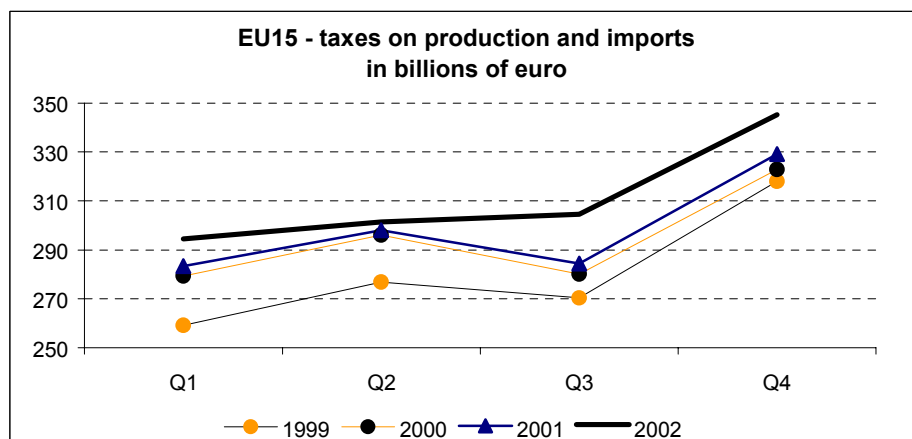
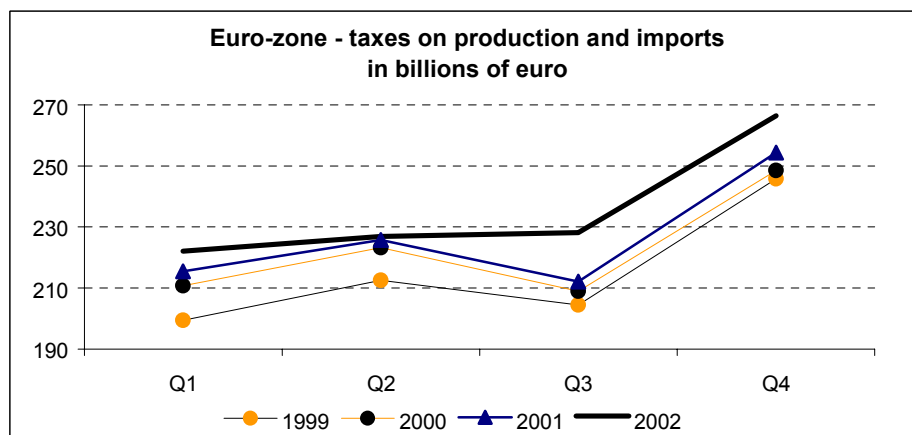


# QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS

Fourth quarter 2002

Taxes and social payments\*

Luca Protti



During the fourth quarter of 2002 taxes on production and imports at current prices reached 266 425.6 millions of euro in the euro-zone <sup>(1)</sup> and 345 124.1 millions of euro in the European Union (EU15), with an increase of respectively 11 991.3 millions of euro (+4.7%) and 15 959.6 millions of euro (+4.8%) over the fourth quarter of 2001.

In the same period, current taxes on income, wealth, etc. amounted to 252 443.9 millions of euro in the euro-zone, showing an expansion over the fourth quarter 2001 of 4 266.1 millions of euro (+1.7%), while they were equal to 337 610.1 millions of euro in the EU15, with an increase of 790.1 millions of euro (+0.2%).

Actual social contributions (receivable) were equal to 286 272.0 millions of euro in the euro-zone and to 324 454.8 millions of euro in the EU15. In both areas a growth with respect to the same quarter of 2001 was observed: 8 539.7 millions of euro (+3.1%) in the euro-zone and 9 177.2 millions of euro (+2.9%) in the EU15.

Social benefits other than social transfer in kind (payable) reached a level of 316 777.0 millions of euro in the euro-zone and 394 477.6 millions of euro in the EU15, which means an increase of respectively 17 951.3 millions of euro (+6.0%) and 19 216.5 (+5.1%).

\* Social payments include actual social contributions and social benefits other than social transfers in kind. Taxes on production and imports do not include taxes paid to the EU Institutions.

<sup>(1)</sup> The euro-zone consists of Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland.

