Country	Explanatory footnotes (with measures focussed mainly on the mitigation of the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and high energy prices)
General comment	Since the first quarter of 2020, Member States have implemented COVID-19 containment measures. In all quarters of 2022 and 2023, the impact of the measures to mitigate the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic had a significantly lower impact than in quarters of 2020 and 2021. However, government revenue and expenditure continued to be impacted by the measures undertaken by most Member States to alleviate the impact of increasing energy prices. Country specific explanatory metadata are published. A full harmonisation of recording practices for measures to alleviate the impact of increasing energy prices was not yet achieved. Revisions in the coming quarters are thus expected to be larger than usual. Data for the first three quarters of 2023 were significantly revised compared to the previous release.
Belgium	Government interventions aiming to alleviate high energy prices primarily impacted the first two quarters of 2023. No significant impact of COVID-19 measures was recorded in 2023.
Bulgaria	The Bulgarian authorities implemented compensation programmes for customers of electricity adopted to mitigate the economic consequences of the instability of energy market prices, including the revenue and expenditure of the "Electricity System Security" Fund in 2022. These amounts are recorded as: - D.31 expenditure in relation to compensations for high current electricity values and - D.21 tax revenue in relation to contributions from public corporations.
Czechia	The main expenditure measures in the context of COVID-19 entered into force since 2020Q2. Expenditure transactions mainly impacted were D.39p (programme Antivirus to support employment and subsidy schemes for entrepreneurs), D.1p (extra wages for staff in healthcare, social services etc.) and D.99p (direct support for the self-employed and small entities). For tax deferral measures, ad-hoc accrual adjustments were made by comparing the time-adjusted cash data with underlying economic indicators. This does not entail an adjustment for amounts, which are expected to remain uncollectible. From 2022Q1 the impact of the COVID-19 measures decreased significantly and the majority of measures have ended. Since 2022Q3 government implemented also measures mitigating the impacts of high energy prices. Expenditure transactions have impacted mainly D.31p (price cap subsidies for energy traders), D.39p (subsidies to enterprises with significant increase in energy costs, to electricity infrastructure system operator and to energy distribution companies) and D.75p (fixed one-off contribution to households in 2022Q3). On the revenue side government implemented a national windfall tax (D.51) and a tax on market revenue caps (D.29) based on EU regulation.
Denmark	Expenditure measures to counter the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic are mainly recorded in subsidies on production (D.39p) and include the following larger schemes: temporary compensation scheme for the self-employed and freelancers, temporary compensation for fixed costs of businesses and temporary wage compensation scheme. The expenditure on these schemes is accrued to 2020Q1 to 2022Q1 using appropriate indicators. Deferrals of taxes expected to be paid are reflected in the tax revenue accrued. However, estimates for uncollectible amounts recorded in D.995 have not yet taken on board the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Expenditure measure to counter the economic impact of the higher energy-prices are mainly recorded as social benefits (D.62). The expenditures are accrued to 2022Q3 to 2023Q4 using appropriate indicators.
Germany	Lump-sum payments to employees and pensioners as compensation for high energy prices are reflected in D.75p. Caps on energy prices are reflected in D.31p.
Estonia	2023Q4 revenues increased 11% and expenditures increased 23% compared to previous quarter. Measures to alleviate high energy prices (on electricity, gas and district heating) were effective until 2023Q1 and are discontinued.
Ireland	Ireland introduced a number of measures to mitigate against the recent increases in the cost of living. These include reductions to VAT on gas and electricity and a temporary reduction to excise duty on petrol and diesel. This will be implicitly captured in the data as lower levels of receipts. On the expenditure side the government has funded a credit on all household electricity accounts. The first payment took place in 2022Q2, a second in 2022Q4 with the third and fourth payments in 2023Q1. A further payment has taken place in 2023Q4. These are recorded as D.75.
Greece	The Government Finance Data for the quarters of 2020, 2021 and 2022 reflect the impact on Government Finance Statistics of the COVID-19 pandemic mainly from mid-March 2020 onwards, when restriction measures were put into place. The data are expected to be revised if any updated source are sent from GAO. It is noted that for the compilation of the provisional estimates, the same sources as well as the same estimation methods have been used as in the previous quarters. Moreover, ad-hoc adjustments to the time-adjusted cash method for the accrual recording were made as a consequence of the obligation for tax and social contributions payments being deferred. Such adjustments consisted of recording as revenue in 2020 quarters an estimation of the amounts deferred and expected to be collected in the coming years. Regarding the different types of expenditure measures, different pieces of legislation were ratified after the end of 2020Q1 and the cash payments corresponding to these expenditure measures are being made in the period that follows 2020Q1. New estimations were sent from GAO for repayable advances based on the new estimates for the total assessments, for one off payments and write offs. The decisions for the change of the repayable advances (tranches 1 to 7) were published in the Official Gazette in Q4_2021 (not refundable amounts). In 2022 and onwards, there were several energy measures established in order to mitigate the high energy prices. The classification of the transactions of the Green transition Fund (revenues and expenditures) are in accordance with Eurostat guidelines. There was an update for the figures of 2022 regarding the consumption of electricity subsidised by DAPEEP.

