

In the [European system of national and regional accounts](#) **dividends** are defined as a form of property income received by the owners of shares to which they become entitled as a result of placing funds at the disposal of corporations. It is a sub-item of the [national accounts](#) ' [property income](#) transactions.

The main difference with [interest](#) payments, is that dividends on shares are not fixed or predetermined.

Related concept

- [Allocation of primary income account](#)

Statistical data

- [National accounts and GDP](#)