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## Statistics in focus

### ECONOMY AND FINANCE

THEME 2 – 34/2003

### NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

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## Taxes and social payments in Member States

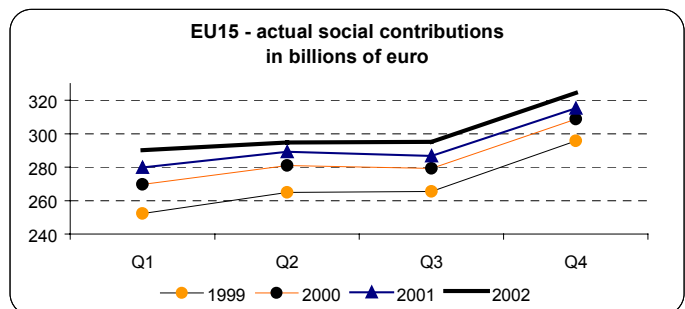
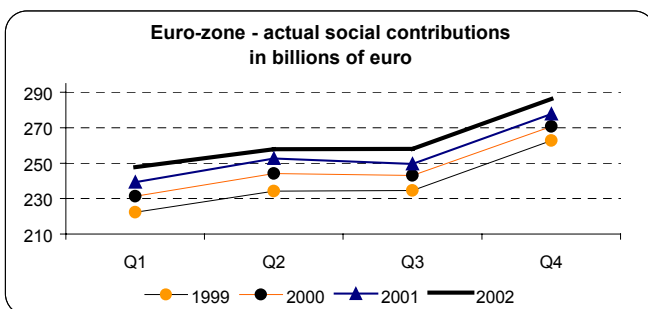
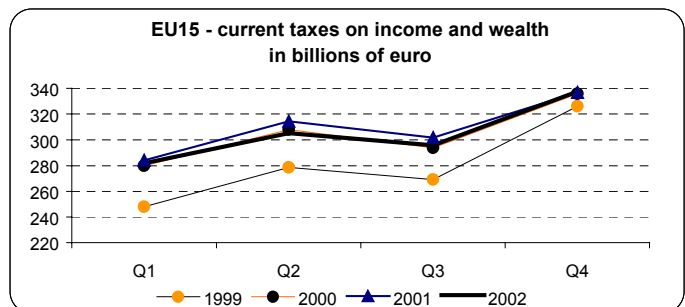
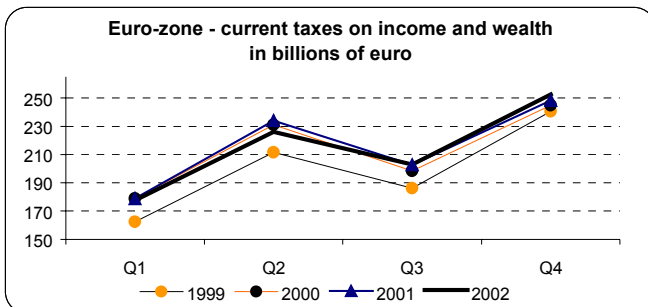
In the fourth quarter of 2002, taxes on production and imports grew by 4.7% in the euro-zone and by 4.8% in the EU15 with respect to the same quarter of the previous year. An increase was observed in all Member States, Portugal (+18.0%)<sup>(2)</sup> on page 7) and Ireland (+14.0%) being the two countries to report the strongest ones. On the contrary Germany (+1.5%) and the Netherlands (+2.8%) recorded the lowest increases.

In the same period current taxes on income, wealth, etc. grew by 1.7% in the euro-zone and by 0.2% in the EU15. Changes were not homogeneous among Member States: the biggest expansions were recorded in Luxembourg (+23.9%) and in Portugal (+12.9%),

whilst France (-9.8%) and Austria (-8.9%) showed the steepest declines.

Actual social contributions (receivable) expanded both in the euro-zone (+3.1%) and in the EU15 (+2.9%). All Member States reported a positive growth rate, except for Denmark (-22.7%), Greece (-13.1%) and Finland (-2.5%). Conversely, Portugal (+13.9%) and Ireland (+7.8%) posted the highest increases.

Social benefits other than social transfers in kind (payable) grew in both areas: +6.0% in euro-zone and +5.1% in the EU15. An increase was observed in all Member States, with the exception of Greece (-17.2%). Luxembourg (+27.6%) and Ireland (+17.2%) were the countries showing the highest rate of growth.



## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

### Quarterly accounts

- The quarterly figures published in this Statistics in Focus are in accordance with the European System of Accounts (ESA 1995). They are transmitted to Eurostat according to the Commission Regulation (EC) N° 264/2000 of 3 February 2000 on the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) N° 2223/96 with respect to short-term public finance statistics.
- Data in this publication are expressed in current prices and they are not seasonally adjusted. The presence of a seasonal component and differences in administrative practices (concerning legislation, tax collection and accounting procedures) both between Member States and within Member States over time, could result in a high volatility of the time series. Therefore, care should be taken when comparing results and substantial revisions have to be expected.
- Euro-zone and EU15 aggregates are obtained as the sum of Member States figures after transformation in a common currency (euro), by applying the quarterly average exchange rate with respect to the euro (ECU till 1998). When data are not available for all the countries, an estimation is performed to obtain the figures for the European aggregates. Data referring to Member States and contained in table 1 are expressed in a common currency (euro) to ensure their additivity in the construction of the European aggregates, while year on year growth rates are calculated on national currency to avoid the effect of exchange rate movements between national currency and euro for the countries not belonging to the euro-zone.

**T1**
**QUARTERLY TAXES AND SOCIAL PAYMENTS**
**EURO-ZONE, EU-15 AND EU MEMBER STATES**

Fourth quarter 2002 - levels in millions of euro and percentage change over the same quarter of the previous year at current prices (national currency), not seasonally adjusted

**levels / t/t-4**

	Taxes on production and Imports		of which value added type taxes		Current taxes on income, wealth, etc.		Capital taxes		Actual social contributions		Social benefits other than social transfers in kind	
	level 2002-Q4	% t/t-4	level 2002-Q4	% t/t-4	level 2002-Q4	% t/t-4	level 2002-Q4	% t/t-4	level 2002-Q4	% t/t-4	level 2002-Q4	% t/t-4
<b>euro-zone</b>	266 425.6	4.7	125 550.1	5.5	252 443.9	1.7	5 943.1	16.0	286 272.0	3.1	316 777.0	6.0
<b>EU-15</b>	345 124.1	4.8	165 116.9	5.6	337 610.1	0.2	7 090.7	13.0	324 454.8	2.9	394 477.6	5.1
<b>EU MEMBER STATES</b>												
<b>B</b>	9 382.3	7.9	5 202.3	10.0	12 686.3	- 1.0	329.8	4.5	10 768.5	1.3	10 460.0	6.7
<b>DK</b>	8 340.5	3.3	4 719.6	3.4	13 667.1	2.7	91.5	- 10.6	764.8	- 22.7	7 479.5	5.2
<b>D</b>	63 890.0	1.5	34 630.0	0.2	69 020.0	5.4	770.0	0.0	100 170.0	1.8	104 890.0	5.8
<b>EL</b>	5 363.0	5.5	2 791.0	7.1	3 151.0	6.0	97.0	- 8.5	3 553.0	- 13.1	5 298.0	- 17.2
<b>E</b>	21 745.0	11.3	10 372.0	4.8	22 537.0	12.0	729.0	5.2	22 542.0	6.6	25 120.0	9.6
<b>F</b>	76 362.3	3.5	28 502.0	4.3	38 762.0	- 9.8	2 451.7	13.2	66 428.2	2.9	69 640.9	5.2
<b>IRL</b>	4 298.9	14.0	2 368.3	14.4	4 977.0	11.7	37.6	6.2	1 447.1	7.8	3 100.9	17.2
<b>I</b>	49 718.0	5.3	21 079.2	10.5	66 025.3	3.1	867.6	189.0	49 196.3	5.7	64 496.1	8.1
<b>L</b>	788.3	4.9	362.3	9.7	1 084.1	23.9	8.4	13.5	718.9	5.8	1 018.5	27.6
<b>NL</b>	15 440.0	2.8	9 533.0	6.3	15 530.0	- 0.3	461.0	- 20.7	15 021.0	5.1	12 955.0	4.1
<b>A</b>	8 896.8	7.7	4 482.6	12.9	9 101.4	- 8.9	36.3	- 10.8	8 242.5	0.0	9 176.8	4.5
<b>P</b>	5 453.4	18.0	3 136.8	20.6	3 934.0	12.9	52.9	337.6	3 886.5	13.9	4 747.8	11.9
<b>FIN</b>	5 087.6	6.9	3 090.5	7.0	5 635.8	4.9	101.9	7.9	4 298.0	- 2.5	5 872.9	1.9
<b>S</b>	11 853.9	5.9	6 316.0	2.7	11 349.1	2.8	111.3	22.5	9 770.1	2.0	11 404.2	3.5
<b>UK</b>	58 504.1	7.2	28 531.3	8.4	60 150.1	- 4.9	944.8	0.5	27 647.8	3.5	58 817.0	2.5

