

# Payments Statistics info



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Finalisation of the 2015 data production round

The reporting agents have had a reporting window for the 2015 data until the end of April (exceptionally postponed until 10 May). During the rest of the month of May, the NBB checked the reported data on the basis of a set of logical checks and a comparison with the 2014 data, contacted the reporting agent when additional information was needed, amended where necessary and globalized all payments statistics data before sending the anonymous Belgian data to the ECB. During the month of June the ECB then started its analysis of the received data, which led to a set of questions for clarification and a list of potential logical errors sent back to the NBB.

Based on the ECB feedback report for the 2015 data, the NBB is pleased to observe the very high 2015 data quality when compared to 2014. We see that the updates applied in the OneGate2015-tool, and more specifically the additional logical and mathematical controls, have increased clearly the data quality at the source. The quality of the Belgian data was even that good that the ECB only needed one feedback report to finalize the Belgian contribution, nearly a full month before the projected deadline.

The Statistics team at the NBB would therefore like to express its appreciation for this considerable improvement in the data quality, and for the cooperation by the reporting agents when discussing bilaterally additional questions and topics.

Although it is a bit too early to start preparing for the 2016 production round, the NBB will prepare a few amendments to the OneGate2016-tool. These amendments should eliminate a few remaining issues, like the fact that the total amount of cards in circulation (table 6) is not always filled in (here we would add a check that the total always has to be greater than the subcategories). Another remaining issue is the fact that the number of offices (table 5) is not always filled in (here we would add a check that each reporting agent should have at least one office/place of business). Further details will follow in September, with a specific infofiche.

The publication of the Payments Statistics by the ECB is planned for 16 September 2016.

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