

Personal transfers in the EU

Amounts sent abroad by EU residents up at €31.3 billion in 2015

Amounts received from abroad at €11.0 bn

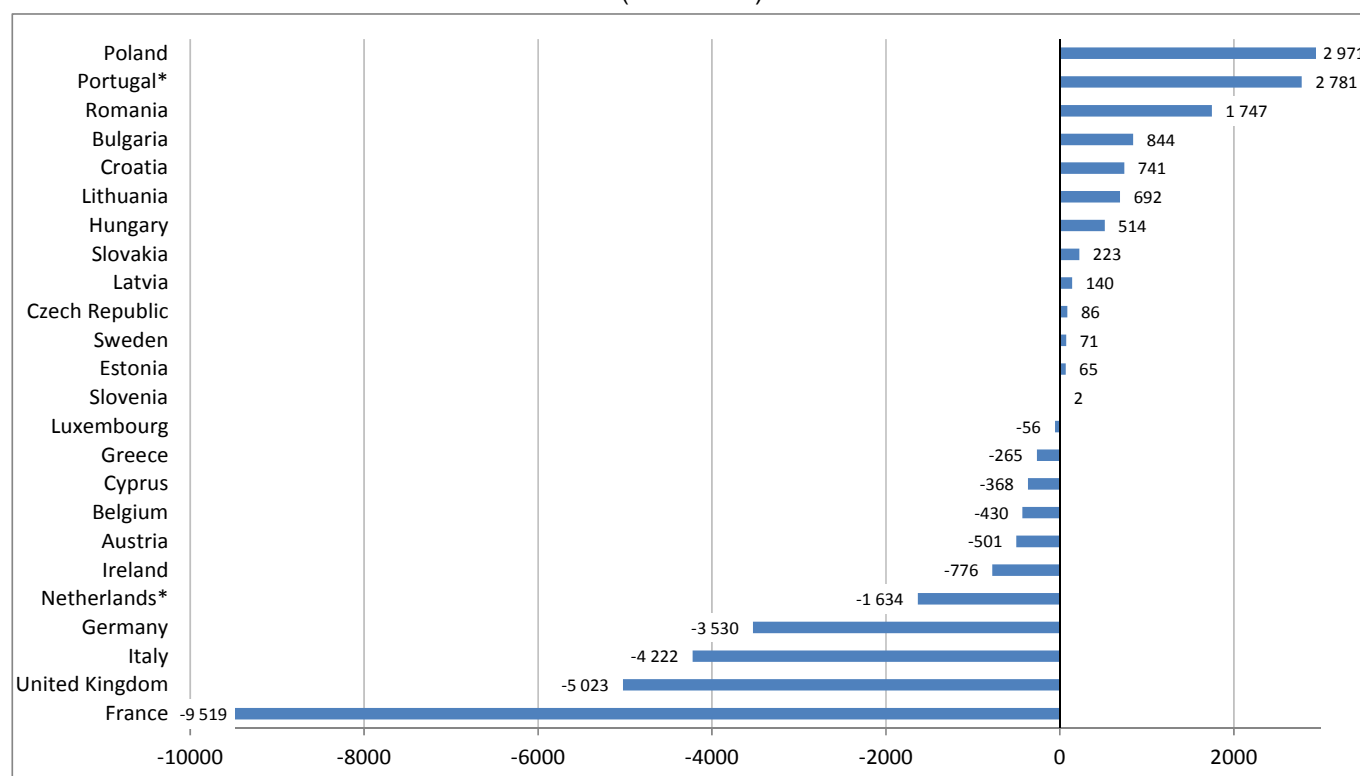
In 2015, flows of money sent by residents of the **European Union** (EU) to a non-EU country, referred to as personal transfers, amounted to €31.3 billion, compared with €29.9 bn in 2014. As inflows to the **EU** totalled slightly less than €11.0 bn in 2015, this resulted in a negative balance (-€20.4 bn) for the **EU** with the rest of the world. The majority of personal transfers consist of flows of money sent by migrants to their country of origin.

Personal transfers in the European Union (in €billion)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Balance of personal transfers	-20.3	-20.4	-19.8	-19.0	-19.3	-20.4
Extra-EU inflows	9.1	10.2	10.8	10.4	10.6	11.0
Extra-EU outflows	29.5	30.6	30.6	29.4	29.9	31.3
<i>Intra-EU flows</i>	13.6	13.3	13.1	14.0	13.6	14.2

This News Release, issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, presents annual data on personal transfers collected within the framework of Balance of Payments statistics.

