



EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

EUROSYSTEM

19 August 2014

PRESS RELEASE

EURO AREA BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (June 2014)

In June 2014 the seasonally adjusted current account of the euro area recorded a surplus of €13.1 billion. In the financial account, combined direct and portfolio investment recorded net outflows of €14 billion (non-seasonally adjusted).

Current account

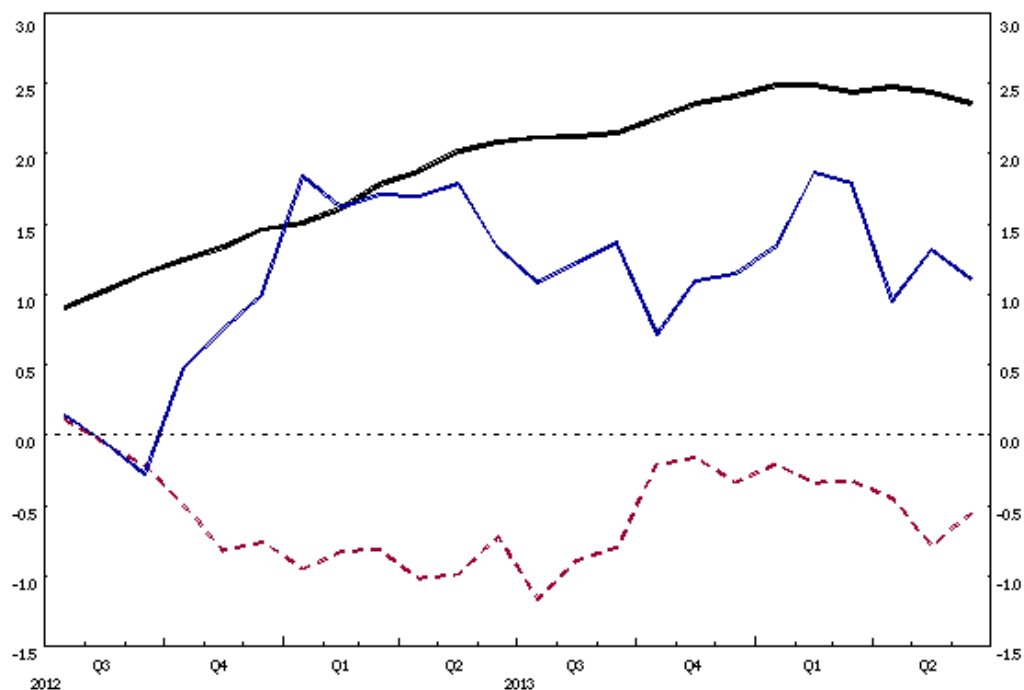
The seasonally adjusted *current account* of the euro area recorded a surplus of €13.1 billion in June 2014 (see Table 1). This reflected surpluses for *goods* (€11.6 billion), *services* (€8.8 billion) and *income* (€4.8 billion), which were partly offset by a deficit for *current transfers* (€12.2 billion).

The seasonally adjusted 12-month cumulated *current account* for the period ending in June 2014 recorded a surplus of €226.7 billion (2.4% of euro area GDP), after a surplus of €198.4 billion (2.1% of euro area GDP) for the 12 months to June 2013 (see Table 1 and Chart 1). The increase in the 12-month cumulated *current account* surplus was due mainly to increases in the surpluses for *goods* (€171.1 billion, up from €141.9 billion) and *services* (€118.1 billion, up from €99.6 billion), which were partly offset by a decrease in the surplus for *income* (€56.0 billion, down from €70.3 billion) and by an increase in the deficit for *current transfers* (from €113.4 to €118.6 billion).

Chart 1. Euro area balance of payments: 12-month cumulated transactions

(as a percentage of GDP)

— current account balance (seasonally adjusted)
 - - - net direct investment (non-seasonally adjusted)
 - - - net portfolio investment (non-seasonally adjusted)



Source: ECB.

Financial account

In the financial account (see Table 2), *combined direct and portfolio investment* recorded net inflows of €14 billion in June 2014, as a result of net inflows for both *direct investment* (€8 billion) and *portfolio investment* (€6 billion).

The net inflows for *direct investment* were due almost entirely to net inflows for *other capital* (mostly *inter-company loans*).

The net inflows for *portfolio investment* were accounted for by net inflows for *equity* (€51 billion) that were partly offset by net outflows for *debt instruments* (€45 billion). The net outflows for *debt instruments* were driven mainly by net purchases of foreign *bonds and notes* by euro area residents (€31 billion), combined with net sales of euro area *bonds and notes* by non-residents (€20 billion).

The *financial derivatives* account recorded net inflows of €4 billion.

Other investment recorded net outflows of €54 billion, which mainly reflected net outflows for *MFIs excluding the Eurosystem* (€51 billion) and for the *Eurosystem* (€18 billion), which were

partly counterbalanced by net inflows for *other sectors* (€12 billion) and *general government* (€3 billion).