## T2

## ANNUAL TAXES AND SOCIAL PAYMENTS

## EURO-ZONE, EU-15 AND EU MEMBER STATES

Year 2002 - levels in millions of euro and percentage change over the previous year at current prices

levels / t/t-1 (national currency)

	Taxes on production and imports		Current taxes on income, wealth, etc.		Capital taxes		Actual social contributions		Social benefits other than social transfers in kind	
	level 2002	% t/t-1	level 2002	% t/t-1	level 2002	% t/t-1	level 2002	% t/t-1	level 2002	% t/t-1
euro-zone	943 435.4	3.9	858 943.8	- 0.5	21 837.5	17.2	1 049 919.4	3.0	1 199 832.5	5.7
EU-15	1 245 754.8	4.3	1 219 504.3	- 1.5	26 325.7	13.7	1 204 365.2	2.8	1 501 076.9	5.2
EU MEMBER STATES										
B	33 784.7	5.2	45 794.1	2.4	1 267.1	6.6	37 977.4	4.0	41 832.5	6.3
DK	32 143.5	4.1	53 870.4	1.1	341.8	- 6.0	3 148.6	- 22.2	32 095.3	3.9
D	249 510.0	1.3	227 090.0	- 1.2	3 030.0	- 1.3	367 220.0	1.4	409 880.0	5.0
EL	20 330.0	5.1	13 311.0	6.3	395.0	- 5.3	16 704.0	8.7	23 117.0	8.4
E	81 022.0	9.2	75 781.0	11.3	2 549.0	- 0.7	87 908.0	6.1	86 704.0	8.9
F	229 435.0	3.7	176 084.0	- 4.3	9 098.0	11.2	250 264.0	3.8	275 313.0	5.1
IRL	15 611.0	12.4	15 085.0	1.2	150.0	- 10.2	5 735.7	10.5	11 246.4	15.2
I	183 606.0	4.0	178 762.0	- 2.9	2 923.0	174.5	155 494.0	3.7	215 363.0	6.5
L	3 024.9	2.2	3 678.5	7.5	33.4	40.9	2 641.2	6.6	3 616.8	14.2
NL	56 194.0	3.6	53 246.0	3.9	1 700.0	29.4	61 938.0	1.4	52 213.0	4.8
A	32 579.8	4.8	30 481.5	- 4.8	148.0	- 11.0	32 231.0	1.6	40 673.0	2.4
P	19 480.0	10.2	12 573.7	4.1	92.0	2.7	14 603.1	7.9	16 775.8	9.3
FIN	18 858.0	5.1	27 057.0	2.3	452.0	17.4	17 203.0	1.5	23 098.0	4.0
S	43 663.5	7.8	49 179.0	- 10.4	352.0	15.8	38 209.5	3.8	44 974.3	4.7
UK	226 512.4	5.8	257 511.2	- 2.3	3 794.3	- 0.4	113 087.6	2.6	224 174.7	3.7

Figure 1. Taxes and social payments - annual values at current prices (billions of euro)

