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PRESS RELEASE

STATISTICS ON EURO AREA INSURANCE CORPORATIONS AND PENSION FUNDS: THIRD QUARTER 2013

In the third quarter of 2013, the total financial assets of euro area insurance corporations and pension funds increased to €7,786 billion, from €7,688 billion in the previous quarter. Over the same period, the insurance technical reserves, which are the main liabilities of insurance corporations and pension funds, increased to €6,570 billion, from €6,552 billion, mainly due to positive transactions.

Selected balance sheet items of insurance corporations and pension funds

(EUR billions; not seasonally adjusted; amounts outstanding at the end of the period; transactions during the period)

	Amounts outstanding			Amounts outstanding	Transactions ¹
	2012	2013			
	Q4	Q1	Q2	2013 Q3	
Total financial assets	7,627	7,752	7,688	7,786	n.a.
Insurance technical reserves ²	6,454	6,527	6,552	6,570	41
net equity of households in life insurance reserves	3,426	3,463	3,467	3,510	29
net equity of households in pension fund reserves	2,202	2,216	2,240	2,218	13
prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims	826	848	845	843	-1

¹ Transactions are available only for euro area insurance technical reserves.

² Insurance technical reserves contain the provisions against policyholders or beneficiaries set aside by insurers and pension funds to meet future obligations. This item also includes prepayments of insurance premiums, which are related to non-life insurance and to reinsurance, and reserves for outstanding claims, which are the amounts expected to be paid out in settlement of claims, including disputed claims.

Regarding the breakdown of the assets of the aggregated balance sheet of euro area insurance corporations and pension funds, holdings of **securities other than shares** accounted for 40% of the sector's total financial assets at end-September 2013. The

second largest category of holdings were **investment fund shares**, which contributed 25% to the total financial assets. Finally, **shares and other equity** accounted for 11% of the total financial assets.

Turning to transactions in the main breakdowns of the **insurance technical reserves**, the **net equity of households in life insurance reserves** increased by €29 billion in the third quarter of 2013. The **net equity of households in pension fund reserves** increased by €13 billion in the same quarter, while **prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims** decreased by €1 billion.

Regarding the contributions of the two sub-sectors, **insurance corporations' total financial assets** accounted for €6,074 billion in September 2013, representing 78% of the aggregated balance sheet of the insurance corporations and pension funds sector, while the **pension funds' total financial assets** amounted to €1,713 billion.

Notes

- *Further predefined tables, statistical data and methodological notes, as well as the advance release calendar, are available on the ECB's website at <http://www.ecb.europa.eu/stats/money/icpf/html/index.en.html>.*

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Table 1: Assets and liabilities of euro area insurance corporations and pension funds(EUR billions; not seasonally adjusted; amounts outstanding at the end of the period ¹⁾)

	2012 Q4	2013 Q1	2013 Q2	2013 Q3
Total financial assets	7,627	7,752	7,688	7,786
Currency and deposits	787	794	773	763
<i>of which:</i> Deposits with euro area MFIs	742	749	729	720
<i>of which:</i> Deposits with non-euro area residents	42	43	43	41
Loans	478	476	475	477
To euro area residents	444	442	440	444
MFIs	10	11	10	9
General government	140	139	142	142
Other financial intermediaries	32	28	26	25
Insurance corporations and pension funds	86	83	83	84
Non-financial corporations	47	48	48	50
Households	129	132	132	133
To non-euro area residents	33	35	34	33
Securities other than shares	3,053	3,082	3,072	3,110
Issued by euro area residents	2,549	2,587	2,567	2,601
MFIs	693	717	684	684
General government	1,387	1,390	1,403	1,436
Other financial intermediaries	252	255	255	257
Insurance corporations and pension funds	18	18	18	18
Non-financial corporations	200	208	206	207
Issued by non-euro area residents	504	495	505	509
Shares and other equity	819	836	834	851
Quoted shares	341	349	347	360
<i>of which:</i> Issued by euro area MFIs	21	19	19	19
Unquoted shares	479	488	487	492
Investment fund shares/units	1,825	1,901	1,894	1,955
<i>of which:</i> Issued by euro area residents	1,715	1,787	1,784	1,849
Money market fund shares	110	114	99	97
<i>of which:</i> Issued by euro area MFIs	107	111	97	94
Prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims ²⁾	262	265	264	265
<i>of which:</i> Euro area residents	227	229	229	231
Other accounts receivable/payable and financial derivatives	294	284	278	268
Non-financial assets	153	154	156	156
Total liabilities	7,473	7,567	7,607	7,635
Loans	267	280	280	279
Securities other than shares	49	48	45	45
Shares and other equity	483	498	507	524
Quoted shares	130	134	139	146
Unquoted shares	352	364	368	378
Insurance technical reserves	6,454	6,527	6,552	6,570
Net equity of households in life insurance reserves	3,426	3,463	3,467	3,510
Net equity of households in pension fund reserves	2,202	2,216	2,240	2,218
Prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims ³⁾	826	848	845	843
Other accounts receivable/payable and financial derivatives	220	215	223	217
Net worth ⁴⁾	308	339	237	308

Source: ECB.