The [Eurosystem's stock of reserve assets](#) increased by €14 billion in June 2014 (from €569 billion to €583 billion), mainly on account of an increase in the market price of gold.

In the 12 months to June 2014 *combined direct and portfolio investment* recorded cumulated net inflows of €54 billion, compared with net inflows of €57 billion in the 12 months to June 2013. The decrease was the result of lower net inflows for *portfolio investment* (€107 billion, down from €126 billion), which were largely offset by lower outflows for *direct investment* (€53 billion, down from €69 billion).

Data revisions

This press release incorporates regular revisions for May 2014. These revisions have not significantly altered the figures previously published for the current, capital and financial accounts.

Additional information on the euro area balance of payments and international investment position

In this press release, the seasonally adjusted current account refers to working day and seasonally adjusted data. Data for the financial account are not working day or seasonally adjusted.

In line with the agreed allocation of responsibilities, the European Central Bank compiles and disseminates monthly and quarterly balance of payments statistics for the euro area, whereas the European Commission (Eurostat; see news releases for "Euro-indicators") focuses on quarterly and annual aggregates for the European Union. These data comply with international standards, particularly those set out in the IMF's Balance of Payments Manual (fifth edition). The aggregates for the euro area and the European Union are compiled consistently on the basis of transactions and positions vis-à-vis residents of countries outside the euro area and the European Union respectively.

A complete set of updated euro area balance of payments statistics (including a quarterly geographical breakdown for the main counterparts) and international investment position statistics as well as historical euro area balance of payments time series, can be downloaded from the [ECB's Statistical Data Warehouse \(SDW\)](#). Data up to June 2014 will also be published in the September 2014 issues of the ECB's Monthly Bulletin and Statistics Pocket Book. Detailed [methodological notes](#) are available on the ECB's website. The [next press release](#) on the euro area monthly balance of payments will be published on 19 September 2014. In the fourth quarter of 2014 the ECB will start publishing the euro area balance of payments and international investment position statistics in accordance with its [Guideline ECB/2011/23](#), which adheres to the sixth edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual (BPM6). More detailed information is available on a dedicated [webpage](#).

For media enquiries, please call Rocío González López on +49 69 1344 6451.

Annexes

Table 1: Current account of the euro area

Table 2: Monthly balance of payments of the euro area

European Central Bank

Directorate General Communications and Language Services, Global Media Relations Division

Kaiserstrasse 29, D-60311 Frankfurt am Main

Tel.: +49 69 1344 7455, Fax: +49 69 1344 7404

Internet: <http://www.ecb.europa.eu>

Reproduction is permitted provided that the source is acknowledged.

Table 1: Current account of the euro area

(EUR billions unless otherwise indicated; transactions; working day and seasonally adjusted data)

	Cumulated figures for the 12-month period ending		2013						2014					
	June 2013	June 2014	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
CURRENT ACCOUNT	198.4	226.7	15.3	16.5	18.1	21.5	24.1	21.2	21.0	17.2	17.4	21.6	19.8	13.1
<i>Memo: as a percentage of GDP</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>2.4</i>												
Credit	3,247.5	3,277.2	266.7	269.4	272.3	271.4	274.7	273.1	276.7	276.2	275.7	272.6	273.6	274.7
Debit	3,049.1	3,050.6	251.4	253.0	254.3	249.9	250.7	251.9	255.7	259.0	258.4	251.0	253.7	261.7
Goods	141.9	171.1	10.3	13.9	13.4	14.5	16.7	15.2	16.9	15.9	14.0	16.9	11.7	11.6
Credit (exports)	1,938.9	1,957.4	157.0	161.4	161.7	162.7	165.2	164.3	165.7	166.6	163.5	162.6	162.7	164.0
Debit (imports)	1,797.1	1,786.2	146.7	147.5	148.3	148.1	148.6	149.1	148.8	150.7	149.5	145.6	150.9	152.4
Services	99.6	118.1	10.7	8.1	10.7	10.3	10.7	10.3	10.1	8.3	7.5	10.0	12.8	8.8
Credit (exports)	646.6	680.8	55.1	54.2	57.3	56.2	56.8	57.0	58.3	57.5	57.7	56.5	57.9	56.1
Debit (imports)	547.0	562.7	44.4	46.2	46.7	45.9	46.1	46.8	48.2	49.2	50.2	46.5	45.1	47.3
Income	70.3	56.0	4.9	4.7	3.8	5.5	5.5	5.7	3.9	3.7	6.0	5.4	2.3	4.8
Credit	562.8	539.4	46.1	45.7	44.9	44.3	44.5	43.1	44.3	43.7	45.8	45.9	44.9	46.2
Debit	492.5	483.4	41.1	41.0	41.2	38.9	39.0	37.5	40.4	40.0	39.8	40.5	42.6	41.3
Current transfers	-113.4	-118.6	-10.6	-10.2	-9.8	-8.8	-8.8	-9.9	-9.8	-10.7	-10.1	-10.7	-7.0	-12.2
Credit	99.2	99.7	8.5	8.0	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.6	8.4	8.4	8.8	7.6	8.1	8.4
Debit	212.6	218.3	19.1	18.3	18.1	17.0	17.0	18.6	18.2	19.1	18.9	18.3	15.1	20.6

Source: ECB.

