ISSN 1681-4789

PANORAMA OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

2004 EDITION

Eurostat yearbook 2004

The statistical guide to Europe

Data 1992-2002

Chapter 3

ISBN 92-894-4963-2
ISSN 1681-4789
Cat. No. KS-CD-04-001-EN-N

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Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 2004

ISBN 92-894-4963-2
ISSN 1681-4789

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors of the Eurostat yearbook 2004 would like to thank all those who were involved in its preparation. The Yearbook could be published thanks to the assistance and support of the following colleagues:

EUROSTAT, THE STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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Annexes

The Eurostat yearbook as a combined product

The Eurostat yearbook 2004 is a combined product consisting of a book and a CD-ROM. The CD-ROM contains the complete statistical information of the Eurostat yearbook 2004, a selection of which is presented in the book.

The CD-ROM is in three languages (English, French, German). It contains the following:

- The PDF files of the paper version.
- More than 1 000 statistical tables and graphs. All data can be easily extracted from the tables. The graphs can be generated dynamically according to the wishes of the reader.
- All the statistical background information about 'In the spotlight: sustainable development'.
- Links to the Eurostat Internet site to find more information, for example on further publications or on more up-to-date data. On its website, Eurostat provides access to a range of statistical information that can be consulted online or downloaded free of charge.

The Eurostat yearbook is easy to use

- Introductory texts for each section explain the main features and the relevance of the information presented and give an idea of what other data on the subject Eurostat has on offer.
- A glossary clarifies the statistical terms and concepts used.
- The abbreviations and acronyms used are spelled out on the bookmark to the yearbook.

Date of data extraction

The statistical data presented in this yearbook were extracted on 10 May 2004 and represent the data availability at that time.

Order and coding of countries

The order of the EU Member States used in the Eurostat yearbook is their order of protocol. It follows the alphabetical order of the countries' short names in their respective native languages.

Generally, the countries are identified in the Eurostat yearbook 2004 by using the shortest official designation. If codes are used, these are the two-digit ISO codes, except for Greece and the United Kingdom for which EL and UK, respectively, are used.

A complete list of ISO codes can be found at:
http://www.iso.org/iso/en/prods-services/iso3166ma/index.html

Symbols and codes in the tables

-	"Not applicable" or "real zero" or "zero by default"
0	Less than half of the unit used
:	not available
p	Provisional value
e	Estimated value
s	Eurostat estimate
r	Revised value
f	Forecast
u	Unreliable or uncertain data (see explanatory texts)
:u	Extremely unreliable data
:c	Confidential
:n	Not significant
b	Break in series (see explanatory texts)
i	see footnote

€ zone stands for Euro-zone. "€ zone", which is not an official symbol, is used for practical reasons.

The economy

3

National accounts

National accounts – monitoring the state of the economy

The national accounts provide a comprehensive and consistent framework to measure the level and structure of economic activity. This framework of accounts provides many key macro-economic statistics including Gross Domestic Product (GDP), production, income, consumption, exports and imports.

National accounts shed light on both the supply and the demand side of an economy. They are compiled for regions, Member States and the European Union. The accounts show which sectors of the economy are particularly important for GDP and economic growth; how much of the income generated in the economic process is retained by enterprises and what amount is received by households and government; how much of the income is spent on consumption goods and investment, and how high savings are.

These features make national accounts particularly relevant for economic analysis, decision-taking and policy-making.

ESA95 – a common standard for national accounts in Europe

In Europe, national accounts are compiled according to fully harmonised standards which are laid down in the European System of National and Regional Accounts (ESA 95). ESA 95 is the subject of council regulation 2223/96 which entered into force in 1996 and is thus legally binding for all European Union Member States. This common methodology ensures the full comparability of national accounts data across economic areas, and all national accounts data in this publication are according to this standard. The ESA95 is the European version of the world-wide guidelines, the System of National Accounts (SNA93). SNA93 was prepared and published jointly by the Commission of the European Communities, the International Monetary Fund, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Statistics Division of the former Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis and the regional commissions of the United Nations Secretariat, and the World Bank.

Gross domestic product per inhabitant in PPS
At current market prices

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
EU-25	:	:	:	:	18 470	19 400	20 630	21 300	21 990	22 280 (f)	23 160 (f)	24 120 (f)
EU-15	17 060	17 680	18 530	19 460	20 330	21 340	22 660	23 340	24 040	24 360	25 690 (f)	27 160 (f)
Euro-zone	17 220	17 840	18 640	19 480	20 380	21 370	22 650	23 010	23 630	23 800 (f)	24 660 (f)	25 580 (f)
Belgium	18 510	19 190	19 870	20 750	21 430	22 470	24 110	24 970	25 620	25 900 (f)	26 830 (f)	27 860 (f)
Czech Republic	:	:	:	:	:	:	13 530	14 100	14 820 (f)	15 410 (f)	16 230 (f)	17 190 (f)
Denmark	19 210	19 940	21 100	22 260	23 050	24 710	26 180	26 930	27 000 (f)	27 310 (f)	28 400 (f)	29 440 (f)
Germany	18 520	19 060	19 850	20 450	21 130	21 990	23 120	23 460	23 950 (f)	24 080 (f)	24 900 (f)	25 770 (f)
Estonia	5 260	5 510	5 980	6 810	7 280	7 510	8 490	9 020	9 650 (f)	10 560 (f)	11 480 (f)	12 840 (f)
Greece	11 340	11 520	12 000	12 750	13 260	13 930	14 950	15 680 (f)	16 990 (f)	17 760 (f)	18 880 (f)	19 870 (f)
Spain	13 420	13 970	14 730	15 510	16 460	17 820	18 900	19 670	20 710 (f)	21 250 (f)	22 190 (f)	23 260 (f)
France	17 890	18 400	19 150	20 240	21 160	22 180	23 530	24 460	25 240 (f)	25 280 (f)	26 150 (f)	27 180 (f)
Ireland	14 350	15 870	17 360	19 910	21 600	23 720	26 080	27 480	30 160 (f)	29 360 (f)	30 370 (f)	31 950 (f)
Italy	17 670	18 420	19 270	19 940	20 990	21 750	22 960	23 370 (f)	23 680 (f)	23 900 (f)	24 600 (f)	25 560 (f)
Cyprus	13 130	13 320	13 740	14 230	14 960	15 900	17 280	18 290	18 380	18 840 (f)	19 550 (f)	20 500 (f)
Latvia	4 530	4 640	5 010	5 630	6 050	6 430	7 140	7 790	8 370 (f)	8 940 (f)	9 680 (f)	10 490 (f)
Lithuania	4 740	5 640	6 070	6 710	7 340	7 440	8 109	8 850	9 570 (f)	10 630 (f)	11 610 (f)	12 620 (f)
Luxembourg	28 120	28 540	29 810	32 610	35 620	40 370	45 080	45 330	45 630 (f)	46 370 (f)	47 920 (f)	50 100 (f)
Hungary	7 900	7 930	8 280	8 910	9 510	10 200	11 050	12 020	12 830 (f)	13 370 (f)	14 130 (f)	14 940 (f)
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	15 050	16 110	16 110	16 530 (f)	16 690 (f)	17 170 (f)	17 780 (f)
Netherlands	18 460	19 200	20 190	21 370	22 380	23 410	25 100	26 460	26 800 (f)	26 630 (f)	27 270 (f)	27 970 (f)
Austria	19 660	20 240	21 280	22 050	22 960	24 260	25 920	26 140	26 680 (f)	26 990 (f)	27 910 (f)	28 990 (f)
Poland	:	6 810	7 250	7 350	8 210	8 920	9 460	9 770	10 010	10 340 (f)	10 940 (f)	11 600 (f)
Portugal	11 070	11 670	12 260	13 070	13 920	14 980	15 950	16 480	17 050 (f)	16 740 (f)	17 110 (f)	17 680 (f)
Slovenia	10 670	10 950	11 670	12 580	13 250	14 340	15 160	15 920	16 710 (f)	17 200 (f)	18 070 (f)	19 090 (f)
Slovakia	7 740	7 120	7 730	8 370	8 820	9 160	9 920	10 430	11 340 (f)	11 740 (f)	12 240 (f)	12 860 (f)
Finland	16 149	16 890	17 750	19 570	20 980	21 660	23 590	24 320	24 490 (f)	24 580 (f)	25 500 (f)	26 420 (f)
Sweden	17 980	18 890	19 740	20 540	21 240	22 980	24 720	24 790	25 190 (f)	25 410 (f)	26 260 (f)	27 220 (f)
United Kingdom	16 960	17 660	18 740	20 160	21 010	21 980	23 560	24 540	25 840 (f)	26 490 (f)	27 820 (f)	29 010 (f)
Iceland	19 870	19 960	21 470	22 370	23 730	24 830	26 000	26 750	26 250 (f)	26 140 (f)	27 510 (f)	29 420 (f)
Norway	20 090	21 170	23 490	25 070	24 670	27 460	33 320	33 700	32 810 (f)	32 970 (f)	34 080 (f)	35 000 (f)
Canada	19 630	20 440	21 960	23 230	23 900	24 870	27 510 (f)	27 910 (f)	28 270 (f)	29 230 (f)	30 290 (f)	31 490 (f)
Japan	20 370	20 930	22 550	23 430	23 470	22 680	24 050	24 350 (f)	24 220 (f)	24 820 (f)	26 060 (f)	27 090 (f)
United States	25 080	25 710	26 730	28 340	29 640	30 480	32 280	32 560	33 010 (f)	33 740 (f)	35 320 (f)	36 660 (f)

(f): forecasts

GDP (gross domestic product) is an indicator for a nation's economic situation. It reflects the total value of all goods and services produced less the value of goods and services used for intermediate consumption in their production. Expressing GDP in PPS (purchasing power standards) eliminates differences in price levels between countries, and calculation on a per head basis allows the comparison of economies significantly different in absolute size.

Gross domestic product (GDP) is an indicator for a nation's economic situation. It is equal to the value of all goods and services either consumed, invested, put in inventories or exported, minus the value of goods and services imported. To compare economies of different sizes and with different price levels, Eurostat has calculated the indicator 'GDP per inhabitant in purchasing power standards'.

Economic output

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on economic output, broken down by the branches of the economy that have generated it:

— Agriculture, hunting and forestry
— Fishing
— Mining and quarrying
— Manufacturing
— Energy (electricity, gas, etc.) and water supply
— Construction
— Services (wholesale and repair, hotels and restaurants, transport, storage, communication, finance, real estate, renting, business, public administration and defence, compulsory social security, education, health and social work, etc.)
— Miscellaneous (community, social and personal services, etc.)

GDP: the result of all production activity

Gross domestic product (GDP) at market prices is the final result of the production activity of resident producer units. It can be defined in three ways:

— GDP is the sum of gross value added of the various institutional sectors or the various industries, plus taxes and less subsidies on products (which are not allocated to sectors and industries).
— GDP is the sum of final uses of goods and services by resident institutional units (final consumption and gross capital formation), plus exports and minus imports of goods and services (expenditure approach).
— GDP is the sum of compensation of employees, taxes on production and imports less subsidies and gross operating surplus, and mixed income of the total economy (income approach) (ESA 95, 8.89).

In these tables, GDP corresponds to the economy's output of goods and services less intermediate consumption, plus taxes less subsidies on products. Valuation at constant prices means valuing the flows and stocks in an accounting period at the prices of the reference period (ESA 95, 1.56).

GDP per person

GDP, and in particular GDP per capita, is one of the main indicators for economic analysis as well as spatial and/or temporal international comparisons.

In order to facilitate these international comparisons, the GDP in national currency of each Member State is converted into a common currency (ecu until 1998, euro from the beginning of 1999) by means of its official exchange rate. However, the exchange rate does not necessarily reflect the actual purchasing power of each national currency on its economic territory.

In order to remove price-level differences, purchasing power parities (PPPs) are calculated and used as a factor of conversion (exchange

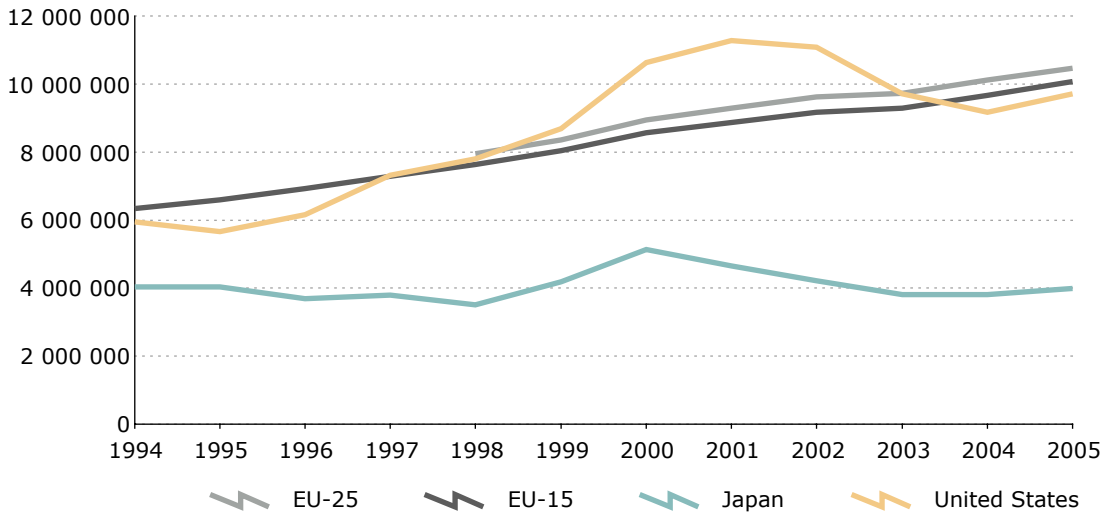
rate from national currency to PPS). These parities are obtained as a weighted average of relative price ratios regarding a homogeneous basket of goods and services, comparable and representative for each Member State.

The 'comparable volume' values of GDP obtained in this way are hence expressed in terms of purchasing power standards (PPS), a unit that is independent of any national currency.

Gross value added

Gross value added is recorded at basic prices. It is the net result of output valued at basic prices less intermediate consumption valued at purchasers' prices (ESA 95, 9.23). The basic price is the price receivable by the producers from the purchaser for a unit of a good or service produced as output minus any tax payable on that unit as a consequence of its production or sale (i.e. taxes on products), plus any subsidy receivable on that unit as a consequence of its production or sale (i.e. subsidies on products). It excludes any transport charges invoiced separately by the producer. It includes any transport margins charged by the producer on the same invoice, even when they are included as a separate item on the invoice (ESA 95, 3.48).

Gross domestic product at current market prices
In million ECU/EUR

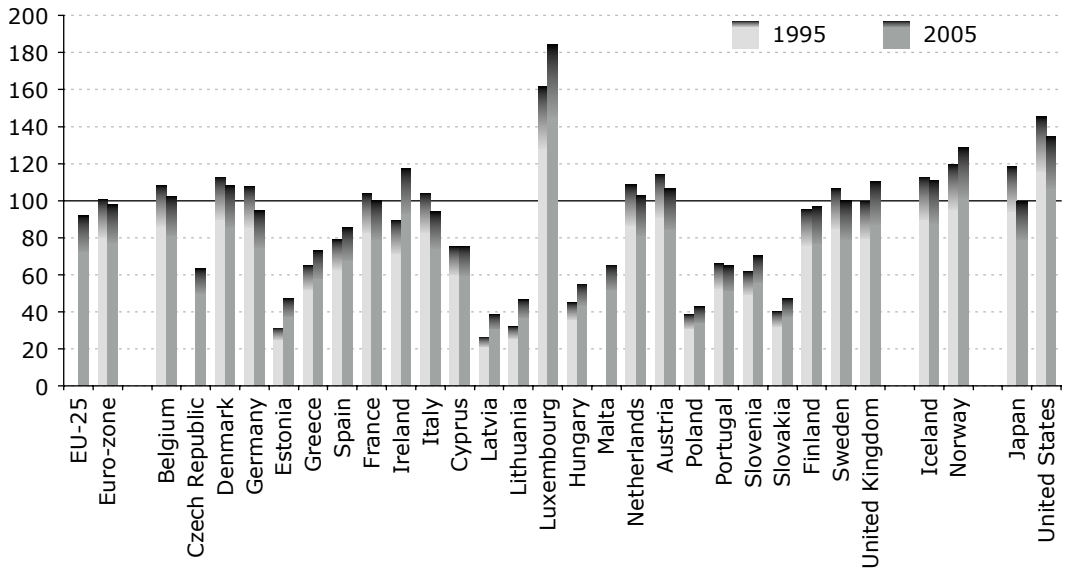


2004 and 2005: forecast; 2003 EU-15 and Japan: forecast.

GDP (gross domestic product) is an indicator for a nation´s economic situation. It reflects the total value of all goods and services produced less the value of goods and services used for intermediate consumption in their production. Expressing GDP in PPS (purchasing power standards) eliminates differences in price levels between countries, and calculations on a per head basis allows the comparison of economies significantly different in absolute size.

GDP per inhabitant in PPS in 1995 and 2005

EU-15 =100

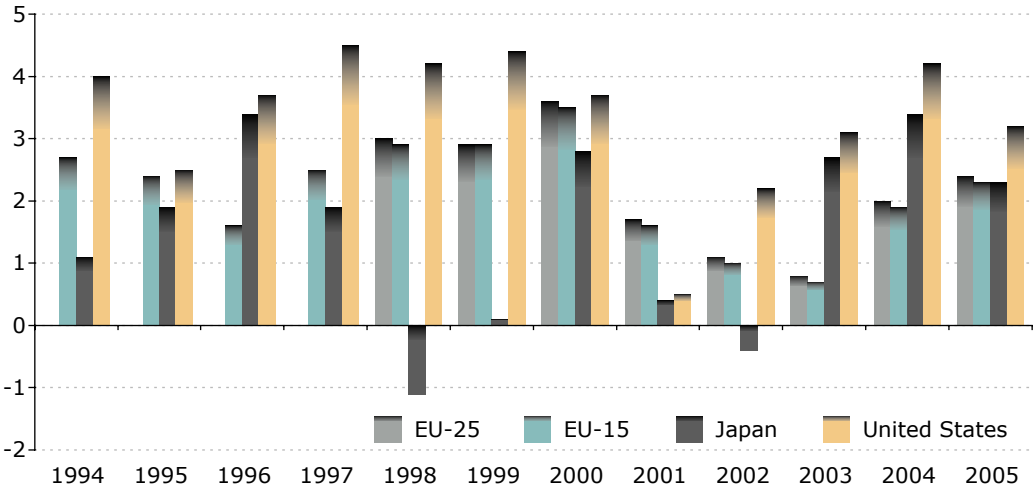


2005: forecast.

Gross domestic product (GDP) is a measure for the economic activity. It is defined as the value of all goods and services produced less the value of any goods or services used in their creation. The volume index of GDP per capita in purchasing power standards (PPS) is expressed in relation to the European Union (EU-15) average set to equal 100. If the index of a country is higher than 100, this country's level of GDP per head is higher than the EU average and vice versa. Basic figures are expressed in PPS, i.e. a common currency that eliminates the differences in price levels between countries allowing meaningful volume comparisons of GDP between countries. Please note that the index, calculated from PPS figures and expressed with respect to EU-15 = 100, is intended for cross-country comparisons rather than for temporal comparisons.