Balance of personal transfers in EU Member States, 2015
(in € million)



Balance is not presented for Member States for which data are confidential.

* Data refer to workers' remittances only.

Largest surplus in personal transfers in Poland, largest deficit in France

Among Member States for which data are published, the outflows of personal transfers in 2015 were highest from **France** (€10.0 bn), followed by the **United Kingdom** (€7.7 bn), **Italy** (€6.4 bn) and **Spain** (€6.2 bn – see country note). In contrast, the highest inflows were recorded in **Portugal** (€3.3 bn – see country note) and **Poland** (€3.2 bn), ahead of the **United Kingdom** (€2.7 bn), **Romania** and **Italy** (both around €2.2 bn). As a result, the largest surpluses in personal transfers were registered in 2015 in **Poland** (+€3.0 bn), **Portugal** (+€2.8 bn) and **Romania** (+€1.7 bn), while **France** (-€9.5 bn) recorded by far the largest deficit, followed by the **United Kingdom** (-€5.0 bn), **Italy** (-€4.2 bn) and **Germany** (-€3.5 bn).

Highest proportion of intra-EU outflows in Slovakia, of extra-EU outflows in Slovenia

In 2015, the highest shares of inflows from other EU Member States among total inflows were recorded in **Luxembourg** (99%), **Slovakia** (98%), **Hungary** (95%) and **Poland** (89%). On the contrary, extra-EU inflows accounted for about three-quarters of total inflows in **France** (74%), and for about two-thirds in **Belgium** (67%) and **Italy** (66%).

Slovakia (93%), **Luxembourg** (92%) and **Ireland** (79%) were the Member States that recorded the highest proportion of intra-EU outflows in total outflows. For extra-EU outflows, the largest shares were observed in **Slovenia** (86%), **Portugal** (83%), **Greece** (79%), **France** (74%) and **Italy** (73%).

Personal transfers in the EU Member States, 2015
(in € million)

	Inflows			Outflows		
	Total	Of which:		Total	Of which:	
		Intra-EU	Extra-EU		Intra-EU	Extra-EU
EU*	10 952	-	10 952	31 339	-	31 339
Belgium	78	27	52	508	252	256
Bulgaria	848	542	306	4	3	2
Czech Republic	656	510	146	570	362	208
Denmark	c	c	c	c	c	c
Germany	10	5	5	3 540	1 539	2 001
Estonia	94	69	25	29	18	10
Ireland	0	0	0	776	616	160
Greece	232	94	138	497	106	391
Spain**	c	c	c	6 230	c	c
France	473	124	349	9 992	2 567	7 425
Croatia	959	512	446	218	97	121
Italy	2 166	740	1 426	6 387	1 707	4 681
Cyprus	165	79	87	534	273	261
Latvia	529	236	293	389	211	178
Lithuania	1 130	527	604	437	168	269
Luxembourg	70	70	1	126	116	10
Hungary	638	607	31	124	75	49
Malta	c	c	c	c	c	c
Netherlands**	216	130	86	1 850	524	1 326
Austria	280	166	114	781	471	311
Poland	3 155	2 795	360	184	59	125
Portugal**	3 304	1 932	1 372	523	88	435
Romania	2 176	1 637	539	429	297	132
Slovenia	49	23	26	47	7	40
Slovakia	284	279	5	60	56	4
Finland	c	c	c	c	c	c
Sweden	427	274	153	356	125	231
United Kingdom	2 722	c	c	7 746	c	c

* EU aggregate include confidential data.

** Data refer to workers' remittances only.

- not applicable

c confidential

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

Geographical information

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

Methods and definitions

Data on personal transfers presented in this News Release are collected on the basis of Regulation (EC) No.184/2005 on Community statistics concerning balance of payments, international trade in services and foreign direct investment and in accordance with the Balance of payments and international investment position manual (BPM6).

Personal transfers consist of all current transfers in cash or in kind between resident and non-resident households, disregarding the underlying source of income, the relationship between the households or the purpose of the transfer. Thus, the concept of personal transfers is seen to be broader than workers' remittances (compensation of employees).

Country note: Spain, the Netherlands and Portugal

Data on personal transfers presented in this News Release refer only to workers' remittances.

For more information

Eurostat website section dedicated the balance of payments.

For most Member States, annual data on personal transfers by partner country are available in the Eurostat on-line database. Additional information on workers' remittances and compensation of employees is also available in this database.

Eurostat also disseminates quarterly data related to personal transfers as part of the Quarterly Balance of Payments data. They however do not have the same geographical detail as the annual data.

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