Table 2: Monthly balance of payments of the euro area

(EUR billions; transactions; non-working day and non-seasonally adjusted data)

	Cumulated figures for the 12-month period ending						May 2014 (revised)			June 2014		
	June 2013			June 2014								
	Net	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit
CURRENT ACCOUNT	196.8	3,238.4	3,041.6	219.6	3,266.4	3,046.9	9.3	274.2	264.9	20.8	282.2	261.4
Goods	140.5	1,930.9	1,790.4	166.3	1,947.4	1,781.1	13.1	163.1	149.9	14.4	163.7	149.3
Services	99.8	645.7	545.9	118.3	679.2	561.0	13.8	57.4	43.6	11.5	59.4	47.9
Income	72.3	563.0	490.7	55.3	539.5	484.2	-10.8	47.0	57.8	6.4	52.0	45.5
Current transfers	-115.9	98.7	214.6	-120.3	100.4	220.7	-6.8	6.7	13.5	-11.6	7.1	18.7
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	19.7	34.1	14.4	22.1	33.6	11.5	0.2	1.7	1.6	1.4	2.4	1.0
	Balance	Assets	Liabilities	Balance	Assets	Liabilities	Balance	Assets	Liabilities	Balance	Assets	Liabilities
FINANCIAL ACCOUNT¹⁾	-249.4			-253.6			-9.3			-35.9		
DIRECT INVESTMENT²⁾	-68.8	-332.3	263.6	-53.4	-268.4	215.0	10.6	-15.1	25.8	8.0	-1.8	9.8
Equity capital and reinvested earnings	18.9	-198.6	217.9	-70.3	-289.8	219.8	-7.3	-16.3	8.9	0.1	-7.7	7.8
Other capital (mostly inter-company loans)	-88.1	-133.8	45.7	16.5	21.4	-4.8	18.0	1.1	16.8	7.9	5.9	2.0
PORTFOLIO INVESTMENT	126.2	-260.1	386.3	107.1	-346.1	453.2	60.0	-37.6	97.6	6.0	-38.5	44.4
Equity	107.5	-143.6	251.1	123.8	-167.4	291.2	8.4	-20.5	28.9	50.6	-4.7	55.3
Debt instruments	18.7	-116.5	135.2	-16.7	-178.7	162.0	51.6	-17.1	68.8	-44.6	-33.8	-10.8
Bonds and notes	-19.6	-127.4	107.8	55.2	-133.9	189.0	61.2	-3.0	64.2	-51.0	-31.0	-20.0
Money market instruments	38.3	10.9	27.4	-71.8	-44.8	-27.0	-9.5	-14.1	4.6	6.4	-2.8	9.2
MEMO ITEM: COMBINED DIRECT AND PORTFOLIO INVESTMENT	57.4	-592.5	649.9	53.7	-614.5	668.2	70.6	-52.8	123.4	13.9	-40.3	54.2
FINANCIAL DERIVATIVES (NET)	30.8			17.7			-0.5			3.6		
OTHER INVESTMENT	-332.9	142.9	-475.8	-319.0	-121.2	-197.7	-79.0	-47.9	-31.1	-53.9	57.4	-111.3
Eurosystem	-27.8	6.0	-33.8	-65.9	10.3	-76.2	4.6	5.1	-0.5	-17.5	2.1	-19.5
General government	-8.4	4.1	-12.5	-4.2	-4.2	0.0	-3.5	-1.5	-2.0	2.9	-0.5	3.4
of which: currency and deposits	6.1	6.1		-9.7	-9.7		-1.8	-1.8		-1.0	-1.0	
MFIs (excluding the Eurosystem)	-267.6	129.3	-396.9	-286.3	-110.9	-175.5	-64.9	-36.9	-28.0	-51.0	36.3	-87.3
Long-term	31.1	68.2	-37.1	15.4	82.4	-67.0	-5.0	-3.4	-1.6	6.0	10.3	-4.3
Short-term	-298.7	61.1	-359.8	-301.7	-193.3	-108.4	-59.9	-33.5	-26.5	-57.0	26.0	-83.0
Other sectors	-29.0	3.5	-32.6	37.5	-16.4	53.9	-15.3	-14.7	-0.6	11.7	19.5	-7.8
of which: currency and deposits	27.3	27.3		-37.4	-37.4		-21.1	-21.1		4.7	4.7	
RESERVE ASSETS	-4.7	-4.7		-6.0	-6.0		-0.5	-0.5		0.5	0.5	
Errors and omissions	33.0			11.9			-0.1			13.7		

Source: ECB.

1) Financial account: inflows (+); outflows (-). Reserve assets: increase (-); decrease (+).

2) Direct investment: assets refer to direct investment abroad and liabilities to direct investment in the euro area.