Real GDP growth rate

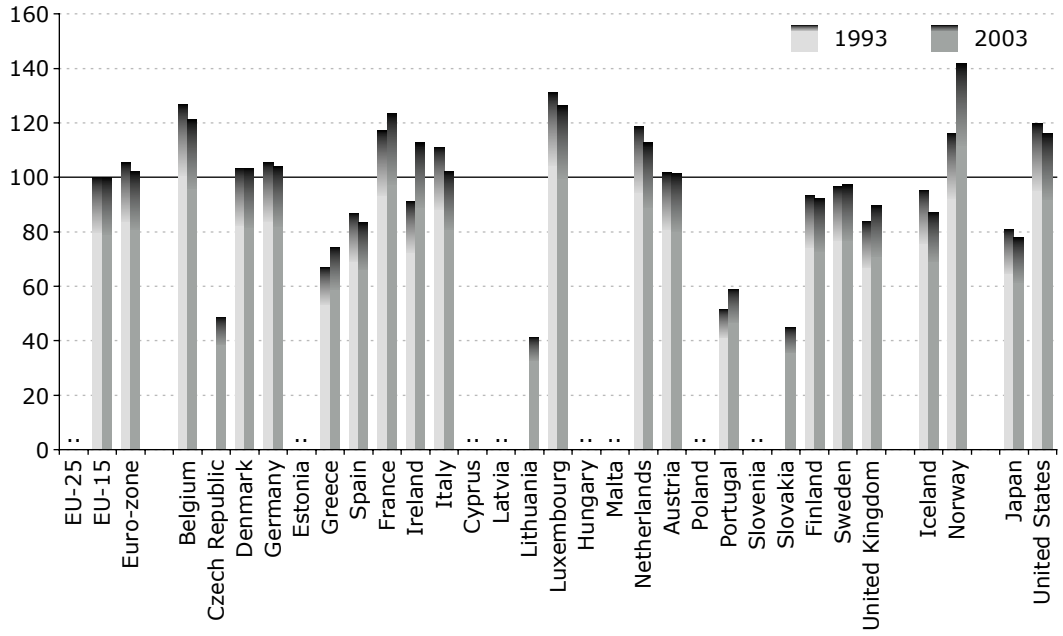
Growth rate of GDP at constant prices (1995) — percentage change on previous year



2004 and 2005: forecast; 2003 EU-25 and Japan: forecast.

Gross domestic product (GDP) is a measure for the economic activity. It is defined as the value of all goods and services produced less the value of any goods or services used in their creation. The calculation of the annual growth rate of GDP at constant prices is intended to allow comparisons of the dynamics of economic development both over time and between economies of different sizes. The growth rate is calculated from figures at constant prices since these give volume movements only, i.e. price movements will not inflate the growth rate.

Labour productivity in 1993 and 2003
GDP in purchasing power standards (PPS) per hour worked, relative to the EU-15 (= 100)



1993: estimated values; 2003: forecasts.

Gross domestic product (GDP) is a measure for the economic activity in an economy. It is defined as the value of all goods and services produced less the value of any goods or services used in their creation. GDP per hour worked gives a picture of the productivity of national economies expressed in relation to the European Union (EU-15) average. If the index of a country is higher than 100, this country's level of GDP per hour worked is higher than the EU average and vice versa. Basic figures are expressed in PPS, i.e. a common currency that eliminates the differences in price levels between countries allowing meaningful volume comparisons of GDP between countries. Expressing productivity per hour worked will eliminate differences in the full-time/part-time composition of the workforce.

Consumption and spending

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on:

— Private final consumption expenditure, i.e. consumption expenditure incurred by private households and by non-profit institutions serving households
— General government consumption expenditure
— Gross fixed capital formation, i.e. 'investment', including a breakdown by investment product category
— Change in inventories
— External balance, i.e. the difference between exports and imports of goods and services

Central to both structural and business-cycle analysis of the economy

National accounts aggregates on consumption and spending are used by the European Central Bank and Commission services, in particular the Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, as important tools for structural economic analysis and policy decisions. The respective quarterly series are central to business-cycle analysis and subsequent policy decisions. These series are also widely employed for supporting business decisions in the private sector, in particular on financial markets.

Final consumption: 'spending' the GDP

Following the expenditure approach, the tables in this section show by broad category what GDP has been used for. The main domestic expenditure categories are consumption on one hand and investment on the other; domestically produced goods and services may also be exported. The counterpart to exports are imports, which can be consumed or invested without being the result of domestic production activity. Exports minus imports, i.e. the external balance, is the net contribution of external trade to GDP.

— **Private final consumption expenditure** includes households' and NPISHs' final consumption expenditure, i.e. their expenditure on goods or services that are used for the direct satisfaction of individual needs. NPISHs consist of non-profit institutions which are separate legal entities, which serve households and which are private non-market producers. Their principal resources, apart from those derived from occasional sales, are derived from voluntary contributions in cash or in kind from households in their capacity as consumers, from payments made by general governments and from property income.

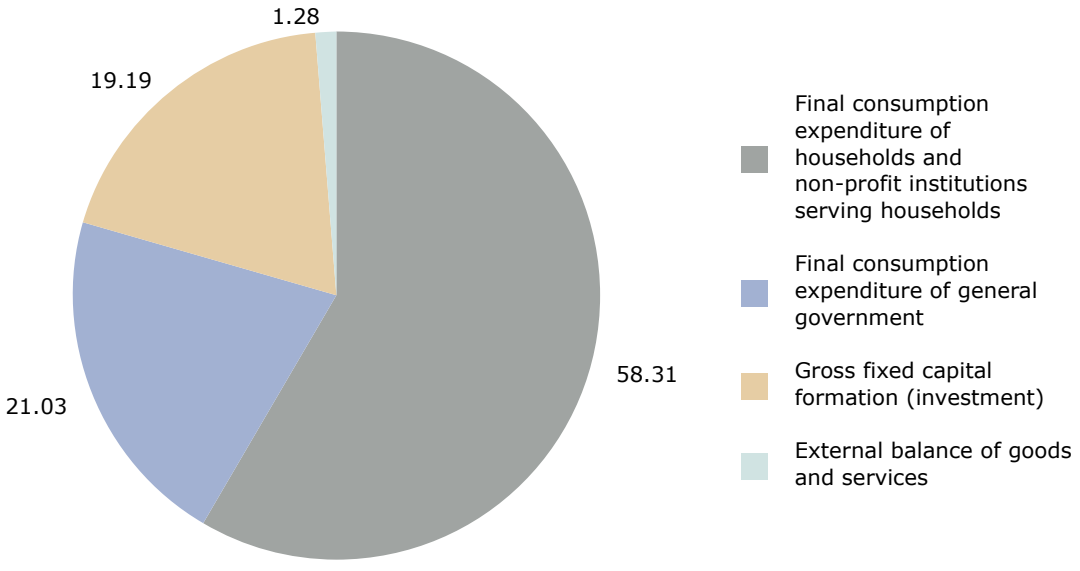
— **Government final consumption expenditure** (ESA 95, 3.79) includes two categories of expenditure: the value of goods and services produced by general government itself other than own-account capital formation and sales, and purchases by general government of goods and services produced by market producers that are supplied to households — without any transformation — as social transfers in kind.

— **Gross fixed capital formation** (ESA 95, 3.102) consists of resident producers' acquisitions, less disposals, of fixed assets during a given period plus certain additions to the value of non-produced assets realised by productive activity. Fixed assets are tangible or intangible assets produced as outputs from processes of production that are themselves used repeatedly, or continuously, in processes of production for more than one year.

— **Changes in inventories** (ESA 95, 3.117) are measured by the value of the entries into inventories less the value of withdrawals and the value of any recurrent losses of goods held in inventories.

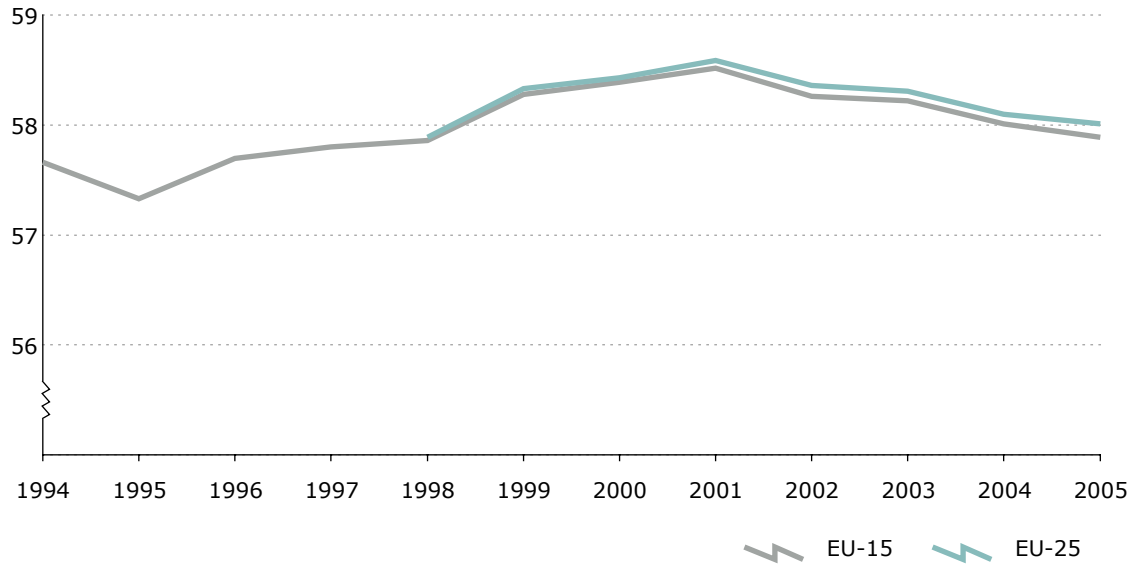
— **External balance** (ESA 95, 8.68): imports of goods and services are recorded on the resources side of the account and exports of goods and services on the uses side. The difference between resources and uses is the balancing item in the account, called 'external balance of goods and services'.

Expenditure components of the EU-25's GDP in 2003
In % of total GDP



In 2003, there has been a negative change in inventories of about 0.2 % of GDP in the EU-25. Estimated values.

Final consumption expenditure of households and non-profit institutions serving households
Share in the GDP in %



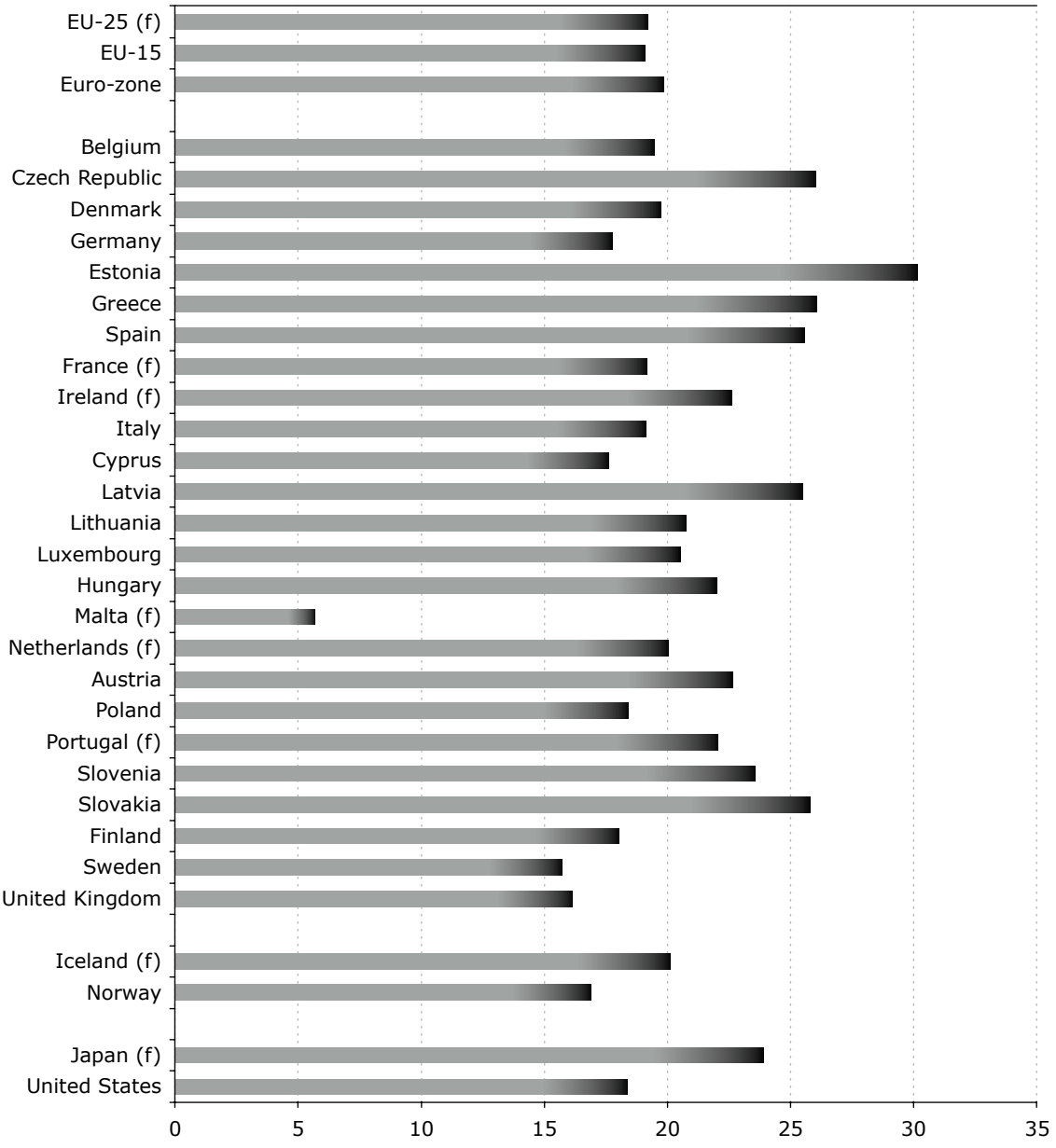
2004 and 2005: forecast; EU-25 2003: forecast.

In 2003, 58.3 % of the GDP of today's EU-25 was spent by households on consumption. Two years before, this share touched 58.6 % of GDP; it is forecast to fall to about 58 % by 2005.

Final consumption expenditure of general government
Share in the GDP in %

2004 and 2005: forecast; EU-25 2003: forecast.

Gross fixed capital formation (Investment) in 2003
Share in the GDP in %

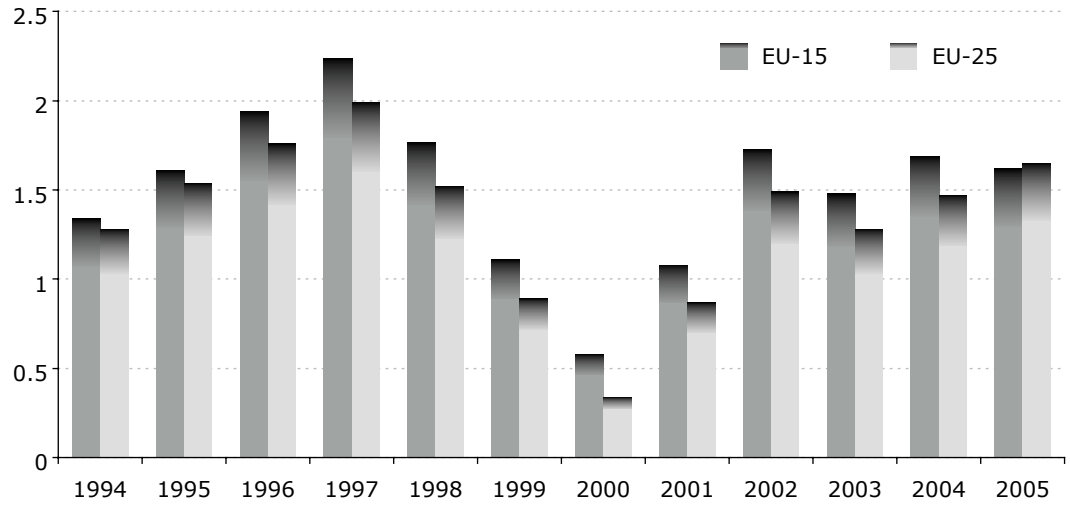


(f): forecast.

Gross fixed capital formation consists of resident producers' acquisitions, less disposals, of fixed tangible or intangible assets. This covers in particular machinery and equipment, vehicles, dwellings and other buildings.

In 2003, about 21.0 % of EU-25's GDP was consumption expenditure of general government, while about 19.2 % of the GDP was invested. In 2000, when the share of investment in GDP peaked at 20.8 %, it exceeded consumption expenditure of general government which, at that time, stood at about 19.9 %. The European Commission forecasts that the current trend of an increased share of government expenditure and a falling one of investment will be reversed: by 2005, investment is forecast to go up to stand again at about 19 % of GDP, while government expenditure will be kept limited at well below the share of 2003.

External balance of goods and services
Share in the GDP in %



2004 and 2005: forecast; EU-25 2003: forecast.

The external balance of EU-25 is positive and amounted to nearly 1.3 % of GDP in 2003, and is forecast to rise to over 1.6 % by 2005.

Income of the input factors

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on:

— Compensation of employees, including a breakdown by branch of activity
— Wages and salaries, including a breakdown by branch of activity
— Gross operating surplus and mixed income
— Taxes on production and imports
— Gross national income
— Consumption of fixed capital
— Disposable income
— Net saving of the economy
— Net lending/net borrowing of the economy

Crucial to economic analysis

Eurostat data on the income of the input factors are crucial to economic analysis in a number of contexts inside and outside the European Commission. Typical examples are studies of competitiveness, of income distribution inequalities and of long-term economic developments. Users outside the Commission include, in particular, academia and financial institutions.

Factor income: 'earning' the GDP

Producing the GDP requires 'input factors' such as the work of employees and capital. These income factors have to be paid for. The income side approach shows GDP as it is distributed among different participants in the production process. It is therefore represented as the sum of:

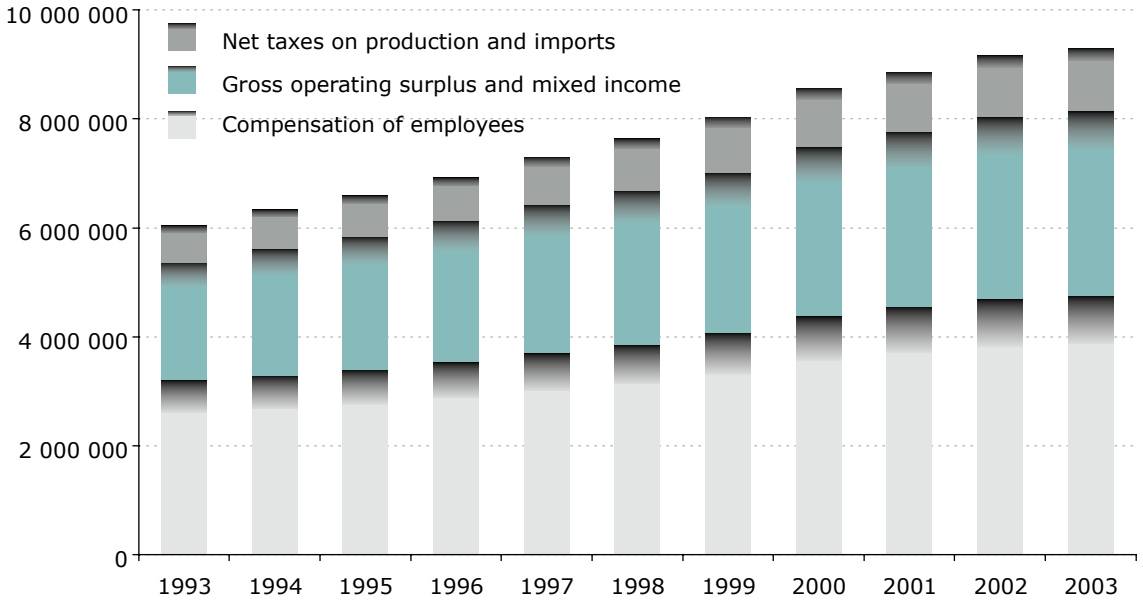
— **the compensation of employees:** this is defined as the total remuneration, in cash or in kind, payable by an employer to an employee in return for work done by the latter during the accounting period (ESA 95, 4.02). The compensation of employees is broken down into: (i) wages and salaries (in cash and in kind); (ii) employers' social contributions (employers' actual social contributions, employers' imputed social contributions);

— **the gross operating surplus of the total economy:** this is the surplus (or deficit) on production activities before account has been taken of the interest, rents or charges paid or received for the use of assets.