Country	Explanatory footnotes (with measures focussed mainly on the mitigation of the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and high energy prices)
Spain	Starting in the second half of 2021, different measures have been introduced to alleviate the high energy prices. Initially, the measures taken involved a reduction in income (reduction of VAT rate on energy products, suspension of the tax on the value of the electricity production, etc.). As of 2022, spending measures are also taken, most of which are recorded as subsidies on products, but also capital transfers. In 2020, 2021 and 2022Q1, the actual data about expenditure measures relating to COVID-19 were accrued (mainly ERTE social benefits - D.62p - and exemptions and discounts on social contributions - gross recording D.39p and D.61), and included in the expenditure. In next transmissions, some data updates are possible in quarterly and annual data (data for year T are final in September T+2). COVID ERTES end in 2022Q1. In 2020 and 2021, regarding the deferrals of tax payment deadlines due to COVID, ad-hoc adjustments to the TAC method were made where appropriate. These estimates took into account the amounts that are expected to remain unpaid. In 2022 and 2023, no adjustments is needed.
France	Starting from the end of 2021, France has implemented a number of measures to contain the price increases and support household income, gas and energy producers and businesses with the higher energy cost such as caps on the price of gas and electricity « tariff shield », reduction of the taxes on electricity (DTFCE), freezing of regulated tariffs, increase in the volume of electricity that EDP is obliged to sell to its competitors (part of Arenh system), compensation to energy producers and distributors for maintaining lower gas prices, fuel rebates, an exceptional energy voucher, an inflation allowance, subsidies under the scheme called 'CSPE' to renewable energy producers to make up for the difference between market prices and investment costs, an increase in Energy Bill Payment Assistance for high-energy consuming businesses, a subsidy for households heating with wood. The two European mechanisms to address the high energy prices – the temporary solidarity contribution and a cap on market revenues were also included. Starting from 2023, some of the measures were extended and new measures were introduced such as reduction in the price of electricity for very small, small and medium sized-businesses (l'amortisseur électricité), a guaranteed cap on electricity prices for very small businesses not benefiting from the regulated tariff freeze (bakers in particular), a fuel allowance. For deferrals of tax payment deadlines granted in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, ad-hoc adjustments in-addition to the time-adjustment cash method were made where relevant. These estimates took into account amounts that are expected to remain unpaid. The main expenditure measures (chômage partiel, "solidarity fund") relating to COVID-19 pandemic were accrued to the relevant quarters. For further details, please see an explanatory note outlining the COVID-related measures and their treatment in quarterly government accounts https://www.insee.fr/fr/statistiques/4500941. Towards the end of 2022, the impact of COVID-19 related measures on government accounts decrease substantially.
Croatia	In the context of COVID-19, ad-hoc adjustments of the tax and social contributions accrual methods were made due to the instalment payments which have been enabled for deferred obligations in 2020. Starting from 2022Q3, there was no further need for ad-hoc adjustments of the tax and social contributions accrual methods. In the context of government measures to mitigate high energy prices, ad-hoc adjustment of the tax accrual methods has been done in 2022Q4, due to the estimation of tax revenues for the solidarity levy and additional CIT that was introduced. Additional expenses regarding measures due to high energy prices, that were not included in financial reports have also been implemented in Q4 of 2022, as well as in Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4 of 2023.
Italy	Quarterly government finance statistics, from 2020Q1, include additional information for the COVID-19 schemes implemented by general governments to counter the pandemic emergency because this information was not available in standard data sources. However, most of these schemes (and of the use of additional information) were stopped when the emergency was declared over on 31 March 2022. In the 2021-2023 economic accounts, an estimate of the effects of the RRF was introduced following the deficit neutrality rule (i.e. revenue equals expenditure). The remaining receipts are recorded in other accounts. The accounts include the available information relating to the schemes issued by the general government to mitigate the effect of the increase in energy prices. For total expenditure, measures are reflected notably in other subsidies on production (D.39, notably for tax credits), social benefits (D.62, notably for lump-sum benefits to households) and changes in inventories (P.52, acquisition of gas reserves). Total revenue was mostly affected by tax reduction measures on taxes on products (D.21). Some of these schemes were discontinued in 2023Q3.
Cyprus	The main expenditure measures in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic (small business support scheme, subsidisation scheme of small enterprises and self-employed and special absence leave) are reflected in other subsidies on production, mostly for April 2020-December 2021. The main measures taken in the context of high energy prices are a reduction of excise duties on petroleum products (affecting taxes on products, D.21r) and subsidies on electricity bills of households and businesses (currently recorded as social transfers in kind – D.632 and subsidies on products – D.31).
Latvia	Tax deferral measures were applied starting from the second quarter of 2020. Ad-hoc adjustments in order to accrue deferred taxes and social contributions were made. EUR 132.8 million were spent on COVID-19 related expenditure measures in the second quarter of 2020, EUR 445.6 million were spent on COVID-19 related spending measures in the third quarter of 2020, EUR 300.6 million were spent on COVID-19 related spending measures in the fourth quarter of 2020. EUR 538.0 million were spent on COVID-19 related expenditure measures in the first quarter of 2021, EUR 675.6 million were spent on COVID-19 related expenditure measures in the second quarter of 2021, EUR 382.7 million were spent on COVID-19 related expenditure measures in the third quarter of 2021, EUR 556.7 million were spent on COVID-19 related spending measures in the fourth quarter of 2021. EUR 197.8 million were spent on COVID-19 related expenditure measures in the first quarter of 2022, EUR 307.9 million were spent on COVID-19 related expenditure measures in the second quarter of 2022. EUR 198.3 million were spent on COVID-19 related expenditure measures in the third quarter of 2022, EUR 221.7 million were spent on COVID-19 related spending measures in the fourth quarter of 2022.

