

## Balance of payments – France • June and second quarter 2018

### The current account deficit deteriorated in the second quarter

The current account balance showed a deficit of 6.4 billion in the second quarter (data seasonally and working-day adjusted), following a 0.3 billion surplus in the previous quarter. On a year-on-year basis, the deficit amounted to 10.5 billion and was lower than in 2017 (-13.1 billions).

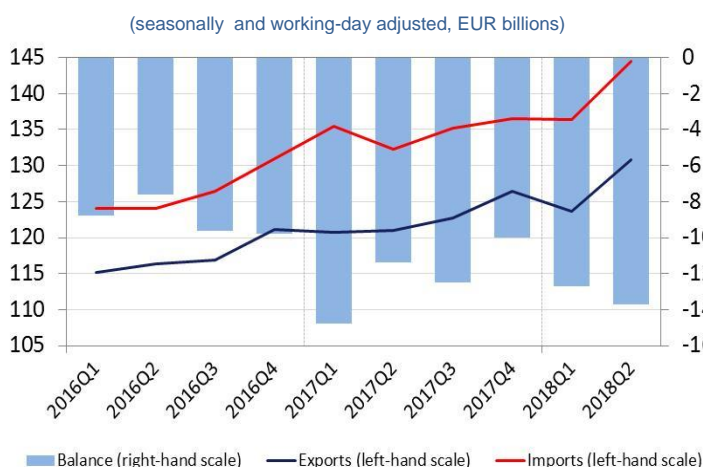
On a quarterly basis, the deficit of goods increased by 1 billion and reached -13.7 billion, reflecting an increase of the energy bill, while the balance of goods excluding energy remained unchanged (-2.6 billion).

The surplus of services decreased from +8.7 billion in the first quarter to +4.1 billion in the second quarter, due to a downturn of services excluding transports and travels.

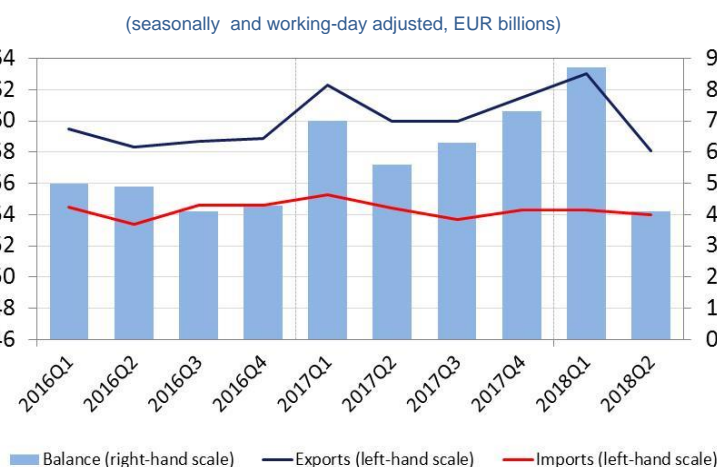
In the financial account (non-seasonally and non-day-adjusted data), French direct investment abroad remained strong: 30.1 billion in the second quarter 2, after 25.6 billion in the first quarter, while foreign investment in France was most modest, although progressing (9.6 billion, after 6.3 billion in the first quarter).

**In June**, the current accounts posted a deficit: -2.3 billion, after -2.9 in May and -1.1 in April. The balance of goods was in deficit of 4.9 billion, while services showed a surplus of 1.4 billion. Revenues remained in surplus (+1.1 billion).

#### Goods



#### Services



#### Current account

| (EUR billions)   | Jun-18<br>(a) | 2018-Q1<br>(a) | 2018-Q2<br>(a) | Cum. Fig.<br>4 quarter<br>period<br>(a) | 2017<br>(b)  | Cum. Fig.<br>4 quarter<br>period /<br>2017 |
|--|---------------|----------------|----------------|---|--------------|--|
| <b>Current account (seasonally and working-day adjusted)</b>   | <b>-2.3</b>   | <b>0.3</b>     | <b>-6.4</b>    | <b>-10.5</b>                            | <b>-13.1</b> | ↑  |
| Goods (1)  | -4.9          | -12.7          | -13.7          | -48.9                                   | -48.2        | ↓  |
| Energy   | -4.1          | -10.1          | -11.1          | -39.4                                   | -37.1        | ↓  |
| Goods excl. Energy   | -0.7          | -2.6           | -2.6           | -9.5                                    | -11.0        | ↑  |
| Services   | 1.4           | 8.7            | 4.1            | 26.3                                    | 26.4         | →  |
| Travel   | 1.0           | 4.7            | 3.3            | 17.5                                    | 17.0         | ↑  |
| Transport services   | -0.3          | -0.9           | -0.7           | -2.7                                    | -2.0         | ↓  |
| Professional and management consulting services,<br>Research and development and Technical services, trade-<br>related and other business services | 0.3           | 2.6            | 0.5            | 4.7                                     | 3.4          | ↑  |
| Other services (2)   | 0.4           | 2.3            | 1.0            | 6.8                                     | 8.0          | ↓  |
| Primary and secondary income (3)   | 1.1           | 4.3            | 3.2            | 12.0                                    | 8.6          | ↑  |