— **the mixed income of the total economy:** this is the remuneration for the work carried out by the owner (or by members of his/her family) of an unincorporated enterprise. This is referred to as 'mixed income' since it cannot be distinguished from the entrepreneurial profit of the owner.

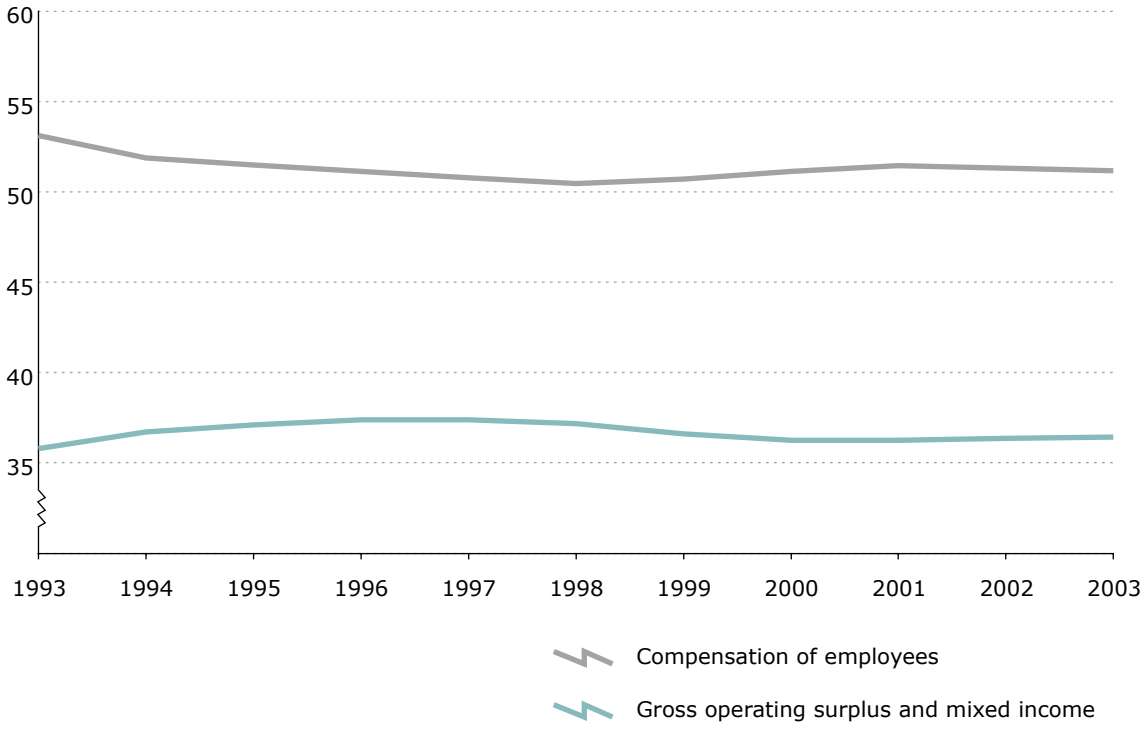
— **taxes on production and imports less subsidies:** this consists of compulsory, unrequited payments to general government or institutions of the European Union, in respect of the production or import of goods and services, the employment of labour, and the ownership or use of land, buildings or other assets used in production.

Income of the input factors in the EU-15
In million ECU/EUR; at current prices



The higher the output of an economy, the more income can be distributed to the factors that have provided an input to its creation. Between 1993 and 2003, the GDP of EU-15 (measured at current prices) grew by more than a half (+ 54 %). Both the overall income of the employees and that of the capital owners have grown at about the same rate. However, the growth of the 'gross operating surplus and mixed income' was higher (+ 56 %) than that of 'compensation of employees' (+ 48 %).

Compensation of employees versus gross operating surplus and mixed income
Share in the EU-15's GDP in %



Current series.

Compensation of employees is defined as the total remuneration, in cash or in kind, payable by an employer to an employee in return for work done by the latter. In particular, it also includes social contributions paid by the employer.

Operating surplus is the surplus (or deficit) on production activities before account has been taken of the interest, rents or charges paid or received for the use of assets. Mixed income is the remuneration for the work carried out by the owner (or by members of his family) of an unincorporated enterprise. This is referred to as 'mixed income' since it cannot be distinguished from the entrepreneurial profit of the owner.

Closer analysis shows that the share of 'compensation of employees' fell from 1993 to 1998 from about 53 % to 50 %, and increased afterwards to stand at about 51 % in 2003. In contrast, the share of the 'gross operating surplus and mixed income' grew strongly from 1993 (36 %) to 1997 (37 $^{1}/_{2}$ %), but fell afterwards to settle at below 36 $^{1}/_{2}$ % in 2003.

Government finances

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on:

— Government surplus and deficit
— Total general government revenue
— Taxes on production and imports
— Current taxes on income and wealth
— Social contributions
— Total general government expenditure
— Subsidies
— Social benefits (other than social transfers in kind)
— Final consumption expenditure
— Gross fixed capital formation

Measuring government finances in the EU and the euro-zone …

The EU Member States that participate in the euro zone acknowledge the need for solid and sustainable government finances. Member States are to avoid situations of 'excessive government deficits': their ratio of planned or actual government deficit to gross domestic product (GDP) should be no more than 3 %, and their ratio of government debt to GDP should be no more than 60 % (unless the excess over the reference value is only exceptional or temporary, or unless the ratios have declined substantially and continuously). The rules on budgetary discipline were clarified and tightened under the Stability and Growth Pact (Amsterdam, 1997).

The EU Member States notify their government deficit and debt statistics to the European Commission on 1 March and 1 September of each year under the 'excessive deficit procedure'.

Eurostat collects the data and ensures that data from all Member States are in accordance with the relevant regulations.

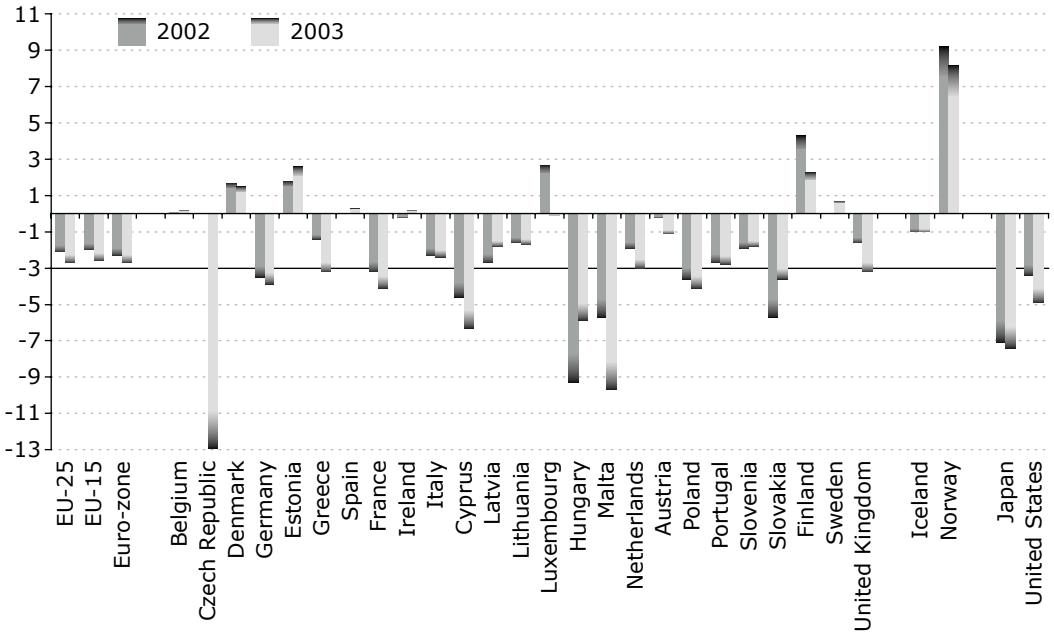
… more than just about the surplus or deficit

Government finance statistics offer much more information on the general government sector. Some examples are given in the box 'Eurostat data' at the beginning of this section.

The main aggregates of general government are provided by the Member States to Eurostat twice a year in March and August, according to the ESA 95 transmission programme.

For a detailed description of the terms, please refer to the glossary.

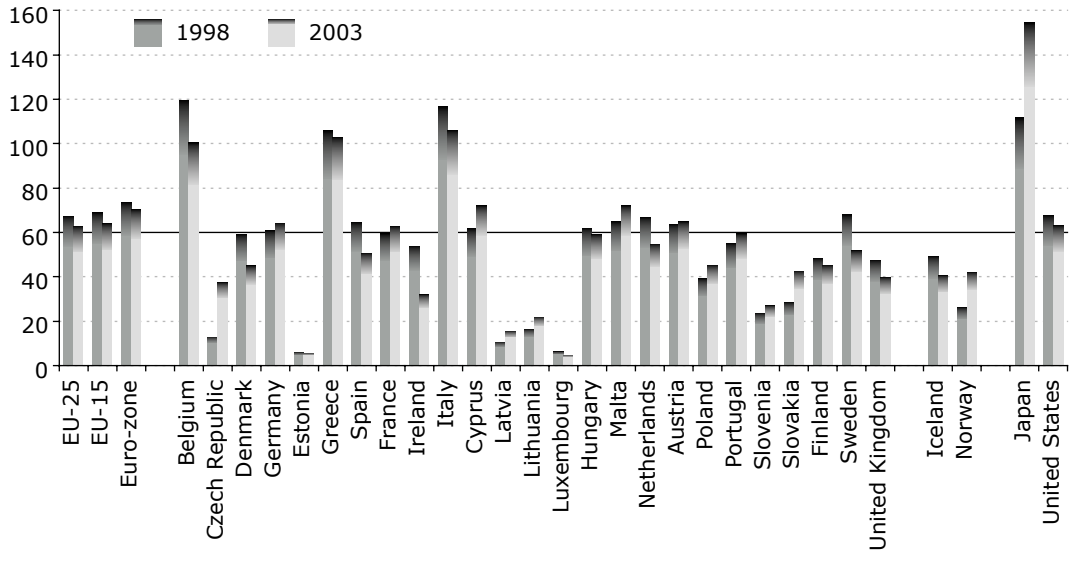
Public balance
Net borrowing/lending of the general government sector as a percentage of GDP



Source: Eurostat / OECD.

The net borrowing (+)/net lending (–) of general government is the difference between the revenue and the expenditure of the general government sector. The general government sector comprises the following subsectors: central government, State government, local government, and social security funds. GDP used as a denominator is the gross domestic product at current market prices.

General government debt
General government consolidated gross debt as a percentage of GDP



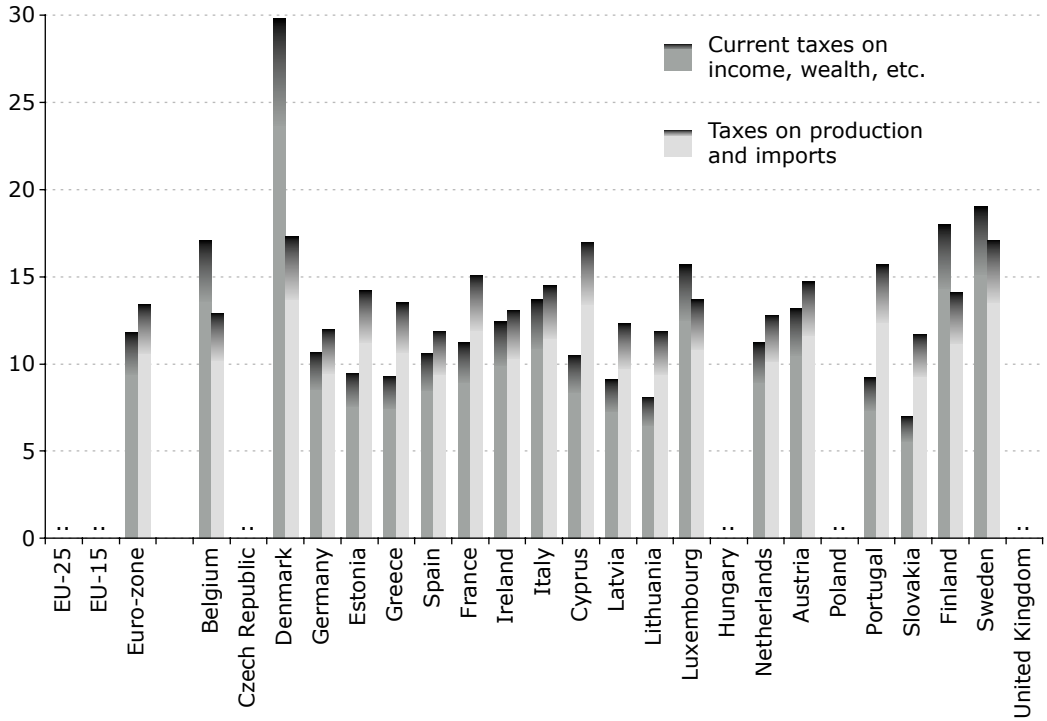
Source: Eurostat, OECD (Japan, US).

The general government sector comprises the subsectors of central government, State government, local government and social security funds. GDP used as a denominator is the gross domestic product at current market prices. Debt is valued at nominal (face) value, and foreign currency debt is converted into national currency using end-year market exchange rates (though special rules apply to contracts). The national data for the general government sector are consolidated between the subsectors. Basic data are expressed in national currency, converted into euro using end-year exchange rates for the euro provided by the European Central Bank. Data are compiled on an accrual basis.

The public deficit of EU-25, measured in terms of GDP, increased between 2002 and 2003 from 2.1 % to 2.7 %. Within the euro zone, notably France and Germany already had deficits of above 3 % in 2002 that continued to grow in 2003 to 4.1 % in France and 3.9 % in Germany, respectively. The public deficit of Greece stood at 3.2 % of GDP in 2003.

The trend in general government consolidated gross debt as a percentage of GDP has developed differently among the Member States. Some 'old' Member States that had a particularly high level of government debt in 1998 managed to reduce it, even if the 2003 value is still well above the 60 % mark. This is true for Belgium (1998: 119.6 %; 2003: 100.5 %), Italy (1998: 116.7 %; 2003: 106.2 %) and Greece (1998: 105.8 %; 2003: 103.0 %). On the contrary, the general government debt increased in Germany (1998: 60.9 %; 2003: 64.2 %), France (1998: 59.5 %; 2003: 63.0 %), and Portugal (1998: 55.0 %; 2003: 59.4 %).

Current taxes on income, wealth, etc. and taxes on production and imports
Taxes of general government in 2003; in % of GDP

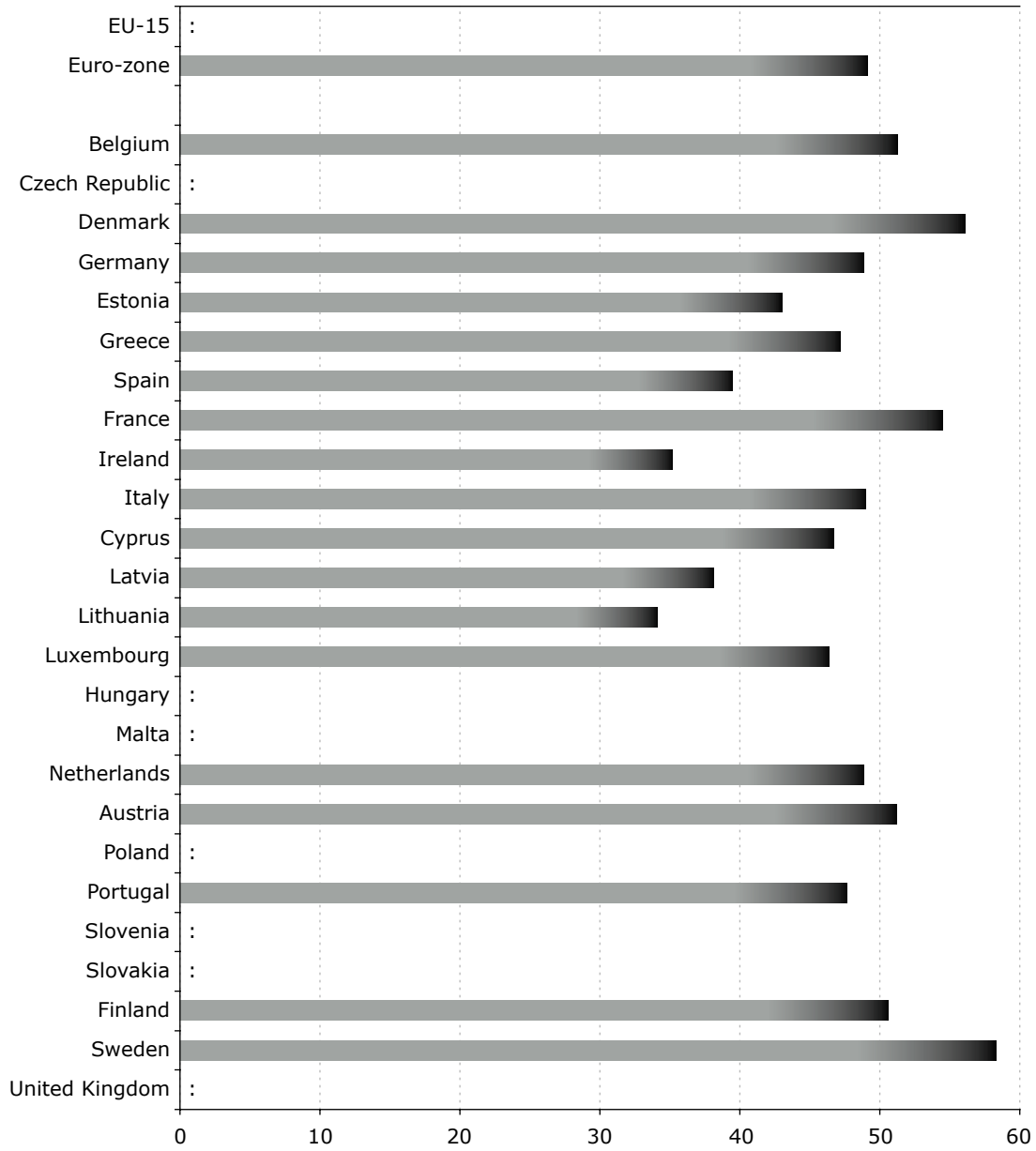


Current taxes on income, wealth, etc. (ESA 95 code D.5) cover all compulsory, unrequited payment, in cash or in kind, levied periodically by general government and by the rest of the world on the income and wealth of institutional units, and some periodic taxes which are assessed neither on the income nor the wealth. In ESA 95, current taxes on income, wealth, etc. are divided into taxes on income and other current taxes.

Taxes on production and imports (ESA 95 code D.2) consist of compulsory, unrequited payments, in cash or in kind which are levied by general government, or by EU institutions, in respect of the production and importation of goods and services, the employment of labour, the ownership or use of land, buildings or other assets used in production. In ESA 95, taxes on production and imports comprise: taxes on products and other taxes on production.

The share in GDP of taxes on income and wealth as well as on production and imports varies significantly between Member States. In 2003, five EU countries reported higher revenues from taxes on income and wealth than from taxes on production and imports (Belgium, Denmark, Luxembourg, Finland and Sweden).