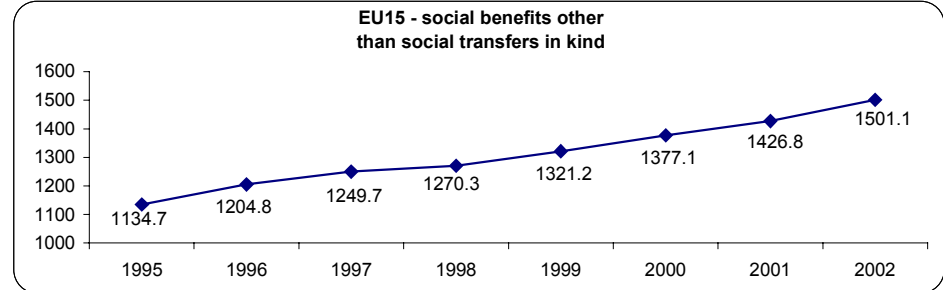
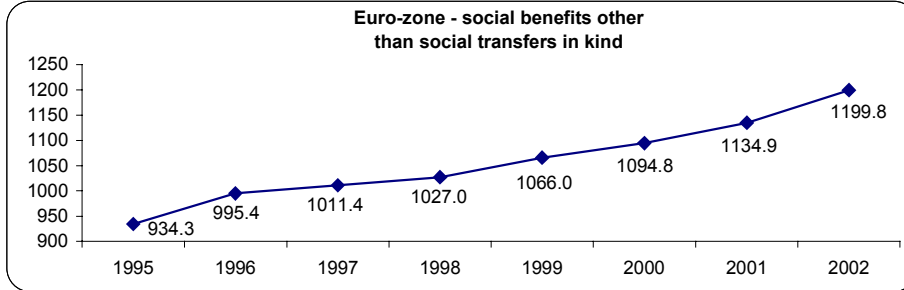
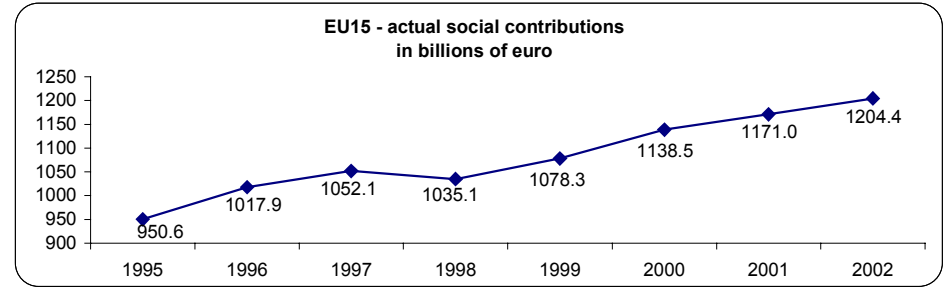
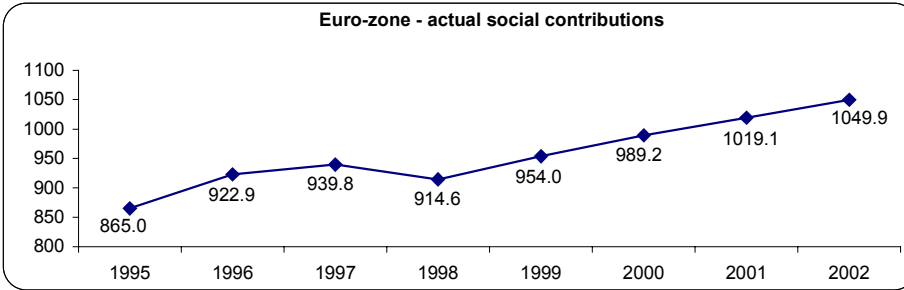
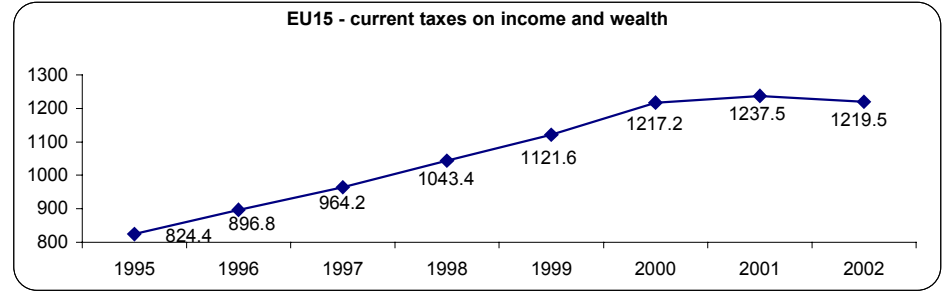
