# Statistics

003

# in focus

#### ECONOMY AND FINANCE

THEME 2 – 45/2003

#### NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

### Contents

Taxes and social payments: quarterly developement in Member States.....2

Quarterly taxes and social payments by country ......3

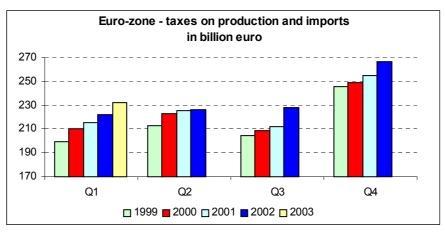


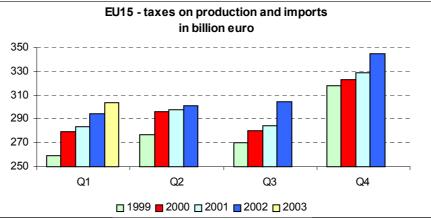
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# **QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS**

First quarter 2003 Taxes and social payments\*

#### Luca PROTTI





During the first quarter of 2003 taxes on production and imports (including value added type taxes, which account for roughly 50% of the revenues) reached 232.3 billion euro in the euro-zone ( $^1$ ) and 303.8 billion euro in the European Union (EU15), with an increase of 10.3 billion euro (+4.6%) and 9.2 billion euro (+3.1%), respectively, over the first guarter of 2002.

In the same period, current taxes on income, wealth, etc. amounted to 178.6 billion euro in the euro-zone, showing an increase on the first quarter 2002 of 1.6 billion euro (+0.9%), while they were equal to 279.7 billion euro in the EU15, which means a decrease of 2.0 billion euro (-0.7%).

Actual social contributions (receivable) were 258.1 billion euro in the euro-zone and to 298.2 billion euro in the EU15. In both areas a growth with respect to the same quarter of 2002 was observed: 10.3 billion euro (+4.2%) in the euro-zone and 7.9 billion euro (+2.7%) in the EU15.

Social benefits other than social transfer in kind (payable) reached a level of 301.7 billion euro in the euro-zone and 375.4 billion euro in the EU15, which means an increase of 13.8 billion euro (+4.8%) and 14.2 billion euro (+3.9%) respectively.

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

#### Taxes and social payments in Member States

In the first quarter of 2003, taxes on production and imports grew by 4.6% in the euro-zone and by 3.1% in the EU15 with respect to the same quarter of the previous year. An increase was observed in all Member States, Ireland (+14.6%) and Sweden (+11.1%) being the two countries to report the strongest growth. In contrast, Denmark (+0.5%) and Portugal (+2.0%) recorded the lowest increases.

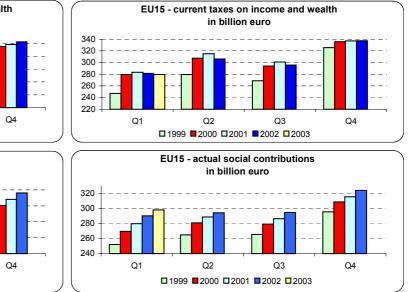
In the same period current taxes on income, wealth, etc. grew by 0.9% in the euro-zone while there was a decrease of 0.7% in the EU15. Changes were not homogeneous among Member States: the biggest increases were recorded in Sweden (+8.2%) and in

Euro-zone - current taxes on income and wealth in billion euro 250 230 210 190 170 150 Q1 Q3 Q2 Q4 □ 1999 ■ 2000 □ 2001 ■ 2002 □ 2003 Euro-zone - actual social contributions in billion euro 290 270 250 230 210 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 □ 1999 ■ 2000 □ 2001 ■ 2002 □ 2003

Spain (+6.0%), whilst Portugal (-6.8%) and Finland (-9.7%) showed the steepest declines.

Actual social contributions (receivable) grew both in the euro-zone (+4.2%) and in the EU15 (+2.7%). All Member States reported a positive growth rate, except for Sweden (-1.5\%). Conversely, Ireland (+16.0%) and Spain (+9.4%) posted the highest increases.

Social benefits other than social transfers in kind (payable) grew in both areas: +4.8% in the euro-zone and +3.9% in the EU15. An increase was observed in all Member States. Luxembourg (+41.4%) and Ireland (+20.4%) were the countries showing the highest rate of growth, while Austria (+3.2%) and Greece (+1.4%) reported the lowest growths.



#### > 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.
- 2. 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 3. 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 until 1998). When data are not available for all the countries, an estimation is made 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.



eurostat **T1** 

#### QUARTERLY TAXES AND SOCIAL PAYMENTS

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

First quarter 2003 - levels in millions of euro and percentage change over the same quarter of the previous year at current prices (national currency), not seasonally adjusted

	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 2003-Q1	% t/t-4	level 2003-Q1	% t/t-4	level 2003-Q1	% t/t-4	level 2003-Q1	% t/t-4	level 2003-Q1	% t/t-4	level 2003-Q1	% t/t-4
euro-zone	232 338.3	4.6	116 779.9	5.4	178 625.8	0.9	4 034.8	- 3.3	258 130.2	4.2	301 734.6	4.8
EU-15	303 764.9	3.1	153 111.0	3.9	279 669.4	- 0.7	4 995.0	- 4.3	298 200.6	2.7	375 350.4	3.9
EU MEMBER STAT	ES											
В	7 993.4	4.7	3 971.3	2.1	8 290.7	- 3.9	308.3	3.6	9 414.4	1.3	10 617.3	5.6
DK	7 890.2	0.5	4 255.3	0.6	13 353.4	- 0.8	77.8	7.9	784.7	2.9	7 996.4	6.4
D	62 010.0	3.3	31 660.0	4.6	52 270.0	1.7	750.0	11.9	88 430.0	2.1	105 350.0	3.7
EL	5 416.0	5.6	3 070.0	5.8	2 518.0	4.9	112.0	4.7	4 246.0	2.7	4 825.0	1.4
E	24 800.0	10.1	14 652.0	10.9	16 668.0	6.0	607.0	9.2	22 889.0	9.4	19 987.0	7.1
F	50 223.4	4.5	25 084.1	3.6	39 318.7	2.5	1 619.5	6.7	62 888.6	4.3	70 451.6	4.1
IRL	3 957.7	14.6	2 101.6	8.9	2 524.2	0.3	42.6	10.7	1 743.1	16.0	3 016.3	20.4
I	46 670.7	3.6	18 856.9	5.9	28 954.0	0.9	120.6	- 76.8	34 436.0	5.9	51 628.2	5.1
L	774.6	6.9	368.4	16.5	839.9	- 2.5	12.5	104.8	660.9	5.7	1 156.7	41.4
NL	13 828.0	3.7	7 721.0	7.7	11 015.0	- 0.7	311.0	- 1.6	17 447.0	4.7	14 128.0	7.7
А	7 724.8	4.3	4 405.3	3.4	6 897.2	- 3.1	36.4	- 5.5	7 728.8	4.7	10 324.2	3.2
Р	4 471.2	2.0	2 395.5	1.8	2 347.4	- 6.8	13.1	139.4	3 869.6	7.5	4 116.6	8.8
FIN	4 468.5	3.6	2 493.8	1.5	6 982.6	- 9.7	101.9	3.1	4 376.7	2.4	6 133.8	6.0
s	11 320.8	11.1	5 903.8	13.8	11 907.2	8.2	67.1	- 7.0	9 172.7	- 1.5	12 235.9	8.4
UK	52 215.6	4.5	26 172.0	4.8	75 783.0	3.1	815.4	- 1.8	30 113.1	1.3	53 383.4	7.0

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