

# 40 Years of EU–ASEAN Cooperation

KEY STATISTICS

2017 edition



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# 40 Years of EU–ASEAN Cooperation

KEY STATISTICS

2017 edition

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## Foreword

Eurostat is proud to present this new statistical publication to mark the 40th anniversary of the EU-ASEAN Dialogue Relations.

Official statistics are vital for the development of policies in areas such as trade and international relations and have been, in particular, essential for the development of the Dialogue Relations between the EU and ASEAN during the last four decades.

The European Union supports ASEAN partners in the production of timely, comparable and relevant statistics, mainly through the EU-ASEAN Statistical Capacity Building Project (COMPASS). This project helps the monitoring and decision-making, in particular by ASEAN governments at both national and at ASEAN level.

This publication — which relies on the data produced by ASEAN partners — provides a specific focus on trade, investment and migration, and offers an overview of key data regarding the economy, finance, labour market and population.

It is a result of a joint effort by Eurostat, the European External Action Service and the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments.

I'm sure that this publication will be of interest to anyone involved in or interested in ASEAN-European Union Dialogue Relations.

### **Mariana Kotzeva**

Acting Director-General, Eurostat



## Foreword

The EU and ASEAN celebrate this year the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Dialogue Relations in 1977, the starting point of a long and successful story of dialogue and cooperation.

The partnership between two major regional integration processes has delivered impressive results in these four decades: the EU is today ASEAN's second trade partner and by far the most important investor in the region. ASEAN as a bloc is the third trade partner of the EU. The EU's support to the creation of the ASEAN community has been sizeable and very concrete, both financially and in terms of expertise. ASEAN and the EU have become close partners on a wide range of security-related matters, including maritime security, counter-terrorism and transnational crime, cyber security and crisis management – to mention only a few sectors.

This success encourages the EU to make its cooperation with ASEAN on trade, economy, connectivity, security, sustainable development and many other areas even stronger in the future, to the benefit of both regions and the whole world, as outlined in the EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy.

I wish to thank Eurostat, the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments and all those who contributed to this publication which, I am sure, will be read with interest by the growing number of people willing to know more about EU-ASEAN relations.

### **Helga Maria Schmid**

Secretary-General, EEAS - European External Action Service



## Acknowledgements

This publication has been produced by Eurostat Unit A3 — Statistical cooperation, in cooperation with the European External Action Service and the European Commission's Service for Foreign Policy Instruments.

The production of this publication has been funded by the EU's project *Advancing EU's role in multilateral fora in Asia*.

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### **DATA EXTRACTION PERIOD**

The data presented within this publication were largely extracted during March and April 2017.

An online data code available under each table/figure can be used to directly access the most recent data on Eurostat's website.

All statements on policies within this publication are given for information purposes only. They do not constitute an official policy position of the European Commission and are not legally binding. To know more about such policies, please consult the European Commission's website at: <http://ec.europa.eu>

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## Introduction

This article is an introduction to the online version of Eurostat's publication *40 Years of EU–ASEAN Cooperation — Key statistics* (also downloadable as a PDF). It provides a selection of statistics on the [European Union \(EU\)](#) and its Member States in comparison with the [Association of Southeast Asian Nations \(ASEAN\)](#) and its Member States. This online publication aims to give an insight into a range of socioeconomic issues concerning EU–ASEAN relations.

### EU–ASEAN dialogue relations

The European Economic Community (EEC) — later renamed the European Community and incorporated into the [European Union \(EU\)](#) — and the [Association of Southeast Asian Nations \(ASEAN\)](#) established formal relations in 1977 through the 10th ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting; these relations were institutionalised with the signing of the ASEAN–EEC Cooperation Agreement in March 1980. In 1977 there were

nine Member States of the EEC and five Member States of ASEAN, whereas 40 years later the combined membership of these two regional organisations has grown to 38 (see Table 1 for a timeline of the expansion of the EU and ASEAN).

The EU and ASEAN have a dynamic partnership in a number of areas, from political dialogue, cooperation in non-traditional security areas, trade and investment relations, connectivity, to cooperation in community building among ASEAN Member States. ASEAN–EU relations are guided by the [Nuremberg Declaration](#) on an EU–ASEAN Enhanced Partnership, adopted in March 2007. The Declaration sets out a long-term vision and commitment for both sides to work together. At the ASEAN–EU Ministerial Meeting held in Brunei in 2012, the EU and ASEAN adopted the [Bandar Seri Begawan Plan of Action to Strengthen the ASEAN–EU Enhanced Partnership \(2013–2017\)](#), a wide-ranging document aimed at guiding and bringing to a

**Table 1: Timeline of EU and ASEAN enlargement**

Year	Countries founding/joining EU or its predecessors
1957	<a href="#">Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands</a>
1973	<a href="#">Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom</a>
1980	<a href="#">Greece</a>
1986	<a href="#">Portugal and Spain</a>
1995	<a href="#">Austria, Sweden and Finland</a>
2004	<a href="#">The Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia</a>
2007	<a href="#">Bulgaria and Romania</a>
2014	<a href="#">Croatia</a>
Year	Countries founding/joining ASEAN
1967	<a href="#">Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand</a>
1984	<a href="#">Brunei Darussalam</a>
1995	<a href="#">Vietnam</a>
1997	<a href="#">Lao PDR and Myanmar</a>
1999	<a href="#">Cambodia</a>

Source: Eurostat and ASEAN secretariat

higher level the cooperation between the two regions. In 2015 a Joint High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/ European Commission Communication on EU–ASEAN relations and their further strengthening was adopted. The document, *The EU and ASEAN: a Partnership with a Strategic Purpose*, was subsequently endorsed by the EU Foreign Affairs Council which issued [conclusions on EU–ASEAN relations](#) on 22 June 2015. The latest [ASEAN–EU Ministerial Meeting](#) (Bangkok, October 2016) confirmed the positive momentum in EU–ASEAN relations and the shared objective of taking them to a higher level in the future, with the possible establishment of a Strategic Partnership between the two regions.

## High quality statistics and capacity-building

The ASEAN–EU Dialogue Relations rely on good quality statistics to analyse the current situation and identify the most appropriate policies to progress towards common goals.

The need to address current global challenges is generating a growing demand for good quality statistics. Therefore, both European and ASEAN partners are very active — on national, regional and international levels — in promoting the relevance and comparability of statistics.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a particular example of such a challenge and statisticians have played an important role in the definition of the indicators that will monitor the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Ensuring good quality statistics is a common priority for all producers of official statistics, and it is therefore essential to work on improving and strengthening statistical capacity in all countries. The need to address current global challenges puts additional pressure on national statistical systems.

In the EU context, the [European Statistics Code of Practice](#) (ESCoP) is the quality framework on which the production of European statistics is based. The principles of the Code set the standards with which the institutional environment of statistical authorities have to comply and on the basis of which statistical processes are implemented and statistical outputs produced; hence, they promote the highest quality of statistical information for the users of European statistics.

The ASEAN partners are committed to complying with the 2012 [Code of Practice for the ASEAN Community Statistical System](#), which has been inspired by the ESCoP, and is consistent with the United Nations (UN) [Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics](#). The principles and good practice indicators of the Code cover all aspects of the development, production, dissemination and communication of ASEAN statistics.

Capacity building for producing the SDG indicators based on sound methodology and corresponding to the required quality levels will be a focus of cooperation in statistics. By working together to improve the quality of official statistics, it will be possible to meet user needs for the policy of sustainable development.

## Publication structure and coverage

*40 Years of EU–ASEAN Cooperation — Key statistics* provides users of official statistics with a snapshot of the information that is available for the EU and ASEAN on [Eurostat's website](#), the [ASEAN secretariat's website](#) and the websites of other international organisations. The publication provides indicators for a selection of topics; it is composed of an introduction as well as five chapters which provide information on different socioeconomic issues.

The publication aims to present information for the EU and ASEAN, including:

- the EU-28 and the 28 EU Member States;
- ASEAN and the 10 Member States of ASEAN.

### SPATIAL DATA COVERAGE

The geographical aggregates such as EU-28 and ASEAN include information for all of the Member States of these two organisations or estimates for missing information; any incomplete totals, shares or ratios that are created are systematically footnoted. [Time series](#) for these geographical aggregates are based on a fixed set of Member States for the whole of the time period (unless otherwise indicated). For example, any time series for the EU-28 refers to a sum or an average for all 28 current EU Member States regardless of when they joined the EU.

The order of the EU-28 Member States used in this publication follows the alphabetical order of their names in their national languages, whereas for the ASEAN Member States the order follows their names in English. In many of the figures the data are ranked according to the values of a particular indicator. Where possible, data for the EU-28 and the EU Member States are shown in blue and those for ASEAN and the ASEAN Member States are shown in red.

If data for a [reference period](#) are not available for a particular EU Member State or ASEAN Member State or an aggregate, then efforts have been made to fill tables and figures with data for previous reference years (these exceptions are footnoted); generally this involved taking account of at least the two previous reference periods and exceptionally older data. In the event that data for a particular aggregate (EU-28 or ASEAN) are not available the aggregate has not been included in the tables and figures; in the event that data are not available for a particular EU Member State or ASEAN Member State then this Member State has not been included in the figures and this has been noted below the figure.

## DATA SOURCES

The indicators presented are often compiled according to international — sometimes global — standards, for example, [United Nations](#) standards for [national accounts](#) and the [International Monetary Fund's](#) standards for [balance of payments statistics](#). Although most data are based on international concepts and definitions there may be certain discrepancies in the methods used to compile the data.

Almost all of the indicators presented for the EU and its Member States have been drawn from [Eurobase](#), Eurostat's online database. In exceptional cases some indicators for the EU have been extracted from international sources, for example, when values are expressed in [purchasing power parities \(PPPs\)](#) (based on United States dollars (USD)).

For ASEAN and its Member States, the data presented in this publication have generally been extracted from the online data provided by the [statistics pages of the ASEAN website](#) or a range of international sources.

For many of the indicators, multiple international statistical sources are available, each with their own policies and practices concerning data management (for example, concerning data validation, the correction of errors, the estimation of missing data, and the frequency of updating). In general, attempts have been made to use only one source for each indicator in order to provide a comparable analysis between the EU Member States or between the ASEAN Member States.

The international data sources used in this publication are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: International data sources**

Organisation	Data source(s)
<b>The United Nations (UN) and its agencies</b>	
The International Labour Organisation (ILO)	ILOSTAT
The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	UNCTADstat
The United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), Population Division	World Population Prospects; World Urbanisation Prospects; Trends in International Migrant Stock
The United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division (UNSD)	National Accounts Main Aggregates Database; Comtrade
<b>The International Monetary Fund (IMF)</b>	World Economic Outlook Database
<b>The World Bank</b>	DataBank
<b>ASEAN secretariat</b>	ASEAN statistics

Source: Eurostat

## Aggregates

Data for the EU-28 or ASEAN have been compiled based on each aggregate's current composition, regardless of the time period presented. For example, data for ASEAN are always based on the 10 current Member States, even if historical reference periods are presented, for example, data from 40 years ago (1977).

## Data extraction and processing

The statistical data presented in this publication were extracted during March and April 2017 and the accompanying text was drafted in April and May 2017. Eurobase, ASEAN's statistics and international sources are regularly updated, frequently in some cases, so there may be differences between the data presented in this publication and any data that are subsequently downloaded.

Many of the international sources from which data were extracted present monetary data in national currencies and/or United States dollars (USD), whereas Eurostat data are normally presented in national currencies and/or euro (EUR). Monetary data for ASEAN Member States have been converted into euro using current exchange rates. Data that are expressed in USD having been converted from national currencies using purchasing power parities have been left in dollar-based purchasing power standards. Equally, time series for indicators expressed in

constant prices have not been converted from the original currency (whether for national currencies or in USD).

Several indicators have been standardised by expressing their values relative to an appropriate measure of the size of a Member State, for example, in relation to the total population or the size of the economy (as measured by the gross domestic product (GDP)). Whenever possible, these size measures have been extracted from the same source as the indicator itself; otherwise these data have been extracted from the World Bank's databases.

## Data presentation

Many of the data sources contain metadata that provide information on the status of particular values or data series. In order to improve readability, only the most significant information has been included as footnotes under the tables and figures. Where appropriate, breaks in series are indicated in the footnotes provided under each table and figure. The following symbols are used in tables where relevant:

<i>Italic</i>	data value is forecasted, provisional or estimated and is likely to change;
:	not available, confidential or unreliable value.

A billion is used to indicate a thousand million.  
A trillion is used to indicate a thousand billion.



# 1

## Economy and finance





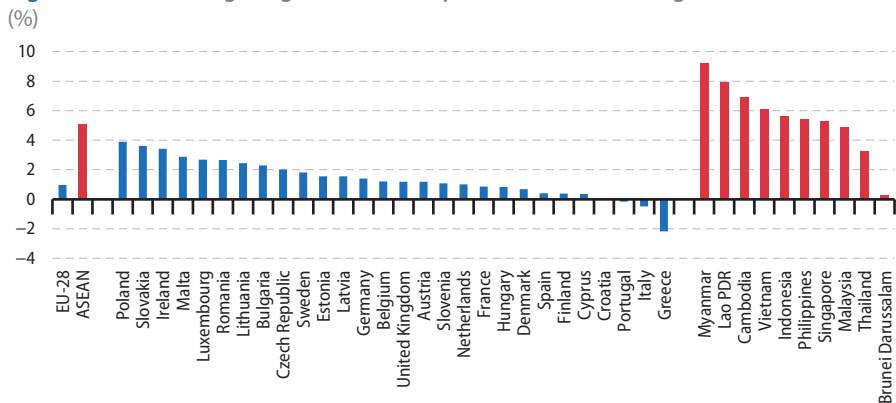
### GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Real growth in gross domestic product (GDP) — therefore, after removing the impact of price changes — averaged 1.0 % per year between 2005 and 2015 in the EU-28, compared with 5.1 % per year in ASEAN and a global average of 2.4 %.

During the period 2005–2015, most ASEAN Member States averaged annual growth in excess of 4.0 %, which was therefore faster than in any of the EU Member States. The two exceptions were: Thailand, where the rate of economic growth was slightly more modest, 3.3 %, and therefore slower than in Poland, Slovakia and Ireland; and Brunei Darussalam, where the economy grew on average by 0.3 % each year, higher only than the rates recorded in Croatia, Portugal, Italy and Greece.

It should be noted that the period under consideration includes the global financial and economic crisis. The EU-28 recorded a 4.4 % fall in GDP in 2009 and a further fall of 0.4 % in 2012, but recorded growth in all other years between 2005 and 2015; the fastest expansion in economic activity in the EU-28 was recorded prior to the global crisis, 3.3 % in 2006 and 3.0 % in 2007. By contrast, ASEAN recorded uninterrupted growth each year during the period under consideration, although it clearly felt the impact of the crisis: real GDP growth dropped from 4.2 % in 2008 to 1.7 % in 2009 before rebounding to 8.0 % in 2010. Half of the ASEAN Member States — Myanmar, Vietnam, Indonesia, the Philippines and Cambodia — reported uninterrupted growth throughout this period, whereas Poland was the only EU Member State to achieve this feat.

Figure 1.1: Real change in gross domestic product, annual average 2005–2015



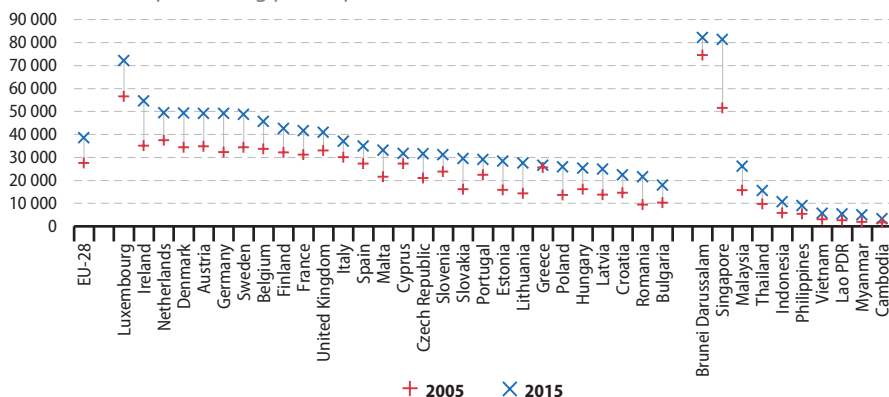
Note: based on United States dollars in 2005 constant prices.  
Source: the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division (National Accounts Estimates of Main Aggregates)



Figure 1.2 shows an analysis of **gross national income (GNI) per capita** in terms of **purchasing power parities (PPPs)**; in other words, the GNI data have been divided by the size of the **population** and adjusted for **price level** differences. Among the ASEAN Member States, the highest GNI per capita in 2015 was USD 82.1 thousand recorded in Brunei Darussalam, followed by USD 81.4 thousand in Singapore. Aside from these two particularly high values, the next highest GNI per capita among the ASEAN Member States was USD 26.2 thousand

in Malaysia. In all other ASEAN Member States the level of GNI per capita was below the USD 17.9 thousand recorded for Bulgaria, which had the lowest value among the EU Member States. Luxembourg recorded the highest GNI per capita (USD 72.1 thousand) among the EU Member States, although this was lower than in Brunei Darussalam and Singapore. At some distance was Ireland with a GNI per capita of USD 54.6 thousand, followed by the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, Germany and Sweden which all recorded values around USD 49 thousand.