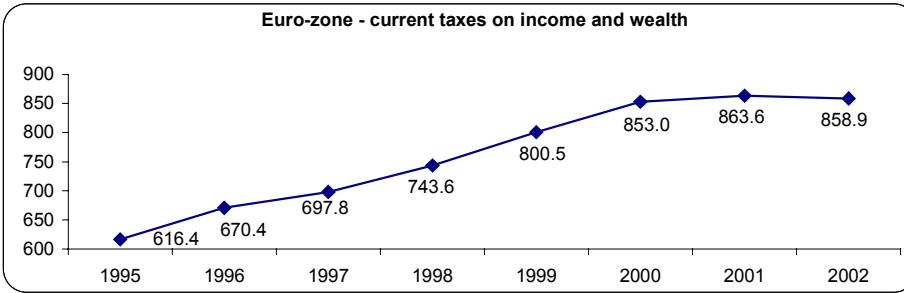
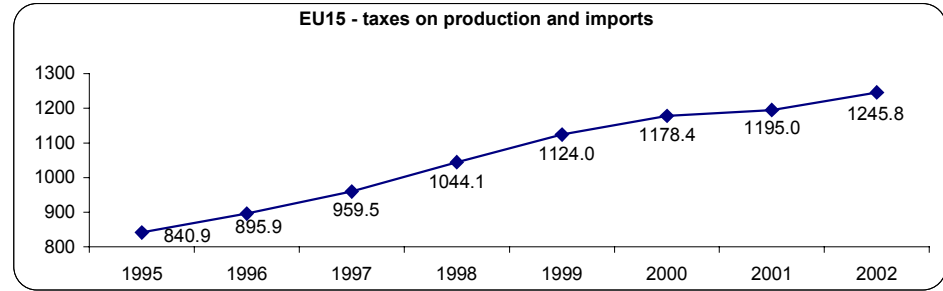
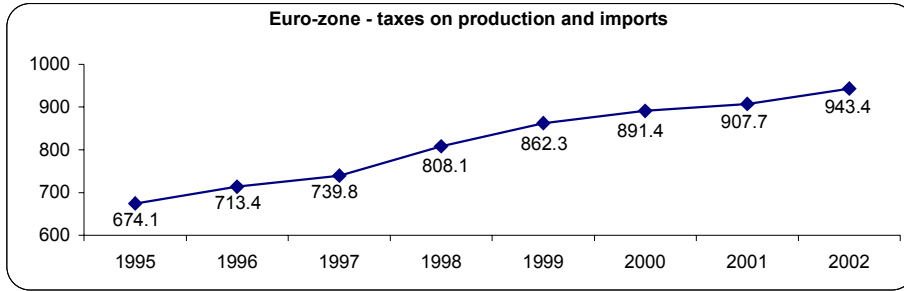
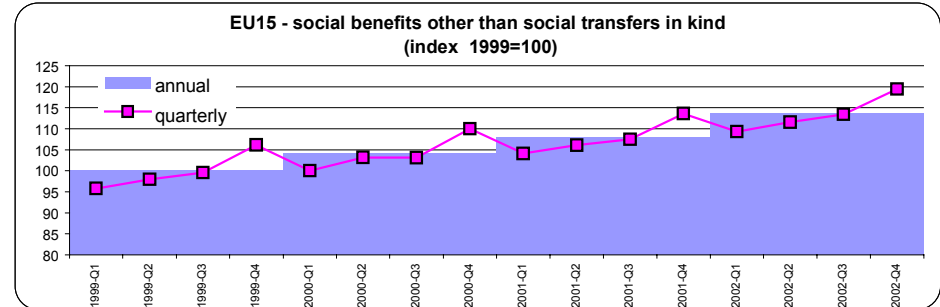
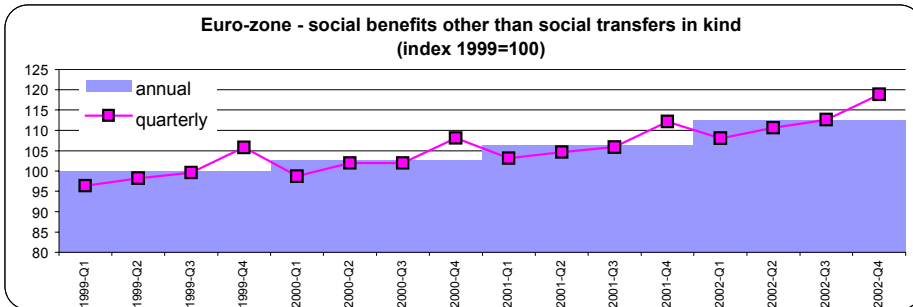
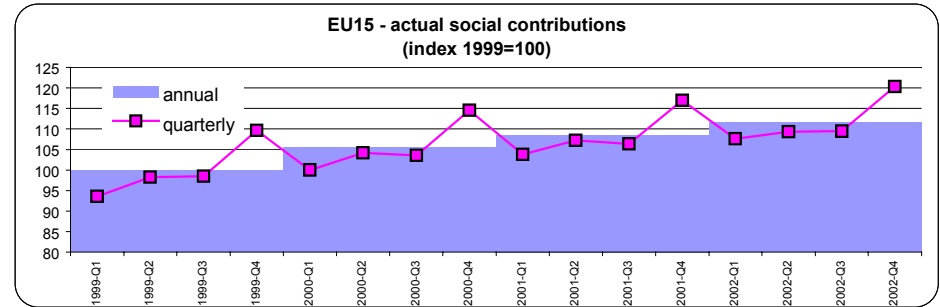
