

## Maritime port activity in the EU

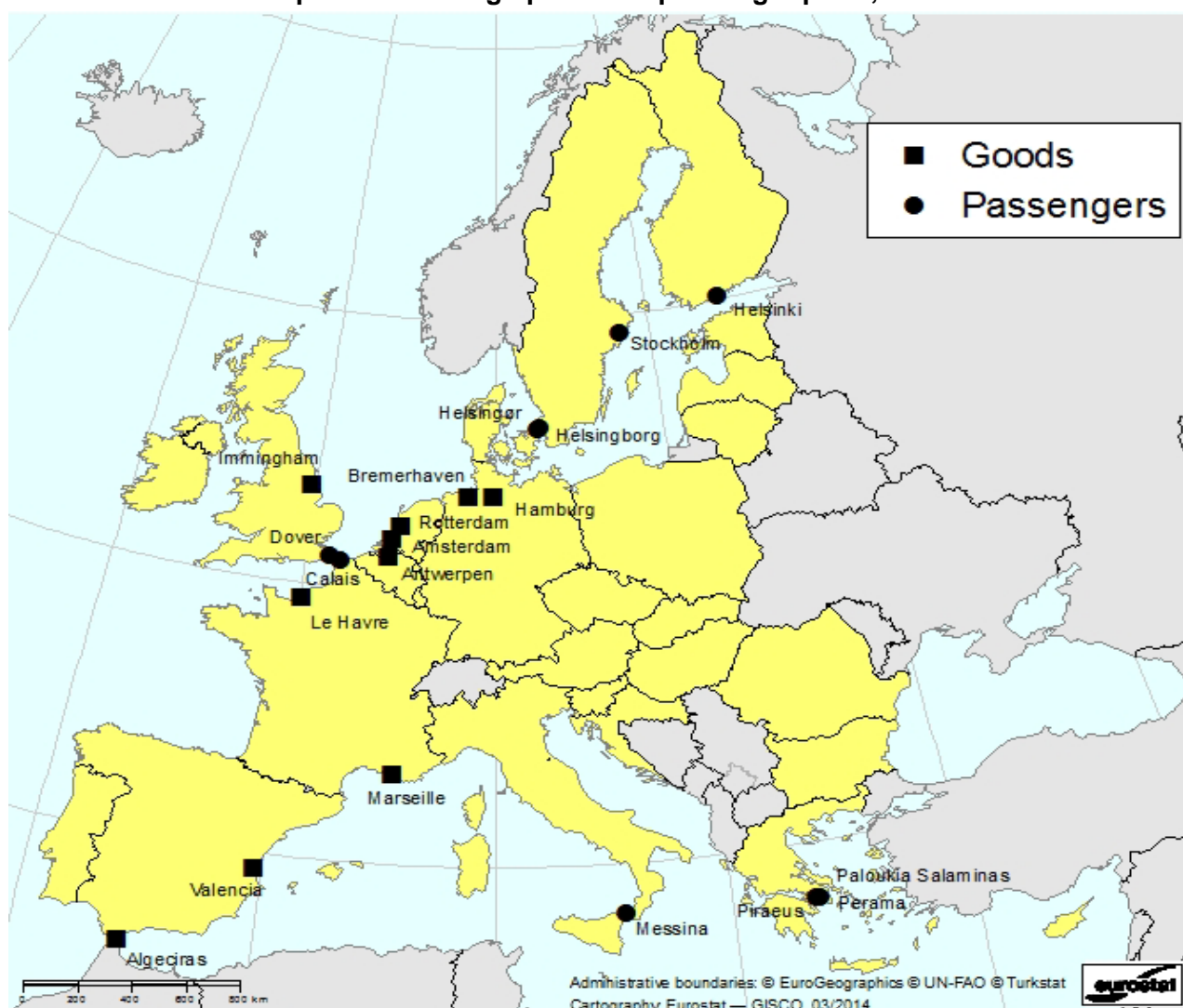
# Rotterdam busiest port for goods handling in 2012

## Dover for passengers

Among the top ten **EU28** cargo ports in terms of tonnes of goods handled, **Rotterdam** (396 million tonnes weight of goods handled, stable compared with 2011) was the busiest in 2012, followed by **Antwerp** (165 mn tonnes, -2%), **Hamburg** (114 mn tonnes, -1%), **Marseille** (82 mn tonnes, -3%) and **Algeciras** (75 mn tonnes, +8%).