Country	Explanatory footnotes (with measures focussed mainly on the mitigation of the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and high energy prices)
	Latvia provided support to citizens and companies to mitigate the rapid rise in energy prices, allocating EUR 569 million for this purpose during the year 2022, thereby significantly reducing payments for electricity and heating. New regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 345 "Regulations of the trade service of the protected user" (https://likumi.lv/ta/id/323662-aizsargata-lieotaja-tirdzniecibas-pakalpojuma-noteikumi) changed the procedure and amount of payment reduction or support payments for electricity allocation to protected users. EUR 210.5 million was spent on energy measures in the first quarter of 2023. EUR 102.7 million was spent on energy measures in the second quarter of 2023. EUR 6.3 million was spent on energy measures in the third quarter of 2023. EUR 33.5 million was spent on energy measures in the fourth quarter of 2023.
Lithuania	In the context of COVID-19, adjustments for deferred taxes and social contributions were made. In 2020Q1, deferred taxes for an amount of EUR 113.7 million were accrued, in 2020Q2 deferred taxes for an amount of EUR 313.9 million were accrued, in 2020Q2, deferred social contributions for an amount of EUR 121 million were accrued, in 2020Q3, deferred taxes for an amount of EUR 157.6 million were accrued, in 2020Q4, deferred taxes for an amount of EUR 56.9 million were accrued. In 2021Q1, previously deferred taxes were paid for amount EUR 124.7 million, In 2021Q2, deferred taxes for an amount of EUR 42.4 million were accrued, In 2021Q3 previously deferred taxes were paid for amount EUR 69.1 million. In 2021Q4 amount of EUR 143.1 million of previously deferred taxes were paid. In 2022Q1 an amount of EUR 93.7 million of previously deferred taxes were paid. In 2022Q2, an amount of EUR 76.9 million of previously deferred taxes were paid. In 2022Q3, an amount of EUR 76.9 million of previously deferred taxes were paid. Subsidies on products for an amount of EUR 140.9 million were paid due to compensation for high energy prices. In 2022Q4, an amount of EUR 54.9 million of previously deferred taxes were paid. Subsidies on products for an amount of EUR 655.2 million were paid due to compensation for high energy prices. In 2023Q1, an amount of EUR 46.9 million of previously deferred taxes were paid. Subsidies on products for an amount of EUR 104.9 million were paid due to compensation for high energy prices. In 2023Q2, subsidies on products for an amount of EUR 44.7 million were paid due to compensation for high energy prices. In 2023Q4, subsidies on products for an amount of EUR 42.7 million were paid due to compensation for high energy prices.
Luxembourg	COVID-19 measures: For personal income tax, corporation tax and municipal trade tax, the amounts recorded are adjusted for tax deferral measures on the basis of information provided by the competent tax administration. For the compilation of the 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 quarters, only limited data sources enabling an accrual estimate are available and integrated in the accounts. Expenditure measures such as the furlough scheme "chômage partiel COVID-19" (D.62p) are reflected in the accounts. Quarterly F.8 is provisional for all subsectors and consequently causes statistical discrepancy. This discrepancy seems not related to COVID-19 policy measures. Measures related to high energy prices: The main measures are recorded in subsidies on products (D.31) relating to stabilisation of gas prices and subsidies on the network fees, and social assistance benefits in cash (D.623) relating to a payable tax credit on income tax.
