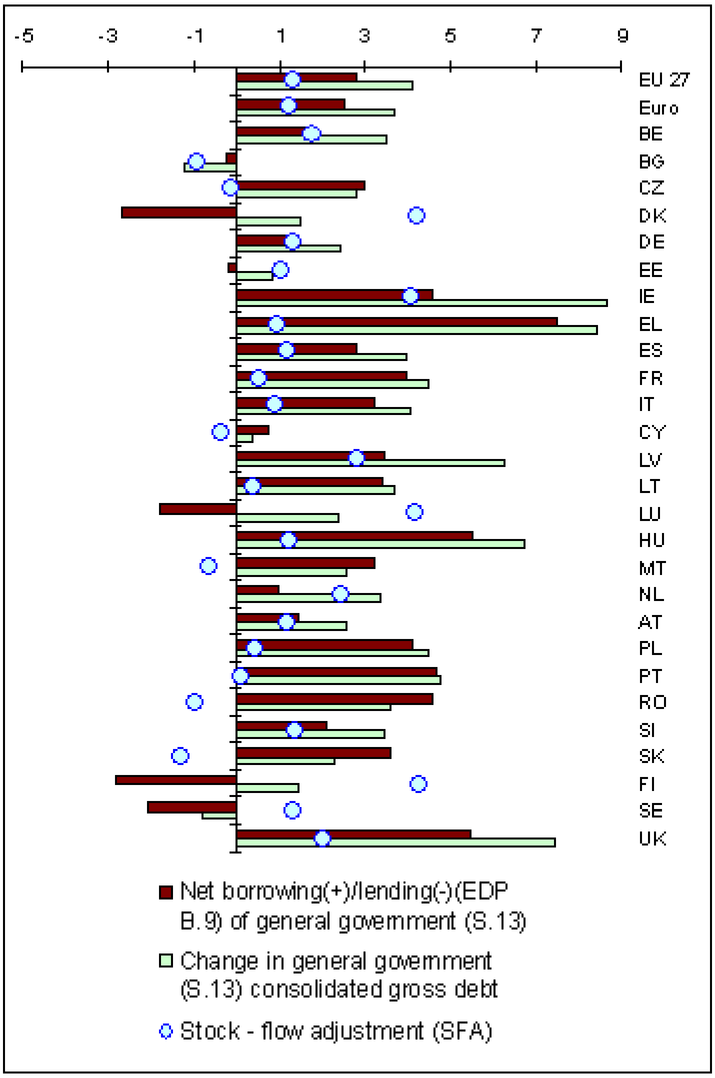
Stock-flow adjustment (SFA) for the Member States, the euro area and the EU27 for the period 2006-2009, as reported in the April 2010 EDP notification

The main factors contributing to changes in government debt other than government deficits/surpluses (stock-flow adjustment) are closely monitored by Eurostat

The stock-flow adjustment (SFA) is the difference between the change in government debt and the government deficit/surplus for a given period. Although SFAs generally have legitimate explanations, they are closely monitored by Eurostat during quality checks of the data for the excessive deficit procedure (EDP)[1], to ensure consistency across the reported data. Figure 1 shows the 2006-2009 average SFA for each Member State, together with the average government deficit/surplus (reversed sign) and the average change in the government debt, expressed in percent of GDP. The main purpose of this note is to introduce the elements of the SFA, and to provide an analysis of their patterns and trends. This note also contains country-specific comments.

Figure 1: Government deficit (reversed sign), change in Maastricht debt, and stock-flow adjustment as percent of GDP: 2006-2009 average



[1] *Council Regulation 479/2009 requires the prompt and regular reporting of deficit and debt data by Member States to Eurostat, including deficit and debt definitions. For definitions of government deficit and debt, and of consolidation, see the Methodological Annex.*

Introduction

The stock-flow adjustment (SFA) is the difference between the change in the stock of government debt and the flow of annual deficit/surplus. It is widely known that deficits contribute to an increase in debt levels, while surpluses reduce them. However, as Figure 1 shows, the change in government debt also reflects other elements. A positive SFA means that the government debt increases more than the annual deficit (or decreases less than implied by the surplus). On the contrary, a negative SFA means that the government debt increases less than the annual deficit (or decreases faster than implied by the surplus).

The importance of the SFA has been emphasized many times, as an efficient statistical monitoring of fiscal performance requires understanding the coherence between the two key fiscal indicators, government deficit and debt. It has been argued that since great attention is paid to the deficit under the EU multilateral fiscal surveillance (EDP and Stability and Growth Pact), governments may have an incentive in underreporting their deficits by reporting transactions under the SFA. SFAs generally have legitimate explanations, for example the loans granted by government or its equity injections into corporations, however it is important that they are closely monitored because they can highlight data quality problems.

Figure 2: Evolution of change in debt and annual deficit in EU27 in percent of GDP

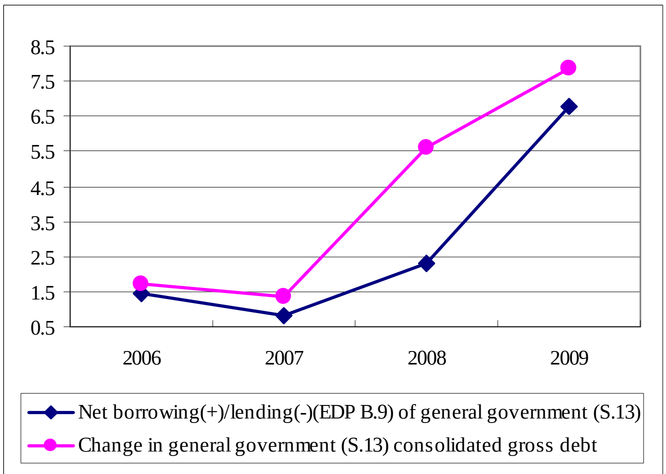


Figure 2 shows the evolution of SFA over time, it has been consistently positive in recent years for the EU27 aggregate: 0.3% of GDP in 2006, 0.5 % of GDP in 2007, *3.3% of GDP in 2008, and 1.1% of GDP in 2009*. Whilst the average SFA levels for the EU27 remained modest when expressed as a percent of GDP in the 2006-2007 period, a considerable increase in 2008 is observed, reflecting the reactions of Member States governments to the financial crisis.

The examination of country data shows that for many countries' SFAs are considerable for some years. Table 1 shows the SFA for the years 2006-2009, in percent of GDP. Large regular positive SFAs can be observed for Denmark and Finland, also, to a lesser extent for Ireland, Luxembourg and Sweden.

Extremely large, positive SFAs are reported by several Member States for 2008 and 2009.

On the other hand, large or very large negative values for two or more recent years can be observed for Bulgaria, the Netherlands, Romania and Slovakia. Several countries exhibit some large annual SFAs, though with signs that differ from year to year (e.g. Lithuania).

More than half of the annual SFAs observed for the Member States over 2006-2009 exceeded 1% of GDP, in absolute values, and almost one third even exceeded 2% of GDP. All Member States reported at least one SFA in excess of 1% of GDP for the four years under review. A large majority of the reported country annual SFAs over 2006-2009 are positive.

Table 1: Stock-flow adjustment in 2006-2009, in percent of GDP

	2006	2007	2008	2009
EU 27	0.28	0.51	3.30	1.06
Euro Area	0.22	0.46	3.25	0.81
BE	0.68	0.31	6.77	-0.92
BG	0.36	-1.53	0.49	-3.27
CZ	-0.68	1.46	-0.52	-1.04
DK	1.48	1.20	10.94	3.03
DE	0.41	0.50	2.74	1.52
EE	3.10	2.63	-1.82	0.09
IE	2.76	1.90	10.59	0.89
EL	1.33	-0.21	0.93	1.61
ES	1.86	1.07	0.67	0.93
FR	-2.02	0.40	2.13	1.51
IT	1.34	-0.36	1.35	1.09
CY	-0.98	2.95	-4.39	0.90
LV	0.14	0.64	7.25	3.12
LT	1.56	0.77	-2.67	1.64
LU	2.50	4.37	10.20	-0.52
HU	-0.85	-0.50	6.02	0.07
MT	-4.55	0.15	-0.13	1.80
NL	-1.34	0.66	15.49	-5.24
AT	-0.06	0.17	5.07	-0.70
PL	0.43	0.10	1.93	-0.91
PT	-0.23	-0.64	1.18	0.07
RO	-3.05	-0.18	-2.27	1.47
SI	0.42	-0.57	-0.88	6.35
SK	-3.60	0.23	-1.47	-0.50
FI	4.04	3.81	4.09	4.98
SE	0.36	1.28	1.17	2.27
UK	0.62	0.63	3.98	2.61

To explain the differences between Member States shown above, one has to look at the components of SFA, as SFA components often offset each other.

Categories of stock-flow adjustment – Factors contributing to the general government debt

The SFA is made up of 14 elements. This note presents these elements grouped into main categories.

Table 2 presents the SFA elements, as reported to the European Commission by Member States, showing EU27 figures in 2006-2009. Table 3, at the end of this document, details the SFA of each Member State for each year over 2006-2009. Cross-references to the data are made through the text. Table 3's columns are numbered, and references are included throughout the text in brackets.

The starting point of the analysis is the *Deficit/surplus level* (with reverse sign: a deficit is displayed with a positive sign, a surplus with a negative sign) and its contribution to the change in general government debt.

The first SFA category is called *Net acquisition of financial assets.* These corrections appear here because financial transactions are "below the line": while not contributing to the deficit, they lead to increases or decreases of the stock of debt.

A second category of SFA items comprises transactions in those liabilities that are excluded from the Maastricht debt definition: *Financial derivatives (F.34)* and *Other liabilities,* mainly composed of *other accounts payable* (*F.7*).

A third SFA category includes selected other adjustments:

The *Effects of face valuation* are shown in the next three lines (Issuances above(-)/below(+) nominal value, Difference between interest (EDP D.41) accrued(-) and paid(+) and Redemptions of debt above(+)/below(-) nominal value), reflecting the fact that the government debt, defined in Council Regulation 479/2009 is measured at face value (for bills and bonds issued) and therefore excludes accrued interest.

The *Appreciation (+)/depreciation (-) of foreign-currency debt* reflects the impact of changes in exchange rates on those Maastricht debt components that are denominated in foreign currencies.

The *Other changes in volume* (Changes in sector classification (K.12.1) (+/-), and Other volume changes in financial liabilities (K.7, K.8, K.10)(-)) mainly arise from the reclassification of units inside or outside general government, and other rare cases of disappearance of debt that are not reflected in the deficit/surplus.

The last item is the *Statistical discrepancy*, which reflects differences arising from the diversity of data sources and might also indicate problems with reliability of data.

