

Net payment position update

October 2021

This is an update of the report, Focus on the Netherlands' net payment position – The Netherlands' contributions to and receipts from the EU, which the Netherlands Court of Audit published on 14 October 2020. Data on the year 2020 have been added to several figures. For an explanation of the background and terms, please see the original report.

Figures 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and tables 3, 4 and 5 of the Court of Audit's report have been supplemented with data on the year 2020. The update is based on the European Commission's most recent data on the member states' contributions and receipts.¹ The figures and tables in this report have the same numbering and titles as in the original report.

The data on 2020 confirm the picture painted in previous years: under the Dutch accounting definition, the Netherlands is the biggest net contributor to the EU and under the operating budgetary balance (OBB*) definition, the Netherlands is one of the biggest net contributors. The differences between the outcomes of the two definitions are slightly higher than in previous years, mainly on account of a higher remittance of customs duties in 2020.

¹ See https://ec.europa.eu/budget/graphs/revenue_expenditure.html, downloaded on 06-09-2021.

Figure 2 and table 3 below show the contributions and figure 3 and table 4 the receipts, followed by the net payment position.

Figure 2 *The Netherlands' contributions to the EU as a percentage of GNI (2014-2020)*

The Netherlands' contribution to the EU differs each year

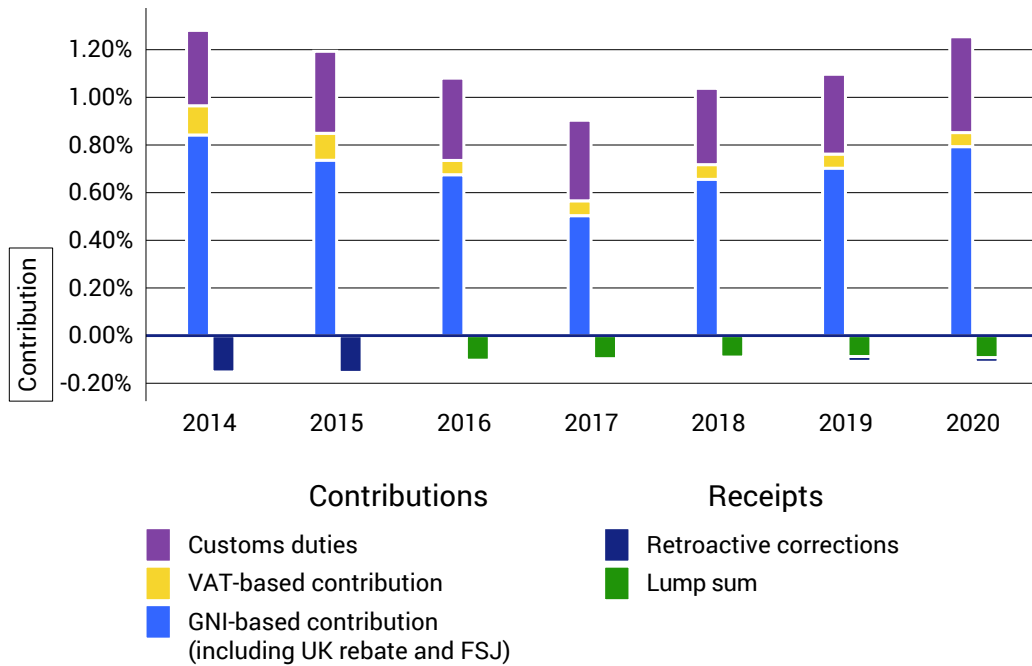


Table 3: *The Netherlands' contributions to the EU in millions of euros and as a percentage of GNI*

| Payments | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Netherlands' contributions to the EU in millions of euros | 7,475.3 | 7,045.7 | 6,717.2 | 5,848.7 | 7,347.7 | 8,055.1 | 9,021.3 |
| Total Netherlands' contributions to the EU as a percentage of GNI | 1.13 | 1.04 | 0.98 | 0.80 | 0.94 | 0.99 | 1.14 |

Figure 3: Netherlands' receipts from the EU (2014-2020)