Total general government expenditure in 2003
In % of GDP



General government expenditure is defined in a new paragraph 8.99 (a) of ESA 95 as follows: intermediate consumption, gross capital formation, compensation of employees, other taxes on production, subsidies, payable, property income, current taxes on income, wealth, etc., social benefits other than social transfers in kind, social transfers in kind related to expenditure on products supplied to households via market producers, other current transfers, adjustment for the change in net equity of households in pension fund reserves, capital transfers, payable, and acquisitions less disposals of non-financial non-produced assets.

In 2003, the indicator for total government expenditure in GDP varied significantly between the Member States of today's European Union, from 34.1 % in Lithuania and 35.2 % in Ireland to 56.1 % in Denmark and 58.3 % in Sweden.

Consumer prices

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on:

— Harmonised indices of consumer prices (HICPs)
— Price stability
— Price convergence
— European index of consumer prices (EICP) — EU
— Monetary union index of consumer prices (MUICP) — euro zone
— Convergence criteria of the Maastricht Treaty

HICPs: a comparable measure of inflation in the EU

The harmonised indices of consumer prices (HICPs) provide the best statistical basis for comparisons of consumer price inflation within the EU. The methodology ensures comparability between Member States. Eurostat publishes the HICPs monthly, about 18 days after the end of the reporting month. The HICP series starts with the index for January 1995. For ease of comparison, they are presented with a common base year, 1996 = 100.

Information on the HICPs of the new Member States has been introduced with the enlargement of the European Union in May 2004 so that comparable price indices are available for the entire EU.

Methodological notes can be accessed via the Eurostat Internet site (http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat or http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/dsis/hiocp/library).

HICP coverage

HICPs cover virtually all forms of household expenditure on goods and services (household final monetary consumption expenditure — HFMCE). HICP coverage follows the international classification Coicop (classification of individual consumption by purpose), adapted to the needs of HICPs.

HICP aggregate indices

There are three aggregate indices of the HICPs: the monetary union index of consumer prices (MUICP) for the euro zone; the European index of consumer prices (EICP) covering all Member States; the European Economic Area index of consumer prices (EEAICP), which additionally covers Iceland and Norway.

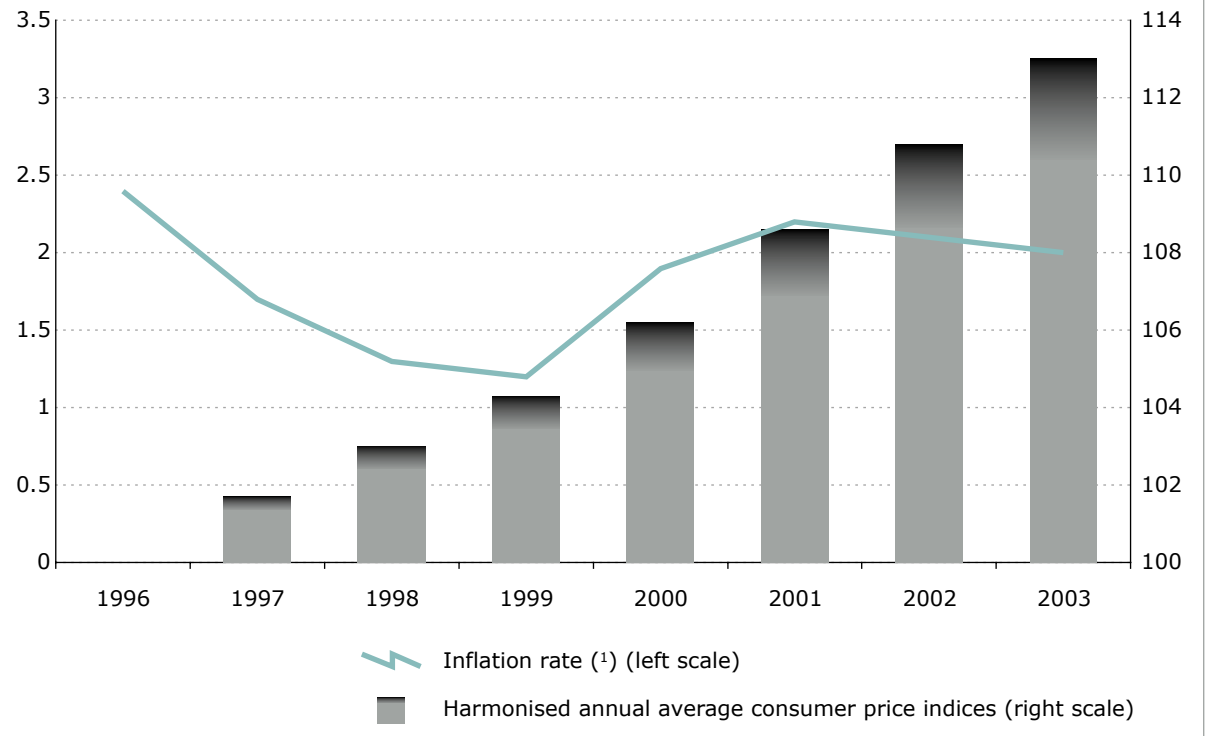
The HICP methodology allows country weights to change each year: for the MUICP, a Member

State's weight is its share of HFMCE in the EMU total; for the EICP and the EEAICP, a Member State's weight is its share of HFMCE expressed in euro in the EU and EEA totals. For the latter two indices, expenditure in national currencies is converted using purchasing power parities. The HICP is computed as an annual chain index. Starting in 1999, the MUICP is treated as a single entity within the EICP.

Price stability in the euro zone

With the launch of the euro in January 1999, the MUICP is used for the monitoring of inflation in the EMU and for assessment of inflation convergence. As price stability is the primary objective of the European System of Central Banks, the MUICP is used by the European Central Bank (ECB) as a prime indicator for monetary policy management for the euro zone. The ECB has defined price stability as a year-on-year increase in the HICP for the euro zone of close to but below 2 %, in the medium term.

Consumer price indices in the EU-15



(1) Annual average rate of change in harmonised index of consumer prices (HICPs).

Harmonised index of consumer prices (HICPs) are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation. HICP is used by e.g. the European Central Bank for monitoring of inflation in the economic and monetary Union and for the assessment of inflation convergence as required under Article 121 of the Treaty of Amsterdam.

The EU Member States have made a successful effort to keep their inflation under control. Inflation, as measured by the annual average rate of change of the harmonised index of consumer prices for the EU Member States, decreased during the 1990s reaching 1.2 % in 1999. Inflation increased again in 2000 before settling at close to 2 % in 2003 and early 2004.

Purchasing power parities

Purchasing power parities (PPPs) estimate price-level differences between countries. They make it possible to produce meaningful volume or price-level indicators required for country comparisons. PPPs are aggregated price ratios calculated from detailed price comparisons of a large number of products.

PPPs are employed either:

— as currency converters to generate volume measures with which to compare levels of economic performance, economic welfare, consumption, investment, overall productivity and selected government expenditures, or

— as price measures with which to compare price levels, price convergence and competitiveness.

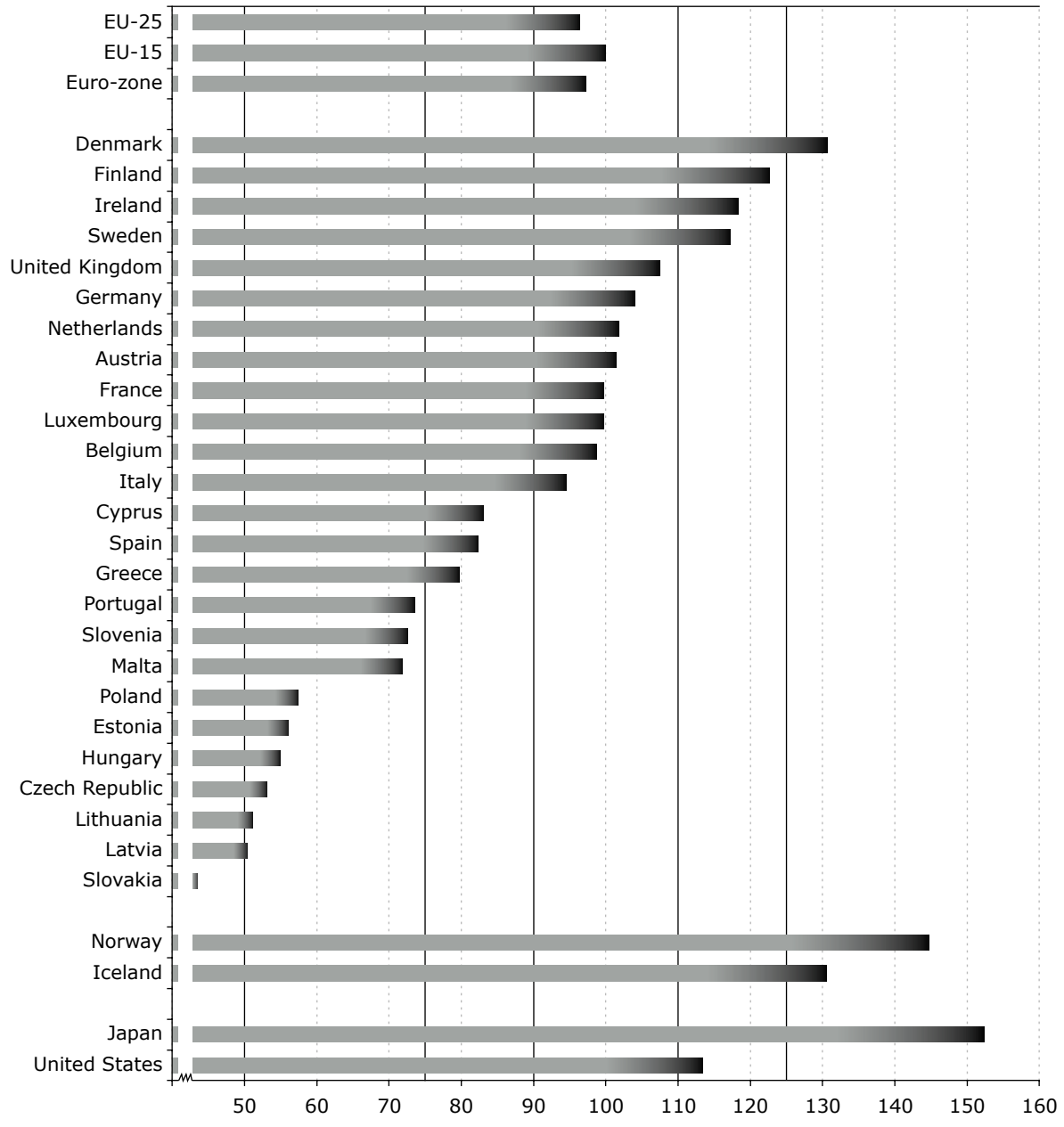
Eurostat produces three sets of data using PPPs:

— **Levels and indices of real final expenditure:** these are measures of volume. They indicate the relative magnitudes of the product groups or aggregates being compared. At the level of GDP, they are used to compare the economic size of countries.

— **Levels and indices of real final expenditure per head:** these are standardised measures of volume. They indicate the relative levels of the product groups or aggregates being compared after adjusting for differences in the size of populations between countries. At the level of GDP, they are often used to compare the economic well-being of populations.

— **Comparative price levels:** these are the ratios of PPPs to exchange rates. By expressing the PPPs in a common currency unit, they provide a measure of the differences in price levels between countries by indicating for a given product group the number of units of the common currency needed to buy the same volume of the product group in each country. At the level of GDP, they provide a measure of the differences in the general price levels of countries. Furthermore, comparative price levels provide a means of observing the movement of price levels over time. The coefficient of variation of comparative price levels is applied as the indicator of convergence among EU Member States.

Comparative price levels in 2002
Comparative price levels of final consumption by private households, including indirect taxes (EU-15 = 100)

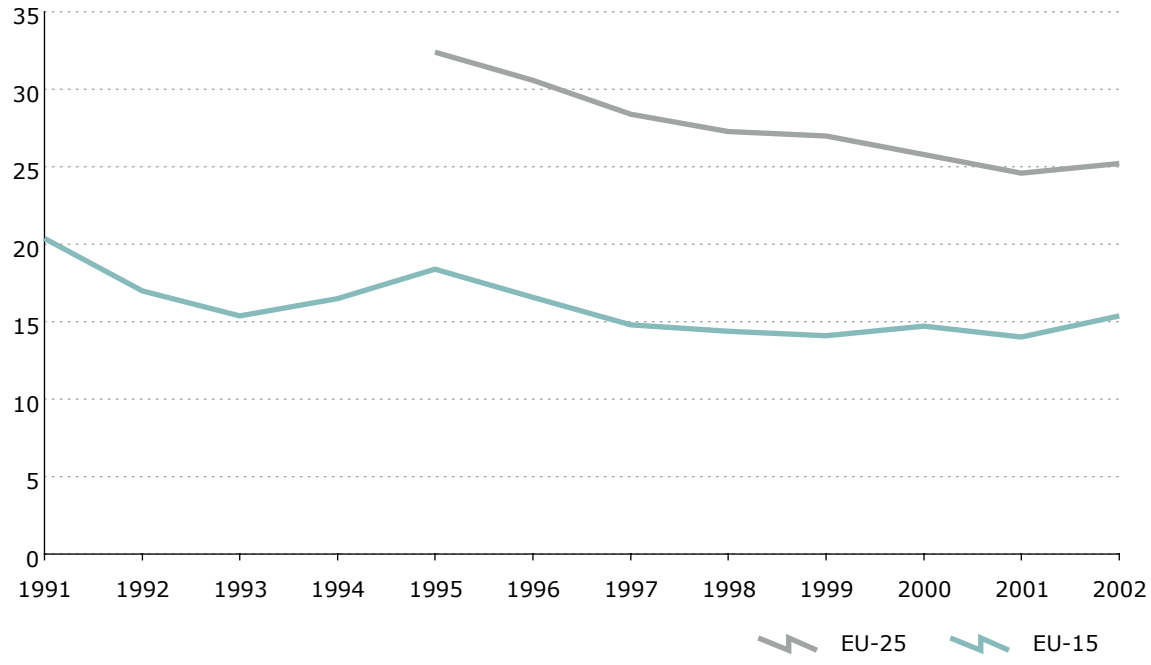


Provisional values.

Comparative price levels are the ratio between purchasing power parities (PPPs) and market exchange rate for each country. PPPs are currency conversion rates that convert economic indicators expressed in national currencies to a common currency, called purchasing power standard (PPS), which equalises the purchasing power of different national currencies and thus allows meaningful comparison. The ratio is shown in relation to the EU average (EU-15 = 100). If the index of the comparative price levels shown for a country is higher (lower) than 100, the country concerned is relatively expensive (cheap) as compared with the EU average.

The price levels that private households have to take into account for their consumption vary significantly between the Member States of the European Union. The average for EU-15 being defined as 100, the comparative price levels range, within the 25 countries that today form the European Union, from 131 in Denmark to 44 in Slovakia. The comparative value for Japan is 152, and for the United States 113.

Convergence of price levels between EU Member States
Coefficient of variation of comparative price levels of final consumption by private households, including indirect taxes



2002: provisional values; EU-25 1996 to 1999: estimated values.

Comparative price levels are the ratio between purchasing power parities (PPPs) and market exchange rate for each country. PPPs are currency conversion rates that convert economic indicators expressed in national currencies to a common currency, called purchasing power standard (PPS), which equalises the purchasing power of different national currencies and thus allows meaningful comparison. If the coefficient of variation of the comparative price levels for the EU decreases (increases) over time, the national price levels in the Member States are converging (diverging).

Given these differences, it must, however, also be pointed out that the price levels converged in EU-15 during the 1990s. The convergence of price levels within the 15 'old' Member States is currently much more advanced (15.4 in 2002) than within the whole EU-25 that includes the 'old' and the 'new' Member States (25.2 in 2003) (note that the lower the value, the more advanced the convergence of price levels).

Wages and labour costs

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on:

— Annual average gross earnings
— Annual net earnings in manufacturing
— Structure of earnings
— Labour costs
— Tax rates in manufacturing
— Minimum wages
— Labour cost index

Labour costs

Information on labour costs is of major importance for employers' associations, trade unions, political parties, economists and other users who are interested in the level and structure of labour costs.

The term 'labour costs' refers to the expenditure necessarily incurred by employers in order to employ personnel.

Eurostat provides detailed labour costs data from four-yearly surveys (the latest reference year available is 2000) as well as annual data on key figures: hourly and monthly labour costs, and components of labour costs. These data permit the comparison of total labour costs between different countries and between different industries within a country. The data on labour costs do not take into account the differences in labour productivity between the countries.

Gross annual earnings account for the largest share of total labour costs

Gross annual earnings are wages and salaries in cash paid directly to employees before any deductions for income tax and social security contributions. Eurostat provides information on the earnings of full-time employees broken down by industry and by gender, as well as the earnings of women as a percentage of men's.

Net earnings

Net earnings represent the part of remuneration that employees can actually spend. Compared with gross earnings, net earnings do not include social security contributions and taxes, but include family allowances.

National minimum wages in eighteen Member States

In 18 EU Member States and three candidate countries, collective bargaining is subject to a legal national minimum wage. The minimum wage usually applies to all employees in the economy and all occupations. The proportion of full-time employees with earnings at the minimum-wage level varies considerably between the countries, for both men and women. However, the percentage of women receiving a minimum wage is, broadly speaking, twice that of men.

Low-wage earners: tax wedge and unemployment trap

In connection with low pay, one of the Commission's Structural indicators is the 'tax rate on low-wage earners' that comprises two sub-indicators.

— The 'tax wedge on labour cost' measures the relative tax burden for an employed person with low earnings.

— The 'unemployment trap' measures what percentage of the gross earnings (after moving into employment) is 'taxed away' by the combined effects of the withdrawal of benefits and higher tax and social security contributions.

