	-6.9	-6.3	-6.6	-7.7	-6.9	-6.8	-6.3	-6.4	-6.1	-6.8	-6.0	-6.4

Source: Eurostat

EU28 current account – seasonally adjusted (bn €)

	Oct 2015		Jun 2016		Jul 2016		Aug 2016		Sep 2016		Oct 2016	
	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit
CURRENT ACCOUNT	272.8	265.5	268.4	254.3	261.8	248.7	264.1	248.8	262.9	245.5	264.7	248.6
- Goods	148.9	138.7	148.9	136.0	143.3	132.7	144.5	131.7	143.4	130.0	145.4	135.9
- Services	68.1	57.8	65.9	55.2	64.7	53.5	65.9	53.6	65.7	53.6	66.1	52.7
- Primary income	48.4	55.2	46.4	49.6	46.5	49.2	46.3	49.3	46.1	48.3	46.4	46.9
- Secondary income	7.5	13.9	7.1	13.5	7.2	13.3	7.4	14.2	7.6	13.6	6.8	13.2

Source: [Eurostat](#)

Balance of payments euro-indicators for the euro area - monthly data, seasonally adjusted (bn €)

	Oct 15	Nov 15	Dec 15	Jan 16	Feb 16	Mar 16	Apr 16	May 16	Jun 16	Jul 16	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16
EA19 current account balance	24.0	26.7	25.4	30.3	25.8	29.6	33.3	31.7	29.0	27.4	29.0	27.7	28.4
Balance of trade in goods	30.7	30.4	30.2	29.6	27.4	32.4	32.5	32.1	33.3	28.1	30.9	31.8	26.0
Balance of trade in services	3.6	4.9	4.4	4.8	6.1	6.2	4.4	4.2	3.8	5.1	4.6	4.8	9.3
Balance of primary income	1.2	2.9	0.2	4.6	2.6	1.7	5.8	5.0	1.2	5.7	6.1	5.1	6.1
Balance of secondary income	-11.5	-11.6	-9.4	-8.6	-10.3	-10.6	-9.3	-9.6	-9.3	-11.6	-12.7	-14.0	-13.0

Source: [European Central Bank](#)

Geographical coverage

The **European Union** (EU28) includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The **euro area** (EA19) includes Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

Methods and definitions

The **current account** covers all transactions occurring between resident and non-resident entities, and refers to international trade in goods and services, as well as primary and secondary income.

In line with the agreed allocation of responsibility, the European Central Bank (ECB) is in charge of compiling and disseminating monthly and quarterly balance of payments and quarterly international investment position statistics for the euro area, while the European Commission (Eurostat) focuses on monthly, quarterly and annual aggregates of the EU. The aggregates for the euro area and the EU are compiled consistently on the basis of Member States' transactions with residents of countries outside the euro area and the European Union respectively.

Revisions and time table

The EU balance of payments estimates for the reference month are based on figures provided by the Member States to Eurostat 44 days after the end of the reference month, and should be considered as provisional. Figures may be subject to revision when data for later months are transmitted by the Member States.

For more information

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Current account balances - national data (intra-EU28 + extra-EU28) – not calendar and seasonally adjusted (bn €)

	Oct 15	Nov 15	Dec 15	Jan 16	Feb 16	Mar 16	Apr 16	May 16	Jun 16	Jul 16	Aug 16	Sep 16	Oct 16
Belgium	0.95	-0.70	2.36	0.80	0.19	0.70	-0.58	-0.04	0.78	0.28	-0.20	0.72	-0.69
Bulgaria	-0.14	-0.36	-0.28	0.16	-0.01	0.14	-0.12	0.00	0.66	0.48	0.54	0.40	-0.06
Czech Republic	0.21	0.18	0.14	1.26	1.58	1.22	0.14	0.00	-0.13	-1.11	-0.03	0.18	0.63
Denmark	2.20	1.93	1.82	1.41	1.57	0.10	1.91	2.10	2.16	2.12	1.63	2.19	2.02
Germany	22.16	25.37	25.92	14.16	20.90	29.64	28.09	18.40	26.32	19.84	17.36	24.45	18.44
Estonia	0.03	0.04	0.01	-0.03	-0.02	-0.03	0.02	0.05	0.08	0.07	0.12	0.10	0.04
Ireland	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
Greece	0.27	-1.17	-0.78	-0.77	-0.83	-0.77	-0.87	-0.46	0.91	1.40	1.82	1.01	-0.20
Spain	1.95	2.08	3.01	-0.66	-1.05	1.11	2.52	2.71	2.05	3.04	2.86	1.47	c
France	-0.10	-3.32	3.14	-5.50	-9.02	-1.56	-3.18	-1.64	0.91	-2.38	-5.75	-2.38	-5.45
Croatia	-0.07	-0.02	-0.37	-0.44	-0.56	-0.59	-0.25	-0.09	0.50	c	c	c	c
Italy	4.41	3.22	5.41	-1.73	1.60	2.79	4.29	3.23	4.08	9.42	3.37	2.81	6.09
Cyprus	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
Latvia	0.06	0.05	-0.04	0.09	0.11	-0.05	0.03	0.01	-0.08	-0.01	0.01	0.09	0.02
Lithuania	0.15	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.01	-0.10	-0.10	-0.15	-0.15	-0.02	0.01	0.05	0.25
Luxembourg	0.79	0.20	0.89	0.11	0.32	0.09	0.05	-1.03	1.07	-0.18	0.05	0.55	0.32
Hungary	0.06	0.03	0.45	0.28	0.59	0.74	0.74	0.34	0.68	0.78	0.45	1.13	0.31
Malta	0.13	0.05	-0.09	0.11	0.09	-0.18	0.01	0.03	-0.05	0.32	0.01	0.01	0.08
Netherlands	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
Austria	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
Poland	-0.17	0.03	-0.85	0.77	-0.53	0.05	0.56	0.63	-0.20	-0.63	-1.01	-1.00	-0.39
Portugal	0.37	-0.08	-0.20	-0.37	-0.42	0.40	-0.01	-0.93	-0.21	1.05	0.49	0.21	0.82
Romania	-0.13	-0.35	-0.87	0.05	-0.47	-0.29	-0.50	-0.67	-0.15	-0.12	-0.03	-0.03	-0.40
Slovenia	0.22	0.21	0.03	0.23	0.16	0.32	0.23	0.21	0.31	0.21	0.15	0.38	0.31
Slovakia	-0.05	-0.05	0.25	0.01	0.01	-0.13	0.03	0.07	0.16	-0.38	-0.12	0.13	0.11
Finland	0.24	0.06	0.03	-0.23	0.04	-0.21	-0.83	-0.43	-0.23	-0.26	0.02	0.26	0.26
Sweden	2.00	1.87	2.87	2.06	2.60	2.23	0.52	0.78	2.56	1.93	1.47	2.52	1.79
United Kingdom	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c
Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia	-0.04	-0.03	-0.07	0.02	-0.01	-0.04	-0.09	-0.07	-0.03	0.08	0.04	0.03	:
Serbia	-0.12	-0.09	-0.24	0.02	-0.11	-0.16	-0.03	-0.01	-0.24	-0.04	-0.11	-0.15	-0.09

Source: Eurostat
c confidential
: not available