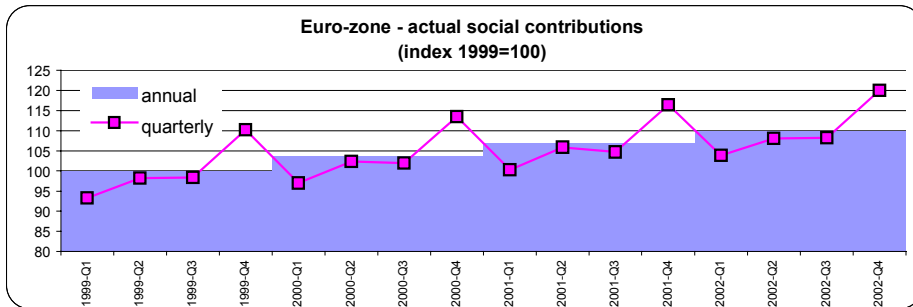
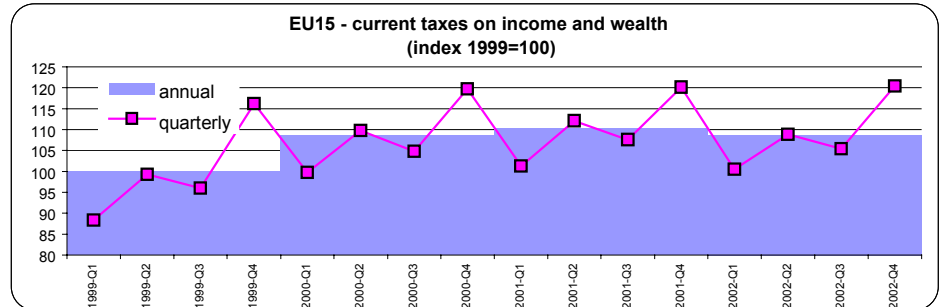
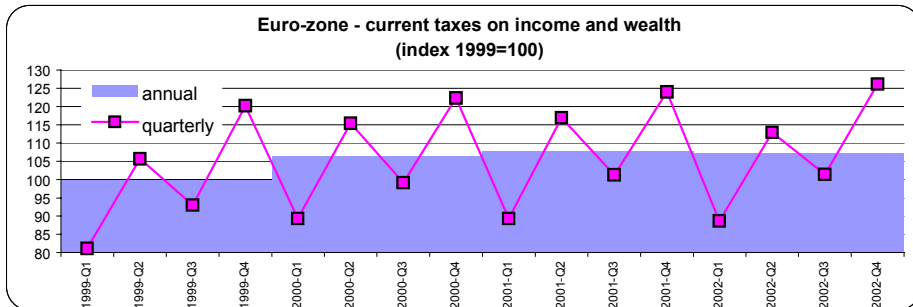
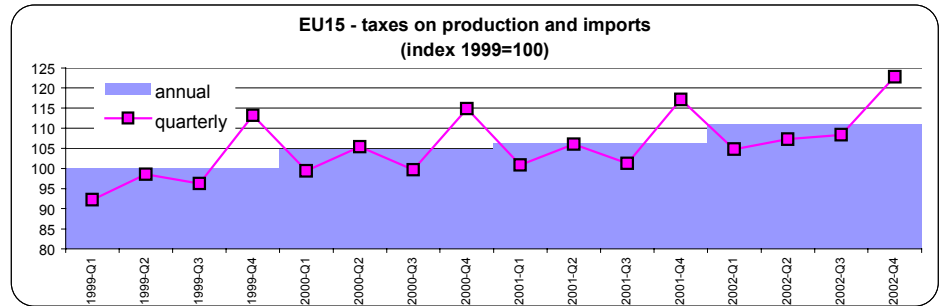
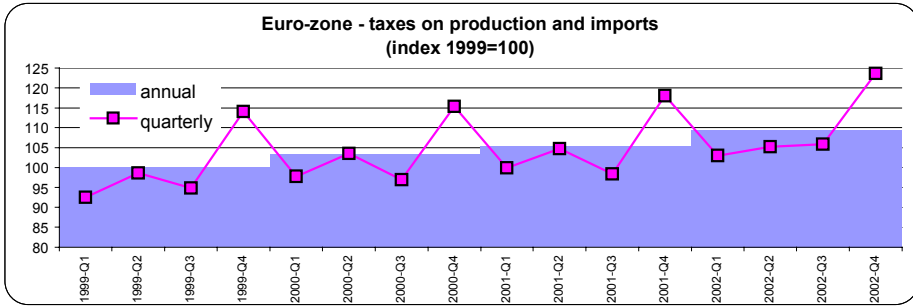