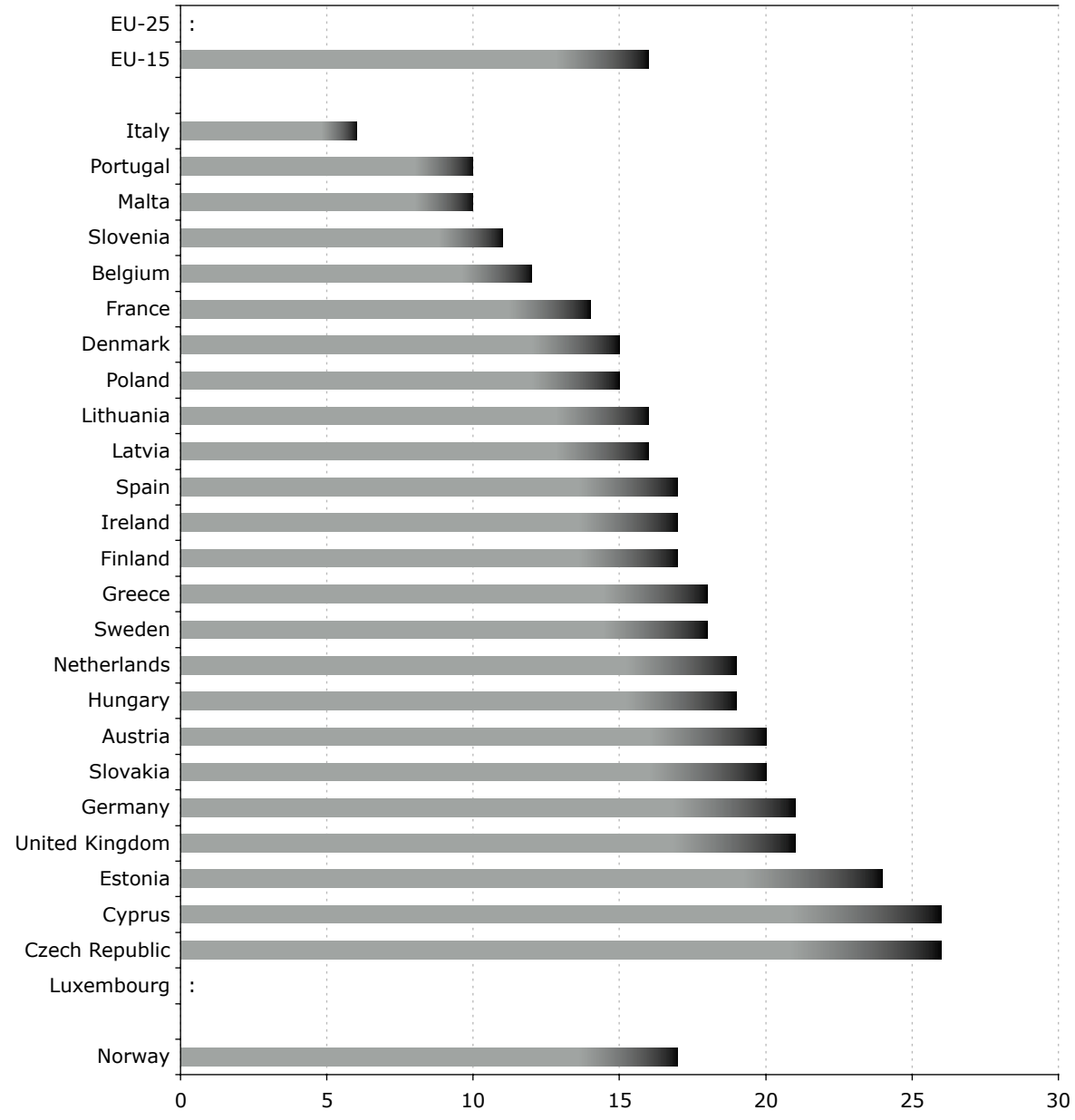
Average gross annual earnings in industry and services
Of full-time employees in enterprises with 10 or more employees; in ECU/EUR

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
EU-15	:	:	:	22 142	23 080	25 527	26 288	:
Euro-zone	:	:	20 421	20 970	21 499	22 413	23 081	:
Belgium	28 945	29 131	28 901	29 616	30 701	31 644	33 109	34 330
Czech Republic	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Denmark	:	36 376	36 235	37 209	39 515	40 962	41 661	43 577
Germany	34 584	35 254	35 093	36 033	36 862	37 253	38 204	39 440
Estonia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Greece	11 291	11 917	12 605	13 209	13 926	14 721	15 431	16 278
Spain	:	16 043	16 192	16 528	17 038	17 432	17 874	18 462
France	23 952	24 292	24 798	25 519	25 947	26 521	27 319	:
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Italy	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Cyprus	:	12 980	14 021	14 709	15 161	16 335	16 948	17 740
Latvia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Lithuania	1 385	1 597	2 286	2 799	3 017	:	:	:
Luxembourg	:	:	32 746	33 462	34 534	35 910	37 801	38 551
Hungary	3 062	3 158	3 543	3 686	3 770	4 172	4 898	5 871
Malta	8 747	9 287	10 114	10 713	11 581	12 553	13 320	13 460
Netherlands	27 966	28 140	28 061	29 189	30 426	31 901	33 900	35 200
Austria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	:	3 076	:	4 156	5 310	:	7 509	7 172
Portugal	:	:	:	:	:	12 620	13 338	:
Slovenia	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovakia	:	:	3 179	3 292	3 125	3 583	3 837	4 582
Finland	23 584	23 883	24 005	24 944	25 739	27 398	28 555	:
Sweden	:	:	:	:	:	31 621	30 467	31 164
United Kingdom	:	:	:	29 370	32 269	37 677	39 233	40 553
Iceland	:	:	:	:	32 311	37 638	34 101	36 764
Norway	:	:	:	:	:	:	38 604	43 736

Gross earnings are remuneration (wages and salaries) in cash paid directly to the employee, before any deductions for income tax and social security contributions paid by the employee. Data is presented for full-time employees in 'industry and services'.

There are marked differences in earnings (average gross annual earnings in industry and services in euro) between the different countries of the EU.

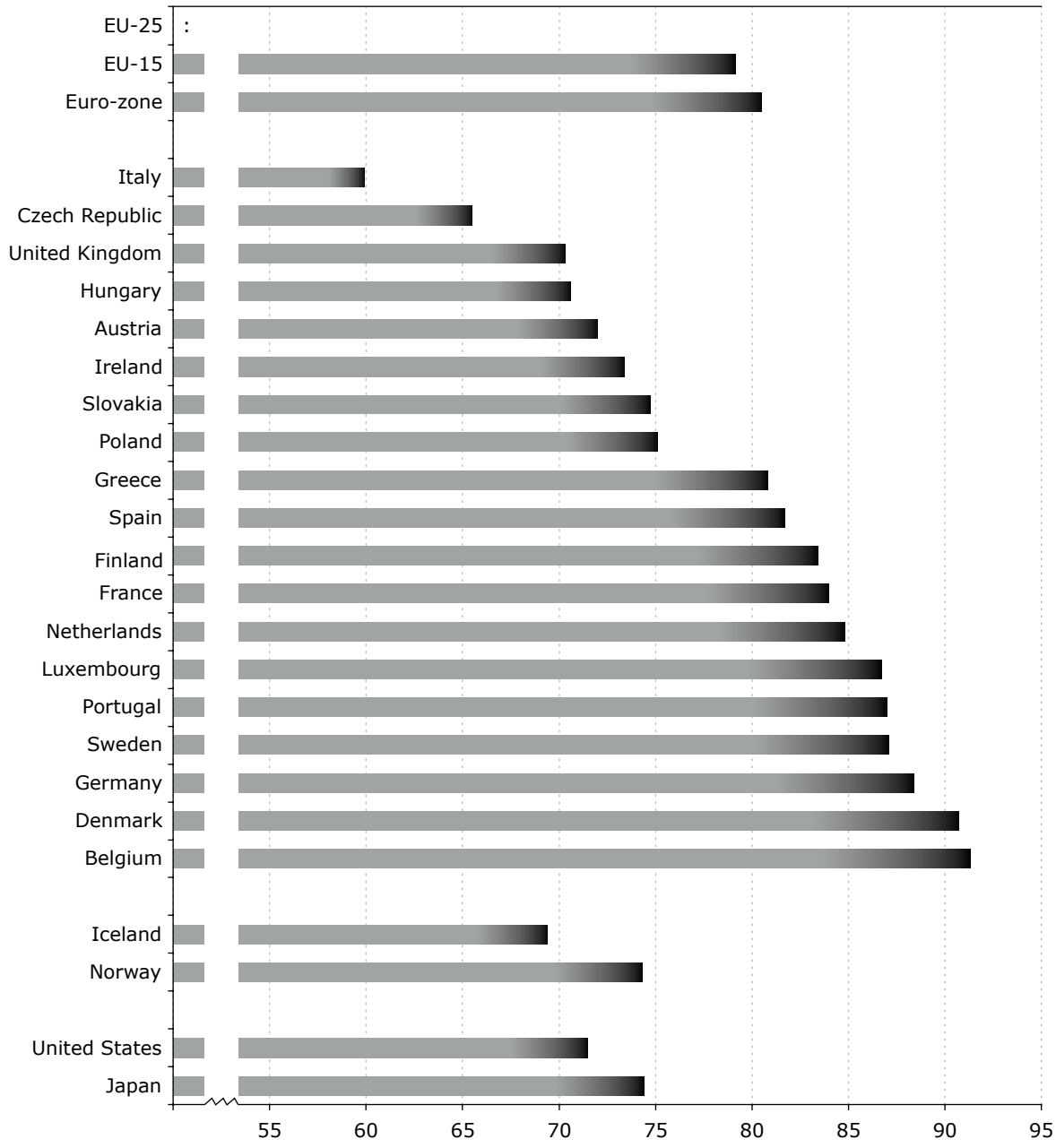
Gender pay gap in 2001
In unadjusted form; in %



Gender pay gap is given as the difference between average gross hourly earnings of male paid employees and of female paid employees as a percentage of average gross hourly earnings of male paid employees. The population consists of all paid employees aged 16–64 that are at work 15 + hours per week. The data for the remaining countries stem from the European Community household panel (ECHP), which is a survey based on a standardised questionnaire that involves annual interviewing of a representative panel of households and individuals, covering a wide range of topics. Data for CZ, EE, FR, CY, LV, LT, HU, MT, NL, PL, SI, SK, SE and NO originate from national data sources.

The gender pay gap sets the difference between hourly gross earnings of male and female employees in relation to the earnings of male employees. In 2001, it stood at about 16 % in EU-15. Within the 25 countries that make up today's European Union, it ranged from 6 % in Italy to 26 % in the Czech Republic.

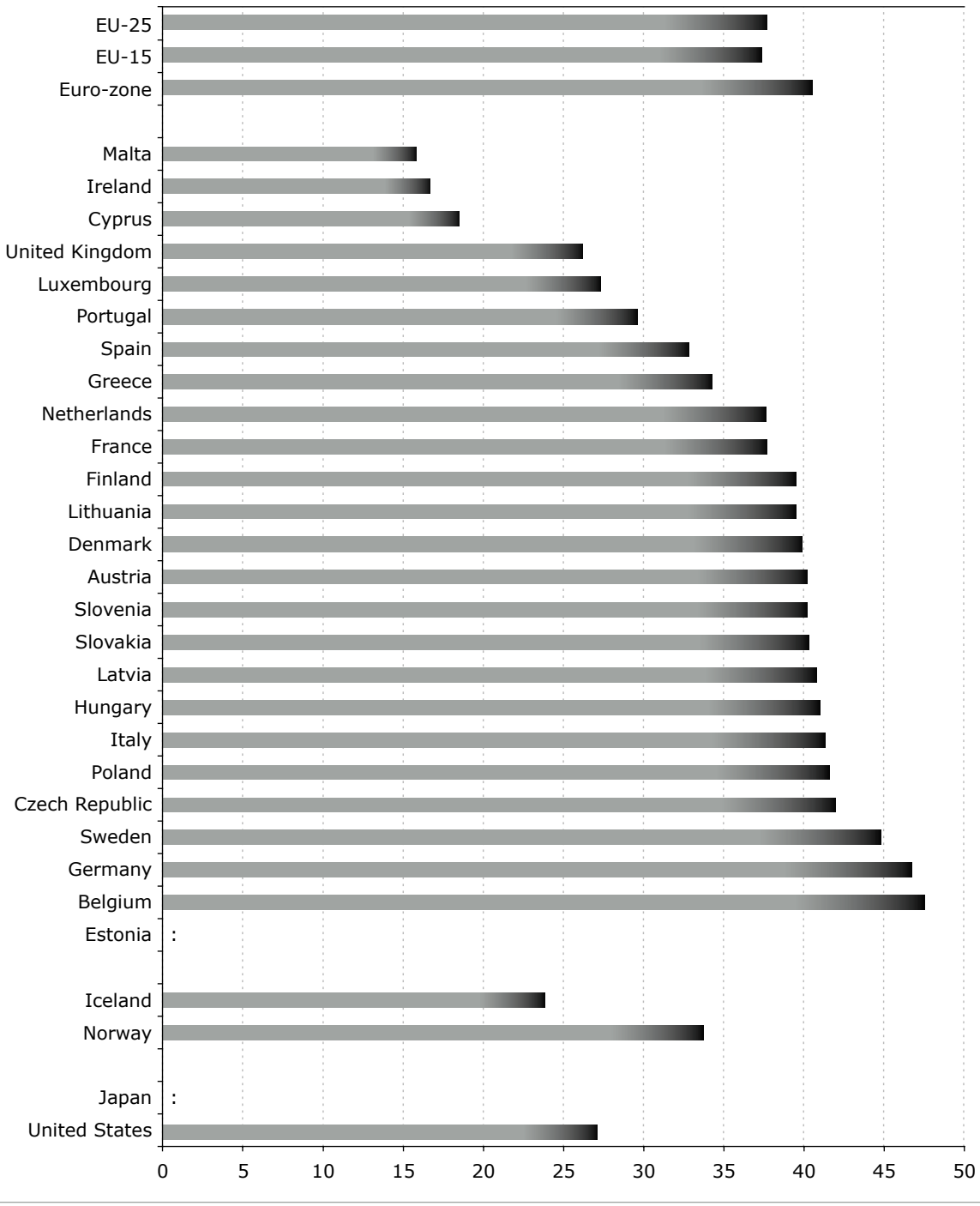
Tax rate on low-wage earners: unemployment trap in 2002
In %



The unemployment trap measures what percentage of the gross earnings (from moving into employment) is 'taxed away' by the combined effects of the withdrawal of benefits and higher tax and social security contributions.

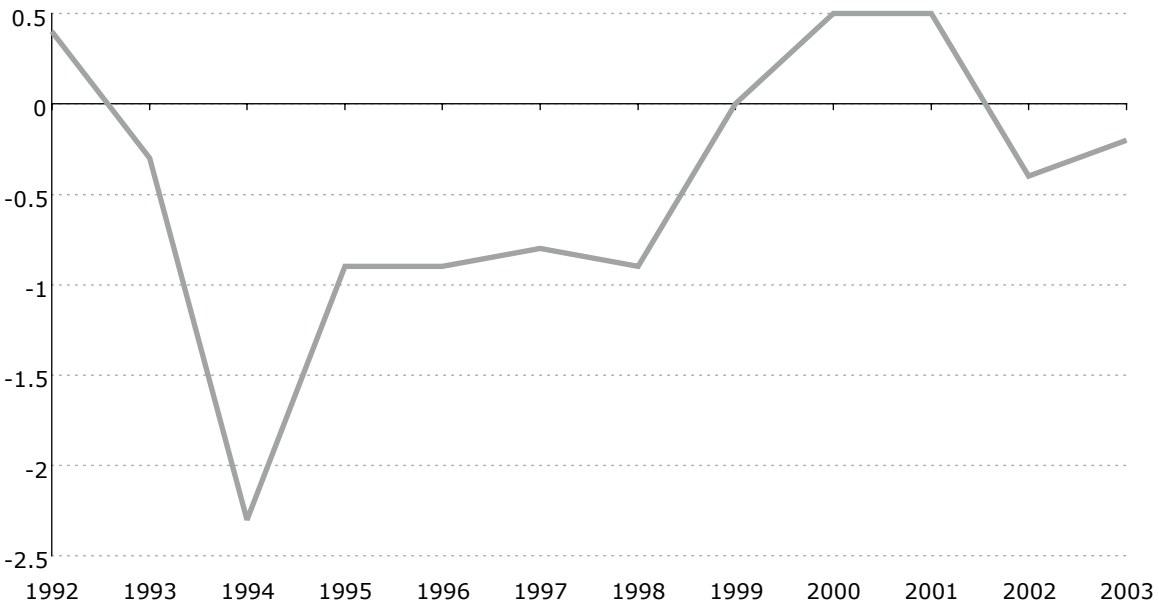
If a person moves from unemployment into employment, what part of the newly received gross earnings is 'taxed away' by the combined effects of the withdrawal of benefits and higher tax and social security contributions? The 'unemployment trap' answers this question: in 2002, it stood at about 79 % in EU-15. In other words, the financial gain of moving from unemployment into employment was about 21 % of the gross earnings of the new employee.

Tax rate on low-wage earners: tax wedge on the labour cost in 2003
Relative tax burden for an employed person with low earnings; in %

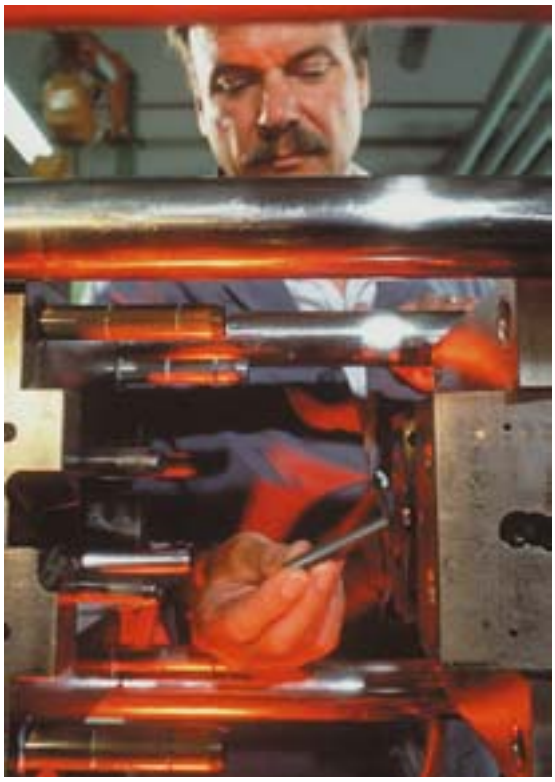


In 11 of the EU-25 countries, the tax wedge (i.e. the relative tax burden for an employee with low earnings) was above 40 % in 2003, while in 3 countries, it was below 20 %.

Unit labour cost growth in the EU-15
Growth rate (in %) of the ratio: compensation per employee in current prices divided by GDP in current prices per total employment



This derived indicator compares remuneration (compensation per employee) and productivity (gross domestic product (GDP) per employment) to show how the remuneration of employees is related to the productivity of their labour. Please note that the variables used in the numerator refer to employees only, while those in the denominator refer to all labour, including self-employed.