Table 2: Stock-flow adjustment items for the EU27 in 2006-2009, million euro

EU-27				
April 2010 EDP notification	**2006**	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**
Net borrowing(+)/lending(-)(EDP B.9) of general government (S.13)*	**167,687**	**103,584**	**285,685**	**801,866**
Net acquisition (+) of financial assets [1]	**82,651**	**82,651**	**82,651**	**82,651**
Currency and deposits (F.2)	56,962	43,614	141,666	29,511
Securities other than shares (F.3)	24,153	20,989	67,279	13,648
Loans (F.4)	-6,101	9,468	79,777	24,443
Short-term loans (F.41)	1,188	1,554	48,438	-26,437
Long-term loans (F.42)	-7,289	7,914	31,338	50,880
Shares and other equity (F.5)	-23,904	-1,770	84,353	83,567
Other financial assets (F.1, F.6 and F.7)	31,542	23,828	41,730	43,990
Adjustments [1]	**-44,425**	**-35,160**	**9,122**	**-57,673**
Net incurrence (-) of liabilities in financial derivatives (F.34)	1,173	4,681	7,194	8,049
Net incurrence (-) of other liabilities (F.5, F.6 and F.7)	-48,553	-35,117	-12,441	-42,366
Issuances above(-)/below(+) nominal value	10,270	13,327	12,964	-9,712
Difference between interest (EDP D.41) accrued(-) and paid(+)	-176	-17,506	-11,926	-7,637
Redemptions of debt above(+)/below(-) nominal value	609	103	249	117
Appreciation(+)/depreciation(-)[2] of foreign-currency debt	-6,829	-3,223	13,647	-5,710
Changes in sector classification (K.12.1)(+/-)	-79	-150	379	-75
Other volume changes in financial liabilities (K.7, K.8, K.10)(-)	-839	2,728	-942	-341
Statistical discrepancies	**-5,273**	**2,168**	**-11,063**	**-12,908**
Change in general government (S.13) consolidated gross debt [1][3]	**200,640**	**166,723**	**698,551**	**926,443**
*Memorandum item: aggregation effect***		*-74,173*	*-266,780*	*66,834*
*Memorandum item: change in aggregated general government debt***		*92,550*	*431,771*	*993,277*

*Please note the sign convention in this table for net borrowing / net lending: a positive entry reflects a deficit, a negative entry reflects a surplus.

(1) Consolidated within general government.

(2) Due to exchange-rate movements and to swap activity.

(3) A positive entry in this row means that nominal debt increases, a negative entry that nominal debt decreases.

** Aggregated data for EU27 are calculated from the nominal figures sent by Member States to Eurostat, using an average or an end of period rate as appropriate. For the EU27 aggregate, it should be noted that the "aggregation of (national) changes in government debt" (which is reported in the core and not in the memorandum item of this table) is not the same as the "change in aggregated debt", owing to the impact of different exchange rates used (for flows and for stocks) from one year to the other when the data are converted in euro.

Net lending (+) / Net borrowing (-)

The main factor contributing to the change in government consolidated gross debt is generally the deficit or surplus of the general government sector (column 1 in table 3). Figure 3 illustrates deficits/surpluses in 2006-2009, sorted in descending order of the deficit level in 2009. The EU27 government fluctuated between 0.8 and 6.8% of GDP over the 2006-2009 period, decreasing until 2007 and then rising, while the euro area deficit remained below of the EU27.

No Member State recorded only surpluses in the examined period. Sweden, Luxembourg, Finland, Denmark, Bulgaria and the Netherlands recorded surpluses in the period except for 2009. Estonia and Spain had surplus in 2006 and 2007, their balance turning to deficit in 2008. Germany and Cyprus had surplus in 2007 and 2008, while Ireland in 2006 and 2007. Slovenia had deficits except for 2007 while Belgium except for 2006.

Finally, 15 out of the 27 Member States recorded deficits in each year during this period.

In 2009, 22 Member States had a deficit more than the critical 3% of their GDP.

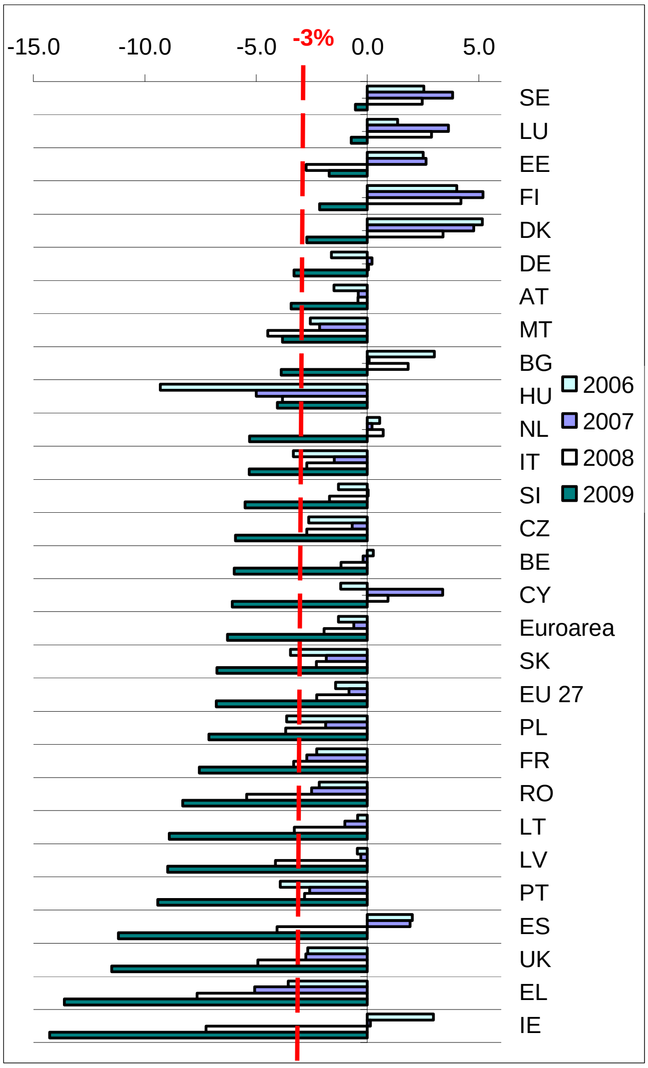
During 2006-2009 Greece and Hungary always recorded deficits above 3% of GDP.

In 2009, the government balance turned to deficit above the 3% limit for Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, the Netherlands, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Belgium, Cyprus, Slovakia and Portugal.

The highest deficits in the examined period were shown by Ireland, 14.2% of GDP in 2009, by Greece, 13.6% of GDP in 2009, by the United Kingdom, 11.5% of GDP in 2009 and by Spain 11.2% of GDP in 2009.

It is also worth noting that the deficits of Portugal, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, France and Poland in 2009 are also considerably higher than the 3% reference value.

Figure 3: Net lending (+)/net borrowing(-) 2006-2009 in percent of GDP



Net acquisition of financial assets

The net acquisition of financial assets is generally the main factor in the SFA. It reflects the acquisition less disposal of financial assets by the general government sector in the form of: Currency and deposits (F.2), Securities other than shares (F.3), Loans granted by government to non-governmental units (F.4), Shares and other equity (F.5) as well as Other financial assets: mainly other accounts receivable (F.7), and occasionally Monetary gold (F.1) and Insurance technical reserves (F.6).

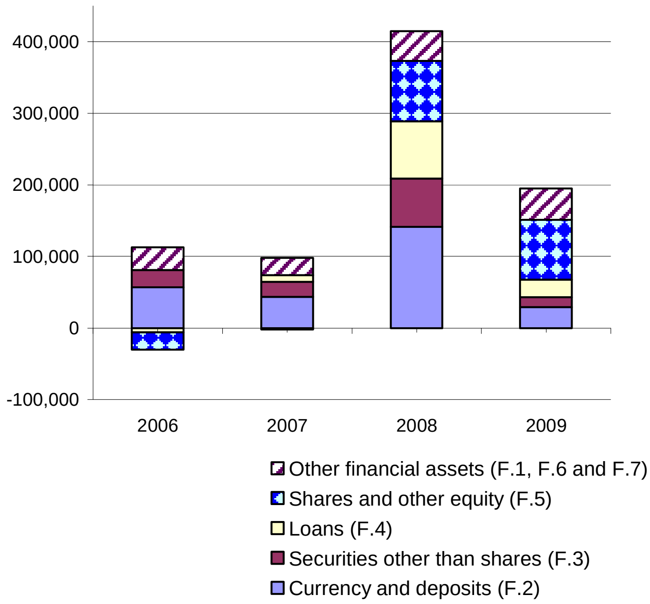
Transactions in financial assets are reported on a consolidated basis, i.e. excluding transactions in government's own instruments. This is due to the fact that government debt is defined as consolidated within general government. The acquisition of government bonds by government units is thus not shown (in table 3 for instance) as acquisition of assets. The importance of transactions between sub-sectors can be observed when information at the level of each sub-sector of general government is provided. Such information on SFAs by sub-sector is accessible on the Eurostat website.

Transactions in financial instruments, such as sales of shares, have no direct impact on government debt because they lead to changes in holdings of other types of financial assets, normally currency and deposits. However, there will be a subsequent impact on the debt if government uses the proceeds to repay its debt. Changes in market value (e.g. unrealized holding gains/losses due to price changes) of financial assets owned by general government are not included here. These have no impact on the government deficit nor on the change in government debt.

Figure 4 shows the components of the net acquisition of financial assets for the EU27 in 2006-2009 in millions of euro. The net acquisition of financial assets is systematically positive over the reporting period.
The very high values in 2008 and 2009 are explained by the government operations to address the financial crisis. This involves acquiring financial assets such as currency and deposits (via borrowing), loans and equity.

Generally, the accumulation of Currency and deposits (F.2) is by far the largest contributor to the net acquisition of financial assets but its share is unusually high in 2008 at 1.2% of GDP. Securities other than shares also contribute noticeably to the net acquisition of financial assets (almost reaching a net flow of 0.6% of GDP in 2008). Loans contribute with a positive sign over 2007-2009 (0.7% of GDP in 2008) but with a negative sign in 2006. Shares and other equity (F.5) and Other financial assets (mainly F.7) contribute less systematically, but occasionally significantly to annual SFAs (of the size of 0.2 to +/-1.1% of GDP). The former with a positive sign in 2008 and 2009 reflecting the shares and other equity acquired by government in course of the financial rescue operations (see the detailed explanation under Shares and other equity (F.5)), and the latter predominantly with a positive sign.

Figure 4: Net acquisition of financial assets 2006-2009 for EU27 (in million EUR)



In principle, the information on net acquisition of financial assets must be coherent with financial accounts data published by Member States, and reported to Eurostat under the ESA 1995 transmission programme. However, slight deviations may appear, notably due to differences in "vintages".

Separate sections of this report are devoted to each SFA element, examining data by country, and focusing on large values. For analytical purposes, the Other financial assets (F.1, F.6 and F.7) item is analysed separately, together with Net incurrence of other liabilities (F.6, and F.7) and Financial derivatives (F.34).

