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Tax revenue in the European Union

EU-27 tax revenue-to-GDP ratio down to 40.5% in 2008

The economic and financial crisis together with fiscal policy measures adopted in the Member States started to have an impact on tax revenue. In 2008, EU-27 general government tax revenue (including social contributions) fell to 40.5% of GDP, accounting for over 90% of total government revenue. The decline was more marked in the euro area (EA-16), where the ratio fell from 41.5% in 2007 to 40.9% in 2008. The growth of both tax revenue and nominal GDP, in absolute terms, slowed in 2008, recording the lowest increases in both EU-27 and EA-16 over the period 1998-2008.

Denmark and Sweden registered the highest taxrevenue-to-GDP ratios in 2008, around half of their GDP, although the ratios fell compared to 2007. By contrast, lower levels were generally observed in the countries that have joined the EU since 2004. during 2008 followed an increase of 0.8 percentage points between 2004 and 2007 (the 2004 level being the lowest value recorded over the period 1998-2008; see Figure 1).

During the past eleven years, Member States experienced

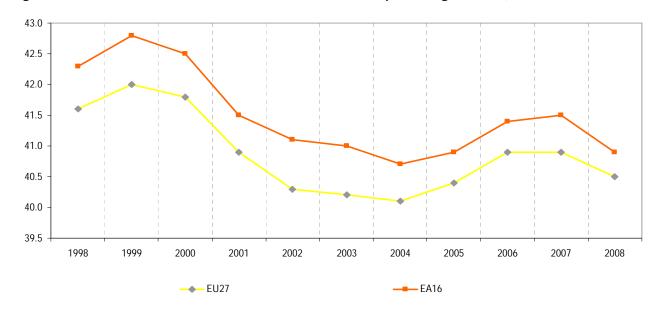
The fall of the tax revenue-to-GDP ratio in the EU-27

During the past eleven years, Member States experienced different movements in the ratio of tax revenue to GDP. The largest increases were observed in Cyprus (from 27.7% in 1998 to 39.2% in 2008) and Malta (from 26.9% to 36.0%), while the biggest reduction was recorded in Slovakia (from 36.8% to 29.3%). The largest decrease in the ratio between 2007 and 2008 was in Spain (-4.0 percentage points).

EU-27 tax revenue in 2008 was almost equally split between social contributions (33.9%), taxes on production and imports (33.0%), and current taxes on income, wealth, etc. (32.3%). In the Member States which have joined the EU since 2004 there is generally less reliance on direct taxes as a form of government revenue than in the EU-27 as a whole.

¹ For detailed information on the definition of tax revenue and government see the methodological notes at the end of this document.

Figure 1: Total tax revenue in the EU-27 and euro area as a percentage of GDP, 1998-2008



Source: Eurostat (gov a tax ag)



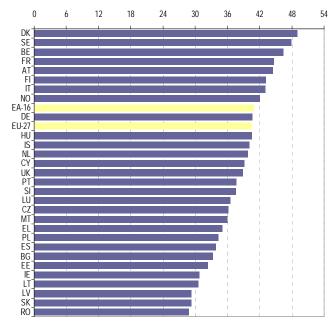
Tax revenue-to-GDP ratio in 2008: Denmark and Sweden on top

In 2008, tax revenue in the EU-27 stood at 40.5% of GDP, accounting for over 90% of total government revenue. The ratio of tax revenue to GDP in the euro area (EA-16) was slightly higher than in the EU-27, at 40.9%.

As Figure 2 shows, the ratio of tax revenue to GDP was highest in Denmark and Sweden (49.0% and 47.9% respectively in 2008), while it was generally lower in the countries joining the EU since 2004; the lowest share was in Romania, at 28.8% (more than 20 percentage points of GDP lower than Denmark in 2008). There are exceptions, however; the tax revenue-to-GDP ratios in Ireland, Spain and Greece are amongst the lowest in the EU (Ireland had the fifth lowest ratio at 30.8%).

After Denmark and Sweden, Belgium had a ratio of tax revenue to GDP well above the EU-27 average at 46.5%, while for almost half of the EU-27 countries plus Norway and Iceland, the ratio was within +/- 4 percentage points of the EU-27 average. Among the countries joining the EU since 2004, Hungary posted the highest tax revenue-to-GDP ratio, reaching the same level as the EU average. It is interesting to note that the arithmetical average of the 27 countries is somewhat lower (37.8%) than the GDP-weighted EU average, because of the relatively low levels of GDP (and therefore low weight) for the countries which tend to have the lower tax revenue.

Figure 2: Ranking of total tax revenue by Member States plus Iceland and Norway in 2008 as a percentage of GDP



Source: Eurostat (gov a tax ag).