Current account

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on:

— International transactions of goods

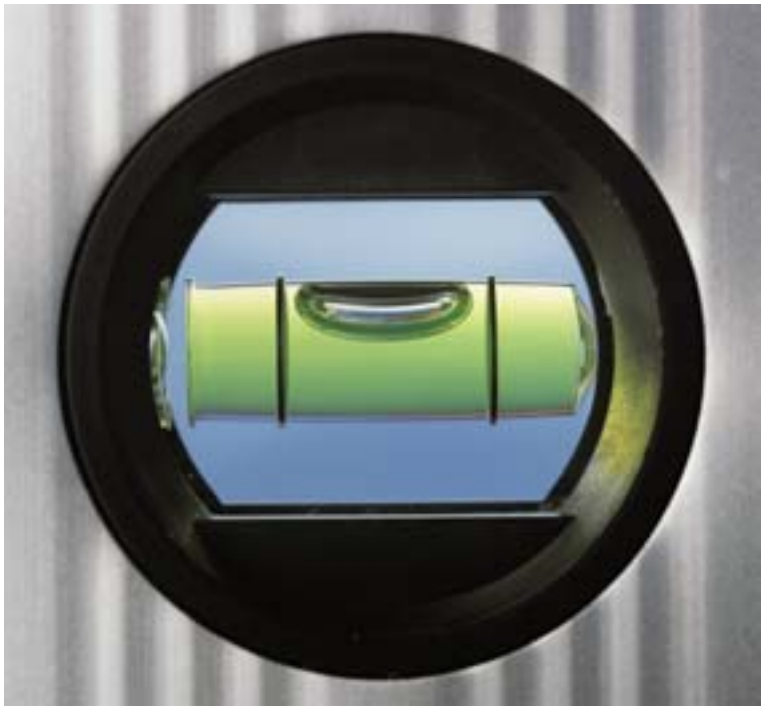
— International transactions of services

— International transactions of income

— Current transfers

— Capital and financial account

Gauging a country's economic position in the world



The current account covers all transactions (other than those recorded in the financial account) occurring between resident and non-resident entities. Within the current account, four main types of transactions are separately identified:

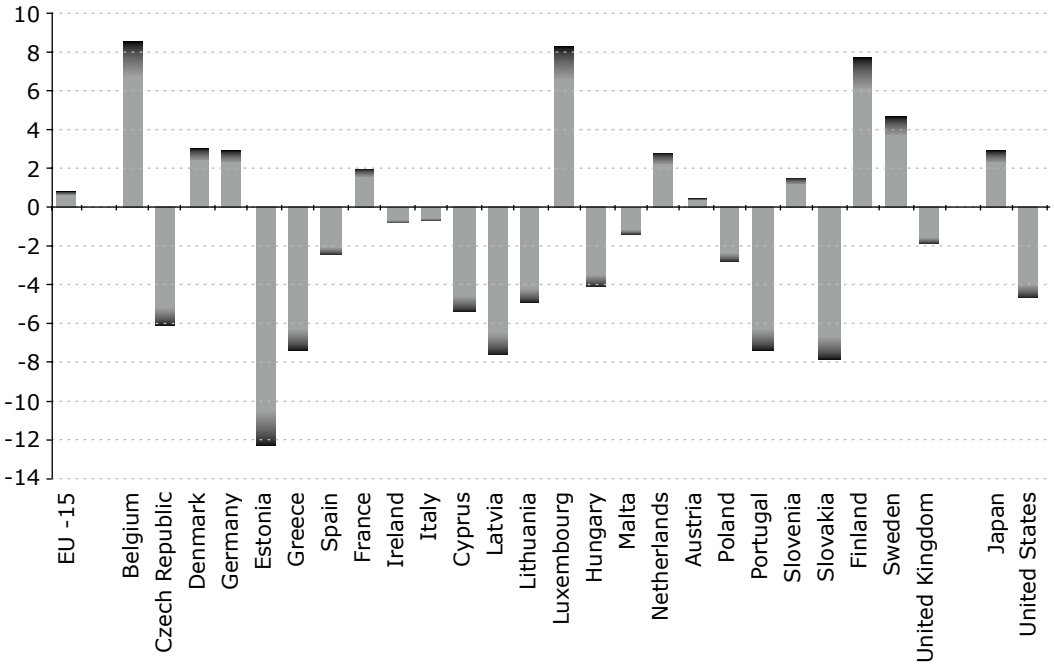
— The goods account covers general merchandise, goods for processing, repairs on goods, goods procured in ports by carriers and non-monetary gold. Exports and imports of goods are recorded on a fob/fob basis, i.e. at market value at the customs frontiers of exporting economies, including charges for insurance and transport services up to the frontier of the exporting country.

— The services account consists of the following items: transportation services performed by EU residents for non-EU residents, or vice versa, involving the carriage of passengers, the movement of goods, rentals of carriers with crew and related supporting and auxiliary services, travel, which includes primarily the goods and services EU travellers acquire from non-EU residents, or vice versa, and other services, which comprise those service transactions such as communication services, insurance, financial services, etc.

— The income account covers two types of transactions: compensation of employees paid to non-resident workers or received from non-resident employers, and investment income accrued on external financial assets and liabilities.

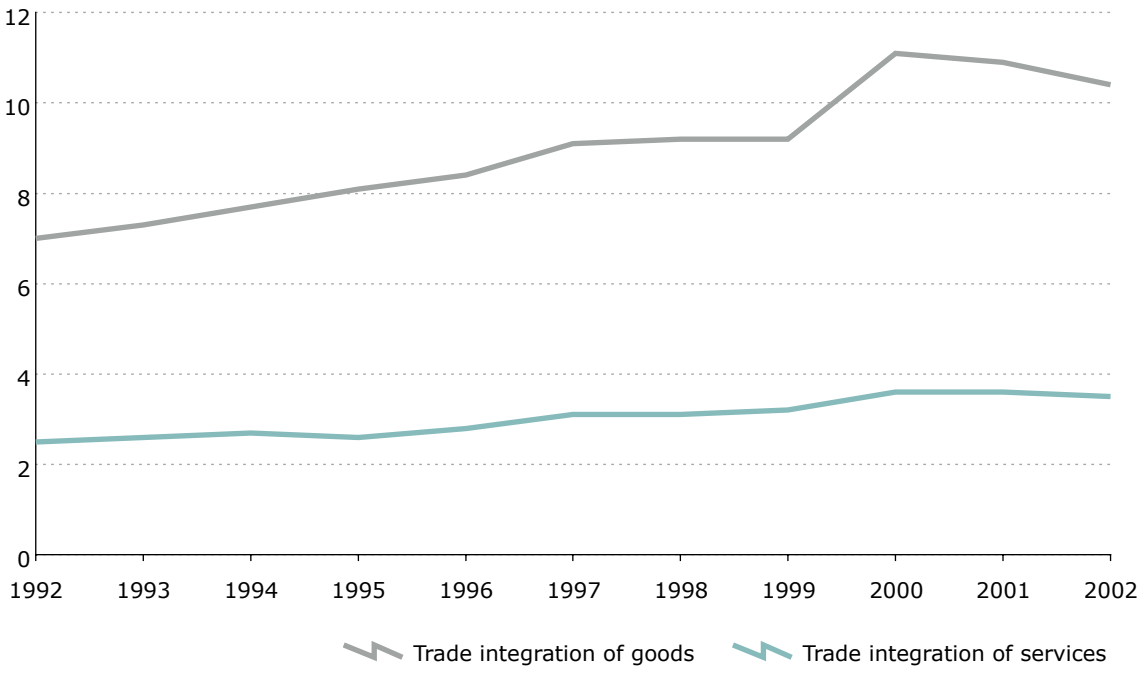
— The current transfers account includes general government current transfers, for example transfers related to international cooperation between governments, payments of current taxes on income and wealth, etc., and other current transfers, for example workers' remittances, insurance premiums — less service charges — and claims on non-life insurance companies.

Balance of the current account in 2002
In % of the GDP



The balance of payments is composed of the current account and the capital and financial account. The current account is itself subdivided into goods, services, income and current transfers; it registers the value of exports (credits) and imports (debits). The difference between these two values is the 'balance' of each Member State's current transactions with all the other countries, and of the EU transactions with the extra EU countries.

Trade integration of the EU-15 of goods and services
Average value of imports and exports divided by GDP, multiplied by 100

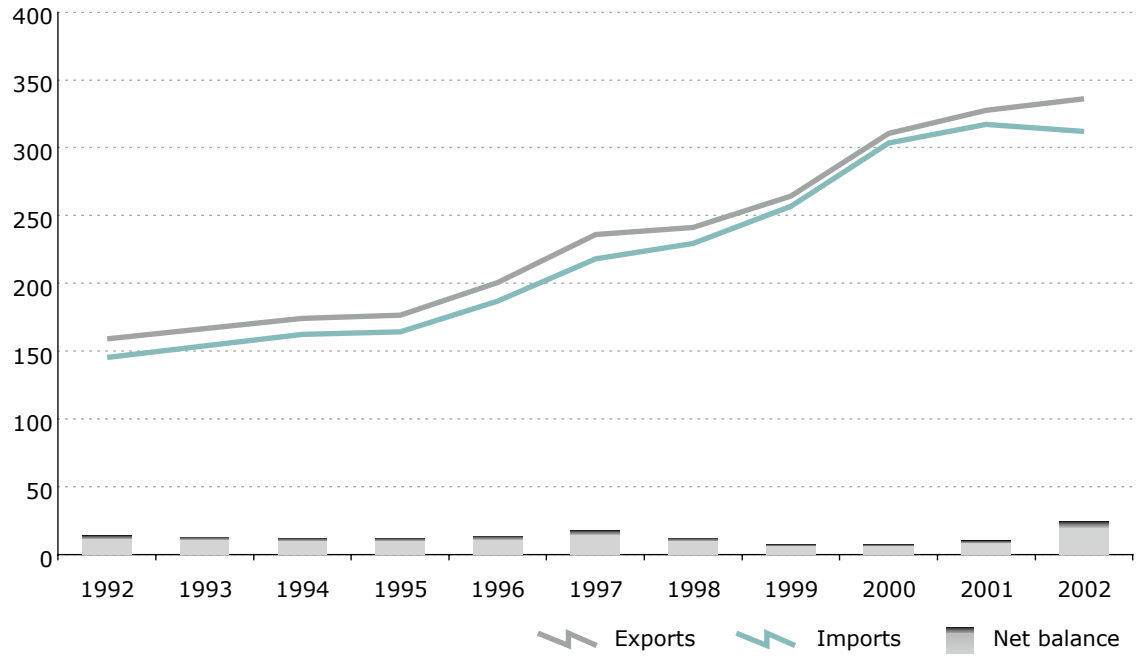


An increasing index indicates that the EU becomes more integrated within the international economy.

Current account transactions of goods in the EU-15
In 1 000 million ECU/EUR

The balance of payments is a record of a country's international transactions with the rest of the world. The balance of payments is composed of two broad sub-balances: the current account and the capital and financial account. The current account is itself subdivided into four basic components: goods, services, income and current transfers. For each of these items, the current account registers the value of exports (credits) and imports (debits).

Current account transactions of services in the EU-15
In 1 000 million ECU/EUR



The balance of payments is a record of a country's international transactions with the rest of the world. It is composed of the current account and the capital and financial account. The current account is itself subdivided into goods, services, income and current transfers; it registers the value of exports (credits) and imports (debits). The difference between these two values is the 'balance'.

Trading partners

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on:

— International transactions with individual countries

— International transactions with geographical zones

— International transactions with economic zones

Europe's trading partners in the world

Eurostat provides detailed information on the geographical breakdown of the current account of the European Union. The geographical breakdown distinguishes between:

— intra-EU transactions, corresponding to the sum of the transactions declared by EU Member States with other EU Member States; and

— extra-EU transactions, corresponding to the transactions declared by EU Member States with countries outside the European Union. Extra-EU transactions are further broken down into detailed partner zones: individual countries (e.g. Hungary, the United States, Japan), economic zones (e.g. OECD countries, ACP countries), and geographical zones (e.g. America, Asia).

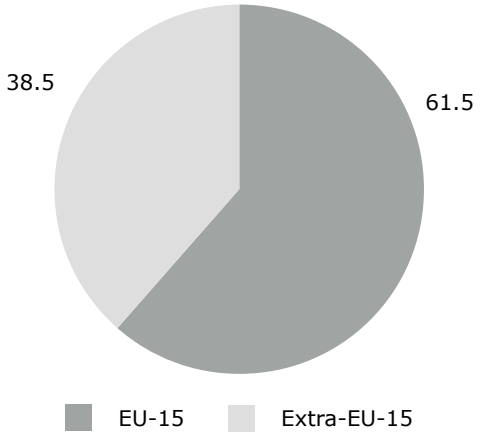
World transactions are equal to the sum of intra-EU transactions and extra-EU transactions, plus a remainder that cannot be allocated.

Finding the residence

In the balance-of-payments statistics, the EU current account is geographically allocated according to the residence of the trading partner. However, precise information on residence is not always available. In this case, the currency in which transactions are recorded might be used to determine the origin or destination of the flows. The concept of residence thus corresponds to the concept of 'country of origin' (for imports) and 'country of destination' (for exports).

However, from 1997 onwards, the geographical allocation of imports of goods has changed. All goods imported by an EU Member State from outside the EU that transit through another EU Member State should be geographically allocated to the transit country and not the origin country.

EU-15 current account credits in 2002
Share of EU total credits in %



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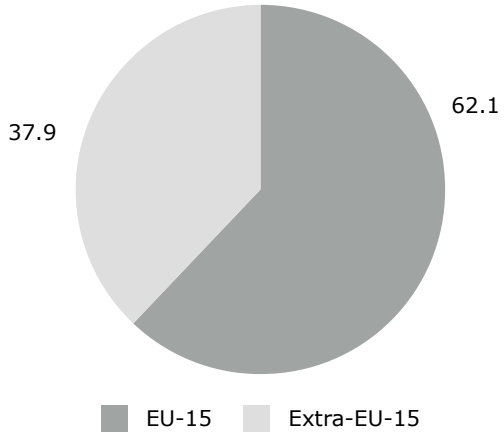
EU-15 current account debits in 2002
Share of EU total debits in %



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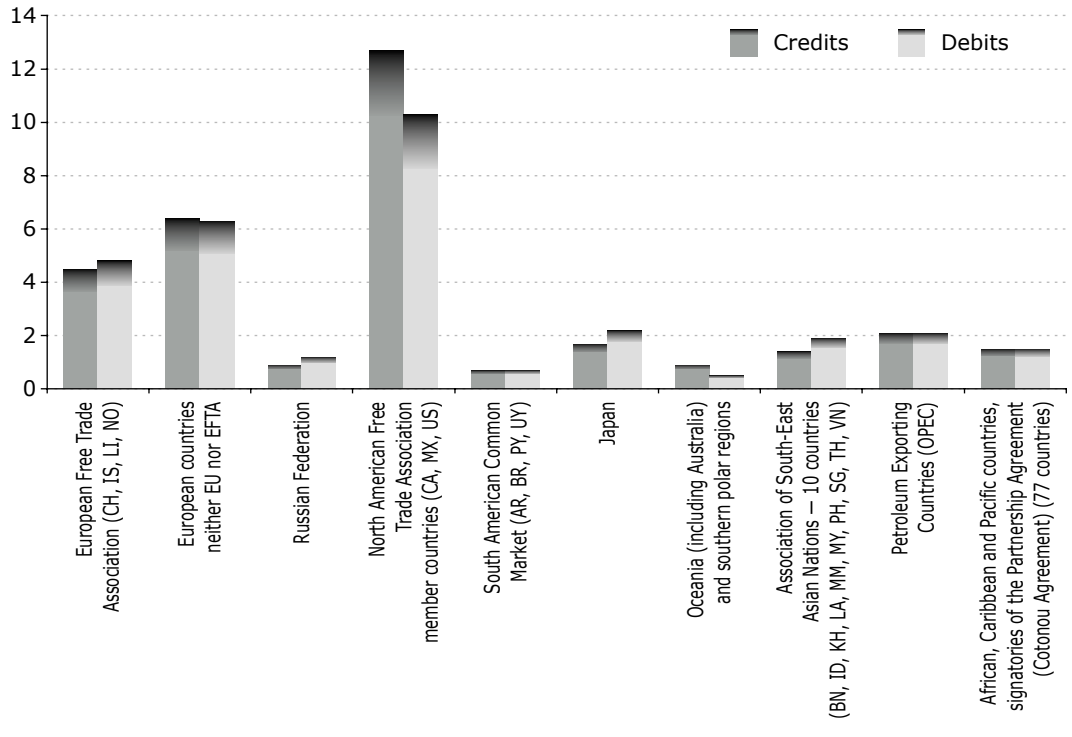
EU-15 current account in 2002, by selected partner zones
Share of EU-15 total credits/debits in %



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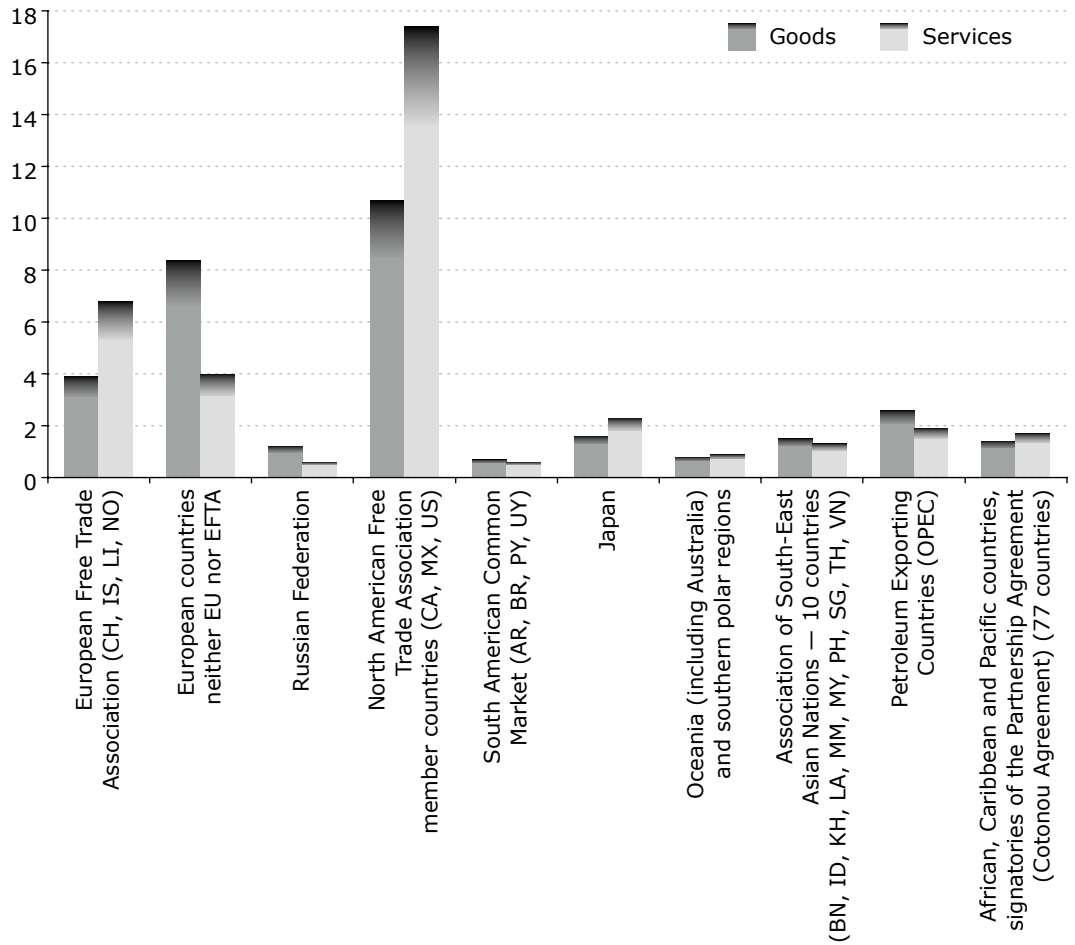
EU-15 export in 2002, by selected partner zones
Share of EU-15 total exports in %



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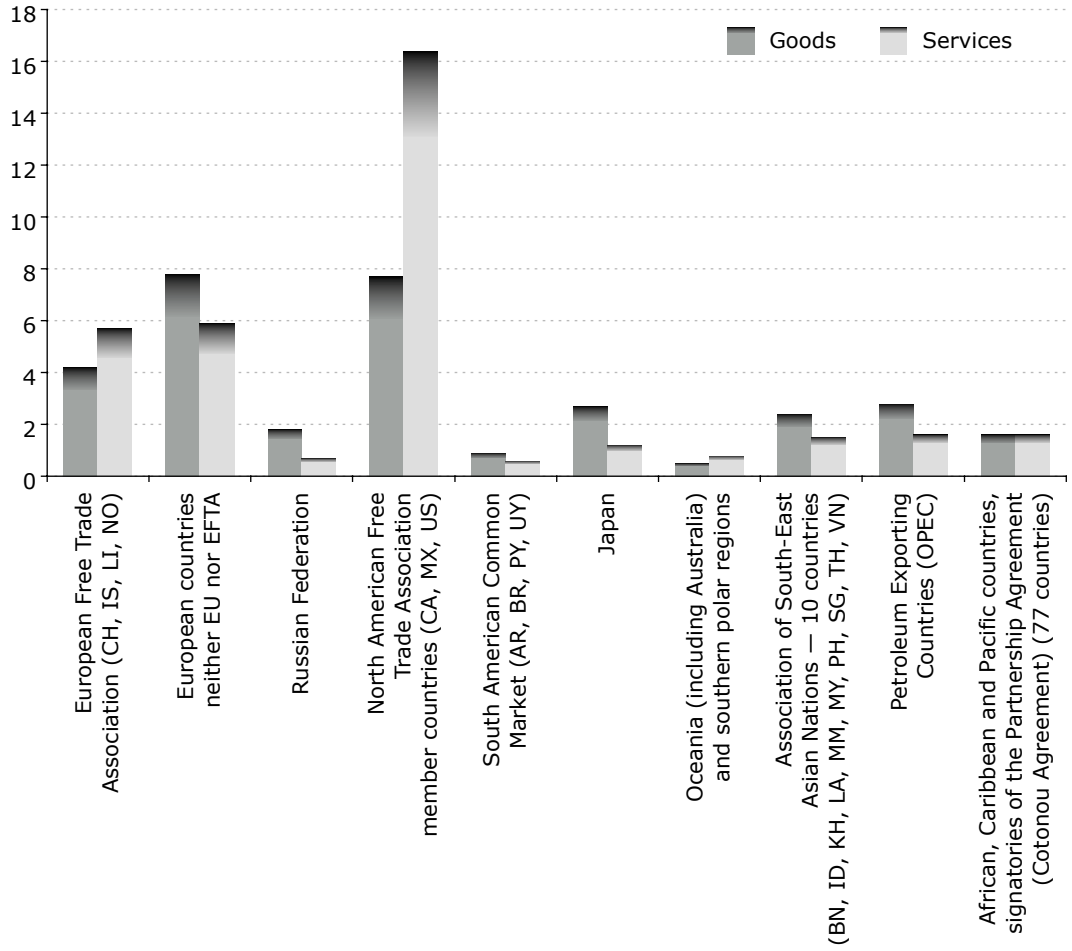
EU-15 import in 2002, by selected partner zones
Share of EU-15 total imports in %



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Foreign direct investment

Eurostat data

Eurostat provides a wide range of data on:

— Direct investment flows (inflows and outflows)

— Direct investment stocks

— Investing countries (countries of origin)

— Receiving countries (countries of destination)

The financial account: dealing with money

The financial account records financial transactions. It includes foreign direct investment, portfolio investment, and other investment and reserve asset flows.