Currency and deposits (F.2)

The F.2 position (column (5)) mainly reflects movements in government deposits with banks, notably with central banks, which can fluctuate substantially from one year to another, in particular due to Treasury operations. Other government units (e.g. local government, social security funds) also hold bank accounts. The level of deposits tends to increase along with economic growth, and on average Member States with high nominal GDP growth would have higher F.2 balances over time. Transactions in F.2 might also be influenced from one year to the next by very large operations that lead to large cash inflows or outflows in a given year. For example a large bond issuance might increase the deposits of government if the receipts from the issuance are not used for another purpose like bond redemption or government spending, but are kept in the bank.

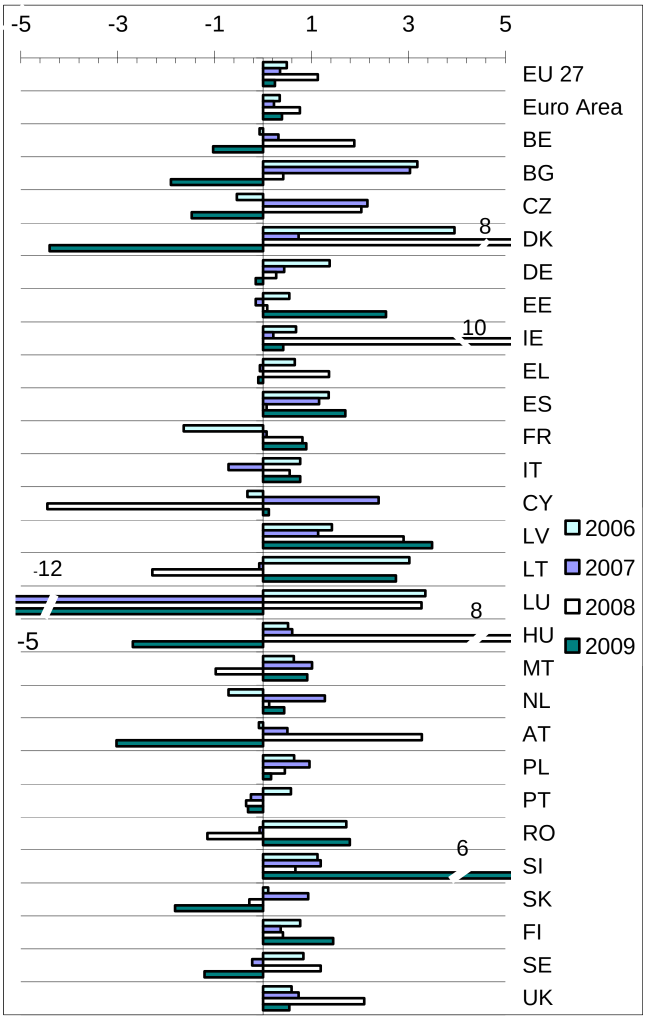
Particularly high positive values can be observed for Bulgaria (in 2006 and 2007), the Czech Republic (in 2007 and 2008), Denmark (2006 and 2008), Estonia (2009), Ireland (2008), Cyprus (2007), Latvia (2008 and 2009) Lithuania (2006 and 2009), Luxembourg (2006 and 2008), Hungary (2008), Austria (2008) and Slovenia (2009).

The large accumulations of Currency and deposits (F.2) in 2008 and 2009 might reflect governments´ precautionary measures in the context of the financial crisis. This usually means the reinforcement of cash reserves by issuing bonds or taking loans (recorded as government debt). This is the case for Hungary (2008) and Latvia (IMF, World Bank and EU loans), for Ireland (2008), for Denmark (2008) and for Slovenia (2009).

On the other hand, negative values can be noted for Denmark in 2009 reflecting mainly government intervention in the context of the financial turmoil, for Cyprus in 2008, mirroring repayments of loans by the accumulated sinking funds deposits, for Lithuania in 2008, reflecting draw downs of cash accumulated in previous years in central government and social security, and for Malta in 2008 and Hungary in 2009, showing mainly deficit financing.

Similarly, negative values can be observed for Slovakia in 2009, reflecting cash used for granting of loans to non-financial corporations, for Luxembourg in 2007 and 2009, reflecting cash used for portfolio investments, and for Austria in 2009, reflecting draw down of cash accumulated in previous years and cash used for capital injections in the context of the financial turmoil.

Figure 5: Currency and deposits (F.2) 2006-2009 in percent of GDP



Securities other than shares (F.3)

Securities other than shares (column (6)) mainly reflect net purchases by government of bills, notes or bonds issued by financial institutions, non-financial corporations, or non-residents (including foreign governments), predominantly by asset-rich social security funds or other reserve funds. In addition, especially in the context of the financial crisis, it reflects injection in public corporations' own fund (usually as subordinated debt).

Figure 6 shows a marked dispersion across Member States for this item. Other large investments flows of some asset-rich social security funds do not appear here because they invest primarily or exclusively in government securities (such as Cyprus and Greece), which are consolidated in this presentation, or in deposits (Luxembourg). Estonia (2006 and 2007) and Ireland (2006, 2007) also report large purchases by reserve funds in central government.

The large positive figure for Belgium in 2008 and 2009 reflects the purchase by government of securities issued by a financial institution.

The large positive figure for Denmark in 2009 reflects the acquisition of bonds by the government in the context of the financial turmoil.

The large positive figure for Germany in 2008 reflects the purchases of securities by two special purpose vehicles classified inside government in the context of operations related to the financial turmoil.

The large positive figure for Ireland in 2009 reflects capital injections, in the form of purchase of preference shares related to the financial turmoil.

The large positive figure for the Netherlands in 2009 shows an acquisition of securities by government from a financial institution.

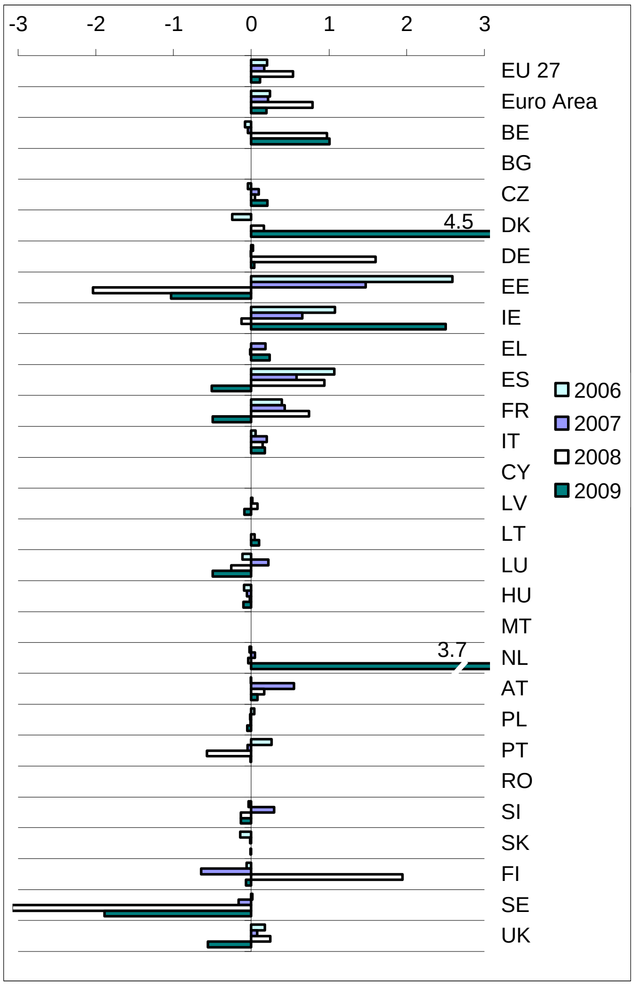
The large positive figure for Finland in 2008 reflects investment in securities by employment pension institutions.

The negative figures for Sweden in 2008 and 2009 reflect the sales of securities by the social security sector.

The large negative figure for Estonia in 2008 reflects a sale of reserve assets in order to finance the deficit.

Lithuania and Romania hold no securities other than shares.

Figure 6: Securities other than shares (F.3) 2006-2009 in percent of GDP



Loans (F.4)

F.4 (column (7)) comprises loans to non-government units only, since the figures in this table are consolidated. This item predominantly includes lending to public corporations (financial or non-financial), to foreign governments, or to students. The value of loans grows with increased lending and decreases with loan repayments, with counterpart entries under cash. Loan cancellations are also reflected here with a counterpart entry under capital transfers (government expenditure, with a deficit impact). The size of the item reflects the prevalence of lending as part of government policy in some countries.

Loans convey an intention on the part of the lender to finance the borrower. In contrast deposit placements are mere means, by the creditor, for placing its liquidities.

It should be noted that loans granted by government with little expectation of repayments at inception are to be recorded in national accounts as capital transfers (thus entering the deficit, at inception), and are thus not reported here.

Denmark (2008 and 2009), Latvia (2008), the Netherlands (2008) and Sweden (most years) have significant positive values. For Sweden these largely reflect substantial lending by local government to real estate units (which rent out properties at market rates) but the considerable high value in 2009 is due to a loan given by government to the Central Bank.

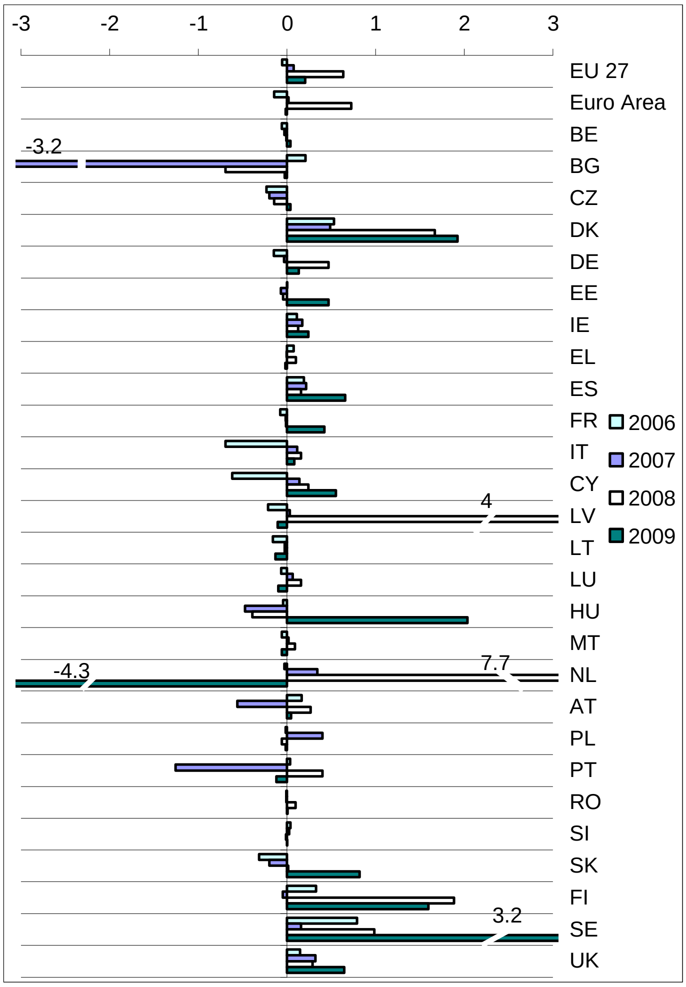
The considerable positive value for Hungary in 2009 reflects loans provided to financial institutions in the context of the financial turmoil.

