HIDDEN FEES FRANCE

7WISE

What's the purpose of this report?

According to the EU's Cross-Border Payments Regulation, providers need to inform a customer "prior to the initiation of the payment transaction, in a clear, neutral and comprehensible manner, of the estimated charges for currency conversion services applicable to the credit transfer".

This report shows that despite these rules, banks still hide the bulk of the cost of a transfer in an inflated exchange rate. The rate they offer their customers is much worse than the rate you see on Google. We've put two screenshots side-by-side to expose these fees and show consumers get a worse deal than they think.



Are banks in France transparent about their fees?

Sending EUR to HUF

Company	Markup	Markup fees	Transparency rating
HSBC	3.78%	Sending €10,000 €377.58 fee disclosed	Good
7 Boursorama	2.26%	Sending €10,000 €226.37 hidden fee	Poor
Crédit & Mutuel	1.13%	Sending €1,000 €12.20 hidden fee	Poor
BNP PARIBAS	0.57%	Sending €10,000 € 57.29 hidden fee	Poor

HSBC

Sending 10,000 EUR → HUF

- Total amount to be transferred and the fees of the transaction are clear.
- HSBC communicates the exchange rate mark-up as an extra cost expressed in a "currency conversion fee" of €377.58 (3.78% of the amount sent).
- This mark-up is in addition to the upfront fee of €12.50, which is fixed regardless of the amount.
- No exchange rate provided, so it's hard to know how HSBC calculates its mark-up.

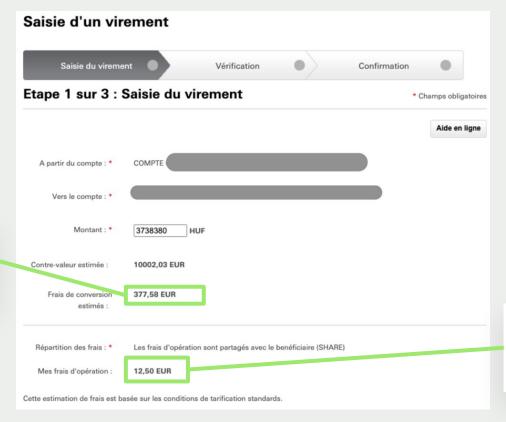
	Mid-market exchange rate	HSBC exchange rate	Disclosed markup fee	Stated transaction fee	Total cost (disclosed)	Transparency rating
HSBC	1 EUR = 373.8380	1 EUR = 373.7621 HUF	€377.58	€12.50	€390.08	Good

^{*} Data collected in July 2023

How HSBC is transparent

(€10 000)

HSBC communicates the mark-up over the exchange rate as currency conversion fees (3.81% of the amount sent)



Transparently discloses the upfront fee. Both fees are then added together with the send amount.

How HSBC is transparent

(€1000)

HSBC communicates the mark-up over the exchange rate as currency conversion fees (3.81% of the amount sent)

Saisie du virement Vérification Confirmation Etape 2 sur 3 : vérification du virement ATTENTION: Votre virement ne peut pas être effectué à la date du jour. Il sera traité le 18/07/2023, date la plus proche de votre demande. A partir du compte : * Vers le compte : * Montant: * 373928.50 HUF Contre-valeur estimée : 1000,15 EUR Frais de conversion estimés 38.14 EUR Ré arution des frais : Les frais sont partagés avec le bénéficiaire (SHARE) Mes frais d'opération : 12,50 EUR Total estimé (contre-valeur + frais) : 1050.79 EUR Consulter le détail des frais > Date: * 18/07/2023 Motif: * TEST \ La contre-valeur et les frais de conversion font l'objet d'une estimation. Ils dépendent du cours de change en vigueur au moment de l'exécution du virement.

Transparently discloses the upfront fee. Both fees are then added together with the send amount.

Boursorama

Sending 10,000 EUR → HUF

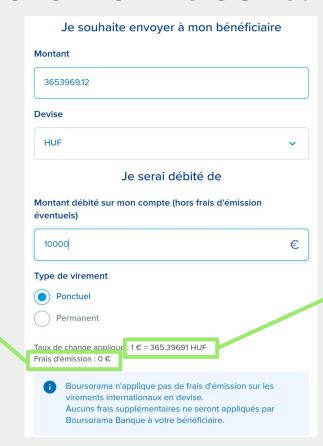
- Boursorama exchange rate is presented as *the* exchange rate.
- 2.26% exchange rate mark-up isn't communicated as an extra cost.
- €0 fee creates the impression that the transfer is free.