**Figure 1.2: Gross national income per capita, 2005 and 2015**  
(USD based on purchasing power parities)



Source: the World Bank (World Development Indicators)

An analysis of the broad structure of **value added** is presented in Figure 1.3, which shows some key differences between the EU and ASEAN Member States in 2015:

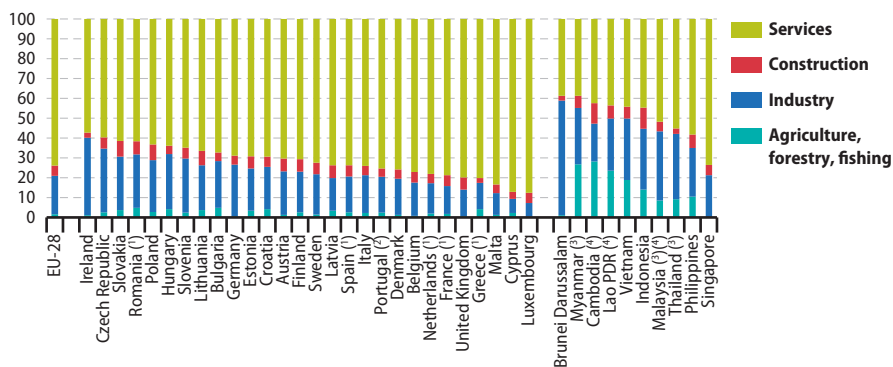
- the relative weight of services was larger among EU Member States than in any of the ASEAN Member States except for the Philippines (where the services share was only larger than in Ireland) and Singapore (where the services share was comparable with the average for the EU-28 as a whole);

- agriculture, forestry and fishing was much smaller among EU Member States than in any of the ASEAN Member States except for Singapore (where the share was smaller than in all EU Member States) and Brunei Darussalam (where the share was smaller than in all except five EU Member States);

- industry was larger in all of the ASEAN countries (except for Cambodia) than it was in the EU-28 as a whole.



Figure 1.3: Analysis of gross domestic product by activity, 2015 (% of total value added at basic prices)



Note: EU Member States, Norway and Switzerland, based on NACE Rev. 2. ASEAN Member States, based on ISIC Rev.3 or approximations thereof.

(\*) Provisional.

(\*) Estimate.

(\*) At producers' prices.

(\*) Excluding financial intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM).

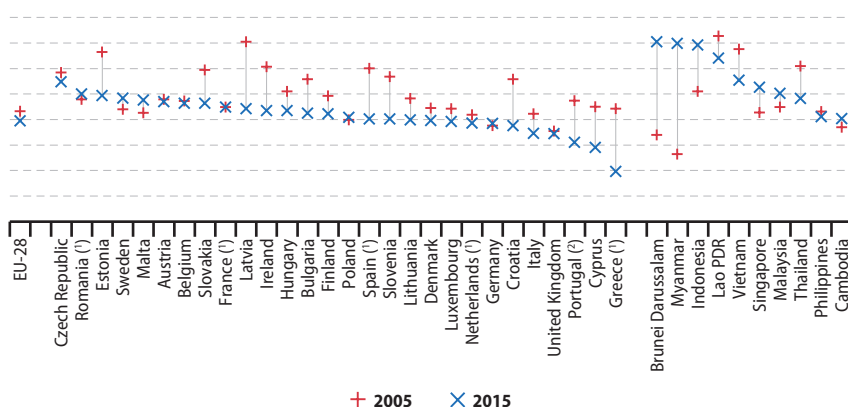
Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama\_10\_a10) and the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division (National Accounts Estimates of Main Aggregates)

Gross capital formation includes investment in fixed capital and valuables, as well as changes in stocks; relative to GDP it gives a broad indication of the scale of investment in an economy. For the EU-28, gross capital formation was 19.7 % of GDP in 2015 (see Figure 1.4), this was lower than the ratios recorded in all of the ASEAN Member States. Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar, Indonesia and Lao PDR had the highest ratios of gross capital formation to GDP in 2015, all in excess of 30.0 %. Myanmar and Brunei Darussalam recorded by far the largest increases in this ratio over the last decade (2005–2015), more than doubling. By contrast, the ratio of gross capital formation to GDP was lower in 2015 than it had been in 2005 in the Philippines, Lao PDR, Vietnam and Thailand, as well as in 22 of the EU Member States: in Greece the ratio in 2015 was less than half what it had been in 2005, falling below 10.0 %, the lowest level among the EU Member States.

The trading nature of Singapore's economy can be clearly seen from Figure 1.5, as the value of exports and imports were both above its level of GDP in 2015, a situation that could also be seen in Luxembourg (where exports and imports were each more than twice the level of GDP) and Malta within the EU-28; in Ireland, the value of exports was also higher than GDP. Among the ASEAN Member States, Singapore recorded a trade surpluses valued at around one quarter of its GDP, while Ireland and Luxembourg recorded surpluses that neared one third of their GDP. Trade deficits of less than 2.0 % of GDP were recorded in six EU Member States, with larger ratios of trade deficits to GDP in Cambodia (4.8 % of GDP), Lao PDR (4.9 %), the Philippines (5.3 %) and Myanmar (10.5 %).

**Figure 1.4: Gross capital formation, 2005 and 2015**

(% of gross domestic product)

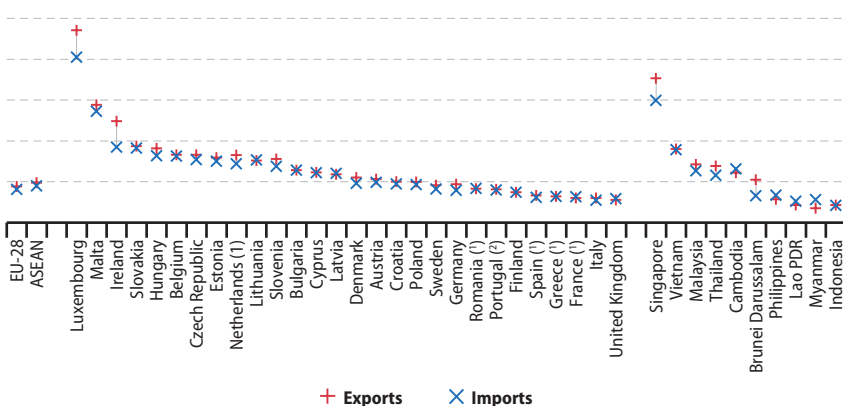


(†) Provisional.  
(‡) Estimate.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama\_10\_gdp) and the United Nations Statistics Division (National Accounts Main Aggregates Database)

**Figure 1.5: Exports and imports, 2015**

(% of gross domestic product)



(†) Provisional.  
(‡) Estimate.

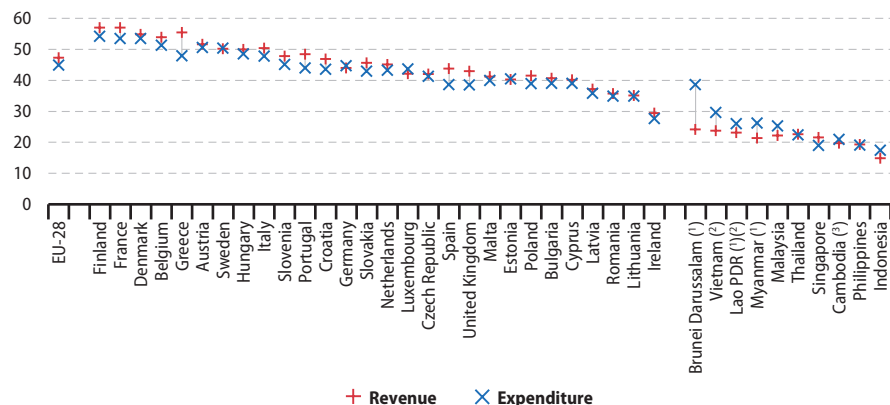
Source: Eurostat (online data code: nama\_10\_gdp) and ASEANstat



### GOVERNMENT FINANCES

**Figure 1.6: Government expenditure and revenue, 2015**

(% of gross domestic product)



Note: ranked on the sum of expenditure and revenue relative to gross domestic product.

(1) Central government only.

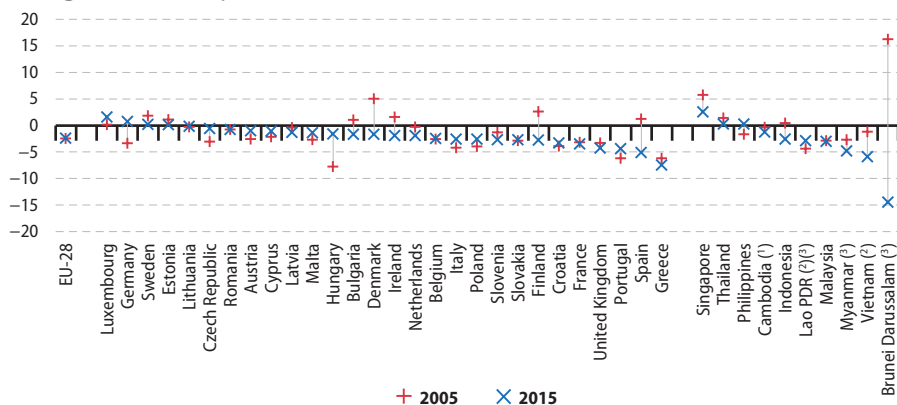
(2) Estimates.

(3) 2014.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: gov\_10a\_main) and the International Monetary Fund (World Economic Outlook Database)

**Figure 1.7: General government net lending/borrowing, 2005 and 2015**

(% of gross domestic product)



(1) 2014 instead of 2015.

(2) 2015: estimate.

(3) Central government only.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: gov\_10dd\_edpt1) and the International Monetary Fund (World Economic Outlook Database)



The global financial and economic crisis of 2008–2009 and the subsequent sluggish recovery in much of the EU-28 resulted in a considerable impact on key government finance indicators, notably government borrowing/lending for a particular year (public balance) and the consolidated stock of debt at the end of the year (general government debt).

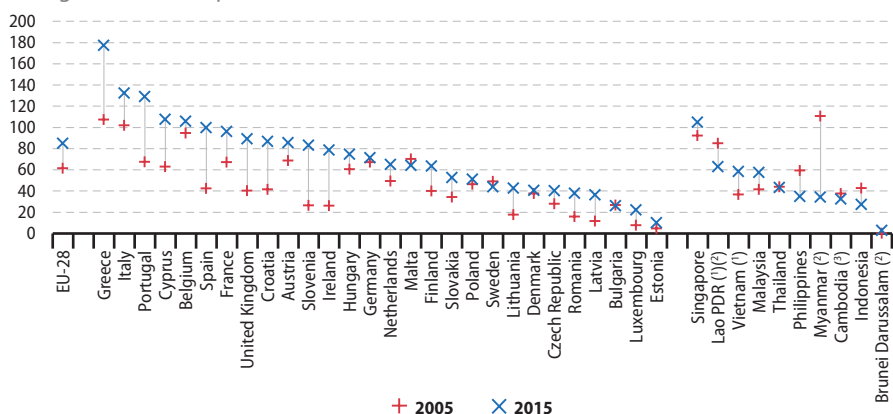
In the EU-28, government expenditure was equivalent to 47.3 % of GDP in 2015, while for revenues the equivalent ratio was 44.9 %. Broadly speaking, government expenditure and revenue relative to GDP was much higher in the EU Member States than it was in the ASEAN Member States, with particularly low levels of government activity in Indonesia.

An excess of government expenditure relative to revenue leads to a deficit and this situation was observed for 7 of the 10 ASEAN Member States in 2015 and all but four of the EU Member States. Singapore and Luxembourg had the largest government surpluses in 2015, the only ones that were in excess of 1.0 % of GDP among the EU Member States and ASEAN Member States,

while Germany, Sweden, Estonia, Thailand and the Philippines reported smaller surpluses. The largest government deficit reported by any of the EU Member States or ASEAN Member States in 2015 was in Brunei Darussalam, equivalent to 14.5 % of GDP. Deficits in excess of 5.0 % of GDP were also reported by Greece, Vietnam and Spain.

Figure 1.8 shows the ratio of general government gross debt to GDP in 2005 and 2015. For the EU-28, this ratio rose from 61.5 % to 85.0 %, as government expenditure increased in response to the global financial and economic crisis. In fact, this ratio peaked at 86.8 % of GDP in 2014, before recording its first fall since 2007 the year after. Among the ASEAN Member States, only Singapore had a ratio of government debt to GDP that was above the EU-28 average, as this ratio just exceeded 100 %, a situation that was also found in Greece, Italy, Portugal, Cyprus and Belgium. Among the EU Member States, Estonia had the lowest government debt to GDP ratio, 10.1 %, while in Brunei Darussalam the ratio was even lower, just 2.8 %.

**Figure 1.8: General government gross debt, 2005 and 2015**  
(% of gross domestic product)



(†) 2015: estimate.  
(‡) Central government only.  
(‡) 2014 instead of 2015.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: gov\_10dd\_edpt1) and the International Monetary Fund (World Economic Outlook Database)



### PRICES

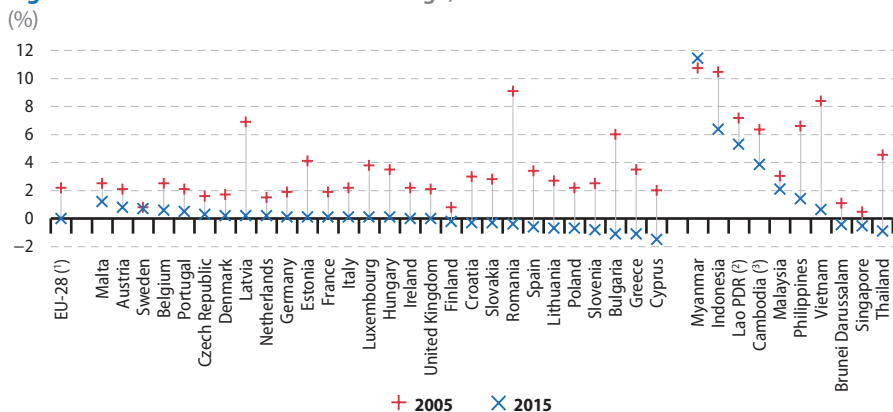
The world inflation rate (based on the GDP deflator) climbed from 5.5 % in 2005 to 8.0 % in 2008 at the onset of the global financial and economic crisis, before falling to 1.6 % by 2015. The inflation rate for the EU — based on the harmonised index of consumer prices — followed a similar development, although price movements were much more subdued: in 2005 inflation was 2.2 %, rising to 3.7 % in 2008, dropping to 1.0 % in 2009, increasing to 3.1 % by 2011 and then declining to 0.0 % by 2015.

In 2015, consumer price changes among the EU Member States ranged from an increase of 0.8 % in Austria to a decrease (deflation) of 0.8 % in Slovenia, with Malta (1.2 %) above this range and

Bulgaria, Greece (both decreases of 1.1 %) and Cyprus (a decrease of 1.5 %) below this range. Among the ASEAN countries, only Thailand, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam reported deflation (each with decreases of less than 1.0 %) in 2015, while inflation rates exceeded 5.0 % in Indonesia (6.4 %) and Myanmar (11.4 %).

All EU Member States reported lower inflation rates in 2015 than they had in 2005, with particularly strong falls reported for Romania, Bulgaria and Latvia. Among the ASEAN Member States, Myanmar had a higher inflation rate in 2015 than 10 years earlier, while the biggest falls in inflation were observed in Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines and Indonesia.

Figure 1.9: Inflation rate — annual change, 2005 and 2015



(1) 2005: EU-25.  
 (2) 2015: estimates.  
 (3) 2014 instead of 2015.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [prc\\_hicp\\_aind](#)) and the International Monetary Fund (World Economic Outlook Database)

# 2

## Focus on trade and investment





### INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS

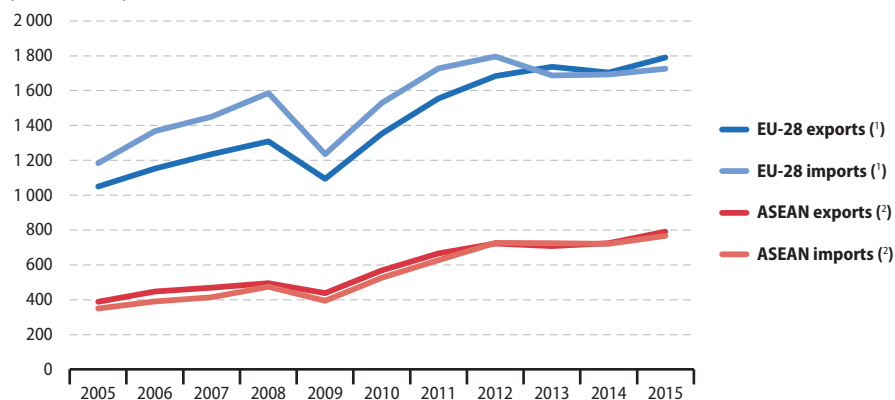
The total value of the goods exported from the EU-28 to the rest of the world (outside of the EU) in 2015 was EUR 1.79 trillion (EUR 1.79 thousand billion), 71 % higher than its level in 2005 (see Figure 2.1). Imports rose at a slower pace, up 46 % to EUR 1.73 trillion, such that a trade deficit in goods between 2005 and 2012 turned into a surplus between 2013 and 2015. There was an even faster development to international trade flows for ASEAN (with partners outside of ASEAN), as exports and imports more than doubled between 2005 and 2015. The slightly faster increase in imports resulted in the trade surplus narrowing over this period and ASEAN reported an almost balanced position for trade in goods in 2012 and 2014. ASEAN's international exports and imports of goods in 2015 were valued at just under EUR 800 billion, equivalent to 44 % of the equivalent values for the EU-28.