The high positive value for Finland in 2008 and 2009 reflects mainly lending activities of employment pension institutions.

The high positive value for the Netherlands in 2008 reflects loans given to financial institutions in the context of the current financial crisis, while the negative value in 2009 shows a repayment by a financial institution of its short term loans.

High negative values can be observed for Bulgaria (2007 – Iraq debt cancellation) and Portugal (2007). The high negative figure for Portugal in 2007 is related to the conversion of large amounts of loans into shares by the Portuguese government in a dam company (Cahora Bassa) in Mozambique.

Figure 7: Loans (F.4) 2006-2009 in percent of GDP



Split between long-term and short-term loan assets

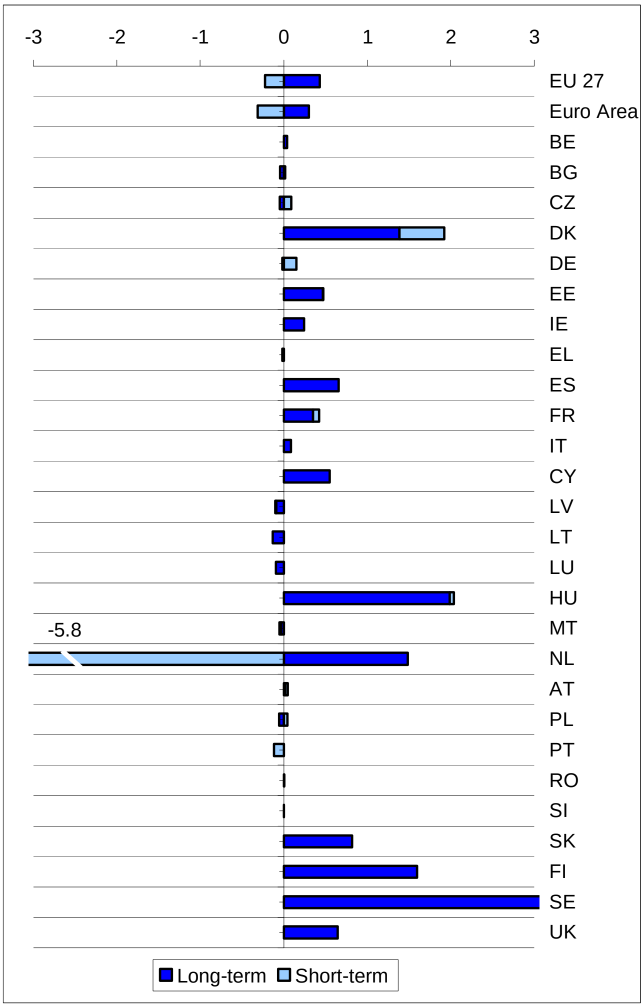
In the October 2009 EDP notification Eurostat introduced amended EDP tables, which require the Member States to provide information on the distribution of government's long-term (column (11)) and short-term loan (column (10)) assets.

According to ESA 1995, the maturity of short-term loans is one year or less, while the maturity of long-term loans is normally more than one year, and in exceptional cases more than two years at the minimum.

This new information allows having an overview of the structure of government lending. Positive net positions in long-term loans would indicate an active public policy of lending prevailing over the reimbursements by debtors.

Figure 8 provides the split between long-term and short-term loans in 2009.

Figure 8: Distribution of long-term and short-term loans in 2009 in percent of GDP



In 2009 the net position in short-term lending by government was zero or close to zero for almost all Member States except for Denmark, Germany, France, the Netherlands and Portugal. Zero or close to zero net amounts of long-term government lending are observable for Belgium, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, Austria, Poland, Romania and Slovenia.

In 2009, the substantial increase in government lending for long-term positions for the Netherlands and for Hungary is due to government lending to financial institutions in the context of the recent financial turmoil.

For the Netherlands, in 2009, a substantial decrease in short-term loans is due to the repayment by a bank of loans given by government in 2008.

Lending operations for 2009 in Denmark reflect mainly government intervention in the context of the financial turmoil.

The large positive figure for Sweden reflects government loan provided to the Central Bank.

The large positive figure for Slovakia reflects loan provided to non-financial corporations.

In Finland, the considerable long-term loan is due to the employment pension institutions maintaining their lending activities in 2009.

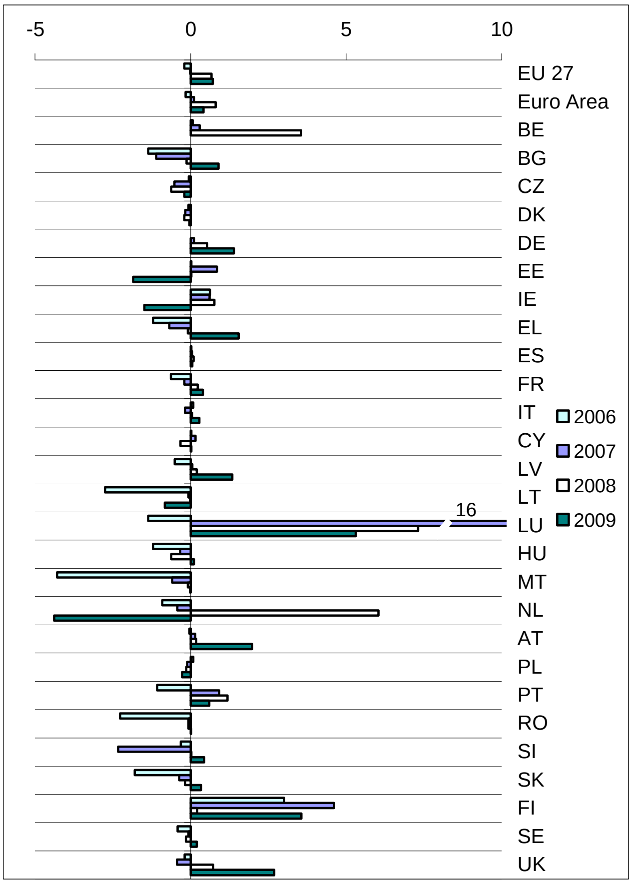
Shares and other equity (F.5)

The item shares and other equity (column (14)) captures acquisitions less disposals of equity in corporations by government units. These may reflect privatisation proceeds, superdividends, equity injections in public corporations, or portfolio investments. Figure 9 reports these various transactions on a net basis.

A decrease of shares and other equity may mirror privatisation proceeds. These can be significant, particularly for recently acceded Member States. Privatisation proceeds for the EU15 Member States peaked during the 1990s. The high (negative) values in the item Shares and other equity reflect large privatisation operations for Bulgaria (2006-2007), Estonia (2009), Lithuania (2006), Malta (2006), Romania (2006), Slovenia (2007) and Slovakia (2006). It can be noted that, in these years the currency and deposit figures (F.2, column (5)) for these countries often increased, showing the proceeds received in cash.

Privatisations conducted by special privatization agencies are also reported here, as these entities are to be classified inside general government.

Figure 9: Shares and other equity (F.5) 2006-2009 in percent of GDP



Another reason for decreases in shares and other equity results from the application of the so-called "superdividend test", which prescribes that distributions (to their owners) by public corporations in excess of their operational profit (excluding holding gains/losses) have to be recorded as financial transactions ("withdrawal of equity" - akin to a partial liquidation) rather than government revenue. Such reclassifications are carried out by many Member States, and also concern distributions by central banks.

Another component of the item shares and other equity relates to equity injections by government, which cover capital injections (generally in the form of cash provided by government) to specific public corporations when government is acting similarly to a private investor with the expectation of a market return on invested funds.

These equity injections are not treated as expenditure of government, and are not included in the net lending/net borrowing of Member States, but may create a financing need and therefore may lead to an indirect increase of government debt. The practice of some Member States of classifying some government entities as quasi corporations results in high reported levels of equity injections.

The higher values in 2008 and 2009 generally signal the government operations (investments) in the context of the financial turmoil. Large acquisitions of shares and other equity in 2009 for Belgium, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, and the United Kingdom reflect equity injections in financial institutions.

The large decrease of non-portfolio investments in 2009 for the Netherlands reflects the salel of energy companies' shares by local governments.

The item Shares and other equity also captures portfolio investments in the form of purchases of quoted shares on the market made by some government units, notably asset-rich social security funds, such as in Finland and Sweden (see next graph).

This item also includes net investment in mutual funds, which are alternative investment vehicles. In particular, placements in money market mutual funds are reported here (rather than under Currency and deposits), despite these being close substitutes for bank deposits.

Split of shares and other equity (F.5)

Another change introduced in the EDP tables in October 2009 is the inclusion of more detail on the Shares and other equity (F.5) item. New details divide the total amounts shown in figure 10 into portfolio investments (column (15)) and non-portfolio investments (column (16)). These details enable the user to see what the shares and other equity investments of government are aimed at.

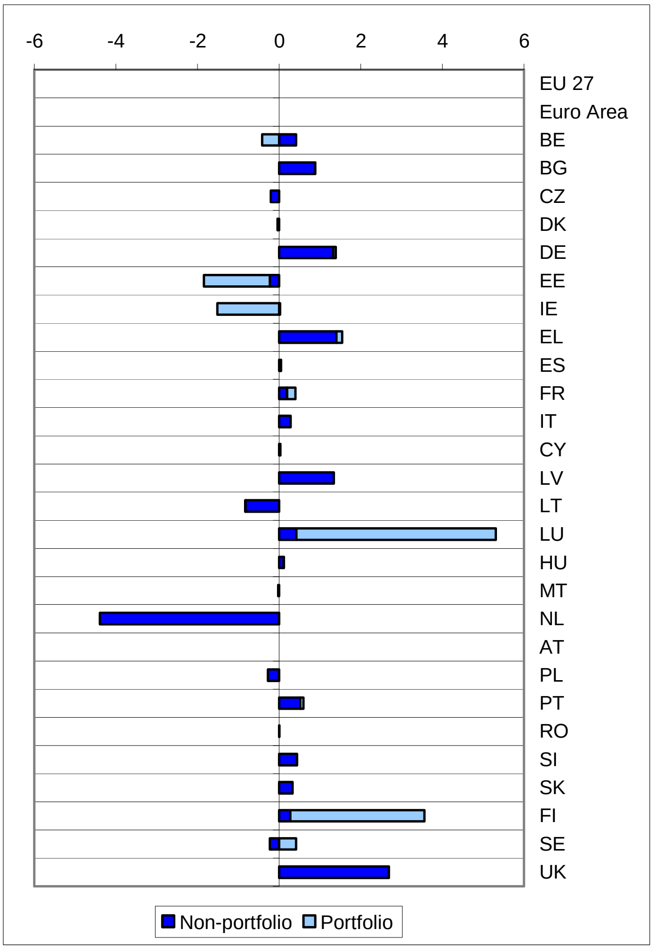
Portfolio investments represent holdings of shares which, unlike direct investment, does not entail active management or control of the issuer by the investor. According to the practical rule applied, this means that the investor holds less than 10 percent of the total shares of the issuer. In the case of general government portfolio equity investment, this usually consists of listed shares and mutual fund shares being part of social security funds' reserve assets or current liquid assets of other government units.