Hungary	Government measures to mitigate high energy prices had substantial effect on government data in 2023Q4. The measures mainly impacted subsidies on products (D.31, for price cap measures), and other taxes on production (D.29, surtax on energy producers).
Malta	The general government data is being impacted by the government measures to mitigate the high energy costs in the form of subsidies to the operators.
Netherlands	For taxes and social contributions, ad-hoc adjustments were added to the normal tax accrual methods used in order to correctly impact the accounts in view of several tax deferral schemes. These estimates took into account that some amounts are expected to remain unpaid. The main expenditure measures in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic were accrued (included in expenditure, mainly D.39p) wherever appropriate. As regards government interventions to mitigate the impact of high energy prices, in 2022 and 2023 the Dutch general government total revenue was mainly negatively impacted by reductions of the energy tax on electricity, an expansion of a tax credit on energy taxes, reduced excise duties and VAT on fuels and a decreased VAT rate on natural gas, electricity and district heating (all within D.21 taxes on products) and positively impacted by an incidental tax on excess revenue in the fossil fuel sector (D.51b, 'Solidariteitsheffing', only in 2022) and increased rent related to natural gas (D.45). Government total expenditure increased due to a one-off energy allowance via social assistance benefits (D.623, Energietoeslag bijzondere bijstand, in 2022 and 2023), a €380 contribution on energy bills to households (D.759, only in 2022), a price ceiling on gas electricity and city heating (D.31, only in 2023), tax expenditure of EBN to the Tax Authority (D.5p), expenses incurred for filling the natural gas reserve in Bergermeer to required levels (P.52), a contribution for energy-intensive small business owners (D.39, only in 2023) and a compensation for households with a shared heating arrangement (D.759, only in 2023).
Austria	In Austria, severe measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 have been in place from 2020 to 2022, thereby affecting all quarters of those years. In the non-financial accounts, we see a strong increase in D.39p (furlough schemes, subsidies ...). To ensure accrual accounting, relevant amounts of COVID-19 policy measures were already recorded in 2020Q1, even if the payment takes place from 2020Q2 onwards. Since final data are not available for some COVID-19 measures, estimations have been applied, which will be adjusted to the latest level of knowledge in every publication. The accounts include the available information relating to the schemes issued by the general government to mitigate the effect of the increase in energy prices from 2022 onwards. For total expenditure, measures are mainly reflected in subsidies on products (D.31), in other subsidies on production (D.39) and changes in inventories (P.52). Total revenue was mostly affected by tax reduction measures on taxes on products (D.21) and by mandatory caps on market revenues (D.29).