Trends in tax revenue over the period 1998-2008

The ratio of EU-27 tax revenue to GDP decreased by 0.4 percentage points compared to 2007, after the upward trend recorded since 2004 (the year during the period 1998-2008 for which the lowest ratio was recorded). The fall of the ratio in 2008 was similar to what happened after the peak of 1999, although at a lower level. Euro area tax revenue followed a roughly similar pattern, at a slightly higher level. In 2008 the EA-16 tax revenue-to-GDP ratio decreased more significantly than in the EU-27, by 0.6 percentage points relative to 2007 (see Figure 1). It is worth noting that, in absolute terms, tax revenue and nominal GDP growth rates almost came to a halt in 2008, recording the lowest increases in both EU-27 and EA-16 during the period 1998-2008.

There are many reasons why government tax revenue varies from year to year as a percentage of GDP. It would take a more in-depth analysis than the one presented here in order to explain the causes of such variations in particular countries. However, in general, the main reasons are changes in economic activity (affecting levels of employment, sales of goods and services, etc.) and in tax legislation (affecting tax rates, thresholds, exemptions, etc.). As a result, the economic and financial crisis - together with the fiscal policy measures adopted in the countries - started to have their impact on tax revenue in 2008. It should be noted, however, that even when using accrual methods of recording, the effects of changes in legislation or economic activity tend to have a delayed impact on tax revenue. Over the period 1998-2008, EU Member States experienced different movements in the tax revenue-to-GDP ratio. As shown in Table 1, Cyprus and Malta recorded upward trends (excluding the drop for Cyprus in 2008 and marginal reductions for Malta in

2003, 2006 and 2008) with the highest increases in the EU-27, at 11.5 and 9.1 percentage points respectively over the 11-year period. Slovakia, on the other hand, generally observed a downward trend, with a fall in the tax revenue-to-GDP ratio from 36.8% in 1998 to 29.3% in 2008. For countries like Belgium, Denmark, Greece, France, Italy, Slovenia and the United Kingdom, the ratio was quite stable during the period. In the other EU Member States the trend in the tax revenue-to-GDP ratio followed a more variable pattern, recording ups and downs during the period. This was the case for Latvia, where the ratio decreased from 33.8% in 1998 to its lowest value of 28.5% in 2002. In the five subsequent years it increased by 2.2 percentage points (with a stable ratio in 2004 and 2007), before turning down again to 29.3% during the latest year. Among the non-EU countries, Norway experienced a more stable evolution in the ratio with year-by-year changes not exceeding 1.6 percentage points while Iceland observed larger variations with an overall increase of 5.7 percentage points in the period 1998-2008.

Between 2007 and 2008, tax revenue in terms of GDP fell in 18 of the 27 EU Member States, rose in 8 and remained stable in one. Iceland and Norway also recorded a decrease in the ratio. The largest decreases of tax revenue-to-GDP ratios were seen in Spain, Ireland, Cyprus and Latvia (-4.0, -2.0, -1.7 and -1.4 percentage points respectively compared to 2007), while the increase of the ratio in other countries wasat or below 0.8 percentage points (the United Kingdom showing the largest increase).

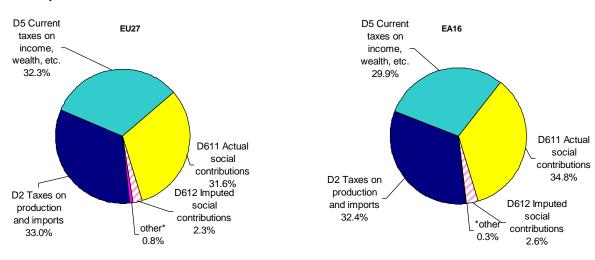
In 2008 indirect taxes, direct taxes and social contributions contributed almost equally to tax revenue in the EU-27

Tax revenue can be grouped into three main categories or types: indirect taxes defined as taxes linked to production and imports (such as value added tax - VAT), direct taxes consisting of current taxes on income and wealth plus capital taxes, and social contributions that include actual social contributions (for paying into social security funds or other social insurance schemes) plus imputed social contributions. In the ESA 95 classification, these categories correspond to the following transactions: taxes on production and imports (D.2), current taxes on income, wealth, etc. (D.5) and capital taxes (D.91), social contributions (D.61) composed by actual social contributions (D.611) and imputed social contributions (D.612).