Patterns of investments by government in shares and other equity might change year by year. Figure 10 illustrates the distribution of Shares and other equity between portfolio and non-portfolio investments for 2009.

Member States exhibiting no figures were either not able to provide split, or provided zero for the portfolio investments figure.

For Ireland, Finland, Sweden and Luxembourg the portfolio investments represent investments of asset-rich social security funds or some specific portfolio investment operations, such as the major purchase of shares by Luxembourg in 2007 and at a lesser extent in 2009.

Figure 10: Distribution of shares and other equity (F.5) for 2009 in percent of GDP



Other financial assets (F.1, F.6 and F.7), Net incurrence of other liabilities (F.6 and F.7) and Financial derivatives (F.34)

Whereas public accounts or budget recordings are often cash based (or partly cash based) in the EU, ESA 1995 follows the accrual principle (namely recording transactions when the obligation to pay arises, not when the payment is actually made). Consequently, the impact on the financing needs of government does not directly arise from the deficit, as government revenue can be cashed, or government expenditure can be settled, at different accounting periods than the economic transaction itself. Thus two items have to be added in the transition from the deficit to the change in debt: Other financial assets (net) (column (19)), which mainly shows the receivables of government; and Net incurrence of other liabilities (column (22)), which mainly shows the payables of government.

Other financial assets mainly include receivables of taxes and social contributions as well as amounts concerning EU transactions (amounts paid by government on behalf of the EU but not yet reimbursed by the EU), trade credits, advances for expenditure such as military equipment and on rare occasions, wages or benefits paid one month in advance, etc. The absolute amount of other financial assets tends to increase over time because of nominal GDP growth.

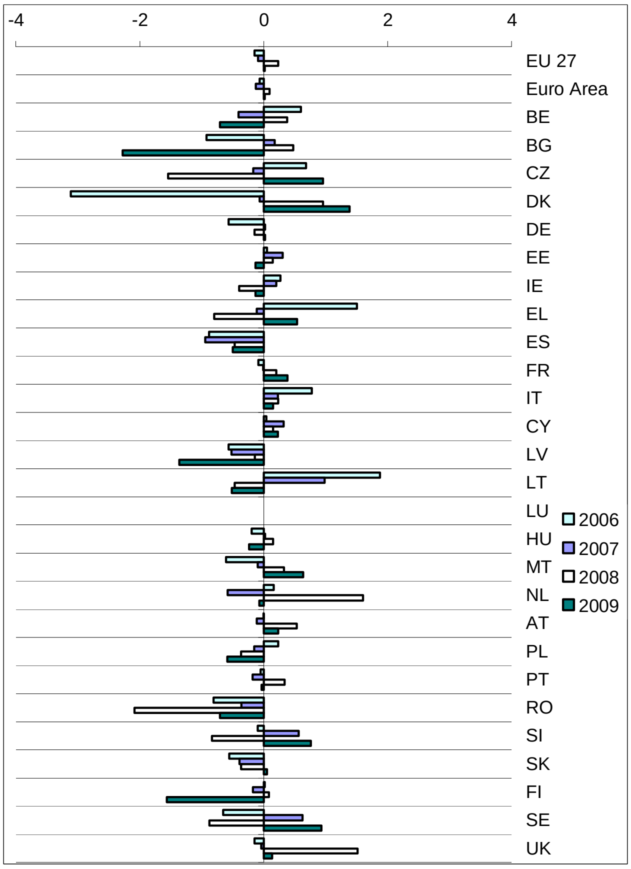
By the same token, entries in net incurrence of other liabilities include (among others) deliveries of goods and services not yet paid for, as well as sums received from the EU but not yet paid out by government to the final beneficiary.

Figure 11 presents the net impact of other assets and other liabilities. Very large values can be observed for Greece (reflecting: a delay in the payment of lump-sums, against the transfer of pension obligations, that are recorded as government revenue in 2006 and 2007; a noticeable accrual adjustment for military expenditure in 2006 and 2007; large net receivables relating to EU flows in 2006), for Lithuania (mostly reflecting in 2006 and 2007 large repayments of payables relating to restitutions and to converted Ruble deposits). Large flows are observed for Denmark for 2006, 2008 and 2009 notably reflecting the impact of rebalancing effects. The large negative value for Romania in 2008 represents delays in payments for acquired goods and services. Large negative value in 2009 for Bulgaria relate to post-audit identified commitments of budgetary appropriations. The high value for the United Kingdom in 2008 relates to interventions in the context of the financial turmoil.

Luxembourg continues to not report data on other payables/receivables to Eurostat, except for social security funds, and in the absence of information on the other sub-sectors of general government these are set to zero for the purpose of the EDP assessment and for this analysis.

When verifying the EDP tables, Eurostat closely monitors flows of receivables/payables, to avoid large amounts of undocumented receivables/payables. Supplementary information is provided by all Member States to Eurostat on the receivables/payables pertaining to taxes, to EU flows and to military expenditure. Member States are also invited to provide, supplementary information on other flows of receivables/payables.

Figure 11: Net financial assets: Other financial assets minus Net incurrence of other liabilities in 2006-2009, in percent of GDP



Government entities, notably Treasuries, carry out operations in financial derivatives, such as swaps, futures, and options with the aim to reduce risks related to their debt instruments. The cash flows related to those operations are recorded in the financial accounts, and, partially in non-financial accounts for EDP purposes.

Effects of face valuation

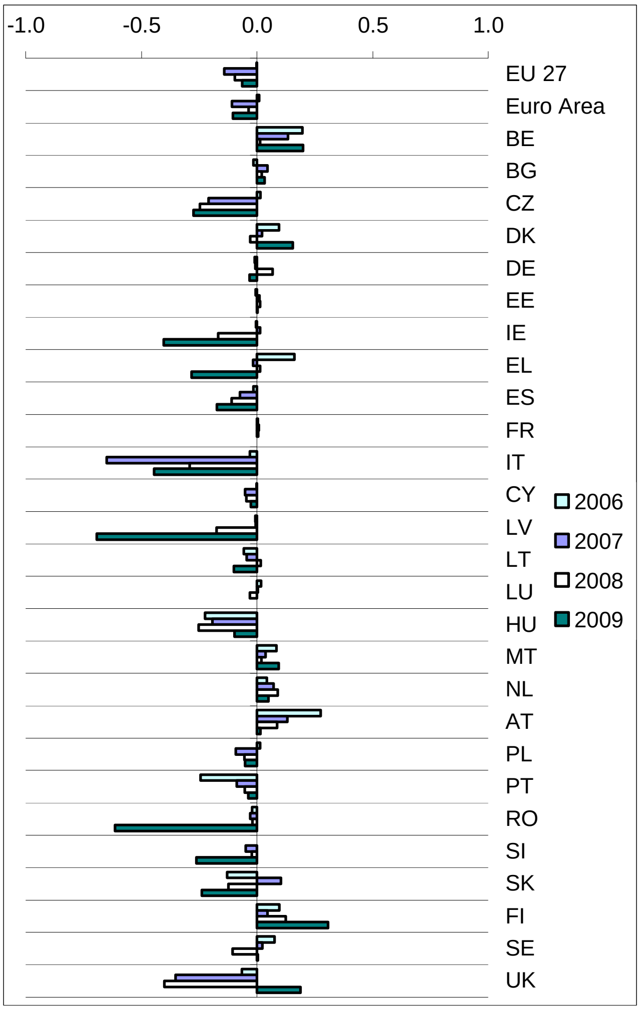
These items relate to the fact that the Maastricht debt is valued at face value.

Difference between interest (EDP D.41) accrued and paid (column (24)) is presented here because government expenditure on interest according to ESA 1995 requires a recording spread over time following the accrual principle, whereas the cash impact is only when interest is actually paid. As this item also captures the spreading over time of the premium or discount at issue, positive values may reflect the accrual impact of large amounts of bonds issued in the past at a premium. The specific adjustment for swaps (stream of payments on swaps and forward rate agreements) for the measurement of the government deficit for EDP purposes should preferably be included here (see methodological annex).

Governments routinely issue bonds below or above their face value (face value = par value), often in the form of fungible bonds or zero coupon bonds (not common in Europe). When the face and issuance values differ, this has consequences on recording in the EDP. Since government debt must be recorded at face value but the proceeds that enter currency and deposits correspond to the issue value, the difference must be recorded as *Issuance above/below par* (see column (23)). Hence, the difference, which in concept has the nature of "interest", is recorded as government expenditure not at time of issuance, but only gradually over time.

Similarly an adjustment must be made in the case of early redemption, when government buys back issued bonds. The difference between the repurchase value and the face value is presented in the column *Redemptions of debt above/below par* (column (26)).

Figure 12: Difference between interest (EDP D.41) accrued and paid 2006-2009 in percent of GDP

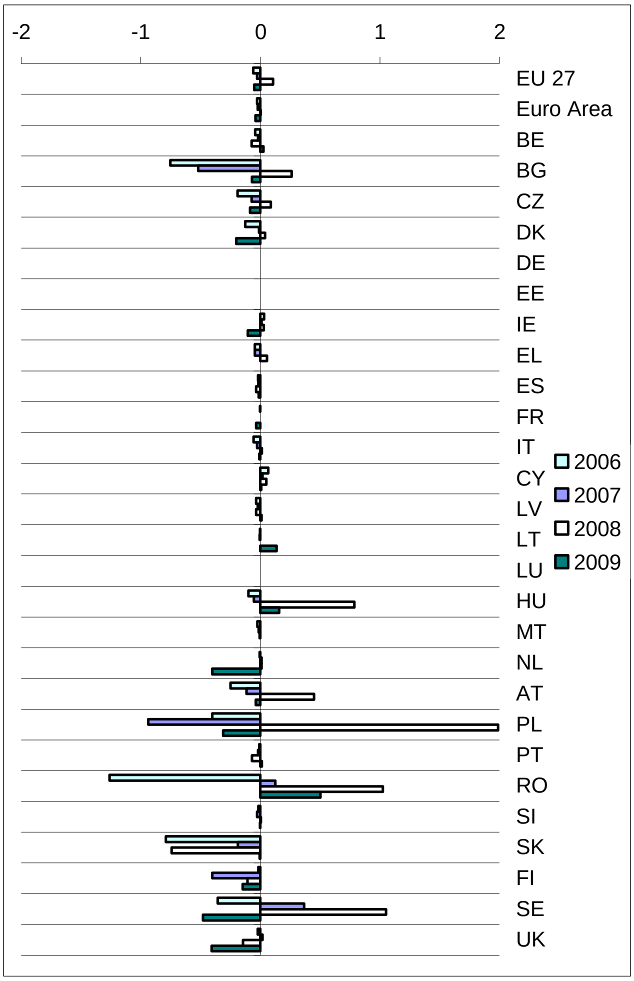


Appreciation/depreciation of foreign currency debt

When a government issues debt denominated in a currency other than in its own currency, any subsequent depreciation or appreciation of the national currency leads to changes in debt without an impact on the deficit/surplus. This leads to entries in Appreciation/depreciation of foreign currency debt (column (27)). In general, this SFA item loses importance with the introduction of the euro.