The annual European Union foreign direct investment statistics give a detailed presentation of foreign direct investment (FDI) flows and stocks, showing which Member State invests in which countries and in which sectors.

A firm wishing to sell overseas can choose between a variety of methods: exporting, licensing and using agents are some examples, with straightforward exporting up to now being the most common. FDI (producing and selling directly in the chosen country) is increasingly being adopted.

There are two kinds of FDI:

— the creation of productive assets by foreigners (greenfield investment);

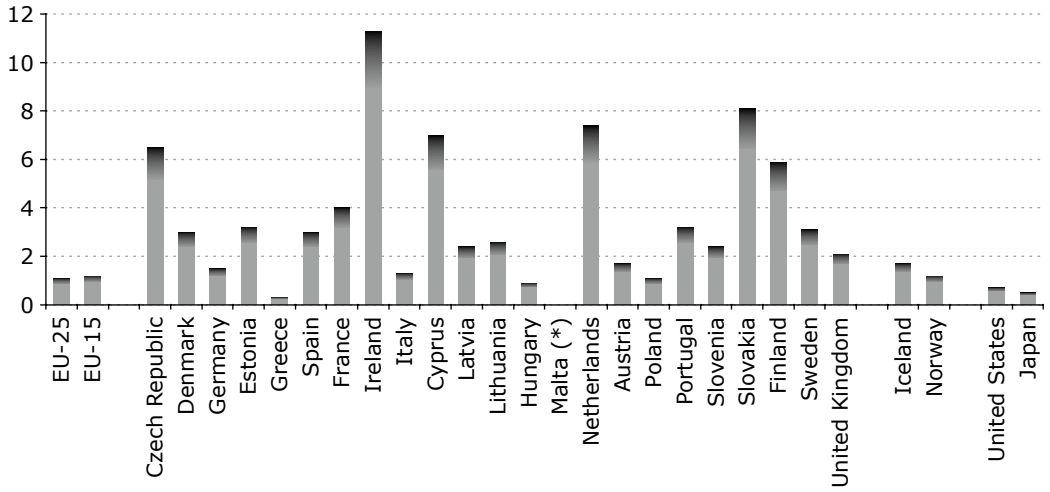
— the purchase of existing assets by foreigners (acquisitions, mergers, takeovers, etc.).

FDI differs from portfolio investments because it is made with the purpose of having control or an effective voice in management and a lasting interest in the enterprise. Direct investment does not only include the initial acquisition of equity capital, but also subsequent capital transactions between the foreign investor and domestic and affiliated enterprises.

Eurostat collects FDI statistics for quarterly and annual flows as well as for stocks at the end of the year. The FDI stocks (assets and liabilities) are a part of the international investment position of an economy at the end of the year.

In the Eurostat yearbook, the sign convention adopted for the different sets of data (flows and stocks) is as follows: an investment is always recorded with a positive sign and a disinvestment with a negative sign.

Foreign direct investment intensity in 2002
Average value of inward and outward foreign direct investment flows divided by GDP, multiplied by 100



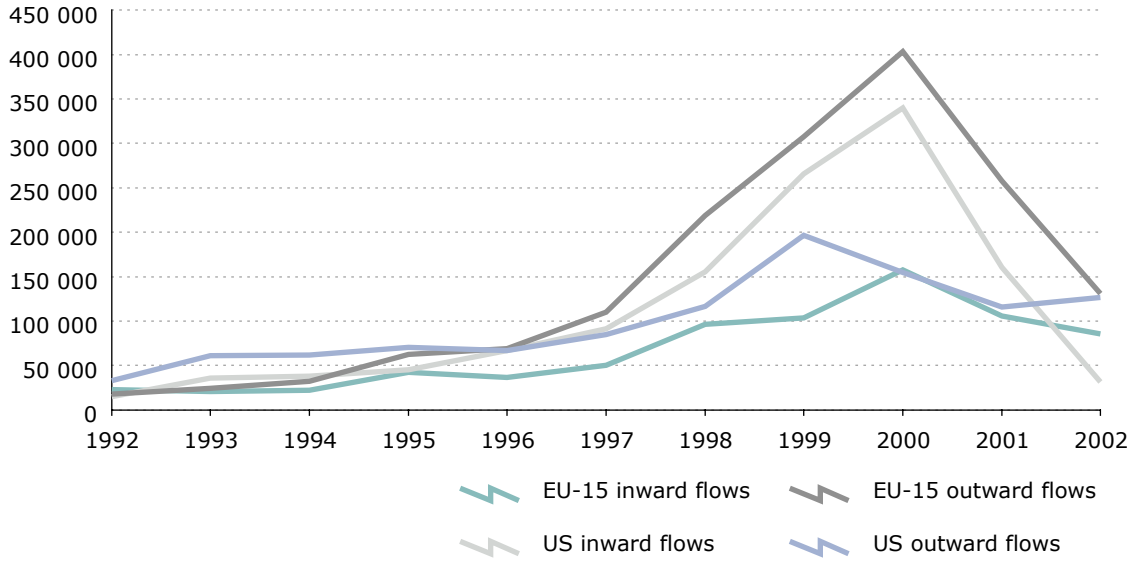
(*) In 2002, Malta had a disinvestment, i.e. a negative inward flow of FDI from the rest of the world. This has lead to a value of - 5.2. for the indicator on the FDI intensity.

For the aggregate of Belgium and Luxembourg (BLEU) the index stood at 51.4 in 2002 which is mainly due to a particularly high value for Luxembourg.

Foreign direct investment intensity is the sum of average inward and outward foreign direct investment (FDI) flows, divided by gross domestic product (GDP). The index measures the intensity of investment integration within the international economy.

For individual countries the partner is the 'rest of the world', for the EU-15 the 'extra-EU-15' and for the EU-25 the 'extra-EU-25'.

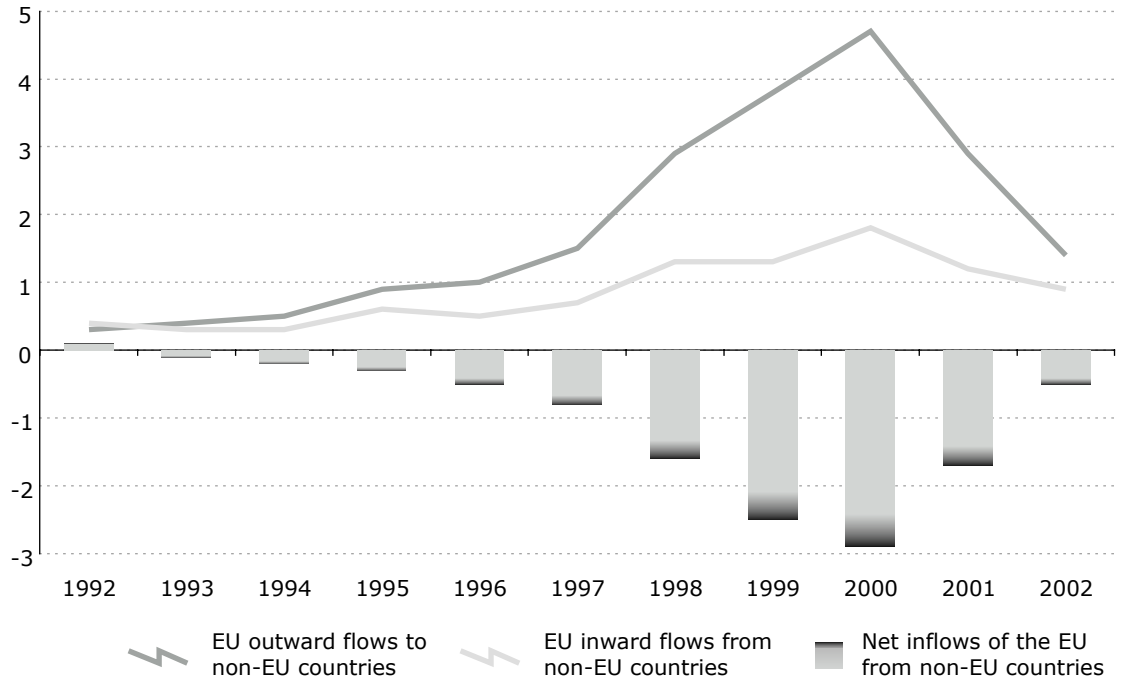
Direct investment flows
In million EUR/ECU



For the EU-15 the partner is the 'extra-EU-15', for the US the 'rest of the world'.

Foreign direct investment is an investment made by a resident entity (direct investor) to acquire a lasting interest in an entity operating in an economy other than that of the investor (direct investment enterprise).

Direct investment flows of the EU-15
In % of GDP



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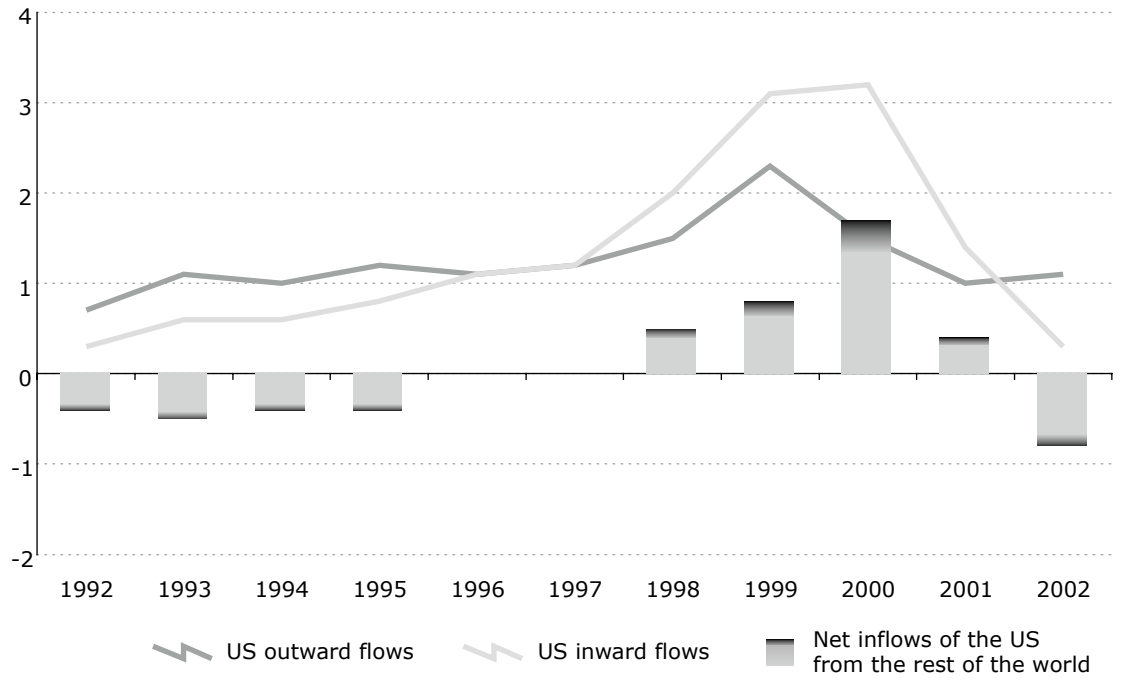
Direct investment flows of the United States
In % of GDP



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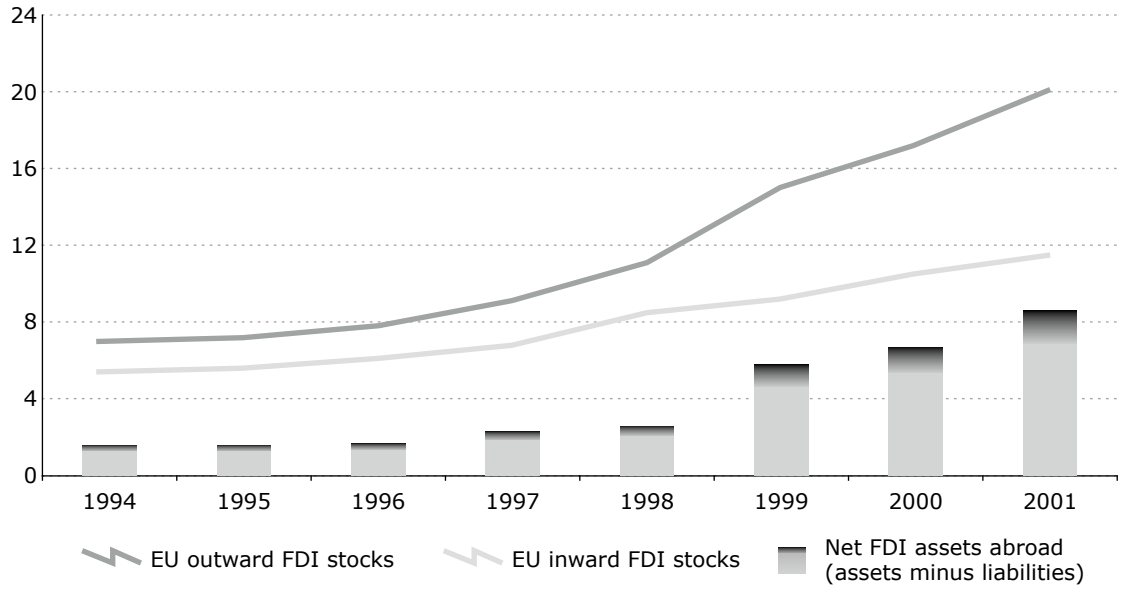
Direct investment stocks of the EU-15
In % of GDP



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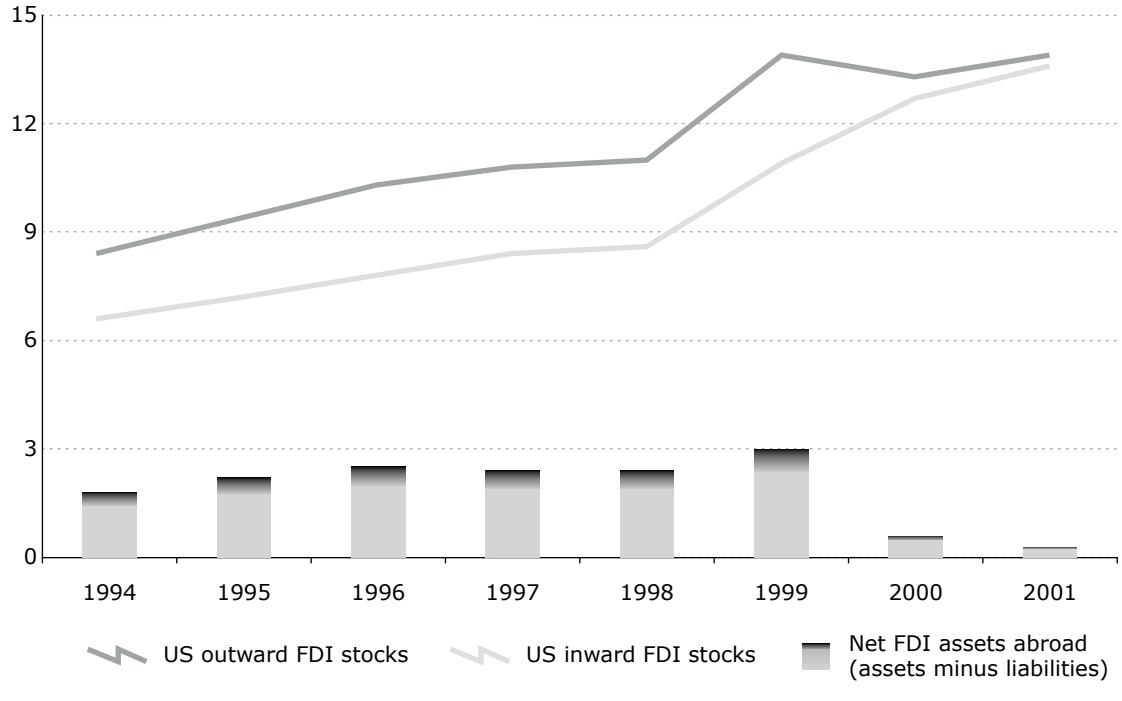
Direct investment stocks of the US
In % of GDP



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International trade in goods

Eurostat data

Consult our website to find out more about the trade flows of the EU Member States.

— Reporting countries: EU, euro-zone and all Member States

— Trading partners: all the countries in the world

— Kind of goods: more than 10 000 products of the Combined Nomenclature as well as product aggregates based on other nomenclatures such as the standard international trade classification; totals can also be obtained

— Periods: all the months since January 1988

Imports, exports and trade balances are available in value and quantity.

Essential information in a more and more open world economy

International trade in goods forms an increasing part of the world economy and, as such, must be measured reliably and the relevant data must be widely available and understood.

International trade statistics are an important primary source for most public and private sector decision-makers. For example, they help European companies carry out market research and define their commercial strategy. They enable Community authorities to prepare for multilateral and bilateral negotiations within the framework of the common commercial policy and to evaluate the progress of the single market or the integration of the European economies. Moreover, they constitute an essential source for balance-of-payments statistics, national accounts and studies of economic cycles.

Harmonised statistics on international trade in goods …

The compilation of trade figures rests on a legal basis which is set out in a series of Council and Commission regulations. The concrete work is based on a cooperative effort between Eurostat and the appropriate bodies in the Member States which are responsible for collecting and processing the basic information.

Eurostat is responsible for harmonising Community legislation in the field of statistics on the trading of goods and ensuring that the legislation is applied correctly. The statistics provided to Eurostat are therefore based on precise legal texts directly applicable in the Member States and on definitions and procedures which have to a large extent been harmonised.

... which cover all physical movements of goods through the frontiers

In broad terms, the aim of international trade statistics is to record all goods that add to or subtract from the stock of material resources of a country by entering or leaving its territory. By their nature, international trade statistics are concerned with transportable goods.

The most important component of international trade statistics is related to transactions involving actual or intended transfer of ownership against compensation. Nevertheless, international trade statistics also cover movements of goods without a transfer of ownership such as operations following, or with a view to, processing under contract or repair.