1) Figures may not add up due to rounding.

2) Includes reinsurance.

3) Prepayments of insurance premiums are related to non-life insurance and to reinsurance. Reserves for outstanding claims are the amounts expected to be paid out in settlement of claims, including disputed claims.

4) The net worth is calculated as the difference between total assets (financial and non-financial) and liabilities, and may also reflect statistical discrepancies.

Table 2: Assets and liabilities of euro area insurance corporations and euro area pension funds

(EUR billions; not seasonally adjusted; amounts outstanding at the end of the period ¹⁾)

	Insurance corporations		Pension funds	
	2013 Q2	2013 Q3	2013 Q2	2013 Q3
Total financial assets	5,974	6,074	1,714	1,713
Currency and deposits	579	572	194	191
Loans	414	418	61	59
Securities other than shares	2,663	2,697	409	413
Shares and other equity	638	665	196	186
Investment fund shares/units	1,153	1,202	741	753
Money market fund shares	92	89	7	8
Prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims	234	235	30	30
Other accounts receivable/payable and financial derivatives	201	195	77	73
Non-financial assets	118	119	37	37
Total liabilities	5,907	5,971	1,700	1,664
Loans	259	261	21	18
Securities other than shares	45	45	0	0
Shares and other equity	499	516	8	8
Net equity of households in life insurance reserves	3,467	3,510	0	0
Net equity of households in pension fund reserves	619	626	1,621	1,591
Prepayments of insurance premiums and reserves for outstanding claims	843	841	2	2
Other accounts receivable/payable and financial derivatives	175	173	48	44
Net worth	185	222	52	86

1) For footnotes, see Table 1.

Chart 1: Net equity of households in life insurance reserves: breakdown by type of policy

(percentage of total; end-December 2012)

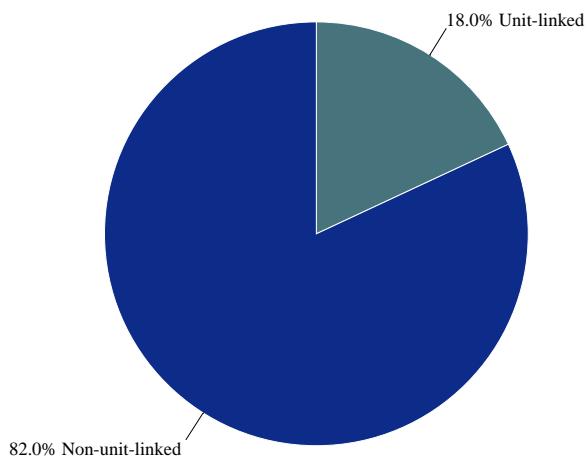
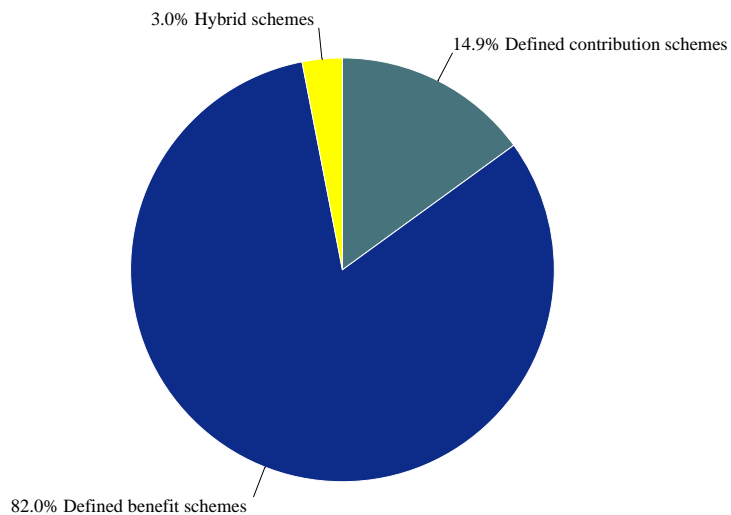


Chart 2: Net equity of households in pension fund reserves: breakdown by type of plan

(percentage of total; end-December 2012)



Source: ECB.