The analysis of the breakdown of tax revenue in 2008 in EU-27 and the euro area showed that the share of each transaction in total tax revenue remained roughly

unchanged compared to the previous years. As shown in Figure 3, tax revenue in the EU-27 was relatively equally distributed between social contributions (33.9%), taxes on production and imports (33.0%), and current taxes on income, wealth, etc. (32.3%). A less balanced distribution of tax revenue was recorded for the euro area, with social contributions accounting for 37.4% in 2008, while current taxes on income, wealth, etc. accounted for the lowest share, at 29.9%. The EA-16 results highlight the relative importance of social contributions in Germany and France. In fact, these two countries together accounted for 53.4% of the EA-16 aggregate in this category. In addition, in 2008 a difference in the residual component 'other' was observed in the EU-27 (0.8%) compared to the euro-area (0.3%) due to the jump for capital taxes in the United Kingdom (+1.2) percentage points in terms of GDP compared to 2007².

Figure 3: Composition of EU-27 and EA-16 tax revenue in 2008



other: capital taxes (D91) and capital transfers to relevant sectors representing taxes and social contributions assessed but unlikely to be collected (D995)

Source: Eurostat (gov a tax ag).

In terms of GDP, EU-27 government revenue from taxes on production and imports (D.2) amounted to 13.4% in 2008; 13.1% was accounted for by current taxes on income, wealth, etc. (D.5) and 12.8% and 0.9% were recorded for actual (D.611) and imputed (D.612) social contributions respectively (see Figure 4).

Because of differing national tax structures, indirect taxes, direct taxes and social contributions vary considerably in importance from country to country in terms of the tax revenue they generate. It is important to note that, in the countries joining the EU since 2004, there is generally less reliance on direct taxes as a form of government revenue than in the EU as a whole.

Taxes on production and imports (D.2) are divided into taxes on products (D.21) payable per unit of some good or service produced or transacted and other taxes on production (D.29). Taxes on products are further split into value added type taxes (VAT; D.211), taxes and duties on imports excluding VAT (D.212) and taxes on products except VAT and import taxes (D.214). The most

important type of taxes on production and imports is VAT. In the EU-27, revenue from taxes on products reached over 80% of the total taxes on production and imports in 2008 (of which VAT accounted for over 50%). The biggest shares of taxes on production and imports relative to GDP were recorded in Bulgaria and Cyprus (both 18.6%), followed by Sweden (18.4%), while the lowest ratios of these indirect taxes were recorded for Spain (10.2%) and Slovakia (10.8%).

Current taxes on income, wealth, etc. (D.5) include taxes on income (D.51) and other current taxes (D.59). Taxes on income cover both individual or household income and the income or profits of corporations, and include taxes on holding gains. The contribution of these taxes by country varies significantly: from 29.7% of GDP in Denmark and 22.0% in Norway, down to 6.4% in Slovakia. However, the comparatively high ratio for Denmark is due to the fact that most welfare spending is financed via taxes on income and, consequently, the figures for actual social contributions are very low relative to other countries.

² This relates to interventions in the financial crisis

EU27 EA16 RF BG CZ DK DE EE ΙE FL ES FR ΙT CY LV LT LU HU MT NΙ ΑT PLРΤ RO SI SK FΙ SF IJK IS NO 14 49 D2 Taxes on production and imports D5 Current taxes on income, wealth, etc. D611 Actual social contributions

■ D91 Capital taxes

Figure 4: Breakdown of tax revenue by country and by main tax categories in 2008 (% of GDP)³

Source: Eurostat (gov a tax ag).

D612 Imputed social contributions

Actual social contributions (D.611) are the main component of social contributions. This source of government revenue covers the compulsory and voluntary contributions paid to government by employees, employers, self- and non-employed persons. They also include any amounts payable to government as an employer. Actual social contributions accounted for the highest ratios in GDP terms in the Czech Republic (16.2%), France (16.1%) and Germany (15.3%) and for the lowest shares in Iceland, Ireland and Malta (3.1%, 5.3% and 6.2% respectively). Thus, as with taxes on income, revenue from actual social contributions differs widely among countries. The case of Denmark mentioned above is an exception, in that its share was only 1.0% of GDP in 2008 for this type of tax revenue.

Imputed social contributions (D.612) in the national accounts system represent the counterpart of unfunded social benefits provided by the government as an employer. In 2007, they accounted for 2.5% in Greece and 2.2% in Belgium in terms of GDP, but for less than 0.1% in the Czech Republic, Cyprus Iceland and Norway.

More detailed breakdowns of D.2, D.5 and D.611 by country are shown in Table 2.

Besides the main transactions of taxes on production and imports, current taxes on income, wealth, etc. and social contributions, Figure 4 shows two minor components that are included in the definition of tax revenue: capital taxes (D.91) and capital transfers from general government to relevant sectors, representing taxes and social contributions assessed but unlikely to be collected (D.995).