Within ASEAN, the largest trader of goods in 2015 was Singapore, with exports to all countries of

the world valued at EUR 330 billion and imports at EUR 267 billion. Other large traders of goods were Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam and Indonesia, all with imports and exports of goods valued in excess of EUR 100 billion. Among the EU Member States, Germany was the largest trader of goods, its exports to the world were valued at EUR 1.2 trillion in 2015 and its imports at EUR 946 billion, while the next largest exporters were the Netherlands, France, the United Kingdom, Italy and Belgium.

Six of the ASEAN Member States reported a trade surplus for goods in 2015, with that of Singapore larger than those of the other five combined. Less than half (12) of the EU Member States reported a trade surplus for goods, with the German surplus also larger than the combined value for the other Member States with surpluses.

**Figure 2.1: Development of international trade in goods, 2005–2015**  
(billion EUR)



(1) Extra-EU-28 trade (trade with non-member countries).

(2) Extra-ASEAN trade (trade with non-member countries).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [ext\\_lt\\_intertrd](#)) and ASEANstats





**Table 2.1: International trade in goods, 2005 and 2015**  
(million EUR)

	Exports		Imports		Trade balance	
	2005	2015	2005	2015	2005	2015
<b>EU-28<sup>(1)</sup></b>	1 049 473	1 790 652	1 183 933	1 726 483	-134 460	64 169
Belgium	268 735	359 565	256 153	338 750	12 582	20 815
Bulgaria	9 156	23 161	12 473	26 408	-3 317	-3 247
Czech Republic	62 722	142 822	61 483	126 805	1 239	16 017
Denmark	68 403	85 864	60 749	76 957	7 654	8 906
Germany	779 989	1 198 306	624 465	946 454	155 524	251 852
Estonia	6 201	11 627	8 229	13 074	-2 028	-1 447
Ireland	88 137	110 479	55 112	66 530	33 025	43 949
Greece	14 826	25 793	46 382	43 639	-31 556	-17 846
Spain	154 815	255 441	232 109	281 298	-77 294	-25 857
France	372 395	455 990	405 164	515 938	-32 770	-59 948
Croatia	6 960	11 671	14 900	18 558	-7 940	-6 887
Italy	299 574	413 881	309 032	368 715	-9 458	45 166
Cyprus	1 175	1 648	5 073	5 016	-3 898	-3 367
Latvia	4 148	10 865	6 990	12 900	-2 842	-2 035
Lithuania	9 489	22 984	12 494	25 397	-3 005	-2 413
Luxembourg	15 366	15 556	18 170	20 878	-2 804	-5 322
Hungary	50 405	88 934	53 446	83 487	-3 041	5 447
Malta	1 928	2 325	2 988	5 220	-1 060	-2 895
Netherlands	326 555	511 333	292 415	456 370	34 140	54 964
Austria	100 468	137 755	102 283	140 132	-1 814	-2 377
Poland	71 889	178 671	81 697	174 990	-9 807	3 681
Portugal	31 137	49 858	51 372	60 162	-20 235	-10 305
Romania	22 172	54 609	32 538	62 976	-10 366	-8 367
Slovenia	15 270	28 820	16 273	26 789	-1 003	2 031
Slovakia	25 583	67 998	27 837	66 289	-2 254	1 708
Finland	52 641	53 900	47 234	54 251	5 407	-351
Sweden	105 266	126 338	89 781	124 467	15 485	1 871
United Kingdom	314 136	414 761	417 359	564 190	-103 223	-149 429
<b>ASEAN<sup>(2)</sup></b>	389 265	789 850	350 222	766 309	39 043	23 541
Brunei Darussalam	5 120	5 727	1 208	2 919	3 911	2 808
Cambodia	2 485	7 966	2 271	9 768	214	-1 802
Indonesia	68 853	135 526	46 380	128 612	22 473	6 914
Lao PDR	140	3 348	564	2 748	-424	599
Malaysia	112 909	179 502	91 804	158 640	21 105	20 863
Myanmar	2 511	10 993	1 312	15 238	1 198	-4 245
Philippines	33 160	52 860	38 114	63 358	-4 954	-10 497
Singapore	184 715	330 189	160 890	267 476	23 826	62 712
Thailand	88 114	193 237	94 840	182 741	-6 726	10 496
Vietnam	22 970	146 024	26 199	149 373	-3 229	-3 349

(1) Extra-EU-28 trade (trade with non-member countries).

(2) Extra-ASEAN trade (trade with non-member countries).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [ext\\_lt\\_intertrd](#)) and ASEANstats

Machinery and vehicles accounted for the highest proportion of goods exported from the EU-28 in 2015, with a 42.0 % share of the total. This was considerably higher than the shares recorded for other manufactured goods (which cover SITC Sections 6 and 8) and chemicals (22.5 % and 17.6 % respectively), while each of the remaining goods categories shown in Table 2.2 accounted for less than 10 % of total EU-28 exports.

The Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Malaysia also reported that machinery and vehicles accounted for the largest share of their exports, at least two fifths of the total in each case, with this share passing half in Singapore

and approaching two thirds in the Philippines. Other manufactured goods accounted for more than four fifths of total exports in Cambodia and was also the largest category in Vietnam and Indonesia. In the two remaining ASEAN Member States (no data available for Lao PDR), mineral fuels, lubricants and related goods had the highest share of total exports, 93.0 % in Brunei Darussalam and 38.5 % in Myanmar (2010 data).

Machinery and vehicles (31.0 %), other manufactured goods (26.1 %) and mineral fuels (19.0 %) accounted for the highest shares of goods imported into the EU-28 in 2015; the next most common group of imported goods was chemicals (10.7 %).

**Table 2.2: Exports by broad group of goods, 2015**

(%)

	Food, drinks and tobacco	Raw materials	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related goods	Chemicals	Machinery and vehicles	Other manufactured goods	Other
<b>EU-28</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	6.3	2.4	4.8	17.6	42.0	22.5	4.4
<b>ASEAN</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	7.3	6.3	11.5	8.4	41.5	22.5	2.5
Brunei Darussalam	0.1	0.1	93.0	2.2	2.9	1.6	0.1
Cambodia	4.6	2.4	0.0	0.9	7.8	84.0	0.4
Indonesia	8.4	21.5	23.0	5.7	13.2	27.3	1.0
Lao PDR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Malaysia	4.1	9.4	16.5	7.2	41.9	20.4	0.5
Myanmar <sup>(3)</sup>	18.7	11.7	38.5	0.0	0.1	30.6	0.3
Philippines	5.7	6.6	1.3	2.8	64.6	18.2	0.8
Singapore	2.9	0.8	12.6	13.6	51.2	12.8	6.1
Thailand	13.4	4.4	3.9	9.7	44.9	21.9	1.8
Vietnam	12.8	2.7	3.1	2.5	37.4	41.2	0.4

(1) Extra-EU-28 trade (trade with non-member countries).

(2) Excluding Lao PDR and Myanmar.

(3) 2010.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [ext\\_it\\_intertrd](#)) and the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division (Comtrade)



Machinery and vehicles was also the largest category of imports in seven of the nine ASEAN Member States for which data are available, accounting for upwards of 30 % of total imports; the exceptions were Cambodia and Myanmar (2010 data) where other manufactured goods was the largest category. The relative importance of mineral fuels varied quite considerably between the ASEAN Member States, accounting for a relatively low share of imports in Cambodia, Vietnam and Brunei Darussalam (much less than 10 %), but a relatively high share in Myanmar and Singapore (over 20 %).

Trading relations between any pair of entities are recorded both by the exporter and importer and the values recorded for a particular trade may differ for a number of reasons, including for example methodological differences: this issue affects all bilateral trade statistics, not just those between the EU and ASEAN. The data presented in Figures 2.2 to 2.6 and Table 2.4 all concern data reported by the EU Member States and may differ to some extent from equivalent data reported by ASEAN Member States.

**Table 2.3: Imports by broad group of goods, 2015**  
(%)

	Food, drinks and tobacco	Raw materials	Mineral fuels, lubricants and related goods	Chemicals	Machinery and vehicles	Other manufactured goods	Other
<b>EU-28<sup>(1)</sup></b>	6.3	4.2	19.0	10.7	31.0	26.1	2.7
<b>ASEAN<sup>(2)</sup></b>	6.5	3.3	14.8	10.4	41.9	21.1	2.0
Brunei Darussalam	15.3	1.6	6.1	7.3	39.4	30.0	0.3
Cambodia	7.8	2.5	0.8	6.7	22.1	54.6	5.4
Indonesia	9.0	5.3	17.5	14.8	31.6	21.0	0.7
Lao PDR	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Malaysia	7.3	4.5	12.4	10.0	43.4	20.4	2.1
Myanmar <sup>(3)</sup>	4.2	5.0	22.4	11.4	27.4	29.5	0.0
Philippines	10.6	2.4	11.8	10.1	49.0	15.7	0.3
Singapore	3.8	1.1	21.8	7.6	47.6	15.6	2.6
Thailand	5.5	2.9	14.9	10.7	37.8	24.6	3.6
Vietnam	7.5	5.0	4.7	12.1	42.4	27.6	0.5

(<sup>1</sup>) Extra-EU-28 trade (trade with non-member countries).

(<sup>2</sup>) Excluding Lao PDR and Myanmar.

(<sup>3</sup>) 2010.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [ext\\_lt\\_intertrd](#)) and the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division (Comtrade)

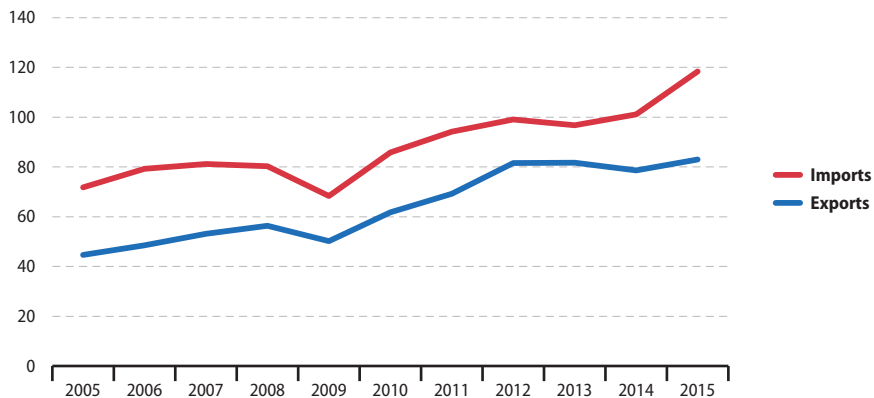


In 2015, the EU-28's exports of goods to ASEAN were valued at EUR 83 billion, up 85.8 % since 2005, while imports were valued at EUR 118 billion, an increase of 65.0 % over the same period. The share of the EU-28's exports of goods to non-EU countries that were destined for ASEAN rose from 4.3 % in 2005 to 4.6 % by 2015, while ASEAN's share of the EU-28's imports of goods from non-EU countries rose from 6.1 % to 6.9 %. As such, by 2015 the EU-28's exports of goods to ASEAN were greater in value than its

exports of goods to any of its individual trading partners except for the United States, China and Switzerland, while its imports of goods from ASEAN were greater in value than its imports of goods from any of its individual trading partners except for China, the United States and Russia.

The EU-28 recorded a trade deficit for goods with ASEAN, narrowing from EUR 27.1 billion in 2005 to EUR 15.1 billion in 2013 before widening to EUR 35.4 billion in 2015.

**Figure 2.2: Development of international trade in goods with ASEAN, EU-28, 2005–2015 (billion EUR)**



Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [ext\\_lt\\_maineu](#))



Between 2005 and 2015 the EU-28's trade in goods with Singapore moved from a relatively small trade deficit to a larger trade surplus, as exports increased by EUR 12.4 billion while imports increased by less than EUR 0.5 billion. In a slightly different manner the EU-28's trade surplus for goods with Brunei Darussalam increased between these years as exports increased many times over while the comparatively low level of imports contracted.

With all other ASEAN Member States the EU-28 recorded a trade deficit for goods in both 2005 and 2015, peaking in 2015 at a deficit of EUR 21.5 billion with Vietnam. Between 2005 and 2015 the

EU-28's trade deficits with Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam increased: the deficit with Vietnam increased by EUR 17.8 billion as imports from Vietnam were more than five times as high in 2015 as in 2005; the deficits with Cambodia, Malaysia and Thailand increased by EUR 3.2 billion, EUR 2.3 billion and EUR 0.9 billion respectively. During the same period the EU-28's trade deficits for goods with Indonesia, Myanmar and the Philippines narrowed, most notably with the Philippines where it fell from EUR 2.9 billion in 2005 to EUR 0.6 billion in 2015. The EU-28's trade deficit for goods with Lao PDR was similar in 2015 to the level it had been in 2005, just over EUR 0.1 billion.

**Table 2.4: International trade in goods with ASEAN countries, EU-28, 2005 and 2015 (million EUR)**

	Exports		Imports		Trade balance	
	2005	2015	2005	2015	2005	2015
<b>ASEAN</b>	44 687	83 010	71 762	118 402	-27 075	-35 391
Brunei Darussalam	102	863	71	40	31	823
Cambodia	126	465	534	4 085	-408	-3 620
Indonesia	4 776	9 987	10 888	15 352	-6 112	-5 365
Lao PDR	38	123	145	238	-107	-115
Malaysia	8 838	13 357	16 092	22 747	-7 255	-9 390
Myanmar	73	549	289	675	-216	-125
Philippines	3 616	6 159	6 540	6 800	-2 923	-641
Singapore	17 310	29 692	18 459	18 938	-1 149	10 754
Thailand	7 913	13 372	13 159	19 557	-5 246	-6 185
Vietnam	1 895	8 443	5 585	29 970	-3 690	-21 527

Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

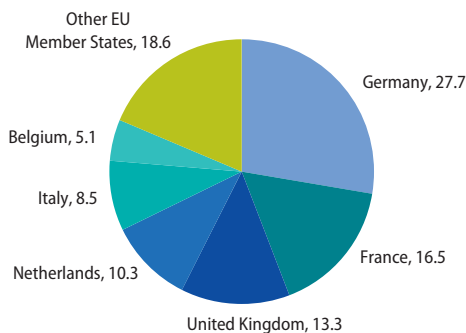
Source: Eurostat (online data code: [ext\\_it\\_maineu](#))



Figures 2.3 to 2.6 identify the largest partners within EU–ASEAN trade in goods. The largest exporters of goods from the EU-28 to ASEAN were Germany, France, the United Kingdom and

the Netherlands (see Figure 2.3) while the main recipients of these exports were Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam (see Figure 2.4).

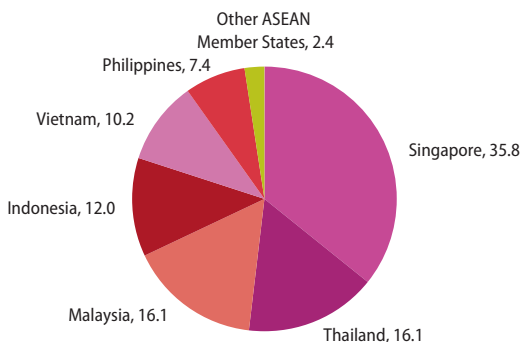
**Figure 2.3: Origin of EU-28 exports of goods to ASEAN, 2015**  
(% share of EU-28 exports to ASEAN)



Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: D5-018995)

**Figure 2.4: Destination of EU-28 exports of goods to ASEAN, 2015**  
(% share of EU-28 exports to ASEAN)



Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

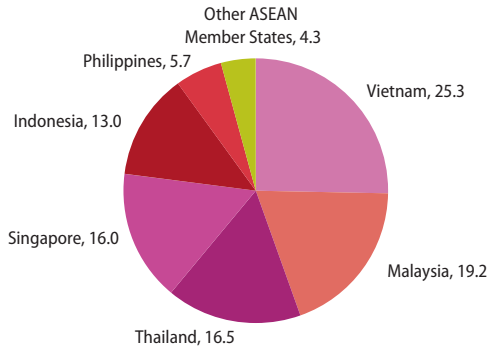
Source: Eurostat (online data code: ext\_lt\_mainneu)



The same five ASEAN Member States — Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia — were also the largest exporters of goods from ASEAN to the EU-28 (see Figure 2.5),

while the main recipients of these imports were Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom (see Figure 2.6).