Country	Explanatory footnotes (with measures focussed mainly on the mitigation of the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and high energy prices)
Poland	Compensation for maintaining lower gas prices, coal allowance paid by local government units to households, allowance to other fuels, allowance for energy-intensive companies, freezing electricity prices for households and an electricity allowance, sale of coal by municipalities at preferential prices for households, electricity prices cap for vulnerable groups and gas prices cap for vulnerable groups impact mainly the accounts for all quarters of 2023, but some of them have been already registered in quarters of 2022 (particularly in the third and fourth quarter). Exemptions from the obligation to pay unpaid social security contributions (D.39p, also reflected in D.61r), health insurance contributions and other social contributions, payment of standstill benefit, benefits for co-financing the remuneration of employees due to economic downtime or reduced working time following COVID-19, loans to cover the running costs of micro-enterprises and subsidies to small, medium and large entities, tax deferrals were the main expenditure and fiscal measures in the context of COVID-19 in terms of impact on the accounts for the first three quarters of 2020 and 2021. In 2022, as well as in the first three quarters of 2023, the impact of measures on government accounts decrease substantially.
Portugal	The deferrals of VAT and social contributions of the COVID-19 policy measures ended in 2022Q3. However, these measures were extended in the scope of the conflict in Ukraine, with the same methodology. The simplified lay-off regime (D.39p) does not continue after COVID-19 pandemic.
Romania	Following the speeding up of VAT-reimbursement as part of the COVID-19 measures accepted by government, ad-hoc adjustments to the time-adjustment cash method were made where relevant in quarters of 2020. Adjustments to the methods were made for tax deferrals as well as uncollectible amounts. The main expenditure measures were accrued to the quarters of 2020, 2021 and 2022. For 2020Q4, rebates were granted for the payments in advance of profit tax. This relates mainly to the temporary lay-off scheme (technical unemployment benefits) recorded as subsidy on production (D.39p) and social benefits (D.62), for the quarters of 2020, 2021 and 2022. - The transaction “Amounts granted for the compensation of invoices related to the consumption of electricity and natural gas” was established in GEO 118/2021 for the cold season of 2021-2022, but after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, this transaction was adapted with GEO 27/2022, initially, for the period of March 2022 and April 2023, but the period was extended by subsequent GEOs. This measure mentions that the final price invoiced by the electricity suppliers/electricity distribution operators that ensure the resale of electricity is: a) a maximum of 0.68 lei/kWh, including VAT, for consumption between September 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022 by household customers whose average monthly consumption at the point of consumption in 2021 is between 0 and 100 kWh inclusive; the final billed price capped by the electricity suppliers is a maximum of 0.68 lei/kWh, including VAT b) a maximum of 0.80 lei/kWh, including VAT, for consumption between September 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022 by household customers whose average monthly consumption at the point of consumption in 2021 was between 100.01 and 300 kWh for a monthly consumption of a maximum of 255 kWh; a maximum of 0.80 lei/kWh, including VAT, for consumption made between January 1, 2023 and March 31, 2025 by household customers whose monthly consumption at the place of consumption is between 100.01 and 255 kWh; electricity consumption between 255 and 300 kWh/month is invoiced at a maximum price of 1.3 lei/kWh, including VAT, and if the consumption exceeds 300 kWh/month, the entire consumption is invoiced at a maximum price of 1, 3 lei/kWh;. c) maximum 1.3 lei/kWh, including VAT, for the rest of household consumers. Also, this measure states that the final price invoiced by natural gas suppliers is a maximum of 0.31 lei/kWh, including VAT, in the case of household customers. - The transaction “Compensation scheme for the consumption of electricity and natural gas by non-household consumers for the cold season 2021-2022” was established in GEO 118/2021 for the cold season of 2021-2022, but after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, this transaction was adapted with GEO 27/2022, initially, for the period of March 2022 and April 2023, but the period was extended by subsequent GEOs. This measure mentions that the final price invoiced by the electricity suppliers/electricity distribution operators that ensure the resale of electricity is: a) maximum 1 lei/kWh, VAT included, for 85% of the monthly consumption made at the point of consumption, the difference in monthly electricity consumption to be billed at a maximum price of 1.3 lei/kWh, VAT included, based on the declaration on personal responsibility of the legal representative for the following categories of consumers: small and medium enterprises, regional operators, economic operators in the food industry, local public authorities and institutions, national research and development institutes; c) maximum 1.3 lei/kWh, including VAT, for the rest of non-household consumers Also, this measure states that the final price invoiced by natural gas suppliers is a maximum of 0.37 lei/kWh, including VAT, in the case of non-domestic customers whose annual consumption of natural gas achieved in 2021 at the place of consumption is no more than 50,000 MWh, as well as in the case of producers of thermal energy. - The transaction “Fuel compensation” with the amount of 612 million lei in 2022, recorded as D.319, was applied from 1st of July to September 30, 2022, in order to counteract the effect of the increase in the price of fuel on the standard of living of the population and on the activity of economic operators, according to GEO 106/2022. Economic operators who sell gasoline and diesel to final customers (natural and legal persons who purchase fuels from warehouses and/or distribution stations for their own consumption), and who grant a price