D995 (see footnote 2)

Capital taxes (D.91) are taxes levied at irregular and infrequent intervals on the net worth or value of assets owned, or transferred in the form of legacies or gifts. These taxes accounted for 0.4% of GDP in the EU-27 in 2008, with low ratios mainly recorded for the new Member States. They range from 1.5% in the United Kingdom and 0.7% in Belgium down to less than 0.02% in the Czech Republic, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden.

For those countries implementing the assessment method of accrual recording (see Methodological notes), capital transfers from general government to other sectors of the economy (D.995), representing taxes and social contributions assessed but unlikely to be collected, have to be deducted from tax revenue. In 2008, for the EU-27 as a whole, this adjustment amounted to 0.1% of GDP, with the highest shares being registered for Spain (0.6%), Bulgaria (0.3%) and France (0.2%).

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³ The negative amounts represent capital transfers to the relevant sectors, relating to taxes and social contributions assessed but unlikely to be collected (D.995)

Table 1: Total tax revenue by country, 1998-2008 (% of GDP and million euro)

		Tax revenue in % of GDP											Tax revenue in million of euro										
		1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
EU	27	41.6	42.0	41.8	40.9	40.3	40.2	40.1	40.4	40.9	40.9	40.5	3393349	3606649	3843205	3917999	4002893	4068872	4248712	4467490	4775232	5055056	5063719
EA	16	42.3	42.8	42.5	41.5	41.1	41.0	40.7	40.9	41.4	41.5	40.9	2603789	2754716	2879121	2938006	3008936	3095499	3195001	3327695	3542040	3738609	3790369
В	Ε	47.5	47.5	47.1	47.2	47.3	46.8	46.9	46.9	46.5	46.0	46.5	108402	113252	118872	122384	126934	129078	136371	141946	147945	154057	160210
В	3	31.5	30.9	32.5	30.9	29.6	32.2	33.1	34.0	33.2	34.2	33.3	3591	3763	4458	4717	4924	5714	6569	7441	8376	9889	11369
C.	Z	33.4	34.1	33.9	34.0	34.8	35.8	37.5	37.2	36.7	37.3	36.2	18495	19237	20839	23496	27878	28971	33071	37239	41765	47455	53494
D	K	50.3	50.9	50.2	49.4	48.8	49.0	50.0	51.7	50.5	49.9	49.0	78006	83142	87181	88459	90094	92275	98444	107312	110502	113179	114258
D	E	42.4	43.2	43.3	41.4	41.0	41.1	40.2	40.2	40.5	40.7	40.6	827732	868890	893080	875070	879230	889290	888040	900510	941860	988160	1013570
E	Ε	34.1	32.6	31.0	30.3	31.1	30.8	30.6	30.7	31.1	32.4	32.3	1703	1745	1911	2109	2418	2690	2968	3437	4121	5066	5192
IE	≣	33.1	33.2	32.8	31.1	29.8	30.3	31.6	32.1	33.6	32.8	30.8	26061	29994	34428	36335	38815	42401	47166	52031	59462	62247	56003
E	L	34.3	35.4	36.6	35.2	35.7	34.1	33.3	34.0	33.9	34.7	35.1	41872	46642	50415	51561	55885	58844	61956	66386	71311	78524	83916