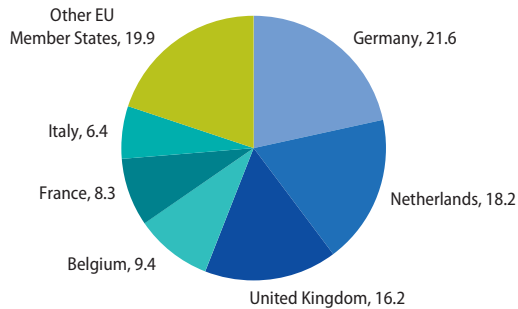
**Figure 2.5: Origin of EU-28 imports of goods from ASEAN, 2015**  
(% share of EU-28 imports from ASEAN)



Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: ext\_lt\_maineu)

**Figure 2.6: Destination of EU-28 imports of goods from ASEAN, 2015**  
(% share of EU-28 imports from ASEAN)



Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: DS-018995)

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES

**Table 2.5: International trade in services, 2010 and 2015**  
(million EUR)

	Credits		Debits		Balance	
	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015
<b>EU-28<sup>(1)</sup></b>	568 697	831 529	460 537	685 657	108 160	145 872
Belgium	74 253	101 957	66 154	95 187	8 099	6 769
Bulgaria	5 010	7 080	2 577	3 998	2 433	3 083
Czech Republic	16 560	20 485	13 456	17 734	3 104	2 751
Denmark	46 539	57 548	41 653	51 019	4 886	6 528
Germany	169 896	238 558	198 788	269 788	-28 892	-31 230
Estonia	3 571	5 204	2 222	3 502	1 349	1 702
Ireland	:	121 605	:	150 963	:	-29 357
Greece	28 105	27 919	15 187	10 987	12 919	16 932
Spain	85 434	106 695	51 508	58 722	33 925	47 974
France	152 601	217 774	137 161	208 972	15 440	8 802
Croatia	9 054	11 215	2 930	3 345	6 125	7 869
Italy	76 235	88 568	85 411	90 173	-9 177	-1 606
Cyprus	7 005	8 316	3 996	5 089	3 009	3 226
Latvia	3 050	4 039	1 749	2 273	1 301	1 766
Lithuania	3 423	6 011	2 301	4 266	1 122	1 744
Luxembourg	47 122	86 207	34 411	65 850	12 711	20 357
Hungary	14 652	19 952	12 006	14 561	2 646	5 391
Malta	:	9 500	:	7 566	:	1 934
Netherlands	121 944	160 447	102 611	151 615	19 333	8 832
Austria	:	52 395	:	42 380	:	10 015
Poland	26 752	40 657	23 455	29 752	3 297	10 905
Portugal	17 223	25 347	10 760	12 945	6 463	12 402
Romania	:	16 640	:	9 850	:	6 790
Slovenia	4 655	6 025	3 444	4 006	1 210	2 019
Slovakia	:	7 239	:	7 144	:	95
Finland	:	22 505	:	24 113	:	-1 608
Sweden	40 716	65 525	38 268	55 596	2 447	9 929
United Kingdom	205 447	310 654	135 094	189 742	70 353	120 912
<b>ASEAN</b>	161 570	275 740	173 226	280 901	-11 656	-5 161
Brunei Darussalam	347	579	956	1 493	-609	-914
Cambodia	1 530	3 562	739	1 728	791	1 834
Indonesia	12 575	20 035	19 960	27 516	-7 385	-7 481
Lao PDR	385	720	198	527	187	193
Malaysia	25 513	30 889	24 013	35 688	1 501	-4 799
Myanmar	265	3 588	550	2 318	-286	1 270
Philippines	13 413	25 387	9 065	21 563	4 349	3 825
Singapore	76 060	125 834	76 347	129 312	-287	-3 478
Thailand	25 887	55 055	33 963	45 923	-8 076	9 133
Vietnam	5 595	10 090	7 435	14 833	-1 841	-4 743

(<sup>1</sup>) Extra-EU-28 trade (trade with non-member countries).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [bop\\_its6\\_det](#)) and ASEANstats





The total value of the services exported (referred to as credits in Table 2.5) from the EU-28 to the rest of the world (outside of the EU) in 2015 was EUR 832 billion, 46 % higher than its level in 2010. Imports (referred to as debits) rose at a similar pace, up 49 % to EUR 686 billion, such that the trade surplus in services expanded between 2010 and 2015. There was an even faster development to flows of international trade in services for ASEAN (including intra-ASEAN trade), as exports increased by 71 % and imports by 62 %, leading to a narrowing of ASEAN's trade deficit for services. ASEAN's international exports of services in 2015 were valued at EUR 276 billion, while imports were valued at EUR 281 billion.

As for goods, within ASEAN the largest trader of services in 2015 was Singapore, other large trading ASEAN Member States included Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia. Among the EU Member States, the United Kingdom was the largest exporter of services, while Germany

had the largest imports. Half of the ASEAN Member States reported a trade surplus for services in 2015, with that of Thailand larger than of the other four combined. In the EU, all but four Member States reported a trade surplus for services, with the British surplus by far the largest.

Trade with ASEAN accounted for 5.1 % of the EU-28's exports of services to non-EU countries in 2015 (up from 4.3 % in 2010) and 5.4 % of its imports in 2015 (up from 4.9 % in 2010). The EU-28 reported a trade surplus for services with ASEAN in 2015 that was nearly three and a half times as high as it had been in 2010.

Note that the analysis by type of service presented in Table 2.6 is only available for the EU's trade with five ASEAN Member States, these being the five with the highest levels of trade in services. The two services with the largest share of the total trade in services in 2015, both for exports and imports, were transport and other business services.

**Table 2.6: International trade in services with ASEAN, EU-28, 2010 and 2015**  
(million EUR)

	Credits		Debits		Balance	
	2010	2015	2010	2015	2010	2015
Services trade with ASEAN — total	24 305	42 441	22 767	37 194	1 538	5 247
<b>Analysis by type of service (%)</b>						
Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	1 170	481	379	896	791	-416
Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.	248	455	144	305	103	150
Transport	5 113	6 861	6 767	8 361	-1 653	-1 500
Travel	1 821	2 599	4 381	6 648	-2 560	-4 050
Construction	319	764	364	294	-44	470
Insurance and pension services	919	1 357	576	538	342	819
Financial services	1 567	2 337	1 855	3 689	-287	-1 352
Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.	3 036	6 140	54	4 546	2 982	1 595
Telecommunications, computer, and information services	3 046	6 831	1 432	1 387	1 614	5 443
Other business services	4 907	11 906	5 189	7 950	-282	3 955
Personal, cultural, and recreational services	213	161	96	317	117	-156
Government goods and services n.i.e.	288	203	190	114	98	89
Services not allocated	12	367	6	4	6	363

Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

(<sup>1</sup>) The analysis by type of service is based on data for transactions with an aggregate composed of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand (rather than for all 10 ASEAN Member States); these five ASEAN Member States accounted for 93–94 % of the EU-28's trade in services with ASEAN in 2015.

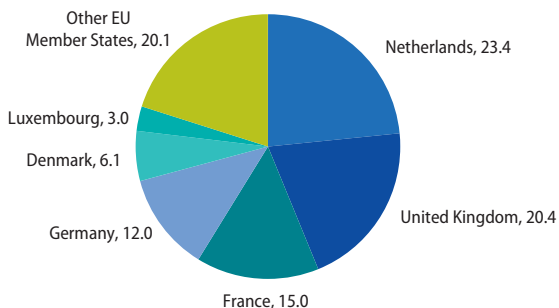
Source: Eurostat (online data code: bop\_its6\_det)

Figures 2.7 to 2.10 identify the largest partners within EU–ASEAN trade in services. The largest exporters of services from the EU-28 to ASEAN were the Netherlands and the United Kingdom

(see Figure 2.7) while Singapore was clearly the main recipient of these exports (see Figure 2.8).

**Figure 2.7: Origin of EU-28 exports of services to ASEAN, 2015**

(% share of EU-28 exports to ASEAN)

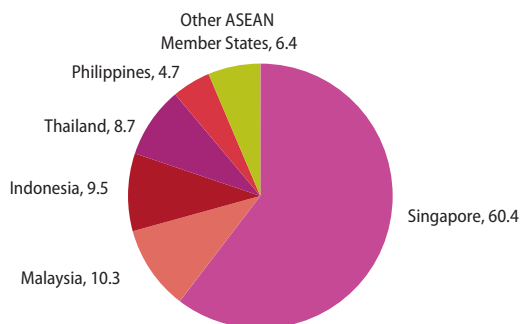


Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [bop\\_its6\\_det](#))

**Figure 2.8: Destination of EU-28 exports of services to ASEAN, 2015**

(% share of EU-28 exports to ASEAN)



Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

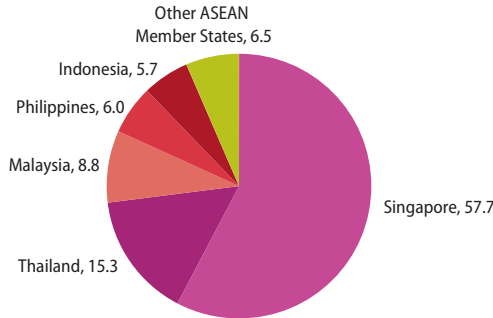
Source: Eurostat (online data code: [bop\\_its6\\_det](#))



Equally, Singapore dominated the supply of services to the EU-28 from these five ASEAN countries (see Figure 2.9), while the main recipients of these services imported into the EU

were Germany, the United Kingdom, France and the Netherlands, followed quite closely by two of the smaller Member States, Luxembourg and Denmark (see Figure 2.10).

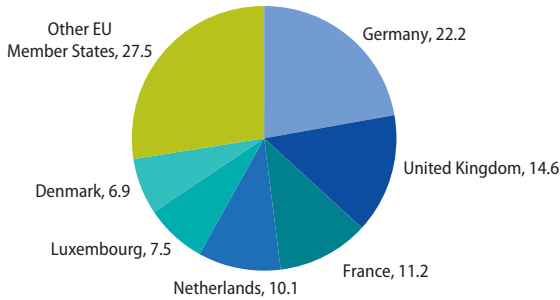
**Figure 2.9: Origin of EU-28 imports of services from ASEAN, 2015**  
(% share of EU-28 imports from ASEAN)



Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: bop\_its6\_det)

**Figure 2.10: Destination of EU-28 imports of services from ASEAN, 2015**  
(% share of EU-28 imports from ASEAN)



Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: bop\_its6\_det)



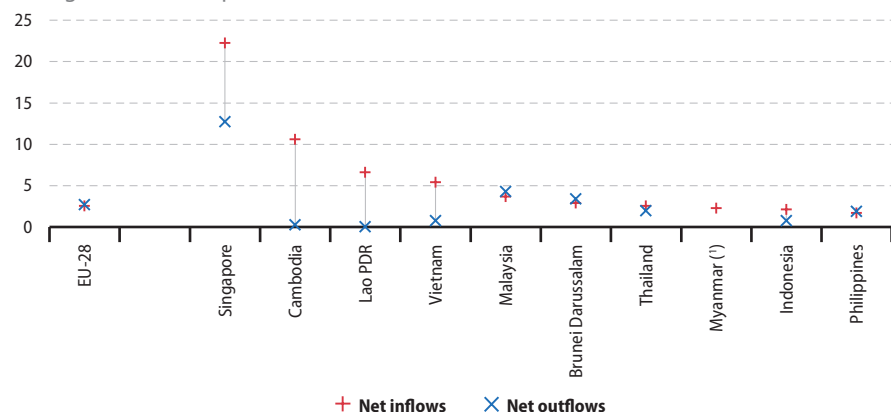
## FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

Foreign direct investment (FDI) concerns investment in new foreign plant or similar assets as well as the purchase of existing assets that belong to a foreign enterprise. Unlike portfolio investment, FDI involves gaining control or an effective voice in the management of the direct investment enterprise. The indicators presented in Figures 2.11–2.15 are averaged over the period 2013–2015 as values can vary greatly from one year to the next. Collectively, the ASEAN Member States were net recipients of FDI during these three years; this was also the case in six of the

individual ASEAN Member States, the exceptions being Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and the Philippines where net outflows were higher and Myanmar for which data on outflows are not available.

Globally, net inflows of FDI were close to 2.1 % of GDP in 2013–2015; the ASEAN Member States generally recorded higher net inflows than this, with the exception of the Philippines (where the net inflow was lower) and Indonesia (where it was in line with the global average). The EU-28 recorded slightly higher net FDI outflows (2.7 %) than net inflows (2.5 %).

**Figure 2.11: Foreign direct investment net inflows and net outflows, average 2013–2015** (% of gross domestic product)



Note: ranked on inflows relative to gross domestic product.

(\*) Outflows: not available.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: bop\_fdi6\_flow and nama\_10\_gdp) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTADstat)

The data presented in Figures 2.12 to 2.15 come from different sources. Figures 2.12 and 2.13 show the flows of FDI from the EU-28 to ASEAN and are data reported by ASEAN Member States.

Figures 2.14 and 2.15 show the flows of FDI from ASEAN to the EU-28 and are data reported by the EU Member States.

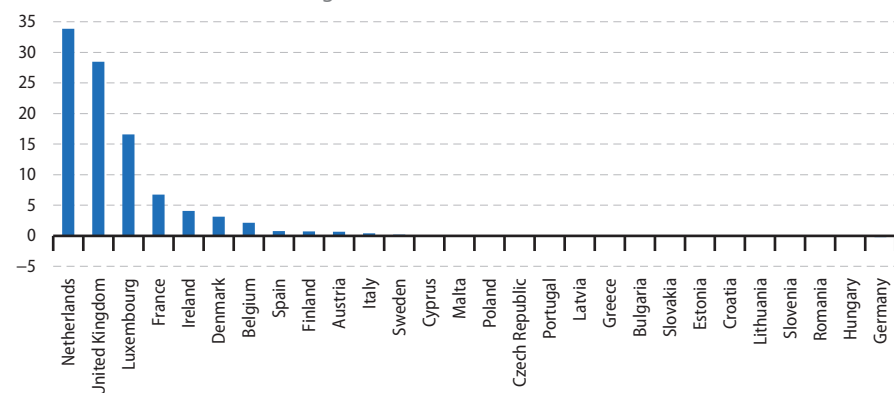


The main source of net outflows of FDI from the EU-28 to ASEAN between 2013 and 2015 were from the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Luxembourg (see Figure 2.12), collectively providing nearly four fifths (79.0 %) of all EU-28 FDI to ASEAN. The vast majority of this investment was destined for Singapore (84.4 %), with a smaller

share to Malaysia (9.4 %) and the remainder (less than one tenth of the total) split between the other ASEAN Member States (see Figure 2.13); note that a negative value was reported for Indonesia, indicating that withdrawals of investment outweighed new investment during the three year period considered.

**Figure 2.12: Origin of net outflows of foreign direct investment from EU-28 to ASEAN, average 2013–2015**

(% share of net outflows of foreign direct investment from EU-28 to ASEAN)

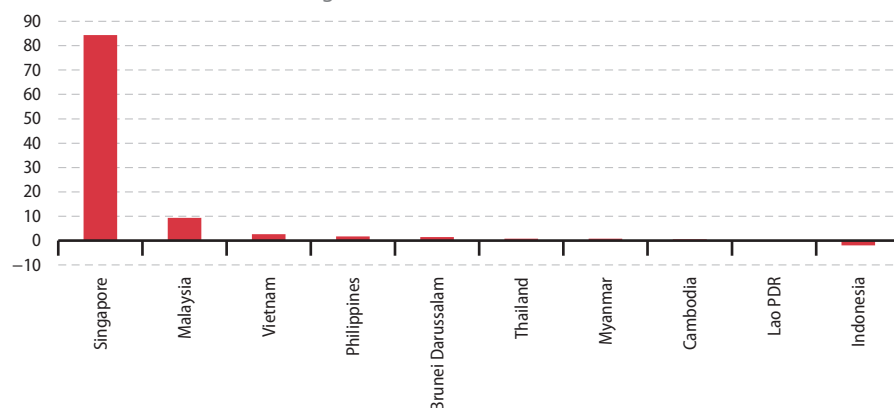


Note: data as reported by ASEAN Member States.

Source: ASEANstats

**Figure 2.13: Destination of net outflows of foreign direct investment from EU-28 to ASEAN, average 2013–2015**

(% share of net outflows of foreign direct investment from EU-28 to ASEAN)



Note: data as reported by ASEAN Member States.

Source: ASEANstats

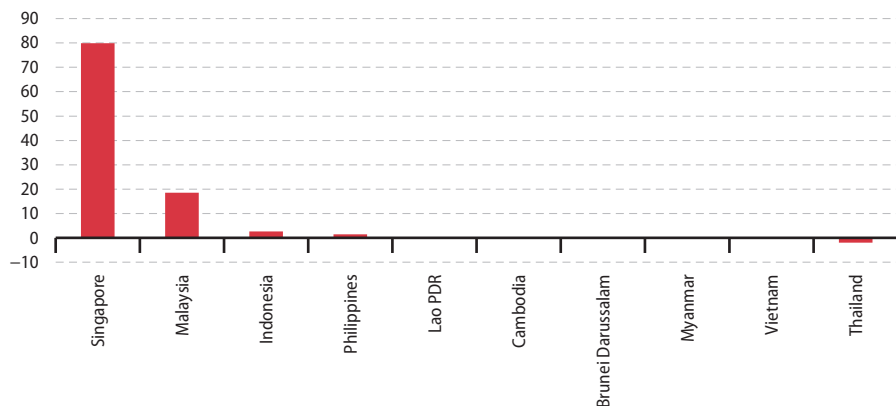


The main origins of net inflows of FDI to the EU-28 from ASEAN between 2013 and 2015 were also Singapore and Malaysia (see Figure 2.14), with small negative values reported for Brunei

Darussalam, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand, indicating that their withdrawals of investment outweighed their new investment during these years.