Some methodological notes

Exports and imports valuation

In external trade statistics, exports are recorded at their fob value (fob — free on board) and imports at their cif value (cif — cost, insurance and freight). Therefore, and contrary to the balance-of-payments statistics, import value includes charges, such as transport and insurance, relating to that part of the journey which takes place outside the statistical territory of the importing country. Export value corresponds to the value of goods at the place and time where they leave the statistical territory of the exporting country.

Trade of country groups

EU-15, EU-25, the euro-zone and EEA (European Economic Area) are calculated as total trade less, respectively, intra-EU-15, intra-EU-25, intra-euro-zone and intra-EEA trade.

Trade in products

Agrifood products are food products obtained from agriculture. They are determined according to Sections 0 and 1 of the standard international trade classification (SITC), Rev. 3.

Trade in raw materials refers to Sections 2 and 4 of the SITC.

Trade in fuel products refers to products determined according to Section 3 of the SITC.

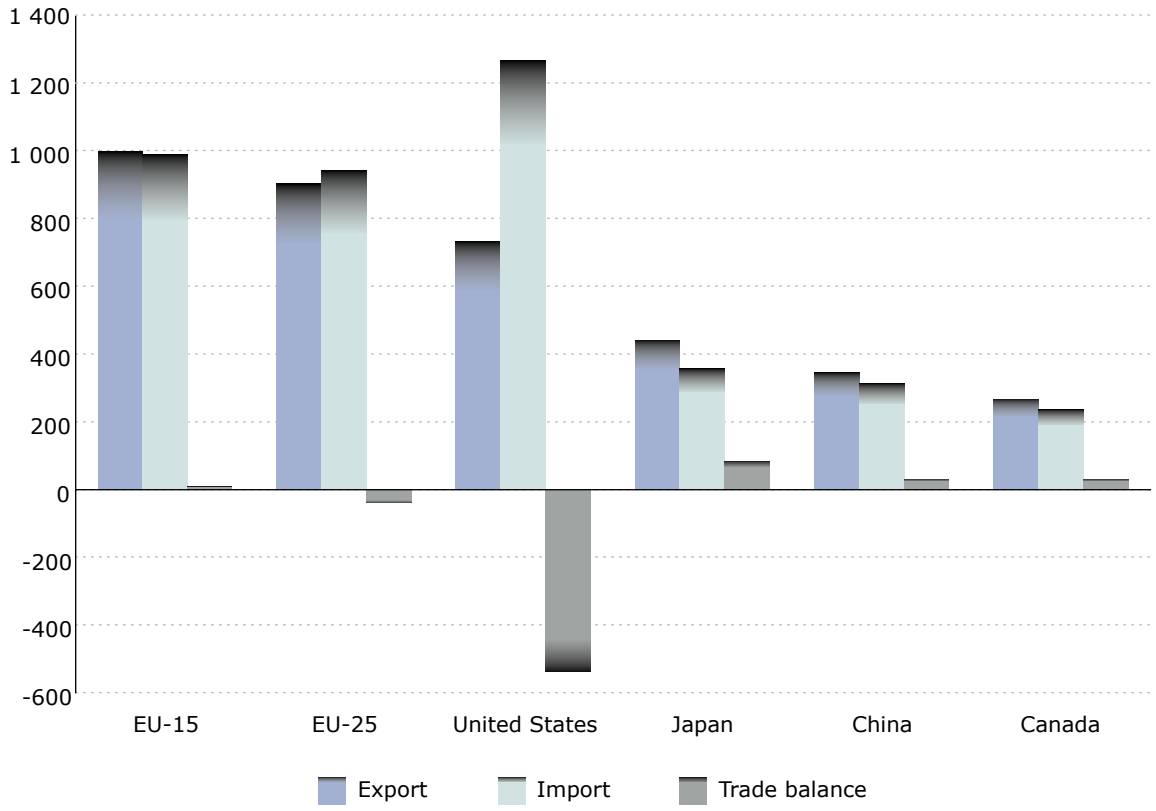
Trade in chemicals refers to products determined according to Section 5 of the SITC.

Machinery and transport equipment refers to products determined according to Section 7 of the SITC.

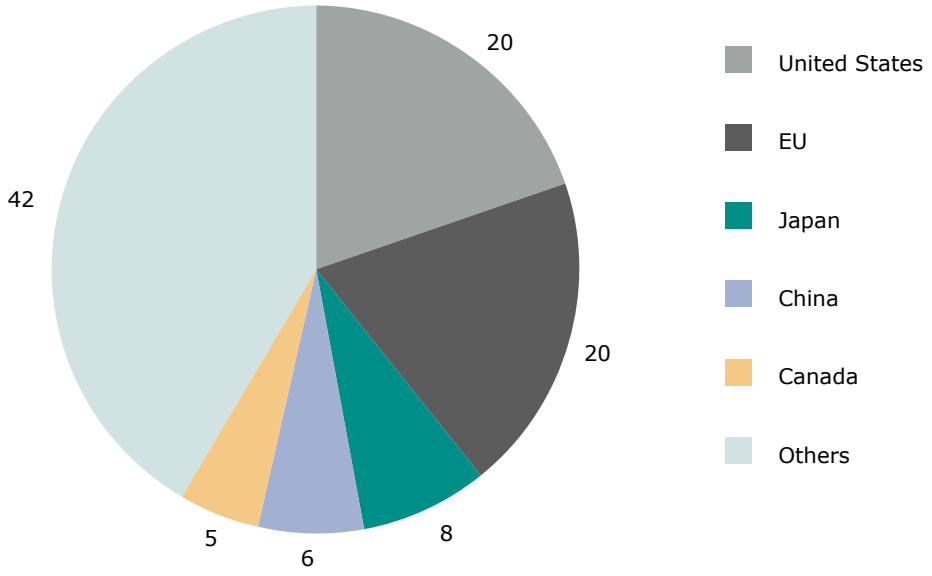
More concepts and definitions

Please refer to the publications *Statistics on the trading of goods — User guide or Geonomenclature* which can be downloaded from the Eurostat website.

International trade in goods in 2002: the EU and other main actors
In billion EUR

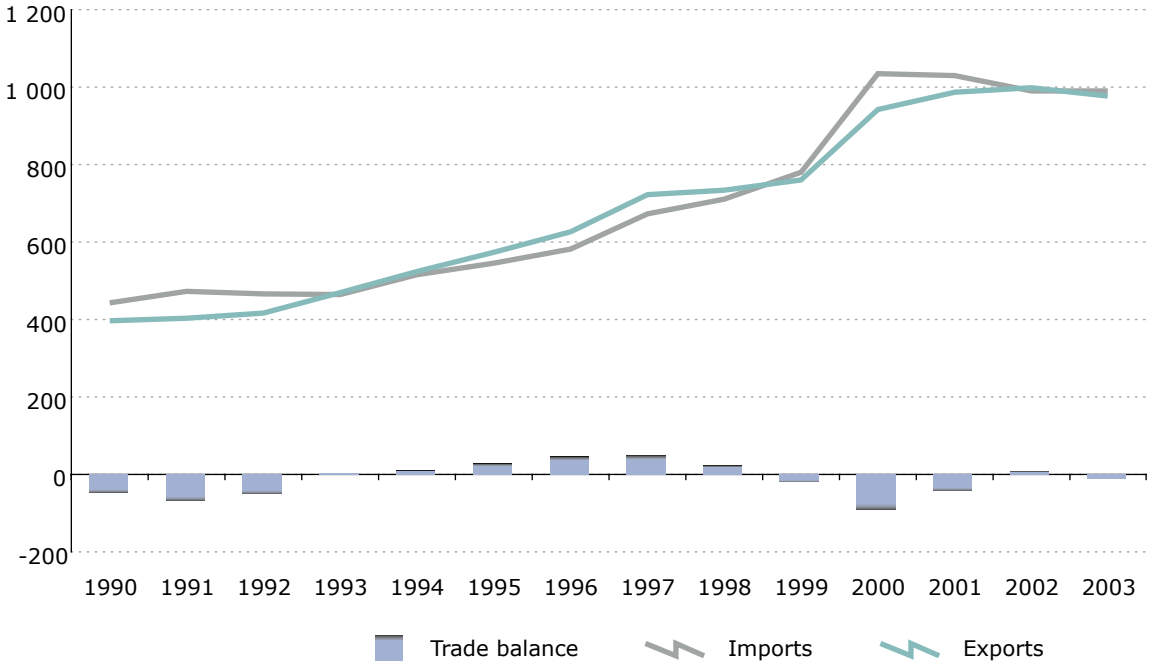


The EU-15's share in world trade(*) in 2002
In %

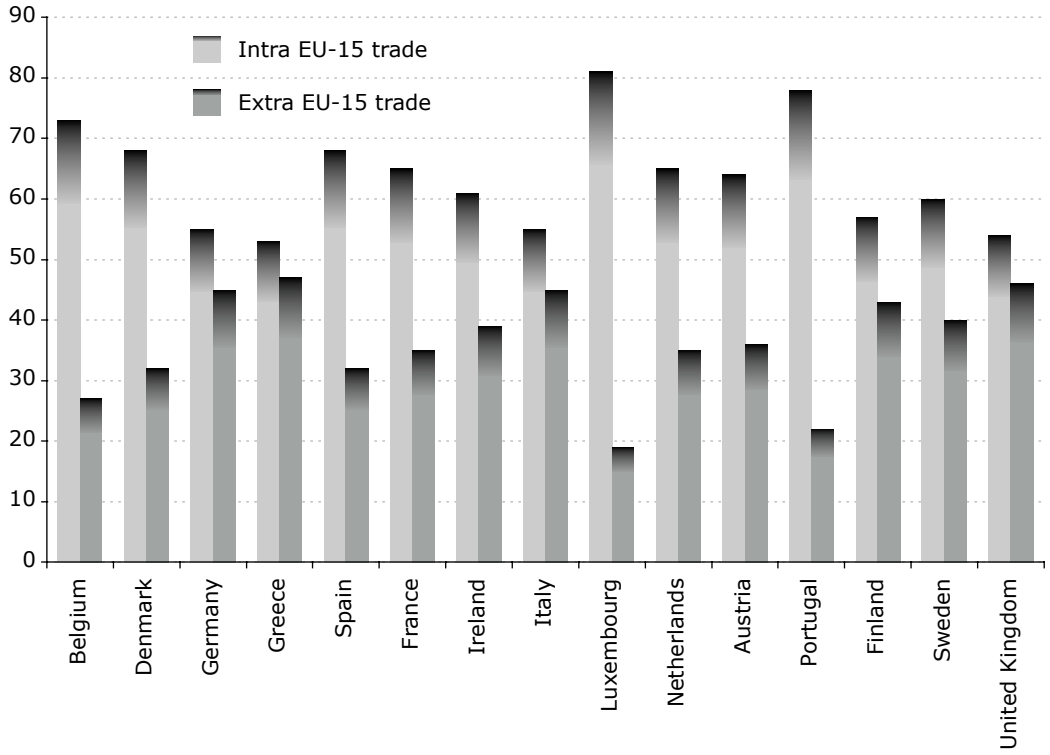


(*) imports + exports.

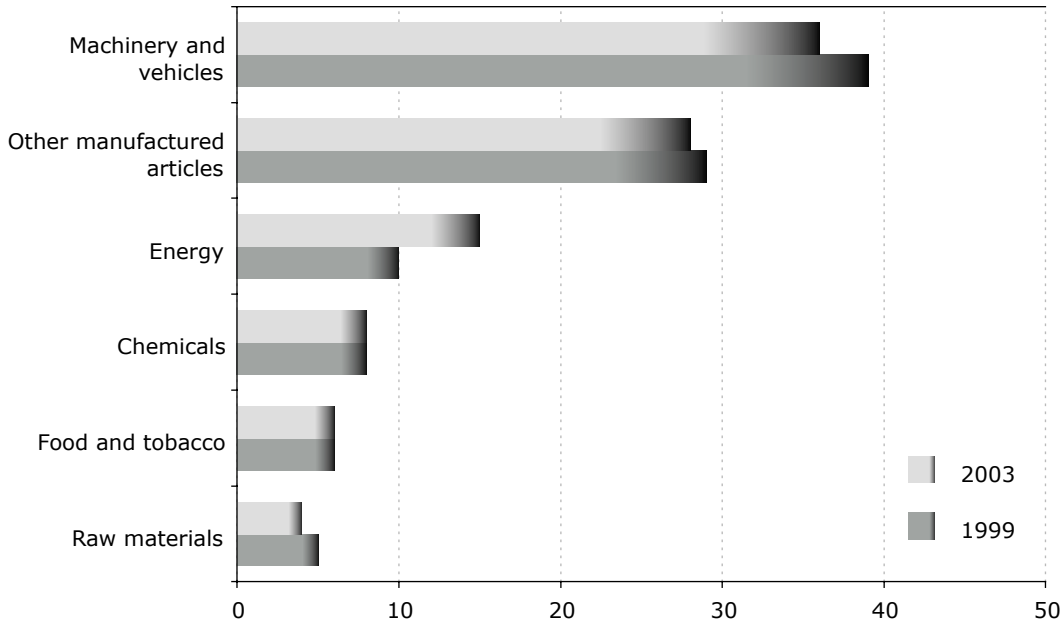
Evolution of the EU-15's trade from 1990 to 2003
In billion ECU/EUR



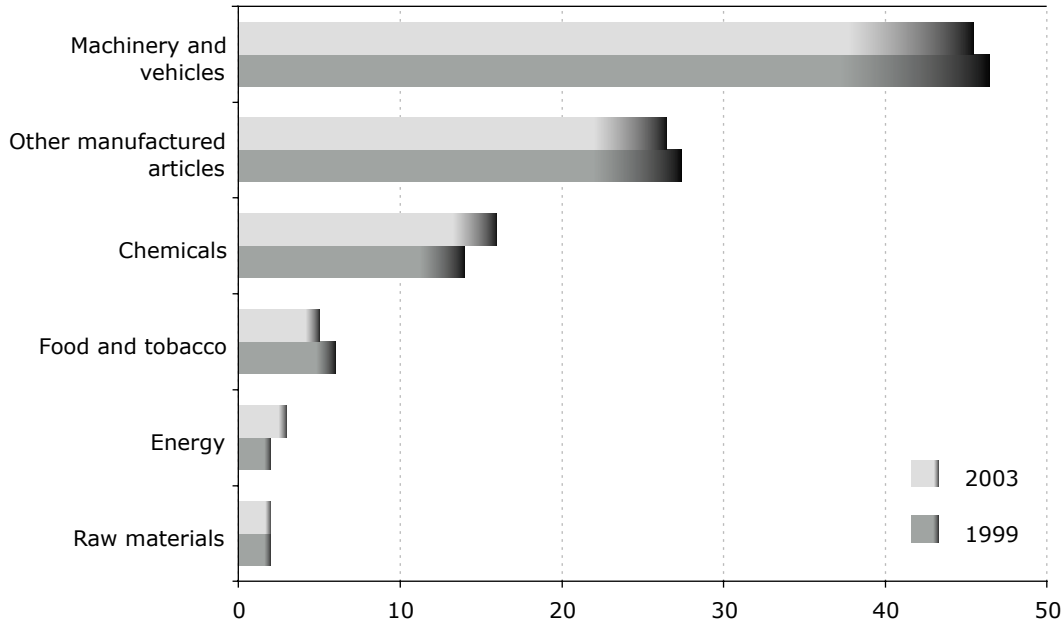
Shares of intra- and extra-EU-15 trade in total trade in 2003
In %



Share of the main products in the EU-15's total imports
In %



Share of the main products in the EU-15's total exports
In %



Total trade of the EU-15, EU-25 and the Member States in 2003

In billion EUR

	Export			Import			Trade balance	
	2003	2002	Change in %	2003	2002	Change in %	2003	2002
EU-15	976.7	997.2	-2	988.9	989.2	0	-12.2	8.0
EU-25	880.4	903.3	-3	936.3	942.0	-1	-55.9	-38.7
Belgium	225.7	228.6	-1	208.1	210.3	-1	17.6	18.3
Czech Republic	43.0	40.7	6	45.2	43.0	5	-2.2	-2.3
Denmark	59.6	60.8	-2	51.1	53.2	-4	8.5	7.6
Germany	661.6	651.3	2	531.9	518.5	3	129.6	132.8
Estonia	4.0	3.6	10	5.7	5.1	13	-1.7	-1.4
Greece	11.7	10.9	7	39.2	33.1	19	-27.5	-22.1
Spain	134.1	132.9	1	177.7	174.6	2	-43.6	-41.7
France	341.9	350.8	-3	345.2	348.2	-1	-3.4	2.6
Ireland	82.0	93.3	-12	47.2	55.4	-15	34.8	37.9
Italy	258.2	269.1	-4	257.1	261.2	-2	1.1	7.8
Cyprus	0.4	0.4	-6	3.6	3.9	-8	-3.2	-3.5
Latvia	6.1	5.5	11	8.4	8.0	6	-2.3	-2.4
Lithuania	2.6	2.4	6	4.6	4.3	8	-2.1	-1.9
Luxembourg	11.8	10.8	9	14.4	13.8	4	-2.6	-3.0
Hungary	37.7	36.5	3	42.1	39.9	6	-4.5	-3.4
Malta	2.0	2.1	-5	2.9	2.8	2	-0.8	-0.7
Netherlands	260.0	258.1	1	232.3	231.9	0	27.6	26.2
Austria	84.7	83.2	2	86.7	82.8	5	-1.9	0.4
Poland	47.5	43.5	9	60.4	58.5	3	-12.8	-15.0
Portugal	27.7	28.1	-1	39.9	42.4	-6	-12.1	-14.3
Slovenia	11.3	11.0	3	12.2	11.6	6	-1.0	-0.6
Slovak Republic	19.3	15.2	27	19.9	17.5	14	-0.6	-2.3
Finland	46.8	47.7	-2	37.1	36.2	3	9.7	11.6
Sweden	89.5	86.2	4	73.1	70.8	3	16.4	15.4
United Kingdom	269.3	296.3	-9	345.5	366.2	-6	-76.2	-69.9

Member States' contribution to the EU-25's total trade in 2003

	Export		Import		Trade balance
	Billion EUR	Share in %	Billion EUR	Share in %	Billion EUR
Extra EU-25	880.4	100	936.3	100	-55.9
Belgium	51.5	6	55.1	6	-3.6
Czech Republic	5.8	1	12.9	1	-7.1
Denmark	17.7	2	13.6	1	4.1
Germany	237.8	27	182.9	20	55.0
Estonia	0.7	0	2.0	0	-1.3
Greece	5.3	1	17.2	2	-11.9
Spain	34.5	4	56.8	6	-22.3
France	117.3	13	106.4	11	10.9
Ireland	30.9	4	17.7	2	13.2
Italy	104.4	12	101.5	11	2.9
Cyprus	0.2	0	1.4	0	-1.3
Latvia	0.5	0	1.1	0	-0.6
Lithuania	2.3	0	3.6	0	-1.3
Luxembourg	1.3	0	3.3	0	-2.0
Hungary	7.1	1	15.5	2	-8.4
Malta	1.1	0	0.9	0	0.1
Netherlands	51.9	6	105.8	11	-53.9
Austria	22.2	3	16.8	2	5.5
Poland	9.0	1	18.5	2	-9.5
Portugal	5.4	1	8.6	1	-3.2
Slovenia	3.7	0	3.0	0	0.8
Slovak Republic	3.0	0	5.1	1	-2.1
Finland	18.7	2	11.9	1	6.8
Sweden	37.0	4	20.5	2	16.4
United Kingdom	111.1	13	154.1	16	-43.0