E	S	33.9	34.4	34.8	34.3	34.7	34.7	35.3	36.4	37.2	37.9	33.9	181930	199716	219035	233424	253263	271901	296987	330988	366585	399389	369520
FI	₹	45.8	46.7	45.9	45.6	44.9	44.7	45.0	45.4	45.7	44.9	44.6	602393	639119	661989	682440	695718	713635	747116	784264	825412	851460	868933
17	T	42.9	42.9	42.1	41.8	41.2	41.7	40.9	40.7	42.3	43.4	43.1	466105	483084	501825	522357	533676	556264	568903	581668	628097	670246	677259
C,	Y	27.7	28.0	30.0	30.9	31.2	33.0	33.4	35.5	36.5	40.9	39.2	2364	2564	3022	3339	3484	3885	4255	4851	5350	6520	6768
L'	/	33.8	32.3	29.7	28.7	28.5	28.7	28.7	29.2	30.7	30.7	29.3	2031	2199	2523	2673	2824	2865	3208	3803	4924	6484	6794
L.	Γ	31.8	31.7	30.1	28.7	28.4	28.1	28.6	28.8	29.7	30.0	30.6	3188	3262	3730	3892	4271	4641	5185	6009	7124	8583	9858
LU	J	40.4	39.2	40.0	40.6	40.2	39.0	38.2	38.5	36.4	36.5	36.5	6986	7794	8798	9172	9634	10081	10496	11644	12445	13691	14342
Н	J	37.7	38.3	39.1	38.3	37.9	38.0	37.5	37.6	37.3	39.9	40.5	16376	17668	20076	22815	26846	28159	31022	33320	33542	40303	42734
М	Т	26.9	28.7	29.3	31.9	33.0	32.8	34.4	35.5	35.1	36.1	36.0	915	1050	1237	1371	1481	1452	1549	1696	1795	1967	2048
N	L	40.6	41.5	40.9	39.4	38.7	38.4	38.5	38.6	39.8	39.6	39.8	145974	160138	171149	176355	180173	183075	189192	197945	214890	225472	237141
A	Т	46.5	46.2	45.3	47.1	45.7	45.5	44.9	43.9	43.5	43.8	44.4	88206	91409	93978	100148	100004	101665	104610	107030	111498	118468	125053
Р	L	35.4	34.9	32.6	32.2	32.7	32.2	31.5	32.8	33.8	34.8	34.3	54307	54956	60490	68340	68563	61739	64265	80152	91892	108290	124470
P.	Т	34.1	34.8	35.2	34.8	35.6	36.0	35.2	36.3	37.0	37.8	37.7	36092	39728	43008	45051	48255	49898	50712	54096	57470	61636	62812
R	o	29.0	31.3	30.6	28.9	28.5	28.1	27.7	28.5	29.2	29.8	28.8	10850	10581	12420	13099	13857	14794	16941	22722	28499	37169	40243
S	I	38.0	38.4	37.7	37.9	38.2	38.4	38.6	38.9	38.6	38.0	37.6	7337	7949	8075	8610	9363	9877	10463	11186	11976	13130	13960
SI	<	36.8	35.5	34.2	33.2	33.2	33.1	31.7	31.5	29.4	29.4	29.3	7338	6803	7528	7820	8604	9743	10770	12106	13101	16149	18973
F	ı	46.5	46.1	47.4	44.8	44.8	44.2	43.7	44.2	43.6	43.1	43.2	54084	56586	62684	62569	64416	64408	66416	69349	72844	77493	79863
S	Ε	52.1	52.4	52.4	50.5	48.6	49.0	49.4	50.2	49.7	48.9	47.9	117475	126268	139663	126923	128336	135207	142063	147896	155782	161994	157019
U	K	37.2	37.5	38.1	37.9	36.5	36.2	36.7	37.6	38.4	38.1	38.9	483540	529112	610794	623470	623948	596319	649974	690465	746668	778036	707919
15	3	34.4	36.8	37.1	35.3	35.2	36.7	37.9	40.6	41.4	41.4	40.1	2540	3016	3497	3118	3338	3560	4035	5324	5513	6049	3771
N	o	42.0	42.3	42.7	42.9	43.1	42.3	43.3	43.6	44.0	43.7	42.1	56603	63158	77898	81926	88043	84270	90235	105809	118094	123992	130476