Netherlands receipts from the EU budget have increased since 2016

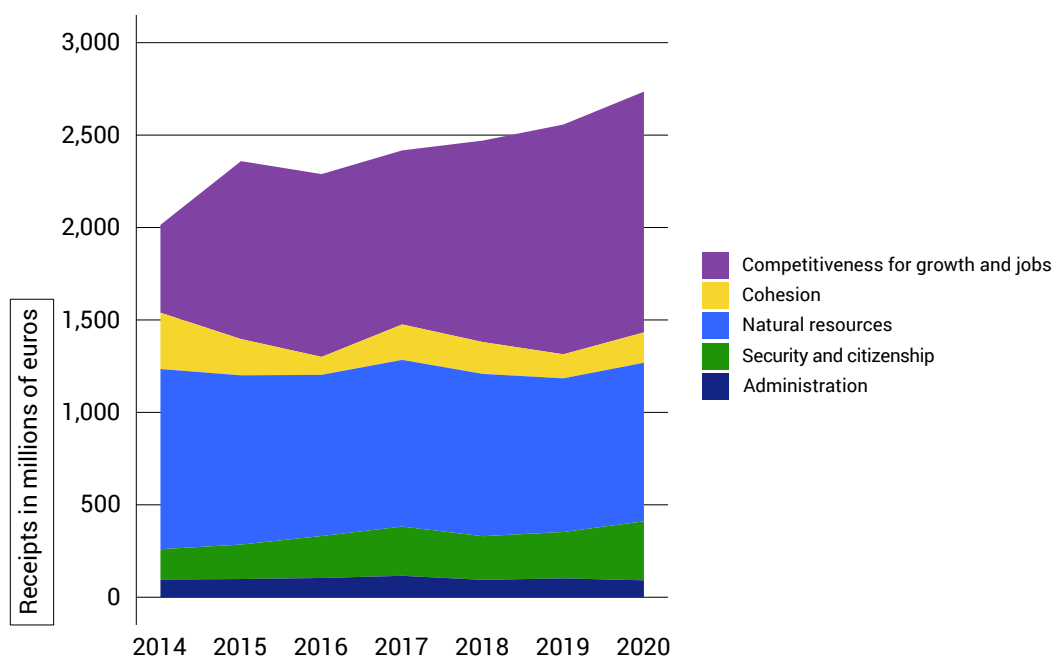


Table 4: The Netherlands' receipts from the EU in millions of euros and as a percentage of GNI

| Receipts | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Netherlands' receipts from the EU in millions of euros | 2,014.4 | 2,359.2 | 2,289.0 | 2,417.2 | 2,470.4 | 2,557.1 | 2,735.2 |
| Total Netherlands' receipts from the EU as a percentage of GNI | 0.30 | 0.35 | 0.33 | 0.33 | 0.32 | 0.31 | 0.35 |

Figure 4: *The Netherlands' net payment position under the two definitions as a percentage of GNI (2014-2020)*

The Netherlands' net payment position is more negative under the accounting definition than under the operating budgetary balance* (OBB*) definition

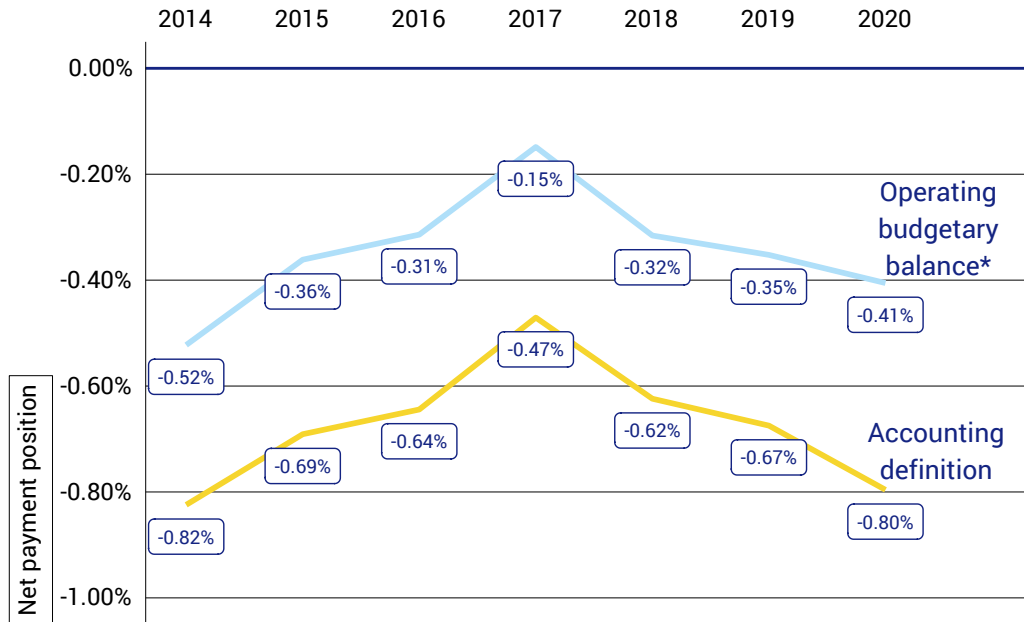


Table 5: *The Netherlands' net payment position under the two definitions in millions of euros*

| Definition | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Net payment position operating budgetary balance* | -3,461.6 | -2,451.2 | -2,158.5 | -1,082.9 | -2,468.3 | -2,870.9 |
| Net payment position accounting definition | -5,460.9 | -4,686.5 | -4,428.1 | -3,431.4 | -4,877.3 | -5,498.0 |

