

Personal transfers in the EU

Amounts sent to non-EU countries by EU residents down at €30.3 billion in 2016

Amounts received from non-EU countries at €9.9 bn

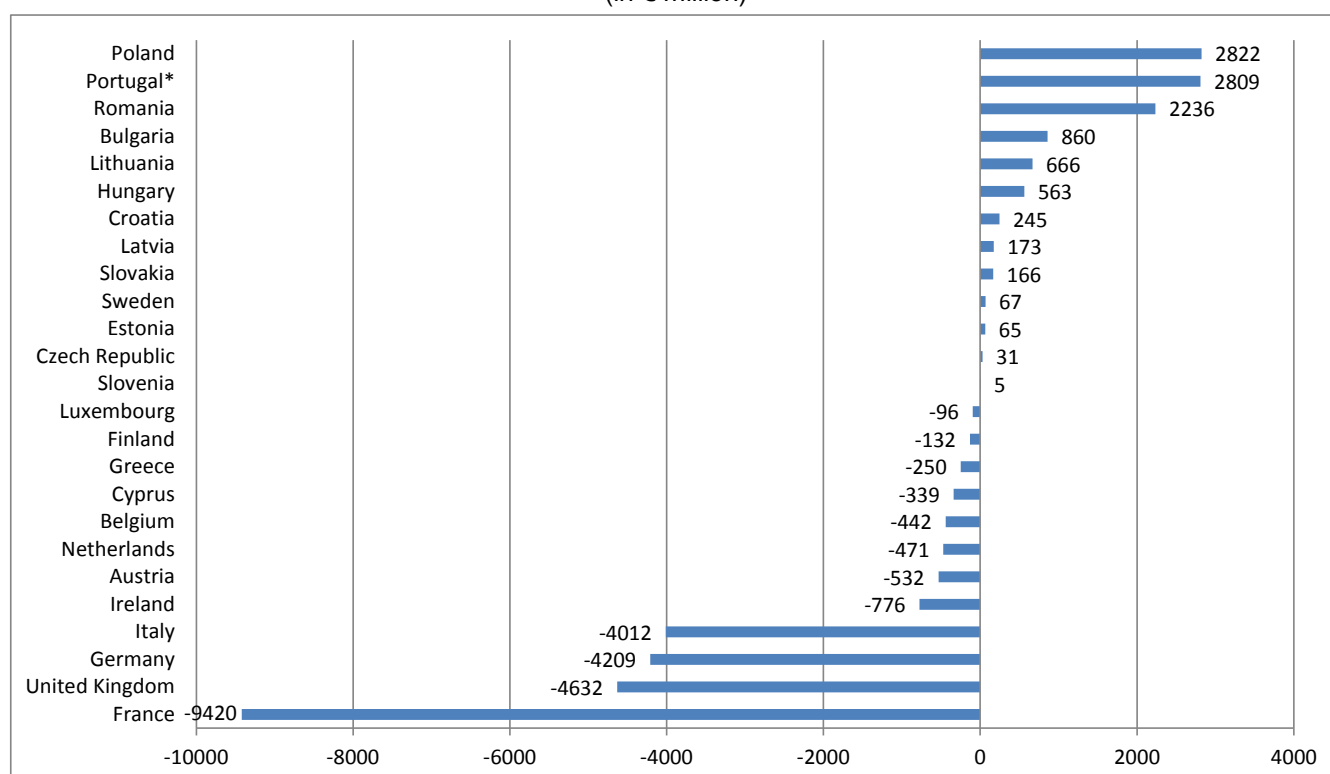
In 2016, flows of money sent by residents of the **European Union** (EU) to non-EU countries, referred to as personal transfers, amounted to €30.3 billion, compared with €31.3 bn in 2015. As inflows to the **EU** totalled €9.9 bn in 2016, this resulted in a negative balance (-€20.4 bn) for the **EU** 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)

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Extra-EU balance of personal transfers	-20.4	-19.8	-19.0	-19.5	-20.3	-20.4
Extra-EU inflows	10.2	10.8	10.4	10.6	11.0	9.9
Extra-EU outflows	30.6	30.6	29.4	30.1	31.3	30.3
<i>Intra-EU flows</i>	13.3	13.1	14.0	13.6	14.2	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, 2016
(in € million)



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

* Data refer to workers' remittances only.

