Indicator	
13	Volume of port traffic.

Measurement	
13.1	Number of incoming and outgoing passengers per port.

What should the measurement tell us?
We want to build-up a picture of the relative importance of ports to the coastal economy. For many ports, passenger traffic is their lifeblood and the loss of a ferry service or the building of a cruise ship terminal can change their prospects dramatically, not least because of the knock-on effects in terms of local tourism, demand for port services and pressure for associated infrastructure, especially roads. The measurement should provide trend data which helps us assess the comparable health of ports in terms of the throughput of passengers.

Parameters	
(i)	Total number of incoming and outgoing sea passengers (in thousands) for each port as a proportion of the total number of sea passengers in the wider reference region or country.

Coverage	
Spatial	**Temporal**
All passenger ports in the coastal zone.	Annually from 2000 but earlier if possible [1].

Data sources
Since 2000, maritime traffic data has been collected on a uniform basis by member states in accordance with the EU Maritime Statistics Directive (95/64/EC)[2]. Member states are required to provide information on domestic and international sea passenger numbers by route and flag for ports handling more than 200,000 incoming and outgoing passengers per year. Less information is required from smaller ports. 'Sea passengers' are defined as (i) those travelling on ferries (with or without vehicles); (ii) those aboard cruise ships [but they are counted only at ports of embarkation and disembarkation]; (iii) those taking longer sea voyages.
Information is collected from member states by EUROSTAT and reported on its website, www.europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat. Data are collated by theme (Transport), sub-theme (maritime transport) and topic (passenger transport), and stored in folders and tables. Folder MAMEPAAA contains table MAPAACMP*: Total annual figures of countries, maritime coastal areas and all ports (main and small ports from 2000) for each reporting country – by direction (in 000s)*. Folder MAMEPAQC contains *quarterly figures for the main ports of each country (over 200,000 passengers per port)* in a series of tables with the prefix MAPAQ followed by the country code. Therefore, the table for Belgium is MAPAQBE, for Denmark MAPAQDK and so on.
Data concerning maritime traffic pre-2000 must be obtained from the competent national authority. Although there are some discontinuities in the data resulting from changes in the way statistics are collected now, compared to the pre-2000 period, passenger numbers are

considered to be largely comparable between earlier time series and today.

Methodology		
	Steps	**Products**
1	Go to www.europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat; access folder MAMEPAAA and table MAPAACMP.	A file containing data on sea passengers for every coastal passenger port in Europe.
2	Select required *time*, *reporting entity* (i.e. port, coastal area or country) and *direction* (select 'total'). Click on 'Next', then 'OK' and then 'Download'.	Annual number of incoming and outgoing sea passengers (in thousands) for each port.
3	For each year, divide the total number of sea passengers per port (or per wider reference region) by the total number of sea passengers for all ports in the wider reference region (or country) and multiply by 100.	Total number of incoming and outgoing sea passengers for each port as a proportion of the total number of sea passengers in the wider reference region or country.

Presentation of the data	
Map 1	For the latest year, represent the relative importance of individual ports at the national level by circles proportional to the total number of incoming and outgoing passengers.
Graph 1	Line graph showing the total number of passengers per port year-on-year in the wider reference region or country.
Graph 2	100% stacked column per year showing the distribution of the total number of passengers per port as a percentage of the total number of port passengers in the wider reference region or country.

Adding value to the data

Trends on port growth and decline

National statistics can be used to illustrate long term trends in the fortunes of individual ports. Most national datasets as well as those collated by EUROSTAT contain additional information which can help explain such trends. There are significant omissions. For example, it is unfortunate that cruise passengers are counted only at the port where the cruise begins and finishes. We would like to know about the number of passengers visiting ports *en route* because this could help in assessing the relative significance of 'cruise tourism' to port economies.

Aggregation and disaggregation

Statistics on flows of sea passengers can be aggregated at any geographic scale required, from province to country to regional sea to the whole of Europe.

Notes

[1] Data from the pre-2000 period will help identify long term trends in passenger numbers overall as well as the relative importance of individual ports.

[2] Data is available for all coastal EU15 from 2000 and for all coastal EU25 from 2002, excepting Malta but including Bulgaria, Romania and Norway.