Figure 5: The net payment position of the 10 net contributors as a percentage of GNI under the OBB* definition (2014-2020)

Under the operating budgetary balance* definition, the Netherlands, UK, Germany and Denmark have been the biggest net contributors in recent years

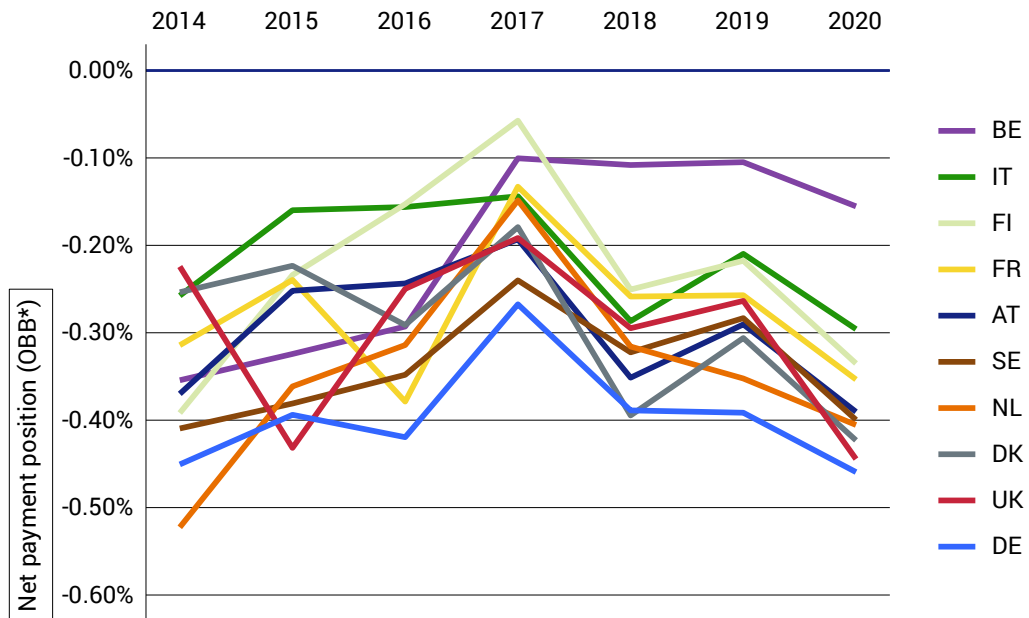
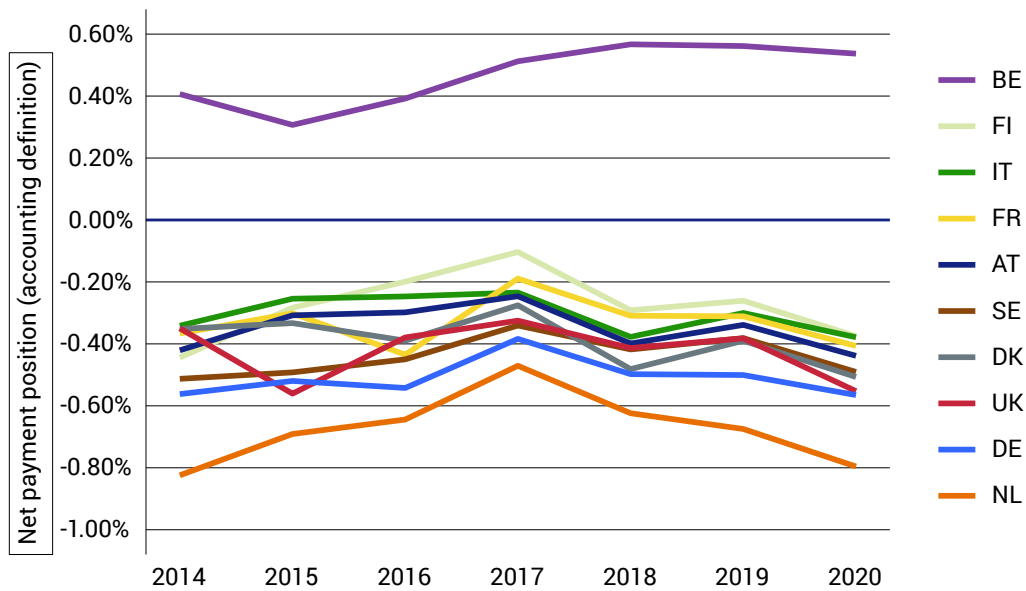


Figure 6: The net payment position of the 10 net contributors as a percentage of GNI under the accounting definition (2014-2020)

Under the accounting definition, the Netherlands was the biggest net contributor throughout the entire period. Under this definition, Belgium becomes a net recipient



More information

More information on the Netherlands Court of Audit's strategy and work programme and all published audit reports are available at www.rekenkamer.nl. For further and/or other enquiries, please contact voorlichting@rekenkamer.nl.

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