**Figure 2.14: Origin of net inflows of foreign direct investment from ASEAN to EU-28, average 2013–2015**

(% share of net inflows of foreign direct investment from ASEAN to EU-28)

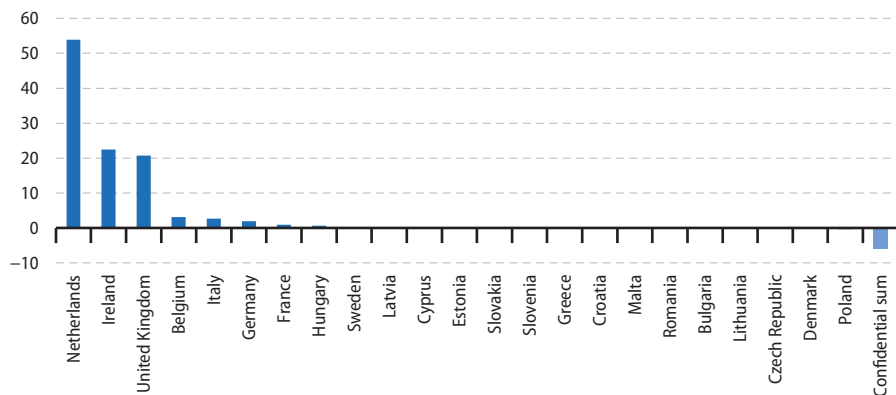


Note: data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [bop\\_fdi6\\_flow](#))

**Figure 2.15: Destination of net inflows of foreign direct investment from ASEAN to EU-28, average 2013–2015**

(% share of net inflows of foreign direct investment from ASEAN to EU-28)



Note: Spain, Luxembourg, Austria, Portugal and Finland, confidential; data for some partners for some years confidential for most EU Member States. Data as reported by EU Member States.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [bop\\_fdi6\\_flow](#))

# 3

## Labour market



## LABOUR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

**Table 3.1: Activity and employment rates, persons aged 15–64, 2015**  
(% of persons aged 15–64)

	Activity rate			Employment rate		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
<b>EU-28</b>	72.5	78.3	66.8	65.6	70.9	60.4
Belgium	67.6	72.2	63.0	61.8	65.5	58.0
Bulgaria	69.3	73.2	65.4	62.9	65.9	59.8
Czech Republic	74.0	81.4	66.5	70.2	77.9	62.4
Denmark	78.5	81.6	75.3	73.5	76.6	70.4
Germany	77.6	82.1	73.1	74.0	78.0	69.9
Estonia	76.7	80.4	73.0	71.9	75.3	68.5
Ireland	70.0	77.4	62.8	63.3	68.7	57.9
Greece	67.8	75.9	59.9	50.8	59.3	42.5
Spain	74.3	79.5	69.0	57.8	62.9	52.7
France	71.3	75.3	67.3	63.8	67.1	60.6
Croatia	66.8	71.5	62.2	55.8	60.1	51.5
Italy	64.0	74.1	54.1	56.3	65.5	47.2
Cyprus	73.9	78.8	69.4	62.7	66.7	59.0
Latvia	75.7	78.9	72.8	68.1	69.9	66.4
Lithuania	74.1	75.8	72.5	67.2	68.0	66.5
Luxembourg	70.9	76.0	65.6	66.1	71.3	60.8
Hungary	68.6	75.3	62.2	63.9	70.3	57.8
Malta	67.6	80.8	53.8	63.9	76.2	51.0
Netherlands	79.6	84.6	74.7	74.1	79.0	69.2
Austria	75.5	80.1	70.9	71.1	75.1	67.1
Poland	68.1	74.8	61.4	62.9	69.2	56.6
Portugal	73.4	76.7	70.3	63.9	66.9	61.1
Romania	66.1	75.3	56.7	61.4	69.5	53.2
Slovenia	71.8	75.4	67.9	65.2	69.2	61.0
Slovakia	70.9	77.5	64.3	62.7	69.5	55.9
Finland	75.8	77.2	74.4	68.5	69.3	67.7
Sweden	81.7	83.5	79.9	75.5	77.0	74.0
United Kingdom	76.9	82.2	71.7	72.7	77.6	67.9
Brunei Darussalam <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	65.6	72.5	58.3	61.1	67.9	53.8
Cambodia <sup>(1)</sup>	82.6	87.9	77.5	82.4	87.8	77.4
Indonesia	68.0	84.8	50.9	63.6	79.5	47.6
Lao PDR <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	77.4	77.0	77.7	76.3	75.8	76.8
Malaysia	67.9	80.7	54.1	65.8	78.3	52.3
Myanmar <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	78.0	81.1	75.1	77.4	80.4	74.5
Philippines	65.6	79.2	51.8	61.4	73.9	48.7
Singapore <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	84.0	93.2	75.2	80.8	89.9	72.0
Thailand <sup>(1)</sup>	76.7	84.6	69.1	75.9	83.7	68.4
Vietnam	82.6	86.5	78.9	80.8	84.5	77.3

<sup>(1)</sup> 2014.

<sup>(2)</sup> Persons aged 15 and over.

<sup>(3)</sup> ILO estimates.

<sup>(4)</sup> National residents only.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [lfsi\\_emp\\_a](#)) and the International Labour Organisation (ILOSTAT)





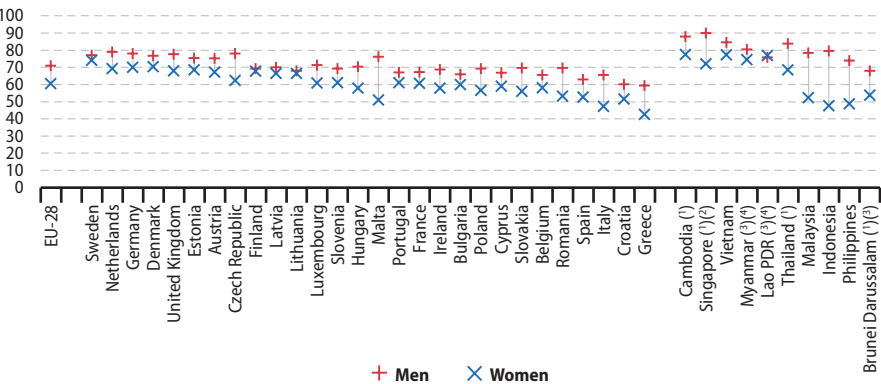
The **labour force** — also referred to as the workforce — is made up of economically **active persons**, in other words people who are **employed** or **unemployed**. The activity rate is the share of the labour force in the working-age population, while the **employment rate** is the share of employed persons in the working-age population. The difference between the two rates reflects the level of unemployment relative to the working-age population. There are many reasons for low activity rates, including a large proportion of the working-age population that is still studying, in early retirement, or not available for employment through long-term sickness, invalidity or caring for family members.

Activity and employment rates for men in 2015 were consistently higher than those for women in all EU Member States as well as all **ASEAN** Member States except for Lao PDR (see Table 3.1). Activity rates for women ranged from 50–55 % in Indonesia, the Philippines, Malta, Malaysia and Italy, rising to close to 80 % in Vietnam and

Sweden. Activity rates for men were lowest in Brunei Darussalam (2014 data), Croatia, Belgium and Bulgaria (in the range of 72–73 %) and highest in several ASEAN Member States, notably Singapore where this rate reached 93.2 % (2014 data).

Among the EU Member States, the largest difference between employment rates for men and women in 2015 was in Malta, followed by Italy, Greece, Romania and the Czech Republic (see Figure 3.1). For the **EU-28** as a whole this employment gender gap was 10.5 percentage points in 2015. In a small majority of the ASEAN Member States the gap was greater than in the EU-28, with particularly large differences (as large as or larger than in Malta) in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines; these three countries recorded the lowest employment rates for women among ASEAN Member States, while among the EU Member States the lowest rates for women were observed in Croatia, Malta, Italy and Greece.

**Figure 3.1: Employment rates by sex, persons aged 15–64, 2015**  
(% of persons aged 15–64)



(1) 2014.

(2) National residents only.

(3) Persons aged 15 and over.

(4) ILO estimates.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [lfsi\\_emp\\_a](#)) and the International Labour Organisation (ILOSTAT)

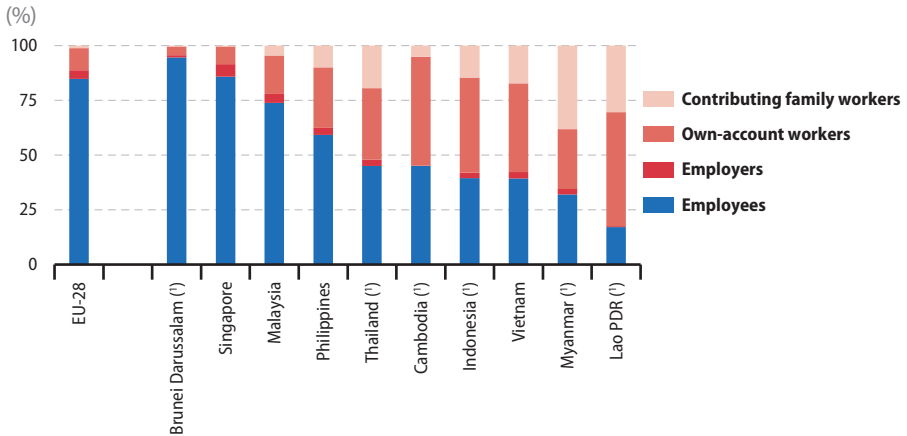
The working status of persons in employment was substantially different in most ASEAN Member States compared with the average situation in the EU-28 as can be seen from Figure 3.2.

In 2015, Brunei Darussalam had a particularly high proportion of paid **employees** and consequently fewer **self-employed persons** — referred to as employers (if having paid employees) or own-account workers — and family workers.

The structure in Singapore was similar to the EU-28 average, albeit with a greater share of employers and a smaller share of own-account workers.

Elsewhere in the ASEAN Member States, the share of contributing family workers was greater than the EU-28 average of 1.1 %, ranging from 4.6 % in Malaysia to 38.1 % in Myanmar. The share of the self-employed was also greater in these other ASEAN countries, particularly for own-account workers. Consequently, the share of paid employees was below the EU-28 average in all ASEAN countries except for Brunei Darussalam and Singapore.

**Figure 3.2: Analysis of the working status of persons in employment, 2015**



(¹) ILO estimates.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [lfsa\\_egaps](#)) and the International Labour Organisation (ILOSTAT)

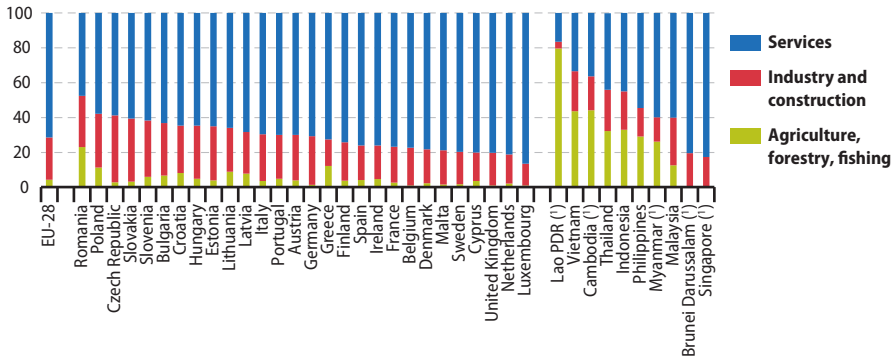


A simplified analysis of the sectoral division of the employed labour force is presented in Figure 3.3. There are notable differences between the structure in EU Member States and that in most ASEAN Member States, with Brunei Darussalam and Singapore again the exceptions. In 2015, the services share of the labour force in these two Southeast Asian nations was comparable with that in Luxembourg or the Netherlands, whereas in all other ASEAN Member States this share was below the EU-28 average

(71.4 %) and in half of the ASEAN Member States it was below the share recorded in Romania (47.5 %), which was the only EU Member State where less than half of the labour force was employed in services. The main counterbalance to the relatively low share of employed persons in services in most ASEAN countries was a relatively high share in agriculture, forestry and fishing: this peaked at 79.6 % in Lao PDR, compared with 4.2 % in the EU-28 and less than 1.0 % in Brunei Darussalam and Singapore.

**Figure 3.3: Analysis of employment by economic activity, 2015**

(%)



(1) ILO estimates.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [lfsa\\_egan2](#)) and the International Labour Organisation (ILOSTAT)

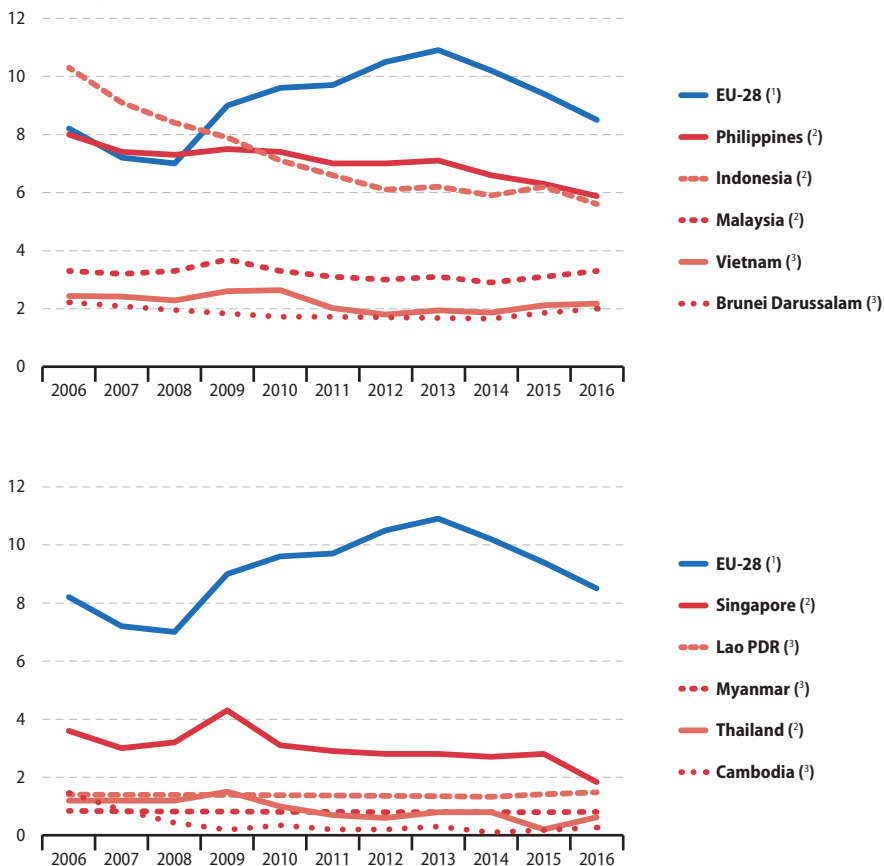
## UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployed persons are those without work, but actively looking for work. The **unemployment rate** is calculated as the number of unemployed persons as a proportion of the labour force.

Just prior to the global financial and economic crisis — around 2007 — falling (or at least stable) unemployment rates were witnessed in the

EU-28 and all of the ASEAN Member States (see Figure 3.4). By 2009, this situation had reversed in the EU-28 and to a lesser extent in Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam and Thailand, while the rate continued to fall in Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia and Indonesia. As the unemployment rate for the EU-28 maintained an upward path through to 2013 (increasing between 2008 and 2013 by 3.9

**Figure 3.4: Unemployment rates, 2006–2016**  
(unemployed persons aged 15 and over as a % of the labour force)



(1) Persons aged 15–74.

(2) 2016: ILO estimates.

(2) ILO estimates.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [une\\_rt\\_a](#)) and the International Labour Organisation (ILOSTAT)



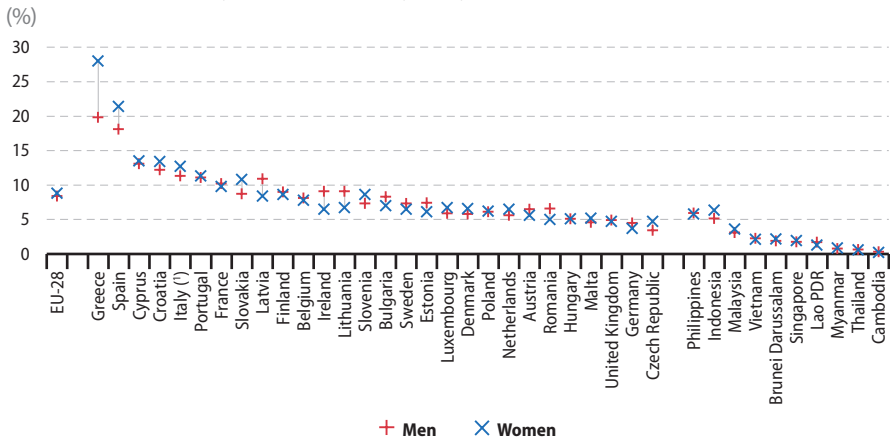
percentage points), most of the other economies saw their unemployment rates fall in 2010 or 2011; however, unemployment rates moved upwards again in 2013 in most ASEAN countries, but never by more than 0.2 percentage points. After 2013 the unemployment rate fell regularly and quite strongly in the EU-28 (by 0.7–0.9 percentage points each year), whereas unemployment rates in ASEAN initially (in 2014) fell, before rising again in at least half the ASEAN Member States in 2015 and/or 2016.

Between 2009 and 2016 the unemployment rate was lower in all ASEAN Member States than in the EU-28. Among the ASEAN Member States,

the lowest unemployment rate during the period from 2006–2016 was generally observed in Cambodia and the highest in Indonesia or the Philippines.

In 2016, unemployment rates were below the EU-28 average (8.4 % for men and 8.8 % for women) in all ASEAN countries. Male and female unemployment rates were quite similar in all of the ASEAN Member States and most of the EU Member States. The main exceptions in 2016 were Greece, Spain and Slovakia where female rates were notably higher and Ireland, Latvia and Lithuania where male rates were clearly higher.