Country	Explanatory footnotes (with measures focussed mainly on the mitigation of the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and high energy prices)
	reduction of 0.5 lei/litre, including VAT, at the selling price, benefits from a compensation of 0.25 lei/litre, including VAT, from the state budget, related to the discount granted. For fractions of a litre, the price reduction and compensation will be granted proportionally.
Slovenia	Following deferrals of tax payment deadlines and payments in instalments resulted from COVID-19 measures accepted by government, ad-hoc adjustments to the time-adjustment cash method were made where relevant. Estimates on amounts that will not be collected are taken into account. The main expenditure measures were accrued wherever relevant. In 2022 and 2023, government measures to alleviate high energy prices are recorded among subsidies and social transfers in cash, as well as reflected in temporary lower excise duties on mineral oils, gas and electricity, some environmental levies, and VAT.
Slovakia	COVID-19 schemes have finished. Schemes to alleviate high energy prices relevant for 2022Q4, 2023Q1 and 2023Q2 are: a) The compensations financed from the state budget to cover the increased costs of electricity and natural gas for households and selected vulnerable customers, compensating 80% of the costs exceeding the price ceilings at the level of 199 euros/MWh for electricity and 99 euros/MWh for gas, from May 2023 the capping of the distribution and system fees included in electricity prices for firms. b) Support paid out to SPP in relation to increased costs of gas, storage and measures recorded as F.4 transaction in 2022Q4. c) Solidarity contribution of major oil processors - tax D.29REC received by S.13.
Finland	The temporary fuel subsidy for transport companies and construction machinery companies has been recorded for the quarters 2022Q1 and 2022Q2. It will compensate companies for the sudden increase in fuel prices caused by the war of aggression in Ukraine from February 2022. For tax deferral measures taken in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, temporary accrual adjustments were finalized in 2022Q4. Value added tax on energy sales was temporarily decreased from the end of 2022Q4 to the beginning of 2023Q2.
Sweden	The impact from COVID-19 was high in year 2020 and 2021. Mainly related to reduction of taxes and high subsidies on production. The main part of the increase in subsidies was related to furlough schemes and government support for short-term layoffs. At the same time, reduced employers' social security contributions had a significant impact on taxes. Later on, during the pandemic, central government support to local government increased and was high during several quarters. No new support schemes were introduced after 2022Q1. Only minor amounts remained at the end of 2022. From 2022Q4 onwards, different support schemes have been introduced to compensate electricity consumers for high energy bills. In 2022Q4 and 2023Q1 to households and from 2023Q2 also to corporations. It referred to a rerouting of extra ordinary energy capacity fees related to support for high energy prices with no impact on net lending/net borrowing but increases of central government revenues and expenditures with the same amount. It is recorded as a central government tax and as miscellaneous current transfer from central government to households or as subsidies to corporations at the same time.
Iceland	Among the various policy measures undertaken in the context of mitigating the economic impact of COVID-19, the short-time allowances and the compensation for loss of earnings for self-employed (D.62) impacted most the data reported in 2020Q2 - 2022Q4.
Norway	Data for the period 2020Q1-2022Q1 is strongly influenced by economic shutdown, confinement, and subsequent economic measures related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The main economic measures were (1) Reduced financial liability for employers with laid off employees and increased government compensation to temporarily laid off employees, recorded as social benefits. (2) Temporary reduction of employers' contributions to the National Insurance Scheme and wage subsidies to bring back laid-off employees, recorded as subsidies on production. (3) Payments of compensation from the central government to enterprises affected by slower turnover, recorded as other current transfers. (4) New guarantee schemes directed at airlines and other businesses. Projected losses are recorded as capital transfers. (5) Tax credits directed at petroleum companies in order to stimulate investments in the industry, recorded as investment grants. In addition, deferrals of taxes expected to be paid are reflected in the tax revenue accrued. Further information can be found on the SSB website (https://www.ssb.no/en/offentlig-sektor/offentlig-forvaltning/statistikk/offentlig-forvaltnings-inntekter-og-utgifter/articles-for-general-government-revenue-and-expenditure). From late 2021 onwards, economic measures aimed at mitigating the impact of high electricity prices have been launched. The most significant measure is a scheme intended to defray household electricity expenses. When the electricity price exceeds a predefined level, the state provides a rebate disbursed by way of deduction from the electricity bill. This measure amounted to approximately NOK 2,000 million in 2021, NOK 32,600 million in 2022 and NOK 9,400 million in 2023. The measure is recorded as subsidies on products (D.31). In addition, temporary reduction of the electricity consumption tax and schemes targeted at non-profit institutions and businesses have been set up. High energy prices also heavily impacts government revenue due to surging dividends and taxes from companies engaged in extraction of petroleum and production of hydroelectric power.
Switzerland	Among the various policy measures undertaken in the context of mitigating the economic impact of COVID-19, furlough allowances and the compensation for loss of earnings for self-employed (D.62) impacted most the data reported in 2020Q2 - 2021Q4. For 2022Q1-Q4, the most important category of remaining operations related to COVID-19 consists of various measures at the cantonal level (recorded as D.75). Note that as of now, no large scheme policy measures have been implemented at the general government sector level to mitigate high energy prices.