Source: Eurostat (gov a tax ag).

Table 2: Breakdown of tax revenue by country and by detailed tax categories in 2008 (million euro and % of GDP)

	D2 Taxes on product and imports	D21 Taxes on products	D211 Value added type taxes	D212 Taxes and duties on imports excl. VAT	D214 Taxes on products, excl. VAT and import tax	D29 Other taxes on production	D5 Current taxes on income wealth etc.	D51 Taxes on income	D59 Other current taxes	D91 Capital taxes	Total tax receipts	D611 Actual social contributions	D6111 Empoyers actual social contributions	D6112 Empoyees' actual social contributions	D6113 Social contributions by self and non-employed	- D612 Imputed socia contributions	D995 Capital transfe from gen. governmer I assessed but unlikel to be collected	ıt
	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP	in Million in % euro GDP
EU27	1670326 13.4	1379844 11.0	862448 6.9	50339 0.4	467057 3.7	290482 2.3	1635478 13.1	1534633 12.3	100846 0.8	52615 0.4	3358419 26.9	1602317 12.8	919246 7.3	492832 3.9	190239 1.5	115435 0.9	12452 0.	1 5063719 40.5
EA16	1227963 13.3	997565 10.8	624352 6.7	41543 0.4	331670 3.6	230398 2.5	1132540 12.2	1080605 11.7	51936 0.6	23832 0.3	2384335 25.7	1317572 14.2	751732 8.1	392285 4.2	2 173555 1.9	99912 1.1	11449 0.	1 3790369 40.9
BE	45177 13.1	39099 11.3	24126 7.0	2274 0.7	12700 3.7	6078 1.8	57058 16.6	55124 16.0	1934 0.6	2370 0.7	104605 30.3	48076 13.9	28970 8.4	14589 4.2		7528 2.2		- 160210 46.5
BG CZ	6330 18.6 16764 11.3	6164 18.1 16201 11.0	3921 11.5 10437 7.1	103 0.3 1648 1.1	2140 6.3 4116 2.8	165 0.5 563 0.4	2202 6.5 12695 8.6	2159 6.3 12565 8.5	44 0.1 130 0.1	186 0.5 16 0.0	8718 25.6 29475 19.9	2757 8.1 24007 16.2	1705 5.0 15237 10.3	901 2.6 5341 3.6		12 0.0	106 0.	3 11369 33.3 - 53494 36.2
DK	40462 17.4	36060 15.5	23534 10.1	544 0.2	11981 5.1	563 0.4 4403 1.9	69252 29.7	66941 28.7	130 0.1 2312 1.0	639 0.3	110353 47.4	2335 1.0	103 0.0	2232 1.0		1912 0.8	343 0.	1 114258 49.0
DE	319540 12.8	262580 10.5	175870 7.0	17870 0.7	68840 2.8	56960 2.3	281190 11.3	273700 11.0	7490 0.3	4770 0.2	605500 24.3	382820 15.3	162350 6.5	151910 6.1	68560 2.7	25250 1.0		- 1013570 40.6
EE	2003 12.5	1891 11.8	1288 8.0	569 3.5	34 0.2	112 0.7	1277 7.9	1277 7.9	0 0.0		3280 20.4	1891 11.8	1836 11.4	31 0.2	2 24 0.1	21 0.1		- 5192 32.3
IE	22632 12.4	20620 11.3	12989 7.1	3336 1.8	4296 2.4	2012 1.1	20559 11.3	20066 11.0	493 0.3	332 0.2	43522 23.9	9670 5.3	5929 3.3	3336 1.8	406 0.2		-	- 56003 30.8
EL	29606 12.4	28612 12.0	17002 7.1	666 0.3	10944 4.6	994 0.4	18497 7.7	17561 7.3	936 0.4	612 0.3	48715 20.4	29285 12.2	13641 5.7	11293 4.7	4351 1.8	5916 2.5	-	- 83916 35.1
ES	111030 10.2	99031 9.1	57298 5.3	1718 0.2	40015 3.7	11999 1.1	117483 10.8	112738 10.4	4745 0.4	4678 0.4	233191 21.4	133841 12.3	96370 8.9	21278 2.0	16193 1.5	9202 0.8	6714 0.	6 369520 33.9
FR	293021 15.0	210104 10.8	136838 7.0	1983 0.1	71283 3.7	82917 4.3	223066 11.4	203703 10.4	19363 1.0	7902 0.4	523989 26.9	314891 16.1	214001 11.0	77855 4.0	23035 1.2	34584 1.8	4531 0.	2 868933 44.6