(a) Provisional data (b) Annual report 2017 data  
(1) to (3) See methodological notes on page 2.

Source and production : BANQUE DE FRANCE – DIRECTORATE GENERAL STATISTICS

## Capital account and financial account

| (EUR billions)                          | Jun-18<br>(a) | 2018-Q1<br>(a) | 2018-Q2<br>(a) | Cum. Fig.<br>4 quarter<br>period<br>(a) | 2017<br>(b)  |
|---|---------------|----------------|----------------|---|--------------|
| <b>Capital Account (brut)</b>           | <b>0.3</b>    | <b>0.9</b>     | <b>0.3</b>     | <b>2.0</b>                              | <b>1.1</b>   |
| <b>Financial account (not adjusted)</b> | <b>21.3</b>   | <b>-25.0</b>   | <b>-0.8</b>    | <b>-25.8</b>                            | <b>-31.9</b> |
| Direct investment                       | 20.6          | 19.3           | 20.5           | 53.6                                    | 7.4          |
| - Abroad                                | 23.6          | 25.6           | 30.1           | 86.6                                    | 49.8         |
| - In France                             | 2.9           | 6.3            | 9.6            | 33.0                                    | 42.4         |
| Portfolio investment                    | -32.4         | 25.6           | -6.4           | -6.9                                    | 19.9         |
| - Assets                                | -28.2         | 53.0           | 1.7            | -10.5                                   | 47.9         |
| - Liabilities                           | 4.2           | 27.4           | 8.1            | -3.7                                    | 28.0         |
| Financial derivatives                   | -0.8          | -11.3          | -4.3           | -13.6                                   | -1.2         |
| Loans and deposits (4)                  | 27.7          | -62.2          | -16.7          | -67.3                                   | -54.9        |
| Reserve assets                          | 6.1           | 3.5            | 6.1            | 8.4                                     | -3.0         |

(a) Provisional data (b) Annual report 2017 data (4) See methodological notes on page 2.

## Methodological notes relating to page 1 and page 2 tables

(1) Data on trade in goods are FOB-FOB values, which means without cost, insurance and freight. The latter expenditure is recorded in the services item. Exchanges of goods include general merchandise as published by the Directorate General of Customs and Excise (DGDDI) on one side, merchanting and methodological adjustments calculated by the Banque de France, on the other side. It ensures the comparability of French balance of payments with those of other countries and its conformity with the international standards set by International Monetary Fund. The key underlying concept in balance of payments is the economic ownership (as for the national accounts).

(2) Services other than travel (tourism and professional travels), transport services, professional and management consulting services, R&D and development and technical services, trade-related and other business services include manufacturing, maintenance and repair, construction, insurance and pension services, financial services, charges for the use of intellectual property, telecommunication, computer and information services, personal, cultural and recreational services and government goods and services.

(3) Income includes primary and secondary incomes. Primary income refers to the flows received by economic agents for their participation in the production process ("compensation of employees") or for the provision of financial assets ("investment income") or for the rental of natural resources ("rent"). Taxes and subsidies on products and production are also included in primary income. Secondary income records current transfers between residents and non-residents. A transfer is a transaction that involves the provision of a good, service, financial asset or another non-produced asset without receiving something of economic value in exchange.

(4) The "other investment" (loans and deposits) component of the financial account includes all transactions in financial assets and liabilities with non-residents that do not concern direct investment, portfolio investment, financial derivatives or reserve assets. In practice, this mainly concerns bank deposits and interbank lending, as well as loans and deposits made by insurance companies and all kinds of investment companies and funds.

On the Banque de France website a detailed [methodological note on balance of payments and international investment position](#) can be found. Highlights on specific topics are also available:

- [foreign direct investments \(English and French\)](#),
- [remittances \(French\)](#),
- [international tourism in France \(French\)](#),
- [international banking activity \(English and French\)](#),
- [banks foreign establishment \(French\)](#),
- [net foreign assets \(English and French\)](#).