

Workers' remittances in the EU27

Money transferred by migrants to their country of origin up by 3% to 31 bn euro in 2010

In the **EU27**, money sent by migrants to their country of origin, usually referred to as workers' remittances¹, registered a constant increase until 2008, mainly due to extra-EU27 flows. This trend was interrupted in 2009 by the economic crisis, but 2010 brought a partial recovery, although figures remain below 2007 levels. Total **EU27** outflows amounted to 31.2 billion euro in 2010, compared with 30.4 bn in 2009 (+3%). These figures include both intra-EU27 and extra-EU27 flows. The increase in workers' remittances in 2010 compared with 2009 was higher for **intra-EU27** flows (+6%) than for **extra-EU27** flows (+1%). The share of **extra-EU27** remittances in the total stood at 72% in 2010, the same level as in 2009.

The outflow of workers' remittances was highest in 2010 in **Spain** (7.2 bn euro or 23% of total EU27 remittances), **Italy** (6.6 bn or 21%), **Germany** (3.0 bn or 10%), **France** (2.9 bn or 9%), the **Netherlands** (1.5 bn or 5%) and **Greece** (1.1 bn or 3%). Among these Member States, the share of **extra-EU27** remittances in the total ranged between 67% in **Germany** and 91% in **Greece**. In 2010, the majority of Member States recorded similar levels of outflows of workers' remittances to 2009.

This News Release, issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, presents data² collected within the framework of Balance of Payments statistics.

Workers' remittances, total outflows from EU27 Member States, bn euro

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total outflow of workers' remittances	23.8	28.4	32.1	32.8	30.4	31.2
Intra-EU flows	7.8	8.8	9.4	9.2	8.4	8.9
Extra-EU flows	16.0	19.6	22.8	23.7	22.0	22.3

Source: Eurostat

Workers' remittances, outflows from EU27 Member States, million euro

	2009			2010		
	Total	Intra-EU27	Extra-EU27	Total	Intra-EU27	Extra-EU27
EU27*	30 446	8 405	22 041	31 212	8 874	22 338
Belgium	441	51	390	446	53	393
Bulgaria	10	6	4	7	1	6
Czech Republic	602	372	229	689	404	285
Denmark	c	c	c	c	c	c
Germany	2 995	976	2 018	3 035	987	2 048
Estonia	2	2	0	3	2	1
Ireland	c	c	c	516	416	100
Greece	908	125	783	1 081	97	984
Spain	7 149	c	c	7 198	c	c
France	2 846	782	2 065	2 872	815	2 057
Italy	6 753	1 191	5 563	6 572	1 225	5 347
Cyprus	84	42	42	116	55	61
Latvia	1	0	1	0	0	0
Lithuania	352	164	188	344	194	150
Luxembourg	67	52	15	69	55	15
Hungary	73	41	33	80	44	36
Malta	c	c	c	c	c	c
Netherlands**	1 492	383	1 109	1 492	383	1 109
Austria	767	422	346	798	434	364
Poland	7	4	3	46	11	36
Portugal	559	75	484	567	86	481
Romania	168	79	89	206	106	100
Slovenia	24	0	24	25	0	25
Slovakia	5	4	2	3	2	1
Finland	18	0	18	18	0	18
Sweden	18	0	18	20	0	20
United Kingdom	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source: Eurostat

* The EU27 aggregate includes confidential data and estimates for missing Member States

** Estimated

c confidential

: data not available

1. In the Balance of Payments statistics framework, workers' remittances cover current transfers (in cash or in kind) made by migrants who are employed in a new economy and considered resident there. Persons who work and stay in new economy for less than a year are considered non-residents; their transactions are recorded in the Balance of Payments statistics framework under the component "Compensation of employees".
2. For most Member States, annual data on remittances and compensation of employees by partner country are available from the Eurostat web-site at: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/balance_of_payments/data/database
Quarterly data related to remittances are also regularly collected and disseminated by Eurostat as part of the Quarterly Balance of Payments data. Quarterly data do not have the same geographical detail as the annual data.

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