IT	220636 14.0	170155 10.8	92811 5.9	2269 0.1	75075 4.8	50481 3.2	241427 15.4	234556 14.9	6871 0.4	478 0.0	462541 29.4	210867 13.4	143695 9.1	37450 2.4	29722 1.9	3851 0.2	-	- 677259 43.1
CY	3209 18.6	2801 16.2	1955 11.3	195 1.1	651 3.8	407 2.4	2220 12.9	2083 12.1	138 0.8	7 0.0	5436 31.5	1333 7.7	910 5.3	364 2.1	58 0.3	0 0.0	-	- 6768 39.2
LV	2562 11.1	2418 10.4	1538 6.6	70 0.3	810 3.5	144 0.6	2236 9.7	2186 9.4	50 0.2	4 0.0	4802 20.7	1893 8.2	1369 5.9	512 2.2	12 0.1	99 0.4	-	- 6794 29.3
LT	3845 11.9	3707 11.5	2593 8.1	82 0.3	1032 3.2	138 0.4	3017 9.4	3006 9.3	11 0.0	2 0.0	6863 21.3	2902 9.0	2579 8.0	277 0.9		112 0.3	19 0.	1 9858 30.6
LU	4721 12.0	4111 10.4	2356 6.0	1405 3.6	350 0.9	610 1.6	5269 13.4	5039 12.8	230 0.6	53 0.1	10044 25.5	3986 10.1	1695 4.3	1824 4.6		312 0.8	-	- 14342 36.5
HU	16886 16.0	16164 15.3	8224 7.8	157 0.1	7783 7.4	723 0.7	11142 10.6	10848 10.3	293 0.3	66 0.1	28094 26.6	14548 13.8	10319 9.8	3485 3.3		92 0.1	-	- 42734 40.5
MT	858 15.1	829 14.6	458 8.1	15 0.3		29 0.5	743 13.1	717 12.6	26 0.4	15 0.3	1616 28.4	352 6.2	158 2.8	158 2.8			-	- 2048 36.0
NL	75465 12.7	69260 11.6	43221 7.3	8213 1.4	17826 3.0	6205 1.0	69230 11.6	63437 10.6	5793 1.0	1799 0.3	146494 24.6	86258 14.5	28938 4.9	40642 6.8				- 237141 39.8
AT	40691 14.4	31957 11.3	21935 7.8	350 0.1	9673 3.4	8734 3.1	39459 14.0	37666 13.4	1793 0.6	143 0.1	80292 28.5	40812 14.5	19020 6.7	16801 6.0		4130 1.5		1 125053 44.4
PL	52324 14.4	46661 12.9	29103 8.0	1451 0.4	16106 4.4	5663 1.6	31248 8.6	29266 8.1	1982 0.5	98 0.0	83670 23.1	41166 11.4	17225 4.8	16667 4.6			366 0.	1 124470 34.3
PT	24719 14.9	23282 14.0	14432 8.7	808 0.5	8042 4.8	1437 0.9	16521 9.9	15926 9.6	595 0.4	11 0.0 0 0.0	41252 24.8	19868 11.9	12971 7.8	5936 3.6			,	- 62812 37.7
RO SI	16738 12.0 5328 14.3	15643 11.2 4734 12.7	11036 7.9 3130 8.4	324 0.2 87 0.2	4283 3.1 1517 4.1	1094 0.8 594 1.6	9388 6.7 3333 9.0	8996 6.4 3133 8.4	393 0.3 200 0.5	0 0.0 11 0.0	26126 18.7 8671 23.3	13204 9.4 5221 14.1	8446 6.0 2042 5.5	4434 3.2 2752 7.4		913 0.7 90 0.2		- 40243 28.8 1 13960 37.6
SK	6966 10.8	6473 10.0	4454 6.9	150 0.2	1870 2.9	493 0.8	4165 6.4	4026 6.2	140 0.2	0 0.0	11131 17.2	7766 12.0	4319 6.7	1891 2.9			23 0.	- 18973 29.3
FI	24364 13.2	23916 12.9	15478 8.4	205 0.1	8233 4.5	448 0.2	32321 17.5	31130 16.9	1191 0.6	651 0.4	57336 31.0	22527 12.2	16722 9.1	4208 2.3				- 79863 43.2
SE	60506 18.4	42477 12.9	30942 9.4	536 0.2	10999 3.4	18029 5.5	57154 17.4	56283 17.2	871 0.3	2 0.0	117661 35.9	36939 11.3	27285 8.3	8857 2.7			, .	- 157019 47.9
UK	223944 12.3	194894 10.7	115480 6.4	3310 0.2	76104 4.2	29050 1.6	303327 16.7	260501 14.3	42825 2.4	27772 1.5	555042 30.5	143103 7.9	81410 4.5	57810 3.2				
IS	1605 17.1	1308 13.9	934 9.9	41 0.4	333 3.5	297 3.2	1874 19.9	1832 19.5	42 0.4	3 0.0	3482 37.0	290 3.1	283 3.0	0 0.0		0 0.0	0 0.	
NO	34376 11.1	32631 10.5	22477 7.3	286 0.1	9868 3.2	1745 0.6	68298 22.0	66075 21.3	2222 0.7	240 0.1	102913 33.2	27504 8.9	16861 5.4	10643 3.4	0 0.0	59 0.0) -	- 130476 42.1