**Figure 3.5: Unemployment rates, analysis by sex, 2016**



Notes. Ranked on total unemployment rate. EU-28 and EU Member States: persons aged 15–74.

ASEAN members: persons aged 15 and over; ILO estimates.

(\*) 2015.

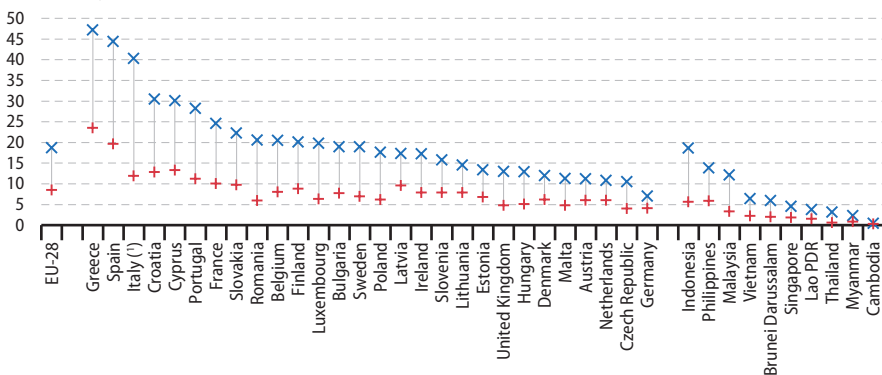
Source: Eurostat (online data code: *une\_rt\_a*) and the International Labour Organisation (ILOSTAT)

In 2016, all ASEAN Member States and EU Member States had higher youth unemployment rates (for persons aged 15–24) than their unemployment rates for the total labour force, as can be seen in Figure 3.6. It should be remembered that these rates are calculated as a percentage of the labour force (not the population) and many people between the ages of 15 and 24 years may be outside of the labour force, for example studying or travelling.

The youth unemployment rate in the EU-28 stood at 18.7 % in 2016, which was around 2.2 times as high as the EU-28's total unemployment rate. Youth unemployment rates were more than three times as high as overall unemployment

rates in Luxembourg, Italy (2015 data) and Romania among the EU Member States, and as in Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand in ASEAN. More than one quarter of the labour force aged 15–24 was without work in a group of principally southern EU Member States — Greece, Spain, Italy, Croatia, Cyprus and Portugal — with most other EU Member States reporting youth unemployment rates between 10 % and 25 %; Germany (7.0 %) was below this range. Among the ASEAN Member States, the highest youth unemployment rates were recorded in Indonesia (18.6 %), the Philippines (13.9 %) and Malaysia (12.1 %), with the other seven ASEAN Member States reporting rates that were consistently below 7.0 %.

**Figure 3.6: Youth and total unemployment rates, 2016**  
(unemployed persons as a % of the labour force)



Notes. Ranked on the youth unemployment rate. EU-28 and EU Member States: total covers persons aged 15–74. ASEAN members: total covers persons aged 15 and over; ILO estimates.  
(\*) 2015.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [une\\_rt\\_a](#)) and the International Labour Organisation (ILOSTAT)

# 4

## Population



## POPULATION KEY DATA

Table 4.1: Key data on population, 1977 and 2015

	Population (million)		Share in world population (% of total)		Population density (inhabitants per km <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>(1)</sup>	
	1977	2015	1977	2015	1977	2015
<b>World</b>	4 211.3	7 346.6	100.0	100.0	32	57
<b>EU-28<sup>(2)</sup>(<sup>3</sup>)</b>	457.1	509.4	10.9	6.9	109	117
Belgium <sup>(2)</sup>	9.8	11.3	0.2	0.2	0	372
Bulgaria	8.8	7.2	0.2	0.1	80	66
Czech Republic	10.2	10.5	0.2	0.1	132	137
Denmark	5.1	5.7	0.1	0.1	120	132
Germany <sup>(2)</sup>	78.2	81.7	1.9	1.1	224	229
Estonia <sup>(2)</sup>	1.5	1.3	0.0	0.0	34	30
Ireland <sup>(2)</sup>	3.3	4.7	0.1	0.1	48	68
Greece	9.3	10.8	0.2	0.1	72	82
Spain	36.5	46.4	0.9	0.6	73	92
France <sup>(2)</sup> ( <sup>4</sup> )	53.1	66.6	1.3	0.9	:	105
Croatia <sup>(2)</sup>	4.6	4.2	0.1	0.1	81	74
Italy	56.0	60.7	1.3	0.8	190	201
Cyprus	0.5	0.8	0.0	0.0	:	92
Latvia	2.5	2.0	0.1	0.0	40	32
Lithuania	3.4	2.9	0.1	0.0	54	46
Luxembourg <sup>(2)</sup>	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.0	0	220
Hungary <sup>(2)</sup>	10.6	9.8	0.3	0.1	118	106
Malta <sup>(2)</sup>	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.0	959	1 369
Netherlands	13.9	16.9	0.3	0.2	410	503
Austria	7.6	8.6	0.2	0.1	92	105
Poland <sup>(2)</sup>	34.7	38.0	0.8	0.5	113	124
Portugal	9.5	10.4	0.2	0.1	103	112
Romania	21.8	19.8	0.5	0.3	94	86
Slovenia <sup>(2)</sup>	1.8	2.1	0.0	0.0	91	102
Slovakia	4.8	5.4	0.1	0.1	101	111
Finland	4.7	5.5	0.1	0.1	16	18
Sweden	8.3	9.8	0.2	0.1	20	24
United Kingdom	56.2	65.1	1.3	0.9	232	269
<b>ASEAN</b>	333.6	630.5	7.9	8.6	77	146
Brunei Darussalam	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	33	80
Cambodia	7.2	15.6	0.2	0.2	41	88
Indonesia	137.3	257.6	3.3	3.5	76	142
Lao PDR	3.1	6.8	0.1	0.1	14	29
Malaysia	12.9	30.3	0.3	0.4	39	92
Myanmar	32.1	53.9	0.8	0.7	49	83
Philippines	43.7	100.7	1.0	1.4	146	338
Singapore	2.3	5.5	0.1	0.1	3 471	7 807
Thailand	44.4	68.0	1.1	0.9	87	133
Vietnam	50.3	91.7	1.2	1.2	155	296

(1) 1977: World Bank data for all areas and countries.

(2) Break in series.

(3) Population density: estimates made for the purpose of this publication.

(4) 1977: excluding overseas departments and territories.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: [demo\\_gind](#), [demo\\_r\\_d3area](#) and [demo\\_r\\_d3dens](#)) and the World Bank (World Development Indicators)





In 2015, the EU-28's population was 509 million compared with 630 million in ASEAN. Between 1977 (when the EU and ASEAN first established formal relations) and 2015, the population of ASEAN grew by 89 %, whereas that of the EU-28 grew by 11 %; the population of ASEAN surpassed that of the EU-28 in 1995 and by 2015 was 24 % larger.

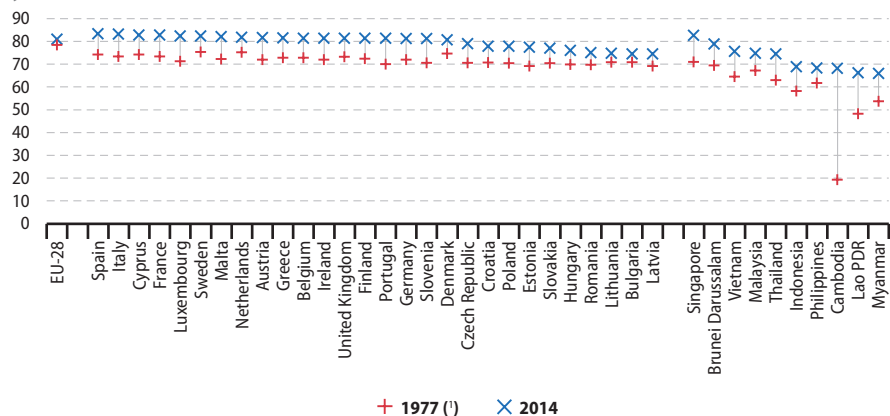
As the population of ASEAN grew in recent decades, so did its population density, from 77 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> in 1977 to 146 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> by 2015. The EU-28 reported a population density of 109 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> in 1977 compared with an average of 117 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> in 2015, the latter being just over double the global average. Singapore from ASEAN and Malta from the EU recorded by far the highest population densities in 2015, with this ratio peaking at 7.8 thousand inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup> in Singapore, while the ratio in Malta was 1.4

thousand inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>. The least densely populated ASEAN Member State was Lao PDR, while the least densely populated EU Member State was Finland.

Worldwide, life expectancy at birth in 2014 was 71.5 years. All of the EU Member States and half of the ASEAN Member States reported life expectancy that was above this global average, with Indonesia, the Philippines, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar reporting life expectancies in the range of 68.9 to 65.9 years. Compared with 1977, unsurprisingly life expectancy was higher in 2014 in all EU Member States and all ASEAN Member States, with the increases ranging from four years in Bulgaria and Lithuania to 18 years in Lao PDR and Estonia and 49 years in Cambodia; the particularly low value for 1977 for Cambodia reflects the fact that this first reference period was during the Cambodian genocide.

**Figure 4.1: Life expectancy at birth, 1977 and 2014**

(years)



(<sup>1</sup>) Source for all data is the World Bank.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [demo\\_mlexpec](#)) and the World Bank (Health Nutrition and Population Statistics)



Figure 4.2 compares the **age structure**, in 2015, of the world, the EU-28 and ASEAN. The peak in the population structure of the world in the age group 25–29 reflects to a large extent a peak in this age group in China, while there is no equivalent peak in this age group in the EU-28 or ASEAN.

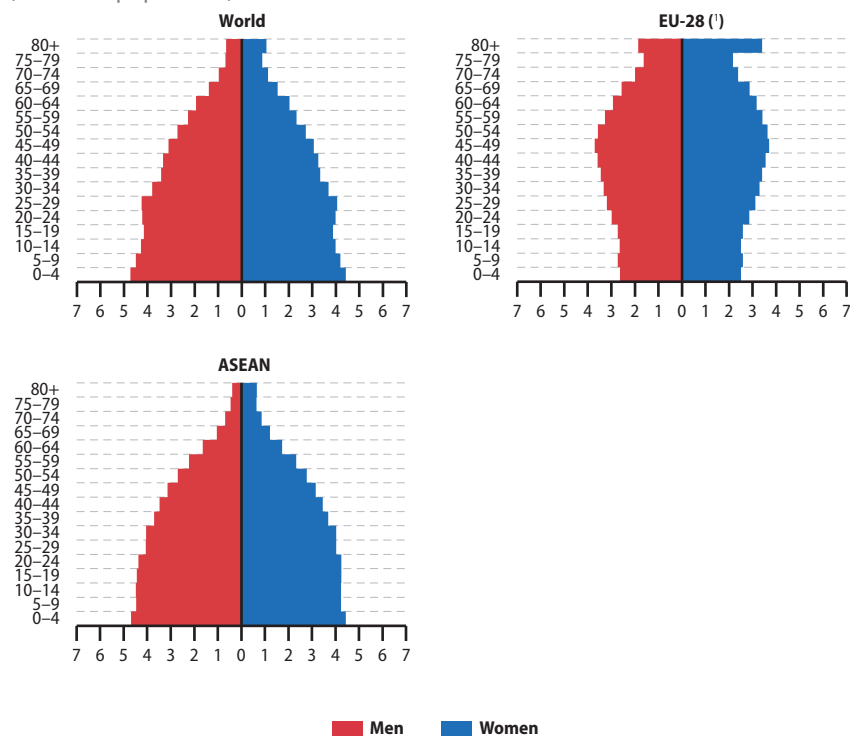
The age structure for ASEAN is a quite regular 'bell' shape, displaying a particularly broad base in the youngest age group (possibly reflecting a combination of high **fertility** and **infant mortality rates**), and a rapid narrowing starting at the age group 25–29, synonymous with a rapidly

expanding population and relatively low life expectancy.

The age structure for the EU-28 is quite different: there is a much higher share of older persons reflecting higher life expectancy and the impact of the 'baby-boomer' cohorts on the population structure; the share of the age groups below those aged 45–49 years gets progressively smaller approaching the youngest **cohorts**, reflecting falling fertility rates over several decades. Another difference is the somewhat greater gender imbalance (than is typical for the world as a whole) within the EU-28 among older age groups, where women tend to live longer.

**Figure 4.2: Age pyramids, 2015**

(% of total population)



(¹) Provisional. Data for 1 January 2015.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [demo\\_pjangroup](#)) and the World Bank (Health Nutrition and Population Statistics)



The **age dependency ratio** (young and old) shown in Figure 4.3 summarises the relative importance of younger persons (aged less than 15 years) and older persons (aged 65 years and over) with respect to the working-age population (those aged 15–64 years).

Despite different age structures, the overall dependency ratios for the EU-28 and ASEAN are quite similar, 53 % for the EU-28 and 48 % for ASEAN. Despite a low old-age dependency ratio, the overall ratio for ASEAN is pulled up by a high young-age dependency ratio, whereas the reverse is true in the EU-28.

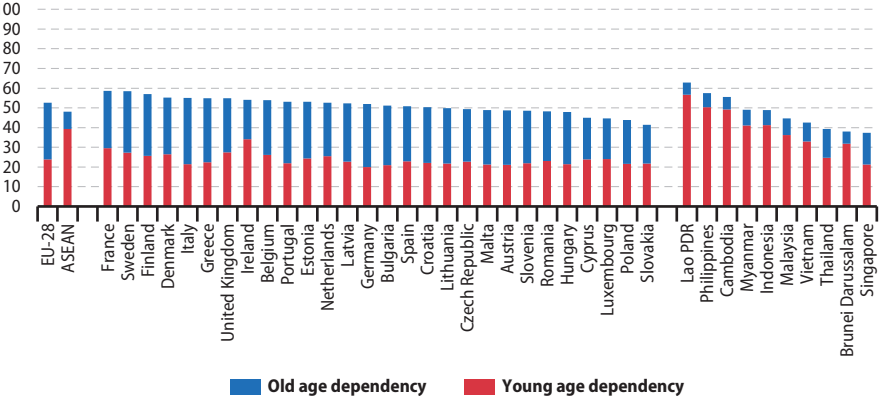
Among the EU Member States, the range in the overall dependency ratio was relatively small,

17 percentage points between Slovakia (with the lowest rate) and France (with the highest), whereas among ASEAN Member States it was greater, 25 percentage points between Singapore and Lao PDR; while Singapore recorded the lowest overall dependency ratio among ASEAN Member States, it nevertheless recorded the highest old-age dependency ratio.

In all ASEAN Member States the young-age dependency ratio was higher than the old-age ratio, whereas in the EU Member States the reverse was true, with the exceptions of Ireland, Luxembourg, Cyprus, Slovakia and France.

**Figure 4.3: Dependency ratios, 2015**

(%)



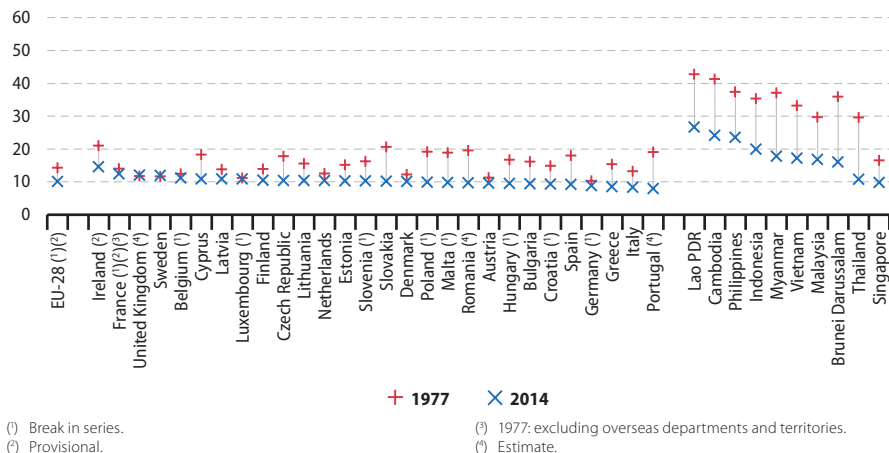
Source: Eurostat (online data code: [demo\\_pjanind](#)) and the World Bank (Health Nutrition and Population Statistics)

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS

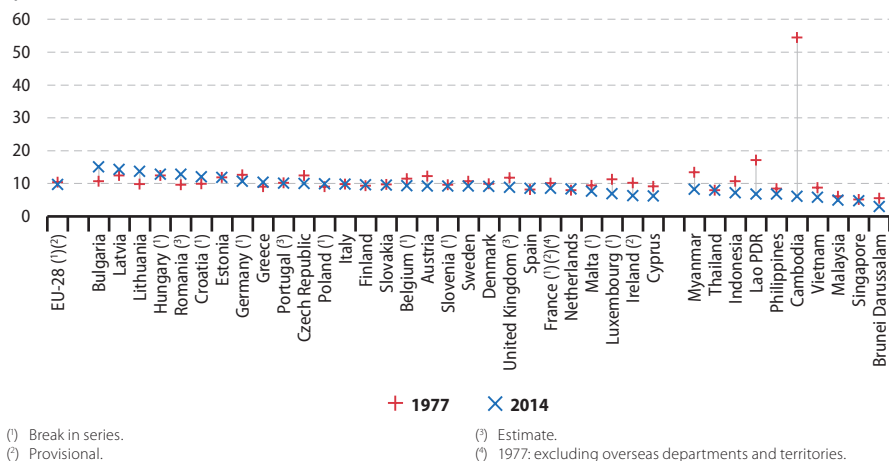
Natural population change is the difference between the number of **live births** and the number of **deaths**; it is one component of overall

population change, the other being the **net effect of migration** (see Chapter 5).