**Dover** (12 mn passengers, -7% compared with 2011) was the busiest port in terms of the number of passengers disembarking or embarking in 2012, followed by **Paloukia Salaminas** and **Perama** (both 11 mn, -2%), **Helsinki** (11 mn, +3%), **Calais** (9 mn, -7%) and **Stockholm** (9 mn, -1%).

Top ten EU28 cargo ports and passenger ports, 2012



These figures are published in a report<sup>1</sup> from **Eurostat**, the statistical office of the European Union, on port activity for goods and passengers in the **EU**, as well as **Norway** and **Turkey**.

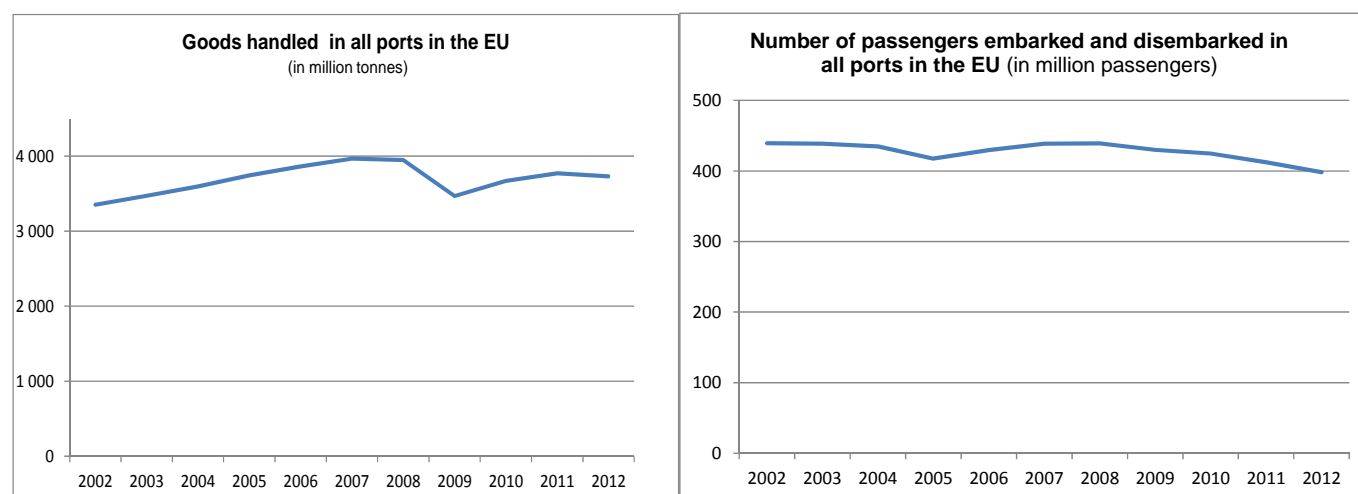
## Top ten EU28 cargo ports and passenger ports, 2012

| Rank | Cargo ports |             | Weight of goods handled |                           | Passenger ports |                    | Number of passengers embarked or disembarked |                           |
|------|-------------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|---------------------------|
|      |             |             | Millions of tonnes      | Growth rate 2012/2011 (%) |                 |                    | Thousands                                    | Growth rate 2012/2011 (%) |
| 1    | NL          | Rotterdam   | 395.6                   | -0.2                      | UK              | Dover              | 12 076                                       | -6.5                      |
| 2    | BE          | Antwerpen   | 164.5                   | -2.4                      | EL              | Paloukia Salaminas | 11 430                                       | -2.0                      |
| 3    | DE          | Hamburg     | 113.5                   | -0.7                      | EL              | Perama             | 11 430                                       | -2.0                      |
| 4    | FR          | Marseille   | 81.8                    | -3.1                      | FI              | Helsinki           | 10 637                                       | +3.0                      |
| 5    | ES          | Algeciras   | 74.6                    | +8.5                      | FR              | Calais             | 9 345  | -7.1                      |
| 6    | NL          | Amsterdam   | 71.2                    | +6.1                      | SE              | Stockholm          | 9 108  | -0.8                      |
| 7    | UK          | Immingham   | 60.1                    | +5.0                      | EE              | Tallinn            | 8 417  | +4.6                      |
| 8    | FR          | Le Havre    | 59.2                    | -6.5                      | IT              | Messina            | 8 126  | +0.8                      |
| 9    | DE          | Bremerhaven | 58.2                    | +4.3                      | IT              | Napoli             | 7 964  | +1.3                      |
| 10   | ES          | Valencia    | 54.2                    | 0.0                       | EL              | Piraeus            | 7 924  | -13.7                     |