Source: Eurostat (gov a tax ag)

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METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

This box gives some background explanation on government revenue in the form of taxes and social contributions. More exhaustive information and data can be found on <u>Eurostat's homepage</u> in the section dedicated to <u>Government finance statistics</u>.

Reporting of data to Eurostat

Data are collected by Eurostat on the basis of the European System of Accounts (ESA 95) transmission programme, table 0900, 'Detailed tax and social contributions receipts by type and receiving sub-sector'. The legal requirement for transmission of data by EU Member States is at year t+9 months. The data in this publication correspond to the end-September 2009 transmission.

Accordingly, there could be slight differences compared to data collected on the basis of table 0200, 'Main aggregates of general government' (transmitted at t+3 and t+9 months) which correspond to the end-March 2010 transmission that has been recently released.

Definition of government

The data relate to the general government sector of the economy, as defined in ESA95, comprising the sub-sectors central government, state government, local government, and social security funds.

For the purpose of this publication the term 'general government' also includes taxes collected on behalf of the EU institutions. In this way it presents all tax revenues collected at the EU level.

Definition of tax revenue

The definition used in this *Statistics in Focus* is 'Total taxes and social contributions payable to general government, including those for government as an employer'. This corresponds to '<u>Indicator 4</u>', the broadest of four indicators defined by the Eurostat National Accounts Working Group in June 2001. This indicator covers fully the series reported under table 0900 of the ESA 95 transmission programme. In particular it encompasses the wide diversity of social security systems in the EU.

The four Indicators are defined as follows (the codes in brackets refer to ESA95):

Taxes on production and imports (D.2)

- + Current taxes on income, wealth, etc (D.5)
- + Capital taxes (D.91)
- Capital transfers from general government to relevant sectors representing taxes and social contributions assessed but unlikely to be collected (D.995)
- + Compulsory actual social contributions payable to the social security funds (S.1314)
- = Indicator 1 (Total taxes and compulsory social security contributions)
- + Compulsory actual social contributions payable to the central government (S.1311), state government (S.1312), and local government (S.1313) subsectors as employers
- = Indicator 2 (Total taxes and compulsory actual social contributions payable to general government, including those for government as an employer)
- + Imputed social contributions (D.612) payable to general government as an employer
- = Indicator 3 (Total taxes and compulsory social contributions payable to general government, including those for government as an employer)
- + Voluntary actual social contributions payable to the general government sector
- = <u>Indicator 4</u> (Total taxes and social contributions payable to general government, including those for government as an employer).

It has been found that, comparing the four indicators, the trend in tax revenue is very similar. In terms of level of tax revenue, <u>Indicator 4</u> is roughly one percentage point of GDP higher than the <u>Indicator 2</u> measure. For a full analysis of tax structures, see Eurostat / DG Taxud joint publication 'Taxation trends in the European Union', 2009 edition.

Time of recording

According to ESA 95, taxes and social contributions should be recorded on an accrual basis. Council Regulation 2516/2000 details the rules to be followed on the time of recording and the amounts to be recorded. Two methods can be used:

a) 'time-adjusted' cash – the cash is attributed when the activity took place to generate the tax liability or when the amount of taxes was determined in the case of some income taxes. This adjustment may be based on the average time difference between the activity and cash receipt;

b) a method based on declarations and assessments. In this case, an adjustment needs to be made for amounts assessed or declared but unlikely to be collected. These amounts have to be eliminated from government revenue, either by using a tax-specific coefficient based on past experience and future expectations or by recording a capital transfer for the same adjustment (ESA 95 code D.995) to the relevant sectors.

Abbreviations

Euro area 16 (EA-16): BE (Belgium), DE (Germany), IE (Ireland), EL (Greece), ES (Spain), FR (France), IT (Italy), Cyprus (CY), LU (Luxembourg), Malta (MT), NL (the Netherlands), AT (Austria), PT (Portugal), SI (Slovenia), Slovakia (SK) and FI (Finland). In this publication, the euro area is defined as including Slovakia, although Slovakia joined the euro area on 1 January 2009.

EU or EU-27 (European Union of 27 Member States): Euro area countries plus BG (Bulgaria), CZ (the Czech Republic), DK (Denmark), EE (Estonia), LV (Latvia), LT (Lithuania), HU (Hungary), PL (Poland), RO (Romania), SE (Sweden) and UK (the United Kingdom).

ESA 95 classifications and codes

D2: TAXES ON PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS

D21: Taxes on products

D211: Value added type taxes

D212: Taxes and duties on imports excluding VAT

D214: Taxes on products, except VAT and import taxes

D29: Other taxes on production

D5: CURRENT TAXES ON INCOME, WEALTH, ETC.

D51: Taxes on income

D59: Other current taxes

D91: Capital Taxes

D2 D5 D91: TOTAL TAX RECEIPTS

D611: Actual social contributions

D6111: Employers' actual social contributions

D6112: Employees' social contributions

D6113: Social contributions by self- and non-employed persons

D612: Imputed social contributions

D995: Capital transfers from general government to relevant sectors representing taxes and social contributions assessed but unlikely to be collected

 $TOTAL~(D2_D5_D91_D611_D612_M_D995): total~receipts~from~taxes~and~social~contributions~(including~imputed~social~contributions)~after~deduction~of~amounts~assessed~but~unlikely~to~be~collected$

More data

Data used in this report is collected from the Member States, by the European Commission. More data can be found on Eurostat's homepage under the theme Economy and finance.

Symbols

- "-" 'not applicable', 'real zero' or 'zero by default
- ":" not available

Further information

Eurostat Website: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat

Data on "Governement finance statistics"

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/government_finance_statistics/data/database

Select "Annual government statistics"

More information about "Government finance statistics"

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/government_finance_statistics/introduction

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Manuscript completed on: 28.05.2010

Data extracted on: 22.03.2010

ISSN 1977-0316

Catalogue number: KS-SF-10-023-EN-N

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