**Figure 4.4: Crude birth rate, 1977 and 2014**  
(per 1 000 inhabitants)



**Figure 4.5: Crude death rate, 1977 and 2014**  
(per 1 000 inhabitants)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [demo\\_gind](#)) and the World Bank (Health Nutrition and Population Statistics)



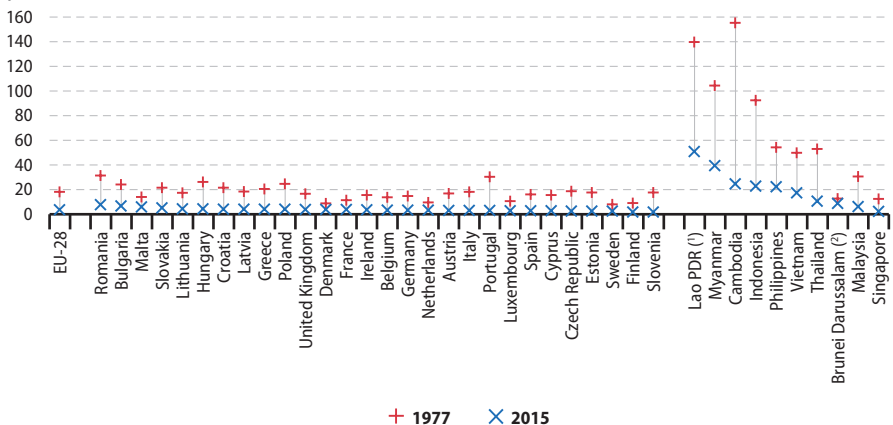
The crude **birth rate** in the EU-28 fell from 14.3 births per 1 000 inhabitants in 1977 to 10.1 per 1 000 inhabitants in 2014 (a change of  $-29\%$ ), reflecting a fall in fertility rates in nearly all EU Member States, particularly in Portugal, Spain and Ireland. Among the ASEAN Member States, birth rates fell even more rapidly: the smallest decreases were in the Philippines ( $-37\%$ ) and Lao PDR ( $-38\%$ ), while in Myanmar ( $-52\%$ ) and Brunei Darussalam ( $-55\%$ ) the crude birth rate more than halved and in Thailand it fell by nearly two thirds ( $-63\%$ ). Again this reflected falling fertility rates, most notably in Vietnam where the rate fell from an average of 5.6 births per woman in 1977 to 2.0 births per woman in 2014.

Like the birth rate, the crude **death rate** in the EU-28 also fell between 1977 and 2014, from 10.4 to 9.7 per 1 000 inhabitants (a change of  $-7\%$ ). However, this fall in death rates was not uniform, as 11 EU Member States reported higher crude death rates in 2014 than they had in 1997, most notably Bulgaria, Lithuania, Romania, Croatia, Greece, Latvia and Poland. By contrast, all of the ASEAN countries reported a decrease in their

crude death rates except for Thailand where rates were already quite low in 1977. The particularly high crude death rate for Cambodia in 1977 is again largely explained by the genocide.

One particular factor in lowering overall crude death rates in many countries has been a falling infant mortality rate. In the EU-28 this ratio fell from 18.2 deaths per 1 000 live births in 1977 to 3.6 deaths per 1 000 live births in 2015 (a change of  $-80\%$ ). A fall in infant mortality rates during this period was observed in all EU Member States, with rates at least halving. Among the ASEAN Member States, this rate also declined by at least 50%, except in Brunei Darussalam (data for 1982 to 2015). In 2015, the infant mortality rate in Singapore (2.1 per 1 000 live births) was below the EU-28 average, while in Malaysia (6.0 per 1 000 live births) it was below the rates in Bulgaria (6.6 per 1 000 live births) and Romania (7.6 per 1 000 live births), which had the highest values among the EU Member States. Higher infant mortality rates in 2015 were observed elsewhere among the ASEAN Member States, peaking at 50.7 per 1 000 live births in Lao PDR.

**Figure 4.6: Infant mortality rate, 1977 and 2015**  
(per 1 000 live births)



(\*) 1978 instead of 1977.

(\*) 1982 instead of 1977.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [demo\\_minfind](#)) and the World Bank (World Development Indicators)



### URBANISATION

Four of the 30 largest urban agglomerations in the world in 2015 were in the EU or ASEAN, according to the United Nations' World Urbanisation Report. The largest of these was the Philippines capital, Manila, which had a population close to 13 million. The French, Indonesian and British capitals also figured in the list, with between 10 and 11 million inhabitants each. For comparison, Tokyo in Japan is the largest urban agglomeration with around 38 million inhabitants. It should be noted that there is no globally accepted standard for distinguishing urban from rural areas, nor for delimiting the boundaries of urban agglomerations. For example, definitions and boundaries may be based on the availability of certain infrastructure, nationally-specific administrative boundaries, overall levels of population and/or levels of population density.

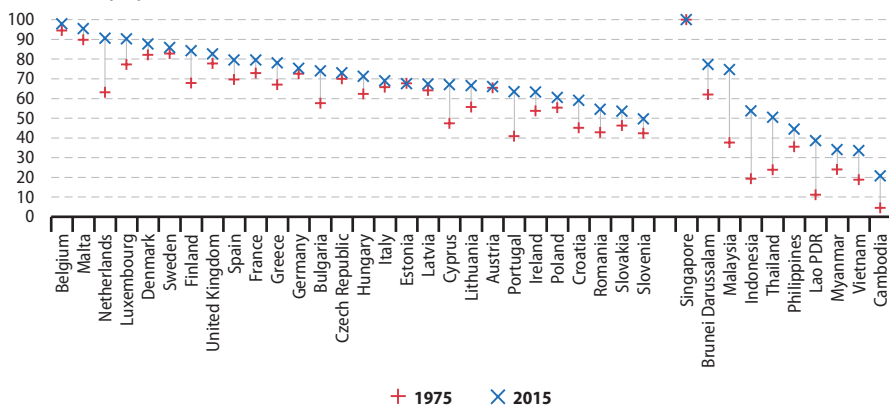
The United Nations' World Urbanisation Report provides data at five year intervals for the share of the population living in urban areas. The focus of Figure 4.7 is on the change in this share

between 1975 and 2015; at a global level this rose from 38 % to 54 %, a rise of 16 percentage points.

Increases of at least 20 percentage points in the share of the urban population were recorded for the Netherlands, Portugal and Cyprus within the EU and for Malaysia, Indonesia, Lao PDR and Thailand within ASEAN. By contrast, 17 EU Member States reported an increase of 10 percentage points or less (while there was no change in Estonia), as did Myanmar and the Philippines among the ASEAN Member States; the share in Singapore did not change as the whole country is considered to be urban.

Apart from Singapore, the highest shares of the population in urban regions were reported in the Benelux Member States and Malta, all 90 % or higher. By contrast, just half of the population lived in urban regions in Slovenia, the lowest share among the EU Member States, with shares below half in the Philippines and Lao PDR, around one third in Myanmar and Vietnam, and close to one fifth in Cambodia.

**Figure 4.7: Share of urban population, 1975 and 2015**  
(% of total population)



Source: the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (World Urbanisation Prospects)

# 5

## Focus on migration

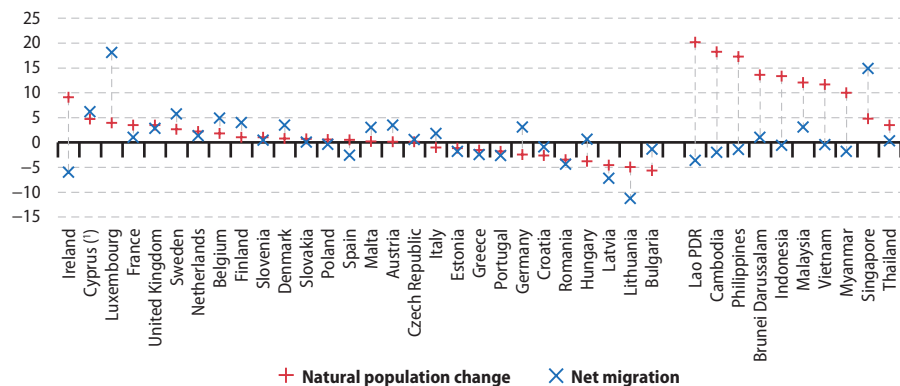


## POPULATION CHANGE AND MIGRATION

The distinction between *natural population change* and the *net effect of migration* is illustrated in Figure 5.1 for the period 2010–2015. In eight EU Member States (for example the *Baltic Member States*), negative rates of natural population change

and of net migration were recorded: deaths exceeded births and the number of emigrants exceeded the number of immigrants leading to a contraction in population numbers. In 13 EU Member States (for example France and the United

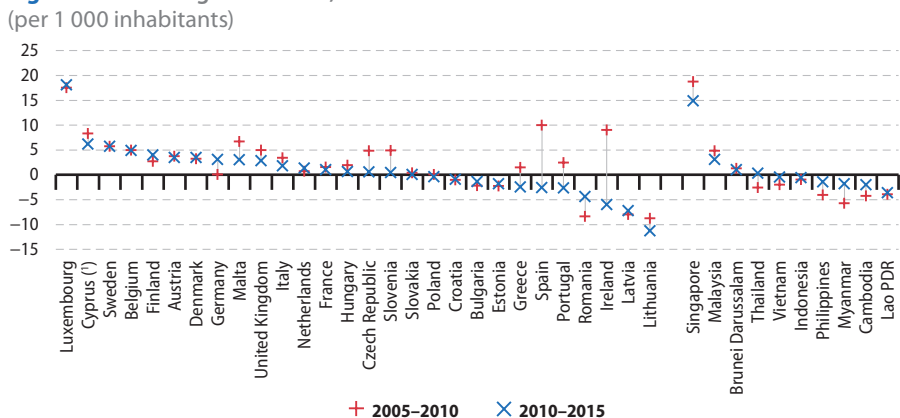
**Figure 5.1: Natural population change and net migration, annual average 2010–2015** (per 1 000 inhabitants)



Note: estimates. Ranked on natural population change.  
(!) Including the whole of the island.

Source: the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision)

**Figure 5.2: Net migration rates, 2005–2015** (per 1 000 inhabitants)



Note: estimates.  
(!) Including the whole of the island.

Source: the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision)



Kingdom) and four ASEAN Member States (for example Malaysia), positive rates for both indicators were recorded, leading to an increase in population. The remaining six ASEAN Member States (for example Indonesia) as well as Ireland and Poland reported a positive natural population change that was greater than their negative net migration (leading therefore to overall population growth); in Spain a similar combination of positive and negative rates was observed but with negative net migration outweighing positive natural population growth. By contrast, negative rates of natural population change combined with positive rates of net migration, leading to an overall population increase in Germany and Italy but a decline in Hungary. Slovakia had balanced migration combined with natural population growth.

Across all of the EU-28 Member States and ASEAN Member States, the two small, wealthy countries of Luxembourg and Singapore reported the highest rates of net inward migration for the period 2010–2015 (see Figure 5.2). The highest rates of net outward migration were reported by Lithuania, Latvia, Ireland and Romania among EU Member States and Lao PDR among ASEAN Member States.

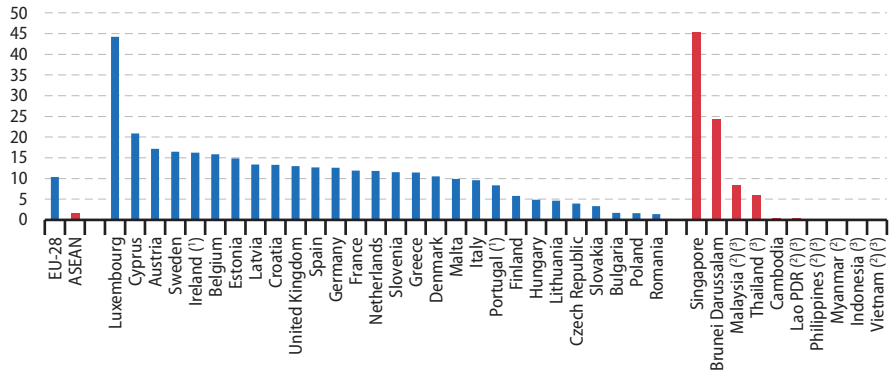
Most EU Member States and ASEAN Member States recorded either net inward migration (for example Luxembourg and Singapore) or net outward migration (for example Lithuania and Lao PDR) in both the 2005–2010 and the 2010–2015 periods, with only a few exceptions: Greece, Spain, Portugal, Poland, Slovakia and Thailand.

**FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION**

The share of the foreign-born population was relatively high in some of the wealthier, smaller EU Member States and ASEAN Member States: in 2015, the share of the foreign-born population in Brunei Darussalam was 24.3 %, in Luxembourg it was 44.2 %, and in Singapore it was 45.4 % (see Figure 5.3). By contrast, 0.5 % or less of the

population was foreign-born in more than half of the ASEAN Member States. For comparison, across the world around 3.3 % of the global population was living in a different country from the one in which they were born, a share that rose to an estimated 10.4 % for the EU-28 while it stood at 1.6 % in ASEAN.

**Figure 5.3: Foreign-born population, 2015**  
(% of total population)



(1) Provisional.  
(2) Foreign citizenship rather than foreign born.  
(3) Including refugees.

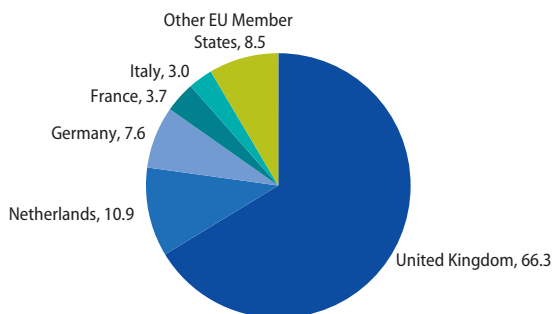
Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr\_pop3ctb) and the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (Trends in International Migrant Stock)

There were around 9.9 million foreign-born residents in ASEAN in 2015, of which 6.9 million (equivalent to 69.9 %) were from other ASEAN Member States, leaving 3.0 million from outside of ASEAN. The main countries of origin of these immigrants from outside of ASEAN were all Asian: China (709 thousand), Bangladesh (451 thousand), India (344 thousand), Nepal (221 thousand) and Pakistan (171 thousand).

A total of 76.4 thousand people living in ASEAN Member States were from EU Member States, equivalent to 0.8 % of all foreign-born residents

in ASEAN and 2.6 % of those born outside of ASEAN. Figures 5.4 and 5.5 provide an analysis of where within the EU these migrants come from and where within ASEAN they live. In total, two thirds of these ASEAN residents who were born in EU Member States came from the United Kingdom (66.3 %) with the Netherlands (10.9 %) the only other Member State with a share above one tenth. Collectively more than nine tenths of EU migrants living in ASEAN were born in one of the four largest EU Member States or the Netherlands (see Figure 5.4).

**Figure 5.4: Distribution by Member State of birth of the migrant stock in ASEAN of people born in the EU, 2015**  
(% of EU total)



Note: the total for ASEAN is based on the sum of national data; for Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines and Vietnam data are based on foreign citizenship rather than foreign born.

Source: the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (International Migration)

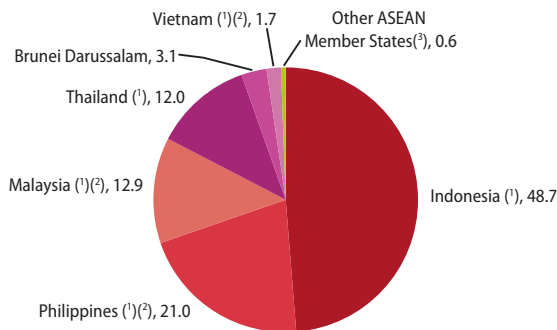


Considering all 9.9 million foreign-born people living in ASEAN Member States in 2015, two fifths (39.7 %) lived in Thailand, and more than a quarter in Singapore (25.8 %) and Malaysia (25.5 %); just 3.3 % lived in Indonesia and 2.1 % in the Philippines, with 1.0 % or less in each of the other five ASEAN Member States. However, the distribution was very different depending whether these foreign-born people came from another ASEAN Member State or from outside of ASEAN. Focusing on the 6.9 million people born in an ASEAN Member State but living in another ASEAN Member State, more than half (54.6 %) were living in Thailand, with just over a fifth (22.4 %) in Malaysia and just less than a fifth (19.2 %) in Singapore; the shares were 1.2 % or less in the other seven ASEAN Member States. Among the 3.0 million people living in ASEAN

Member States but born outside of ASEAN the structure was very different, with just 5.1 % living in Thailand, nearly a third in Malaysia (32.8 %) and more than two fifths (41.2 %) in Singapore; the shares in Indonesia (9.4 %) and in the Philippines (6.9 %) were also much higher.

Among the 76.4 thousand people living in ASEAN Member States who were from EU Member States the structure was again different, with nearly half living in Indonesia (48.7 %), with a fifth in the Philippines (21.0 %) and around one eighth in Malaysia (12.9 %) and Thailand (12.0 %). Nearly 95 % of EU-born residents in ASEAN lived in one of these four countries. The single largest pairing was 30 thousand British born people living in Indonesia, equivalent to 39.9 % of all of the residents in ASEAN who were born in an EU Member State.