### Total weight of goods handled in the EU28 down by 1% and number of passengers down by 3%

After growing steadily between 2002 and 2007, the total weight of goods handled<sup>2</sup> in maritime ports in the EU<sup>3</sup> remained nearly stable at 3.9 billion tonnes in 2008. It then fell by 12% to 3.5 bn tonnes in 2009, coinciding with the beginning of the financial crisis. From 2010, the weight of goods handled increased again, to reach 3.8 bn tonnes in 2011, and then decreased slightly by 1% to 3.7 bn tonnes in 2012.

The pattern is different for sea transport of passengers. The number of passengers embarking or disembarking<sup>2</sup> in maritime ports in the EU remained relatively stable from 2002 to 2008, except for a fall in 2005. From 2008, the number of passengers has decreased steadily from 439 million passengers to 398 mn in 2012. Compared with 2011, the number of passengers dropped by 3% in 2012.



### Largest absolute falls in weight of goods handled in Italy, France and the United Kingdom

Twelve Member States recorded decreases in the total weight of goods handled in maritime ports between 2011 and 2012 and eleven increases. The largest relative falls in 2012 were registered in **Croatia** (-13%), **Estonia** (-10%) and **Finland** (-9%), and the largest relative rises in **Greece** (+13%), **Latvia** (+9%) and **Ireland** (+6%). In absolute terms, the largest falls were observed in **Italy** (-23 mn tonnes between 2011 and 2012), **France** and the **United Kingdom** (both -19 mn) and the highest increases in **Spain** and **Greece** (both +18 mn).

The Member States with the largest total weight of goods handled in maritime ports in 2012 were the **Netherlands** (543 mn tonnes, +2% compared with 2011), the **United Kingdom** (501 mn tonnes, -4%), **Italy** (477 mn tonnes, -5%), **Spain** (422 mn tonnes, +5%), **France** (303 mn tonnes, -6%) and **Germany** (299 mn tonnes, +1%).

### Largest absolute falls in number of passengers in Greece and Italy

Fifteen Member States recorded decreases in the total number of passengers embarking or disembarking in maritime ports between 2011 and 2012 and six increases. The largest relative falls in 2012 were registered in **Portugal** (-16%), **Greece** and **Poland** (both -7%), and the largest relative rises in **Estonia** and **Latvia** (both +5%).

In absolute terms, the largest falls were observed in **Greece** (-6 mn passengers between 2011 and 2012), **Italy** (-5 mn) and the **United Kingdom** (-1 mn). The increases were all below 1 mn passengers.

In 2012, the highest numbers of passengers embarking or disembarking in maritime ports were recorded in **Italy** (77 mn passengers, -6% compared with 2011), **Greece** (73 mn, -7%), **Denmark** (41 mn, -1%), **Germany** (29 mn, +1%) and **Sweden** (29 mn, -2%).