Looking at Figure 13, it is clear that many of the Member States' governments have substantial amounts of debt denominated in foreign currency, mostly in euro or in U.S. dollars. Large values are observed – but with different signs across the period – for Bulgaria, Hungary, Austria, Poland, Romania and Sweden, reflecting appreciation (negative entries: reduction in debt, when expressed in national currency) and depreciation (positive entries: increase in debt) phases of their currency. Systematic negative values can be observed for Slovakia (2006-2008) and Poland (2006-2007).

Figure 13: Appreciation/depreciation of foreign currency debt 2006-2009 in percent of GDP



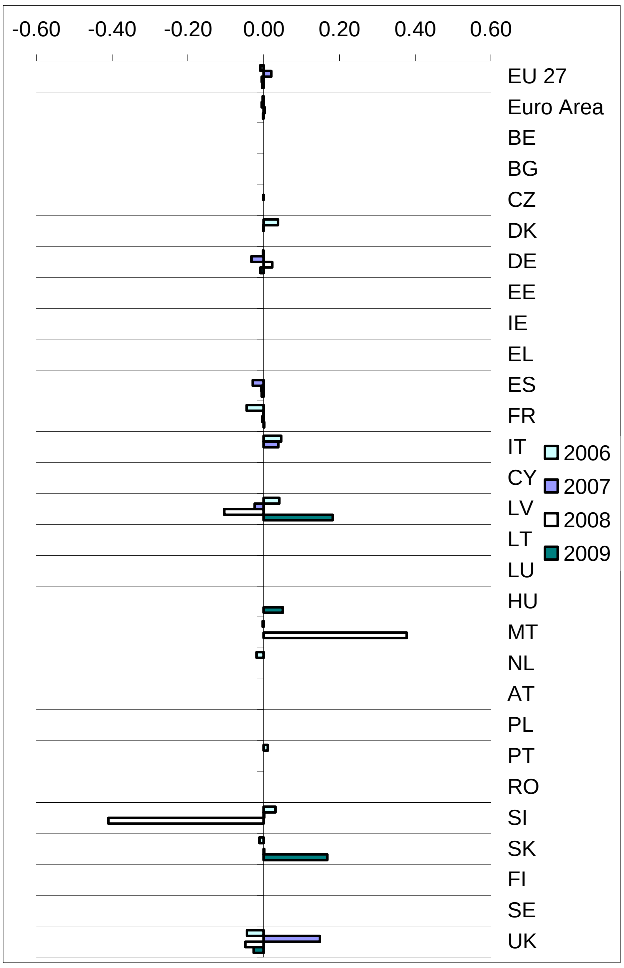
Other changes in volume: Changes in sector classification (K.12.1) (+/-) and Other volume changes in financial liabilities (K.7, K.8, K.10)(-)

It might happen that an institutional unit that was classified outside (inside) government is reclassified inside (outside) government. The impact of this is generally shown under Changes in sector classification (K.12.1) (column (28)) unless there are good reasons not to do so. Some other specific events can give rise to entries in other changes in volume.

Large values can be observed for Slovenia in 2008 (negative value, relating to sector reclassifications), for Malta in 2008 (reclassification of the Malta shipyards inside government) and for Latvia in 2009 (reclassification of road maintenance company and passenger rail operator inside government).

Bulgaria, Ireland, Greece, Italy, Cyprus, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Austria, Poland, Romania and Sweden report zeros or no data here.

Figure 14: Other changes in volume 2006-2009 in percent of GDP



Statistical discrepancy

The government sector accounts in national accounts (ESA1995) are often compiled from a diversity of sources, which may not be fully integrated or completely homogenous, leading to differences between the revenue and expenditure data and the financing data, or between the transactions in debt and other economic flows in debt (i.e. valuation effects and other changes in volume) data, on one hand, and the change in debt data, on the other hand.

The extent of discrepancies can thus indicate the accuracy of the data supplied by Member States. Therefore Eurostat monitors discrepancies carefully, to determine if they are of an excessive size, or accumulate (i.e. are of a same sign) over time. In particular, a continuously positive discrepancy may draw into question whether the deficit is appropriately measured.

However, statistical practices differ in Europe, with some compilers showing discrepancies explicitly, whilst others (such as France and Cyprus) allocate them under various other SFA items, such as other financial assets and liabilities. It may be useful in some cases to consider together other assets, other liabilities and statistical discrepancies.

Discrepancies between the non-financial and the financial accounts often relate to the time of recording of Treasury or Budget transactions compared to the moment these flow through the banking system. A notable cause of discrepancies originates from the accrual recording applicable to ESA 1995 data and the difficulty to match cash and accrual data.

In general, the statistical discrepancy for the EU27 and the euro area is small and decreasing.

Luxembourg and Sweden exhibit very high annual values. For Luxembourg, these include the absence of reported payables/receivables for central and local government sub-sectors. For Sweden the cumulated value is rather large, though with a negative sign (sum over 2006-2009: -1.6% of annual GDP).

The statistical discrepancies observed in the Czech Republic and Austria are likely related to a time of recording problem still under investigation.