Other metadata

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION / ACCESSION OF CROATIA TO THE EURO AREA:
Up to 31 December 2022, the euro area (EA19) included Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland. From 1 January 2023 the euro area (EA20) also includes Croatia.
The aggregate data series commented on in these publications refer to the official composition of the euro area in the most recent quarter for which data is available. Thus, news releases and other publications with data for quarters up to the fourth quarter of 2022 commented on EA19 series, while releases with data for the first quarter of 2023 onwards comment on EA20 series. On the Eurostat public database, both EA19 and EA20 are published.
Croatian data in million of national currency refers to euro-fixed for periods up to the fourth quarter of 2022, i.e. HRK divided by the irrevocable exchange rate.

DENMARK: While the net lending / net borrowing figure for Denmark for 2020 reported in EDP statistics is correct, the figures for interest expenditure, government total expenditure and transactions in debt security liabilities as well as related aggregations for general and central government are not included for the year 2020 / quarters of 2020, as they are not aligned with the net lending / net borrowing data reported under EDP. This affects GFS publications in datasets gov_10a_main, gov_10q_ggnfa, gov_10q_ggfa and gov_10a_ggfa. The difference reflects the recording of interest expenditure relating to repurchases of debt securities.

GERMANY: From 2018Q1 onwards, the statistical discrepancy between B.9 and B.9f is no longer included in F.8 assets, but rather visible in the difference between B.9 and B.9f. The previous treatment led to a misrepresentation of stocks in AF.8 on the asset side.

IRELAND: In 2014, the sector classification of the Social Insurance Fund (SIF) was reviewed as part of ESA2010 implementation. As it did not meet the institutional unit criteria, it was reclassified from S.1314 to S.1311. Subsequently, as only one other Member State did not present S.1314, Ireland was requested by Eurostat in the 2019 Excessive Deficit Procedure Dialogue Visit to reflect on reporting the SIF in S.1314 in order to harmonise practices with other Member States.
The CSO is in agreement with Eurostat that presenting the S.1314 subsector would facilitate harmonisation and comparability with other Member States. With the September 2021 EDP transmission, and corresponding quarterly GFS reporting, Ireland has implemented the subsector with a time series beginning in Q1 2017. This change has no impact on the aggregate data rather S.1311 is reduced by the amounts now shown in S.1314.

GREECE: D.9PAY for 2013Q2 is mainly due to amounts transferred by Hellenic Financial Stability Fund (HFSF, classified in S.13), in particular to NBG, Eurobank and Alpha Bank for recapitalisation purposes as well as amounts for the resolution of First Business Bank.
D.9PAY for 2012Q3 is mainly due to amounts transferred by Hellenic Financial Stability Fund (HFSF, classified in S.13), in particular its transfer to Piraeus Bank (classified in S.12) to cover the funding gap between the assets and liabilities of Agricultural Bank of Greece that were transferred to Piraeus Bank. D.9PAY is due to amounts transferred by HFSF to S.12, in particular for the resolution case of New Post Bank as well as for the share capital increase of New Post Bank.
Since October 2015, Eurostat had not published ESA table 27 for Greece. Following the progress in alignment of the data and strong commitment by the Bank of Greece to eliminate all remaining differences, in July 2019 Eurostat has resumed publication of the quarterly financial accounts of general government of Greece. The remaining differences are under investigation and are expected to be resolved with the next transmission rounds.