### Goods and passengers in maritime ports

|                       | Weight of goods handled,<br>in million tonnes |                |                             | Number of passengers embarked or<br>disembarked, in thousands |                |                             |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------|-----------------------------|
|                       | 2011  | 2012           | Growth rate<br>2012/2011, % | 2011  | 2012           | Growth rate<br>2012/2011, % |
| <b>EU<sup>3</sup></b> | <b>3 770.1</b>                                | <b>3 732.5</b> | <b>-1.0</b>                 | <b>412 373</b>  | <b>398 110</b> | <b>-3.5</b>                 |
| <b>Belgium</b>        | 232.8   | 224.0          | <b>-3.8</b>                 | 824   | 850            | <b>+3.1</b>                 |
| <b>Bulgaria</b>       | 25.2  | 26.0           | <b>+3.3</b>                 | 0   | 0              | <b>0</b>                    |
| <b>Czech Republic</b> | -   | -              | -                           | -   | -              | -                           |
| <b>Denmark</b>        | 92.6  | 87.8           | <b>-5.2</b>                 | 41 527  | 40 968         | <b>-1.3</b>                 |
| <b>Germany</b>        | 296.0   | 298.8          | <b>+0.9</b>                 | 29 233  | 29 481         | <b>+0.8</b>                 |
| <b>Estonia</b>        | 48.5  | 43.5           | <b>-10.3</b>                | 11 846  | 12 455         | <b>+5.1</b>                 |
| <b>Ireland</b>        | 45.1  | 47.6           | <b>+5.7</b>                 | 2 906   | 2 758          | <b>-5.1</b>                 |
| <b>Greece</b>         | 135.3   | 153.0          | <b>+13.1</b>                | 79 183  | 73 409         | <b>-7.3</b>                 |
| <b>Spain</b>          | 403.7   | 422.2          | <b>+4.6</b>                 | 21 868  | 21 629         | <b>-1.1</b>                 |
| <b>France</b>         | 322.3   | 303.0          | <b>-6.0</b>                 | 25 552  | 24 815         | <b>-2.9</b>                 |
| <b>Croatia</b>        | 21.9  | 19.0           | <b>-13.2</b>                | 26 947  | 26 706         | <b>-0.9</b>                 |
| <b>Italy</b>          | 499.9   | 476.8          | <b>-4.6</b>                 | 81 895  | 76 735         | <b>-6.3</b>                 |
| <b>Cyprus</b>         | 6.6   | 6.2            | <b>-5.0</b>                 | 92  | 91             | <b>-0.8</b>                 |
| <b>Latvia</b>         | 67.0  | 72.7           | <b>+8.5</b>                 | 786   | 826            | <b>+5.1</b>                 |
| <b>Lithuania</b>      | 42.7  | 41.0           | <b>-3.8</b>                 | 281   | 286            | <b>+2.0</b>                 |
| <b>Luxembourg</b>     | -   | -              | -                           | -   | -              | -                           |
| <b>Hungary</b>        | -   | -              | -                           | -   | -              | -                           |
| <b>Malta</b>          | 5.6   | 5.5            | <b>-1.2</b>                 | 8 250   | 8 185          | <b>-0.8</b>                 |
| <b>Netherlands*</b>   | 532.7   | 543.2          | <b>+2.0</b>                 | 1 770   | 1 706          | <b>-3.6</b>                 |
| <b>Austria</b>        | -   | -              | -                           | -   | -              | -                           |
| <b>Poland</b>         | 57.7  | 58.8           | <b>+1.9</b>                 | 2 528   | 2 358          | <b>-6.7</b>                 |
| <b>Portugal*</b>      | 67.5  | 67.9           | <b>+0.5</b>                 | 677   | 565            | <b>-16.5</b>                |
| <b>Romania</b>        | 38.9  | 39.5           | <b>+1.5</b>                 | 0   | 0              | <b>0</b>                    |
| <b>Slovenia</b>       | 16.2  | 16.9           | <b>+4.4</b>                 | 36  | 34             | <b>-4.9</b>                 |
| <b>Slovakia</b>       | -   | -              | -                           | -   | -              | -                           |
| <b>Finland</b>        | 115.5   | 105.1          | <b>-8.9</b>                 | 18 074  | 18 264         | <b>+1.0</b>                 |
| <b>Sweden</b>         | 177.1   | 173.0          | <b>-2.3</b>                 | 30 094  | 29 471         | <b>-2.1</b>                 |
| <b>United Kingdom</b> | 519.5   | 500.9          | <b>-3.6</b>                 | 28 002  | 26 516         | <b>-5.3</b>                 |
| <b>Norway**</b>       | 199.0   | 206.0          | <b>+3.5</b>                 | 6 130   | 6 003          | <b>-2.1</b>                 |
| <b>Turkey</b>         | 359.1   | 374.7          | <b>+4.4</b>                 | 1 842   | 1 828          | <b>-0.7</b>                 |

\* Data for passengers exclude cruise passengers

\*\* Passenger transport include only international transport

- Not applicable due to no maritime ports available

o Negligible

- For further information, please see Statistics Explained article on the Eurostat web site:  
[http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\\_explained/index.php/Maritime\\_ports\\_freight\\_and\\_passenger\\_statistics](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Maritime_ports_freight_and_passenger_statistics)
- It should be noted that these statistics are primarily designed to measure port activity and not the sea transport of goods and passengers. Goods and passengers travelling within the EU are counted twice, once in the port of loading/embarkation and once in the port of unloading/disembarkation, whether these ports are in the same or in two different Member States.
- Excludes the Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Hungary, Austria and Slovakia which have no maritime ports.

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