Largest surpluses in personal transfers in Poland and Portugal, largest deficit in France

Among Member States for which data are published, the outflows of personal transfers in 2016 were highest from **France** (€10.0 bn), followed by the **United Kingdom** (€7.1 bn), **Spain** (€6.8 bn – see country note) and **Italy** (€6.2 bn). In contrast, the highest inflows were recorded in **Portugal** (€3.3 bn – see country note) and **Poland** (€3.0 bn), ahead of the **United Kingdom** (€2.5 bn) and **Romania** (€2.4 bn). As a result, the largest surpluses in personal transfers were registered in 2016 in **Poland** and **Portugal** (both +€2.8 bn) and **Romania** (+€2.2 bn), while **France** (-€9.4 bn) recorded by far the largest deficit, followed by the **United Kingdom** (-€4.6 bn), **Germany** (-€4.2 bn) and **Italy** (-€4.0 bn).

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

In 2016, the highest shares of inflows from other EU Member States among total inflows were recorded in **Slovakia** (99%), **Luxembourg** and **Hungary** (both 94%) and **Poland** (88%). On the contrary, extra-EU inflows accounted for about three-quarters of total inflows in **France** (74%), and for about two-thirds in **Italy** (66%) and **Belgium** (63%).

Slovakia (97%), **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%), the **Netherlands** (83%), **Portugal** (81%), **France** (75%) and **Italy** (74%).

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 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.

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

Baiba GRANDOVSKA
Tel: +352-4301-33 444
eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

Production of data:

Olaf NOWAK
Tel: +352-4301-38 590
olaf.nowak@ec.europa.eu



Media requests: Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33 408 / eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu

Personal transfers, 2016

(in € million)

	Inflows			Outflows		
	Total	Of which:		Total	Of which:	
		Intra-EU	Extra-EU		Intra-EU	Extra-EU
EU*	24 064	-	9 902	42 476	-	30 320
Belgium	72	27	45	514	255	259
Bulgaria	869	552	317	9	3	6
Czech Republic	684	530	154	653	427	226
Denmark	c	c	c	c	c	c
Germany	4	1	3	4 214	2 066	2 147
Estonia	112	83	29	46	29	17
Ireland	0	0	0	776	616	160
Greece	166	99	66	416	196	220
Spain**	c	c	c	6 765	c	c
France	566	149	417	9 986	2 473	7 512
Croatia	378	201	177	133	59	74
Italy	2 160	738	1 422	6 173	1 610	4 562
Cyprus	154	76	79	494	243	251
Latvia	494	249	245	321	194	127
Lithuania	1 092	500	591	426	154	272
Luxembourg	34	32	1	130	119	11
Hungary	663	621	43	100	61	39
Malta	c	c	c	c	c	c
Netherlands	154	72	82	625	106	519
Austria	272	161	111	805	491	314
Poland	3 014	2 654	361	192	55	137
Portugal**	3 343	2 091	1 252	534	101	433
Romania	2 449	2 141	308	213	138	75
Slovenia	53	25	28	48	7	41
Slovakia	223	222	1	57	55	2
Finland	76	0	76	208	0	208
Sweden	401	312	89	334	121	214
United Kingdom	2 454	c	c	7 086	c	c
Iceland	17	:	:	78	:	:
Norway	c	c	c	c	c	c
Switzerland	:	:	:	c	c	1 927
Albania	900	:	:	113	:	:
Montenegro	112	:	:	34	:	:
FYR Macedonia	193	:	:	16	:	:
Serbia	2 687	1 747	940	178	0	178
Turkey	684	:	:	0	:	:
Kosovo***	681	:	:	40	:	:

* EU aggregate include confidential data.

** Data refer to workers' remittances only.

*** Kosovo, under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/99.

: Data not available

- not applicable

c confidential

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