Figure 15: Statistical discrepancy 2006-2009 in percent of GDP

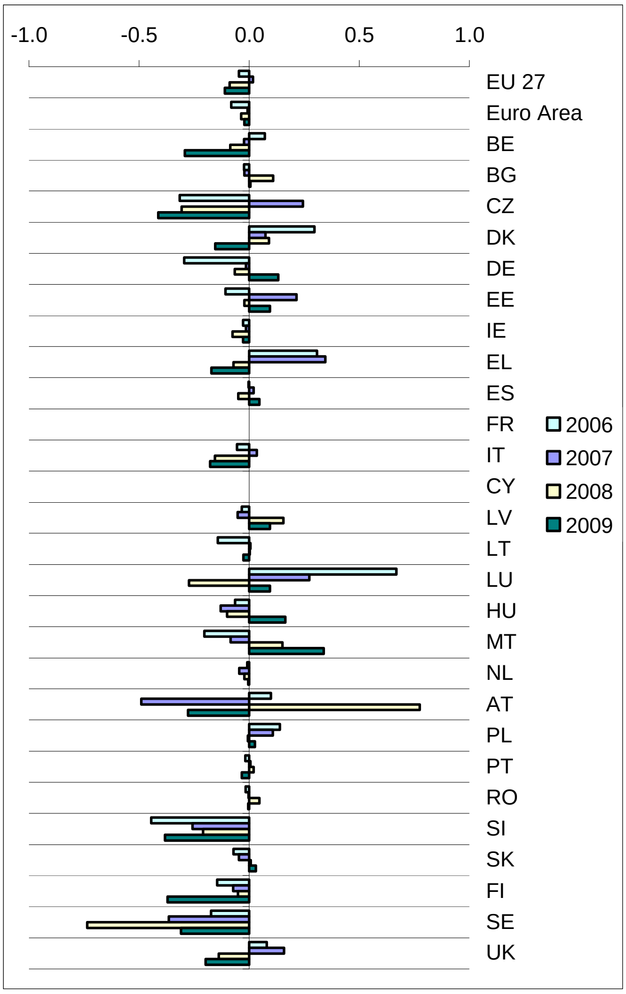


Table 3: Stock-flow adjustment tables in years 2006-2009

Stock-flow adjustment for general government - 2009

April 2010 EDP notification

	Net borrowing(+)/lending(-)(EDP B.9) of general government (S.13)	Change in general government (S.13) consolidated gross debt	**Stock - flow adjustment (SFA)**	**Net acquisition (+) of financial assets**	Currency and deposits (F.2)	Securities other than shares (F.3)	Loans (F.4)	Short-term loans (F.41), net	Long-term loans (F.42)	Shares and other equity (F.5)	Portfolio investments, net(2)	Shares and other equity other than portfolio investments	Other financial assets (F.1, F.6 and F.7)	**Adjustments**	Net incurrence (-) of liabilities in financial derivatives (F.34)	Net incurrence (-) of other liabilities (F.6 and F.7)	Issuances above(-)/below(+) nominal value	Difference between interest (EDP D.41) accrued(-) and paid(4)(+)	Redemptions of debt above(+)/below(-) par	Appreciation(+)/depreciation(-)(3) of foreign-currency debt (5)	Changes in sector classification (K.12.1)(5) (+/-)	Other volume changes in financial liabilities (K.7, K.8, K.10)(5)(-)	**Statistical discrepancies**
	(1)	(2)	(3) =(2)+(1)=(4)+(20)+(30)	(4) =(5)+(6)+(7)+(8)+(14)+(19)	(5)	(6)	(7) =(10)+(11)	(10)	(11)	(14) =(15)+(16)	(15)	(16)	(19)	(20) =(21)+(22)+(23)+(24)+(26)+(	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)
BE	-6.0	5.1	-0.9	-0.1	-1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	0.4	-0.1	-0.5	0.0	-0.6	-0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3
BG	-3.9	0.6	-3.3	-1.4	-1.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.9	-0.4	-1.8	0.0	-1.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	NA	NA	0.0
CZ	-5.9	4.9	-1.0	0.4	-1.5	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	1.8	-1.0	0.0	-0.8	0.2	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.4
DK	-2.7	5.7	3.0	5.4	-4.4	4.5	1.9	0.5	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	-2.3	0.0	-2.0	-0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.2
DE	-3.3	4.8	1.5	1.6	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	1.4	0.1	1.3	0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
EE	-1.7	1.8	0.1	1.6	2.5	-1.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	-1.8	-1.6	-0.2	1.5	-1.6	0.0	-1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
IE	-14.3	15.2	0.9	1.2	0.4	2.5	0.2	0.0	0.2	-1.5	-1.5	0.0	-0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.3	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
EL	-13.6	15.2	1.6	2.3	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.1	1.4	0.6	-0.5	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2
ES	-11.2	12.1	0.9	2.4	1.7	-0.5	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.5	-1.5	0.0	-1.0	-0.3	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FR	-7.5	9.1	1.5	1.8	0.9	-0.5	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.6	-0.3	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IT	-5.3	6.4	1.1	1.6	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2
CY	-6.1	7.0	0.9	0.9	0.1	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LV	-9.0	12.1	3.1	4.6	3.5	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	1.3	0.0	1.3	0.0	-1.6	0.0	-1.4	0.3	-0.7	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1
LT	-8.9	10.5	1.6	2.0	2.7	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.8	0.0	-0.8	0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.6	0.3	-0.1	NA	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
LU	-0.7	0.2	-0.5	-0.6	-5.3	-0.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	5.3	4.9	0.4	NA	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.1
HU	-4.0	4.1	0.1	-0.1	-2.7	-0.1	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.0	0.9	-0.8	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2
MT	-3.8	5.6	1.8	0.7	0.9	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.8	0.0	0.8	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
NL	-5.3	0.1	-5.2	-4.9	0.4	3.7	-4.3	-5.8	1.5	-4.4	0.0	-4.4	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.3	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
AT	-3.4	2.7	-0.7	-0.8	-3.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	ND	ND	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3
PL	-7.1	6.2	-0.9	-0.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	-0.7	-0.1	NA	0.1	0.2	-0.1	NA	-0.3	0.0	NA	0.0
PT	-9.4	9.5	0.1	0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RO	-8.3	9.8	1.5	1.6	1.8	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.5	0.5	-0.6	NA	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
SI	-5.5	11.8	6.3	7.0	5.9	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.8	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4
SK	-6.8	6.3	-0.5	-0.3	-1.8	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.3	-0.2	0.0	-0.3	0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
FI	-2.2	7.1	5.0	6.2	1.4	-0.1	1.6	0.0	1.6	3.6	3.3	0.3	-0.3	-0.9	0.2	-1.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.4
SE	-0.5	2.8	2.3	1.3	-1.2	-1.9	3.2	0.0	3.2	0.2	0.4	-0.2	1.0	1.3	2.0	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-0.3
UK	-11.5	14.1	2.6	3.9	0.5	-0.6	0.6	0.0	0.6	2.7	NA	2.7	0.6	-1.1	0.0	-0.5	-0.4	0.2	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.2
EU 27	-6.8	7.8	1.1	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.4	0.7	NC	NC	0.4	-0.5	0.1	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
EA 16	-6.3	7.1	0.8	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	-0.3	0.3	0.4	NC	NC	0.3	-0.4	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

NA: Not applicable, ND: Not available, NC: Not computable
More detailed breakdown is available in Eurostat's database:http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/government_finance_statistics/data/database

Stock-flow adjustment for general government - 2008

April 2010 EDP notification

	Net borrowing(+)/lending(-)(EDP B.9) of general government (S.13)	Change in general government (S.13) consolidated gross debt	Stock - flow adjustment (SFA)	Net acquisition (+) of financial assets	Currency and deposits (F.2)	Securities other than shares (F.3)	Loans (F.4)	Short-term loans (F.41), net	Long-term loans (F.42)	Shares and other equity (F.5)	Portfolio investments, net(2)	Shares and other equity other than portfolio investments	Other financial assets (F.1, F.6 and F.7)	Adjustments	Net incurrence (-) of liabilities in financial derivatives (F.34)	Net incurrence (-) of other liabilities (F.6 and F.7)	Issuances above(-)/below(+) nominal value	Difference between interest (EDP D.41) accrued(-) and paid(4)(+)	Redemptions of debt above(+)/below(-) par	Appreciation(+)/depreciation(-)(3) of foreign-currency debt (5)	Changes in sector classification (K.12.1)(5) (+/-)	Other volume changes in financial liabilities (K.7, K.8, K.10)(5)(-)	Statistical discrepancies
	(1)	(2)	(3) =(2)+(1)=(4)+(20)+(30)	(4) =(5)+(6)+(7)+(8)+(14)+(19)	(5)	(6)	(7) =(10)+(11)	(10)	(11)	(14) =(15)+(16)	(15)	(16)	(19)	(20) =(21)+(22)+(23)+(24)+(26)+(	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)
BE	-1.2	8.0	6.8	6.4	1.9	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.5	-0.2	3.7	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
BG	1.8	-1.3	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.0	-0.7	0.0	-0.7	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.7	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	NA	NA	0.1
CZ	-2.7	2.2	-0.5	0.2	2.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	-0.6	-1.1	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.3
DK	3.4	7.5	10.9	10.8	8.3	0.2	1.7	0.0	1.6	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
DE	0.0	2.7	2.7	2.8	0.3	1.6	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
EE	-2.7	0.9	-1.8	-1.7	0.1	-2.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IE	-7.3	17.8	10.6	10.8	10.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.3	0.3	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
EL	-7.7	8.6	0.9	1.3	1.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
ES	-4.1	4.7	0.7	1.4	0.1	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	-0.7	0.0	-0.6	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FR	-3.3	5.5	2.1	2.2	0.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IT	-2.7	4.1	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.7	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2
CY	0.9	-5.3	-4.4	-4.3	-4.5	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
LV	-4.1	11.4	7.2	7.6	2.9	0.1	4.1	0.0	4.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	-0.5	-0.1	-0.4	0.3	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.2
LT	-3.3	0.6	-2.7	-2.0	-2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	-0.7	0.0	-0.8	0.1	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LU	2.9	7.3	10.2	10.5	3.3	-0.3	0.2	0.0	0.2	7.3	1.2	6.1	NA	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	-0.3
HU	-3.8	9.8	6.0	5.0	6.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	-0.6	0.0	-0.6	0.0	1.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	-0.3	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.1
MT	-4.5	4.3	-0.1	-0.4	-1.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.6	0.1	0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.2
NL	0.7	14.8	15.5	15.5	0.1	0.0	7.7	5.7	2.0	6.0	0.0	6.0	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
AT	-0.4	5.5	5.1	4.0	3.3	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	ND	ND	0.1	0.3	-0.7	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.8
PL	-3.7	5.6	1.9	0.4	0.4	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.2	1.5	NA	-0.5	0.1	-0.1	NA	2.0	0.0	NA	0.0
PT	-2.8	4.0	1.2	0.6	-0.4	-0.6	0.4	0.5	-0.1	1.2	0.9	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
RO	-5.4	3.2	-2.3	-1.4	-1.1	NA	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.3	-0.9	-0.3	-1.8	0.2	0.0	NA	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SI	-1.7	0.8	-0.9	-0.1	0.7	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.6	-0.6	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	0.0	-0.2
SK	-2.3	0.8	-1.5	-0.9	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.4	-0.6	0.0	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
FI	4.2	-0.1	4.1	4.5	0.4	1.9	1.9	0.0	1.9	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.3	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
SE	2.5	-1.3	1.2	-1.6	1.2	-3.1	1.0	0.2	0.8	-0.2	2.1	-2.2	-0.5	3.5	3.1	-0.3	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	-0.7
UK	-4.9	8.9	4.0	4.6	2.1	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.7	NA	0.7	1.3	-0.5	0.0	0.3	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
EU 27	-2.3	5.6	3.3	3.3	1.1	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.7	NC	NC	0.3	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
EA 16	-2.0	5.2	3.3	3.3	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.2	0.8	NC	NC	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

NA: Not applicable, ND: Not available, NC: Not computable

More detailed breakdown is available in Eurostat's database:http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/government_finance_statistics/data/database

Stock-flow adjustment for general government - 2007

April 2010 EDP notification

	Net borrowing(+)/lending(-)(EDP B.9) of general government (S.13)	**Change in general government (S.13) consolidated gross debt**	**Stock - flow adjustment (SFA)**	**Net acquisition (+) of financial assets**	Currency and deposits (F.2)	Securities other than shares (F.3)	Loans (F.4)	Short-term loans (F.41), net	Long-term loans (F.42)	Shares and other equity (F.5)	Portfolio investments, net(2)	Shares and other equity other than portfolio investments	Other financial assets (F.1, F.6 and F.7)	**Adjustments**	Net incurrence (-) of liabilities in financial derivatives (F.34)	Net incurrence (-) of other liabilities (F.6 and F.7)	Issuances above(-)/below(+) nominal value	Difference between interest (EDP D.41) accrued(-) and paid(4)(+)	Redemptions of debt above(+)/below(-) par	Appreciation(+)/depreciation(-)(3) of foreign-currency debt (5)	Changes in sector classification (K.12.1)(5) (+/-)	Other volume changes in financial liabilities (K.7, K.8, K.10)(5)(-)	**Statistical discrepancies**
	(1)	(2)	(3) =(2)+(1)=(4)+(20)+(30)	(4) =(5)+(6)+(7)+(8)+(14)+(19)	(5)	(6)	(7) =(10)+(11)	(10)	(11)	(14) =(15)+(16)	(15)	(16)	(19)	(20) =(21)+(22)+(23)+(24)+(26)+(	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)
BE	-0.2	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.4	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
BG	0.1	-1.6	-1.5	-1.1	3.0	0.0	-3.2	0.0	-3.2	-1.1	0.0	-1.1	0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.5	NA	NA	0.0
CZ	-0.7	2.1	1.5	2.3	2.2	0.1	-0.2	0.1	-0.3	-0.5	0.0	-0.5	0.7	-1.1	0.0	-0.9	0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2
DK	4.8	-3.6	1.2	-0.4	0.7	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.5	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	-1.4	1.5	0.0	1.3	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
DE	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EE	2.6	0.0	2.6	2.9	-0.2	1.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.8	-0.1	1.0	0.8	-0.5	0.0	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2
IE	0.1	1.8	1.9	1.8	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EL	-5.1	4.9	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.7	0.0	-0.6	0.6	-0.6	0.0	-0.7	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
ES	1.9	-0.8	1.1	1.9	1.2	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.9	0.0	-0.8	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FR	-2.7	3.1	0.4	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.6	-0.5	0.0	-0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IT	-1.5	1.1	-0.4	-0.1	-0.7	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.5	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	0.6	-0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CY	3.4	-0.4	2.9	3.0	2.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LV	-0.3	0.9	0.6	1.8	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.6	-1.1	0.0	-1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
LT	-1.0	1.8	0.8	0.9	-0.1	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	1.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LU	3.6	0.7	4.4	4.1	-11.8	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	15.6	15.3	0.3	NA	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.3
HU	-5.0	4.5	-0.5	0.0	0.6	-0.1	-0.5	0.2	-0.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3	-0.4	0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
MT	-2.2	2.3	0.1	1.6	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.6	0.0	-0.6	1.2	-1.4	0.0	-1.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
NL	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
AT	-0.4	0.6	0.2	0.8	0.5	0.6	-0.6	-0.2	-0.4	0.1	ND	ND	0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.5
PL	-1.9	2.0	0.1	1.5	1.0	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.3	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.3	-1.5	NA	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	NA	-0.9	0.0	NA	0.1
PT	-2.6	2.0	-0.6	-0.4	-0.2	0.0	-1.3	0.0	-1.3	0.9	0.0	0.9	0.3	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RO	-2.5	2.3	-0.2	0.9	-0.1	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	1.1	-1.1	0.2	-1.4	0.1	0.0	NA	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
SI	0.0	-0.6	-0.6	-0.4	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.3	0.1	-2.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3
SK	-1.9	2.1	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.4	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
FI	5.2	-1.4	3.8	4.8	0.4	-0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	5.0	-0.4	0.6	-0.9	0.1	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.1
SE	3.8	-2.5	1.3	0.6	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.4	-0.5	0.9	1.1	1.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.4
UK	-2.8	3.4	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	-0.4	NA	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
EU 27	-0.8	1.3	0.5	0.8	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	NC	NC	0.2	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EA16	-0.6	1.1	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	NC	NC	0.2	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