	Mid-market exchange rate	Boursorama exchange rate	Hidden markup fee	Stated transaction fee	Real total cost	Transparency rating
Boursorama	1 EUR = 373.86 HUF 1	EUR = 365.3969 HUF + 2.26%	€226.37	€0	€226.37	Poor

^{*} Data collected in July 2023

Where Boursarama hides it?

Creates the impression the cost of the transfer is zero.



Boursorama exchange rate is presented as *the* exchange rate.

2.26% exchange rate mark-up isn't communicated as an extra cost.

Crédit Mutuel

Sending 1,000 EUR → HUF

- 1.13% exchange rate mark-up isn't communicated as an extra cost.
- Upfront fee of €20.78 creates the impression that that's the only cost.
- Crédit Mutuel exchange rate is presented as the exchange rate.

	Mid-market exchange rate	Credit Mutuel exchange rate	Hidden markup fee	Stated transaction fee	Real total cost	Transparency rating
Crédit & Mutuel	1 EUR = 374.41 HUF	1 EUR = 370.195 HUF + 1.13%	€12.20	20.78	€32.98	Poor

^{*} Data collected in July 2023

Where Crédit Mutuel hides it?

Montant: 374 711,00 HUF

(Contrevaleur estimée : 1 012,20 EUR au taux de change indicatif au 19/07/2023 de 1 € = 370.195 HUF)

Total des commissions 20,78 EUR

Montant total estimé de votre opération : 1032,98 EUR

Date: 19/07/2023

Intitulé pour le compte à débiter : VIR WISE Motif pour le bénéficiaire 1 : WISE

📬 1: En cliquant sur confirmer, vous recomaissez avoir été informé de l'interdiction d'utiliser une formulation contraire à la dignité des personnes, des propos discriminants, dégradants ou nijurieux, ainsi que toute forme d'appel à la haine ou à la violence. Votre formulation relève de votre seule responsabilité, si besoin vous por vez encore la modifier.

Upfront fee of €20.78 creates the impression that this is the only fee.

1.13% mark-up isn't communicated as a cost. while the Crédit Mutuel rate is presented as the exchange rate.

BNP Paribas

Sending 10,000 EUR → HUF

- 0.57% exchange rate mark-up isn't communicated as an extra cost.
- Upfront fee of €15 creates the impression that that's the only cost.
- BNP Paribas exchange rate is presented as *the* exchange rate.

	Mid-market exchange rate	BNP Paribas exchange rate	Hidden markup fee	Stated transaction fee	Real total cost	Transparency rating
BNP PARIBAS	1 EUR = 377.04 HUF	1 EUR = 374.88 EUR + 0.57%	€57.29	€15	€72.29	Poor

Where BNP Paribas hides it?

Vous envoyez
10000,00

Taux de change : 1,00 EUR = 374,88 HUF

Le bénéficiaire reçoit
3748800

0.57% mark-up isn't communicated as a cost, while the BNP Paribas rate is presented as *the* exchange rate.

Upfront fee of €15 creates the impression that this is the only fee.

Frais d'envoi : 15,00 €

Des frais d'envoi sont prélevés pour un virement dans une devise différente de celle du pays du bénéficiaire

Poursuivre

BNP Paribas s'engage à appliquer le taux de change affiché. Cependant, en cas de variation inhabituelle (+ ou -10%) du cours de change, le week-end et les jours fériés, BNP Paribas se réserve le droit de ne pas exécuter l'ordre de virement. Le statut de votre opération sera indiqué dans l'historique.

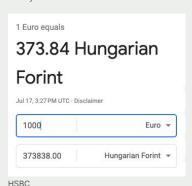
* Data collected in July 2023

APPENDIX

Collected exchange rate data

EUR → HUF

17 July 2023



17 July 2023



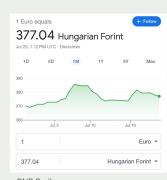
Boursorama

19 July 2023



Crédit Mutuel

25 July 2023



BNP Paribas