**Figure 5.5: Distribution by place of residence of the migrant stock in ASEAN of people born in the EU, 2015**  
(% of ASEAN total)



(¹) Including refugees.

(²) Foreign citizenship rather than foreign born.

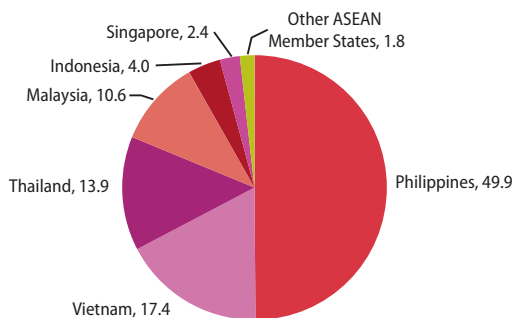
(³) Lao PDR and Myanmar: foreign citizenship rather than foreign born. Lao PDR: including refugees.

Source: the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (International Migration)

Figures 5.6 and 5.7 show a similar indicator based on citizenship rather than place of birth, looking at long-term residents in the EU-28; this therefore only includes people who have retained their citizenship of a non-EU country. In total, 7.7 million people who were not citizens of an EU Member State were long-term residents within the EU-28 in 2015. Moroccans were the largest group, with 894 thousand, equivalent to 11.6 % of the total. The other leading countries of citizenship were Albania (6.4 %), China (5.5 %), India (5.3 %) and Ukraine (4.6 %).

There were around 371 thousand people with the citizenship of an ASEAN country residing on a long-term basis in the EU-28 in 2015, about 4.8 % of the total number of people with a non-EU citizenship residing long-term in the EU-28. Half (49.9 %) of all citizens of ASEAN countries living as long-term residents in the EU-28 were Filipinos, more than one sixth (17.4 %) were Vietnamese, nearly one seventh (13.9 %) were from Thailand and one tenth (10.6 %) were Malaysians (see Figure 5.6).

**Figure 5.6: Distribution by citizenship of long-term residents in the EU of citizens of ASEAN countries, 2015**  
(% of ASEAN total)



Note: excluding long-term residents in Denmark.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [migr\\_reslong](#))

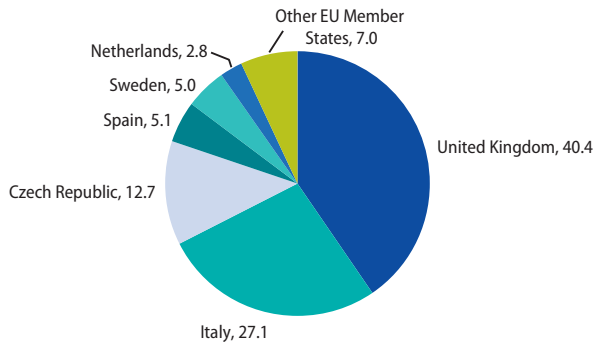


Among the 7.7 million people who were not citizens of an EU Member State who were long-term residents within the EU-28 in 2015, 2.4 million were living in Italy, accounting for 30.9 % of the total for the EU-28. The next largest groups were in the United Kingdom (27.2 % of the EU-28 total) and Spain (16.9 %); in none of the other EU Member States did this share reach 5.0 % and in more than half of the EU Member States their share of the total number of non-EU citizens residing long-term in the EU-28 was less than 1.0 %.

Two fifths (40.4 %) of the 371 thousand ASEAN citizens residing long-term in the EU-28 were living in the United Kingdom, more than a quarter (27.1 %) in Italy and around one eighth

in the Czech Republic (12.7 %); more than four fifths of the citizens of ASEAN countries in the EU-28 lived in one of these three Member States. The relatively high share in the Czech Republic reflects the fact that 47 thousand Vietnamese were long-term residents there: they constituted 99.1 % of all citizens of ASEAN countries in the Czech Republic and 72.1 % of Vietnamese citizens who were long-term residents anywhere in the EU. This was the third highest pairing of citizens of an ASEAN country residing long-term in an EU Member State, lower only than the 62 thousand Filipinos residing long-term in the United Kingdom and the 95 thousand Filipinos residing long-term in Italy; the latter made up one quarter (25.6 %) of all citizens of ASEAN countries residing long-term in the EU-28.

**Figure 5.7: Distribution by place of residence of long-term residents in the EU of citizens of ASEAN countries, 2015**  
(% of EU total)



Note: Denmark, not available; EU total excluding long-term residents in Denmark.

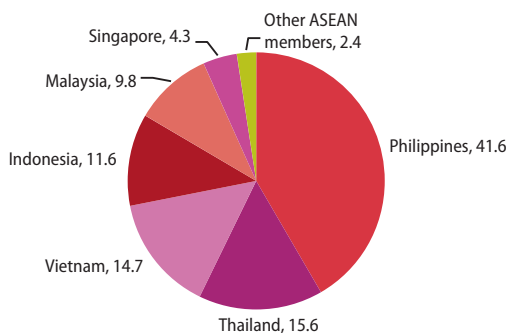
Source: Eurostat (online data code: [migr\\_reslong](#))

Whereas Figures 5.6 and 5.7 looked at the stock of citizens of ASEAN countries living on a long-term basis in the EU-28, Figures 5.8 and 5.9 look at those who received a permit to stay (for various periods of validity) for the first time (or after an interruption in their stay) in an EU Member State. In the period 2013–2015 there were on average 135 thousand such first permits issued each year to citizens of ASEAN countries: more than two fifths (41.6 %) were for Filipinos, just under one sixth (15.6 %) were for people from Thailand, just over one seventh (14.7 %)

were for Vietnamese people, more than one ninth (11.6 %) were for Indonesians and one tenth (9.8 %) were for Malaysians.

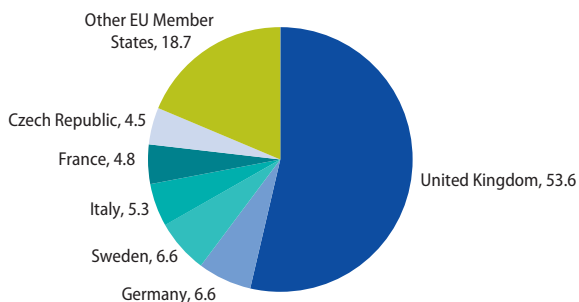
More than half (53.4 %) of these first permits given to citizens of ASEAN countries were for residence in the United Kingdom, with the largest pairing being an average of 37 thousand first permits given each year to Filipinos to live in the United Kingdom, 25.9 % of all first permits given between 2013 and 2015 to citizens of ASEAN countries living in the EU-28.

**Figure 5.8: First permits in the EU for citizens of ASEAN countries, by citizenship, average 2013–2015**  
(% of EU total)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [migr\\_resfirst](#))

**Figure 5.9: Distribution by place of residence in the EU of first permits for citizens of ASEAN countries, average 2013–2015**  
(% of EU total)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [migr\\_resfirst](#))

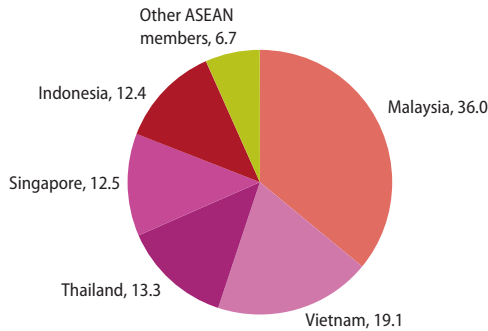
### MIGRATION FOR EDUCATION PURPOSES

The final two figures in this chapter (Figures 5.10 and 5.11) look at a particular subset of resident permits (in this case not restricted to just first permits), namely those issued for education purposes, in other words to study in an EU Member State.

Comparing Figures 5.6 (long-term residents) and 5.8 (first permits) on one hand and Figure

5.10 (permits for education purposes) on the other, there are two major differences: the Philippines does not figure among the top five ASEAN countries of citizenships for permits for education purposes; the share of such permits issued to Malaysians was particularly high, some 36.0 % of the total issued to citizens of all ASEAN countries.

**Figure 5.10: Distribution by citizenship of citizens of ASEAN countries who are holders of resident permits for education purposes in the EU, 2015**  
(% of ASEAN total)



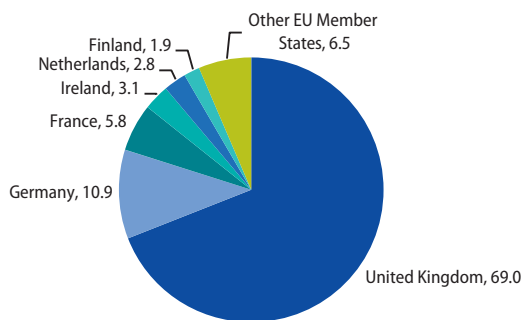
Note: excluding resident permit holders in Denmark.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [migr\\_resvalid](#))

Figures 5.7 (long-term residents) and 5.9 (first permits) may be contrasted with Figure 5.11 (permits for education purposes) with quite different patterns in terms of the destination of citizens of ASEAN countries within the EU-28. Although the United Kingdom received the largest share of citizens of ASEAN countries in all three cases, the share for educational purposes was much larger, passing two thirds (69.0%). This reflects not only historical ties with several of the ASEAN Member States but also in part the reputation of British academic institutions and the use of English as the language of instruction. Two other large EU Member States figure among the most common destinations for education permits: in Germany the number of resident permits for education purposes for citizens of ASEAN countries was dominated by large numbers of students from Vietnam and

Indonesia; in France the vast majority of such permits were for Vietnamese students, also reflecting historical ties. These were followed by Ireland (with students mainly from Malaysia) whose large share may also be explained in part by the widespread use of English for teaching and the Netherlands (with students mainly from Indonesia) which again has historical ties with some of the ASEAN Member States and where English is increasingly used as the language of instruction in tertiary education establishments. The relatively high share of citizens of ASEAN countries (particularly Vietnamese) with permits for educational purposes in Finland also reflects in part the widespread use of English as the language of instruction in tertiary education establishments and the absence (until very recently) of fees for international students.

**Figure 5.11: Distribution by place of residence of citizens of ASEAN countries who are holders of resident permits for education purposes in the EU, 2015**  
(% of EU total)



Note: Denmark, not available; EU total excluding resident permit holders in Denmark.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [migr\\_resvalid](#))



# Glossary



## CHAPTER 1 — ECONOMY AND FINANCE

**Government debt**, often referred to as the national debt or public debt, is the sum of external obligations (debts) of the government and public sector agencies. External obligations are the debt or outstanding (unpaid) financial liabilities arising from past borrowing.

A **government deficit** occurs when a government's expenditures are greater than its revenues and a **government surplus** occurs when its revenues are higher. Together these two situations may be referred to as the **public balance**.

**Government expenditure and revenue** are the money a government spends and the income it receives.

**Gross capital formation** includes the value of gross fixed capital formation, changes in stocks and acquisitions less disposals of valuables.

**Gross domestic product (GDP)** is the sum of the gross value added of all resident institutional units engaged in production, plus any taxes and minus any subsidies on products not included in the value of their outputs.

**Gross national income (GNI)** is the sum of incomes of residents of an economy in a given period. It is equal to GDP minus primary income payable by resident units to non-resident units, plus primary income receivable from the rest of the world.

**Inflation** is an increase in the general price level of goods and services, whereas **deflation** is a decrease.

The **inflation rate** is the percentage change in the price index for a given period compared with that recorded in a previous period.

**Investment** is equivalent to **gross fixed capital formation** which mainly consists of resident producers' investments, deducting disposals, in fixed assets during a given period. **Fixed capital** is the value of capital assets available for production purposes at a given point in time.

**Purchasing power parities (PPPs)** are indicators of price level differences across countries. Using PPPs to convert expenditure expressed in national currencies into a common currency eliminates the effect of price level differences.

**Real values (real terms or constant prices)** are monetary values adjusted or deflated for changes in prices.

**Value added** is the production value (output minus intermediate consumption (goods and services consumed as inputs by a process of production)). Value added may be valued in various ways, most commonly at factor cost, basic prices and producer prices.

## CHAPTER 2 — FOCUS ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT

**Exports** are transactions in goods and services (sales, barter, gifts or grants) from residents to non-residents involving a change of ownership. Exports (credits) of services consist of all services rendered by residents to non-residents, including direct purchases by non-residents in the economic territory of a country.

**Foreign direct investment (FDI)** is defined as international investment made by an entity resident in one economy (the direct investor) to acquire a lasting interest in an enterprise operating in another economy (direct investment enterprise); this interest is deemed to exist if the direct investor acquires at least 10 % of the voting power of the direct investment enterprise.



**Imports** are transactions in goods and services (sales, barter, gifts or grants) from non-residents to residents involving a change of ownership. Imports (debits) of services consist of all services rendered by non-residents to residents, including direct purchases by residents in another economic territory.

The **trade balance — surplus or deficit** — is the balance of imports (negative, as they have to be paid for) and exports (positive, because they yield revenue). If the balance is positive it is a surplus (exports exceed imports); if it is negative it is a deficit (imports exceed exports).

### CHAPTER 3 — LABOUR MARKET

**Economically active persons:** see 'labour force'.

An **employed person** is someone who (during the survey reference week) performed work — even if just for one hour a week — for pay, profit or family gain. Included are persons not at work, but having a job or business from which they were temporarily absent due to illness, holiday, industrial dispute or education and training.

An **employee** is an individual who works for an employer and receives in return compensation in the form of wages, salaries, fees, gratuities, payment by results or payment in kind. Professional military staff are also included.

The **employment rate** is the percentage of employed persons in relation to the comparable total population of persons of working-age.

The **labour force** is comprised of employed (self-employed and employees) and unemployed persons, but not the economically inactive, such as pre-school children, school children, students and pensioners.

A **self-employed person** is a person who operates his or her own economic enterprise, or engages independently in a profession or trade. Own-account workers have no employees while employers hire one or more employees.

An **unemployed person** is defined by Eurostat, according to the guidelines of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), as someone: without work during the (survey) reference week; available to start work within the next two weeks (or has already found a job to start within the next three months); actively having sought employment at some time during the last four weeks.

The **unemployment rate** is the number of unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force.

### CHAPTER 4 — POPULATION

The **age dependency ratio** is the population of a specific age (such as 0–14 for young persons or 65 and over for older persons) as a percentage of the working-age population (15–64 years).

The **age structure** is the distribution of various age groups for each gender in a geographical area.

A **cohort** is a group of people who have shared a particular experience during a specified period of time. For instance, people born in 1985 would constitute that year's birth cohort.

The **crude birth rate** is the ratio of the number of births to the population (it is usually expressed per 1 000 inhabitants).

The **crude death rate**, also known as the crude mortality rate, is the ratio of the number of deaths to the population (it is usually expressed per 1 000 inhabitants).

A **death**, according to the United Nations, is the permanent disappearance of all vital functions without possibility of resuscitation at any time after a live birth has taken place; this definition therefore excludes foetal deaths (stillbirths).

The **fertility rate** is the mean number of children who would be born to a woman during her lifetime, if she were to spend her childbearing years conforming to the age-specific fertility rates that have been measured in a given year.

**Life expectancy** is the mean additional number of years that a person of a certain age can expect to live, if subjected throughout the rest of his or her life to current mortality conditions.

A **live birth** is the birth of a child who showed any sign of life; the number of live births refers to the number of births excluding stillbirths.

**Net migration**: see 'focus on migration'.

**Natural population change**: see 'focus on migration'.

The **old-age dependency ratio** is the ratio of the number of elderly people at an age when they are generally economically inactive (aged 65 and over), compared with the number of people of considered to be of working age (15–64 years old).

The **population density** is the number of inhabitants per square kilometre (km<sup>2</sup>) of land area.

The **population** is the number of people in a given area at a point in time. The average population is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the population on 1 January of two consecutive years; it is often used for indicators expressed per inhabitant.

## CHAPTER 5 — FOCUS ON MIGRATION

As well as first **permits**, a residence permit is also considered as a **new permit** if the time gap between the expiry of the old permit and the start of validity of the new permit is at least six months.

The **foreign-born population** includes people born outside of the state in which they reside. For some countries these data are not available and the data are based on foreign citizenship.

**Long-term residents** are people with permits based on a total duration of legal residence of five years or longer, combined with a series of other conditions that must be met to qualify for this status.

The **migrant stock** includes people who are foreign-born; for some countries these data are not available and the data are based on foreign citizenship.

**Net migration** is the difference between immigration to and emigration from a given area during a given time period. Net migration is positive when there are more immigrants than emigrants and negative when there are more emigrants than immigrants.

**Natural population change** is the difference between the number of live births and the number of deaths during a given time period; it can be either positive or negative.

**Resident permits** are any authorisations valid for at least three months issued by the authorities of an EU Member State allowing a citizen of a non-EU country to stay legally on its territory.



# Units, abbreviations and acronyms

## UNITS OF MEASUREMENT

%	per cent
EUR	euro
km <sup>2</sup>	square kilometre
PPP	purchasing power parity
USD	United States dollar

## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
EEAS	European External Action Service
EU	European Union
EU-28	European Union of 28 Member States
Eurostat	statistical office of the European Union
FDI	foreign direct investment
GDP	gross domestic product
GNI	gross national income
n.i.e	not indicated elsewhere
PDR	People's Democratic Republic
UN	United Nations



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For more information:

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