NA: Not applicable, ND: Not available, NC: Not computable

More detailed breakdown is available in Eurostat's database:http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/government_finance_statistics/data/database

eurostat

Stock-flow adjustment for general government - 2006

April 2010 EDP notification

	Net borrowing(+)/lending(-)(EDP B.9) of general government (S.13)	Change in general government (S.13) consolidated gross debt	Stock - flow adjustment (SFA)	Net acquisition (+) of financial assets	Currency and deposits (F.2)	Securities other than shares (F.3)	Loans (F.4)	Short-term loans (F.41), net	Long-term loans (F.42)	Shares and other equity (F.5)	Portfolio investments, net(2)	Shares and other equity other than portfolio investments	Other financial assets (F.1, F.6 and F.7)	Adjustments	Net incurrence (-) of liabilities in financial derivatives (F.34)	Net incurrence (-) of other liabilities (F.6 and F.7)	Issuances above(-)/below(+) nominal value	Difference between interest (EDP D.41) accrued(-) and paid(4)(+)	Redemptions of debt above(+)/below(-) par	Appreciation(+)/depreciation(-)(3) of foreign-currency debt (5)	Changes in sector classification (K.12.1)(5) (+/-)	Other volume changes in financial liabilities (K.7, K.8, K.10)(5)(-)	Statistical discrepancies
	(1)	(2)	(3) =(2)+(1)=(4)+(20)+(30)	(4) =(5)+(6)+(7)+(8)+(14)+(19)	(5)	(6)	(7) =(10)+(11)	(10)	(11)	(14) =(15)+(16)	(15)	(16)	(19)	(20) =(21)+(22)+(23)+(24)+(26)+(	(21)	(22)	(23)	(24)	(26)	(27)	(28)	(29)	(30)
BE	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.4	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
BG	3.0	-2.7	0.4	1.5	3.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	-1.4	0.0	-1.4	-0.5	-1.2	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.8	NA	NA	0.0
CZ	-2.6	2.0	-0.7	0.0	-0.5	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.8	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.3
DK	5.2	-3.7	1.5	4.2	3.9	-0.2	0.5	0.1	0.5	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-3.1	0.0	-3.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3
DE	-1.6	2.0	0.4	0.7	1.4	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.5	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3
EE	2.5	0.6	3.1	3.8	0.5	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.7	-0.6	0.0	-0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
IE	3.0	-0.2	2.8	2.9	0.7	1.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.6	0.8	-0.2	0.4	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EL	-3.6	4.9	1.3	1.5	0.7	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	-1.2	-0.3	-0.9	2.0	-0.5	0.0	-0.5	-0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3
ES	2.0	-0.2	1.9	2.7	1.4	1.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.9	0.0	-1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FR	-2.3	0.3	-2.0	-1.5	-1.6	0.4	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.6	0.3	-0.9	0.4	-0.5	0.0	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
IT	-3.3	4.7	1.3	1.2	0.8	0.1	-0.7	0.0	-0.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
CY	-1.2	0.2	-1.0	-0.8	-0.3	0.0	-0.6	0.0	-0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
LV	-0.5	0.6	0.1	2.7	1.4	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.5	0.0	-0.5	2.0	-2.5	0.0	-2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LT	-0.4	2.0	1.6	0.5	3.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	-2.8	0.0	-2.7	0.4	1.2	0.0	1.4	-0.2	-0.1	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
LU	1.4	1.1	2.5	1.8	3.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-1.4	0.0	-1.4	NA	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	NA	0.0	0.0	0.7
HU	-9.3	8.5	-0.9	-0.5	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.1	-0.2	-1.2	0.0	-1.2	0.3	-0.3	0.1	-0.5	0.4	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
MT	-2.6	-2.0	-4.5	-3.9	0.6	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-4.3	0.0	-4.3	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2
NL	0.5	-1.9	-1.3	-0.5	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.9	0.0	-0.9	1.2	-0.8	0.0	-1.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
AT	-1.5	1.4	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	ND	ND	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
PL	-3.6	4.1	0.4	1.4	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.6	-1.1	NA	-0.4	-0.3	0.0	NA	-0.4	0.0	NA	0.1
PT	-3.9	3.7	-0.2	-0.3	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.1	-0.1	-1.0	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
RO	-2.2	-0.9	-3.1	-0.5	1.7	NA	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.3	0.0	-2.3	0.0	-2.5	-0.4	-0.9	0.0	0.0	NA	-1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
SI	-1.3	1.7	0.4	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.3	0.1	-0.4	-0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4
SK	-3.5	-0.1	-3.6	-2.5	0.1	-0.1	-0.3	0.0	-0.3	-1.8	0.0	-1.8	-0.3	-1.1	0.0	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.1
FI	4.0	0.0	4.0	4.1	0.8	-0.1	0.3	0.0	0.3	3.0	4.2	-1.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1
SE	2.5	-2.2	0.4	1.0	0.8	0.0	0.8	-0.1	0.9	-0.4	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	-0.5	0.5	-0.4	-0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.2
UK	-2.7	3.3	0.6	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	-0.2	NA	-0.2	0.2	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
EU 27	-1.4	1.7	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	NC	NC	0.3	-0.4	0.0	-0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
EA 16	-1.3	1.5	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.2	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	NC	NC	0.3	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1

NA: Not applicable, ND: Not available, NC: Not computable

More detailed breakdown is available in Eurostat's database:http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/government_finance_statistics/data/database

METHODOLOGICAL ANNEX

The **Legal base** for the excessive deficit procedure (EDP) is Article 104 of the Treaty establishing the European Community and Protocol V on the excessive deficit procedure annexed to the Treaty. Article 104 states that:

1. Member States shall avoid excessive government deficits.
2. The Commission shall monitor the development of the budgetary situation and of the stock of government debt in the Member States with a view to identifying gross errors. In particular it shall examine compliance with budgetary discipline on the basis of the following two criteria:
(a) whether the ratio of the planned or actual government deficit to gross domestic product exceeds a reference value, unless:
- either the ratio has declined substantially and continuously and reached a level that comes close to the reference value,
- or, alternatively, the excess over the reference value is only exceptional and temporary and the ratio remains close to the reference value;
(b) whether the ratio of government debt to gross domestic product exceeds a reference value, unless the ratio is sufficiently diminishing and approaching the reference value at a satisfactory pace.

The reference values are 3% for the deficit and 60% of GDP for the government debt in the annexed Protocol.

Source of fiscal data: Council Regulation 479/2009 defines the data to be reported by Member States to the European Commission in the context of EDP reporting[2]: the notification tables 1-4. The basis for the comments and graphs in this document is mostly EDP table 3A, namely the table "*Provision of the data which explain the contributions of the deficit/surplus and the other relevant factors to the variation in the debt level (general government)*".
Detailed data, including tables as reported by Member States, can be found on the Eurostat website in the free data section as well as in the dedicated *Government Finance Statistics* section.

Deficit: The Protocol on the excessive deficit procedure annexed to the Treaty requires that the government deficit or surplus is the net borrowing or net lending as defined by the European System of Accounts (ESA) of the general government sector[3].

Net lending/net borrowing (B.9) is the balancing item of the capital account in ESA 1995. It is also calculated as the difference between total revenue and total expenditure of the general government sector as defined in the Commission Regulation 1500/2000 amending ESA 1995 to include the definition of total expenditure and total revenue of general government. For further details on B.9 of general government see ESA 1995 § 8.49-8.50.
EDP B.9 (i.e. the deficit relevant to fiscal surveillance) differs from B.9 by the "stream of payments on swaps and forward rate agreements", which are included in interest for the EDP procedure (EDP D.41), but which are excluded from interest in the framework of ESA 1995 (D.41).

Government gross debt:[4] According to the protocol annexed to the Treaty, the government debt is the gross debt outstanding at the end of the year of the general government sector measured at nominal value and consolidated. Council Regulation 479/2009[5], as amended, defines further the government debt as the sum of government liabilities in currency and deposits (AF.2), in securities other than shares, excluding financial derivatives (AF.33) and in loans (AF.4). The Regulation further defines that nominal value for securities excludes accrued interest and correspond to face value.

Consolidation: Member States debt data should be reported consolidated at the level of the general government sector. Consolidation means presenting data relating to a grouping of units as if they were one unique unit. This involves the elimination from both uses/assets and resources/liabilities of all reciprocal links: transactions as well as revaluations, other changes in volumes and stocks, that occur or exist between units which belong to the same grouping — in this case to the general government sector (or its sub-sector)[6]. Thus, government gross debt is to be consolidated: therefore holdings of government debt by government units must be excluded.
By the same token, all items reported in EDP table 3A should be also presented on a consolidated basis: not only those related to transactions (e.g. a loan given by central government to a local government unit should be removed from the calculation of the consolidated debt of general government sector as well as from the calculation of loans assets), but also valuation adjustments (such as issuance and redemptions of debt above and/or below par, as well as foreign exchange valuation) and other economic flows adjustments (other volume changes in financial liabilities.

---

[2] *Excessive Deficit Procedure (EDP) reporting as requested in the Protocol annexed to the Treaty on European Union (see Official Journal C 191 of 29 July 1992) and related legal acts.*

[3] *ESA 1995 §2.68-70 describes the general government sector as the institutional sector principally engaged in redistribution of national income and wealth and /or mainly producing non-market output intended for individual and collective consumption, and mainly financed by compulsory payment. For more information on general government sector see also ESA 1995 §1.28, §2.68-74 and Tables 2.1 and A IV.5.notably*

[4] *The outstanding general government consolidated debt at the end of each year is provided by Member States in table 1 of the EDP notification, according to the European legislation.*

[5] *Official Journal L145/1, 10.6.2009, 9.7.*

[6] *See ESA 1995 § 1.58 and SNA § 2.80-2.84.*