FRANCE: In 2019Q1, non-seasonally adjusted data on taxes on income (D.51REC) decreases strongly due to a change in seasonality. For this reason, the evolution of the seasonally adjusted data differs significantly. Such changes in seasonality are technically complicated to model, hence the seasonally and seasonally and calendar adjusted data for 2019Q1 should be interpreted with caution. The changes in seasonality are primarily due to a new system in the collection of personal income tax (introduction of advance payments and retention at source) and the early repayment of a tax credit in January, introduced in 2019.
In April 2024, the main aggregates of general government are revised due to the benchmark revision. In particular, general government debt is revised upwards with the revision of the general government scope, notably with the full integration of the accounts of railway network operator SNCF Réseau. There is also the reclassification of the additional pension scheme for civil servants (ERAFP) in the pension funds sector, which leads to an increase in debt due to consolidation effects. The chronicle of subsidies and investment grants is revised in accordance with the 2022 edition of the Manual on government deficit and debt guidance concerning payable tax credits. The quarterly profile of the series is provisional. The French quarterly accounts are still on a 2014 basis until 31 May 2024. The recalibration to the 2023 accounts (in 2020 base) has therefore been carried out by smoothing the differences between the 2 bases while awaiting the complete changeover to the 2020 base. The direction of the quarterly figures should be analysed with caution for the time being.
Following the implementation of the benchmark revisions, a number of important intra-year differences are observed between short-term loan liabilities for all subsectors and long-term loan liabilities for central government at nominal / face value reported in ESA table 27 and 28 respectively. The French statistical authorities will resolve these differences in the coming months.

CROATIA: For the years 1995-2001, there are differences in the recording practice of specific transactions due to missing data. This refers for example to time-adjustment of taxes and social contributions, which are cash, based.

CYPRUS: The net lending / net borrowing for the third quarter of 2018 includes the impact from the restructuring of the Cyprus Cooperative Bank Ltd (CCB) - sale of the good parts of CCB and the subsequent integration of the remaining public financial defeasance structure into general government accounts. The negative revision on public deficit in 2019 and 2020Q1 is due to a methodological adjustment relating to the activities of KEDIPES (Cyprus Asset Management Company). Specifically, the debt to asset swaps resulting from loan settlements are currently recorded as acquisitions of non-financial assets (fixed assets and land) increasing government expenditure. Any future sale of these fixed assets will have a positive impact on net lending / net borrowing.
The Sewage Disposal Boards are reclassified into the General Government Sector (S.13) and data for these Boards are currently recorded for year 2022 onwards. In 2024 (benchmark year revision), data will be incorporated for the full time series.

LATVIA: For the period 1995-2006, D.91REC is included in P.11_P.12.

HUNGARY: For 2023Q1, the transactions in F.32A with S.11 counterpart, F.42A with S.11 counterpart and F.5A are being clarified by the Hungarian Statistical authorities.

MALTA: Following changes in one of main data source, the National Statistics Office experienced issues concerning the statistical discrepancy between the non-financial and financial accounts. High quarterly discrepancies were registered in 2020Q1 and Q2 though on annual basis – for 2020 – these discrepancies have almost outweighed each other. Further examination is necessary and this will lead to revisions in the financial accounts and a reduced discrepancy.
The quarterly financial accounts from 1999Q1 to 2003Q4 were compiled for the first time in September 2020. The data sources covering this period were lacking and thus the data had to be estimated using the financial annual stocks data. For AF.3L and AF.4L, data from the Government's Comparative Return has been used, while the OEF has been estimated accordingly. The data is to be considered as provisional and revisions are possible in following quarterly publications.

POLAND: D.5REC, D.995: series break between 2000 and 2001 due to the change in method of recording taxes (time-adjusted cash method introduced for personal and corporate income taxes)

SLOVAKIA: There is a break in time series related to the recording of payment of health insurance companies to health care providers classified in S.13. The transaction is treated as another current transfer within the general government sector and is consolidated. For years prior to 2017, the transaction will be subject to revision in next benchmark revision.

FINLAND: An exceptional revision with some breaks in time series (marked in the public database) was implemented in respect of the rerouting of ARA loans. Information can be found here: https://stat.fi/en/revisionrelease/cl4wd9qcoqezr0bvwlrq28hxt
A major administrative change was implemented in the organization of healthcare, social welfare and rescue services on 1 January 2023. The responsibility for organizing these services was transferred from municipalities to newly established wellbeing services counties. The change causes a time series break in local government data between 2022Q4 and 2023Q1.
The welfare service counties mostly receive their funding from the state. The change reduces local government tax revenues and correspondingly increases state tax revenues and current transfers to local government from 2023Q1 onwards.