Figure 2. Taxes and social payments - annual versus quarterly movements (index number 1999 = 100)



## Taxes and social payments in member states: annual development

In 2002, taxes on production and imports at current prices reached 943 435.4 millions of euro in the euro-zone and 1 245 754.8 millions of euro in the European Union (EU15), with an increase of respectively 35 776.9 millions of euro (+3.9%) and 50 788.2 millions of euro (+4.3%) over 2001.

In the same period, current taxes on income, wealth, etc. amounted to 858 943.8 millions of euro in the euro-zone, showing a decrease of 4 620.7 millions of euro (-0.5%), while they were equal to 1 219 504.3 millions of euro in the EU15, with an fall of 17 977.9 millions of euro (-1.5%).

Actual social contributions (receivable) were equal to 1 049 919.4 millions of euro in the euro-zone and to 1 204 365.2 millions of euro in the EU15. In both areas a growth with respect to the same quarter of 2001 was observed: 30 823.0 millions of euro (+3.0%) in the euro-zone and 33 355.3 millions of euro (+2.8%) in the EU15.

Social benefits other than social transfer in kind (payable) reached a level of 1 199 832.5 millions of euro in the euro-zone and 1 501 076.9 millions of euro in the EU15, which means an increase of respectively 64 927.7 millions of euro (+5.7%) and 74 323.8 (+5.2%).

In 2002, taxes on production and imports grew by 3.9% in the euro-zone and by 4.3% in the EU15 with respect to the previous year. An increase was observed in all Member States, Ireland (+12.4%) and Portugal (+10.2%) being the two countries to report the sharpest ones. On the contrary Germany (+1.3%) and Luxembourg (+2.2%) recorded the lowest increases.

In the same period current taxes on income, wealth, etc. decreased by 0.5% in the euro-zone and by 1.5% in the EU15. Changes were not homogeneous among Member States: the biggest expansions were recorded in Spain (+11.3%) and in Luxembourg (+7.5%), whilst Sweden (-10.4%) and Austria (-4.8%) showed the steepest declines.

Actual social contributions (receivable) expanded both in the euro-zone (+3.0%) and in the EU15 (+2.8%). All Member States reported a positive growth rate, except for Denmark (-22.2%). Conversely, Ireland (+10.5%) and Greece (+8.7%) posted the highest increases.

Social benefits other than social transfer in kind (payable) grew in both areas: +5.7% in euro-zone and +5.2% in the EU15. An increase was observed in all Member States, Ireland (+15.2%) and Luxembourg (+14.2%) being the countries showing the highest rate of growth, while Austria (+2.4%) and the United Kingdom (+3.7%) posted the lowest increases.

## ➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

### Annual accounts

1. Annual data published are transmitted according to Table 2, "Main aggregates of general government", in Annex B of the Council Regulation (EC) No 2223/96 of 25 June 1996 on the European system of national and regional accounts in the Community (ESA95), as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1500/2000 of 10 July 2000 with respect to general government expenditure and revenue, and by Commission Regulation (EC) No 995/2001 of 22 May 2001 implementing European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 2516/2000 of 10 July 2000 on the recording of taxes and social contributions. The legislation provides for the compulsory transmission by Member States twice a year (at t+3 and at t+8 months) of a series of aggregates (transactions and balancing items) for sector S13 General Government.
2. Data on value added type taxes (VAT) are not yet available for the year 2002, since they have to be transmitted by Member States within 12 month from the end of the reference year, according to the European legislation (Table 9 of ESA 95 transmission program).
3. Annual data in this publication are expressed in current prices.
4. Euro-zone and EU15 aggregates are obtained as the sum of Member States figures after transformation in a common currency (euro), by applying the annual averaged exchange rate with respect to the euro (ECU till 1998). Data referring to Member States and contained in table 2 are expressed in a common currency (euro) to ensure their additivity in the construction of the European aggregates. The year on year growth rates are calculated on national currency to avoid the effect of exchange rate movements between national currency and euro for the countries not belonging to the euro-zone.

<sup>(2)</sup> The sharp increase observed in the Portuguese tax revenues, in the fourth quarter of 2002, is mainly explained by a Tax Amnesty operation that occurred in December of the same year. The operation allowed tax payers to settle their debts without paying any fines or penalties for the late payment of taxes.

# Further information:

## ➤ Databases

New Cronos, Theme 2

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 ORIGINAL: English                      Layout: Cindy BROCKLY                      Co-Author: Pietro BENEDETTI

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